

Good News Letter

Published in the cause of the abundant life by
The First Baptist Church, Delaware, Ohio

Rev. Gene F. Gillin
Pastor

PEACEMAKING PROGRAM PLANNED BY AMERICAN BAPTIST WOMEN

This Saturday, January 9th at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall, the American Baptist Women of First Baptist are sponsoring a program in regard to U.S. and U.S.S.R. relations. The program will be conducted by Carolyn Schneeberger who participated in training sessions last fall concerning this study.

The program will also include a film entitled "The Fellowship of Baptists in the U.S.S.R." Carol Grubbs is working on some related activities for the children to do while the adults are attending the program so mark your calendar and plan to bring the whole family for this program on a very timely issue.

Linda White,
Program Chairman
A.B.W.

A THANK YOU NOTE

The Board of Christian Education would like to say a big "thank you" to the numerous people who helped make this year's Advent activities memorable ones.

This list is a long one, but here goes. Special thanks to Carol Grubbs and crew for decorating the church, to Larry Faulk and Jeff for putting up the tree, to Pam Faulk for leading the sock decorating workshop, to Jeanne Ekelberry for leading the Crismon workshop, to Florence Faulk for decorating our world map as a church Christmas card, and to Anne Linn, Marge Smale, and Ruth Gillin for making soup for lunch.

A special thanks to Steve Stoner as Santa and Jim Stephenson as St. Nicholas for their dramatic efforts in our play "I Had Forgotten Who I Am."

A big thanks to Mary Lou Lovell, director, Fred Grubbs, accompanist, and to all the children for their hard work and dedication in performing their musical, "Christmas Fever."

Thanks Jr. High Class (Debbie, Jeff) for your song-writing efforts.

A big thanks should go to the participants in our Christmas program "Journey to Bethlehem." Thanks to Jerry and Lana Palmer; Steve, Karen, Stefanie and Micah Stoner; Dave, Debbie, Matthew and Barbara Lovell; Archie, Jarrod and Evan Trigg; Jim VanBrimmer, Ben Turney, Jean and Wick, and Jim Stephenson. Thanks to Wick and Fred as soloists and Fred for accompanying.

A note of appreciation to Charles Ekelberry for borrowing the projector and showing the film "The Christmas Bus" for us. Last, but not least, thank you Michael Ekelberry for taking pictures of this year's advent activities. If anyone missed out on any of our Advent activities, look at Michael's pictures which are in an album in the Sunday School room.

I'm sure that I've left someone's name out, so in case I did, thank you too!

Linda White
Board of Christian Ed.



A LETTER FROM THE PROGRAM
CHAIRMAN, A.B.W.

Dear Ladies,

I had good intentions last fall of getting together a program booklet for each of you that would list the programs that Mary Lou, Pam and I selected for the 1987-88 year.

I guess the old saying about having too many irons in the fire applied to me because I still have not been able to get the booklet together. So I thought that I could at least give you a list of the remaining programs and activities planned for the 1988 ABW year which will conclude in June.

Linda White

| DATE | PROGRAM OR ACTIVITY AND LEADER |
|-------------------|---|
| Jan. 9 7:00pm | "Peacemaking: The Search for Wholeness" - Carolyn Schneeberger |
| Feb. 7 3:00pm | "The Cost of Recovery: To Be Forgiven and to Forgive" - Marge Smale |
| Mar. 17 | Ladies Night Out - Mary Lou Lovell and Pam Faulk to plan |
| Apr. 17 3:00pm | "Health and Wholeness Overseas" - Karen Stoner |
| May 22 5:30pm | Mother-Daughter Salad Supper |
| June 18 9:00am | Breakfast & Election of Officers - Jeanne Ekelberry |

SECRET ADVENT FRIEND SIGN-UP

1988 is here and with it comes an opportunity to sign up for our Secret Advent Friend Program. In case you have never

participated before, here is how the program works. You are to pray daily for your Secret Advent Friend and remember them throughout the year on special occasions such as birthdays, anniversaries, and holidays with cards or gifts to let them know someone is thinking of them.

This year we are going to try a different approach for the pairing up. If you want to participate, fill out the sign-up form printed below and place it in the green letter box which will be on the table in the Sunday School Room (extra forms will be available beside the box).

In a couple of weeks, I will ask everyone who submitted their name to draw a name from the box and that name will be your Secret Advent Friend for 1988.

If for some reason you can't be in church for the next few weeks, mail your form to me and I'll put it in the box for you.

If you have any questions, please give me a call.

Linda White

NEW TENANT IN FRANKLIN HOUSE

Recently the Mental Health Association, which had rented the Franklin House from our church for several years, made the move to a larger facility.

The Board of Trustees are currently looking for another business tenant, but in the meantime we have temporarily rented the building to Judy Dunham, an elementary school teacher who's home on Central Ave. was recently damaged by a fire. This arrangement provides us with some rental income while we are looking for a permanent tentant, and helps out a member of our community in a time of need.

Peter White
Chairman, Bd. of Trustees

SECRET ADVENT FRIEND SIGN-UP

Name _____

Address _____

Birthday _____

Anniversary _____

Hobbies & Interests _____

THANK YOU

I want to thank Mary Sealey and the women of the church for my new coat. God bless you all.

Ernestine Frost

We'd like to thank the ladies of the church for the box of fruit and cookies we received at Christmas. Also, thanks to our Secret Advent Friends for their cards and gifts throughout the year.

Steve & Sophia Stephenson

It was terrific! Thanks to all parents for their support and bringing kids to rehearsals. Thanks to all the kids who came to rehearsals and learned their parts. That's what made it super!

Everyone of you was so important to make it all happen: Stefanie Stoner, Micah Stoner, Jeff Faulk, Erin Faulk, Marci Sanders, Jarrod Trigg, Evan Trigg, Deborah Lovell, Matthew Lovell, Barbara Lovell, Michael Ekelberry, Allison Grubbs, Karen Stoner, and Larry Faulk.

Mary Lou Lovell

PAYNE'S SETTLED IN NEW HOME

Dick and Barbara Payne recently wrote from Rhode Island that they are now settled into their new home. Things are going well and Dick has a good position with the college.

We will miss them and send them our best wishes!

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

Our Annual Business Meeting and covered dish dinner will be held in January on a date and time to be announced later.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

| | | |
|---------|----|-------------------|
| January | 5 | Evelyn Lee |
| | | Lola Jackson |
| | 12 | Larry Faulk |
| | 13 | John Linn |
| | 18 | Matthew Lovell |
| | 21 | Tim Fogle |
| | 22 | Ernestine Frost |
| | 24 | Ben Turney |
| | 26 | Sophia Stephenson |
| Feb. | 2 | Fred Grubbs |
| | | Barney Barkeloo |
| | | Elizabeth Brown |
| | | Millie Martin |
| | 8 | Della Dean |

JUNIOR CHURCH & NURSERY HELP NEEDED

1988 is a great time to get to know our young people better. Currently we have 3 preteen and teenagers willing to be in the nursery. This is great, but they also need time to be fed spiritually, also.

I put a sign-up sheet in the vestibule for Jr. Church and was disappointed to see not one signature.

We have materials. Won't you take this opportunity to spend 4 Sundays or even just 1 helping our young people at church? Please sign up or call me.

Mary Lou Lovell

THANKS TO "CHRISTMAS FEVER"
PARTICIPANTS

Thanks to all who made "Christmas Fever" come alive at the First Baptist Church.

Good News Letter

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PASTORGRAPHS

More than once in recent days I have been reminded of what a varied and vital Christian fellowship we have in the First Baptist family.

Some of us would readily admit to being just ordinary people. Paul reminded the early church that not many of them were worldly wise, high and mighty or from high society when God called them into His Church. Like This Church today, it included a colorful combination of the has-beens, the not-yets, and never-will-bees.

But all of us ordinary people should not feel like failures when we don't produce the great spiritual accomplishments that others do. Sometimes I get discouraged and feel my work's in vain, but then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again. I feel God honors us by looking not at our limited achievements but at our willingness to do His will with the gifts we have been given.

It's like a parent cherishing a simple homemade gift from a child. She wrapped it carefully, tenderly - a dime, a nickle, and a penny and placed them in a soap wrapper and neatly closed its top. And then in her very best first-grade printing she wrote: WHAT IS IN THIS BOX IS FOR LOVE. And then she gave it to her grandmother - an after-Christmas gesture, an unexpected gift of the heart. To whom much is given, much is required; to whom less is given, less is required (LK 12:48b).

Our Lord is surely pleased when our giving to Him is spontaneous - perhaps unorthodox - without season, or reason, or strings attached, and when it is simple, overflowing, because ordinary folk love.

He wants us to do what we can, where we are, with what we've got. We can praise

the great accomplishments of our highly talented brothers and sisters. But by the grace of God, our lesser accomplishments may also be honored by the words, "Well done, good and faithful servant." Peter reminds us that we are God's own people chosen to declare the wonderful deeds of him who called us out of darkness into his marvelous light (1 Peter 2:9). Maybe this was the inspiration for the oldtime spiritual we ordinary folk love to sing: "If you cannot preach like Peter, and cannot pray like Paul, you can tell the love of Jesus, and say, 'He died for all.'"

Let's do more of that through these days of LENT.

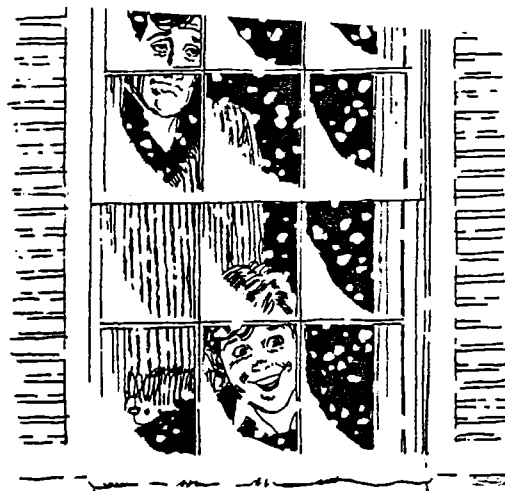
Pastor Gene Gillin

A LENTEN DEVOTIONAL TIME

EARLY RISERS

"Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise
to thee."

(continued next page)



Abraham rose early to stand before the Lord (Genesis 19:27).
 Jacob rose early to worship the Lord (Genesis 28:18).
 Moses rose early to give God's message to Pharaoh (Exodus 8:20).
 Moses rose early to build an altar to God (Exodus 24:4).
 Moses rose early to meet God at Sinai (Exodus 34:4).
 Joshua rose early to lead Israel over Jordan (Joshua 3:1).
 Joshua rose early to capture Jericho (Joshua 6:12).
 Joshua rose early to take Ai (Joshua 8:10).
 Gideon rose early to examine the fleece (Judges 6:38).
 Hannah and Elkanah rose early to worship God (1 Samuel 1:9).

Some folks go to church just three times in their lives: at hatching, matching, and dispatching . . . where they are sprinkled, respectively, with water, rice and dust.

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED HOLD ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of Church Women United was held on January 22nd with a potluck luncheon at William St. Church with eleven churches represented.

Nancy Rietz reported that Church World Service picked up 673 pounds of clothing from 10 churches, including 57 kits and 24 blankets.

Gerry Benz led devotions with the theme centered on "God loves a cheerful giver."

The Bazaar held for the nursing homes in December was a success (Beth Trigg collected items in our church). The money raised will be used to sponsor a picnic this summer for nursing home residents. Charlotte Gallant will be the chairperson. She could use help.

Nancy Prindle from Homemaker Home and Health Aid spoke on the function of their organization in the community. She expressed concern for the people that she visits, and commented that most of the families are

depressed and discouraged because they don't feel satisfaction in anything they do and have a "why bother" attitude.

She feels that there is a definite need for outreach in Delaware and is calling upon churches for help.

Church Women United has adopted the proposal of organizing a group for the purpose of meeting other women's and children's needs called "Woman to Woman." "Woman to Woman" is in the planning stages and is beginning by asking for a representative from each church to be a part of the group. They want to provide training for women interested in becoming part of this program.

It would mean providing a need such as taking a child to the doctor, helping with a household chore and most of all helping someone feel better about themselves and what they do.

If you are interested contact Mary Lou Lovell at 369-6041 and I will see that you become a part of this outreach.

Mary Lou Lovell

BELATED THANKS

Apologies to Fred Grubbs - his name was inadvertently left out of a newsletter story thanking those who participated in the Christmas musical. Fred was our accompanist. Thank you, Fred!

Mary Lou Lovell

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT FOR THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1987

Operating Expenses:

\$8,599 was contributed in this quarter, bringing the total for the year to \$ 30, 400.00 (this does not include contributions of \$778.00 made by those attending our annual retreat at Judson Hills). This amount represents 94% of the 1987 operating budget.

Missions:

\$913.00 was contributed in this quarter. Contributions for the year totalled \$3,199.00. This amount represents 91% of the goals set for 1987.

Love Gift:

This is an over and above gift for special

projects. \$46.63 was contributed in this quarter. Contributions for the year came o \$169.93.

Funding Our Future:

\$36.00 was contributed in the fourth quarter. Contributions for the year came to \$467.00.

World Fellowship Offering:

This special offering generated contributions totalling \$253.45.

Ministers and Missionaries:

This special offering generated contributions totalling \$228.31.

Pledges:

| | <u>1987</u> | <u>1988</u> |
|-----------|-------------|-------------|
| Operating | \$23,440 | \$24,812* |
| Missions | \$ 3,526 | \$ 3,172** |

* + \$ 1,372
** - \$ 354

Respectfully submitted,
Wilbur Wickum
Chairman, Finance Comm.



AMERICAN BAPTIST WOMEN

ABW will gather at the church at 3:00 Sunday afternoon for a program on "The cost of Recovery: To forgive and Be Forgiven" led by Marge Smale.

STATE BYF CONVENTION

Any youth in the BYF who might be interested in going to the state BYF convention please check the bulletin board in the assembly room or see Beth Trigg.

NEW CLUB FOR DELAWARE YOUTH

An exciting opportunity for the young people (of all ages) of Delaware is now available - TOPSIDE, a spacious dance, talk, eat and listen area with absolutely no smoking or drinking of alcohol allowed, is now open in downtown Delaware, next to the Strand Theater.

By the way, the owner of the Strand, George Johnson, also is responsible for the TOPSIDE club. George cares very much for the city of Delaware and its young people.

I have seen this place and it is amazing - special effects, video on dropping screen, polished dance floor, quiet tables, state-of-the-art equipment... give it a try on Friday or Saturday night. You will not be disappointed.

previous 3 stories
submitted by
Karen Stoner

FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR GREEN LAKE

Would you like to attend a conference at Green Lake this year?

There have been funds provided to help pay for two people to attend conferences this year. A committee has been set-up by Parish Council to decide who will be chosen to go. The committee is composed of W. C. Wickum, Betty Porter, Pam Faulk, and Bertha VanBrimmer.

If you wish to represent our church, here is what you must do:

1. Submit an unsigned, typed letter to J. Ekelberry stating the following:
 - a. Which session you wish to attend
 - b. Why you want to go
 - c. How will it benefit you
 - d. How it will benefit the church
2. The letter must be submitted no later than March 6, 1988. Jeanne will put a number on your letter and keep a record of who wrote each letter.
3. You will be expected to share your experiences with the church when you return.

Of course, anyone else may attend any conference if they wish to pay their own way.

PLEASE SIGN UP TO BRING FLOWERS

We always appreciate the flowers that people bring to the church during the summer and on special occasions and holidays. Unfortunately, there are many Sundays during the year (especially during the winter) where none are brought.

At the last business meeting it was decided to put a flower sign-up list in the vestibule. Please check the list and sign up to bring flowers on one or more Sundays this winter and spring.

Flowers can be brought in memory of a loved one; to commemorate a special occasion; or just to add beauty to our sanctuary to enhance our experience of worship.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Dear Brothers in Christ,

On behalf of the First Baptist Men's Fellowship I have taken a step in faith in regards to community missions. Through the work and relationship of Lana Palmer with a mother of five children, we have provided this family with a rebuilt washing machine at a total cost of \$200.00, from Rider Electric, of which we as the Men's Fellowship, through my step in faith, have provided \$175.00.

This mother has been washing the family's clothes in a wash tub and wringing them out by hand. This washing machine will free up more time and let the mother get other things done and be able to spend more time with the children.

If you wish to give toward this step in faith, please give your contributions to me, when ever you can. The machine is already in this family's use. Search your heart and let the holy spirit lead you. This is one small step in community outreach for the men's fellowship.

Thank you and God bless you, each and everyone.

In Christ,

Steve Stoner
Public Relations
Chairman

NON-ELECTIVE POSITIONS FILLEDAT ANNUAL MEETING

At the annual business meeting (January 27th), the following non-elective offices were filled:

NEWS/PUBLICITY CHAIRMAN - Karen Stoner
(please call Karen for publicity of your activities)

RETREAT CHAIRMAN - Pam Faulk (needs volunteers)

KITCHEN COORDINATOR - Bertha VanBrimmer

CHURCH SOCIAL COMMITTEE - Pam Faulk

FLOWERS - Jim Stephenson

MARION ASSOCIATION TRUSTEE REPRESENTATIVES - Betty Porter & Fred Grubbs

ICE CREAM SOCIAL COMMITTEE - Dave Lovell, Beth Trigg, Carol Grubbs

CRISIS AND CELEBRATION COORDINATOR - Evelyn Lee (call her for news of births, deaths, illness, or other concerns)

CANDLELIGHTER COORDINATOR - Pam Faulk

BABY SITTERS - Bertha VanBrimmer

Volunteers are still needed for:

SPECIAL EVENTS PHOTOGRAPHER

BABY SITTER COORDINATOR

RETREAT COMMITTEE MEMBERS

FAMILY SOCIAL

There will be a church family social on Saturday, Feb. 27th at 7:00p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Come for fun, fellowship, and refreshments. We will be showing slides of Green Lake.

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER &TALENT NIGHT

A Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper and Talent Night will be held on Tuesday, February 16th at 6:30p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. This evening will be sponsored by the BYF. Several men have volunteered to cook. Please bring a talent to share.

HELP GIVEN TO NEEDY FAMILY

A family in Delaware County has been touched by an outpouring of love . . . the special gift of the First Baptist Men's Fellowship.

Beset by multiple hardships, the family has been directed to, and is receiving assistance from, county social service agencies; one glaring need, however, was not being met. Five children - including one infant and one, an elementary school age child with a urinary bladder problem - created mountains of laundry. The mother had a wringer washer, but it did not have the wringers - she had to wring all clothes by hand. NO MORE!

