

Good News Letter

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It is the end of the year. It is also the beginning of a new year. Endings and beginnings always have a way of meeting up that way. One might think of the end of something as being at a great distance from its beginning. In a cycle, however, the beginning of one thing is actually very close to the end of what came before it, and any ending lies at close proximity to what comes immediately after.

What comes immediately after Christmas is the celebration of the new year. The celebration of Christmas is all about birth, not only the birth of Jesus, but the birth of faith in Christ. Faith then gives birth to inner peace and hope, and a love which overrides whatever threats and hardships are running through our lives. It makes all the old things new and instills in them energy and vibrance and fills the heart with anticipation about what is next around the bend.

So let us think of 2020 in terms of the new things that will begin in it, rather than



the familiar things that will continue, or the worn out things that might come to their end. Most importantly, let us anticipate newness in the relationships we find in this new year. It may be the renewal of old friendships or the introduction of new ones, perhaps with people who are different and maybe a little exotic to us. Who knows what kind of births there will be?

Whatever happens, my prayer is that for each of you it would be filled with meaning and joy, and I wish for you the happiest of all new years.

God Bless 2020,

- Mark

New Year's Resolution

As we begin a new year, we often consider making a New Year's Resolution (or a few resolutions). Many of our resolutions focus on healthy habits or goals such as "lose 10 pounds, go to the gym more often, or spend more quality time with family or friends. Some resolutions involve starting a hobby or project, or completing a task that we started, but never got back to finish.

I would like to propose a resolution or three to consider. I resolve to attend worship more often. I realize that I am enriched by the hymns, the scriptures, and the messages as well as the fellowship of worshiping together. I resolve to participate with the Prayer Chest or attend Sunday School or help with the Panera Pickup or attend a fellowship activity. I resolve to contribute to a service project such as PIN, Andrews House, or Family Promise. Please prayerfully consider your New Year's Resolution(s).

-Larry Faulk, deacon chair

Volunteers For January

Fellowship Time

Jan 5 Lee
 Jan 12 Gosser
 Jan 19 Lee
 Jan 26 Lovell

Panera Pick-Up

Jan 2 Fogle
 Jan 9 Faulk
 Jan 16 Faulk
 Jan 23 Lee
 Jan 30 Lovell

Thank you all for volunteering.

Personals

> Pam Faulk's cookie recipe was published in the Columbus Dispatch's Holiday Cookie section in November.

> Please be in prayer for Nichelle Trigg and family on the death of her father Bill Hedges.

> Candy Lee retired from Alpha in December.

> Pam Shears would like to thank everyone for their cards and prayers during her recent back surgery and recovery.

> Jeff and Laurie Faulk and their children were here for Thanksgiving weekend. The Faulks all enjoyed a family Thanksgiving dinner hosted by Erin in her new house.

> Ken and Genevieve Peterson are celebrating the recent birth of their 7th great-great grandchild, Charlotte (to be called "Charlie")

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
 24 Ben Geary
 26 Sophia Stephenson
 27 Steve Baker
 30 Calvin Turner
 31 Bowen Nace

Please report any errors.

Women's Fellowship

We had a great turnout for our December Christmas luncheon. Seventeen ladies attended, six coming from Second Baptist Church. Many thanks to Candy Lee and Pat Gosser for all the planning and preparation for this.

Our January lunch will be on Saturday, January 11 at 11:30 at Bob Evans. Please let Pam Faulk know if you will attend.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Breakfast

The board of deacons will be sponsoring a table at the annual MLK Breakfast, January 20th at 7:45 am at the Hamilton-Williams Campus Center at OWU. If you would like to attend, please let Dr. Allison or me know.

-Larry Faulk

Baked Sauerkraut

I brought a baked sauerkraut to the Christmas Luncheon and many requested the recipe, so here it is:

-Jane Moore

5 slices thick-sliced bacon
 3/4 cup firmly packed light
 or dark brown sugar
 1/4 cup (1/2 stick) margarine
 or butter
 1 can (about 27 oz.) sauerkraut
 1 can (about 20 oz.) tomatoes
 or stewed tomatoes

Fry bacon crisp, drain and crumble.

