

Good News Letter

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Dear FBC family:

A proverb teaches us that absence makes the heart grow fonder. I am not sure how that works with love, but I know how it works with our organ. We have been without an organ for over a month due to the renovation and painting of the sanctuary. Jim, Mary Lou, and Melissa have done a great job of keeping our worship going without the organ. We could not have asked for a more perfect Sunday than we had yesterday. The sun was shining through the newly cleaned stained glass. The full spectrum of light was shining on the newly painted walls. The organ rang out with worshipful majesty. Our people were able to spread out and return to their "regular" seats. On the Monday after Thanksgiving the carpet will be replaced. It has been a long, arduous process, but I believe you will agree with me that the results are well worth the wait.

Thank you for your patience during this renovation. It has challenged

the flow of people on Sunday mornings. We are still getting over the amount of dust in the air. Hopefully the number of positive comments shared on Sunday morning will help us get over some of the challenges we have faced with the degree of change.

As we move forward from this point we are preparing to celebrate Advent. This joyous time in the church calendar reminds us that when all seemed dark God broke into our world with a message of grace and redemption. Our Advent schedule will celebrate the traditional themes of Advent. Hope

will be the theme for November 29. On December 6 we will think about Peace. December 13 will be a day of Joy as the youth of the church present their annual program. We will also welcome new members on this Sunday. Love will be the theme of the fourth Sunday in Advent on December 20. The celebration of Advent will culminate in our joyous celebration of Christmas Eve beginning at 6:45. This candlelight

communion service is one of the high points of our year.

It is my prayer that our newly renovated sanctuary may give you even more reason to invite friends and family to join us for our Advent journey. While there may have been no room at the inn for Jesus he has made room for us to be an inviting people.

May this Advent season be a time of blessing for your family. As prepare to share my ninth Christmas with you I remain thankful to God for giving me such a wonderful church family.

Your Pastor,



Birthday Party for Jesus

Please join us for the birthday party for Jesus on December 20th at 9:15 during Sunday School Opening. We will have a cake, cupcakes and punch in the fellowship hall. Sunday School classes will meet in their classrooms following the party. Even if you

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The January newsletter will be available on Sunday, January 3, which is **one week later** than our usual schedule.

— Jim Stephenson, editor



have not regularly attended Sunday School, this would be a wonderful opportunity to join us.

On December 13th during the Worship Service, the youth of the church will be presenting a Christmas program. The kids and Matt have been working hard on songs, narration and an acting out of the Nativity to re-tell the story of Christmas. Please plan to join us!

– Liz Bowman
Board of Education

Join Us for Christmas Caroling

Everyone is invited to join us for our annual Christmas caroling on Sunday, December 13. We'll meet at the church at 6:30 PM and will visit our shut-ins. We'll be singing familiar carols that everyone knows, and will be done by around 8:00. Hope to see you then.



– Jim Stephenson
Choir Director

World Mission Offering

I want to thank everyone for giving to the World Mission Offering. We made our goal plus extra. The money you gave will provide missionaries, throughout the world, the means to help people who want to improve their lives.

Our congregation has been asked to donate to several church projects lately and I understand the holidays are fast approaching, which means stress on your budget. I do hope you are able to give a "thank you" to the Retired Ministers, Missionaries and Widows for the years they have spent serving others. In the next weeks you will read, in bulletin inserts, just how much these people

appreciate your gifts.

December is a time to think of others. Please consider giving a gift to someone you may not know but who has spent their life teaching the word of God. As usual, envelopes will be in the pew racks.

– Carol Serviss
Mission Coordinator

Update from the Carpet and Paint Committee

During the month of November, the sanctuary prep work was completed and our painter, Brian McConnell, painted the sanctuary. He also cleaned the sanctuary's stained glass windows (except for the window above the baptistry, as it looked too fragile).

After a short break for Thanksgiving and a trip to attend a wedding, Brian will return to paint the assembly room and the two vestibules.

Our carpet installer — Dan's Carpet and Laminates — will come during the week of November 30 to remove the old sanctuary carpet, cut the new carpet to fit, and will send the cut pieces to a company that will bind the carpet's edges. After the pieces are returned, Brian will install them in the sanctuary.

– Jim Stephenson, Chair
Sanctuary Carpet and Paint
Committee

Fellowship Hall Update

Work has been progressing downstairs, with our own painters tackling the job. Jerry Palmer and Jimmie Moore have undertaken the project and have brightened up the area considerably. Our heartfelt thanks to them.

