

Good News Letter

Published in the Cause of the Abundant Life by the First Baptist Church
101 North Franklin Street, Delaware, OH 43015•740-363-7021•www.FBCDelaware.org

I hope everyone has had a wonderful Christmas celebration, time with family and away from the ordinary routines of school and work. And I hope the new year will be filled with blessings.

Although one cannot predict the future, I expect, if the Lord wills, to add a person to my family this year when in September my son gets married. Who knows what else might happen? But the new year is a time to look back as well as forward.

Throughout the fall we have begun a focus on prayer that will continue throughout the spring of 2019. The Lenten study will be centered around the topic of prayer, and there will be other activities designed to help us be more intentional about praying for one another and our community and the world.

While the specifics of this emphasis are not yet fully developed, the beginning of the year provides an opportunity to reflect on what has happened so far. In my experience the months of January and February are somewhat slow in the life of a church. Lent this year begins in March and Easter is late, so there is some time to think and pray.

In addition to the devotions provided by ABC missionaries and the day of prayer in October, we have introduced a new way to minister to each other, the Prayer Chest, which allows each person



the chance to pray for one specific person for a week at a time.

Take the chance to think about what this has meant to you. It involves not only praying for other members of the church family but also the knowledge that someone else may be praying for you. It is possible that each of us might become more aware of being a part of the family in Christ. Might it help us become more aware of God's presence? Perhaps there will be some other insight discovered by participating in this activity and reflecting upon it?

Three of the most important scriptures in the Bible are as follows; "Love your neighbor as yourself," (Leviticus 19:18) "Judge not, lest you be judged," (Matthew 7:1), and, "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." (Mathew 7:12). All three of these texts tower over the entire biblical message and are consistent with its presentation of God as revealed on the cross of Jesus. And all three of these texts are about relationships.

Prayer is about relationships too, which links these texts to the Year for Prayer. Both are about how to

enhance the sense of Christian Fellowship and participation in the larger human family. So perhaps we might think of 2019 as "The Year to Focus on Relationships." We may focus on relationships with family, church family, friends, and the larger community, and the world. Concentrate on being more loving, less judgmental, and more aware of the Golden Rule. We have begun by praying for each other. Who can tell what might happen?

Happy New Year

-Mark



Penny Hagaman

Penelope (Penny) Hagaman passed away peacefully with family by her side on Sunday, December 16th, 2018. She was born in Delaware, Ohio to Raymond C. and Dorothy B. (Ramey) Hagaman on August 27th, 1942.

A graduate of Willis High School, she also received a Bachelor's degree in Social Work from The Ohio State University.

Continued on page 2

She retired from the State of Ohio Bureau of Workers Compensation and Rehabilitation, having also worked for Child Protective Services in Hamilton and Delaware Counties.

She was preceded in death by her parents, brother Bruce Hagaman and sisters Sue Ann Evans and Connie Hagaman.

Surviving are her sister Kate (Hagaman) Sterling of Radnor, Ohio; nephew William (Jennifer) Hagaman of Clermont, Florida; nieces Amelia Tompkins (Ben Green) of Delaware, Ohio; Megan Sterling (Dan Sparks) of Delaware, Ohio; great nephews Hunter and Asa Green; great niece Lillian Olszewski; her sister-in-law Beverley Hagaman of Delaware, Ohio; and her very best friend Lana Palmer of Delaware, Ohio.

There will be no calling hours at this time. A celebration of life is to be held in the spring and will be announced at a later date.

2019 Directory

The 2019 Directory will be available soon. Please review your information and let me know of any updates. If you would like a new photo, please see me.

-Larry

Prayer Shawls Available

Two prayer shawls have been placed in the Prayer Room at the rear of the sanctuary. They are available to be passed around and "blessed" for any of our folks who are suffering.

-Jane Moore

Volunteers For January

Fellowship Time

Jan 6 Gosser
Jan 13 Trigg
Jan 20 Lovell
Jan 27 Lee

Panera Pick-Up

Jan 3 Lee
Jan 10 Lovell
Jan 17 Nace
Jan 24 Open
Jan 31 Open

Rides for David Harris

Jan. 6 Allison
Jan. 13 Open
Jan. 20 Open
Jan. 27 Open

Thank you all for volunteering. As you can see, there are still some openings for Panera and rides for David. Anyone wishing to learn how to do the Panera pick-up can ask the Faulks or the Lovells for training. We could use more people doing this. We are the only church in Delaware providing Panera products for Andrews House.