The caring of our own Baptist Men's Fellowship has provided an excellent rebuilt Maytag automatic washer to this deserving family.

The mother wrote the following words (excerpt):

". . . This year I had (surgery). I was layed up for quite some time (sic). This past year I have gone through some very hard time (sic). I had neglected my children to an extent, I at times wasn't even sure who I was. I had debated suicide several times and I was having a hard time trying to get anyone to understand what I was going through.

With the help of (persons named), I am now on (medication) . . . I hope now I can give (child's name) the help she needs."

From the heart of a survivalist mother and from my very own heart - from which the referral to the Men's Fellowship came - all say to these exemplary men, thank you and God bless you all!

"Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind, and thy neighbor as thyself."

Lana Palmer

TRUSTEES

1. Imperial Maintenance completed re-building the box gutter, eaves, and edge of the roof on the north side of the Franklin House.
 2. Delaware Glass installed new insulated window glass in the kitchen and dining room at the parsonage to replace the original which was badly fogged up.
 3. Fiant Plumbing made repairs to the drain under the bath at the Franklin House after it went bad and let a tub of water into the living room below!
 4. A leak was repaired under the sink at the parsonage by David Lovell.
 5. Three pianos were tuned by Clifford Rector.
 6. New trash cans were obtained for the fellowship hall and kitchen. Thank you Bertha VanBrimmer.
 7. Several hard-to-reach, and expensive light bulbs were replaced. The 750-watt rear sanctuary light, the front door spotlight, and three 7-foot florescent bulbs in the new building were changed.
 8. The rear stairwell was cleaned out.
 9. The ping pong table was put back up after many years of storage. It has a new net, balls and paddles. Thank you pastor Gillin.
- Peter White
Chairman, Bd. of Trustees

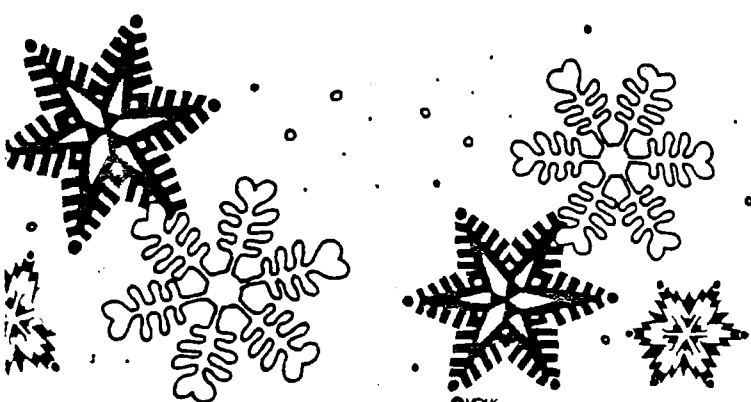
HEAD OF DELAWARE ASSOC. FOR RETARDED CHILDREN TO SPEAK AT MEN'S BREAKFAST

The Men's Association will hold its monthly breakfast on Saturday, February 20 at Bun's Restaurant at 8:30 a.m.

The featured speaker for the breakfast will be Miss Karen Kerns, local director for The Delaware Association for Retarded Children.

We are expecting a large group to attend, so if you plan to go, give your reservation to either Bob Houston or Steve Stoner by Wednesday, February 17. Bun's Restaurant requires that we make a reservation, in advance, to obtain a room.

Bob Houston



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- Feb. 2 Fred Grubbs
Barney Barkeloo
Elizabeth Brown
Millie Martin
- 8 Della Dean
- 9 Janet Inscho
- 10 Amy Elfner
- 13 Lana Palmer
- 16 Barbara Payne
- 17 Beth Linn
- 18 William & Della Dean
- 21 Mary Ann Sealey
- 22 Charles Brown
- 23 Williard Fogle
- March 2 James Ringley
- 6 Mary Barkeloo
- 9 Annette Ringley
- 12 Evan Trigg

PERSONALS

JEFF FAULK made the honor roll for the 2nd 9 weeks

REMINDER TO FEED THE BIRDS
IN THE WINTER

During the spring and summer birds add color and music to our gardens; eat huge quantities of mosquitos and other insect pests; and bring an element of nature to our yards for ourselves and our children to enjoy. But many birds must struggle to survive our cold winters. We can help repay the birds for the pleasure they give us by putting food out for them during the winter months. They enjoy ~~chase~~ bird seed, suet (beef fat), meat scraps (cut in tiny pieces), and crumbs from bread or other baked goods.

Sophia Stephenson



DEATHS IN OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Our sympathies go out to two church families that recently experienced bereavement.

Roy Jackson, brother of Della Dean, and Clarence Smale, brother-in-law of Marge Smale, have both passed away.

We reach out to these families in Chritian love and faith.

THE SECRET OF LIVING

The secret of living is learning to pray
It's asking our Father for strength for the day!
It's trusting completely that His boundless grace
Will overcome care and each problem we face!
It's walking by faith every mile that we plod,
And knowing our prayers bring us cloer to God!

NEWS FROM JUDSON HILLS

A new motel unit has been completed at Judson Hills, and will be dedicated on May 7th. This motel was designed to accommodate campers who wish motel-type rooms, rather than the rather rustic rooms that are now used, and it also increases the number of campers that the camp can handle.

Judson Hills is trying to think of a name for the new building. If you have a suggestion, send it to the camp (3298 Twp. Rd. 629, Loudonville, Ohio 44842) by March 24th. The board will meet and consider all the suggested names.

Jeff Cooper and Brian Hitch will be leading the June 19-24 Creative Arts Camp. This camp will be for youth in grades 8-12 who are interested in drama and music. They will be working on a musical which will be presented August 24th.

1988 marks the 30th anniversary of Judson Hills Camp. A 30-year celebration will be held on May 7th (along with the dedication of the new building). They invite all former campers to attend!

The First Baptist Church
101 N. Franklin St.
Delaware, Ohio 43015

1988 Officers

| <u>Office</u> | <u>Name</u> | <u>Term Expires</u> |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Moderator | Jeanne Ekelberry | 1989 |
| Assistant Moderator | Jerry Palmer | 1989 |
| Clerk | Karen Stoner | 1989 |
| Treasurer | Betty Porter | 1989 |
| Assistant Treasurer | Jim VanBrimmer | 1989 |
| Financial Secretary | Richard Lee | 1989 |
| Church School Clerk | Pam Faulk | 1989 |
| Finance Committee Chairman | Wilbur Wickum | 1989 |
| Board of Deacons | Larry Faulk | 1989 |
| Board of Deacons | Ernestine Frost | 1989 |
| Board of Deacons | Robert Houston | 1988 |
| Board of Deacons | Steve Stoner | 1989 |
| Board of Deacons | Mary Sealey | 1989 |
| Board of Deacons | Jim Stephenson | 1988 |
| Board of Trustees | John Ballangee | 1988 |
| Board of Trustees | Fred Grubbs | 1988 |
| Board of Trustees | David Lovell | 1989 |
| Board of Trustees | Peter White | 1989 |
| Board of Trustees | Will Fogle | 1989 |
| Bd of Ed - Church School | Pamela Faulk | 1989 |
| Bd of Ed - Adult, Youth, Children | Mary Lou Lovell | 1989 |
| Bd of Ed - Leadership Dev. | Linda White | 1989 |
| Bd of Ed - Mission Ed | Lana Palmer | 1989 |

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PASTORGRAPHS

Since 1984 our American Baptist family has been involved in a six-year emphasis - GROW BY CARING - the outgrowth of a national-level committee led by Richard Rusbuldt. He tells the story that one recent winter at our American Baptist Assembly in Green Lake, Wisc., as the weather worsened, a rim of ice pushed persistently outward from the shore. Then one night when the temperature dropped suddenly to 20 degrees below zero the entire lake surface became a sheet of ice trapping some ducks and freezing them fast.

However, some other ducks nearby saw their plight, came and huddled closely to them and refused to be disturbed until the ice was thawed by the heat of their bodies. Caring makes good things happen, even for ducks! And when caring Christians in Delaware focus faith and energy on the growth and ministry of the church, great things can happen to us!

Have you noticed how the adjectives "loving and caring" are so frequently used to support one another? God calls us each one to be a caring person. Jesus was a caring person while on earth. 1 Peter 5:7 "...for He cares about you" reveals the caring nature of God. The Holy Spirit is called the Comforter or Counselor in John 16, one who cares.

When you received Christ in your life He gave you His Spirit so you can be remade in His likeness, part of which is to be a caring person.

In a sermon recently, I suggested that we might learn to love and care for one other soul brother or sister in our church family this year and allow them to care for us. And around our city, single, separated, divorced, and widowed women

may grow in loving and caring ways for other such women in our community. Our Diaconate, through a family watchcare ministry, will care for persons who have become less than active in worship and nurture. We want to learn what they are feeling and be of what help we can be. We do not want the lament of Psalm 142:4 to be true of us, "No one takes notice of me...no one cares for me."

We will DARE TO CARE!!!

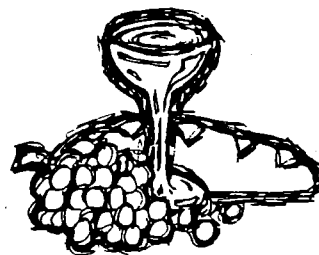
Gene

HOLY WEEK WORSHIP



arranged by our Director, Wilbur Wickum.

Palm Sunday - 10:45 a.m.
Our Sanctuary Choir will lead us in our worship through beloved anthems, solos, and instrumental praise, in a Mini-Cantata



Fellowship Hall as we celebrate by candle-light communion Jesus' giving of the "maunde" or commandment to "Love one another, as I have loved you." He then gave them the ultimate parable to explain the mandate by washing the feet of the disciples. He demonstrated the true meaning of the Passover Seder.

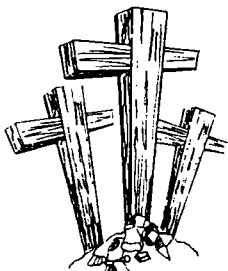
Maundy Thursday - 7:30 p.m.

We will share in what some folk at First Baptist refer to as "the most meaningful communion of the year."

It's always a unique time of worship around the table in the

(continued next page)

Come...join Pastor, Diaconate and Choir who lead us as we renew our vows to this Agape love.



Good Friday Community Service - 12 noon
The Delaware Clergy Assoc. is sponsoring again this year a worship experience at St. Mary's Church - on a most significant day in the life of a Christian - a day when

Jesus Christ laid down His life for the world.

This service is a dramatic contrast to the communal fellowship of Maunday Thursday and the victorious celebration of Easter.

It will focus on the passion of Christ so that we may more fully understand the ultimate payment for sin demanded by a Just and Holy God, and the price paid by a Loving God.

Meaningful preaching and meditative music of Choir and Soloist will bless your soul.

Easter

8:00 a.m. - Early Worship in the Sanctuary will help us feel what those who went to the tomb early on that first Easter experienced.

8:30 a.m. - A Continental Breakfast will be served in the Fellowship Hall.

9:30 a.m. - Teaching Hour

10:45 a.m. - Worship Hour - Pray that our preparations will be appropriate, that our hearts will be inspired and that our church and community will be stirred to greater heights of worship and faith in Jesus Christ...**"THE LORD IS RISEN - HE IS RISEN, INDEED!"**

TO RUSSIA WITH LOVE

As we observed BAPTIST WORLD ALLIANCE SUNDAY just a month ago, it was announced that a shipment of 75,000 volumes of Bible Study material in the Russian language was being distributed to each Pastor of the All-Union Council of Evangelical Christians-Baptists in the U.S.S.R.



The 5,000 sets of William Barclay's "Commentary on the New Testament," each containing 15 volumes and costing \$55,000, were provided by a joint project of the

B.W.A. and the Menonite Central Committee of the U.S.A. and Canada.

This gift provides many pastors with their first complete Bible reference work upon which to base study, teaching, and preaching. Many pastors have almost no study books.

The Russian Baptist office in Moscow telegraphed, "Praise the Lord! All Barclay books reached Baptist Union. Many thanks! May God bless you all."

Soviet Baptists are urging prayer for another B.W.A. project during 1988 when 100,000 Bibles will be sent to the Soviet Union.

MENTAL RETARDATION SUNDAY - MARCH 20

The last Breakfast Meeting of our Men's Fellowship (Bob Houston, Chairman) allowed our men to become more informed about the Delaware Association for Retarded Citizens.

We anticipate a report from our men on this special Sunday in worship about some of their growing interest in ministering with these friends in helpful ways this year.

"HITCHES" HOME CONCERT

The 18th Annual Home Concert of the Hitches will be Saturday, March 19, 7:00pm at Hillcrest Baptist Church, 2480 West Broad St.,
(continued next page)

Columbus. The program will include some new songs and old favorites all sung to the glory of God.

FIRST BAPTIST HUGS

It's wondrous what a HUG can do.
A HUG can cheer you when you're blue.
A HUG can say "I love you so,"
Or, "Gee, I hate to see you go."
A HUG is, "Welcome back again,"
And, "Great to see you! Where've you been?"
A HUG can soothe a small child's pain
And bring a rainbow after rain.

The HUG! There's just
no doubt about it -
We scarcely could survive
without it!

A HUG delights and
warms and charms.
It must be why God
gave us arms.
HUGS are great for
fathers and mothers,
Sweet for sisters,
swell for brothers.
And chances are your
favorite aunts



Love them more than potted plants.

Kittens crave them. Puppies love them.
Heads of state are not above them.
A HUG can break the language barrier
And make your travels so much merrier.
No need to fret about your store of 'em;
The more you give the more there's
more of 'em.
So stretch those arms without delay
And GIVE SOMEONE A HUG TODAY!

CHRISTIAN COUNSELING SERVICE

One of our sister churches, the Mountview Baptist Church, 2140 Fishinger Road, Upper Arlington, offers to the community the counseling services of the Rev. Louis McNabb, Director, of the Olive Branch Counseling Center at the church (phone 451-8889).



A LETTER TO THE CONGREGATION

Dear Rev. Gillin & Congregation,
Thank you for letting us see your church. I learned about the baptismal tank for submersing people. And I learned about the windows and telling us about the ways of the Baptist Church. Thanks for the time that you spent with us.

Sincerely,

Jon Paul & the Kilbourne
United Methodist Con-
firmation Class

BAPTISM HELD

On February 21st Pastor Stulz of the Kilbourne United Methodist Church baptised one of her church's members, Mrs. Cameo Morris, in our sanctuary. We are happy to have had the opportunity to make our facilities available to our Christian brothers and sisters from Kilbourne, and extend our congratulations to Mrs. Morris.



Announcement in a South *
Salem, N.Y. church: *
"Peacemaking meeting *
scheduled for Sunday *
cancelled due to a *
conflict." *

Headline in a church news- *
letter: "Church to send *
missionaries to Africa to *
give cannibals their first taste of *
Christianity." *

AREN'T WE LUCKY

Look at the flowers;
see how they're free.
Look at us,
then look at me.

See how they stand;
they don't make a fuss.
Then again,
look at us.

Aren't we lucky to be so free,
an independent country,
just you, God, and me.

Micah Stoner

CHRISTMAS 1987

As God reaches down, giving
Jesus from his hand,
the busy world sadly may
not always understand.
When snow falls and carols
rise across the land,
let peace and hope be
the message, as God planned.

Karen Stoner

MARION ASSOC. TRUSTEES TO MEET HERE

The 18 churches of our Baptist Association in North-Central Ohio will each be represented by two delegates and pastoral staff when they meet at our church on Tuesday, March 8th at 7:30pm to consider our mission together.

Pastor Gillin will welcome the delegates and lead in a devotional time in the sanctuary as a prelude to the evening's agenda of business.

DISCIPLESHIP/MEMBERSHIP CLASSES

A study class led by the pastor on Sundays at 5pm has begun. Any other young people or adults who wish to join this examination of the life in Christ should call the pastor as soon as possible.

"SECRET PLACE" AVAILABLE IN
LARGE TYPE, BRAILLE, & CASSETTE

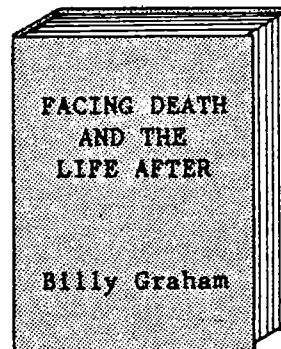
If you or someone you know has vision problems, you'll be glad to know that "Secret Place" magazine is available in large type, in braille, and also on cassette tape.

HOSPITALIZED

Mildred Bowers, a resident of Delaware Court, has been a patient in CCU of Grady since February 27th. She will be encouraged by your loving expressions of support just now.

AMERICAN BAPTIST MEN

The Third Annual North West Area Conference of American Baptist Men of Ohio will be held on March 26, from 9:30am-3:00pm at the First Baptist Church in Lima. See the bulletin board for more information.

BOOK OF THE MONTH

A book worth reading is Billy Graham's "Facing Death and the Life After."

Dr. Graham comments that today we are confronted with so many voices telling us how to live - look young, stay trim, keep healthy, think positively, etc. etc.

This indicates that we are trying to cling to this present world. The truth is that life is transitory, like a vapor as the Book of James describes it.

If we want to make the most of life, we need to face the fact it is in the process of ending. Someone has commented further that only those who are prepared to die are really prepared to live.

The value of this book is that it contains practical material which enables us to handle life. The narrative

(continued next page)

illustrations are real and person-centered, but always touched with the divine.

Chaplain Jim Miller

PASTORS ON THE MOVE

Everett & Charlene Chambers (Interim, First Baptist Church, Columbus) moved from North Sandusky St., Delaware to their retirement home at 7271 Dustin Rd., Galena.

Hubert & Florence Cagwin (Interim, Springdale Baptist Church, Marysville) moving to a retirement home in Shroyer's Mobile Home Park, 2210 U.S. Route 23, Delaware.

Saundra & Bob Heizer moving from Kansas to their home at 152 Chicago Avenue, Marion, Ohio to serve as our new Area Minister in the Ohio Baptist Convention. The Heizers (children- Peter, 15, and Jeremy, 10) have been invited to be our guest ministry on Sunday, May 15th, when our pastor and Mrs. Gillin will be in Wehnam, Mass., attending the Gordon College Commencement Service.

PERSONALS

MARY SEALEY was on the Dean's List autumn quarter at Columbus State Community College. (To make the Dean's List, a student must have a grade-point average of 3.5 or better.)

JEFF FAULK was one of the 4-member Math Counts team for Dublin Middle School.

