

Good News Letter

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Happy spring! As the days have grown warmer and the trees and flowers have once again come to life (even though there is snow on the ground as I write this), it is hard not to be hopeful about the days ahead. The most prominent news that affects the life of our church is the pandemic, which limits our gatherings and restricts our “normal” activities.

As we have been meeting for worship since the middle of March and the overall situation seems to be improving, it is almost impossible not to approach the near future with anticipation, because we can imagine moving forward to usual activities. It is a good time to ask the question, to what end?

I thought I might share some of what I have been thinking about this past year. Because I hope to understand the modern context in which we interpret the Bible, I have begun to read a book about industrialization. Though I haven't completed it, one of the conclusions is that there have been many good things



that have come as a result of industrialization, and few people would desire to live in the past. But there has also been an exacting price. Part of that price is the increasing de-personalization of relationships in the modern world. I am sure we can all imagine ways in which technology has separated people and robbed life of its intimacy.

The Prophet Isaiah and the Elder John of the Apocalypse saw what they called, “A new heaven and a new earth, coming down out of heaven.” ... But I think we can agree that this aspect of modern life is not what they meant. Modern life does, however, present an opportunity for the church, for us as Christians, because the church is a place of personal relationships. That is, we do not gather because of any common features of life like political parties do, or unions or civic clubs or softball teams. We

are brought together by Christ, called, chosen. We are called to personal relationships with God and each other, relationships characterized by mercy and love. Relationships like this are not easy, but given the present state of things, they are crucial, and they are our reason for being. It is food for thought.

Blessings,
- Mark

Ben Geary



We are saddened by the death of Ben Geary on April 16th. Ben lived an extraordinary 98 years of life. He was a WWII vet and managed many movie theaters. He loved playing tennis and golf. He golfed and worked as a starter at Glenross Country Club up until he was about 95 years old. Plans are to have a graveside service at Oakgrove Cemetery sometime in June so other family members can be in town for the service.

Panera Volunteers for May

May 6 Grubbs
May 13 Spears
May 20 Shears
May 27 Turner

Thank you all for volunteering. There is a new sign-up sheet for the summer quarter at the back of the sanctuary.

Personals

- Aidan Ferguson will be graduating on 5/22 from Rutherford B. Hayes High School. He will be attending The Ohio State University in the fall. He will be majoring in Biomedical Engineering.

- Now that 2021 is here and COVID numbers have gone down, Gabe Fogle has had a terrific start in the tennis season playing singles for Hayes High School. His picture was in the Delaware Gazette on April 1. He also played in a doubles tournament in Reynoldsburg.

- Andrew Smith has played 2 soccer games and made a goal last Saturday. He received a Good Sportsmanship medal.

- Lucas Smith has played 2 soccer games and played goalie and made two saves. He attempted 2 goals and received a Good Sportsmanship medal.

- Will Fogle is completing his second semester at Akron U. by doing online classes. He is working at Fossil watch store.

-Aidan Ferguson was pictured and quoted on the March 31 edition of the Delaware Gazette in a story about seniors involved in the theater program at Hayes. Aidan has been involved in theater since middle school.

-Pastor Mark was quoted in the April 2 edition of the Delaware Gazette in an article about local pastors and the last words of Jesus, which was also the topic of his Lenten meditation series.

-Emilie Showalter recently had ankle surgery.

- Thanks to Deb and Will Fogle, Randy and Claire Turner, and Candy Lee for the solos and duets during April.

-Aidan Ferguson was named on the Distinguished Honor Roll and Brennan Howe was named on the Honor Roll for the third quarter at Hayes.

-Please be in prayer for former members, Bob and Pat For, whose son recently passed away.

-Randy and Jennifer Turner recently traveled to West Virginia to visit with family and to celebrate the 84th birthday of Randy's father.

-Erin Faulk spent Spring Break at Disneyworld, the happiest masked place in the world.

-Please remember to take some time for prayer on May 6, the National Day of Prayer.

A Note From Lana Palmer

To My Wonderful FBC Family,
I'm not sure I can adequately express my most sincere gratitude for your prayers and concern that were expressed so kindly during the recent loss of Jerry...though he isn't really "lost" for I know exactly where he is. It is by the grace of God and the prayers of wonderful friends like each and every one of you that has sustained me, as well as my family. For that I shall be forever grateful. THANKY YOU, dear

friends. And thank you for the beautiful planter filled with lovely flowers and greenery. I was especially pleased with the African violets, as they are a favorite of mine. I treasure the kindness, the caring, and the thoughtfulness this lovely arrangement represents!
With Love,
Lana

Birthdays and Anniversaries



May

- 3 Rick VanBrimmer
- 8 Will Fogle
- 9 Tim Chesser
- 10 Archie & Beth Trigg
- 12 Jeanne Ekelberry
- 15 Barbara Smith
- 16 Brianna Showalter
- 30 Ken Peterson

Please report any errors.

