

Good News Letter

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I come to the writing of this article with several things on my mind. It has been a tough winter thus far. Just last week was the Celebration of Life service for Scott and Deb Nace, who were taken from us in a tragic automobile accident. On the same day our intern David Harris Jr. was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes. We are also mourning the passing of Dr. Ernest Jones, the Executive Minister of ABC/OH, and evangelist Billy Graham, whose preaching affected the lives of millions of people around the world. I am aware of the recent school shootings in Florida.

March is the month of the annual emphasis on the America for Christ offering (AFC), supporting home missions and church health and growth here in America. And we are in the season of Lent, a time of preparation for Easter. These things are on my mind as I write.

I thank all of you for your generosity and concern and willingness to help, and for your prayers in all these situations. I affirm our congregation's support of the ministries involved (and the other ministries we support too; WMO, RMMO, OGHS, PIN Andrews House Common Ground Free Store, Helpline, and more). I encourage thoughtful prayer regarding AFC and other opportunities to give and share.

As a novice in the observance of Lent, and seeking to learn more

about it each year, I offer into the mix of all these circumstances what I am learning this time around, in the hopes that it will serve as an encouragement.

Ordinarily when contemplating penitence and sacrifice, I think of austerity, an almost enforced sadness, or at least seriousness about sin and its consequences. To me the focus of the season is on sorrow for sin and punishment, to be avoided if possible. Of course, eternal punishment for sin is the "stick" (as in, the carrot and the stick) in the gospel message and it must be taken seriously.

Both Jesus and Paul maintained the idea that our actions count, and we will be held accountable for what we have done. But punishment for sin is only the first part of the gospel message, and avoiding punishment is not a very strong motivation.

I am learning this year that Lent is not really as somber and austere as it may seem to be. It is filled with hope because it is repentance in anticipation of resurrection, not so much a way to avoid what we fear, as a belief in the approach of what we long for. We await goodness and righteousness and justice in a world often characterized by their lack. We long for beauty and peace and reconciliation.

We also long for goodness in our hearts, in which so often we find less than righteous attitudes and thoughts; malice, distrust and

fear, selfishness and greed, wearing them like a garment that can't be removed, longing to be set free so that life can be filled with joy.

The point of Lent is that the promised goodness *has been given*, and each of us is encouraged to seek it, to prepare our hearts for it, to long for it and reach toward it in the knowledge that it has been revealed in the Cross and Resurrection of Christ.

There is a light that lifts up our sacrifice and service, removing the bleakness of the season.

Blessings,
-**Mark**



Rev. Dr. Ernest H. Jones

Dr. Jones, Executive Minister of ABC-Ohio passed away on Feb. 3rd. A celebration of the life and ministry of Rev. Dr. Ernest H. Jones will be at 1 p.m. on March 3, 2018. The memorial will be held at Greenwood Baptist Church, 461 6th Street at 7th Avenue, Brooklyn, New York. Please be in prayer for his wife Denise and the rest of his family.



Scott and Debra Nace

William Scott Nace and Debra Nace passed away unexpectedly Feb. 3 from injuries sustained in an automobile accident in Somerset County, PA.

Scott was born May 19, 1962 in Lansdale, PA. He attended North Penn High School and enjoyed playing his trombone in the drum & bugle core, cooking, traveling, and cheering on his beloved Philadelphia Eagles. Scott also had a passion for biking and rode for miles and miles. Scott was currently working for Whiteside Manufacturing and was a trustee at FBC.

Debra was born September 23, 1970 in Des Moines, Iowa. She graduated from West Des Moines Valley High School. Very athletic, she enjoyed running track and playing basketball and volleyball. She graduated from Iowa State University with degrees in Agronomy and French. After graduating, she served in the Peace Corps in Senegal, Africa. Having a passion for soil conservation, Debra worked for the USDA NRCS in Iowa, Pennsylvania, Idaho, and more recently Ohio. Just recently, she served a 45 day stint with FEMA in the Puerto Rico Recovery stationed in Biloxi, Mississippi.