One of MICHAEL EKELBERRY's photographs from his photography class has been chosen to be enlarged and displayed at the School Administration Building.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES.

| | | |
|-------|----|-----------------|
| March | 2 | James Ringley |
| | 6 | Mary Barkeloo |
| | 9 | Annette Ringley |
| | 12 | Evan Trigg |
| | 14 | Chris Treese |

| | | |
|-------|----|--------------------------------|
| March | 15 | Kristina Brown |
| | 18 | Dave Lovell |
| | 20 | Micah Stoner Natalie Mowery |
| | 24 | Helen Aleshire |
| | 25 | Carey Beth Fogle |

| | | |
|-------|----|----------------------------------|
| April | 2 | Adam Mowery |
| | 4 | W. C. Wickum |
| | 7 | Dick Payne Mary Ann Ballengee |
| | 12 | Abby Brown |

LENTEN LUNCHTIME PROGRAMS

"Great Decisions of 1988" will be the theme of a series of Lenten Lunchtime programs, to be held on Fridays from noon until 1:00 at Winter St. Methodist Church. Beverage provided; bring a sack lunch.

CHRISTIAN FILM MINISTRY

"Caught," a Billy Graham Assoc. film, will be shown March 4-11, 7 & 9pm, at the Southland Mall Theater, Marion (see bulletin bd.).

MARION ASSOC. CELEBRATION BANQUET

Dr. Bill Keucher will be the speaker at the annual banquet, to be held Friday, March 25th, 6:30pm at Tri-Rivers Vocational School near Marion. Give reservations to Fred Grubbs or Betty Porter my March 20th.

CHRISTIAN CALISTHENICS

Christian Calisthenics may be offered in our Fellowship Hall this spring, providing a program of stretching & exercises. Register your interest in the church office.

LENTEN SUNDAY-NIGHT FELLOWSHIP

"Praying Through the Scriptures" is the theme of our fellowship experience for 4 evenings in March at the Palmer home. It will be an informal gathering of "seekers" ready to experience a deeper prayer life in the Spirit. Sundays, 7-8pm. Child care at the parsonage. Bring your bible & a floor pillow. Leader: Lana Palmer.

March 1988



| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--|-----------------------------|--|--------------------|--|---|--|
| | | 1 National Women's History Month | 2 7:00pm Choir | 3 | 4 World Day of Prayer | 5 |
| 6 Third Sunday in Lent America for Christ Offering 9:15am Teachers Meeting 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Morning Worship 4:00pm Deacons Meeting 5:00pm Membership Class 7:00pm Lenten Prayer Group | 7 8:00pm Trustees | 8 International Women's Day 7:30pm Marion Assoc. Trustees | 9 7:00pm Choir | 10 | 11 noon Lenten Lunchtime Program | 12 |
| 13 Fourth Sunday in Lent American Baptist Seminary Sunday 9:15am Opening Exercises 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Morning Worship 7:00pm Lenten Prayer Group - BYF Bowling | 14 | 15 | 16 7:00pm Choir | 17 St. Patrick's Day | 18 noon Lenten Lunchtime Program | 19 Mens Breakfast 8:30am A.B.W. 7:00pm "Hitches" Concert |
| 20 Fifth Sunday in Lent Central America Week 9:15am Opening Exercises 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Morning Worship 7:00pm Lenten Prayer Group 5:00pm Board of Ed. | 21 7:00pm Parish Council | 22 7:00pm Delaware Piecemakers | 23 7:00pm Choir | 24 | 25 noon Lenten Lunchtime Program 6:30pm Marion Assoc. Banquet | 26 9:30am A.B.M. |
| 27 Palm Sunday 9:15am Opening Exercises 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am PALM SUNDAY WORSHIP 7:00pm Lenten Prayer Group | 28 | 29 | 30 7:00pm Choir | 31 Maundy Thursday 7:30pm MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE | April 1 noon GOOD FRIDAY COMMUNITY SERVICE AT ST. MARY | 2 |

April 3 - EASTER

Good News Letter

Published in the cause of the abundant life by
The First Baptist Church, Delaware, Ohio

Rev. Gene F. Gillin
Pastor

PASTORGRAPHS

At this season a good question to ask is, "How many people are living on the wrong side of Easter?"

Many are gazing at the cross, and rightly so, but forgetting perhaps, that the cross of Christ is never presented in Scripture without the empty tomb.

Jesus was not a martyr, or even just an example. He was my perfect substitute with God who went willingly to my cross with my sin to die my death. But if He had stayed in the grave, it would all have been a monumental waste! His bodily

resurrection is what climaxes it all and tells me that God received the offering, my sins are forgiven and I have eternal life.

Not one line of the New Testament was penned apart from this conviction. The early church did not cele-

brate Easter because they believed in immortality, they believed in immortality because Jesus rose from the dead!

The terrible persecutions vented upon the church would have ceased quickly if the apostles had stopped proclaiming that Jesus

was alive. Another religion joining the list already in existence would have disturbed few. But the constant in-sistence that Jesus Christ had risen from the dead was the irritant that sparked the cruelty and death Christians endured. All of which raises the interesting question, why did the disciples keep on preaching the resurrection if it was a myth, or fable concocted by them? Do people die for myths they know to be myths?

So at this Easter, let the life of the risen Lord be your life. He has a full-ness to impart that is available to any and all who put their trust in Him and open their hearts to receive from Him.

Pastor Gillin

AMERICAN BAPTIST WOMEN'S SUNDAY

Sunday, April 10th will be American Baptist Women's Sunday. Our guest speaker will be Linda Reid, chaplain at Grady Memorial Hospital.

LENTEN PRAYER SERIES

YOU MISSED IT!

If you did not attend the Lenten meditation series presented by Lana & Jerry Palmer, you missed a very meaningful and enriching part of Lent.

The session provided a time away from the business of our lives; a time to relax, meditate and feel God's presence. We shared communion, and a special candle-light service.

Many thanks to Lana for giving me this experience.

Mary Lou Lovell



For the four Lenten Sundays in March, several of us were involved in a very meaningful experience of "Praying the Scriptures" led by Lana Palmer. We found this to be a spiritually uplifting experience.

Highlights included: visualizations, meditation, communion, experiencing the death of Jesus, journals, and sharing.

Thanks to Lana.

Pam Faulk

BYF YOUTH PROJECT

This Easter as you celebrate Sunday dinner with family and friends, consider those less fortunate than you.

Please take a colorful grocery bag home with you on Easter Sunday.

Keep it handy for your next trip to the grocery. Return the sack filled with the necessary items on Sunday, April 24th. We will bless the items and send them to PIN where they will be greatly appreciated.

Make this a family project, or share the food list with a friend and divide the items needed. Thank-you for your support.

Beth Trigg
Youth Leader

FROM THE TRUSTEES

1. Dorothy Traylor was employed for a one-day cleanup of the new building which included waxing all the floors.

The Lovells cleaned the windows.

2. A new thermostat was installed in the oven at the parsonage which was overheating. Thanks John Ballengee.

3. The old pew in the nursery was refinished. Thanks Will Fogle.

4. A new toilet seat was installed in the nursery rest room. Thanks Dave Lovell.

5. New faucets were installed in the kitchen sink at the parsonage by Phil Rickert to replace the originals which were badly worn and leaking.

And thanks to Trustee Fred Grubbs who has been doing the thermostats, lights, opening up and locking up for two years now.

Peter White
Chairman
Board of Trustees

FIFTY YEARS AGO...

Fifty years ago (in 1938) the Rev. Schuyler Foster announced his retirement as pastor of First Baptist.

AMERICAN BAPTIST WOMEN

American Baptist Women will meet on April 17th at 3:00pm at the church. The program will be led by Karen Stoner, and the theme, "Health and Wholeness Overseas," will include a videotape about African missions and handicrafts and news from Haitian missions.

American Baptist Women will have a breakfast Saturday, April 23rd at Bun's Restaurant. Be there!

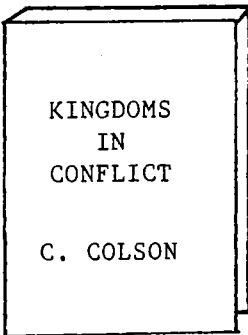
Karen Stoner



THANK YOU

Thank you to Stefanie Stoner, Jim Stephenson, Fred Grubbs, Jerry Palmer, Steve Stoner, and Lana Palmer for the parts they played in our Easter interview.

Pam Faulk

BOOK OF THE MONTH

During the primary races of this election year, people are beginning to think more seriously about the relationship of church and state.

Chuck Colson's latest book, KINGDOMS IN CONFLICT explores this issue. He writes out

of a concern expressed in a variety of questions: To what extent can Christians affect public policy? Is there a responsible Christian political role? In a pluralistic society, is it right to seek to influence or impose Christian values? How are the rights of the non-religious protected? Is it possible to find common ground? What does the experience of history say to us today?

Colson understands government to be God ordained to restrain sin by setting boundaries on human behavior, to promote the protection of life and property and to preserve peace and order.

On the other hand, the church is the community that administers and encourages worship of God and meets the spiritual needs of God's people. Tension between church and state is inherent and inevitable...one cannot survive without the other; yet neither can do the work of the other.

Colson writes, "While human politics is based on the premise that society must be changed in order to change people, in the politics of the Kingdom, it is the people who must be changed in order to change society."

KINGDOMS IN CONFLICT is recommended reading for anyone who wants to make a difference in America.

It is now available for loan from our Church Library.

Pastor Gillin

HOME COMMUNION OFFERED

If you will be unable to attend communion and would like to receive communion at home, please contact the pastor or a deacon.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

The Board of Deacons has two openings on its board. The board has responsibilities for communion, visitation, and the spiritual life of the church.

If you have an interest in these opportunities, please contact a deacon or the pastor.

NURSERY

Nursery workers are still needed - please sign up!

COMING SOON!

The First Baptist youth have been invited to join with the youth of the First Presbyterian Church, St. Peter's Church, Asbury United Methodist Church and Kilbourne Methodist Church.

The Second Ecumenical Peace School (Vacation Bible School) will be for all youth ages 3 - Junior High (12-13), and will take place June 13th-17th at Methesco.

The leaders are very excited about this year's camp. Last year's camp proved to be enriching for both teachers and youth.

Mark your calendars!

SEWING

On Thursday, April 7th, the American Baptist Women's sewing group will meet at the church at 7:00pm to work on bandages and quilts.



RELIGION IN THE NEWS

It must be pure irony that finds television evangelist Jimmy Swaggart impaled on one of the sins of the flesh that he so righteously rants and raves about in others.

On the other hand, the world could be witnessing a Grand Sense of God's humor at work, a divine and most welcome deflation of an intolerable ego and an insufferable hypocrisy.

Yet again, Mr. Swaggart's confession to having sinned - apparently much the same kind of sin that removed Jim Baker from his ministry (Praise the Lord) - tempts one to look for patterns in these affairs. Is there a common thread? Are those who talk regularly and publicly to God more prone than most to get an occasional wrong number?

Perhaps the strain of being holier than others eventually takes its awful toll, and a preacher much admired by his flock suddenly finds himself born again as John Smith in a motel register.

For one reason or another, Mr. Swaggart has succumbed to some weakness of the flesh which is, as yet, only vaguely defined, but evidently of Swaggartian proportions. "I have never skirted or sidestepped unpleasanties," he told a remarkably understanding congregation one Sunday, as he sidestepped the current unpleasantie. He left them grappling with rumors of an encounter with a prostitute in a motel, of voyeurism, and reports of photographic evidence.

This is a preacher who did not get where he is today by sheer luck. Such are his skills in working the crowd that he emerged unscathed from a tear-soaked appearance before his congregation on a recent Sunday.

As confessions go, this breast-beating performance was an unmitigated triumph, and it is expected that the rehabilitation of Jimmy Swaggart will follow smoothly.

Mr. Swaggart has been told by church officials that he may not preach for one year because of his "moral failure" and that he must undergo two years of rehabilitation. He has promptly responded through his lawyer that he rejects this counsel and expects to be back in business (\$2 million weekly!) in a very few weeks.

O Lord have mercy!

Pastor Gillin

TREASURER'S REPORT

January, February, March

Income \$ 8,353.63
Expenses \$ 8,907.18

MISSIONS

Jan. \$ 406.50
Feb. \$ 345.90
March \$ 444.08

(the above figures include the America for Christ Offering, which totaled \$ 238.08)



CHRISTIAN NURTURE AT FIRST BAPTIST

"Train up a child in the way they should go, and when they are old they will not depart from it." Proverbs 22:6

Our Sunday School is in the business of training up the next generation... a generation of business men and women, teachers, lawyers, doctors, ministers and missionaries, politicians and parents, etc.

If the Sunday School mission - equipping students to know and confess Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord - is successful, it will also be a generation of disciples prepared to disciple others.

If we are to train our children in the way they should go, first we must walk and model that way ourselves. Our Sunday School at First Baptist provides an environment where the love of Jesus is modeled and experienced through God-centered worship and instruction of the Bible.

Some important components of our Sunday morning classes should be: an intergenerational worship experience in the opening assembly time; a team-teaching approach in classes with at least one man a part of the team. Children look to a man as an important role model. They feel that learning about and serving the Lord is

important when men make it a time priority. Winning boys to the Lord is crucial. If boys stay in Sunday School, the girls become assertive. If we lose the boys, the girls become aggressive.

Praise the Lord for what He is doing in this educational ministry at First Baptist. Our thanks to Pam Faulk, her staff and the good support of the Board of Christian Education.

Pastor Gillin

COUPLES COMMUNICATION RETREAT

Learn new communication skills in marriage concerns at the Couples Communication Retreat at the Judson Hills Conference Center, April 8-9. Limit: 12 couples. Cost: \$35/couple.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

- April 2 Adam Mowery
- 4 W. C. Wickum
- 7 Dick Payne
- Mary Ann Ballengee
- 12 Abby Brown
- 16 Marge Smale
- 17 James & Sophia Stephenson
- 23 Nellie Sheets

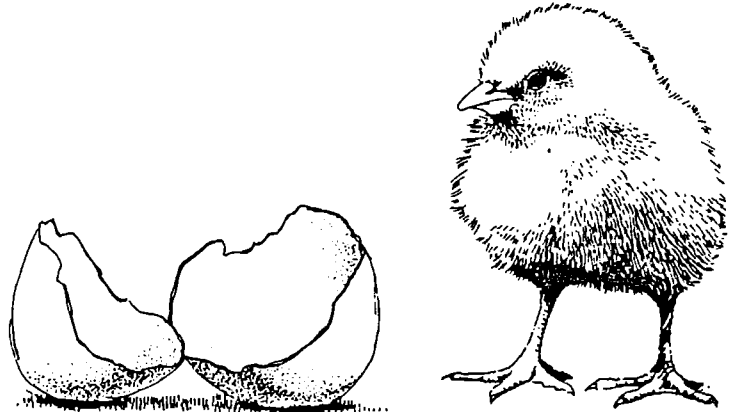
- April 24 Michael Grubbs
- 25 Mary McKean
- Deborah Lovell
- May 2 Donald Faulk
- Myrtle Gabriel
- 3 Rick VanBrimmer
- Michael Linn
- 5 Bruce Lee

PERSONALS

NEVIN GABRIEL, son of Cap and Myrtle Gabriel, suffered a stroke recently, and is in Tempe Hospital (Arizona) for therapy.

KAREN AND MICAH STONER spent four days visiting Susie VanBrimmer Leonard and family in Pennsylvania.

JEFF FAULK received a superior rating on his science fair project on radon.



We are collecting information for a church directory. If you haven't completed one of these forms yet, please fill this out and return it to the pastor, a deacon, or mail to the church (101 North Franklin Street, Delaware, Ohio 43015).

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____ Phone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

| <u>Names of family members</u> | <u>Birthdate</u> | <u>Anniversary Date</u> | <u>"X" if member</u> |
|--------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |

APRIL, 1988

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, Delaware, Ohio.

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|--|---|---------------------------------------|---|--|--|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| <p>3 EASTER SUNDAY</p> <p>8:00 Early Worship</p> <p>8:30 Breakfast</p> <p>9:30 S.S.</p> <p>10:45 Worship</p> | 4 | <p>5</p> <p>7:00 Visitation Ministry</p> <p>7:30 Healing Group</p> | <p>6</p> <p>7:00 Choir Rehearsal</p> | <p>7</p> <p>7:00 Watchcare Ministry</p> <p>7:00 A.B.W. Sewing at Church</p> | <p>8</p> <p>- Marion Assoc BYF Retreat Judson Hills</p> <p>5:30 4-H Club Mtg at Church</p> | 9 |
| <p>10 A.B.W. SUNDAY</p> <p>Guest Speaker: Linda Reid</p> <p>4:00 Deacon Mtg.</p> | 11 | <p>12</p> <p>7:00 Visitation Ministry</p> <p>7:30 Healing Group</p> | <p>13</p> <p>7:00 Choir Rehearsal</p> | <p>14</p> <p>7:00 Watchcare Ministry</p> | 15 | <p>16</p> <p>New Judson Curriculum Preview; Karl Rd. Baptist Church</p> |
| <p>17</p> <p>3:00 A.B.W.</p> <p>- B.Y.F. Bird-watch at Highbanks</p> | <p>18</p> <p>7:00 Parish Council</p> | <p>19</p> <p>7:00 Visitation Ministry</p> <p>7:30 Healing Group</p> | <p>20</p> <p>7:00 Choir Rehearsal</p> | <p>21</p> <p>7:00 Watchcare Ministry</p> | 22 | <p>23</p> <p>8:30 Men's Breakfast Mtg. at Buns</p> <p>- A.B.W. Breakfast at Buns</p> |
| <p>24</p> <p>Bring food for PIN to church today</p> <p>12:00 Quarterly Business Mtg.</p> <p>- Board of Ed. at Lovells</p> | <p>25</p> <p>7:00 Delaware Piecemakers</p> | <p>26</p> <p>7:00 Visitation Ministry</p> <p>7:30 Healing Group</p> | <p>27</p> <p>7:00 Choir Rehearsal</p> | <p>28</p> <p>7:00 Watchcare Ministry</p> | <p>29</p> <p>Junior High BYF Festival in Marion</p> | <p>30</p> <p>7:00 Cabaret Cafe</p> |

Good News Letter

Published in the cause of the abundant life by
The First Baptist Church, Delaware, Ohio

Rev. Gene F. Gillin
Pastor

PASTORGRAPHS

As we observe Peace Sunday at First Baptist on Sunday, May 1, we pray for the peace that the world cannot give or take away, the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace.

