

# Good News Letter

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## **Pastoral Search, Self-Search**

For awhile now, our Search Committee has been looking for just the right pastoral candidate. To help us know what they've been going through, I thought I'd share a letter received by another Search Committee some time ago. The Chair read it aloud to the Committee:

*Dear Friends,*

*I understand your pulpit is vacant and I would like to apply for the position. I have many qualifications. I've been a preacher with much success and also have had some success as a writer. Some say I'm a good organizer. I've been a leader most places I've been.*

*I'm over 50 years of age. I have never preached in one place for more than three years. In some places, I have left town after my work has caused riots and disturbances. I must admit I have been in jail three or four times, but not because of any real wrongdoing on my part.*

*My health is not too good, though I still get a great deal done. The churches in which I have preached have been small, though located in several large cities. I've not gotten along with religious leaders in towns where I have preached. In fact, some have threatened me and even attacked me physically. I am not too good at keeping records. I've been known to forget whom I have baptized. However, if you can use me, I shall do my best for you.*

The Search Committee was appalled that such a candidate would even consider serving their church! They dismissed the letter out of hand, until the Chair causally remarked, "It's signed by the Apostle Paul!"

Our committee has looked over many potential candidates, not one of whom (like Paul) has been perfect. But our Committee has been prayerfully seeking that person whom the Lord has in mind for us, even if that candidate might not measure up to everyone's expectations. That's okay, because the

Lord knows exactly the kind of gifts we need for a healthy future, even if those gifts come in a "clay jar."

But let's look at our pastoral search from the other side. What do these candidates see in us? Such an exercise should make us uncomfortable because we aren't perfect, either, but Wilbur Rees helps put our church's health in perspective. Think of these questions as those a potential candidate (or even a visitor to worship) could be asking about us.

- When looking for a church, do not ask: "How big is it?" But rather ask, "Is there room for me to grow? An immense church can often be too small.
- Don't ask, "What does it believe?" But rather ask, "How does it act? How it acts is truly what it believes.
- Don't ask, "What is its past? But rather ask, "What is its future? An alive church faces forward.
- Don't ask, "What is it against? But rather ask, "What is it for? A church cannot live on a diet of negatives.
- Don't ask, "Who is its minister?" But rather ask, "What is its mission? No drum major can lead a band which has neither music nor instruments.
- Don't ask, "How large is its budget." But rather ask, "How large is its sacrifice?" A rich church can be poor in faith.
- Don't ask, "Is the building filled with people?" But rather ask, "Are the people filled with the Spirit?" The church is a people, not a building.

So who are we as a church, right now, and who are we becoming? Will we be ready for the kind of Spirit-driven leader the Lord has in mind for us? Will we recognize his or her giftedness to take us into a powerful and exciting future, and will he or she recognize the potential in us?

As we continue to allow the Holy Spirit to shape us, may our Lord bless both our pastoral search and our self-search!



Pastor Ellen

## **Summer Impromptu Choir**

If you remember, last summer, we introduced an Impromptu Choir when our church choir isn't singing. We didn't know how it would turn out but we had between 10-15 people singing on any given Sunday. As we look ahead to this summer, we will again have an impromptu choir beginning Sunday, June 7. The music we sing will be familiar hymns and there's no need for rehearsal (thus the impromptu part) and you don't need to know how to sing parts or even have a great singing voice. All are welcome to participate on any given Sunday. Let's praise the Lord in song this summer!

## **Lemonade In The Shade**

Sign up in the Gathering Place to host a Lemonade in the Shade time of fellowship after worship on any Sunday during June, July, and August. The church will supply the lemonade, iced tea, and paper goods. You simply will need to provide simple baked goods such as cookies, brownies, Rice Krispy treats, etc. They may be homemade or store-bought.

## **Thank You Teachers**

Since we have now completed our Sunday school year, please take some time to thank our Sunday school teachers and substitutes for another successful year and a job well done. They were Jerry Palmer, Randy Turner, Erin Faulk, Larry Faulk, Debbie Fogle, Pam Shears, Mary Lou Lovell, Ann

Brown, Dave Lovell, Linda White, Ellen Brown, Pam Faulk, and Carol Grubbs.

## Wall Hanging

The wall hanging in the Sanctuary is called Cathedral Windows.

Small print fabrics in the center represent stained glass windows.



