

Good News Letter

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My first two months as your interim pastor have been filled with "learning the ropes" of the day-to-day workings here at First Baptist. It has been a joy getting to know so many of you and to work with the leadership.

Exciting things have been happening this summer. Our weekly Serendipity Bible Series had us looking at familiar stories and parables in creative ways as we discovered how they apply to our own lives.

The Impromptu Choir invited those who don't normally sing with our regular choir to participate in the singing of some well-loved hymns, which added to our summer worship services.

Dr. Larry Swain challenged us last month to look at when and how we are connected outside our walls. He will join us for our Potluck & Town Hall Meeting on August 17 and a follow-up discussion on our "connectedness." Save that date and plan to be here for this exciting discussion.

Our mission outreach continued with the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering in June and Blanket Sunday on Father's Day.

It's hard to believe that in just a few short weeks, we will begin to think about the fall and gear up for our Sunday Discipleship classes

to begin. Discipleship is a life-long process, which begins the moment we surrender our lives to Jesus Christ and ends when we take our last breath. None of us ever "arrives" at being fully mature as a Christian.

We each have a "growing edge" and, no matter what our age, God is always in the process of making us into what we're not in this moment.

The mandate to "make disciples" takes many forms. First, each one of us is responsible

for maintaining our own personal spiritual growth by practicing the disciplines of personal daily devotions, prayer and Bible reading. However, we can't grow as a disciple in isolation. We need other Christians to walk alongside us, which is why congregational worship, Bible Study, small groups and church community gatherings are so important.

I encourage each one of you, if you aren't already doing so, to commit yourself to something that will meet a need in your own spiritual growth. As long as we continually allow ourselves to be spiritually stretched, we will mirror the difference Christ makes in our lives to the world. Remember, others will only understand as much of the love of God as they see in us.

I'm looking forward to what God has in store for us in the months ahead

as we follow His leading in our lives and in our church!



Ellen Brown
Interim Pastor

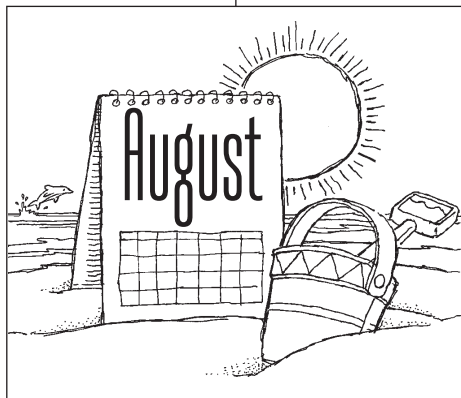
Circles of Connection Event

Have you ever wondered how connected you and the First Baptist Church of Delaware are with people and ministries outside the four walls of your church? Have you ever considered the impact you and the First Baptist Church is having beyond yourselves? You might be amazed!

You are invited to a special opportunity to actually map your "Circles of Connection" at a Town Hall Meeting and Potluck on Sunday, August 17th after church. Dr. Lawrence Swain, Executive Minister of the American Baptist Churches of Ohio, will be facilitating this fun and creative way for you to discover just how connected you and the First Baptist Church are. There will be food and fellowship, which is enough to encourage you to stay and participate. Plan now to be present August 17th. You will be hearing more about this opportunity each Sunday. We are looking forward to seeing you!

Impromptu Choir Continues

Our Summer Impromptu Choir will continue during the month of August (other than on Communion Sunday). If you like to sing, then join us any Sunday morning as we sing familiar and well-loved hymns. You



don't have to read music, sing a part or even have a good voice. Just come join with others and "sing to the Lord"!



Birthdays & Anniversaries



- Aug. 3 Ray & Carol Serviss
- 4 Gabriel Fogle
- 5 Bruce & Elizabeth Bowman
- Carrie Trigg
- 7 Jennifer Cramer
- 8 Jean Syler
- Kate Cooper
- Ryan Cooper
- 11 Steve & Tammy Ferguson
- 17 George & Chris Riedmiller
- Andrew Smith
- 18 Pam & Larry Faulk
- 20 Spencer Kauf
- 21 Jim Stephenson
- Ken and Genevieve Peterson
- 24 Florence Faulk
- Ken Shears
- 25 Raleigh Gosser
- 26 Sofia Kennedy
- 27 Linda White
- Penny Hagaman
- 30 Katie Riedmiller
- Archie Trigg

Please report any errors or omissions to Jim Stephenson.

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	Ken Frische	Surgery recovery
	Christina Kilhefner	Transplant recovery
	Bertha Van Brimmer	Health issues
	Penny Hagaman	Health issues
	Steve Baker	Health issues
	Fran Cook	Heart problems
	Bora Porter (Janet's daughter)	A patient at Childrens' Hospital
	Betty Porter	Health issues
	Betty Porter	Recovering from surgery
	Beth Trigg	Joy McAfee

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

Summer Serendipity Series

Our Serendipity Bible Studies continue in August. We meet on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Kill the Fatted Calf

Luke 18:11-32
August 6

Do You Love Me?