She was a co-leader with the Girl Scouts, member of the Women's City Club and active in our church.

Bowen and Hannah Nace, Scott and Debra's children, will continue to live in Delaware where their aunt, Deann Hunt, will care for them.

Volunteers For March

Kid Connection

- Mar 4 Candy Lee / Aidan Ferguson
- Mar 11 Pat Gosser
- Mar 18 Pam Faulk / Will Fogle
- Mar 25 Carol Grubbs / Colin Ferguson

Fellowship Time

- Mar 4 Palmer/Grubbs
- Mar 11 Trigg/Showalter
- Mar 18 Faulk
- Mar 25 Gosser

Panera Pick-Up

- Mar 1 Lovell
- Mar 8 Volunteer Needed
- Mar 15 Faulk
- Mar 22 Volunteer Needed
- Mar 29 Fogle

Rides for David Harris

- Mar 4 Open -please volunteer
- Mar 11 Open -please volunteer
- Mar 18 Open -please volunteer
- Mar 25 Open -please volunteer

Please notice that we need many more volunteers for Panera pick-up. Volunteers are also needed for rides for David Harris.

Thank you all for volunteering your time and talents.

Donations for Cupcakes

On Mar. 9, our church will provide cupcakes for the Second Friday meal at Andrews House. If you would like to help pay for them, please donate to Larry Faulk by Mar. 4.

Birthdays and Anniversaries



March

- 5 Mike Showalter
- Ben Turner
- 6 Nancy Via Summers
- 7 Robert Foor
- 11 Rick & Sandy VanBrimmer
- 12 Evan Trigg
- 18 Dave Lovell

Please report any errors.

Change for Change

On March 11 we will begin Daylight Savings Time. That serves as a reminder to us that we can use our loose change to bring about change in our own community. On that Sunday please bring all your loose change to church. That offering will go to the Delaware Summer Lunch Program for children to help alleviate childhood hunger in our community.

-Pam Faulk

Game Night

Sat, Mar. 3rd
6:30 p.m.
Fellowship Hall
All are invited

Bring a favorite board game and a snack to share

Come and enjoy the Fellowship

Mission / Outreach News

The Mission goal for February was to donate to Disaster Relief. The Mission focuses for March will be the America for Christ Offering and the Change for Change Offering.

The Change for Change loose coin offering will be given to the Delaware City Schools Summer Lunch Program.

Panera Pick Up continues. We are in need of volunteers to help with this mission.

Our next meeting will be March 11 at 1:30 p.m. Come and join us and bring ideas to reach out in our community.

Personals

- Will Fogle provided special music for our worship service on Jan. 28. He also got a #1 rating on his piece at the OMEA district judging.
- Raleigh Gosser recently had surgery for skin cancer on his face and is healing.
- Randy Turner began his term as a member of the Buckeye Valley Board of Education in January.
- Candy Lee had successful cataract surgery in February and will have the other eye done in March.
- Thank you to the men who cooked pancakes for us for Shrove Tuesday. We had lots of good food and good fellowship and a good turnout.
- Peter White provided special music for our service on Feb. 4.
- Dan Chambers has been indisposed with a leg injury.
- Congratulations to the following Delaware Hayes students for the second quarter: Aidan Ferguson-Distinguished Honor Roll; Colin

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
Family of Dr. Ernest Jones	condolences on Dr. Jones death
Bowen & Hannah Nace and Family	condolences on the death of Scott and Debra Nace
Richard Lovell	Health Issues
Ken Peterson	Health Issues
Ben Geary	Health Issues
Kilhefner Family	Brother's Health Issue
Dan Chambers	Injury Recovery
David Harris	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!

Ferguson- Honor Roll; and Will Fogle- Merit Roll.

- David Harris was hospitalized on Feb. 17 for several days.
- Deb Guebert had an article published in the Delaware Gazette on Feb. 22

Margaret Young

Former member Margaret Young passed away in Tallmadge, OH at age 77 on Tuesday, Feb 6th. She lived most of her life in Delaware. Margaret sang in the choir for a long time and had a nice contralto voice.

