

Good News Letter

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101 North Franklin Street, Delaware, OH 43015•740-363-7021•www.FBCDelaware.org

Well, it is March. With the melting of the snow one can feel spring in the air, even if it is still a few weeks off. Last March, many of the ordinary events of spring were taken away. This year, it appears that in some fashion at least, some of these will be returned to us.

It was on March 15, 2020 that we stopped having worship services. With the exception of six Sundays in September and October, we have worshipped through videos each week instead of in each other's presence.

When last we broke off services at the end of October, the case numbers nationally, statewide, and locally were about where they are now, only they were on their way up then, for what would turn into a long winter. Now the numbers are on the way down.

For this reason, and because of the continuing vaccine rollout, and with prayerful consideration, the deacons and I have made the decision to resume

March



in-person worship. We will do so on March 14 at 10 am. The services will be as they were in October; with masking and distancing.

It is my hope that this re-opening will be permanent. We are aware that new variants of the virus could cause an uptick in cases. If that turns out to be the case, unless it is severe, we plan to continue meeting for worship.

For the time being, it is not planned to resume all other meetings, including Sunday School. We hope that continued progress against the virus will make meetings

increasingly safer in the next several months and will gradually resume them as the circumstances allow.

I know that everyone has been praying with us for guidance regarding this decision. I thank all of you for your patience and faithfulness throughout the past year, and I greatly anticipate seeing everyone again on the 14th

Blessings,

- Mark

Lenten Meditation online series

Brief meditations on the "Seven Last Words of Jesus from the Cross" will be posted each week during Lent on our website fbcdelaware.org.

Online Communion

There will be an online communion service on our website on Sunday, March 7th.

Panera Volunteers for March

- Mar. 4 Faulk
- Mar. 11 Lovell
- Mar. 18 Grubbs
- Mar. 25 Shears

Thank you all for volunteering your time. There is a new sign-up sheet in the Sanctuary for the spring quarter. There are lots of blank spaces yet to be filled for April and May.

Personals

> Alec Ferguson is enrolled at Kent State pursuing a Master's Degree in Geographic Information Systems.

> Aidan Ferguson will be playing the role of Professor Bhaer in the Hayes production of LITTLE WOMEN this spring.

Change for Change

On Saturday night, March 13, we will set our clocks forward one hour. That serves as a reminder to us to bring in all our loose change the next day. On Sunday, March 14, if we are back to in-person worship, you can bring your loose change to help alleviate childhood hunger in our community. If we are not back to in-person worship on that Sunday, you may drop off your change at any time during the month of March and put it in the plastic jar on the table in the Welcome Center.

Mission/Outreach News

Thanks to all who came on the February Drop Off Day to donate items for Turning Point. Many bags were collected.

Jane Moore has been spending her time making Snuggly-Ugglies and afghans. She donated 98 pairs of Snuggly-Ugglies and 7 afghans! Wow! Way to go, Jane! The residents at Turning Point will be so blessed!

The March focuses will be the America for Christ offering and Change for Change. The Change for Change offering is collected on March 14th. Your reminder to bring your loose change is to clean out your pockets when you turn your clocks ahead on Sat. Night, March 13th. The money is used for the Delaware City School summer lunch program.

Thank you again to those that have been picking up unsold goods from Panera, bagging it, and taking it to Andrews House

on Friday morning. If you take it to Andrews House, please take it at 9:30 a.m. or a little later as Andrews House is not open before that time.

OOPS!

If you read the Mission/Outreach report for the Annual Business meeting, you will have noticed that I left out a very important ministry that all of you were involved in; The Shoe Box ministry. It was a new outreach that was headed by Darlene Caulkins with help from Bev Cox. It was very successful and I have been sent pictures of some of the children receiving their boxes.

The smiles on their faces warmed my heart.

Thanks to ALL for participating!

Mary Lou

For the Purpose of Equipping Saints

This is the theme of the America for Christ offering for 2021, based on Ephesians 4:11-13. It focuses on ABC discipleship and leadership empowerment ministries, which nurture the faithful followers who find their call and life's work as the hands and feet of Christ. Thanks to our AFC offering contributions last year, ABHMS was able to support communities distressed by the devastation of COVID-19; to help families who lost homes to floods, wildfires, and storms, along with children living on the edge because of poverty; and seminarians preparing to devote

**Birthdays
and
Anniversaries**



March

- 5 Mike Showalter
- Ben Turner
- 7 Robert Foor
- 8 Mike Reynolds
- 11 Rick & Sandy VanBrimmer
- 12 Evan Trigg
- 18 Dave Lovell

Please report any errors.

their lives to sharing the Good News. Your AFC contribution provides funds for discipleship ministries, leadership empowerment programs, and chaplaincy, pastoral counseling and specialized programs. We will be accepting your AFC offering throughout the month of March. Our goal is \$1000. You can bring your offering to church if we are back to in-person worship or you can drop it off at church and leave it with the pastor, or you can mail it to Randy Turner, or you can contribute online through our online giving.