Mix brown sugar, margarine (or butter) and crumbled bacon to make a topping.

Place drained sauerkraut and (undrained, diced) tomatoes in a 13 x 9-inch baking dish; mix well. Sprinkle sugar mixture on top. Bake, uncovered in a preheated 350-degree oven for 1 hour. Makes 8 servings. (It's good with pork.)

Thank You

Thank you all who participated in the 60 Days of Prayer and also for those who contributed to the Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering. Thanks to all who provided beautiful choral and instrumental music during Advent and Christmas.

Thanks to the Youth and other helpers who picked up over 45 bags of yard waste around the church.

-Pam Faulk

Communion Available

Have you missed a Communion Sunday, or you cannot get out to church when you want, or you are recovering from an illness or surgery, or you feel “shut-in”? We would like to come and share a little time and communion with you.

Let Mark or one of the deacons know that you would like communion in your home and we will make arrangements to bring you communion.

- Larry Faulk, deacon chair

Three Special Gifts

FBC has been blessed with three significant financial contributions recently. First, a memorial contribution was received that was designated to make our general fund “whole” erasing the loan to the fund from our memorials. Second, a contribution was received that covered the cost of replacing the gutters on the education wing which have had serious leaks for a few years. Third, there was a major bathroom leak at our Congress Ct rental property that required a renovation of the bathroom. A generous contribution to the Capital Improvements fund more than covered the expense. Thank you for these contributions.

Mission/Outreach News

We will meet in January for a short meeting at noon on Sunday, 19th at noon. Our January Focus will be collecting items to give to Family Promise and giving a monetary donation. Please come and join us- all are welcome.

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
Raleigh Gosser	Health Issues
Richard Lovell	Health Issues
Raeleen George	Health Issues
Steve & Sharon Baker	Health Issues
Ken & Genevieve Peterson	Health Issues
Dr. Allison's father & sister	Health Issues
Keith Anderson	Health Issues
Hedges / Trigg Families	Condolences - death of Bill Hedges

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

Family Promise Items for Collection Suggestions

liquid laundry soap - liquid dish soap - hand soap - toilet tissue - paper towels - large bottles of shampoo

Put the above list on your refrigerator, circle one of the above items each week in January and put it in the box at church.

Thank You Brothers All

We have enjoyed our singing men's group, Brothers All, in 2019. With 2 of the group moving away, it has changed. We would like more men to join the group to praise the Lord through song. We usually rehearse on Sundays. If you would like to sing, come join us.

Advent Reflections

As I reflect on the season of Advent, I think about the anticipation of celebrating Jesus' birth with music. Each year the choir, soloists and instrumentalists prepare for this wonderful time. It seems for many months we prepare and wait for

the Sundays of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love; then, in a flash it is gone until next year. I am truly thankful for the dedicated musicians that we have in our church to provide joyful music during Advent. I appreciate their taking time to practice and being so willing to share their talent with the congregation. I am thankful that Brothers All sang “Noel” during Advent. I felt so blessed to have Aidan Ferguson and Will Fogle play Christmas carols so beautifully on their violins for the Christmas Eve service. I want to say a heartfelt thank you to Randy Turner for the singing of “O Holy Night” on Christmas Eve. Having Will Fogle play “Away in a Manger” accompanied by Candy Lee was a special part of Advent for me. Thanks to Peter White for sharing his talent by playing a variety of Christmas carols for the Prelude during Advent. A HUGE THANK YOU to Deb Fogle, Pam Shears, Candy Lee, Randy Turner, and Dave Lovell for being flexible with choir night changes and times and being so willing to sing beautiful anthems for Advent. I look forward to working with these musicians in 2020 and providing music for the worship services.

-Mary Lou Lovell

Fifth Annual Soup and Sing a Success!