There is hardly a word that exercises us more than the word "peace." Of course, in our long history we have always lived with war, injustice, and misery. But we never get used to it! The hope for peace has always remained with us.

We have invented weapons that can blow up our planet in a few hours. Peace has become the new name for survival. In the language of Isaiah, peace is not only a hope for the end of war, but includes justice.

Peace has often been misused as a defense of continued injustice; yet Peace for the oppressed is more unbearable than war. A Prince of Peace who is not at the same time a champion for justice is another dictator, a defender of the rich, and a new oppressor of the poor.

Perhaps the greatest task for our generation is to discover the interrelation and even interdependence of justice and peace. This will require that we do not play the one against the other; not fighting for justice while forgetting the need for peace and not defending peace while sacrificing justice.

The Prince of Peace showed us a way - he would say THE WAY - which goes from solidarity to sacrifice and which holds on to both the humility of God and the nobility of man.

Pastor Gene Gillin

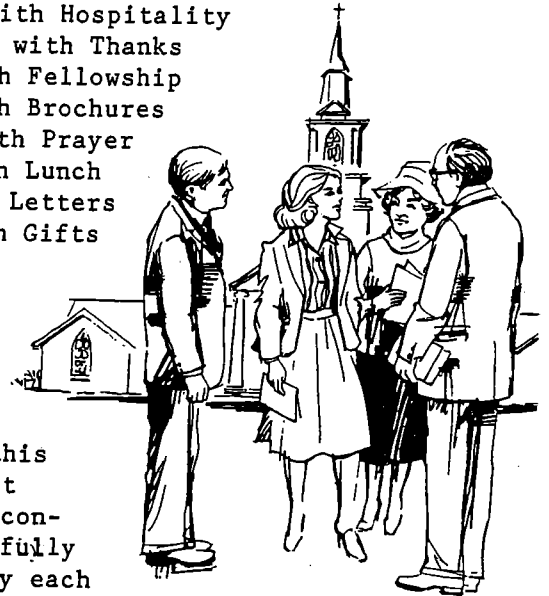
15 COMMANDMENTS OF ENCOURAGEMENT FOR FIRST BAPTIST

1. Heal with Hugs.
2. Contact with Calls.
3. Tap-in with Tapes.
4. Refresh with Retreats
5. Motivate with Memos
6. Strengthen with Study
7. Notify with Newsletters
8. Hearten with Hospitality
9. Transform with Thanks
10. Focus with Fellowship
11. Boost with Brochures
12. Propel with Prayer
13. Laugh with Lunch
14. Lift with Letters
15. Greet with Gifts

THE HEALING GROUP

The special ministry of this group of First Baptist folk continues prayerfully and faithfully each Tuesday evening at the VanBrimmer home. As they give themselves to the discipline of intercessory prayer, they are encouraged by 2 Cor. 1:4 "...the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves received from God."

As you sense your own personal needs in prayer, seek out this ministry for the blessing God desires for you. In any church the best helpers are those who have received great healing, because they have been "tenderized," so to speak; they have great compassion, and they don't judge people who need to be healed.



AMERICA'S GUN LOBBY MENTALITY

A Gun Show held recently sold T-shirts with such threatening slogans as:

"Kill 'em all. Let God sort 'em out."

"Join the National Guard. Travel to exotic, distant lands. Meet exciting, unusual people. And kill them."

"I don't dial 911." (with picture of gun)

"The Originators of Gun Control" (with swastika)

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED - MAY FELLOWSHIP DAY

Church Women United will celebrate May Fellowship Day on Friday, May 6 at the Second Baptist Church, 55 Ross Street, downstairs in the Fellowship Hall. Pot-luck luncheon will begin at 11:45. Bring food to share and your own table service. Child care will be provided upstairs.

The program will be "Women In Captivity" at 1:00pm. Offering of the Least Coin will be received.

Please bring good women's and children's clothing as well as household items to be given to Turning Point, the Center which serves abused women and children of Delaware County.

Plan to share rides to better utilize the sidewalk parking areas.

OHIO BAPTIST WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

The O.B.W.C. will take place at Denison University on June 8, 9 and 10. The Rev. Dianne Wisemiller will be Bible Study leader, with Rebecca Cutlip representing our Thailand Mission at the Mission Banquet along with a Communion Service in Swazey Chapel and Workshops for all ABW officers and others. Melissa Allen will lead the Conference Choir and Dorothy Vorpe will be Conference Chairwoman.

WORKSHOP FOR WOMEN

Jan Brewer and Pamela Ellinger-Dixon, two professional counselors who are committed

Christians are offering to the community an evening for women seeking ways to more fully draw on the spiritual foundations in dealing with a variety of life's concerns. The workshop will be held at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Upper Arlington on May 24th at 7:00pm. See the bulletin board for more information.

FIRST BAPTIST WELCOMES AREA MINISTER

The Rev. Sandra Heizer, our new area minister, will be our guest minister on Sunday, May 15.

Rev. Heizer, a native of West Virginia, is a graduate of Central Baptist Seminary, Kansas City, and served for 11 years of ministry in Kansas before coming to Ohio. She is the daughter of a West Virginia pastor and so comes to us with a strong tradition of Baptist preaching and lots of that good old West Virginia charm.

Please plan to pack-a-pew that service with the friends and family of First Baptist and with all our acquaintances from that wild and wonderful state.

MOTEL ADDED TO JUDSON HILLS

A newly-completed 9-unit motel is ready for occupancy at Judson Hills Camp and Conference Center.

The beautiful rooms are equipped with motel-type furnishings including two double-beds in each room. The facility also has a program room with kitchenette to make the motel self-contained.

The motel will be dedicated at the 30th Anniversary Celebration on Saturday, May 7th from 1:00-6:00pm.

It is expected that a good number from First Baptist will join hundreds of other Ohio Baptists for this Super Saturday of celebration.

NEW CAMP FEATURES CREATIVE ARTS

A Creative Arts Camp for youth in grades 8-12 who are interested in drama and music is scheduled for June 19-24 at Judson Hills. Rev. Jeff Cooper (Mt. Vernon) and Bryan Hitch (Columbus) will lead the camp. At the camp

our youth will work on a musical to be presented at the Guild Girls Conference.

AND THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE IS HEARD IN OUR LAND

"Rise up, my love, and write to the politicians,
For lo, the winter is past,
The flowers appear on the earth;
The time of electioneering is come,
And the voice of the people is heard in the land."



It is at least 25 years since there has been a moment as fraught with promise as the present for a major reversal of the arms race.

There is agreement in principle between President Reagan and Secretary General Gorbachev to eliminate approximately 50% of all long-range nuclear delivery systems, especially intercontinental ballistic missiles.

The arms controllers are now haggling over the details and in good Tweedledum-and-Tweedledummer fashion, they could happily continue haggling for another decade.

God's people can make a difference as Peacemakers, here in the Ohio City of Peace, in making it clear to President Reagan and to the major candidates that we care and we want that treaty now.

Please write now and write often with the following sample letters as guidance:

Dear President Reagan,

Thank you for your commitment to the elimination of all nuclear weapons.

Please act decisively now to begin turning that vision into a reality by signing an agreement with Secretary Gorbachev to eliminate 50% of all long-range nuclear weapons.

We are at a crucial water-shed of history and you have the opportunity to seize the moment and make the greatest contribution to world peace of any President in modern times.

Please act decisively to negotiate a massive reduction of strategic weapons now.

The INF Treaty was the first step. The crowning achievement will be a 50% roll-back in strategic nuclear weapons.

This will send a powerful message to the world that America is committed to making this planet a safer place for all humanity.

For the sake of our children, for the sake of all mankind - take this bold step NOW!

Thank you and God bless you!

Dear Vice-President Bush,

As a concerned citizen of Ohio and the world, I call upon you to urge President Reagan to take decisive action now to end the impasse in negotiations and arrive at a treaty with Mr. Gorbachev to eliminate 50% of all long-range nuclear weapons systems.

I know your commitment to "give peace a chance" and trust that you will use your influence with the President to assure that this dream will become a reality soon.

(see bulletin board for addresses)



SPRING FEVER

Since spring has sprung in Delaware some of us may be suffering from Spring Fever - that human reaction of dreaming all winter of what you will do all summer; then trying to do ALL of those things during the first warm day of spring. A typical spring fever Saturday goes as follows...

- 8:00 Put out patio furniture
- 9:00 Start jogging 1 mile per day (quit after 200 yards)
- 9:30 Go to 12 garage sales
- 11:30 Picnic lunch in the park
- 1:00 Walk the dog
- 1:30 Go for a bike ride
- 2:00 Rake the yard and plant grass seed
- 3:30 Till the garden
- 5:00 Plant some flowers
- 6:00 Grill out on the patio
- 8:00 Turn on outside light and sweep out the garage
- 9:00 Fall asleep on couch watching t.v.
- 10:00 Fall into bed, forgetting to turn out the light

The purpose of the above is to warn you against the effects of a spring fever Saturday, known as SORRY SUNDAY, which usually goes like this...

- 8:00 Awakened by your dog licking your face to go on another walk
- 8:15 Shower while the coffee is brewing
- 8:30 Perform a total-body BenGay rubdown
- 8:40 Drink three cups of black coffee
- 8:50 Have your spouse help you finish dressing
- 9:00 Drive the automatic car to Sunday School (clutches are murder)
- 9:15 Sunday School - 3 more cups of coffee
- 10:45 Church: unable to stand for hymns
- 11:00 Pray for afternoon rain
- 12:00 Pick up lunch at local drive-thru
- 1:00 Lay on couch and watch shows you don't like
- 4:00 Struggle to phone to place catalogue order for t.v. remote control
- 5:00 Have a bowl of soup
- 6:00 Perform another total-body rubdown
- 6:30 Bypass the couch and fall into bed

SPRING! I LOVE IT!

MISSIONARY DISCUSSES HER WORK

Becky Trask, our missionary to Hong Kong, made an excellent presentation of her work there at Radnor Baptist Church on April 20th. John and Mary Richards, Wilbur and Jean Wickum, and Gene and Ruth Gillin were in attendance representing our congregation.

PERSONALS

Congratulations to DIANNA LATHROP on her graduation from Ohio State University.

Christian sympathy to BERTHA VANBRIMMER on the death of her aunt in Kentucky; SOPHIA STEPHENSON on the death of her sister in California; and JEAN OSBORNE on the death of her sister in Maine.

RUTH GILLIN underwent minor surgery at Mount Carmel East Hospital.

FRANCES JOHNSON and JOHN and DELLA DOVE have returned to Delaware after spending time in Florida.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

- May 2 Donald Faulk
Myrtle Gabriel
- 3 Rick VanBrimmer
Michael Linn
- 5 Bruce Lee
- 7 Bertha VanBrimmer
- 8 Michael Ekelberry
- 9 John McTaggart
Cameron Piatt
- 10 Archie & Beth Trigg
- 12 Jeanne Ekelberry
- 15 Barbara Lovell
Betty Porter
- 16 Dick & Jeanne Ekelberry
- 24 Jean Wickum
- 30 Jim & Annett Ringley
- 31 Ruth Gillin
- June 1 Della Dove
- 2 Jerry & Lana Palmer
- 4 Cap & Myrtle Gabriel
- 7 Dick Ekelberry
- 8 Carol Fogle
Pam Faulk

AN INVITATION

The following invitation is extended to the entire First Baptist Church family:

"Because of the deep and abiding love God has given to them for each other, Jerry and Lana Palmer will reaffirm their Christian Marriage Vows on Saturday, the fourth of June nineteen hundred and eighty-eight at two o'clock in the afternoon First Baptist Church 101 North Franklin Street Delaware, Ohio They and their children William and Jennifer Palmer Chaffin and Steven and Margi Pierce Palmer invite you to share in praise, worship, and celebration.

Open House 3:00 to 6:00 p.m.
654 Governors Street

Please, no gifts"

SUMMER HOURS

The first Sunday in June will be Promotion & Recognition of Graduates Sunday. It will also mark the beginning of our summer schedule. Sunday School will not be held during the summer months, and morning worship will begin at 10:00 a.m.

A NOTE TO THE MEN'S ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

I would like to take just a moment to thank the members of the First Baptist Men's Association for the gift presented to me at the April meeting of the Association. This also gives me an opportunity to thank all the members of the Association for their assistance and consideration to me in the years that I served as Moderator of that organization. There would be no men's organization today had it not been for your inspiration and help during the lean years and the fruitful years, in which we have worked together.

I will think of you continually as I go about my life in a new location. I wish you all the best that life has to offer

as you carry on our work.

May God bless you all, as you lead the First Baptist Men's Association to greater heights.

Your friend in Christ,
Bob Houston

HANDICRAFTS DISPLAYED

Please take a look at the display of Haiti handicrafts in the Assembly Room. There are some great photos provided by the Hodges family, missionaries to Limbe Haiti's Good Samaritan Hospital. All items are for sale and proceeds go to the hospital work.

CARE & SHARE

Have you "cared and shared" yet with our camps and Christian centers? If not, continue to bring in school supplies, new clothes, personal products, men's socks, Campbell's labels and baby items.

During the American Baptist Women's Conference in June these items will be delivered. Thank you for your contributions.

IN BRIEF...

Thanks to Pam and the Sunday School teachers for organizing the "Easter Bash." It was fun for all.

Peace Camp (Vacation Bible School) will take place at 1st Presbyterian and St. Peter's June 13-17, 9:30-11:45 a.m. Teachers still needed. Mark your calendars. I hope all youth ages 3-13 can attend.

Mary Lou Lovell

PERSONALS

The 3 LOVELL children all made the merit roll. Also, DEBBIE LOVELL received a superior at the OMEA Music Contest (violin).

MAY 1988

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--|------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|--|--|---|
| 1 BYF Flowers to shut-ins | 2 | 3 7:30 Healing Group | 4 7:00 Choir | 5 7:00 Visitation Ministry - Jim Stephenson | 6 May Fellowship Day at Second Baptist Church - 11:45 for Church Women United | 7 10:00 30th Anniv. Celebration at Judson Hills |
| 8 MOTHER'S DAY 6:30 Deacons | 9 | 10 7:30 Healing Group | 11 7:00 Choir | 12 7:00 Visitation Ministry - Steve Stoner | 13 American Baptist Men's Father & Son Retreat | 14 Arts Festival |
| 15 Guest Minister - Saundra Hiezer, O.B.C. Area Minister 6:30 Girl Scout Dinner | 16 7:00 Parish Council | 17 7:30 Healing Group | 18 7:00 Choir | 19 6:00 GOP Women's Dinner/Show 7:00 Visitation Ministry - Stephenson | 20 | 21 |
| 22 PENTECOST "Birthday of the church" 5:00 ABW Mother/Daughter 7:00 Bd. Christ. Ed. BYF at Wickums | 23 7:00 Delaware Piecemakers | 24 7:30 Healing Group | 25 7:00 Choir | 26 7:00 Visitation Ministry - L. Faulk | 27 | 28 |
| 29 "Patriotism" | 30 MEMORIAL DAY | 31 | | | | |

Good News Letter

Published in the cause of the abundant life by
The First Baptist Church, Delaware, Ohio

Rev. Gene F. Gillin
Pastor

PASTORGRAPHS

Young people today face sexual decisions that older generations never contended with. More do's and don'ts, our youth need to know and understand the reasons behind the biblical prohibitions against sexual promiscuity.

Alarming statistics remind us that an adolescent becomes pregnant just about every 30 seconds...There will be over 1,000,000 teen pregnancies this year...The cost of supporting a 15 year old mother and her baby for one year is over \$18,000 ...Over 20 million Americans have incurable herpes...Over a million teens run away yearly and it is estimated that there may be over 500,000 child prostitutes in our nation.

Recently, ABC-TV's NIGHTLINE moderator, Ted Koppel, shared some interesting insights at Duke University: "We have actually convinced ourselves that slogans will save us. 'Shoot up if you must, but use a clean needle.' 'Enjoy sex whenever and with whomever you wish, but wear a condom.' The answer is NO!" Koppel went on to explain why the answer to drugs and free sex must be "NO": "Not because it isn't cool or smart or because you might end up in jail or dying in an AIDS ward, but because it's wrong."

Koppel claims that truth is "Not a polite tap on the shoulder" but a "howling reproach." He concluded, "What Moses brought down from Mt. Sinai were not the Ten Suggestions - but the Ten Commandments!"

Today, parents are encouraged to be the primary guides for their children's sexual development and education. And our young people are more likely to follow what their parents do, than what they say.

According to God's plan, children are to be led by loving example rather than pushed by dictatorial demands...The greatest

gift parents can give their children to help them in their sexual development is the gift of themselves - not a book, not a tape, not a condom or a pill, but themselves.

Parents can't influence the sexual development of children if they don't spend time with them. Young people don't need sexual facts and information from their parents as much as they need a loving, intimate, caring relationship.

Pastor Gene F. Gillin

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

Amy turned 16 last week. She informed her family the week before that she didn't need a present, because she had God, Dad, Mom and sisters and brothers that she loved, and knew how much they loved her. Why no presents? Because her family was losing their Nebraska farm.

This and many other heart-tugging stories abound in Nebraska among rural and farm families who are in various stages of bankruptcy. Our American Baptists in Nebraska realize that families are not only losing their farms and livelihoods, but are losing their faith and their love for each other. FARM CRISIS RETREATS have become a vital ministry there using OGHs funds received from our annual love offering in June.

continued on next page



**Farm
and Rural
Community
Crisis**

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

After attending such a retreat, one couple wrote, "We needed the retreat as a couple and really gained from it in healing and bringing back the love that we felt we were losing."

In the midst of bankruptcy, one man said at the close of a Crisis Retreat, "I am looking forward to becoming a better Christian, husband, father, and most of all, being at peace with myself."

Yet another came who had attempted suicide twice, and found God and a new willingness to face an unknown future.

American Baptists also share food in Nebraska. Some of it is supplied with OGHs funds. In one home a woman, upon the death of her husband several years ago, was trying to raise seven children under unbelievable conditions and problems. She said, "Tell the food pantry people 'Thank You.' They don't know it but they virtually set this table all summer... we also had three extra mouths over school vacation. The standing joke around here is, 'Cheese again!' and we certainly are thankful to have it to joke about."

Caring baptists provided at least one gift for each of the seven children at Christmas.

Our gifts to the 1988 OGHs love offering will provide more Crisis Retreats not just in Nebraska, but Iowa, Kansas, Wyoming, Colorado and other states. Let us give with the prayer and hope that SOMETHING WILL CHANGE because American Baptists CARE AND GIVE.

Our First Baptist Goal: \$250.00.

