

# Good News Letter

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“Come, let us reason together . . .” After presenting the setting of the Book of Isaiah, and one might also say, of the Bible itself, the prophet invites the nation of Israel and the people of God into a conversation that explores the meaning of Israel’s history and its continuing importance.

He characterizes the nation of Israel and by extension the entire human race as being in rebellion against God. The way the rebelliousness and sinfulness of the people is described is extreme; yet so also is the way their salvation is described. Given these realities, we read of a future in which, according to Isaiah 11:6-8,

“The wolf will live with the lamb,  
the leopard will lie down with the goat,  
the calf and the lion and the yearling together;  
and a little child will lead them.  
The cow will feed with the bear,  
their young will lie down together,  
and the lion will eat straw like the ox.  
The infant will play near the cobra’s den,  
and the young child will put its hand into the  
viper’s nest.”

There is the promise of Isaiah 40:29-31,

“He gives strength to the weary  
and increases the power of the weak.  
Even youths grow tired and weary,  
and young men stumble and fall;  
but those who hope in the Lord  
will renew their strength.  
They will soar on wings like eagles;  
they will run and not grow weary,  
they will walk and not be faint.”



And there is a series of passages about a Suffering Servant which culminates in Isaiah 53:2-5,

“He grew up before him like a tender shoot,  
and like a root out of dry ground.

He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him,

nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.

He was despised and rejected by mankind,  
a man of suffering, and familiar with pain . . .  
Surely he took up our pain  
and bore our suffering,  
yet we considered him punished by God,  
stricken by him, and afflicted.

But he was pierced for our transgressions,  
he was crushed for our iniquities;  
the punishment that brought us peace was on  
him,  
and by his wounds we are healed.

And at the end there is a vision of a New Heaven  
and a New Earth in Isaiah 65:17-25.

“See, I will create  
new heavens and a new earth.  
The former things will not be remembered,  
nor will they come to mind . . .  
and I will take delight in my people;  
the sound of weeping and of crying  
will be heard in it no more.  
Never again will there be in it  
an infant who lives but a few days,  
or an old man who does not live out his  
years...  
They will build houses and dwell in them;  
they will plant vineyards and eat their fruit . . .

*(Continued on page 2)*

They will not labor in vain,  
nor will they bear children  
doomed to misfortune;  
for they will be a people blessed  
by the Lord,  
they and their descendants  
with them.

Before they call I will answer;  
while they are still speaking I  
will hear.

The wolf and the lamb will feed  
together,  
and the lion will eat straw like  
the ox,  
and dust will be the serpent's  
food.

They will neither harm nor destroy  
on all my holy mountain,"

The Book of Isaiah will be the  
focus of this year's Lenten Bible  
Study. We will learn about the  
historical background and  
theological significance of this  
important book. The study will  
meet on five consecutive  
Sundays; March, 9th, 16th, 23rd,  
30th, and April 6th, at 5pm.

I look forward to learning not only  
about this part of our heritage, but  
how also to better understand the  
present and future times as well. I  
hope to see all of you there.

Blessings,  
- Mark

### March Panera Volunteers

Wed	Thur
Mar 5-Faulk	Mar 6-Faulk
Mar 12-Faulk	Mar 13-Faulk
Mar 19-Gosser	Mar 20-Volunteer Needed
Mar 26-Brown	Mar 27-Brown
Apr 2-Volunteer Needed	Apr 3-Volunteer Needed

Thanks to all who volunteer. Look  
for a new sign-up sheet for the  
spring quarter later this month.

## PERSONALS

- Darlene Caulkins recently had  
shoulder surgery and is  
recovering at home.

-Bud Salyer suffered a fall at his  
son's house and received 28  
stitches in his head. He is now  
recovering.

-Pastor Mark made a brief trip to  
Colorado in February to see his  
new grandson Lachlan.

-Pam Faulk was back in Riverside  
Hospital for a few days with more  
vertigo issues. She has lost most  
of her hearing and cannot talk on  
the phone. She is undergoing  
treatment to see if some of her  
hearing can be restored. She  
thinks everyone for their prayers  
and cards.

-Pastor Allison had an article  
published in the February 2  
Delaware Gazette.

-Our missionaries, the Clemmers,  
recently had to flee their mission  
in Africa, due to civil unrest.  
Please keep them in your  
prayers.

## AMERICAN BAPTIST WOMEN

Only a couple of us braved the  
cold and snow on February 15th.  
Let's pray for our March 15th  
meeting to have better weather.  
We will again be meeting in the  
Fellowship Hall at 11:30. Bring a  
sack lunch and plans for Lent and  
Easter.

