

Good News Letter

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Dear FBC family:

Kathy and I have now lived in Delaware longer than anyplace during our married life. I think I speak for both of us when I say we love living in Delaware. Transitions in life cause me to think back over the places we have called home. When we married in 1970 we immediately moved to Atlantic City, New Jersey so I could finish out my enlistment in the Coast Guard. In April of 1972 we moved back to Atlanta. From 1972 -78 we lived in four different places within five miles of each other.

Following my graduation from Mercer University in Atlanta in 1978 we moved to Louisville, Kentucky. While at Southern Seminary I served a church in southern Indiana, but we commuted from Louisville. Following my graduation from Southern in 1981 we moved to Indianapolis to serve Covenant Baptist Church. While there we adopted our oldest son, Donald.

In 1985 we moved to Whitefish Bay, Wisconsin to serve the Roundy Memorial Baptist Church. Sam was born while we were in Wisconsin. In 1991 we packed up again to head to Tulsa, Oklahoma where I had been called to be the pastor of the Community Baptist Church. No children added in Oklahoma, but this is where Max joined the family.

In 1998 we headed east to serve at the First Baptist Church of Marion, Indiana. In 2001 we headed east again to come to First Baptist. God willing and with your help our next move

MARCH



will be into retirement in a half dozen years (depending on the economy).

For those of you who were not in church this past Sunday you are probably wondering what has made me so nostalgic. Sam announced that on Valentine's Day he asked Lindley to marry him and she said yes. A summer 2010 wedding is planned. Thank you for being the kind of

church family that he wanted to share that news with you.

On February 25 at 12 noon I will be making a presentation at the Beehive Bookstore in downtown Delaware. This is a part of the 44 day celebration of the American presidency that the Beehive has sponsored. My presentation will be on Jimmy Carter. It should last about 15 - 20 minutes. Join us if you are able. People from all walks of life have made presentations. The crowd varies from day to day, but some have been regular enough that we recognize one another. I applaud the owners of the bookstore for sponsoring this wonderful program and Mel Ott in particular for hosting each day.

Our Lenten study will begin on March 1 at 6:30. More details will follow as they become available.

Please mark August 29 and 30 on your calendar for our all church Retreat.

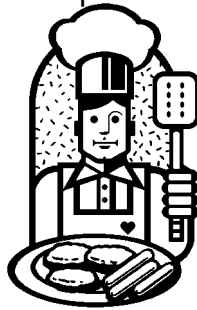
Invite a friend to church. They will thank you later.

Your Pastor,

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

All are welcome to come to the Fellowship Hall at 6:30 p.m.

on February 24 to celebrate Shrove Tuesday with our annual pancake supper. Come for pancakes, waffles, sausage, fruit, and fellowship. Bring something interesting to share, like a talent, skit, joke, story, etc.



– Larry Faulk

Lenten Series Starts Soon!

Rev. Tim Chesser will be leading a study series this spring during the season of Lent. Sessions will be held on Sunday evenings, March 1 through April 5. I hope to see you there!

– Kathy Russell
Adult/Leadership Education
Coordinator

Trustees Notes

- Last fall the city cited us for having an uneven section of sidewalk in front of the “old” parsonage. The trustees had the edge ground off to make it even. The work was done by Jeff Mitchell and cost \$200.

- A plumbing repair was completed in the men’s rest room. The urinal was removed from the wall, the drain was cleaned, and then the urinal was rehung. A new pushbutton valve was installed. The work was done by Sunbury Plumbing and Heating. They were recommended by Don Patrick and several neighbors. At press time, we had not received a bill.

- At press time, Jimmie Moore had started a major project of scraping off the deteriorated surface of the north wall in the “blue room” (old basement). Repairs will be made and then the wall will be repainted to match the rest of the room. So far we have never found a way to stop the moisture from coming through this wall and damaging the surface. A big thank you to Jimmie for doing this *again* (he did it three years ago).

- The Gable Elevator Company did a regular service check on our elevator on Friday, February 13.

- A new answering machine was installed in the pastor’s office. The old one had gotten quite noisy.

– Peter White
Reporting for the Trustees

Thank You

On behalf of our family may I express our deep appreciation for the cards and notes of condolence we received following the death of my mother, Willa Corder. To be surrounded by our church family during our time of sadness was comforting and inspiring. Thank you.