TRUSTEES REPORT

1. The rest of the overgrown trees and shrubs in front of the church were removed by Will and Dave.
2. The fire extinguishers were serviced and inspected and the fire department also conducted an inspection.
3. A new screen/storm door was installed on the rear of the parsonage leading out of the family room. New faucets were installed upstairs and a new post was installed for the mail box. Thanks to Gene and Ruth.
4. The pipe organ was tuned, serviced, and adjustments made by Gary Mason who has

taken over the business from Larry Williams.

5. An appeal on the property evaluation on the old parsonage to save us taxes, paid off with it being evaluated downward from \$51,300 back to \$42,800.
6. Dave and Larry donated 2 mowers for use at the parsonage. One is working and the other needs more work on it.
7. A review is being made on the use and effectiveness of some hearing devices for the sanctuary that work off of radio waves from the amplifier without wiring.
8. New renters for the old parsonage, Vicki Maggard and Denise Maraldo will be starting the Delaware Adult Day Care Center early in June. They have been working for about a month decorating the dining room and kitchen. The present renters have moved upstairs for about 3 more weeks until their house is ready.
9. Joe Mowery has been painting in the upstairs hallway. Jerry Palmer has donated more paint. Your chairman has been painting some of the outside trim around the 2 front doors, basement door window sills and porch posts and railing at the old parsonage.
10. Jim Stephenson as usual has been doing the flowers in front of the bulletin board.

Peter White
Chairman
Board of Trustees

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO. . .

At the end of May, the new building was completed and dedicated.

CHILDRENS' DAY

Children's Day will be celebrated at 10:00am on Sunday, June 12. The theme will be "Peace and the Child." Come
continued on next page

share in this joyous day.

Picnic to follow at the Lovell's.
Please bring a covered dish.

NEWSLETTER TO GO ON SUMMER VACATION

Due to the decrease in news that normally occurs during the summer months, there will not be a July issue of the newsletter. The next issue will probably be sometime in August or the first Sunday in September.



CHILDREN IN WORSHIP

As mentioned in a previous article, June 12th will be Children's Day. We are always looking for special worship aids designed for children in church. On Children's Day, we again want to incorporate our children into our plans for the service of worship.

Most children can be led to appreciate the worship services if their parents will help them to do so. This prescription is offered for what it's worth.

- Speak of going to the services of worship with the family as a privilege that comes to children when they are 4 years old.
- If possible, give the child a little relaxation such as a short outdoor walk between Sunday School and worship.
- Offer to take care of the child's Sunday School papers during the worship service.
- Sit with the child where he/she can see what is taking place at the front of the sanctuary.

- Suggest that the child stand when others stand; this rests his muscles which get tired staying still.

- Offer the child a song book and find the hymn that is being sung if the child seems interested in having the book open at the right places.

- Help the child to understand that it is alright for him/her to move about within the area of the pew as long as he moves quietly and doesn't get against other people.

- Arrange for the child to have some money to put in the offering plate when it is passed.

- Make occasional opportunities for the pastor to speak with the child either before or after the services.

- Answer intelligently the questions the child asks about things in the sanctuary and about the different parts of the service.

- Attending the worship services with a child can increase his/her feeling of security, for there he/she can come to realize that his father and mother have a source of security outside themselves.

- Your child can sense the joy that comes when Christians worship God together and can be led to appreciate his/her parents wanting him to share this joy with them.

ECUMENICAL PEACE CAMP

Final plans are being made for Ecumenical Peace Camp for 1988 (Vacation Bible School).

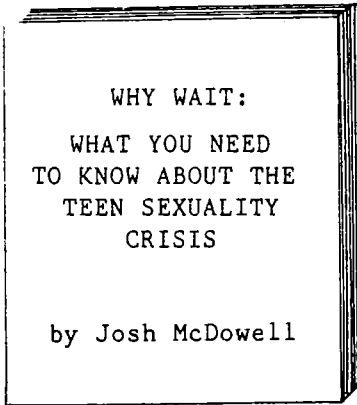
If you have not turned in your registration please do so today. We are asking our congregation to donate empty small boxes (like jewelry boxes) and bags of pretzels.

I hope all the youth of our church can attend.

Remember the dates: June 13 through 17, 9:30-11:45 at First Presbyterian Church.

Mary Lou Lovell

BOOK OF THE MONTH



Parents, pastors, and teachers need to be equipped to address difficult issues of human sexuality.

They need to provide young people with practical answers that make sense spiritually, socially, psychologically and

physically. Josh McDowell's book entitled "Why Wait: What You Need to Know About the Teen Sexuality Crisis" was written with this in mind.

He observes, "Something has happened to the moral fiber of our nation. At every turn, today's society is telling our youth, 'If it feels good, do it...'"

"This book is a rare opportunity for adults to see through the eyes of today's young people, with the hope you will gain insight and understanding of your teen's life, as well as learn effective ways to communicate positive reasons for waiting until marriage for sex."

The book contains full discussions of why teens have premarital sex as well as the physical, spiritual, emotional and relational reasons to wait until marriage for sexual relations. It is obvious that parents do not agree on how to advise their children in this area. Some will agree wholeheartedly with McDowell's discussions, while others will find some of his suggestions simplistic and legalistic.

The value of McDowell's approach is that it provides a broad range of reasons and suggestions for refraining from promiscuous sexual behavior, and parents and teens can discuss the merits of various approaches.

"Why Wait?" is waiting for you in your Church Library this month.

- June 8 Carol Fogle
Pam Faulk
- 9 John Ballengee
- 10 Mary Lou & Dave Lovell
Elvira Smith
- 12 Anne Linn
- 15 Charles Ekelberry
- 22 Angie Elfner
- 24 Beth Trigg
- 27 Joe & Alison Mowery
David & Jean Osborne

There will be no newsletter in July. Birthdays and anniversaries for that month will be in the weekly bulletins.

GUEST SPEAKERS SCHEDULED

Support your pastor by attending during his vacation and hearing these fine speakers.

- August 21 - Rev. Ted Stephenson
- August 28 - Chaplain Jim Miller
- Sept. 4 - Chaplain Jim Miller

PLANT BIG POTATOES

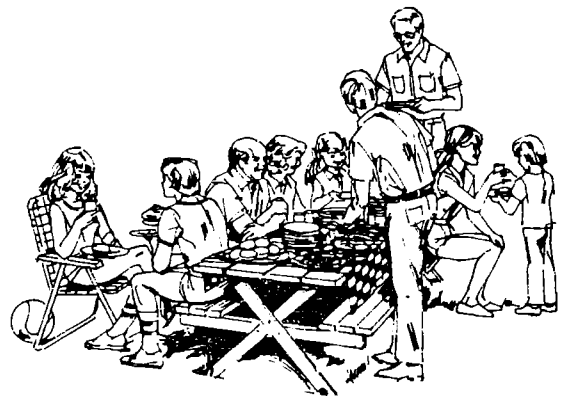
Many years ago farmers theorized that they could eat their big potatoes and keep the small ones for seed. Consequently they did it for several years and found all of their potatoes reduced to the size of marbles.

They learned from bitter experience that they could not keep the best things in life for themselves and use the leftovers for seed.

Our harvest at First Baptist will reflect our planting. What size potatoes have you been planting spiritually?

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

- June 1 Della Dove
- 2 Jerry & Lana Palmer
- 4 Cap & Myrtle Gabriel
- 7 Dick Ekelberry



Summer Edition
August 14, 1988

The

Good News Letter

Published in the cause of the abundant life by
The First Baptist Church, Delaware, Ohio

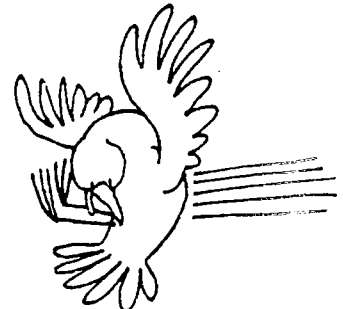
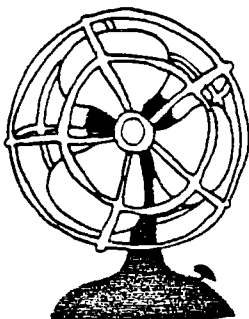
Rev. Gene F. Gillin
Pastor

PASTORGRAPHS

I turned on my TV and there was Larry King Live interviewing his guest. As I watched and listened to the exchange of questions and answers, I was reminded that Jesus was regularly interviewed by the Pharisees and Saducees. His disciples also asked him many questions. Though we often think of our Lord speaking earnestly, he certainly was not solemn. Jesus had fun with his disciples, and did the unexpected at times. Imagine the twinkle in his eye as He said, "Do not be anxious about your life...what you shall eat or drink, nor about your bodies, what you shall put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing?"

I believe that when Jesus said this, he was dealing with anxious disciples who had left their professions to follow him. James, John, & Peter had left their fishing and Matthew his local Internal Revenue Service. They were concerned about their livelihoods. Jesus teases them and uses the examples of the birds and flowers - reminding them that God even takes care of these. They do what God has called them to do without always grasping after routine...and God cares for their needs. I believe that the message that God would have us hear this summer is..."Have fun. Relax in God's grace and don't be so serious. Do something unexpected." If in our Bible reading we are into Romans (often heavy theology), balance it with something in the Psalms, which are full of praise. Lighten your reading for awhile. If in your prayer life, you're praying for those involved in the tragedies of this fallen world, take time to recall the fun times that God has provided. And in your family life, do they expect a certain routine from you? Try a surprise on the family. Be sensitive to special serendipities that occur and build on them to create fun times. Then around the office or plant, think of ways you can create some unexpected fun among your fellow employees. How can you move them out of their seriousness, their routines? Why not wear a crazy tie or sunglasses to work. Put a crazy cartoon on your door. Do something out of the ordinary - be God's agent for fun to others. I believe that Jesus was the master at enjoying life. Why else would He declare so boldly, "I have come that you may have life and have it in abundance! (John 10:10) To do more than exist we must have more than routine. Summer days and nights give us special opportunity to break free from past patterns. Whenever anyone should inquire of you, "What is the chief end of mankind?", be careful to reply, "To glorify God and ENJOY HIM FOREVER!" Let's make Summer 1988 a time of joyous celebration... of God and His creation!

Pastor Gillin



RETREAT NEWS

Make plans now to join us on September 9, 10, and 11 for our annual church retreat at Judson Hills. This is a special event for the entire church family. Please join us for fun and fellowship. Our leader this year will be Sandy Heizer, our area minister. Our topic will be "Transition: Growth and Change." Watch for more information to follow. There will be no church service on Sunday, Sept. 11. We will be worshipping at Judson Hills. Please try to join us there. (The Retreat Committee)

Sunday School 1988-89 COMING SOON!

On Sunday, August 28 we will be starting a new year of Sunday school classes with a brand new curriculum. We will begin with a breakfast buffet at 8:30 a.m. Please bring a breakfast dish to share and come and join the fellowship. Drinks will be provided. Opening exercises will begin at 9:15 followed by Sunday school at 9:30. The church service will begin at 10:45. Make a commitment to Sunday school this year...you'll be glad you did!

(Board of Education)

A PLEA FOR HELP...

HELP!! It seems that every year I find myself begging for Sunday school teachers. Some who have been teaching wish to take a break, but no one wants to take their places. I would like to think that we are so committed to our children that teachers would be plentiful, but they are not. We have done a lot of talking lately about growth and commitment, and our children are certainly part of this. Our children ARE the future of this church. Please invest some time in them. I truly believe we all have something to share with our young people. Please help them to get to know you better by working with them. We have a brand new Sunday school curriculum that is very easy to work with. You do not have to be a Bible scholar to use it. Teachers are needed at all age levels. If you cannot teach for the whole year, please consider being a substitute or trade off with another person at one grade level, or take some turns in the crib room or Junior Church. Please find some way to share yourself with others.

(Pam Faulk)

MEDIA MOMENTS

On one of his recent TV specials, Dr. James Dobson of FOCUS ON THE FAMILY was heard to say, "The reason that most women would rather have beauty than brains is because they know that the average male can see better than he can think." Think about that for awhile!

Speaking about TV, it reminded me of what I heard the other day. "Parents used to worry about their kids' playing doctor; now they're equally concerned about them playing TV Evangelist." What a sad commentary on our times...and the recent bumper sticker that read, "It's 11 o'clock...Do you know where your TV Evangelist is?"

Library Books OVERDUE!

Several books you have taken to read have been out of circulation too long. PLEASE RETURN PROMPTLY these valuable additions to our library so that others may enjoy them with their summer reading. Many thanks!

OUR EARTHLY TEMPLE

In our earthly temple there's a crowd
One that's humble and one that's proud,
One that's brokenhearted over sin;
One that unrepentant sits and grins.
One that loves his neighbor as himself;
One that cares for naught but fame and self.
From such perplexing care I could be free
If I could determine which is me! (Unknown Poet)...

And how shall we determine? The whole truth is that we were judged and forgiven even before we sinned. To refuse to accept that awesome truth and forgive ourselves is the blasphemous attempt to play God over our own lives. We determine how much forgiveness we will accept. That is tantamount to saying that God's forgiveness is applicable to us only to the extent that we deem ourselves worthy of it! Think about this:

Down beneath the shame or loss
Sinks the plummet of the cross
Never yet abyss was found
Deeper than His love can sound.

Lloyd J. Ogilvie
Longing to be Free
Harvest House Publishers



IN GRATITUDE....

We wish to thank our special church family for their kind expressions of love as we celebrated our 25th Wedding anniversary on June 4th. It truly was a memorable occasion for us. Special thank you (because we cannot send personal notes to you...) to our Secret Advent friends who remembered us with kind and thoughtful gifts... a lovely 25th anniversary commemorative bell, a beautiful album for our "25th" keepsakes, and a very handy travel log book! Thank you so very much. These fine people have also surprised us throughout the year with other lovely gifts...a pretty file box and cards, a lovely scented candle, and some much needed note cards. What special people you are!
(Jerry & Lana Palmer)

NEW A.B.W. SPECIAL MISSIONARIES

National:

The Rev. Nicholas Saios
Race Track Ministry
12 Everturn Church
Norristown, Pa. 19401

International:

*Miss Bonnie Rose White
I.M.E. - B.P. 68
Kimpese, Via Kinshasa
Republic of Zaire

(* Ms. White is presently in the States for cardiac treatment. Please shower her with cards:

c/o Mrs. Dolores Kreger
17891 Beechwood
Birmingham, Mi. 48009)

Our Touching Lives on Campus student:

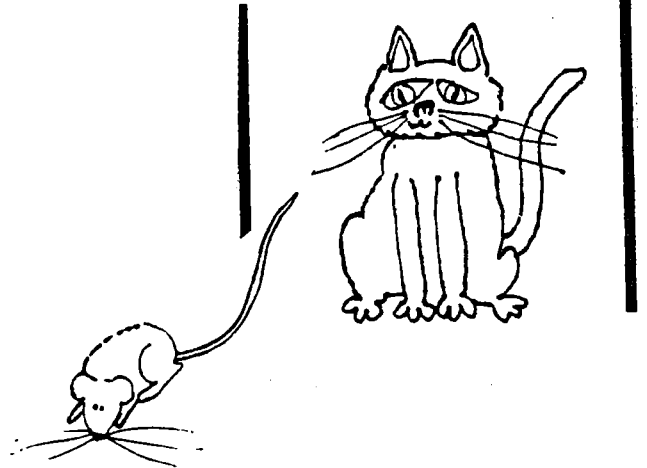
Christopher Smith
Kalamazoo College
Kalamazoo, Mi. 49007
(Son of Robert Smith, Zaire)
- Karen Stoner

KEEP ON RECYCLING...

The American Baptist Men's Group is urging everyone to continue recycling their aluminum food cans, all glass (except window glass), newspapers and cardboard. These men are still awaiting word on when to begin work at the recycling center.
- Steve Stoner

A SWELL STORY - as told to the Pastor...

The vacationer, a church member, was caught in a sudden summer downpour. To escape being drenched, he crawled into a hollow log. Safe from the rain, and lulled by its sound, he fell asleep. When he awoke, he found that the rain had swelled the wood of the log and he was stuck and couldn't move. Try as he might, he could not get out, and soon realized he might die there. His life began to pass before his eyes. As he thought of his unpaid church pledge, this made him feel so small that he was able to crawl out of the log with ease!

God's Country

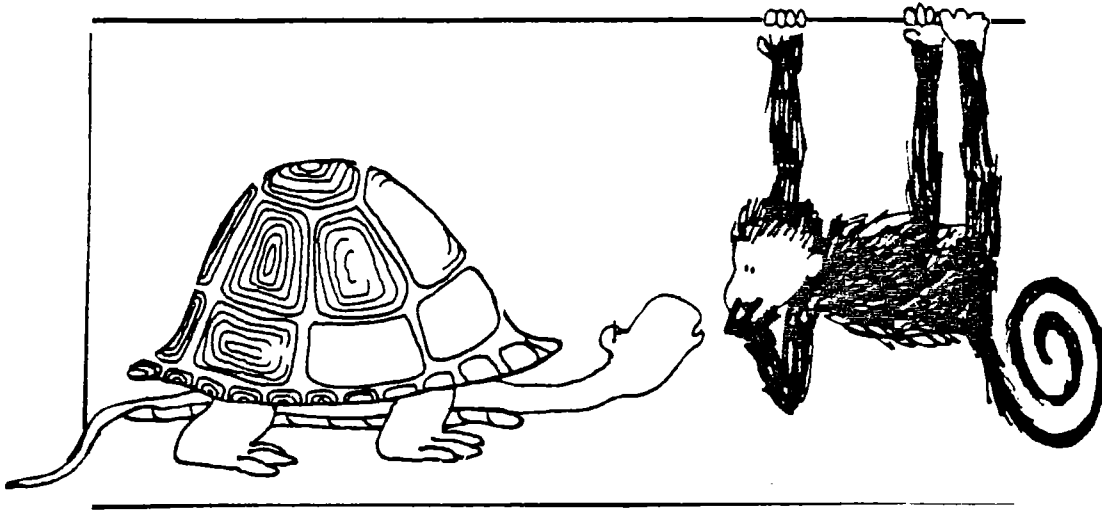
Who shares his life's pure pleasures,
And walks the honest road,
Who trades with heaping measures,
And lifts his brother's load,
Who turns the wrong down bluntly,
And lends the right a hand,
He dwells in God's own country,
He tills the Holy Land.