- Laura Brown

## GRACE UPON GRACE

During the month of March, our  
mission focus is the America for  
Christ (AFC) offering. This year's  
theme, "Grace upon Grace.  
Grace in Times of Turbulence," is  
inspired by Ephesians 4:32: "Be  
kind and compassionate to one  
another, forgiving each other, just  
as in God forgave you." This  
passage stresses the importance  
of letting go of anger and moving  
forward with love. Just as  
Matthew reminds us, our  
heavenly Father will forgive us if  
we forgive others. God's love for  
us, even in times of despair,  
never wavers.

Some of the uses of the AFC  
funds are as follows: creating  
new, innovative ministries,  
developing church leaders, aiding  
children who are impoverished,  
supporting the work of chaplains  
and spiritual caregivers,  
promoting discipleship, preserving  
critical American Baptist spaces,  
and making higher education

### Birthdays and Anniversaries



#### March

- 5 Mike Showalter  
Ben Turner
- 8 Mike Reynolds
- 9 Rolf Remlinger
- 10 Connie Roberts
- 11 Rick & Sandy VanBrimmer
- 12 Evan Trigg
- 14 Darlene Caulkins
- 18 Dave Lovell
- 24 Richard & Laura Brown

*Please report any errors.*

more affordable through scholarships. I would imagine that some AFC funds will be used to rebuild churches in the Los Angeles area.

Our goal for the AFC is \$1000. Please prayerfully consider your contribution to this worthy cause.  
- Pam Faulk



## SHROVE TUESDAY

### PANCAKE SUPPER

All are invited to join us for our annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on March 4th at 6 p.m. The menu includes pancakes, waffles, sausage, fruit, and Dave Lovell's famous blueberry syrup. The meal is free. Just bring a friend, your appetite and a talent to share. Readings, poems, humor, and music are appreciated. Come and join in an evening of food, fun, and fellowship.



### CHANGE FOR CHANGE

On Saturday night, March 8, we will set our clocks forward one hour to begin Daylight Saving Time. On Sunday, March 9, we will bring our loose change to church for the Change for Change offering. This money goes to help with the cost of the Summer Lunch Program for Delaware children. Thanks to all who contribute.

## Prayer List

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

Name	Reason for Prayer
Dr. Allison's sister	Health Issues
Ken Shears	Health Issues
Janet Lathrop	Health Issues
Jenni Pedzinski and family	Father's stroke
Bud Salyer	Recovery from injury
Beth Trigg	Recovery from injury
Pam Faulk	Hearing Loss
Bill & Ann Clemmer	Safety

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

### APRIL NEWSLETTER DELAYED

Due to the editor's vacation, the April newsletter will be delayed by one week and will be available on April 5.

### Have You Read a Good Sermon Lately?

If you would like to read some of Dr. Allison's sermons, they are available on our website. Manuscripts of Sermons have been added beginning in 2016.

Visit [fbcdelaware.org](http://fbcdelaware.org) and click on "View Sermon Texts" to access them.

### Thank You

*(Sorry, I missed this for the February newsletter)*

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Delaware County Department of Job and Family Services, Protective Services Division, I cannot thank you enough for your generous donations during the Holiday Season. Because of you, we were able to bring happiness to children and youth, parents and kinship caregivers, and seniors.

We are very fortunate to have great community support, and we truly appreciate you.

Sincerely,  
Lynn Stcay, MSCI, MACM  
Social Service Supervisor

### Mission/Outreach News

#### Turning Point

Our February mission focus was for Turning Point. Turning Point is a safe place for women and children to go if shelter is needed because they have experienced domestic violence. The shelter provides a bedroom and a common area with a kitchen for the residents. Residents are given meals and counseling to find work and a safe place to live. Thank you to all who have given so generously to overflow the basket in the Welcome Center. The residents will appreciate all you have given to help them. Thank you to Peter White who will deliver the contributions at the end of the month.

## People In Need

There is a basket in the Welcome Center for collection of shelf stable food items that are given to People In Need. People In Need is an organization that takes donations of food from grocery stores and those in the community to help those that are food insecure. They are given fresh vegetables and fruits, then distribute them. The Viet Nam Veterans Group helps with the distribution on the last Wednesday of the month at the People In Need center on Johnson Drive. Thank you to all who continue to fill the basket! Thank you to Peter White for delivering the food.

## Panera Pick Up Continues

This has been a very cold, snowy, and icy winter. It takes commitment to go on Wed. and/or Thurs. nights to pick up the unsold items from Panera, rebag them for distribution, and take them to the drop off places. Sometimes, we want to stay in and keep warm when it is dark and cold. But many volunteers have continued to see that the goods are picked up.

