

Good News Letter

Published in the cause of the abundant life by
THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, DELAWARE, OHIO

PASTORGRAPHS

RULES FOR RENEWAL IN WORSHIP

As our Church Growth Task Force focuses, among other things, on renewal in worship, I found some helpful rules on a paper tucked away in an old Bible.

Worship begins as I close the door to my home. On my way I pray for my church, for the pastor, and for those who worship far and near.

Before I enter the House of God, I pause a moment and leave outside all things and thoughts unbecoming to the Heavenly Father - hates, grudges, frettings, worldly cares and sinful thoughts.

The moment I enter the sanctuary I cease all idle conversation. I come in silence, for great things rise out of quietness and minister to me and those about me.

As soon as I am seated, I bow my head in prayer. I pray for others, as well as myself. I pray for my church and its great cause. I ask God to be near me now.

I join in the singing of the hymns. I think about the words of the music and let their meaning and spirit go down to the roots of my soul.

As I lay my offerings on the plate, I say a prayer of thanks for my money and ask God's blessing on its use here and in the many lands of our Christian mission.

As I listen to the message from God's Word, I seek to apply the message to my life. I pray for the one who preaches.

When the worship time ends, in Christian friendliness, I speak to those I know and to those who are strangers to me.

I remember someone commenting, "Wouldn't it be a great witness for the Church on Sunday morning if those leaving the worship service looked as happy and pleased as they do an hour later leaving the restaurants in town."

Sometimes in a restaurant, our waitress has concluded her service to our table by some personal remarks and occasionally leaves the bill with a little "happy-face" drawn on it. But most food service bills just have a few words printed on the back like - "It has been a pleasure." But we generally don't see them, do we? Why not? Because they are too impersonal. Yet we use the same tactics and expect them to communicate. Church newsletters inviting people to worship are mailed out. A piece of stationery is sent, inviting people to attend a warm, friendly church. But without the personal contact of people who care enough to send the very best - themselves - little influence is exerted.

Have you noticed... God blesses churches that get outside themselves. In the same way, God blesses people who get outside themselves. Invite someone to worship with you at First Baptist each week of the New Year!

BUCKEYE BAPTIST HAITIAN CONNECTION

HARRY RITTENHOUSE of Delaware is again leading a mission work team to service three projects in Haiti. The tentative schedule is January 30 - February 13. Check INFO on the bulletin board... or call Harry evenings at 362-4711.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

This Christian Community Action group has announced an organizational meeting for Jan. 11, at 7:30 p.m., O. W. U. Memorial Union Bldg. Habitat is dedicated to providing housing for those who otherwise could not afford it. O. W. U. is offering Habitat a house to assist in this housing ministry. If you are interested, will you attend the meeting and then report to our church business meeting later in the month. Many thanks!

NEWS-FROM-THE-PEWS!!

The Larry Faulks spent a few days after Christmas visiting Dearborn, Michigan.

Jennifer Gillin spent a few days at the Parsonage during the Christmas season. Jennifer now resides in Beverly, Mass. where she is employed by the Massachusetts Department of Mental Health at the Desveau House in Hamilton, Mass.

FROM OUR CHURCH SCHOOL JUNIORS-----

The juniors say:

"Our class is neat"

"We do lots of fun stuff in our class"

"Come and join us"

"Our class is different"

"We play games, draw pictures, read out of our Bibles, have fun".

These are quotes from the juniors - Matthew, Erin, Micah, Marci, and Abby. Teachers are Pam Faulk and Anne Linn.

CANDLELIGHTERS FOR JANUARY

- January 7 - Barbara Lovell
- January 14 - Adam Mowery
- January 21 - Elizabeth Davis
- January 28 - Evan Trigg

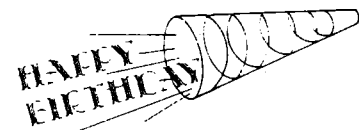


FIRST BAPTIST SUPPORTS PEACE IN NEW YEAR'S EVE COMMUNITY CANDLELIGHTING

A number of our families helped light up Delaware, using sidewalk candle displays provided by Julie Secrest, Delaware Peacemaker.