Her mother was our choir director for many years before "Wick" Wickum and Jim Stephenson. Her uncle, Edgar Ebenhack, was our organist for many years before Ruth Brown.

Margaret enjoyed playing the piano and played at a local restaurant for a number of years. A graveside service was held Feb. 9 in Oak Grove Cemetery with Rev. Wallace White officiating.

Quilt Display

Please come to the Delaware Library during March (starting March 3rd) to see our Quilt Display celebrating National Quilts. A list of Quilt Names and Makers / Owners will be found at the checkout counter.

-Jeanne Ekelberry

Equipping Disciples

The Apostle Paul tells us in Ephesians 4:11-13: "The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ." Jesus intends every member of the church to do the work of the ministry. We do this by cultivating leaders, equipping disciples, and supporting healing communities. These are the things we do with our America for Christ offering. We are encouraged by this year's theme to come alongside people and build them up. I am asking you to

join me in giving generously to this year's AFC offering and help us to reach our goal of \$700 as we partner in home mission. During the month of March, we will be promoting this very special offering.

-Pam Faulk

Women's Fellowship

We had 13 ladies at our February women's lunch at Bob Evans. We had lots of conversation and fellowship. For our March lunch on Saturday, March 10, we have been invited to the Second Baptist Church at 11:30 for a pot-luck. The church is located at 55 Ross Street (across from the school). Table service and beverages will be provided. We just each need to bring a covered dish. Bring a friend, offer a ride, invite another member of our fellowship. Let's have a good turn-out for this. If you need a ride, call Pam Faulk, MaryLou Lovell, or Deb Guebert.

Brothers All

Thanks to Mark, David, Jerry, Randy, and Dave for singing "Do Lord" for the entertainment after the Shrove Tuesday pancake dinner. All males are invited to come and sing with the group.

Rehearsals for March will be 1:30 p.m. on March 4, March 11, and March 25.

Thank You

Thank you to all who brought food for the meal after the Celebration Of Life Service for Scott and Deb Nace. It was good to share a meal and memories after the service.

It was a blessing to unite with the High Point Nazarene Church for the service and time of fellowship.

Facilitators Needed

Stepping Up - Getting Ahead Program is looking for facilitators for the program. Information and training will be Feb. 27, at 5:30 p.m. at William St. Church

See Mary Lou Lovell if you are interested and want further information.



Easter Lilies

The church is taking orders for Easter lilies for our sanctuary. You may order them in honor or memory of someone. Please include that information on the Get Connected form with your order. Lilies may be taken home after Easter. The cost is \$8.00 per plant, and a check should be made out to the First Baptist Church. The deadline for ordering is Mar 18.

Church Directory Available

Copies of the 2018 Church Directory are available in the Welcome Center.

Newsletter Options

The "Good News Letter" is available by email. If you would like to save the time and postage needed to mail it to you, please send me your request at lfauk01@aol.com and I will make sure you are added to the list of those who receive it via email.

The newsletter is also available each month on our website: [www. FBCDelaware.org](http://www.FBCDelaware.org)

Maunday Thursday Service

Please plan to join us for our annual Maundy Thursday "Upper Room" candlelight service of worship and communion, Thursday, Mar 29, at 7 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

-Larry Faulk

Easter Offering

Offerings in the Easter envelopes will be donated to Disaster Relief through One Great Hour of Sharing.

Holy Week Services

Palm Sunday

Sunday, March 25
9:30 am Sunday School
10:45 am Worship

Maundy Thursday

Thurs, March 29
7:00 pm communion
Fellowship Hall

Good Friday Stations of the Cross and Service

Friday, March 30
Stations of the Cross
11:00 am
Worship Service
St. Mary's 12:00 Noon

Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 1
9:30 am Sunday School
10:45 am Worship

Mark your calendars and plan to attend. You are encouraged to invite family and friends to all of these serices.