The original plan was to make the far corner a special place for the youth. That group has now decided

ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS

All I want for Christmas is for you to worship Me.

All I want from you, My child, are humble, bended knees.

All I want for Christmas tucked underneath your tree

Is your loving heart and thankfulness abounding up to Me.

All I want for Christmas is a portion of your time.

All I want for you to do is tell them you are Mine.

Sacrifice and offerings I do not require.

All I want is willingness to be filled with My fire.

I really do not ask much—just what I've given you.

I won't require a thing too hard that you just cannot do.

It pleases Me, sweet child, to hear your little voice

Because you are so precious. Over you I do rejoice.

So since it is My birthday that you're celebrating now,

Please don't forget the gift I want—the gift of your sweet bow.

Happy Birthday, Jesus!!!!

– Submitted by Robert &
Kathy Russell (originally
from a Christmas card)

to make the Blue Room their "space", so we'll be removing the dividers and making all the space available. They will take the ping pong table over there also.

Thanks to all who are supporting the effort down there. What better way to honor our Lord than by being good stewards of His property.

– Jane Moore
The Fellowship Hall Committee

2010 Church Directory Is Being Prepared

The board of deacons will be preparing the new church directory during the month of December.

Please review your listing in the current directory and give any changes to me or Dave Lovell.

We would like to update photos as well. Please see Dave Lovell to get a new picture taken.

Thanks,

– Larry Faulk

DO ONE THING

Here is a list of 10 suggestions (in no particular order) that you might consider to choose from to do over and above what you already do. Let's share God's love and our faith with others. Remember that many of these suggestions came right from our church family at the retreat this year.

1. Pray for peace in 2010.
2. Contribute more financially to the church.
3. Support the Andrews House Christmas Cupboard.
4. Support the Christmas Clearing-house.
5. Give more to the Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering.
6. "Adopt" a child or family for Christmas.
7. Smile at a busy salesclerk.
8. Make a special Christmas gift for a friend or neighbor.
9. Offer to watch a friend or neighbor's children while they do Christmas shopping, wrapping, cooking, etc.
10. Give someone you love a gift that takes up space only in the memory, such as an outing, gift card, or gift certificate for something special.

– Pam Faulk

Prayer List

Please give additions or corrections to a Deacon.

Church Contact	Name	Reason for Prayer
Jane Moore	George Corder	Health issues
	Cathie Corder	Continued recovery
	Olivia Langwasser	Leukemia
	Megan Russell & children	Grief
The Deacons	Pam Debiasio	Health issues
	Jim VanBrimmer	Health issues
	Della Dove	Stroke Recovery
	Betty Porter	Health Issues
	Genevieve Peterson	Broken Wrist
	Duane Binkley	Health Issues
Jean Wickum	Janet Lathrop	Broken wrist & cataract surg.
	Martha Green	-
	Fran Cook	Heart problems
The Chessers	Mary & Steve Sealey	Health issues
	Toosie Eggers	Health issues & auto accident injuries
Evelyn Lee	Mary Tilson	at Willowbrook
	Bertha VanBrimmer	Health issues
	Florence Faulk	at Delaware Court
Barb Reed	Regan Riedmiller	-
The Faulks	Bill Faulk	Stroke Recovery
Bob Foor	Kay Kern	Cancer
Beth Trigg	Connie Coy	Brain Cancer
Carol Grubbs	Haycox Family	Children's health
	Celesta Crawford	Medical Issues

Community Chorus Concert

On Sunday, December 20, the Delaware Community Chorus (in which Melissa Neill and Dave Lovell are members) will present its winter concert: *A Familiar Christmas*.

The Chorus, under the direction of Daniel D. Hursey, will present their musical offering at 3:00 p.m. in the sanctuary of St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 45 W. Winter Street.

The concert will be free, and all are cordially invited.

Trustees Notes

• A new refrigerator was purchased for the church kitchen, after the old

one quit. The cost was \$398.

• Several of the red hymnals are missing from the sanctuary. If you have borrowed one, please remember to bring it back.

– Peter White

Reporting for the Trustees

FIFTY YEARS AGO...

"The First Baptist Church unanimously approved a campaign for the construction of a \$24,000 fellowship and education building."

The Delaware Gazette
November, 1959

Poinsettia Dedications

Our thanks to everyone who purchased poinsettias to decorate our church during Advent.

