

# Good News Letter

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Dear FBC family:

As the days wind down toward my retirement I am becoming ever aware of the "last" things I will be doing. This month will mark my last Maundy Thursday service as well as my last Easter service. Except in emergencies churches are not seeking supply preachers on Easter Sunday.

My memories of Maundy Thursday services will always begin with Jean Wickum telling me how it was done and the rules I needed to keep in mind. Of course, I will never forget the time I had to leave the fellowship hall in the middle of the Lord's Supper because of illness. It was so dark that night that Larry Faulk, sitting on the other side of the cross, did not notice that I was gone.

April will also be the last month that I leave for vacation and have to be back by a certain date. Kathy and I will be taking a short trip to visit Sam and Lindley this month. Kathy and I have been busy packing up the office at the church. Sam has been promised my library and we are going to take a few boxes at a time as we visit. Sam has also asked for my mint in box Jesus soap on a rope. I have not seen "glitter" Jesus in a while. I think I will leave him behind for the kids to hide and find later. Final destiny for my talking George Bush doll is yet to be determined.



The above light hearted issues are an effort to steer around the very real emotional issues involved with retirement. We have formed such meaningful relationships in the last almost thirteen years that it will be hard to say goodbye. Even though we will still be living in Delaware I will no longer be your pastor. Our American Baptist code of ministerial ethics demands that

we sever all pastoral relations with the church as our service ends. In the weeks we have before that time I hope to offer helpful advice about the next steps forward.

I have been asked to preach the sermon for this year's Good Friday service at St. Mary church. I have always appreciated the ecumenical family of God gathering on that holy day. It is the only day of the year where we really do model the universal church. If time allows I hope you will attend. The service will be on April 18 at noon.

Your pastor,

## Pastor's Mother Dies

Our sympathies to Pastor Tim and his family on the death of his mother, Hazel Bailey Chesser, 91, of Buford, Georgia. She passed away on March 6 with Tim, Kathy and other family members present.



Funeral services were held March 8 with Rev. Sam Chesser officiating.

Tim and Kathy offer thanks for all the prayers, cards, and support from our church fellowship.

## Easter Egg Hunt

The Board of Christian Education invites you to celebrate Easter with an Easter Egg Hunt here at the church on April 19. Meet in the fellowship hall ready to begin the hunt at 2:00. Bring a basket to put all those eggs in! There will be sweet and mysterious prizes in the eggs so bring the kids, grandkids, nieces and nephews!

We will have light refreshments after the hunt in the fellowship hall. We expect the event to last about



## Birthdays & Anniversaries



April 10 Jane Mercer  
 Connor Trigg  
 15 Ray Serviss  
 Tyler Wayne Fogle  
 20 Tammy Ferguson  
 27 Colin Ferguson  
 29 Deborah Fogle  
 Benjamin Trigg

*Please report any errors or omissions to Jim Stephenson.*

one hour. In the event of rain (or snow), we will have the hunt inside. See you there!

– Pam Shears  
 Board of Christian Education

### Order Your Easter Lilies

Easter lilies can be ordered to decorate our church on Easter Sunday. They can be given in someone's memory or honor, and you can take them home after the service.

The price is \$7 each. Place your orders with Melissa Mercer or Jim Stephenson.

The last day to place orders is Palm Sunday (April 13).



## PRAYER LIST

*This list is prepared by the Deacons. Prayer requests will be removed after 2 months unless "renewed". Please send changes to Larry Faulk (Lfaulk01@aol.com).*

Church Contact	Name	Reason for Prayer	
The Deacons	<b>Chesser family</b>	Condolences	
	<b>Riedmiller family</b>	Condolences	
	<b>Christina Kilhefner</b>	Health issues	
	<b>Bertha Van Brimmer</b>	Health issues	
	<b>Penny Hagaman</b>	Health issues	
	<b>Steve Baker</b>	Health issues	
	<b>Fran Cook</b>	Heart problems	
	<b>Betty Porter</b>	Health issues	
	Betty Porter	<b>Joe DeGenova</b>	Recovering from surgery
	Beth Trigg	<b>Joy McAfee</b>	Cancer

*Remember daily all the men and women in the military — those stationed in the USA and those deployed throughout the world. GOD BLESS AMERICA!*

### Anna Riedmiller

Our sympathies to George Riedmiller and his family on the death of his mother, Anna Jean Riedmiller, 75, of Delaware. She passed away peacefully on March 2 at Grady Memorial Hospital.



Funeral Services were held March 8 at the Richwood First United Methodist Church. Memorial gifts may be made to the American Cancer Society in Dublin.

### Letter to the Congregation

*Note: Longtime members will remember Nancy Via Summers, the daughter of Fred and Lucille Via. Below are portions of her letter (some of it was comments to individuals); the entire letter and a photograph are on the bulletin board. - Editor*

For those who "hopefully" remember me, I want to say that I enjoy your newsletter very much.

My husband Frank and I have moved and our new address is below.

I just celebrated my 80th. I'm still active and with my husband attend Memorial Baptist in Staunton.

May First Baptist continue to be used to God's Glory to bless and direct you in the years to come.

Best wishes and love in our Savior's glorious name!

– Nancy Summers  
 330 Claremont Lane  
 Apt 345  
 Crozet, VA 22932



### Church and Community Open House for the Chessers

Please save the date for an open house to celebrate pastor Tim's retirement. It will be on Saturday, May 3rd from 2 to 4 pm. at Andrews House.

Please plan to attend and help us thank Tim and Kathy for their service and friendship.

– Liz Bowman and Jennifer Turner



### Trustees Notes

- The Gable Elevator Company did a service checkup.
- The B&J Fire Extinguisher Services of Marion did a yearly service.
- A thank you to Dave, Raleigh and Jerry for getting the snow blower repaired.
- The refrigerator from the "old" parsonage was donated to the Habitat for Humanity ReStore. It had already sat for a year without running.
- The loose floor tile in the nursery bathroom was glued back down.
- After four months of phone calls, Frontier came and removed the phone lines going to the "old" parsonage.

– Peter White  
Reporting for the Trustees

### Personals

- Raleigh Gosser has been experiencing a lot of back pain due to a fall.
- Nathan McKendrick was at Children's Hospital after suffering a hip injury from falling off his bike.
- Jeanne Ekelberry would like to thank everyone who helped her out last month when she could not get around.
- Jerry and Lana Palmer have a new great-grandson, Adrian Williams. Lana was able to travel to be there to see him.
- Claire Turner traveled with the Hayes symphonic orchestra to New York City to perform at Carnegie Hall.
- It was good to see Bertha VanBrimmer at our pancake supper in February.
- Claire Turner performed in the Hayes production of ANYTHING GOES.
- The Reverend Bill McCartney was our guest minister on March 9 while the pastor was in Georgia.
- Pam, Larry, and Erin Faulk spent spring break at Walt Disney World.

– Pam Faulk, Personals' Editor



*"This year I'm prepared with my egg-hunting app!"*