John 21:1-25
August 13

The Vine and the Branches

John 15:1-17
August 20

August Sermon Titles

- August 3 *Graced by God*
- August 10 *Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World*
- August 17 *A Pinch of Salt*
- August 24 *Electric Cement*
- August 31 *What Do You See?*



Save the Dates

Sunday Aug. 17:

Potluck & Town Hall Meeting with Dr. Larry Swain

Saturday Sept. 13:

"Pink Piggy Party" — A Fun Multi-generational Event

Saturday Sept. 27

All Church Leadership Retreat 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Attention Sunday School Teachers

We will have a meeting for all Sunday school teachers immediately after church on Sunday, August 10. It should not take long. Substitute teachers are welcome to attend but it is not mandatory.

– Pam Faulk

Volunteers Needed

Rally Day is September 7, and it is that time of year again when I am seeking volunteers to host Sunday school opening this next school year.

It is easy to do and need not cost you anything. I will always supply the juice and paper products, and the makings for coffee is already there. You only need to supply a pastry, bread, doughnuts, muffins, coffee cake, etc. We have money in the budget for this, so you just need to turn your bill in for the cost to be reimbursed.

You will ask for announcements, birthdays, anniversaries, offer some form of fellowship activity such as singing, a meditation, a game, etc., and close with a prayer. Feel free to involve any of our children if you wish and they are comfortable with that. Please consider this prayerfully.

– Pam Faulk

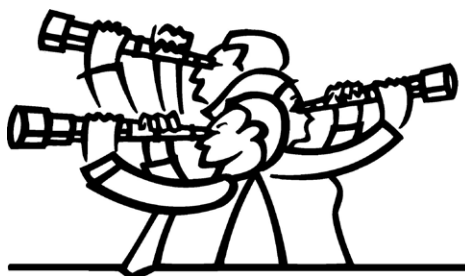
Pastoral Search Committee Update

The Board of Education has selected Pam Shears as their representative. Jerry Palmer will be the Trustees representative and I will be the Deacons representative.

During fellowship time on Sunday, August 3 the men and women of FBC will be selecting their representative to the search committee. Randy Turner will be working with the youth to determine their representative. If you are interested and are able to serve on the committee, please contact me or a member of the board of deacons before August 3. Below is a list of characteristics of a potential search committee member:

A search committee member should be a person...

- Who has an investment and interest in the future of the church.
- Who is an active participant in the life of the church.
- Who has the Spiritual maturity to seek and discern God's guidance and direction.
- Who understands and is committed to confidentiality.
- Who is able to work collaboratively, patiently, and respectfully with other church and committee leaders.
- Who is respected by the congregation.
- Who has the time to commit to a 12-18 month process.



PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE

- Who has a workable personal/professional schedule that allows for meeting with others.
- Who has family support to commit substantial time and energy to the process.

Your consideration of this process is appreciated.

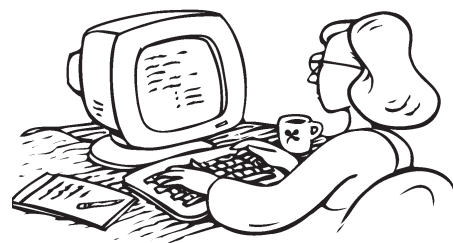
– Larry Faulk, Chairman
Board of Deacons

Email Announcements

The board of deacons is seeking to create an "email announcement list" in addition to our email prayer list. While our email prayer list is reserved for requested notices of concern within our fellowship, the "email announcement list" would be for more general notices such as meeting and event promotions and reminders.

If you would like to be included in the list, please email me at lfaulk01@aol.com. If you would like to receive a phone call announcement instead, call me at 614-204-1098.

– Larry Faulk
Board of Deacons



Fellowship Time

Please consider signing up to host fellowship time after worship on a communion Sunday. There are openings for Sept - Dec. The signup sheet is on the bulletin board or you can contact Larry Faulk.

Personals

- Erin Faulk recently spent a week on vacation in Ecuador.
- Pastor Brown spent 2 weeks in July at Green Lake as part of the leadership for the 200th anniversary of

our International Ministries. All of our missionaries were back in the U.S. for this.

- Pastor Brown recently visited with Ken Frische and Phyllis Beasley. Ken continues to improve and they thank everyone for their cards and prayers.
- Ellen also visited with Chad and Christina Kilhefner. Christina is doing very well but is advised by doctors to avoid crowds and germs. They hope to be back in church soon, but Christina should still be cautious about hugs and hand shakes. She also thanks everyone for their cards and prayers.
- Jennifer Turner has started a new job with Delaware Probate Court.
- Matt Lovell recently visited from California and attended church on July 6. He was able to attend the first year birthday celebration of his nephew Lucas Smith.
- Alvin Cox has been our guest preacher for the three Sundays that Pastor Brown has been gone.
- Jane Moore became engaged to be married to a high school friend of Jimmie's. They have not yet set a date.

– Pam Faulk, Personals Editor

Church Directory Update

Please make these changes in your copy of the church directory.

Marci Cooper's cell phone number 317-796-7932

Matt Cooper's cell phone number 317-771-1156