– Jane Corder Moore

America for Christ Offerings

It is time to remind you that the America for Christ offerings will begin on March 29 and continue through April



GIVE TO THE
America for Christ
Offering **2009**

26. This year’s theme is “With Willing Hands” and our goal is \$600. Your financial gifts support ministries, churches and communities across the United States and Puerto Rico. Many dedicated people need our help so they can continue to provide better housing, health care, clean water, education, and to teach Christ’s Gospel. Prayfully consider giving a “Willing Hand” to someone in need.

– Carol Serviss
Mission Coordinator

News of Note from the February 4th Quarterly Business Meeting

Moderator, Jerry Palmer, presented Phil Mercer as a candidate for the office of Assistant Treasurer and asked for his confirmation. David Lovell moved that he be so instated. After the second was voiced, Phil was unanimously voted into office.

Jim Moore explained that the Trustees were giving serious consideration to replacing the carpet in the sanctuary. They would like input as to color, etc. from the membership. The Trustees have looked at possible ways to fund the project and have recommended a special fund be established. Full details of this recommendation would be presented at a later date after all the “homework” was completed including cost of such a project.

Linda White reported for People in Need. She said the following items were currently needed: canned fruit, tuna helper, saltine crackers and dish and laundry soaps.

Announcements included:

1. The Shrove Tuesday Pancake supper and talent show will be

held February 24th.

2. On Feb. 25th, Ash Wednesday, Pastor Tim Chesser will be speaking at the Beehive bookstore on the subject of President Jimmy Carter.

– Submitted by Lana Palmer,
Clerk

Opportunities at Green Lake Conference Center

The American Baptist Christian conference and leadership training center at Green Lake, Wisconsin, provides a refreshingly beautiful environment for recreation, learning, family time, and spiritual growth for people of all ages. Accommodations



include lodges, houses on the lake or in the forest, cabins, campsites, and dormitories. Meals are served in the Bauer Dining Room, and snacks are available at other locations. A shuttle service can transport guests to and from the airport, bus station, or train station.

Recreation includes fishing, boating, swimming, golfing, tennis, volleyball, biking, basketball, soccer, disc golf, and other sports. Arts and crafts, such as ceramics, jewelry making, candle making, quilting, and stained glass, are offered. A museum, a 1905 battery-powered boat, and a restored railroad car which served as a chapel and missionaries' living quarters may interest the



historical minded. There are prayer towers with scenic views, and shopping is available at Padelford Country Store and Worldwide Gifts Missions Store.

Children can enjoy the playgrounds at Green Lake and also the Children's Center for ages nine months through sixth grade. Camp Grow offers summer camping for children and youth. A variety of other events are scheduled throughout the year at Green Lake.

On March 2 to 5 the Assessment Center 4 Church Planters will assist individuals and couples in determining their potential to successfully start a new church and serve as its pastor. The



"Releasing Potential Coaching Series" begins March 30 to April 2 with the "Introduction and Foundations of Coaching." This series trains and certifies people as Christian coaches in different settings. Scholarships are available for this program. Coach Training 2 Go can even bring this program to a location near you!



The spring schedule of activities at Green Lake Conference Center is listed below. For more information, check out Green Lake Conference Center's website (www.glcc.org) or contact me at (740) 362-5465 to look at the 2009 catalog.

MARCH

- 2-5 Assessment Center
4 Church Planters
- 30- April 2 Introductions and
Foundations of
Coaching

APRIL

- 17-19 Christian PAiRS®
Marriage Workshop
- 21-23 Spiritual Respite
for Pastors and Lay
Leaders
- 26-May 1 Elderhostel: Explor-
ing the Writer in
You
- 27-30 Assessment Center
4 Church Planters

MAY

- 16 CECLSM Class 6
begins
- 22-25 Green Lake Singles
Retreat
- 24-29 Elderhostel: Golf
the Courses of
Lawsonia

– Kathy Russell
Adult/Leadership Education
Coordinator

Retreat News

Mark your calendars now for August 29-30 for our annual church retreat at Camp Christian. We always have a great time at the retreat, and we hope that everyone will make an effort to attend this year. The retreat committee is still making plans, so watch the newsletter for more information as the year goes on.