On Saturday, December 14th, at 4 p.m., members of our congregation and visitors met in the sanctuary to sing beloved Christmas carols. Our guest pianist for the event was Kay LaRue, a friend of Mary Lou's and former co-teacher. We enjoyed having her accompany some of the carols. Thanks to Dr. Allison for leading the sing -a - long. Thanks to Larry Faulk for setting up and operating the computer and screen so that the words of the carols could scroll.

After we sang, many people went to the Fellowship Hall to enjoy the delicious homemade soup, corn bread, crackers, and desserts. There was lots of conversation, laughter, and time to get to know some of our visitors. Thank you to Candy Lee, Brennan and Pat Gosser for setting the tables with Christmas decorations. Thanks to all who prepared soup, cornbread, desserts, and provided other items.

As is our custom, the uneaten soup was taken to the Place of Warmth at nearby Zion UCC Church. Men who need a place to stay on very cold nights will enjoy it.

Thank You

As I look back at this year's calendar, I am again amazed at the giving of time, donations of items, and money. It is truly a great blessing to others. You, as a congregation, have given to : The America for Christ Offering, the Easter Offering, Blanket Sunday, People In Need, One Great Hour of Sharing, Tools of Hope, World Mission Offering, Thanksgiving Offering, Christmas Offering, Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering, Help Line,

our missionaries ; Jeni Pedzinski and Emerson and Ivy Wu. You have provided needed items for Family Promise, Common Ground Free Store, People In Need, and children in foster care for Christmas.

You have donated new underwear to Common Ground Free Store and school supplies to students at Conger Elementary. You have purchased, prepared, and served 2 meals for the Stepping Up classes at William St. Church. You have given your loose coins in the Spring and Fall to Andrews House to help with the Delaware City Schools Summer Lunch Program.

You have given time at People In Need. You provided a wonderful meal and warm welcome on Sept. 29th for our missionary from Thailand, Jeni Pedzinski. You have walked in the CROP WALK and raised funds for hunger. You have served meals at Andrews House as well as providing part of the meal. You have donated items to Andrews House fund raiser-Christmas Cupboard. You came to set up and help supervise the lawn games at the Family Day Block Party in July. You have picked up unsold items at Panera, repacked them, and taken them to Andrews House on Friday morning for distribution for those in need. This list is INCREDIBLE! Thanks to all for your prayerful and generous giving !
-Mary Lou Lovell

Online Giving

If you would like to make an offering or donation to FBC, but cannot attend a worship service or would rather not have to write a check and mail it to FBC, you can now make an offering online. Visit our website at

FBCDelaware.org and click on the link: "Make an online Offering or Donation."

The link will take you to a page describing the current giving options. Click on the link: "Click Here to make an Offering or Donation Online." On the Donation page you can input an amount that you would like to offer for any or all options for giving.

You can choose to give by credit or debit card, or electronically from a checking or savings account. After entering your name and address, you can process your giving and save your profile to simplify future online giving.

If you need assistance in the process, please contact me at lfaulk01@aol.com or 614-204-1098. Your gifts to FBC are appreciated.

-Larry Faulk, treasurer

January

2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
January Mission Focus: • Family Promise		 31 New Year's Eve	 1 New Year's Day	2 8:45 Panera Pickup - Fogle	3	4
5 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Worship and Communion Dedication of church officers	 6 EPIPHANY 6:30 Piecemakers	7 7:00 Board of Christian Ed	8 6:30 Choir	9 8:45 Panera Pickup - Faulk	10	11 11:30 Women's Lunch at Bob Evans
12 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Worship	13 6:30 Deacons	14	15 6:30 Choir	16 8:45 Panera Pickup - Faulk	17	18 8:00 Men's Breakfast at Bob Evans
19 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Worship 12:00 Mission/Outreach Mtg 3:00 MLK service Feb newsletter deadline today	 20 7:45 MLK Breakfast OWU	21	22 6:30 Choir	23 8:45 Panera Pickup - Lee	24	25
26 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Worship Feb newsletter available today	27 Holocaust Remembrance Day	28	29 6:30 Potluck Dinner 7:00 Annual Business Mtg	30 8:45 Panera Pickup - Lovell	31	February 1