

# Good News Letter

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Welcome to the beginning of a new liturgical year. It is the time for the celebration of the birth of Christ. There is much to do and think about; shopping, plans for travel and family gatherings, unpacking the winter clothing and packing up temporarily all the summer things, and finding the decorations for the tree and the house, along with the observances of Advent and later Christmas, and then another new year.

One of the annual exhortations that Christians repeat at this time is to “remember the reason for the season.” Even though it comes with an almost cliché rhyme, it is a good reminder.

As a way of restating this encouragement, wishing everyone well, and to give a blessing for these activities, I thought I would offer a prayer. It is taken from the aides to the Revised Common Lectionary and can be read for inspiration, prayed in faith that in everything we do at this time



of the year, we might make the most of our spiritual heritage;

“God of justice and peace,

From the heavens you rain down mercy and kindness, that all on earth may stand in awe and wonder before your marvelous deeds. Raise our heads in expectation, that we may yearn for the coming day of the Lord and stand without blame before your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns for ever.

We seek you in the most unlikely places, as a child in



a stable, and in an empty tomb. Hear our prayers, which come from the unlikely corners of our lives. Give us ears to hear, O God, and eyes to see, that we may know your presence in our midst during this holy season of joy as we anticipate the coming of Jesus Christ. Amen.”

God bless you all and in your giving, don't forget the RMMO emphasis, and have a blessed and meaningful Christmas.

Mark



## Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Please join us for our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service. Preludes will begin at 6:45 p.m.

## Panera Volunteers for December

- Dec 2 Faulk
- Dec 9 Faulk / Turner
- Dec 16 Turner
- Dec 23 Grubbs
- Dec 30 Volunteer Needed

Thanks to all who volunteer for this mission.

## Personals

-Brennan Howe was named on the Honor Roll, and Gabe Fogle was named on the Merit Roll at Hayes for the first quarter. Congratulations guys!

-Mary Lou Lovell is still recovering from her recent surgery. She is very appreciative of all the visits, cards, and prayers.

-Thanks to Candy Lee and Jennifer Turner for sharing their talents at the organ during Mary Lou's absence.

-Pastor Mark's father fell last month and has been adjusting to moving into an assisted living facility.

-Pastor Mark traveled to St. Louis for Thanksgiving.

-Jeff and Laurie Faulk and family visited the Faulks for Thanksgiving.

-Jane and Jim Snyder traveled to New Hampshire to witness Jim's son's ordination as a pastor. They also were able to have a nice visit with the Chesser family in Connecticut.

-The Turner family celebrated an engagement/housewarming party with Claire recently.

-Jane and Jim Snyder traveled to West Virginia during Thanksgiving week.

- Melissa Mercer took a tumble down the stairs and broke her fibula and sprained both ankles.

## Christmas Offering

The offering in the Christmas envelopes will go to Andrews House.

## No Women's/Men's Breakfast

As virus cases are still increasing, and flu season is upon us, there will not be a women's luncheon or men's breakfast this month.

## Holiday Wish Program

FBC is again sponsoring gifts through the Holiday Wish Program of Jobs and Family Services. Below are the names of three children with their wish lists. Please consider helping fulfill a wish or two. Gifts should **not** be wrapped, just labeled. We will need to complete the program by Sunday December 5th.

Thanks for your contributions. Larry Faulk, deacons.

### Cassie – 8 year old female

Gift Wishes:

- Barbie dolls
- arts and crafts
- puzzles(100 piece & above)
- Age appropriate toys
- Clothes size 8
- Gift Cards

### Tommy – 6 year old male

Gift Wishes:

- Clothing - size 6X
- firetrucks & police cars
- Elmo
- games ( Hi HO cherrio, Yeti in my Spaghetti type)
- Age appropriate toys
- Gift Cards

### Marnie – 4 year old female

Gift Wishes:

- baby dolls
- Melissa & Doug wooden toys
- Age appropriate toys
- books
- clothes size 5T
- Age appropriate toys
- Gift Cards