Birthdays and Anniversaries



January

6 Ken & Pam Shears
10 Kip Smith
12 Matt Cooper
Larry Faulk
16 Jane Moore Snyder
18 Matthew Lovell
20 Jennifer Turner
22 Michael Mercer
24 Ben Geary
26 Sophia Stephenson
27 Steve Baker
30 Calvin Turner
31 Bowen Nace

Please report any errors.

Personals

- Elizabeth and Charles Ekelberry were in the ER recently with back problems.
- Jeanne Ekelberry made a trip to West Virginia with her sister where they were able to get together with all 7 of her siblings.
- Larry, Pam, and Erin Faulk spent several days over Christmas in Warren, OH with Jeff Faulk and his family.
- Pastor Allison entertained our youth at his house at their annual Christmas Party
- Steve Baker is recovering from a recent stay in the hospital with health concerns.
- Matt Lovell from California visited his family over the holidays.
- Two of Pastor Allison's sons visited him over the holidays.
- Some other visitors to our Christmas Eve service were Jeanne Ekelberry's son Charles and Elizabeth and Marley, former members Lynn and Sue Elfner and some of their family, and Tim Fogle and his family, and guests of Ken and Genevieve Peterson.

Thank You Notes

Thanks to all who contributed to the RMMO. We surpassed our goal of \$700. As of the printing of this newsletter, our total for the RMMO was \$779.

- Pam Faulk

The first Sunday we opened the Prayer Chest, I pulled out Jeni Pedzinski's name. I e-mailed her and explained what we were doing with the Prayer Chest and

told her that I was praying for her. This is her response that she e-mailed back to me. - Pam Faulk

Dear Pam,
I am so blessed to receive your email. Thank you so much for letting me know that you drew my name! I really like the idea of the prayer chest! I think back on the time I spent with FBC very fondly, and look forward to the day we get to see one another again! Please give my greetings to the church, and thank them ever so much for including me in the prayer chest, it means so much!

With much love,
Jeni

Thank you Mary Lou Lovell for planning such a wonderful Soup and Sing! Thanks to all who helped out and all who provided soup. Also thanks to those who left the rest of their soup to be given to the Place of Warmth during the winter months.

Thanks to all who put up and decorated our beautiful Christmas tree in the sanctuary.

Thanks to Candy Lee and Pat Gosser for planning such a wonderful and fun Christmas luncheon for the women.

Women's Lunch

Our January Women's lunch will be on Saturday, January 12, at 11:30 at the Corner Cafe on Rt. 36/37. Please let Pam Faulk know if you plan to attend so that we can save enough seats for everyone.

January Mission Focus

"Family Promise is an interfaith hospitality network to help homeless families achieve lasting independence." They provide food, shelter, and assistance with obtaining employment and

Prayer List

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

Name	Reason for Prayer
Alvin Cox	Health Issues
Richard Lovell	Health Issues
Jim Brown	Recovery and Rehab
Raeleen George	Health Issues
Archie Trigg	Eye Surgery Recovery
Penny Hagaman family	Condolences on Penny's death
Steve & Sharon Baker	Health Issues

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

housing. It is located on Washington St.

In January we will have a box in the entry of the church to collect items for Family Promise residents. They can always use shampoo, soap, liquid laundry soap, liquid dish washing soap, paper towels, toilet tissue, and feminine products. Monetary donations will be accepted as well.

Thank you for your support of this help for families that are struggling.

Our next Mission/Outreach meeting will be Jan 13th at 1:30 at the Lovell's, 661 Cobblestone Dr. Please come and join us and bring ideas for 2019!

Holiday Clearing House

Thanks to all who went to pack items at the Delaware County Fairgrounds on December 8th from 9am to noon. Thanks for taking the time to help those in our community to have food, toys and clothing this Christmas season.

Soup and Sing 2018

On December 15th we joined together for the 4th Annual Soup and Sing. Thanks to all who came to praise our Lord in song with the singing of Christmas Carols. What a wonderful and joyous sound! Thanks to Dr. Allison for leading the sing-a-long. Thanks to Brothers All (Dave, David, Jerry, and Mark) for singing "Let There Be Peace on Earth." Thanks to Deb Fogle and Will Fogle for playing their violins. Thanks to Jennifer Turner for playing piano. Thanks to Larry Faulk for preparing the text to have it scroll on the screen and set up. Thanks to Gabe Fogle for running the computer.