- Louis F. Benson

THE FROG

Be kind and tender to the Frog,
And do not call him names,
As "Slimy-skin," or "Polly-wog,"
Or likewise, "Uncle James,"
Or "Gape-a-grin," or "Toad-gone wrong,"
Or "Billy Bandy-knees":
The Frog is justly sensitive
To epithets like these.
No animal will more repay
A treatment kind and fair,
At least so many people say
Who keep a Frog (...and, by the way,
They are extremely rare.)!

- Hilaire Belloc



HAVE YOU HEARD.....????

Susie & Jeff Leonard were guests of her parents, Bertha & Jim Van Brimmer during the first week of August. The week was reported to be a most enjoyable family time with trips in and around Ohio that held special childhood memories for Susie. These included a day at the Center of Science and Industry (COSI), a visit to Judson Hills Camp, and a museum in Sugarcreek, Ohio. The family also enjoyed the quaint, beautiful and picturesque countryside of "Amish Country" in Holmes County. They will have to plan another trip back to Sugarcreek, though,... they arrived too late to watch the famous Amish cheese making process!

The Larry Faulk family has returned from a month's trip west. Highlights included Mount Rushmore, Yellowstone, Bill Faulk's family in Idaho, Glacier National Park, and canoeing in Michigan with Jeff's scout troop.

Speaking of the Faulk family...Erin performed three tap numbers & one ballet, and one jazz dance in her dance recital in June. Keep up the good work, Erin! And while we're on the subject of the Faulk's...Jeff continues to make scouting a big part of his life - he has been chosen Senior Patrol Leader for Boy Scout Troop 299 for the coming year. Congratulations, Jeff!

Jerry and Lana Palmer enjoyed a month's (June) tour of our beautiful western U.S. Highlights of their trip included visits to Mesa Verde (Colorado), the Grand Canyon, Sequoia National Forest, the Pacific Beach & the San Francisco Bay area, The Grand Tetons (including a raft trip on the Snake River, a covered wagon journey into the mountains, and a tram ride to the top of Rendezvous Mountain), Yellowstone Park (. . . . enjoyed much wild game, including 2 GRIZZLY BEAR), the Black Hills, and Mt. Rushmore. They also visited Jerry's Aunt, Uncle, and cousin while in California and with Lana's cousin & family in Iowa.

ONE LINER NEWS OF NOTE...

The Stoners vacationed in late June in Ontario and Ohio...

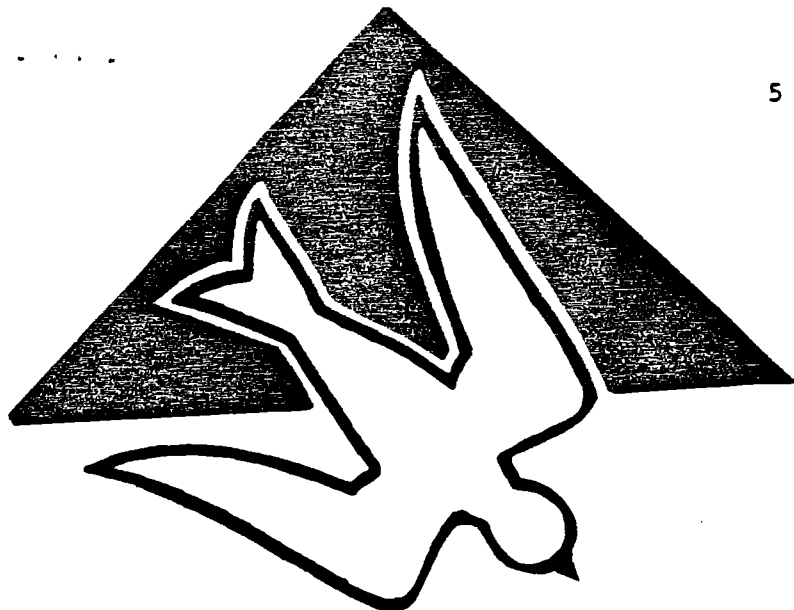
Ruth Gillin is now employed at Huntington Trust Company in Columbus...

Jim Van Brimmer will retire in October after 40 PLUS years with Ranco...

Fred Grubbs was promoted at Columbia Gas Company...

Stephanie Stoner attended Ohio Wesleyan Junior Leauge (OWL) Camp)...

... CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!



LET US REMEMBER WITH OUR SUPPORT, LOVE, AND PRAYERS...

The Porter family plans a Memorial Service for Jim (Billy) Porter, who died last month in Los Angeles. The service will be held at the church on Saturday, August 27th. Memorial gifts will be used to support the new Delaware Center for the Arts.

The Rev. Clayton Peaslee, Judson Hills Camp manager died of a heart attack at home July 14th. Memorial gifts will be used to support the Campers Scholarship Fund.

The Rev. Ralph Zundel, a retired ABC pastor was killed Saturday, August 6th, in an auto accident. Please see the bulletin board for further information.

THOSE HOSPITALIZED DURING THE SUMMER:

Edith Hall at Grady for eye surgery.

Bertha Van Brimmer at Grady for foot surgery.

We will also want to remember Myrtle Gabriel who is now under care at the Delaware Nursing and Rehabilitation Center.

GREAT GRACE

His grace is great enough to meet the
 great things,
 the crashing waves that overwhelm the soul,
 The roaring winds that leave us stunned and
 breathless,
 the sudden storms beyond our life's control...

- Annie Johnson Flint

Good News Letter

Published in the cause of the abundant life by
The First Baptist Church, Delaware, Ohio

Rev. Gene F. Gillin
Pastor

CHURCH RETREAT

Our annual church family retreat at Judson Hills will take place the weekend of September 9-11. The committee has organized an excellent weekend of fun, fellowship, relaxation and reflection. Sandy Heizer, our area minister, will lead us with the theme "Transitions: Growth and Change." Contact Pam Faulk (1-873-4856) for more information.

THOUGHTS OF CAMPERS FROM OUR CHURCH

A few days ago I interviewed the 6 youths from our church who went to Judson Hills Baptist Camp. They all were eager to tell me about their experiences. The campers were Evan Trigg, Natalie Mowery, Erin Faulk, Matthew Lovell, Debbie Lovell and Jeff Faulk.

Debbie and Jeff went to Frontier Camp and "roughed it" by cooking their own meals over the wood fire, sleeping under the stars and working together as a group while feeling God's presence in nature.

The favorite activity of all the campers varied; Evan liked swimming, Matthew liked freetime, Jeff & Natalie liked campfire. Erin liked all of those and Debbie enjoyed cooking.



When asked to choose their least-favorite activity, Erin, Evan and Matthew said, "rest time." Jeff's least favorite was setting up the tents and Natalie's was game time.

They said that they all made new friends from various places - Marion, Columbus, Prospect, Bexley and Powell!

They all chose a different sport as their favorite: Evan - the counselor hunt; Natalie - tether ball; Jeff and Debbie - the frisbee football; Erin - swimming and Matthew - volleyball.

Their favorite foods were: Erin - lasagna; Jeff - hamburgers; Evan - ham; Natalie - oatmeal, and Matthew - fried chicken. Deb couldn't decide on a favorite.

Included in the least favorite foods were chicken and noodles and Salisbury steak. Matthew and Evan said they liked everything.

My next question to the campers was "Was there a special part of camp for you or was there a time when you felt closer to God?"

Natalie said that the special part for her was the last night of camp at campfire as some of the campers accepted Christ as their Savior.

Evan said that the music group that performed for them that played Christian rock music was the special part of camp for him.

Erin said her special part was when a counselor accepted Christ as her Savior.

Debbie and Jeff said the sharing of responsibilities and ideas was special and chapel made them feel closer to God.

Matthew's special part was chapel and the ventriloquist.

They all said they learned new songs and Bible verses.

When asked if they would like to go next year, they responded without hesitation - YES!

(continued on next page)

What a good feeling I had after talking with the kids! Why not take a moment and ask each of the kids a little more about camp.

Thanks again to Jeanne Ekelberry for arranging for the youth to serve for the Women's Republican dinner to earn money to go to camp. \$145 was divided among the youth that attended camp.

Envelopes will be provided each week in the pews to start a camp fund for next year. If you can help, the kids sure would appreciate having a wonderful camp experience next year. Maybe more youth will be able to go.

Mary Lou Lovell

NO CHURCH SERVICES RETREAT WEEKEND

A reminder to those not attending camp that there will not be any Sunday services at First Baptist on retreat weekend (Sept. 11).

NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

have an enthusiastic group of teachers for Sunday School this year and a brand-new curriculum. Please join us at 9:15 for Sunday School.

Teachers for this year are:

Adult: Jim VanBrimmer, Jerry Palmer, Jean Wickum, Steve Stoner

Adult II: Linda White, Lana Palmer

Young Adult: Jennifer and Bill Chaffin

Senior High: Jennifer Chaffin, Beth Trigg

Junior High: Larry Faulk, Ruth Gillin

Junior: Pam Faulk, Theresa Griffith

Middler/Primary: Marge Smale, Wilbur Wickum

Kindergarten: Carol Grubbs, Carol Fogle

Nursery: Mary Lou Lovell

Pam Faulk

ADULT TOO SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

The Adult Too Sunday School Class is beginning a study of a book by Dr. Grant Martin entitled "Transformed by Thorns." The major point of this book is that victorious Christian living is not achieved by the elimination of problems. Rather, our freedom comes by applying victorious principals to the problems.

Dr. Martin points the way to emotional and spiritual maturity using psychological

understanding based on biblical principles. He demonstrates that it is every believer's opportunity to be "Transformed by Thorns." Members of the class would like to extend an invitation to join us as we read, study and fellowship together.

Linda White

TRUSTEES REPORT

Early in the summer:

The church changed insurance companies to "Church Mutual" which specializes in churches. Thanks to Wick for the research.

A picture of Steve and Sophia was placed in the Sunday School Room in honor of Steve's years here as minister.

During the summer:

The hot water heater at church which was installed 25 years ago when the new building was finished had to be replaced when it was found to be leaking and beyond repair.



The unbelievable volunteer crop of sorghum, millet and sunflowers came up during the dry weather with no water at all and when nothing else was growing must have come from bird seed swept off the walk after a wedding.

Plumbing repairs were made under the sink at the old parsonage. This work was done by Phil Richert.

A great big thank you to Ben Turney who finished painting the large stairwells and hallway in the new building and also to Joe Mowery and Steve Stoner for their assistance. This was a major undertaking with scaffolding in the stairwells. It is a great improvement. This leaves two areas that haven't been painted since

(continued on next page)

the building was new - the restrooms and the junior's class room. Anyone like to volunteer?

Your chairman painted the porch floor at the old parsonage for the Adult Day Care Center and varnished the front doors and the old basement door (they still need some sanding and another coat of varnish).

A broken window in the old basement was repaired.

If you haven't been in the old parsonage, stop in and visit the Adult Day Care Center. They completely redecorated the dining room and kitchen. The Franklin House had redone the living room and front room earlier so the whole downstairs looks like a lovely old home.

Dave Lovell climbed up, up, up and replaced the 3 spotlights over the stained-glass windows.

Dave's grass seed, which lay dormant during the dry summer, has come up beautifully during our recent rains, filling in the areas where the old bushes, used to be.

One final note: please don't put any tape on the newly-painted walls!

Peter White
Chairman, Bd. of Trustees

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Sept. 5 Don & Florence Faulk
8 Lorrie Lathrop
9 Bob & Virginia Houston
11 David Osborne
12 Dorothy Brown
13 Jerry Palmer
14 John & Mary Ann Ballengee
15 Jim & Bertha VanBrimmer
Wick & Jean Wickum
Janet Porter
18 Ben & Bernice Turney
20 Mary & Barney Barkeloo
30 Mary Lou Lovell
Oct. 5 Carol & Will Fogle

PERSONALS

JEANNE EKELBERRY went home for her 35th High School Reunion. (It can't really be that long!)

JEANNE & MICHAEL EKELBERRY met sister Nancy and cousins in Cincinnati for a Red's game (they won) and spent the next day at King's Island.

JEANNE, CHARLES and MICHAEL took 3 days vacation to go to Camp Mad Anthony Wayne in West Virginia for the Ross Family Reunion (about 200 aunts, uncles and cousins attended).

MICHAEL EKELBERRY will attend O.S.U. His address will be: Smith Hall, room 0527, 92 West 11th Ave., Columbus, Ohio 43210 (starting September 17th).

CHARLES EKELBERRY has a new address: 210 West William St., Delaware, Oh. 43015.

MARY KAY HEFFNER of California visited her mother ERNESTINE FROST and sister GENEVA EVANS and attended her 45th reunion of Willis High School.

REX EVANS from New Hampshire spent one week here with his mother GENEVA and grandmother ERNESTINE.

MARY SEALEY was on the Dean's List at college for the past two quarters.

GENEVA EVANS visited son GARY and family in Concord, California for 2 weeks in August.

TED and JEANNIE STEPHENSON and family visited their families in Delaware recently. Ted was guest minister on August 21st.

NEVIN AND PEGGY GABRIEL of Phoenix, Arizona spent 2 weeks with Nevin's father CAP and with MYRTLE, who is a patient at Park Care Center.

POLLY FOCKE spent several weeks vacationing with her brother in Canada.

HELEN ALESHIRE is a patient at Grady Memorial Hospital.

DEATH IN CHURCH FAMILY

Billy Porter, son of Betty Porter, passed away on July 15th in Los Angeles. Memorial services were held in California and also at First Baptist. We extend our condolences to Betty, Janet, Jennifer, and the entire family.

Good News Letter

Published in the cause of the abundant life by
The First Baptist Church, Delaware, Ohio

Rev. Gene F. Gillin
Pastor

PASTORGRAPHS

Occasionally, in passing by a Baptist Church, I will notice the name MISSIONARY BAPTIST on their bulletin board. And I wonder...could there be any other kind of Baptists. What's it like being a part of a church that is not missionary, I've thought. What better name could a people ever choose than missionary to describe their reason for existence. It's right on! It's the only way to go! It's the true spirit of the New Testament Church lifestyle. It's the conviction that Christ's church exists for others.

You may feel, at times, in a missionary church like ours, with quarterly missionary love offerings, that your church is interested only in what you have to give. Believe me, nothing could be further from the truth...YOU are the one for whom CHRIST died...YOU are the one close to the heart of God...YOU are the one with capabilities and talents needed in Kingdom service.

Listen to me! First Baptist Church can get along without money easier than it can get along without you!

Make yourself your first gift to Christ in these days of new beginnings...consecrate your all to Him...give Him the key to every door of your life. Then you can ask, "What shall I give in a material way to help subscribe the 1989 operating budget of our congregation? Will I at least give a tithe? Will I have faith enough to make an increased pledge of love and loyalty...trusting God to help me meet that which I vow unto Him?"

This is your life in the renewal of our covenant in worshipping and witnessing, teaching and training for service...These are your questions. Make sure your answer them well!

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED

The Church Women United board met on Tuesday, September 27th to plan the program for World Community Day, which will be on Friday, November 4th, 9:30am at Radnor Baptist Church. Please mark your calendars to be part of an excellent service.

There was also a concern expressed about the drop in the amount of goods sent for Church World Service. The pick-up was in September. As we have Labor Day weekend and a church retreat each September,

(continued)



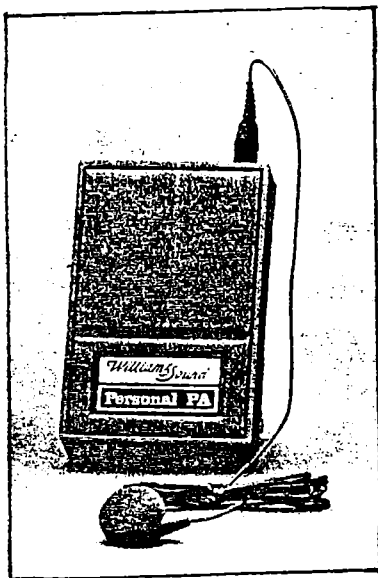
we need to make a special effort in the spring to bring in clothing and make school kits and health kits for the pick up.

The board also plans to give information to those individuals who would like to become more involved with the Teen Pregnancy Crisis Center or Health Dept. program of working with women and children. If you're interested in pursuing this calling, please call me at 369-6041.

Mary Lou Lovell

TRUSTEES REPORT

1. The church has acquired a set of hearing devices to be used by those of us who have difficulty in hearing. These were purchased in memory of Elsie Midden, a long-time member of First Baptist. The bulk of the funds came from her children. Also, a thank-you to the healing group for sharing their funds so that the entire project could be completed.



RECEIVER WITH EARPHONE

These devices work off of radio waves sent from a transmitter. This way a person can pick up a receiver in the vestibule and sit anywhere they choose.

rectly into the pulpit microphone so the PA system will pick it up.

The electronics man from Columbus stressed that those of us with soft voices must speak directly into the pulpit microphone so the PA system will pick it up.

A much longer arm on the pulpit mike has been installed to get the mike closer to the person speaking. Our loudspeakers and mikes will do o.k. if properly

adjusted and this is something that we must continually check.

Several people from outside our congregation have told us that our church has good natural acoustics for those with normal hearing and not to try to totally overcome that feature with a loudspeaker system.

Our new receivers will allow those of us with hearing difficulties to hear clearly, while preserving the natural acoustics in the sanctuary for everyone else.

2. A "thank you" goes to Dave Lovell for installing a "hidden" button for the Sunday School bells, so that we could maintain a clean, bare wall in the hallway following the new paint job.

3. The church used less gas this year than the monthly budget called for, so in August we paid \$92.05 instead of the monthly budget of \$247.00. The monthly budget next year will be just over \$300.00 to reflect an expected increase in rates.

4. Three pianos were tuned by Clifford Rector.

Peter White
Chairman, Bd. of Trustees

163rd ANNUAL OHIO BAPTIST CONVENTION - OCTOBER 19 - 21

THEME: "Behold The Family" - I John 3:1
PLACE: Karl Road Baptist Church and the Radisson Hotel (Columbus)

Our church should send a strong delegation to the annual state convention this month. The pastor and Mrs. Gillin along with Jim and Bertha VanBrimmer have already registered. Please join them and hundreds of other Ohio Baptists daily at the church and nightly at the hotel. Pick up your information this week from the literature table.

WHAT DO AN ELEPHANT AND A MICROWAVE HAVE IN COMMON?

Well, nothing...really! But now that we have your attention, we would like to remind you that when Ohio Baptists gather in Columbus for our annual convention,

(continued)

we will again keep a very meaningful tradition...at the closing ALL CONVENTION BANQUET, we will receive from our 300 churches the WORLD FELLOWSHIP OFFERINGS they have received in October.