This wall hanging was presented to First Baptist

Church on November 14, 1993 by the Delaware Piecemakers Quilt Guild as a thank you for letting us use the Fellowship Hall for our meetings.

There were 19 members at that time (including Bertha Van Brimmer, Sophia Stephenson and Jeanne Ekelberry from First Baptist). Most of the Guild attended church that morning for the presentation, but five of those 19 are now deceased.

Blocks are signed and dated on the back as a permanent record.

The Guild still meets on the first Monday of each month.

Thanks to Peter White for hanging the wall hanging. I no longer climb ladders!

– Jeanne Ekelberry

## Blues BBQ Benefit

There is a benefit for Andrews House on Saturday, June 6 at the Fairgrounds. Tickets for dinner (6-7 p.m.) and music are \$40. Tickets for music only are \$20 and \$25 at the door. See the poster on the bulletin board in the Gathering Place.

## First Baptist T-Shirts

We have purchased t-shirts to promote our church when we serve at events such as Andrews House. See Larry Faulk if you would like to purchase one. We have adult sizes S, L, XL, & XXL for \$8 each.

## Vacation Bible School

“Everest: Conquering Challenges with God’s Mighty Power” is the theme for VBS this summer at the First Presbyterian

Church July 27-31. Registration fills up quickly, so we encourage kids ages 3 through middle school to sign up as soon as possible. Middle schoolers usually help lead and have a special Bible study during lunch. For more information and to register, go to [www.groupvbs.com/vbs/ez/delfpc](http://www.groupvbs.com/vbs/ez/delfpc).

## Volunteers Needed

1. It is not too early to start thinking about next year’s Sunday school schedule. We will need volunteers for Sunday school opening. Volunteers are responsible for bringing a baked good, making coffee (help is available), asking for birthdays, anniversaries, announcements, and having a little activity, song, meditation, prayer, etc.

2. I am still looking for a teacher or a team of teachers for the Youth Sunday school class for next year. Curriculum is available.

3. We will need volunteers for Kid Connection and nursery coverage for next year.

Please speak to Pam Faulk if you can help with any of these. Your mentorship is invaluable to our young people.

## Thank You

I want to thank all of our youth who participated in Youth Sunday. You all were superb!

– Pam Faulk

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*Below are portions of a letter we received. The full letter is posted on the bulletin board.*

Thank you so much for your recent contribution of \$86.93 received in April for our Summer Lunch Program. Your collection of “Change for Change” during the time change certainly does bring about change in our community!

I enjoyed being part of the Sunday worship service on April 12th. Your and your congregation are warm, welcoming and the message, music and spirit of the service was enriching and enlightening.

– Melinda Corroto  
Executive Director  
Andrews House

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Dear Ellen and Friends,

A heartfelt thank you for having me last Sunday. I felt very welcome and really appreciated the opportunity to update you. I cannot tell you how much the support of First Baptist has meant to our work and to those we have helped over the years. Because we are the only agency open 24 hours a day, your funds have helped provide food and medicine in emergencies and shelter on a freezing night. In some cases people just needed some gas to get to a medical appointment or job interview. Again, many thanks!

– Sue Hanson  
Helpline

## What To Do With Your Change.

Don’t forget that we will be collecting loose change in November again. DON’T SPEND IT!!! Either keep your change in some kind of receptacle until November or bring it to church on any Sunday and put it in the jar in the Welcome Center, and I will hold onto it for you.

– Pam Faulk

## Panera Donations

We are excited to be in service to others in a new way.

Pat Gosser has been in contact with the manager at Panera Bread to pick up the bread and pastries (that have not been sold for the day) on Thursdays and take them to Andrews House as a donation from Panera.

Volunteers are needed to go to Panera at 8:45 p.m., collect the items to be donated, take them home and wrap them in plastic wrap, put them in bins and deliver them to Andrews House on Friday morning.

Pat has a schedule. It is important that we do this on a weekly basis so that we can continue serving Andrews House.

If you can go on a Thursday night to Panera and deliver baked goods on Friday morning to Andrews House, please talk to Pat 317-442-7806.

## Mission/Outreach Team Meeting

Everyone is welcome to bring new ideas and discuss ways that we are and can be in service to others.