We welcomed guests from Zion UCC and Community Church. Thanks to Pat Gosser, Candy Lee, and Pam Faulk for setting up and organizing the food. Thanks to ALL who brought such delicious soups, cornbread, crackers, and cookies! Thanks to ALL who cleaned up! Again we had too much soup- but that is good.

The leftover soup is in containers in the freezer to be given to Zion's Place of Warmth when needed.

Advent Season Music

Thanks to All who have given time to prepare and sing wonderful music for this Advent Season. Brothers All sang, "Shepherds Came," "Gentle Mary Laid Her Child," and "Let There Be Peace on Earth." They will sing "Go Tell It on the Mountain" on Dec 30th. Claire Turner sang "O Holy Night" on Christmas Eve. The choir sang, " Say He Will Come," "Imagine a King," "They That Wait upon the Lord," "On This Still and Silent Night." Thanks to Randy Turner, Pam Shears, Linda White, Jennifer Turner, Dave Lovell, and Jerry Palmer, Claire Turner, Dr. Allison, and David Harris for blessing us with their singing. Thank you to Peter White for playing preludes for church. Thank you to Deb Fogle, Will Fogle, Aidan Ferguson, and Colin Ferguson for sharing music on their violins.

Brothers All

A huge thank you to Dr. Allison, Randy Turner, David Harris, Jerry Palmer, and Dave Lovell for trying something new. They all like to sing, so in 2018 they began singing together. They have sung many times for church, Shrove Tuesday, and for Soup and Sing 2018. We rehearse on designated Sunday afternoons. Any male that likes to sing is welcome. I am looking forward to hearing the men sing in 2019!

Mission/Outreach Review

One of our church's mission focuses was giving to the Retired Ministers and Missionaries. That offering was taken during the month of December. Thank you for supporting our past ministers and missionaries.

Another mission focus was the Holiday Wish Program in which the congregation gave gifts to 3 children who are in foster care. The boxes were full. Thank you for reaching out and showing love to those children.

You continued to fill the People In Need boxes in December, and Peter White made 2 trips to People In Need to take the items!

As I reflect on our church's ministry and mission for 2018, I am overwhelmed with gratitude for all the giving of time, items, and monetary gifts by our congregation. You have given to the America for Christ offering, the Easter offering, Blanket Sunday, People In Need, One Great Hour of Sharing, Tools of Hope, the World Mission Offering, the Thanksgiving offering, the Christmas offering, HelpLine, the Family Day Block Party, the Retired Ministers and Missionaries offering, Emerson and Ivy Wu, Jeni Pedzinski, and the McCurdy family

You gave Items to Family Promise, Conger Elementary School students, People in Need, Common Ground Free Store, and Children on the Holiday Wish List

You have purchased and/or prepared food for Getting Ahead Meals and spent time serving and cleaning up.

You have given your coins to "Change for Change" to help with the summer lunch program for Delaware City Schools children.

You have provided soup for the Place of Warmth at Zion.

You have served at Second Friday meals at Andrews House and purchased desserts for them.

You have helped in the pick up of the unsold items from Panera, packing and dropping off to Andrews House. You provided items and supervised lawn games for the Family Day Block Party.

What an amazing year of giving and blessings you have provided to others! I look forward to all that we can accomplish together in 2019!

Poinsettia Dedications

- In honor of Candy Lee; in memory of Jean Scott from the Gossers
- In honor of Brennan Howe; in memory of Phil Lee, Abe and Chris Lee from Candy Lee
- In memory of Helen Hall from Mike Reynolds
- In memory of Jennie and Dr. Robert Lovell, Margaret and Raymond Morby from the Lovells
- In honor of our children and grandchildren; in memory of our parents from the Palmers
- In honor of our loved ones from the Petersons
- In memory of Gene Lathrop, Cap and Myrtle Gabriel, Bill and Frances Shears from Ken and Pam Shears
- In honor of family; In memory of sons, brother, and parents from Jeanne Ekelberry
- In memory of Charles and Ruth Brown, Teresa Griffith, Fred Grubbs Sr. from Carol Grubbs
- In honor of Jim Snyder; in memory of Jimmie Moore and Mary Alice Snyder from Jane Moore-Snyder

<h3>New Address for the Church Directory</h3>

<p>Evan Trigg 86 South Street LaRue, OH 43332</p>
