

Good News Letter

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“The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.” John 1:14.

Advent begins on December 3rd, which marks the beginning of the Christian liturgical year. After six months in the time after Pentecost, the gospel story is proclaimed anew from the time of anticipation that leads to the birth of Jesus Christ, all the way through the time of Epiphany to Lent, Holy Week and Easter, and the time of the Spirit. It all begins with Advent.

Generally speaking, advent may be defined as the moment just before something happens. It is a time of expectation and hope, and not a little excitement. Sometimes events are completely surprising, but some of the time we are aware of living through that last little bit of waiting before the big thing happens; the last few months before a graduation, a wedding, or the birth of a child.

More specifically, Advent refers to the four weeks before the celebration of Christmas and the birth of Jesus into the



world. It is the observation of the Incarnation, God revealed in humility, as a centered, healthy person in an unhealthy world; a light shining in the darkness, with a mercy that perseveres throughout life, and finally, a majesty that can only be sung by angels. It is in the context of Christ's birth, life, and death that life's meaning is considered, and understood.

As our lives come more and more to be consumed by the technologies the age, by the individual demands of modern life, and the increasingly troubled life of the world, let us take the time to reflect upon



and consider again the, “Word made flesh,” the very being of God in human form, and may it produce in us an anxious excitement about the hope and peace, joy, and love that mark the Sundays, and are the goal of the faithful life.

Blessings,

Mark



Soup and Sing

Join us for an evening of Christmas carols and soup.
Saturday, December 9th
at 4:00pm



Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

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

December Panera Volunteers

Wed	Thur
Dec 6-Brown	Dec 7-Brown
Dec 13-Faulk	Dec 14-Faulk
Dec 20-Faulk	Dec 21-Faulk
Dec 27-Grubbs	Dec 28-Grubbs

In November we added Wednesdays to our pick-up nights. The Wednesday night donations will go to United Way at the Willis Building where they have a food pantry and also offer various programs, including some for children and families. The Thursday night donations will continue to go to Andrews House, as always. We thank all those who volunteer to help with this worthy cause. Both places are extremely grateful for the donations.

CHANGE FOR CHANGE

This fall we collected \$213.50 from your loose change for our Change for Change offering. This money will be sent to Andrews House to help support the summer lunch program for Delaware's children. Thank you for your generosity. You can always bring in your change at any time and leave it in the plastic jar on the table in the Welcome Center.

PERSONALS

- Dave Lovell was pictured on the front page of the November 11 edition of the Delaware Gazette riding along with other veterans in the Veterans Day parade.
- Erin Faulk would like to thank everyone for their prayers after she was rear-ended by a drunk driver this month.
- Jeff and Laurie Faulk and family visited Pam, Larry, and Erin over Thanksgiving week.

ABW - Women's Fellowship

On November 18th eight of our members traveled to Der Dutchman in Plain City for our monthly meeting. We had great fellowship and a delicious lunch. Members searched the bakery and gift shop; getting ideas on how to further enjoy the upcoming season of our Savior's Birth.

In the Fellowship Hall on December 16th at 11:30, we will have our next meeting and we will be having lunch and a return to the Ornament Exchange/Swap. A signup for the different lunch courses will be circulating. Please bring a giftwrapped ornament. There will be door prizes and games. All ladies are encouraged to get their Fa La La spirit ready and to join in the fun!

BTW - CHURCH DECORATING FOR ADVENT

December 2nd at 10:00 a.m. all Church Members who wish to help the Women's Fellowship decorate the Christmas tree for the Season are invited to join in!

Laura Brown
740-815-8399

Sponsor Foster Children

FBC is again sponsoring three foster children for Christmas this year. You can find a sign-up list of the children's wish lists in the Gathering Place. We encourage you to donate items by Dec 10th and make their Christmas a joyous occasion. Toys, clothes, and gift cards or money to buy gifts are welcomed.


Mission/Outreach News

41 Boxes!

41 children somewhere in the world will be surprised to get a Christmas shoe box via Samaritan's Purse thanks to you! They will experience the love of God. Imagine the smiles on their faces when they see what is in their boxes.