Pam Faulk

In-Person Worship

When we reopen for in-person worship on Sunday, March 14th, below are some of the protocols that will be in place to help us worship as safely as possible:

- Open with worship service only
 - We anticipate no Sunday School
 - No fellowship time in the gathering place
- Masks/face coverings required
 - We have disposable and cloth masks available
- Hand sanitizer will be available.
- Sit socially distanced at least six feet apart
 - families may sit together
 - maintain distance entering / exiting
- Visual greetings
 - No handshakes - hugs
- Disinfectant spray/wipes will be available in all restrooms

Prayer List

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

Name	Reason for Prayer
Richard Lovell	Health Issues
Raeleen George	Health Issues
Ken & Genevieve Peterson	Health Issues
Dr. Allison's father & sister	Health Issues
Ken Shears	Health Issues
Ray & Carol Serviss	Health Issues
Candy Lee's sister Trudy	Health Issues
Jerry & Lana Palmer	Health Issues

Remember daily all the men and women in the military — Those stationed in the

- Minimize contact with items
 - offering plate on stand at the back of the sanctuary
 - bulletins on table in the Welcome Center
- Microphone for joys & prayer concerns on an extender
- Minimal singing while seated.

FBC Newsletter Archive

The first FBC newsletter (which later became known as "The Good News") was published in July 1969. I have been scanning the historical issues of the Good News and have been adding them to our website in order to preserve and share our newsletter history.

There are a few missing issues that I would love to locate copies of to add to the collection. If you are looking for things to read during this time of "staycation," check out the "FBC Newsletter Archive" on fbcdelaware.org.
- Larry Faulk
Good News editor

Archived Bulletins Available

As time permits, I have been scanning previous years' bulletins and Orders of Worship and making them available on our website: fbcdelaware.org. To date, I have most of 2001 - 2020 online as pdf documents. Each year's document is a fairly large file which takes a while to load. Your patience is appreciated.
- Larry Faulk

Update from the Wu's

Feb 5, 2021

Dear friends,

Peace! Hope this email finds you are doing well during this stressful pandemic time.

Covid-Related We are fine in Taiwan despite the fact that there was an outbreak in a big hospital near our rental place (about 2 miles away) about three weeks ago. Thus far, there are 20 people being infected that were caused by a doctor firstly being infected through a patient. The outbreak is under control now. People still

keep high alertness, which differs from the previous situation that most people in general thought Taiwan is a safer place than the other places in the world, so people paid less awareness. This imminent event raises everyone's alertness again. That is good because next week will be Chinese New Year. People will travel around, and families will get together. We'll avoid going to the crowded places.

Ministry-wise, we remain to oversee the COVID Relief in Hong Kong and maintain

communication with the Swatow Baptist churches and NGOs. In Taiwan, we try to keep good relationships with Christian Hakka Seminary. Couple weeks ago, we joined one of their winter short-term mission trips with the seminarians to visit the churches with aboriginal people in the rural mountain site. Due to the weather, road condition and housing limitation, both Emerson and I could only join the first half of their mission trip. We had a very good experience and were glad to guide them through the reflection afterwards. The previous Yunnan ministry has trained and equipped us to provide those immediate assistance. As for the Research Center aspect, we keep attending their weekly prayer meeting and trying to strengthen the teaching of God's Word. We are also working on a new staff who is an unbeliever. She began to show more interest in God's Word and to raise the questions. Please keep her and her three young children in your prayers. Thanks.

Coming Plan - We plan to leave Taiwan for Hong Kong in June and return to the US in early August this year for US/PR Assignment starting on September 1st. We, also, start to do the preparation for the medical clearness and all the travel transitions (including air tickets, COVID tests, quarantine, hotels). Please pray for God's wisdom and guidance while we are doing the preparations. Thanks for your faithful support with prayers.

Blessings,
Ivy and Emerson

First Baptist Church












101 North Franklin Street
Delaware, Ohio 43015

March

2021

Dr. Mark Allison, Pastor

Office Hours: by appointment

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>February 28 Second Sunday of Lent</p> <p>Online Service Available fbcdelaware.org</p>  <p>Online Lenten Meditation available</p>	1	2	3	4	<p>World Day of Prayer 5</p> 	6
<p>7 Third Sunday of Lent</p> <p>Online Service and Communion Available fbcdelaware.org</p>  <p>Online Lenten Meditation available America for Christ Offering begins</p>	8	9	10	11	12	<p>13</p>  <p>Set clocks forward one hour tonight</p>
<p>14 Fourth Sunday of Lent</p> <p>10 am In-person Worship planned</p>  <p>Change for Change Offering</p>  <p>Online Lenten Meditation available</p>	15	16	<p>17 St. Patrick's Day</p> 	18	19	<p>20 Spring Begins</p> 
<p>21 Fifth Sunday of Lent</p> <p>10 am In-person Worship planned</p>  <p>Online Lenten Meditation available Mar newsletter deadline today</p>	22	23	24	25	26	27
<p>28 Palm Sunday</p> <p>10 am In-person Worship planned</p>  <p>Online Lenten Meditation available Mar newsletter available today</p>	<p>April 1</p>  <p>April Fools Day</p>	2	3	<p>4 Maundy Thursday</p> <p>Online Maundy Thursday service available 8:45 Panera Pickup - Faulk</p>	<p>March Mission Focus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • America for Christ • Change for Change 	