- From the Brown and Grubbs families: 1 in memory of Charles & Ruth Brown, 1 in memory of Teresa Griffith, 1 in memory of Fred Grubbs and Edith Hall, 1 in praise for our choir and choir director, and 1 in blessings for our children and grandchildren
- From Jeanne Ekelberry, in memory of her parents
- From Jimmie and Jane Moore, in memory of Willa S. Corder
- From Betty Porter and family, in memory of Jim "Billy" Porter
- From Jean Wickum, 1 in memory of Wilbur Wickum, and 1 in memory of Marian Austin (John Mead's mother-in-law and Jean's dear friend, who died of cancer a few weeks ago)



Please Update Your Church Directory

June Grubbs' new address is 68 Muirwood Village Drive, Delaware, Ohio 43015. Her phone number remains the same.

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Our apologies to **Frances Cook** for misspelling her first name in last month's newsletter, and its also wrong in the church directory.

The correct spelling is "Frances".

As we mentioned last month, her new phone number is **(740) 363-6240**. Her address remains the same.

- From Sophia and Jim Stephenson, in memory of Rev. James B. Stephenson

Please give any additions or corrections to the pastor.

Personals

Editor Needed

I know that many folks enjoy reading the Personals column each month, but due to time constraints I may have to discontinue it.

I'm hoping that some kind soul can help me out by becoming the editor of the Personals. This person would assemble the personals each month, verify details like dates and spellings, then type up the personals and send them to me via email.

Please see me for more info if you're interested.

Thanks,

-Jim Stephenson, newsletter editor

- Janet Lathrop had cataract surgery recently, and is also recovering from a broken wrist.

• Evelyn Lee's son, Dr. Rick, who has a herniated disc in his neck, has recovered sufficiently to pass a physical that enables him to leave on December 24 for a 5-6 week visit to Antarcica. This will be Rick's 6th trip there, where he does scientific research.

• Jean Osborne and her son Greg attended services here just 3-1/2 weeks after she had knee replacement surgery in Michigan. She recuperated at Greg's home in Grand Rapids, but is back home in Delaware now.

• Jim Van Brimmer attended church recently with daughter Susan and her husband, Jeff. Jim expressed thanks to all for their cards and offers of help.

• Donald Brown (brother of Jim Brown and Carol Grubbs) was in

Birthdays & Anniversaries



NOT PROOFED

- | | | |
|------|----|---------------------------------|
| Dec. | 3 | Kari Davidson |
| | 4 | Erin Faulk |
| | 8 | Tim & Lisa Fogle |
| | 11 | Holly Kauf |
| | 13 | Geneva Evans |
| | 15 | Bud Sykes |
| | 16 | Thad & Jenna Inscho |
| | 23 | Dominique DeBiasio |
| | 24 | Frances Cook |
| | 25 | Carol Grubbs |
| | 27 | Cory Lawrence |
| | 28 | Sharon Baker |
| | 29 | Harold & Deborah Van Broekhoven |
| Jan. | 4 | Fred DeBiasio
Shirley Parker |
| | 5 | Evelyn Lee |
| | 6 | Ken & Pam Shears |
| | 9 | Braden Inscho |
| | 10 | Kip Smith |

Please report any errors or omissions to Jim Stephenson.

critical condition at Riverside due to pneumonia he contracted after having shoulder surgery, but is doing better now.

• Emily Anne McKendrick was born on October 21 to Natalie Griffith and Adam McKendrick. Carol Grubbs is the proud great-grandmother, and Hannah (age 4) is Emily's sister.

• Claire Turner and Jane Mercer took a class on babysitting. They are now certified babysitters, available to serve.

• Hannah Walls, a Junior at Hayes High School, was inducted into the National Honor Society. Congratulations on this recognition.

• Wil Verhoff sent his greetings to his friends at First Baptist. He lives in Stanford, Kentucky, where he is preparing for ordination.

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- There was a rose on the altar in honor of Taylor Gwen Trigg, born October 16 at Grady. Proud parents are Evan & Carrie Trigg; paternal grandparents are Archie & Beth Trigg; Jarrod and Nichelle are aunt and uncle.

- During the Veteran's Day Parade on Sunday, Nov. 8, veteran Jean Wickum rode in the parade in a big Hummer.



Andrews House Christmas Cupboard

The Andrews House Christmas Cupboard will be on Saturday, December 5, from 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. We welcome your treats for the Cookie Sale and the Bake Sale. Remember to have your items there by Friday evening or early Saturday morning.

Our thanks to all who plan to bring items to support this Andrews House fundraiser.

In addition to the cook and bake sales, remember the day will include a silent auction, raffles, and lovely stained glass items. Do plan to drop by to support this event.

Thank you,

– Evelyn Lee