Thanks to all who contributed \$10.00 per box for the postage. Thank you Darlene Caulkins for getting the boxes, encouraging us to be a part of this ministry, and delivering the boxes to Delaware Bible Church. We look forward to doing this again next year.

***Birthdays
and
Anniversaries***



December

- 3 Kari Davidson
- 4 Erin Faulk
Jim Snyder
- 8 Phyllis Beasley
Joyce Roberts
- 12 Samuel Allison
Patty Spear
- 17 Pat Gosser
- 18 John Dagleish &
Lena Putkonen
- 25 Carol Grubbs
- 27 Jim & Jane Snyder
- 28 Sharon Baker
- 29 James Craig Reynolds

Please report any errors.

Mittens, Gloves, and Hat Tree

In December, look for a blue Christmas tree at church. You will see some gloves. Genevieve Peterson began thinking of another way we could keep others warm. While you are doing your Christmas shopping, please think of the weather outside and how much you enjoy having a hat, mittens, or gloves to keep warm. We would like to fill the tree with mittens, gloves, and hats. These will be given to children and adults in the community (Common Ground, Family Promise, or Zion's Place of Warmth.)

Soup and Sing

Calling everyone who enjoys singing Christmas Carols! We will have our sing-a-long in the sanctuary on December 9th at 4 p.m. Please invite your relatives and friends. The more people we have singing, the greater the wonderful sound will be praising God for Jesus' birth. Following the sing-a-long we will enjoy the variety of homemade soups and cornbread that you bring to the fellowship hall.

After our meal, the remaining soup will be given to Zion United Church of Christ for their Place of Warmth for men who need a place to stay when the weather is below 20 degrees.

This is a free evening to be a part of the Advent season and have fellowship with others.

There is a signup sheet in the gathering room so that you can let us know what kind of soup or another item that you would like to bring.

Let me know if you would like a ride. Mary Lou 740-369-6041.

See you on December 9th!

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
Dr. Allison's sister	Health Issues
Ken Shears	Health Issues
Janet Lathrop	Health Issues
Jay & Caldwell Lovell	Health Issues
Pat Gosser	Health Issues
Jenni Pedzinski and family	Father's stroke
Donna Brown	Health Issues
Trigg Family	Continued Prayers

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

Thoughts about our missionaries for the Christmas Season

As you think of others during Advent and the Christmas Season, please spend time thinking of our missionaries who give so much, work very hard, and want to share God's love. If you can, let them hear from you to wish them a Blessed Christmas. We directly support: **Bill and Ann Clemmer** (Democratic Republic or the Congo), **Sarah McCurdy** (Regional Coordinator for Education in Iberoamerica and the Caribbean), and **Jeni Pedzinski** (International Ministries' Director of Mission Mobilization)

If you would like to send them an email, go to: <https://internationalministries.org>

On the "Global Mission" dropdown menu, choose "GLOBAL SERVANTS," click on a missionaries name and then, click on "send an email" in the GET CONNECTED area. You can enter your name and email address as well as a message to send.

People In Need

Thanks to all who bring a food items for the People In Need Box often.

It is wonderful to have ongoing donations, as the need continues throughout the year.

Missions/Outreach Meeting

Please mark your calendars for December 2nd at 9:30 a.m. Some of you will be at church for a calendar meeting, others for Christmas decorating. There will be a short meeting about the Missions/Outreach schedule for 2024. We want to look at what we have given to this year and see if we would like to make changes for next year. Everyone is welcome!

Thank You

Thanks to David Spear, Mike Reynolds, and Mark Allison for raking, scooping, and filling many bags of leaves for the city pickup. Lots of work! So appreciated!

Christmas Offering

The offering in the "Christmas" envelopes will go to Andrews House. This offering helps their mission in the community.