We will meet on May 31st at 11:00 a.m. (right after church) to work on:

- Summer Lunch Program at Woodward School (volunteers - days and times)
- Delaware First Friday Activities
- Second Friday Meals at Andrews House
- Visitors to our church
- School supplies for elementary school
- New ideas

## Stepping Up Class Member Meals

Thanks to Pam Faulk, Sally Williams, Jennifer Turner,

Lana Palmer, Pat Gosser, Genevieve Peterson for providing and preparing food for the class members on May 20th.

Thanks to Pat Gosser and Lana Palmer for taking time to come and serve the meal.

The meal was delicious and very appreciated by all.

– Mary Lou Lovell

## Personals

- Alvin Cox has started undergoing chemotherapy treatments.
- Congratulations to Jacob Thatcher and Connor Trigg. They were presented with Bibles on Youth Sunday.
- Congratulations to Sarah Bowman and Jane Mercer who are both graduating from Hayes High School this spring.
- Congratulation to Claire Turner who has been accepted to work on the program staff at Marmon Valley Farms this summer.
- Jerry and Lana Palmer traveled to Williamsburg, VA in May.
- The orchestra at Dempsey Middle School, of which Will Fogle is a member, recently received ratings of straight one's (the best score) in all areas at an adjudication.

## PRAYER LIST

*This list is prepared by the Deacons. Prayer requests will be removed after 2 months unless "renewed". Please send changes to Larry Faulk (Lfaulk01@aol.com).*

Church Contact	Name	Reason for Prayer
The Deacons	<b>Alvin Cox</b>	Health issues
	<b>Ken Frische</b>	Surgery recovery
	<b>Christina Kilhefner</b>	Transplant recovery
	<b>Penny Hagaman</b>	Health issues
	<b>Steve Baker</b>	Health issues
	<b>Bora Porter</b> (Janet's daughter)	Health issues
The Faulks	<b>Betty Porter</b>	Health issues
	<b>Mary Anderson</b>	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!*

• Ellen Brown, MaryLou Lovell, Pam Faulk, Erin Faulk, Lana Palmer, Lana's daughter, Ellen's daughter-in-law, Erin's friend, and Linda Swain all attended the Women of Faith event in Columbus in May. It was an absolutely heart-warming and wonderful event. We hope to have even more ladies from our church attend next year on May 20-21. Mark your calendars, Ladies!

• Aidan Ferguson and Will Fogle each played a violin solo for the Suzuki recital on May 27 at Hayes High School. What beautiful music!

• Hannah McKendrick and Gabe Fogle graduated from fourth grade at Schultz Elementary School at 10:00 a.m. on May 28. Gabe Fogle received the Presidential Academic Award.

– Pam Faulk, Personals Editor

## Nepal Earthquake Update

FBC has donated \$250 from the benevolence fund to aid in the Nepal Earthquake. Carole Sydnor serves in two different roles in the work God is doing around the world through American Baptist International Ministries. She is a part-time member of the IM home staff, assisting Stan Slade, the Associate Executive Director for Program. In her other role, Carole maintains the partnering relationship of IM with two primary organizations: the Nepal Baptist Church Council (NBCC) and the Human Development and Community Services (HDCS). Her ministry focuses for these two partner organizations are

promoting their special projects, including White Cross, and working to seek full-time service placement of their personnel needs. She and her husband had served as IM missionaries in Nepal two different times in the last 25 years. Carole's latest journal about the situation in Nepal is on our website: [www.fbcdelaware.org](http://www.fbcdelaware.org) under the link "Nepal Earthquake Update".

## Greeters Wanted

During the summer months, we would like additional help with welcoming and greeting attendees and visitors to our summer worship services. There is a sign up sheet in the Gathering Area for greeters for June, July, and August. Duties include arriving by 9:40 to greet and welcome people as they arrive. Your responsibility would end as the first hymn begins. Please consider signing up for a Sunday or two.

– Larry Faulk, Board of Deacons

## Praises and Prayers

We welcome your joys and concerns during the "Prayers for the Community" portion of our worship service. If you would like your praise or prayer request listed in next week's Prayer List, you will need to write it down on the Praises and Prayers card in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate or give it to Pastor Brown or to Debbie Fogle.

– Larry Faulk, Board of Deacons

## FBC T-shirts

FBC has T-shirts for sale which we can wear to promote FBC when we go on service projects such as Andrews House or Family Promise or "just out and about". Shirts are available in men's sizes S, M, L, XL, or XXL for \$8 each. There is one on display in the Gathering Place. See Larry Faulk to purchase one.