## Birthdays and Anniversaries



### December

- 4 Erin Faulk
- Jim Snyder
- 8 Phyllis Beasley
- 11 Hannah Nace
- 12 Samuel Allison
- 17 Pat Gosser
- 25 Carol Grubbs
- 27 Jim & Jane Snyder
- 28 Sharon Baker
- 29 James Craig Reynolds
- Harold & Deb
- VanBroekhoven

*Please report any errors.*

## THANKS FOR BEING SUCH WONDERFUL GIVERS

Last month our congregation donated \$965 to the World Mission Offering, \$322.50 (and a paper clip and hair tie) to the Change for Change Offering, and filled 44 shoeboxes for the Shoebox Ministry! Thanks to all who contributed to these mission projects. Your generosity is amazing. Remember that you can contribute your loose change any time during the year. Just leave it in the plastic jar on the table in the Welcome Center, and it will be saved until the next time change.

## TRANSFORMED BY GENEROSITY

This is the theme for this year's Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering (RMMO). We received this explanatory letter from ABCUSA. "The RMMO acknowledges and shares our collective appreciation for the extraordinary commitment of those who serve God's people. By participating in the RMMO, all congregants can celebrate the strength and perseverance of ministers, missionaries, and their widowed spouses by contributing to provide emergency assistance and 'Thank You' checks. The supporting scripture for this year's RMMO theme- 'Transformed by Generosity'- reflects how this perseverance and commitment alter us: 'And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the spirit.'

## Prayer List

This list is prepared by the Deacons.  
Please send changes to Larry Faulk (lfaulk01@aol.com).

Name	Reason for Prayer
Richard Lovell	Health Issues
Ken & Genevieve Peterson	Health Issues
Dr. Allison's father & sister	Health Issues
Ken Shears	Health Issues
Candy Lee's sister Trudy	Health Issues
Mary Lou Lovell	Recovery
Melissa Mercer	Recovery

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

Through RMMO, we hope you are inspired to give to those who continue to transform and embody the spirit of Christ- and may each be transformed by the opportunity to be generous in giving."

Our goal is \$850. As you prayerfully consider your donation during the month of December, please remember that several of our own church fellowship have benefited and will benefit from the thank you check.

Pam Faulk

## HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

Human Rights Day is celebrated annually across the world on December 10 each year. The date was chosen to honor the United Nations General Assembly's adoption and proclamation on December 10, 1948, of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), the first global enunciation of human rights, and one of the first major achievements of the new United Nations. It is traditionally on this day that the five-yearly United Nations Prize in the Field of Human Rights and Nobel Peace Prize are awarded.

## 2022 Church Officers

At our October Quarterly Business meeting, the following officers were elected. Their terms expire at the end of years noted in parentheses.

Moderator:

Randy Turner (22)

Asst. Moderator:

Dave Lovell (22)

Clerk:

Pam Shears (22)

Treasurer:

Larry Faulk (22)

Asst. Treasurer:

Candy Lee (23)

Financial Secretary:

Randy Turner (23)

Asst. Financial Secretary:

Linda White (22)

Church School Clerkt:

Pam Faulk (22)

Finance Committee Chair;

Deb Fogle (23)

Board of Christian Education:

Pam Faulk (23)

Carol Grubbs (22)

Erin Faulk (22)

Candy Lee (23)

Board of Deacons:

Larry Faulk (22)

Dave Lovell (22)

Jennifer Turner (23)

Claire Turner (22)

Available (23)

Available (23)

Board of Trustees:

Peter White (23)  
Archie Trigg (23)  
Available (22)  
Available (22)

Other Positions:

Organists:

Mary Lou Lovell  
Jennifer Turner  
Candy Lee

Choir Director:

Mary Lou Lovell

Mission and Outreach Chair:

Mary Lou Lovell

Pastoral Assistant:

Deb Fogle

Custodian:

Deb Fogle

## Thank You

Thank you to all for your prayers for my recent surgery and recovery. On Oct. 13, what started with a tremendous pain in my right side ended me up in the ER, thinking that I had appendicitis. Tests showed no appendicitis, but that there was a mass and it was unclear what it was. After further testing, I was referred to Riverside Hospital and it was determined I needed major surgery to remove and test organs for cancer and remove the mass. The doctors moved quickly on testing and getting me into surgery for which I was grateful. The surgery went well and thankfully no cancer was found. Through all of this I felt God's love through all of your prayers. I knew that God was working to see an excellent surgeon, get me to surgery quickly, and have my problem resolved.