These items are used in many ways: at Willis- for their after school programs and the Food Pantry for those who come in needing food. At Andrews House, people come in needing food, as well. Again, a huge thank you to all who continue to help with this outreach for others. If you would like to pick up items on a Wednesday or Thursday night, talk with Larry Faulk or Mary Lou Lovell. Your help would be welcomed.

## America for Christ Offering

During the month of March our mission will be to give to the America for Christ offering. There are so many needs with the weather we have had in the past 12 months. Please consider your gift to this offering.

## The Clemmers

Bill and Ann Climmer serve at the HEAL Africa hospital in Goma, Democratic Republic of Congo. Goma has been taken over by a militia group. Bill and Ann had to flee to Kigali in Rwanda. They have been able to return during the day, but for safety, must leave Goma each evening. There is a letter on the bulletin board with more extensive information.

We want to continue our prayers for the Clemmers. They are devoted missionaries who have a passion to help others, especially children. They bring hope, showing God's love to those who are in need.

## Tower Repair Project Update

While we still do not have a definite start date from Durable Slate, we are hopeful that work on the tower will begin either later this winter or early in the spring. The project will include replacing any missing or damaged slates on the upper tower roof and repairing the roof overhang. The slate over the lower portion of the roof will be replaced along with gutters and some painting.

Goal \$50,000



\$11,009 2/16/25

The cost of the project is estimated at \$49,550. We are seeking gifts, donations, and memorial contributions to offset the cost of the project. Our goal is to replenish our Capital Improvements Fund within five years. As of Feb. 16th, we have received \$11,009 for the project. Your pledges and donations are appreciated. You may also contribute online by selecting "donate" on our website: [Fbcdelaware.org](http://Fbcdelaware.org).

# First Baptist Church











101 North Franklin Street  
Delaware, Ohio 43015

# March

2025

Dr. Mark Allison, Pastor

Office Hours: by appointment

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><b>2</b></p> <p>9:30 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship Service Holy Communion</p>	<p><b>3</b></p>	<p><b>4</b></p>  <p><b>SHROVE TUESDAY</b> 6pm Pancake Supper</p>	<p><b>5</b></p>  <p><b>Ash Wednesday</b> 6:30 Choir 8:45 Panera Pickup - Faulk</p>	<p><b>6</b></p> <p>8:45 Panera Pickup - Faulk</p>	<p><b>7</b></p>	<p><b>8</b></p> <p><b>International Women's Day</b></p> <p>Set clocks forward one hour tonight</p> 
<p><b>1st Sunday of Lent</b></p> <p>9:30 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship Service 5:00 pm Lenten Bible Study</p>  <p><b>Change for Change</b> <b>Daylight Saving time Begins</b></p>	<p><b>10</b></p>	<p><b>11</b></p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>6:30 Choir 8:45 Panera Pickup - Faulk</p>	<p><b>13</b></p> <p>8:45 Panera Pickup - Faulk</p>	<p><b>14</b></p>	<p><b>15</b></p> <p>8 am Men's Breakfast-Bob Evans 11:30 am ABW Lunch Fellowship Hall</p>
<p><b>2nd Sunday of Lent</b></p> <p>9:30 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship Service 5:00 pm Lenten Bible Study</p> 	<p><b>17</b></p> <p><b>St. Patrick's Day</b></p> 	<p><b>18</b></p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p>6:30 Choir 8:45 Panera Pickup - Gosser</p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p><b>1st day of Spring</b></p>  <p>8:45 Panera Pickup - Volunteer Needed</p>	<p><b>21</b></p>	<p><b>22</b></p>
<p><b>3rd Sunday of Lent</b></p> <p>9:30 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship Service 5:00 pm Lenten Bible Study</p> 	<p><b>24</b></p>	<p><b>25</b></p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p>6:30 Choir 8:45 Panera Pickup - Brown</p>	<p><b>27</b></p> <p>7 pm Parish Council Meeting 8:45 Panera Pickup - Brown</p>	<p><b>28</b></p>	<p><b>29</b></p>
<p><b>4th Sunday of Lent</b></p> <p>9:30 Sunday School 10:45 am Worship Service 5:00 pm Lenten Bible Study</p>  <p>April newsletter deadline</p>	<p><b>31</b></p>	<p><b>April 1</b></p>  <p><b>April Fools Day</b></p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>6:30 Choir 8:45 Panera Pickup - Volunteer Needed</p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p>8:45 Panera Pickup - Volunteer Needed</p>	<p><b>March Mission Focus:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>America for Christ</li> <li>Change for Change</li> </ul>	