## One Great Hour of Sharing

Dear Friends,

It's that time of year again when we are given the opportunity to share in God's abundance by contributing to One Great Hour of Sharing. By the grace of God, all of us have the power to give, and the gifts we give make the world more the way God intended it to be - a place where everyone has what they need. Together, we can achieve a fair balance on this planet that we all share, giving right back to God what God has so richly bestowed upon us.

# One Great HOUR OF SHARING

The One Great Hour of Sharing offering reaches those near and far, sometimes changing the life of someone in distress in our own congregation or community, and at other times impacting the lives of those we may never meet but who are in desperate need of our compassion and generosity. God provides the gifts and resources so that we can give back. It's not the size of the gift that matters; it's that we give of what we have. We're simply giving back to God what is already God's - and everyone has a gift to bring!

From Paul's second letter to the Corinthians chapter 8: 12-15, we can translate his message in this way. "Nothing left over to the one with the most; nothing lacking to the one with the least."

During the month of June, you will be hearing more about this special offering which we will be collecting throughout the month. Our goal is \$700. Won't you please give generously back to God?

Sincerely,

- Pam Faulk

## 1 Year Ago

June 2014 Newsletter

Rev. Ellen Brown started as our Interim Pastor.

## 5 Years Ago

June 2010 Newsletter

Matt Yoder graduated from Methesco after two years as our Youth Pastor.

## 10 Years Ago

June 2005 Newsletter

The "Baptist Bombers", our softball team, started their season.

## 15 Years Ago

June 2000 Newsletter

Members Jack and Marilyn Smith moved to Salem, Ohio.

## 40 Years Ago

June 1975 Newsletter

Pauline Nash, a member for 68 years, died. She donated her brick home to the Delaware Historical Society (they still use it in 2015) along with many historical items. She had been Delaware County's "Woman of the Year" and served on our Board of Deaconesses.

## 45 Years Ago

June 1970 Newsletter

Ted Stephenson was ordained. Participants included Rev. James Stephenson and former missionary Caroline White, mother of Peter White.

## A Special Thanks

What a wonderful Youth Sunday we had on May 17 with 11 of our young people participating in the worship service. They are such an important part of our church! Thank you to Gabe Fogle, Will Fogle, Aidan Ferguson, Alec Ferguson, Colin Ferguson, Bowen Nace, Hannah Nace, Jacob Thatcher, Conner

## Birthdays and Anniversaries



- June 2 Jerry & Lana Palmer  
Eric & Sarah De Vaughn
- 4 Patricia Foor
- 8 Pam Faulk  
Carol Serviss
- 10 David & Mary Lou Lovell  
Aidan Ferguson
- 11 Randy & Jennifer Turner
- 12 Sam & Lindley Chesser
- 16 Bud & Becky Sykes  
Chad Gosser
- 17 Matthew & Marci Cooper
- 19 Wyatt Cramer
- 21 Dan & Sherry Chambers
- 22 June Grubbs
- 24 Beth Trigg
- 25 Kenneth Frische & Phyllis  
Beasley
- 28 Jami Riedmiller  
Hannah McKendrick

*Names & dates are from the latest church directory.*

## June Sermon Titles and Scripture

### June 7

Come to the Banquet  
Luke 14:16-24

### June 14

Guest Preacher

### June 21

The Power of the Spoken Word  
Mark 4:1-20

### June 28

The Church Has Left the Building  
Matthew 25:31-46

Trigg, Taylor Trigg and Claire Turner.

Our Church Picnic was a big success with 26 present and lots of good food and fellowship. Thank you to the Christian Education Board (Pam Faulk, Pat Gosser & Pam Shears) for planning and organizing it. A special thanks to Larry Faulk and Dave Lovell for manning the grills. A comment overheard, "This is

*continued on back of calendar*

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fun! Why don't we do this more often?"

## Leadership Books

At the Leadership Retreat, last fall, participants were encouraged to take a book on leadership, to read it and then to pass it onto someone else. Please let Pastor Ellen know if you have one of these books or if you are interested in reading any of them. The ones in bold can be found on the bookshelf in the church office.