A huge thank you to all who took the time to make meals for us. Dave and I really appreciated the variety of comfort foods from the wonderful cooks at First Baptist! So delicious! Thanks to Mike Reynolds' visit and his homemade bread with get well wishes on the bag. We have enjoyed your visits, bringing smiles to brighten the days. So nice to see you as I was not able to come to church. Thank you to all those who thought of me and sent such beautiful, as well as funny cards.

I am also grateful to Jennifer Turner and Candy Lee who immediately worked out a schedule to play the organ when they knew I would not be able to climb on the organ bench for many weeks. I have been enjoying their music. They so graciously have begun preparing for the Advent Season and making preparations for the Christmas Eve service. I am saddened that I will not be playing the organ this year but will enjoy their music, as well as others who may play or sing during the Christmas season.

I am also grateful to Larry Faulk for continuing to put the videos of the services online. Many nights when I could not sleep, I was comforted by watching the services.

I am hoping to get back to exercising and being able to play the organ in the New Year. As I write this, Thanksgiving is a few days away. I am thankful for Pastor Mark, for this congregation, and friends, and family. We are very blessed!

Mary Lou and Dave Lovell

## Dear Friends in Christ:

As is our custom, the Board of Deacons would like to present Pastor Mark with a **cash** Christmas gift from the congregation. We will be presenting the **cash** gift at the Christmas Eve service. You may give your **cash** contributions to me or to any Deacon. This has been an excellent year in the life of our church under Mark's leadership and we would like to express our appreciation.

Yours in Christ,  
Larry Faulk  
Chairman of the Board of Deacons












## PIN Holiday Clearing House

The annual PIN Holiday Clearing House will be at the Fairgrounds Coliseum:

Nov. 29- Dec. 10 9-4  
non-perishable food, toys,  
toiletries, gift cards, and  
winterwear drop off  
Dec. 7 9-noon  
Senior Food Packing Day  
Dec. 9 9-4  
Senior Gift Delivery Day  
Dec. 11 9-2  
Family Food Packing Day  
Dec. 12-13 8:30-5:30  
Family Distribution Day

# December

2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday		
<b>December Mission Focus:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RMMO</li> <li>• Christmas Offering to Andrews House</li> </ul>			1	2	3	4		
<b>2nd Sunday of Advent</b> 10 am In-person Worship Holy Communion 	5	6	<b>Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day</b> 	8	9	<b>Human Rights Day</b> 	11	
<b>3rd Sunday of Advent</b> 10 am In-person Worship 2:00 & 4:30 COSO Holiday Concert 	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
<b>4th Sunday of Advent</b> 10 am In-person Worship January newsletter deadline today 	19	20	 <b>Winter Begins</b>	22	23	6:45 pm <b>Christmas Eve            Candlelight            Service</b> 	 <b>Christmas Day</b>	
10 am In-person Worship <b>Kwanza Begins</b>  January newsletter available today	26	27	28	29	30	 <b>New Year's Eve</b>	<b>January 1</b>  <b>New Year's Day</b>	
				8:45 Panera Pickup - Faulk	8:45 Panera Pickup - Faulk / Turner	8:45 Panera Pickup - Turner	8:45 Panera Pickup - Grubbs	8:45 Panera Pickup - Volunteer Needed
						3pm Delaware Community Chorus	Women's Lunch Suspended until further notice	Men's Breakfast Suspended until further notice