GOOD WILL COME

This year's theme for the Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering (RMMO) comes from Psalm 112:5 which states, "Good will come to those who are generous and lend freely, who conduct their affairs with justice." Throughout the month of December, you will be seeing the phrase, "Good will come," in promotional materials for the RMMO. As illustrated in these materials, goodness comes from the pastors, missionaries, and leaders who have served ABCUSA churches and ministries. Good will come back to each of them in the form of a thank you check - a tangible expression of our enduring gratitude for their service. The offering originated in the mid-1930's as the Communion Fellowship Offering and since 1977 has been known as RMMO. These funds are distributed as thank you checks to retired ordained ministers and commissioned missionaries who have devoted 15 years or more to ABCUSA, as well as surviving spouses. A certain portion of the funds is also allocated for direct emergency assistance. There are members and past members of our congregation, as well as missionaries we

A Christmas Poem

Mary's Little Lamb

By Nellie Ruth Stiles Johnson
(104 years young)

Mary had a little Lamb
Sent from heaven above.
He was of Royal stock you know,
Full of mercy, peace, and love.

The angel Gabriel came one day,
A message to proclaim
How God with His greatest plan
Would save mortal man.

The plan had long ago been told
The book of Genesis said
That the Child of a woman
Would crush the serpent's head.

Mary was from the house of David,
A man of God's own heart.
People look on outward things
But God looks on the heart.

Mary was full of grace,
Love, joy, and peace.
God saw her gentle ways and mild
And chose her to be the mother of His child.

She obeyed God
And answered His call
Be it unto me as you wish.
She trusted God
And forgot her own ways.

There was no room in the Inn that night
The son of God was born,
Wrapped in swaddling clothes
With a manger of straw to keep Him warm.

He came to every nation, sect, and said,
"Everyone who believes, black, yellow, white or red
If you call my Name." He said,
"I will forgive you from every wrong deed."

This is time and the season
We give thanks for the Savior's birth
And give gifts and sing songs
To remember Mary's Little Lamb's birth.

have supported, who will receive these thank you checks. RMMO is always about celebrating, thanking, and lifting up our servant leaders. Please prayerfully consider your offering for the RMMO during December. Our goal is \$900.

Pam Faulk

Panera Donations

Because Andrews House and United Way were both closed on Friday, Nov. 24, the Panera donations were taken to Turning Point that week.

Directory Update

Pat Gosser cell phone:
(317) 979-6732

First Baptist Church




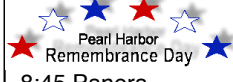






101 North Franklin Street
Delaware, Ohio 43015

December

2023

Dr. Mark Allison, Pastor

Office Hours: by appointment

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>December 31</p> <p>9:30 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship Service</p>  <p>New Year's Eve January newsletter available today</p>	<p>January 1</p>  <p>New Year's Day</p>	<p>December Mission Focus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RMMO Offering • Foster Kids' Wish Lists • Christmas Offering to Andrews House 			<p>1</p>	<p>2</p> <p>9:00 am Parish Council Planning 10:00 am Decorating for Advent</p>
<p>First Sunday of Advent 3</p> <p>9:30 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship Service Holy Communion</p>  <p>RMMO begins</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p> <p>6:00 Board of Christian Education at the Faulks</p>	<p>6</p> <p>6:30 Choir 8:45 Panera Pickup - Brown</p>	<p>Pearl Harbor Day 7</p>  <p>8:45 Panera Pickup - Brown</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p>  <p>4 pm Soup and Sing</p>
<p>Second Sunday of Advent 10</p> <p>9:30 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship Service</p> <p>Gifts for foster kids due Human Rights Day RMMO continues</p> 	<p>11</p> <p>5:30 Deacons at Amato's</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p> <p>6:30 Choir 8:45 Panera Pickup - Faulk</p>	<p>14</p> <p>8:45 Panera Pickup - Faulk</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p> <p>8am Men's Breakfast-Bob Evans 11:30am Women's Christmas Luncheon Fellowship Hall</p>
<p>Third Sunday of Advent 17</p> <p>9:30 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship Service</p>  <p>RMMO continues</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>6:30 Choir 8:45 Panera Pickup - Faulk</p>	<p>21</p>  <p>Winter Begins 8:45 Panera Pickup - Faulk</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>
<p>Fourth Sunday of Advent 24</p> <p>9:30 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship Service</p> <p>6:45 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service January newsletter deadline December 31 listing at top</p> 	<p>Christmas Day 25</p>  <p>Merry Christmas</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>6:30 Choir 8:45 Panera Pickup -Grubbs</p>	<p>28</p> <p>8:45 Panera Pickup -Grubbs</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>