Almost Christian

### Breakout Churches

Change the World

Comeback Christians

### Five Practices of a Fruitful Congregation

### Natural Church Development

Next Generation Leader

Reaching People Under 40 While Keep People Over 60

The Missional Leader

### You Lost Me

101 Ways to Reach Your Community

## A New Look at Psalm 23

(As shared by Aidan & Colin Ferguson on Youth Sunday)

The Lord is my Shepherd...*what a relationship!*

I shall not want...*that's supply*

He makes me lie down in green pastures...*that's rest*

He leads me beside still waters...*that's refreshment*

He restores my soul...*that's healing*

He leads me in the paths of righteousness...*that's guidance*

For His namesake...*that's purpose*

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death...*that's challenge*

I will fear no evil...*that's assurance*

For He is with me...*that's faithfulness*

His rod and His staff they comfort me...*that's shelter*

He prepares a table before me in the presence of my enemies...*that's provision*

He anoints my head with oil...*that's consecration*

My cup overflows...*that's abundance*

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life...*that's blessing*

And I will dwell in the house of the Lord...*that's security*

Forever...*that's eternity!*

## Where in the World is First Baptist?

You've all heard of *Where is Waldo?* but we want to know where the members of our church can be found out in the world. We often participate in community service projects together whether at Andrews House, Family Promise or elsewhere. However, there are many individuals in our congregation who are doing things on their own whether it been at P.I.N., Common Grounds, Food Pantry or somewhere else.

It would be wonderful to know and to celebrate the kind of impact we're making out there, one person at a time. If you volunteer your time to help anywhere in our community, please let Pastor Ellen know. Don't be shy and don't feel that you are promoting yourself. We just want to be aware of all the ways that Christ's presence is being made known through our church members.

Feel free to share with her any Sunday, call her (626-340-5476) or drop her an email at [egbrown74@gmail.com](mailto:egbrown74@gmail.com) and let her know the places you are serving in our community.

## Mission & Outreach Team

This team is a collaborative effort to double our efforts and utilize our gifts. Anyone can be involved with this team and everyone is invited to attend any and all meetings. There are no formal members of this group but simply individuals interested in missions (local, national & international) as well as outreach into our community. Even if you can't attend a meeting, you can make your ideas known to Mary Lou Lovell who graciously volunteered to facilitate the overall team efforts. As ideas are generated, the congregation as a whole will always be asked and encouraged to participate in any way they are able.

## Blanket Sunday

On May 10 honored the women of our lives on Mother's day, raising

\$275.00 for Church World Service. Thank you First Baptist! This is the first of three activities each year to raise money for Church World Service and the work they do worldwide. We will honor the men of our lives on Father's Day, followed by the CROP walk this fall. Thanks again for your wonderful support of Church World Service!

– Randy Turner, Financial Secretary

Jim and Ann Brown in honor of Carol Grubbs and in memory of Ruth Brown, Marie Priest and Edith Hall

Dan Chambers in Honor of Ruth Chambers

Sherry Chambers in memory of Janet Layton

Jeanne Ekelberry in memory of Ethel Trogdon and Imogene Ekelberry

Erin and Larry Faulk in honor of Pam Faulk

Pam and Larry Faulk in honor of Evolena Cole, Erin Faulk, Laurie Faulk, Patricia Rose, Donna Mann, Mary Anderson, and in memory of Florence Faulk and Jean Wickum

Debbie, Will and Gabe Fogle in honor of Mary Lou Lovell, Barbara Smith and Carol Serviss, and in memory of Ida Morby

Dave Lovell in honor of Mary Lou Lovell, Deborah Fogle, Barbara Smith, and in memory of Jennie Lovell and Margaret Morby

Jane Moore in honor of Melissa Mercer, Jennifer Turner, and in memory of Willa Corder, Olive Snyder, Mary Alice Snyder

Jerry and Lana Palmer in memory of: Bernice Turney and Mary Helen Palmer

Genevieve Peterson in memory of Corinne Potter and Beatrice MacNeill

Ken Peterson in memory of Jessie Peterson

Betty Porter in Honor of Janet Porter and family, Jennifer Cramer and Wyatt, and in memory of Martha Jane Guy

Pam and Ken Shears in honor of Janet Lathrop, and in memory of Myrtle Gabriel, Marjorie Lathrop, and Frances Shears

Randy and Jennifer Turner in memory of Willa Smith Corder, Edith Croston Moore, Freeda Woofter Jones, and Lennie Kuhl Turner

Linda White in honor of Margaret Seckman and Loraine Elder