– Pam Faulk

Birthdays and Anniversaries

March 5 Ben Turner
 Kirsten Pfund
 7 Robert Foor
 11 Rick & Sandy Van Brimmer
 12 Evan Trigg
 Sydney Kauf
 13 Amy Pfarr
 18 Dave Lovell
 21 Samantha Davis
 27 George Riedmiller
 28 Becky Sykes

Please report any errors or omissions to Jim Stephenson.

Continued on the back of the calendar.

Prayer List

Please give any additions or corrections to a deacon.

Church Contact	Name	Reason for Prayer
Erin Faulk	Kathy Sharp	Cancer treatments
Evelyn Lee	Mary Tilson	at Willowbrook
	Bertha VanBrimmer	Health Issues
	Florence Faulk	Delaware Court
Phil Mercer	Jerry Mercer	Health Issues
Nichelle Trigg	David James	
Jane Moore	George Corder	Health Issues (Heart, Diabetes)
	Cathie Corder	Continued recovery
	Olivia Langwasser	Young girl with leukemia
Barb Reed	Regan Riedmiller	
Randy Turner	Family of Randall Jones	<i>Randy's uncle, Randall Jones, died recently and Randy asks us to keep Randall's wife (Sue Jones) and daughter (Shannon Johnson) in our prayers</i>
Jean Wickum	Martha Green	
	Fran Cook	Heart Problems
Carol Grubbs	Haycox Family	Children's health issues
H. Van Broekhoven	Deborah Van Broekhoven	ABC USA Historical Society
–	Janet Lathrop	Recovering from Knee Replacement Surgery
–	Jean Osborne	Recovering from Back Surgery
–	Sherry Salyer (wife of Kelly Salyer)	Bone Cancer
–	Jim VanBrimmer	Health Issues
–	Steve Baker's brother Richard Baker	Stroke and possible heart attack

Personals

- Sherry Salyer, 45, who had been on our prayer list due to bone cancer, died on February 18 at Delaware Court Health Care Center. Survivors include her husband, Kelly; one son Kevin; one daughter, Angela Lea Salyer; two half-brothers, Harry and Donald Masters; and her parents-in-law, Orman "Bud" and Ardith Salyer. (Orman and Ardith attended First Baptist a number of years ago). We extend our sympathy to her family and friends.
- Fran Cook was hospitalized for regulation of her pacemaker.
- Janet Lathrop is receiving physical therapy after her knee replacement surgery.
- Jean Osborne and her son Greg visited First Baptist recently, and then returned to Michigan where she's recuperating at Greg's home from back surgery.
- Pat Foor was recognized by the Delaware Chamber of Commerce as the Outstanding Woman of the Year.
- Cynthia Bland Biggar will be installed on Feb. 22 as pastor in Congregational Church in Standish, Maine.
- Robert Russell will be meeting with the Marion Association's Ordination Council.

- Pam and Larry Faulk spent a week with Pam's mom and sister in Destin, Florida. Upon returning to Ohio, they attended the baptism of their new granddaughter Jane Catherine Faulk in Warren, Ohio.
- Dominique Debiasio acted in the Hayes High School production of Little Women.
- Nichelle and Jarrod Trigg are looking for a house in Cincinnati and plan to move in late spring.

FLORIDA COURT SETS ATHEIST HOLY DAY

In Florida, an atheist created a case against the upcoming Easter and Passover holy days. He hired an attorney to bring a discrimination case against Christians, Jews and observances of their holy days. The argument was that it was unfair that atheists had no such recognized days.

The case was brought before a judge. After listening to the passionate presentation by the lawyer, the judge banged his gavel declaring, "Case dismissed!"

The lawyer immediately stood objecting to the ruling saying, "Your honor, how can you possibly dismiss this case? The Christians have Christmas, Easter and others. The Jews have Passover, Yom Kippur and Hanukkah, yet my client and all other atheists have no such holidays."

The judge leaned forward in his chair saying, "But you do. Your client, counsel, is woefully ignorant."

The lawyer said, "Your Honor, we are unaware of any special observance or holiday for atheists."

The judge said, "The calendar says April 1st is April Fools Day. Psalm 14:1 states, 'The fool says in his heart, there is no God.' Thus, it is the opinion of this court, that if your client says there is no God, then he is a fool. Therefore, April 1st is his day. Court is adjourned."

– Submitted by
Melissa Neill