Our official delegates, Jim and Bertha VanBrimmer, will carry our First Baptist love offering to the convention and present it on your behalf.

PLEASE...help us lovingly and sacrificially again this year, as last, when we sent over \$250 to the World Fellowship Offering of Ohio Baptists.

All cash gifts and pledges (to be honored by December 31) should be given by October 19. MANY THANKS!

DAILY EXERCISE FOR THE NON-ATHLETIC

A recent medical association report suggests that weight control and physical fitness cannot be attained by dieting alone.

Many people who engage in sedentary occupations do not realize that calories can be burned by the hundreds by engaging in strenuous activities that do not require physical exercise...so here's the calorie guide for such activities and the calories per hour that they consume:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| Beating around the bush | 75 |
| Jumping to conclusions | 100 |
| Climbing the walls | 150 |
| Passing the buck | 25 |
| Throwing your weight around | 300 |
| Dragging your heels | 100 |
| Running around in circles | 350 |
| Wading through paperwork | 275 |
| Making mountains out of molehills | 500 |
| Tooting your own horn | 100 |
| Jumping on the bandwagon | 200 |
| Wrapping it up at day's end | 10 |



CAREER DEVELOPMENT SERVICE

Do you have questions about your career? Our American Baptist Churches are associated with the Midwest Career Development Service (MCDS) located at 2501 North Star Road, Suite 200, Columbus. Phone (614) 486-0469.

ELECTION '88

The September/October issue of the American Baptist magazine provides profiles of presidential hopefuls George Bush and Michael Dukakis, along with policy statements of our General Board on various issues of concern.

Please check this out on page 20 of TAB.



RETREAT

The Lovell family enjoyed being at Judson Hills for the church retreat. Thanks to Pam Faulk for all her work to make it a success!

We shared fun and fellowship as well as lots of special moments to feel closer to God.

The Lovells

PEACE CAMP

The Peace Camp has begun making plans for next year. I would like to know your thoughts on being a part of this with Asbury, St. Peter's and First Presbyterian as we did last year.

Did your children have a good experience? Would you rather try our own Bible School?

(continued)

I would like your response. For anyone interested there will be a meeting on Thursday, October 22 at our church.

Mary Lou Lovell
369-6041



COMING EVENT

Coming in November:
A night you'll never forget...
No matter how hard you try.
Stay tuned for more information.

OPEN HOUSE

The Delaware County Child Support Agency, 20 West Central Ave., is announcing to the community that they will be having an open house on Sunday, October 2nd from 1:30-2:30pm. Their newly-renovated offices formerly belonged to the Delaware County Sheriff's Department.

Our own Jeanne Ekelberry is employed at the DCCSA.

MOST OF WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW YOU LEARNED IN KINDERGARTEN

Most of what your really need to know about how to live, what to do, and how to be, you learned in kindergarten:

- *Share everything.
- *Play fair.
- *Don't hit people.
- *Say you're sorry when you hurt someone.
- *Don't take things that aren't yours.
- *Clean up your own mess.
- *When you go out into the world, watch for traffic, hold hands, and stick together.

ST. PETER'S OFFERS NARRATION

The Rev. VanBogard Dunn will present the narration of the Gospel of Mark on Tuesday,

October 4th, from 7:30-10:00pm at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 45 W. Winter Street. Refreshments will be served at intermission. Call Marge Smale for transportation.

PASTOR GILLIN ELECTED OBC TRUSTEE

At the recent fall meeting of the Marion Association, our pastor was elected to represent our 18 churches on the OBC Board of Trustees.

Our pastor will serve on the OBC Commission on Campus Ministry and represent the OBC on the Ohio Board of United Ministries in Higher Education.

CRISIS PREGNANCY CENTER OFFERS SEMINAR

The CPC, 58 N. Franklin St., is announcing a 6-week training and awareness seminar for men and women. It will be held at Delaware Bible Church, 45 Belle Avenue, starting October 11 from 7:00-10:00pm. Register by October 5th.

GAZETTE FEATURES CHURCH PROFILES



The Friday church page will be offering it's readers a pictorial profile of the 80 or more churches of the county from week to week, much like the Columbus Dispatch has been doing.

Our Parish Council will welcome any and all suggestions for building our First Baptist Church profile.

HELP ANONYMOUS HOLDS WORKSHOP

Help Anonymous will hold a suicide prevention workshop on October 8, 8:30am-4:00pm at Asbury Methodist Church. It is designed for teachers, youth group leaders, and others who work with young people.

FIRST BAPTIST REPRESENTED BY NINE
AT FALL RALLY

Fite Memorial Baptist Church of Marion put its large facility to full use in hosting the Fall Rally (September 25).

Nine of us from First Baptist attended, Fite Memorial provided facilities for the meeting and feeding of the adults and children, while the youth met for praise and pizza at Trinity Baptist Church in Marion.

MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION

Pastor Valerie Stultz of Kilbourne Methodist will serve this year as president, assisted by Paul Randall, Vice President (1st Presbyterian), Bettina Anderson, Treasurer (St. Peters), and Gene Gillin, Secretary (First Baptist).

Scheduled programs include VanBogard Dunn in October and the Superintendent of Schools in November.

MEN TO WORK AT RECYCLING CENTER

Men - don't forget our community duty will be performed on Saturday, Oct. 8th



at Delaware Recycling Center. We will have two shifts: 9-noon and noon-3. Please let me know if you plan to help out (369-7754).

Steve Stoner

JIM VANBRIMMER RETIRES

Friday, September 30th, was Jim VanBrimmer's last day at Ranco Controls, Inc. He began working there on September 30, 1948, forty years ago. He was one of the first to sign to up to work in the Delaware plant when it opened, and he was the only original employee still working at the Delaware plant. He worked at Ranco as a Regional Quality Control Manager.

We all congratulate Jim and extend our best wishes for a happy retirement!

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

| | | |
|---------|----|---|
| October | 5 | Carol & Willard Fogle |
| | 7 | Anna Louise Brown James B. Stephenson Beth & Michael Linn Jack Smith |
| | 9 | Suzanna Grubbs |
| | 18 | John & Della Dove Gene & Ruth Gillin |
| | 20 | Jim Brown |
| | 21 | Donald & Dorothy Brown |
| | 27 | Bob Houston |
| | 28 | Eddy Linn Amy Smale |
| | 30 | Jean Osborne |
| | 31 | Janet Lathrop Jennifer Palmer Chaffin |
| Nov. | 5 | Victor Fogle |

PERSONALS

Dianna Lathrop, daughter of Gene and Janet Lathrop, and Smith Runyan were married in our church on Saturday, September 24th. Dianna is the fourth Lathrop daughter to be married at First Baptist. Our best wishes to the happy couple!

Good News Letter

Published in the cause of the abundant life by
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Rev. Gene F. Gillin
Pastor

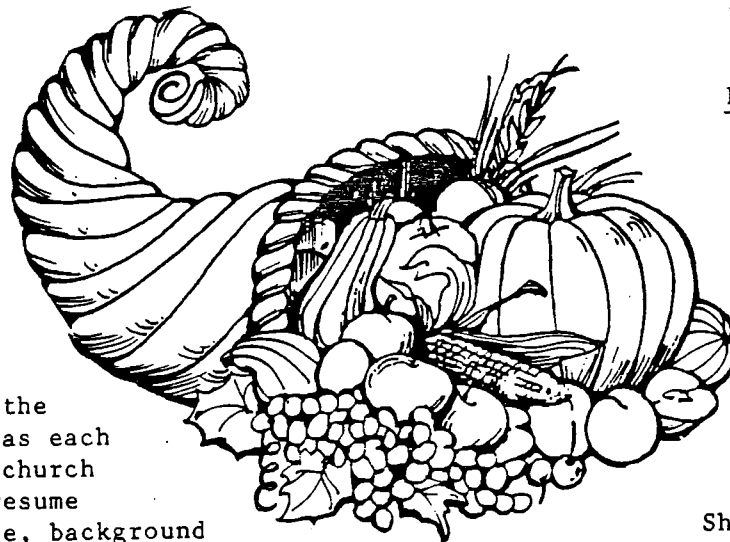
PASTORGRAPHS

How often you and I have felt that there is so little that we, as individuals, can do to bring the love of Christ to a sin-weary world,

And yet, as a small group in another local church discovered in a discussion of this problem, there has really never been, or ever will be, any great achievement for the Lord, except through the words of the lips of one person and the deeds and concerns in the heart of one person.

I want to list here the revelations gleaned as each person in the above church group gave a brief resume of his religious life, background and activity.

1. All agreed that every individual is important, and most everyone agreed that it was because of one person that he or she was in the church.
2. One person invited them to attend Church and consider membership.
3. One person met them at the door the first time they attended and the next time recognized them and called them by name.
4. One person introduced them to others and made them feel at home, encouraging them to come back.
5. One person came to them when they were in need and expressed concern.



One person, one person, one person!
Don't you see, it is a combination of persons, each expressing his or her own concern, that is a "must" in accomplishing the mission of the Church...YOU are that ONE PERSON! In Delaware...

Pastor Gillin

POT LUCK DINNER

The American Baptist Women's Missionary Society will be hosting a Pot Luck Dinner and we'd especially like YOU to attend. Dinner is at 5:30pm. Bring a dish to share.

Our program will be especially interesting. Shirley Mitchell will be sharing with us highlights (and probably some low lights, too!) of her trip to the Central African Republic and Cameroun. She will have slides and special momentos from Africa. Shirley is a very entertaining and informative speaker. She will challenge you in a very unique way.

Come and enjoy this SPECIAL evening with us!

BYF HOLDS CHILI SUPPER

The BYF group netted \$50 from their chili supper. The young adults entertained a group of about 25 with original skits and song.

We appreciate your kind support. Please continue to show these young people you

stand behind them in all they may attempt most of their projects help fund PIN. They are a super group with lots of energy!

Would you like to host our group in your home sometime? Let us know. Thanks.

Beth & Co.

FOOD COLLECTED FOR PIN

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you for your - donations for PIN. Twenty-six cans of chicken items were given on Oct. 23 (Chicken Sunday). On Oct. 30 (Noodle Sunday) 23 noodle items were given as well.

I am pleased with your generosity. Let's make every Sunday a special one for PIN.

Mary Lou Lovell

A LETTER FROM THE WICKUMS

We are back in Delaware having been gone 83 days, traveled 13,778 miles, visited 18 states, toured 10 state capitol buildings, Yellowstone and Glacier National Parks, Custer State Park, several National and State Forests, the Space Needle in Seattle (they serve a nice shrimp salad), the Aisle of the Giants, Santa Fe and assorted other interesting places. We visited friends in Milwaukee, St. Paul and Hollywood. We visited cousins in California and Oregon, a niece in California and a brother in Washington State.

We cut short some of our plans so we could go to Springfield, MS. to wait for our eldest, Marty Chapman and her family to come through on her way to their new home in Palmdale, California. After a Sunday cookout with them in our campground, we went to Texarkana to spend three days with our youngest, Mary Ann Brown and her husband, Jim.

We got home on Sunday the 6th to find a houseful of our wonderful First Baptist friends, the trees out front full of balloons, a "Sold" sign on the front lawn and "Welcome Home" decorations everywhere.

Monday morning we opened the refrigerator and found bagels and cream cheese, jam, juice, fresh homemade vegetable soup, cupcakes and other goodies to feed us while we got unpacked.


And when we drove past the church the bulletin board said "Welcome Home Wickums."

We really did feel welcome home! We thank you from the bottom of our hearts for the welcome home. And we thank the Grubbs for looking after our house, and with our neighbor, Denise, looking after our cats Goldie and Dusty.

We are glad to be back!

Love,

Jean and Wick



BAP TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION

Carol Grubbs, Larry Faulk, Beth Trigg, Jim Stephenson, and Steve and Stefanie Stoner invite you to join them on Saturday, November 19th, 7:30pm for "BapTrek: The Next Generation."

It will be a evening of comedy, skits, audience-participation games, food & prizes.

It's a night you'll never forget... no matter how hard you try!

JUNIOR CHURCH AND NURSERY HELPERS

As our Sunday school year began in September I had asked anyone who was interested in sharing time with young people during our worship to sign up for 2 months to help in each area. Some of you did just that! I am very pleased with the number that made the commitment! I thank you. (continued)

Below is a list for this year. As you can see, there are still some empty spots, which is an opportunity for you to get to know our young people a little more.

If you have already chosen to sign up, please cut the calendar out and put it in a place (like your refrigerator door) to remind you that your turn is coming up.

Please talk with me a week or two in advance of your month for Junior Church. There are many materials available and more are being ordered to make it a meaningful time for both you and the children.

If you have not placed your name on the list and would like to, go right ahead or give me a call (369-6041).

Thank you to those who have made time and prepared for Junior Church, as well as in the nursery. You are very important to the children's church memories!

Mary Lou Lovell

| | NURSERY | JUNIOR CHURCH |
|-------|-------------------------------|---------------|
| Sept. | Kristin Launch | Karen Stoner |
| Oct. | Jeff Faulk & Debbie Lovell | Carol Grubbs |
| Nov. | Pam Faulk | Beth Trigg |
| Dec. | Carol Grubbs | Jen Chaffin |
| Jan. | Stefanie Stoner | Pam Faulk |
| Feb. | Beth Trigg | |
| March | Alison Mowery | Jean Wickum |
| April | | |
| May | | |
| June | | |
| July | | |
| Aug. | | |



TRUSTEES REPORT

1. Will Fogle hung a wall cupboard (that was given to the church years ago by Pauline Nash) in the kitchen for additional storage. Our ladies did a super clean-up in the kitchen after the business meeting last Sunday. Let's all try to keep the counters clean so that each group having a dinner will have work space.
2. A loss-control officer from our insurance company inspected the church. No comments were made.
3. The adult day-care center in the old parsonage had to close after not getting enough clients to make a go of it. The trustees will begin a search for renters. If anyone knows of a need, please contact us.
4. A thank you goes to Ben Turney for cleaning the cross and candle sticks for the deacons. Now I know why the deacons wanted a good trustee!
5. Your chairman has finished scraping and painting 10 of the windows at the old parsonage.
6. Several jobs were underway but not completed at press time:
 - a. The furnace for the fellowship hall is having some repairs made.
 - b. Jim VanBrimmer and Dave Lovell are installing a phone in the new office. The phone wire has been neatly arranged around the edge of the hall ceiling instead of dangling across the hall ceiling as it did for too many years.
 - c. The city has notified us that we fall within the new code for an unpaved parking lot in their dust-abatement program. The guideline says any lot of 5 or more cars is covered. We say that our little spot (off of a terrible alley) holds only 4 cars with room to open the doors. At the moment it's a standoff. How ridiculous! More on this later.

Peter White
Chairman
Board of Trustees

TREASURER'S REPORT

| | |
|---|------------------|
| Balance on hand Jan. 1, 1988 | \$ 4,192.76 |
| Receipts through Oct. 31, 1988 | 26,327.79 |
| Checking Account Interest | <u>174.24</u> |
| | 30,694.79 |
| Disbursements through October 31, 1988 | <u>28,074.64</u> |
| Balance on hand Oct. 31, 1988 | \$ 2,620.15 |

An itemized copy of the Treasurer's Report on both the General Fund monies and Mission monies is available.

Betty J. Porter
Treasurer

FINANCE COMMITTEE PRESENTS BUDGET

The Finance Committee presented the 1989 proposed Budget at the quarterly business meeting. A proposed budget of \$34,182 for the church operating expenses was adopted by those present. Total general mission support for 1989 was proposed to be \$4,390.

Pledge cards were passed out to those present and will be mailed to the remainder of the congregation. Pledge Sunday will be observed on November 20th. If you find you are unable to present your pledge at that time, pledges may be mailed to Richard Lee, Financial Secretary.

GREEN LAKE SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

The 1989 Green Lake Conference schedule has been received and is posted on the bulletin board. The theme for 1989 is "Growing Together in God's Love."

Two scholarships to attend Green Lake are available. In order to submit registrations in January, the Green Lake Committee is requesting that all applicants wishing to apply for the scholarships should submit a request by December 1st.

The applicant should submit a one-page, typed letter stating which session they wish to attend and why this would benefit them and First Baptist Church. The committee prefers that all applicants remain anonymous. Letters of application should be given to the Moderator, Jeanne Ekelberry.

The December 1st deadline will be strictly enforced so we can take advantage of the reduced registration rates and obtain housing reservations.

The Green Lakes
Committee
Wilbur Wickum, Pam Faulk,
and Betty Porter

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Sunday, November 27th will be the first Sunday in Advent. Plans are being made for a special Advent activity following church on that day. Please plan to join us for a sack lunch and some special Advent activities.

Board of Christian Ed.

ADULT TOO SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

The Adult Too Sunday School class will begin a study of spiritual gifts during the second quarter, which will begin the first Sunday in December. We will be involved in the study, identification and development of our spiritual gifts.

The four goals for our group will be:

1. to reflect on the Bible's teaching on spiritual gifts;
2. to identify the gifts God has given you so you will know better how God can use you for his service;
3. to gain new appreciation for your fellow church members by seeing the wide variety of gifts that exist within the body of Christ and
4. to use your abilities in new ways.

I attended a workshop in September entitled "Discovering Your Gifts" and was awakened to a whole new appreciation of spiritual gifts that I would like to share.

I extend a personal invitation to anyone who would like to discover your own spiritual gifts to join us in what I hope will be a rewarding experience.

Linda White

CAMP FOR KIDS

Many thanks to all who have contributed to the Summer Camp Fund for our youth.

It is growing but has a long way to go to be able to send 1 child to camp. There is \$39.06 currently in the fund. Last year the cost of camp for 1 child was \$95.00.

The youth camp fund envelopes are in the pews and can be put in the offering plates. Perhaps this would be a good Christmas gift.

Let's see how many kids we can send to camp this summer.

Mary Lou Lovell

CRAFTS AVAILABLE

A few craft items are still available, handmade in Haiti. Proceeds go to Good Samaritan Hospital in Limbe, Haiti, See Karen Stoner.

A.B.W. TO SERVE LUNCHEON AT PEACE FELLOWSHIP

The American Baptist Women will serve luncheon to the Ohio Baptist Peace Fellowship which will be meeting at our church on November 12. See Jeanne Ekelberry to sign up to help in some way.

PEACE CAMP MEETING HELD

Three members from First Baptist Church attended a planning meeting for 1989 Ecumenical Vacation Bible School. We are joining with Asbury and the First Presbyterian Church at this time in a joint VBS as we did last June. We are hoping it will be at Methesco. A missionary theme was discussed. We are looking forward to helping to coordinate this joint effort. Everyone attending last year felt it was a very meaningful and enjoyable experience.