Blanket Sunday

On Mother's Day, we honor mothers by pinning donations for Church World Services blanket ministry on the blanket at the front of the sanctuary. Forms will be available to designate your honor to pin on the blanket with your donation or you can donate online at fbcdelaware.org.

Mission/Outreach News

In April we collected money for the Easter offering which was given to Helpline. Helpline takes calls from those in need and directs their calls to other agencies in Delaware (People In Need, Family Promise, Turning Point, Andrews House, etc.). Thank you for your generosity.

We have been collecting snack and other items for making bags for Teacher Appreciation Day at Conger Elementary School. The 2020-2021 school year has been so demanding and stressful for teachers and staff. They have had to adapt their teaching to online plus have students in class. Trying to keep students engaged and motivated has been a challenge. We want to let them know they are appreciated by giving them a bag of goodies to say "thank you" for all they have done this past year.

Thanks to all who have brought individually wrapped snacks, candy, popcorn, and cookies. We are packing 60 bags. Thank you for your generosity to make this happen.

Prayer List

This list is prepared by the Deacons.
Please send changes to Larry Faulk (lfault01@aol.com).

Name	Reason for Prayer
Richard Lovell	Health Issues
Ken & Genevieve Peterson	Health Issues
Dr. Allison's father & sister	Health Issues
Ken Shears	Health Issues
Candy Lee's sister Trudy	Health Issues
Family of Ben Geary	Condolences on the death of Ben
Family of Bob and Pat Foor	Condolences on the death of Bob's son

Remember daily all the men and women in the military — Those stationed in the USA and those deployed throughout the world. GOD BLESS AMERICA!

In May, we will deliver the teacher appreciation bags.

We will also celebrate Mother's Day by thinking of mothers around the world that are in need. On Mother's Day we will collect monetary donations and pin them on a blanket in the sanctuary. This gives you an opportunity to give to others and write the name of a woman that has been special in your life as a way to honor her. It could be a mother, sister, aunt, or friend. The money will be donated to church world service and be distributed to those in need.

Looking ahead to June, we will be collecting the One Great Hour of Sharing offering and Tools of Hope on Father's Day.

America for Christ

Thank you for your contributions to the America for Christ offering. To date, we have received \$1,110.

Easter Offering - Helpline

The Easter Offering has totaled \$200 to date. The offering will go to Helpline to support their mission of helping people in the community.

Financial Update

Copies of the 1st Quarter 2021 Financial Report are available in the Welcome Center. Despite not meeting in person for most of the quarter, your contributions were only less than our expenses by \$938. Your giving to missions is on target to meet and/or exceed our goals for 2021. Thank you for your continued support.

- Larry Faulk, treasurer

2021 Church Directory

The Board of Deacons is planning to publish a new Church Directory this spring. There is a form below for your convenience. We invite Members and Friends of First Baptist to be included in the directory. If you would like to formally join our fellowship, please contact Dr. Allison. We would like to include as many updated photos as possible. Please see me for a new photo.

-Larry Faulk

First Baptist Church Directory		Anniversary _____
Name(s) _____	Birthdate _____	Cell Phone _____
	email _____	
_____	Birthdate _____	Cell Phone _____
	email _____	
_____	Birthdate _____	Cell Phone _____
	email _____	
Address _____		
City _____	State ____	Zip _____
		Home Phone _____
<i>(return this form to Larry Faulk)</i>		

First Baptist Church











101 North Franklin Street
Delaware, Ohio 43015

May

2021

Dr. Mark Allison, Pastor

Office Hours: by appointment

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Peace Sunday 2 10 am In-person Worship Holy Communion 	3	4	Cinco de Mayo 5 	National Day of Prayer 6  8:45 Panera Pickup - Grubbs	7	8
Mother's Day 9 10 am In-person Worship 	10	11	12	Ascension Day 13  8:45 Panera Pickup - Spears	14	Armed Forces Day 15 
Blanket Sunday						
Baptist Heritage Day 16 10 am In-person Worship 	17	18	19	20	21	22
				8:45 Panera Pickup - Shears		Delaware Hayes Graduation
Pentecost 23 10 am In-person Worship 	24	25	26	27	28	29
Youth Sunday June newsletter deadline today				8:45 Panera Pickup - Turner		
Trinity Sunday 30 10 am In-person Worship  June newsletter available today	Memorial Day 31 	June 1	2	3	May Mission Focus: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teacher Appreciation Bags for Conger * Blanket Sunday (CWS) 	
				8:45 Panera Pickup - Faulk		