Mary Lou Lovell

HALLOWEEN PARTY

Alison Grubbs, Carol Grubbs, Beth Trigg and the Youth group created a terrific Halloween

Party! It was lots of fun, complete with strange guests, challenging games, a cookie decorating contest and delicious treats! Thanks all!

Mary Lou Lovell

PASTOR GILLIN AT DELAWARE COURT

Our pastor will be the guest minister at Delaware Court Health Care Center on November 27th at 2pm. Those who wish to join him in this special ministry are invited to come along to care and share.

FIRST BAPTIST SUPPORTS LOVE OFFERING

As the annual sessions of the Ohio Baptist Convention convened at the Radison Hotel on Monday, October 19, First Baptist joined with our sister churches by contributing \$100 in an offering that totalled over \$7,000 for the OBC Ministerial Emergency Aid Fund. Close to \$100,000 was received for the World Fellowship Offering from the churches on Wednesday evening at the All-Convention Banquet.

Many thanks to all at First Baptist who helped us reach our FBC goal of \$250!

PEACE FELLOWSHIP TO MEET HERE

On Saturday, November 12, from 10-2pm, we will host the annual meeting of the OBC Peace Fellowship as they celebrate the

theme of "Roots and Fruits: Making Peace With Christ." A fellowship meal will be prepared by the A.B.W. of our church. There will be a Jubilee Crafts Display for those who want to make their Christmas shopping money work for Peace and Justice. Please come and bring friends who would be peacemakers with us.

DEATH IN CHURCH FAMILY

Helen Aleshire passed away on Monday, October 17th. She was 83. Helen was one of our most beloved church members, and worked on many boards and committees. Prior to her retirement, Helen worked as a bookkeeper at O'Brien Oldsmobile, and she put her financial abilities to good use by being our church Treasurer for many years. Helen was also very active in the area of Missions. We extend our sympathy to her friends and family.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

| | | |
|------|----|------------------------|
| Nov. | 1 | Stefanie Stoner |
| | 5 | Victor Fogle |
| | 6 | Bob Stephenson |
| | 11 | Kristine Martin |
| | 13 | Polly Focke |
| | 15 | Frances Johnson |
| | | Teresa Grubbs Griffith |
| | 22 | Peter White |
| | 27 | Gina Evans Jones |
| | 28 | Karen Stoner |
| Dec. | 1 | Alison Grubbs |
| | 4 | Erin Faulk |
| | 9 | Virginia Houston |

PERSONALS

MICAH STONER took fourth place in a contest to design a logo for the School Age Childcare program at Carlisle School. He received free dinner at Snapps.

STEFANIE STONER recently performed at the Hayes High School Talent Show. Monday, November 7 is the choral concert for Hayes, public invited, 7:30pm at Gray Chapel.

WILBUR WICKUM has surgery at Mount Carmel East Hospital, and expects to be convalescing at home for most of November, so give him a call or drop by and help him pass the hours.

ERNESTINE FROST was hospitalized for the flu and is recovering at home. Her daughter from California, Mary Heffner, has arrived to help care for her mother.

New Addresses:

MRS. H.E. (JUNE) DETWILER
c/o Rose Velesquez
777 Third Ave., 23rd Floor
New York, N.Y. 10017

BOB & VIRGINIA HOUSTON
715 Baker Street
Mt. Gilead, Ohio 43338-1083

STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY - NOV. 20

This is the month when we renew our stewardship commitment, guided by the principle of proportionate giving. Some Christians start with the guideline of the first tenth - a tithe as belonging to God. Others may move to this level and beyond in a series of steps.

When the Finance Committee invites our response this month, may we prayerfully and generously give of our resources so that on November 20th we may truly celebrate a Victory Sunday for Christ and His Church in Delaware.

CANCER SOCIETY NEEDS MATERIALS

The American Cancer Society is in need of old mattress pads, blankets, towells, and some sheets so that volunteers can continue to provide handmade cancer pads for the bedridden patients. Please bring these items to the Delaware County Unit Office, 22 West Winter St., Monday thru Thursday, 9:30-4:40 or call 363-6732 for a pickup.

AMERICAN BAPTIST CREDIT UNION

20,000 American Baptists and associates have pooled their resources and talents into the largest Protestant credit union in the nation.

To discover how your "member-owned" credit union can save you money through low-cost loans, VISA and Gold Mastercard, ATMs, and easy-to-use banking through mail, just call toll-free 1-800-347-ABCU.

Good News Letter

Published in the cause of the abundant life
by the First Baptist Church, Delaware, Ohio

Rev. Gene F. Gillin
Pastor

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

1. During Advent, Sunday school will be starting at 9:00 a.m. Please join us for special family activities.
2. We welcome Jerry Palmer as the teacher of the Advent I class for the winter quarter.
3. Members of the junior and junior high classes participated in a November share project. All proceeds were donated to PIN.
4. There will be no Sunday school classes on Christmas Day. We will, however, celebrate the birthday of Jesus immediately after church in the Sunday school room.

Pam Faulk

BYF NEWS

The little Christmas tree at the back of the church is for donations of new hats, mittens, or gloves to be given to the needy.

SOME CHRISTMAS GIFT SUGGESTIONS

There is always time to give just a few more things in the real spirit of Christmas. And all they cost is a little of

you. You can probably think of many more, but these are just a few suggestions to start with.

- * Ask someone who's far from home (or has no home) to share your Christmas dinner.
- * Use your mistletoe generously.
- * Say "thank you" a lot.
- * Take one of your favorite presents to that kid in your class you suspect Santa might miss.
- * Take a thermos of hot chocolate to your school crossing guard.
- * Pick someone up and take them with you to Christmas services.
- * Put out bread crumbs for the birds and nuts for the squirrels.
- * Pull out your mother's chair for her when she sits down to dinner.
- * Offer to say grace yourself.
- * Invite someone who has no fireplace over to enjoy yours.
- * Call your doctor and ask how he's feeling.
- * Help the little kids in your neighborhood build their first snowman (if there's snow).
- * Tell someone you love them.



A CHURCH TO BE THANKFUL FOR

If this is not a place where tears are understood,
 Where can I go to cry?
 And if this is not a place where my spirit can take wing,
 Where can I go to fly?
 I don't need another place for always being on top of things.
 Everyone knows that is a sham.
 I don't need another place for always wearing smiles.,
 Even when it is not the way I feel.
 I don't need another place to mouth old platitudes,
 For you and I both know it's not real.
 If this is not the place where my heart cries can be heard,
 Where shall I go to speak?
 If this is not a place where tears are understood,
 Where shall I go to cry?

TRUSTEES REPORT

1. The carpet in the Sunday School room was steam cleaned. After drying, almost all the wrinkles shrunk out, but it will probably have to be stretched next summer. This was the first time it was cleaned since it was given with funds in memory of the Cranes at the same time as the new hymnals'. Also cleaned were the carpet in the pastor's study, the nursery, the old back hall and the front and side door entry mats.
2. The church has a new janitor, Anne Moses. Our budget will allow her to do general cleaning throughout the church twice a month. She also cleans for the senior citizens in the church building they purchased.
3. The old parsonage has been rented to the "Commercial Surplus Corp" for offices. They deal in recycled metal from different plants. They also deal in historic artifacts and materials from old houses and buildings that are torn down. These are items such as woodwork, doors, fireplace mantels, stained-glass windows, etc. Their warehouses are elsewhere. The old parsonage will just be offices and a computer center.

The rent will be \$500 a month, and they will pay utilities. We retain use of the driveway for parking on Sundays and evenings. Thanks to Dave Lovell for making the contact. Since the new parsonage was completed 10 years ago this ends 10 years of the old parsonage meeting social needs, but the trustees can really use the income for maintenance.

4. Dave Lovell completed installing a new phone in the office.
5. Your chairman got the roofs swept off and all the gutters were cleaned out, both at the church and the old parsonage.
6. Repairs were completed to the furnace for the Fellowship Hall.

Peter White
 Chairman, Bd. of Trustees

You're Invited

On Sunday, December 18, 3 - 6 p.m., the Gillins are having an Open House to which all members and friends of our First Baptist family are invited. Come early or come late...but please drop by and share with us a few moments of good food and fellowship.

DONALD DENSMORE ELECTED OBC PRESIDENT

One of the highlights closing the 163rd Annual Meeting of the Ohio Baptist Convention was the All-Convention Banquet at the Villa Milano, Columbus, During the evening, Mr. Donald Densmore of Perry, Ohio was installed as our OBC president for 88-89.

(continued on next page)

Densmore, a member of the First Baptist Church at Perry, is currently the church's moderator and choir director. He teaches a young adult class and directs a junior summer camp. His community life finds him president of the Perry School Board. He is employed by the Eaton Corporation, where he is the coordinator of the Corp. Energy and Facility Engineering Group.

SUNDAY SCHOOL SPECIAL PROGRAM

A special Sunday School program will be held on Sunday, December 18th at 7pm. "Christ Is Born Today" by Arden Mead will be presented by the Sunday School youth and teachers. We need you to come and sing Christmas carols in this program. Mark your calendars and make this a part of your Christmas celebration!

*
 Thank
 * You, Lord,
 for coming as *
 * a little Baby Boy.
 Thank You Lord, *
 * for bringing the angels'
 song of joy. Thank You Lord,
 for coming to bring us love *
 * and peace. Thank You, Lord, for *
 * coming, Your blessings to release.
 Thank You, Lord, for coming to a world *
 * of sin and strife. Thank You, Lord,
 for coming to bring that world new life. *
 Thank You, Lord, for coming to die upon that tree.
 * Thank You, Lord, that You arose to set Your people *
 free. Thank You, Lord, for offering salvation full and
 * free. Thank You, Lord, for making clear that offering is for me! *
 Thank You, Lord, that You'll return as You promised You would do,
 that we may
 live in glory
 eternally with You!

May the love, the joy, and the peace
 of Christmas be with you now
 and throughout the new year.

Gene, Ruth, Jennifer Gillin

WEDDING BELLS RINGING

Rev. Edna Darling and E.J. Lewis were united in marriage on September 3rd. Edna is serving as a chaplain at the St. Elizabeth Medical Center in Dayton. The address there is 601 Edwin Moses Blvd., Dayton, Ohio 45408.

PRACTICE PARTY

For whom? All those participating in the Sunday School Christmas program on December 18th. Where? At the Lovell's. When? Friday, December 9th at 7-9:30pm. First a practice, then a party.

(continued on next page)

Please learn your parts by then, and bring your books. If you need a book, call me at 369-6041. Sunday school teachers that are part of the program, please plan to attend. Bring a snack and have some fun! We'll have another practice on December 17th from 1:00 - 2:15.

Mary Lou Lovell

HELP!

Nursery and Junior Church helpers needed! There was a misprint in last month's newsletter. There is no one to help with Junior Church for January. Other months still available are April, June and July. If you can help with the nursery we would appreciate it in April, May, June, July or August. Please give me a call to say you would like to spend time with our youth.

| | NURSERY | JUNIOR CHURCH |
|-------|-----------------|------------------|
| Dec. | Carol Grubbs | Jennifer Chaffin |
| Jan. | Stefanie Stoner | |
| Feb. | Beth Trigg | Pam Faulk |
| March | Alison Mowery | Jean Wickum |
| April | | |
| May | | Steve Stoner |
| June | | |
| July | | |
| Aug. | | Alison Mowery |

Mary Lou Lovell

PROJECT PIN

Thanks to you for your generosity! Here's what you have given:

- Sun. Oct. 23 - "Chicken Sunday" - 28 cans chicken
- Sun. Oct. 30 - "Noodle Sunday" - 27 noodle products
- Sun. Nov. 6 - "Soup Sunday" - 35 cans soup
- Sun. Nov. 13 - "Peanut Butter Sunday" - 14 jars
- Sun. Nov. 20 - "Soap Sunday" - 95 bars of soap
+ 1 baby shampoo
- Sun. Nov. 27 - "Variety Sunday" - 42 items

And lots of other items such as pizza, beans, rice, fruit, etc.

The people at PIN were very pleased!

Mary Lou Lovell

AN INVITATION FOR AN ABW CHRISTMAS GET-TOGETHER

Our December activity will be in the form of a Christmas party / gift exchange where we are asking each of you to think of a gift of your time or a talent to give to someone at the party.

We will be wrapping Christmas boxes for our shut-ins as well, so please bring any shoe boxes, gift wrap, fruit, cookies, candies or other items with which to pack the boxes. And don't forget your idea of your time or talent to bring along as well.

Hope to see you on the 11th at 7:00pm at 23 Woodland Avenue.

Hostesses:
Linda White and
Ruth Gillin

SECRET ADVENT FRIENDS REVEALED



If you have been wondering who your advent friend has been, come on Dec. 18. After the Sunday School program (which starts at 7:00 pm) we will find out who our special friend is. Please bring a dozen cookies for the get-together.

DEATH IN CHURCH FAMILY

William E. Dean, Sr., husband of Della Dean, passed away of November 25th. He had lived in Delaware for 48 years, was a retired heavy equipment operator for Delaware County, and was of the Baptist faith.

We extend our sympathy to Della and all the members of their family.

SCHOLARSHIP STUDENT

Our scholarship student for the year is: Margaret Ann Cleary. Birthday - March 26, 1967; School - Eastern College

(continued on next page)

senior year; Future Plans - youth ministry; Home address: 310 Ridgewood Avenue, Mt. Vernon, Ohio 43050. School Address - Eastern College, Box 139, St. Davids, PA 19087.

Please write to Margaret. She could use your uplifting words and prayers. If you can, send a few postage stamps. I know she will appreciate anything!

Anne Linn
Scholarship Chairman

FELLOWSHIP DIRECTORY TO PUBLISH SOON!

A draft of the 1989 Fellowship Directory is on display at the church. In an effort to make sure it is accurate, please review the information on the draft. We will be publishing for the annual meeting in January. You may use the form below to make any corrections or if you have not yet submitted information for the directory.

Larry Faulk
Chairperson, Deacons

ADVENT SERVICES AT FIRST BAPTIST

Please remember in your prayers, plans and participation all the services at First Baptist this month. Our Sanctuary Choir will be singing beautiful Advent music each Lord's Day. The Church School will be presenting a Christmas Program in the sanctuary on Sunday

evening, December 18, at 7pm. On Christmas Eve there will be a Service of Carols, Candles and Communion for the entire family. Then on Christmas Day the Church School will not be in session, but the church will worship at 10:45 as usual, followed by a Birthday Cake for Jesus. PLAN AHEAD!!

NEW EDITOR(S) NEEDED

For the past 5 years I've enjoyed being the editor/typist of the bulletin and newsletter. Unfortunately, due to increased demands on my time at work, I'm finding that the 10-12 hours a month that the bulletin and newsletter require are more than I can really handle. Therefore, I have regretfully decided to "retire" as editor. If anyone would like to volunteer to assist the pastor (beginning with the January newsletter and bulletins, please speak to Gene or myself this month.



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH DIRECTORY INFORMATION

Names _____

Address _____

Phone _____

| NAMES | BIRTHDAY | ANNIVERSARY | "X" IF MEMBER |
|-------|----------|-------------|---------------|
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

- Dec. 1 Alison Grubbs
 Richard Payne
 Jennifer Gillin
 4 Erin Faulk
 5 Evelyn Lee
 Lola Jackson
 9 Virginia Houston
 13 Geneva Evans
 18 Cap Gabriel
 25 Carol Grubbs
 Steve & Karen Stoner
 Gene Gillin
 26 Dick & Barbara Payne

CHRISTMAS
FLOWERS

Poinsettias are always an important part of the church decorations for the Advent season. If you wish to honor someone by furnishing a plant, please call the church this week so that this may be included on the church bulletin. Information needed: Flowers in memory of _____; given by _____; relationship _____.

RETIRED MINISTERS AND MISSIONARIES
OFFERING

Can you think of a minister or missionary now retired who during the years of faithful service helped to change your life? Wouldn't you like to say "Thank you!" You will have that opportunity this month when we shall gather a generous Christmas Love Offering for our American Baptist retirees. In this we shall honor the memory of those who devoted their lives to telling the story of the Manger Child who became the Man of the Cross. Like the Christmas angels, they proclaimed the Good News; like the Shepherds of Bethlehem, they shared their special calling and vision;

and like the Wise Men, many traveled afar. Our gifts will be registered on an M & M LOVE TREE in the sanctuary as we gradually trim the tree toward our offering goal of \$260.00.

Our gifts will be distributed in their entirety as Thank You Checks to each retiree, and as emergency aid to those experiencing financial hardship. Let them know, feel and receive our love and gratitude. Many thanks!!!

METHESCO CHORAL GROUP TO PRESENT
ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF ADVENT WREATH

The Schola Cantorum of METHESCO will present its Advent musical program on Tuesday, December 13th at 8:00pm in the Centrum.

The musical selections for this dramatic candlelight program will be divided into four thematic sections, corresponding to the four weeks of the Advent season. A large Advent wreath, created by members of the seminary community, will be suspended from the ceiling. The audience will participate through songs and prayers.

RESERVATIONS for this free event may be made daily from 8:30 - 4:30 by calling 363-1146.

PEOPLE IN NEED THANK FIRST BAPTIST

The volunteers and staff of the PIN food pantry in Delaware wish to express their thanks and appreciation for all the support of the First Baptist family during the year.

Well over 2,000 persons have been served in Delaware County and another 1,250 persons have been assisted with emergency help in housing, medicine and utilities so far this year.

Sund Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

| | | | | | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|--|----------------------------|----|---|--------------------------------------|
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 9:00 S.S. Assembly 9:30 Teaching Hour 10:45 Worship Hour | 5 7:00 Delaware Piecemakers | 6 | 7 7:00 Choir Rehearsal | 8 | 9 7-9:30pm Practice and party at Lovell's | 10 |
| 11 9:00 S.S. Assembly 9:30 Teaching Hour 10:45 Worship Hour 7:00 ABW Party | 12 | 13 8:00pm METHESCO Choral Program | 14 7:00 Choir Rehearsal | 15 | 16 | 17 1-2:15 Practice at Lovell's |
| 18 9:00 S.S. Assembly 9:30 Teaching Hour 10:45 Worship Hour 3:00 Open House 7:00 S.S. Program | 19 Parish Council | 20 | 21 7:00 Choir Rehearsal | 22 | 23 | 24 7:30 Christmas Eve Service |
| 25 10:45 Worship Hour | 26 | 27 | 28 7:00 Choir Rehearsal | 29 | 30 | 31 |

DECEMBER 1988