JANUARY CALENDAR

- 7 - COMMUNION SUNDAY
DIACONATE MTNG.
CHURCH GROWTH TASK FORCE MTNG.
- 8 - BOY SCOUT TROOP MTNG.
- 9 - VISITATION MINISTRY - C. Bland
- 10 - CHOIR REHEARSAL
PRAYER + BIBLE FELLOWSHIP
- 11 - VISITATION MINISTRY - M. Smale
- 14 - CHURCH OFFICERS + TEACHERS DEDICATION
BD. OF C. E. MTNG. - Whites
- 15 - BOY SCOUT TROOP MTNG.
- 16 - PARISH COUNCIL MTNG. - S. Stoner, Mod.
- 17 - CHOIR REHEARSAL
PRAYER + BIBLE FELLOWSHIP
- 18 - VISITATION MINISTRY - J. Stephenson
- 20 - AMERICAN BAPTIST MEN'S BRKFST MTNG.
- 21 - PULPIT EXCHANGE SUNDAY - Randy Lewis
Asst. Min., Asbury U. M. C.
ANNUAL BUSINESS MTNG.
AMERICAN BAPTIST WOMEN'S MTNG.
- 22 - BOY SCOUT TROOP MTNG.
- 23 - VISITATION MINISTRY - J. Richards
- 24 - CHOIR REHEARSAL
PRAYER + BIBLE FELLOWSHIP
- 25 - VISITATION MINISTRY - L. Faulk
- 26 - CHURCH WOMEN UNITED ANNUAL MTNG.
Stratford-St. Paul U. M. C.
- 28 - GREEN LAKE ASSEMBLY SUNDAY
- 29 - BOY SCOUT TROOP MTNG.
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MTNG.
- 30 - VISITATION MINISTRY - B. Turney



BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

- January 12 - Larry Faulk
- Larry Dixon
- 13 - John Linn
- 18 - Matthew Lovell
- 21 - Tim Fogle
- 22 - Ernestine Frost
- 24 - Ben Turney
- 26 - Sophia Stephenson
- February 2 - Fred Grubbs
- Barney Barkeloo
- Millie Martin

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED ANNUAL MEETING

SYD SCHNAARS of the Delaware Ecumenical Youth Group will address the annual meeting of the . W. U. at Stratford-St. Paul United Methodist Church, January 26, 11:45 A.M. The church will provide Nursery Care and a Soup And Sandwich lunch for which donations will be received. Let us have a good representation from First Baptist!



MORE OF.....

HOW TO KNOW YOU ARE GROWING OLDER

Everything hurts and what doesn't hurt doesn't work.

The gleam in your eye is from the sun hitting your bifocals.

You feel like the night before and you haven't been anywhere.

Your little black book contains only names ending in M.D.

You get winded playing cards.

Your children begin to look middle-aged.

You join a health club and don't go.

A dripping faucet causes an uncontrollable bladder urge.

You know all the answers, but nobody asks you the questions.

You look forward to a dull evening.

You need glasses to find your glasses.

You turn out the lights for economic rather than romantic reasons.

You sit in a rocking chair and can't get it going.

Your knees buckle but your belt won't.

Your back goes out more than you do.

You have too much room in the house and not enough in the medicine chest.

You are wondering why more people aren't using THIS SIZE OF PRINT.

PEOPLE UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Ruth Graham, Billy Graham's wife, says that when she dies she would like to have chiseled on her tombstone the words she saw along a stretch of highway. It said: "Under construction. Thank you for your patience."

How difficult it is to be patient with people who are under construction. Too bad we cannot be as patient with our children as God is with us.

THANK YOU !!!!!

Pastor and Mrs. Gillin wish to express their appreciation for the greetings and gifts from the First Baptist family this Advent Season!

- Gene and Ruth Gillin

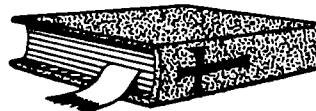
A special thank you to all who helped out with our Advent activities.

- Board of Christian Education



On behalf of TURNING POINT I wish to express appreciation for your recent donation of towels, sheets, blankets, pots and pans, gift items, clothing, personal items and other miscellaneous items.

Women and their children who use our services are extremely thankful for your generosity from which they benefit. Alice-Kay Hilderbrand



Thank you for the kind reception extended to me on Sunday, Oct. 29, when I was privileged to present a Gideon report in your church. Please thank your congregation for the offering of \$51.00 and be assured that every cent will go for the purpose given ... the purchase and placement of scriptures in some of the 142 countries in which we serve as one of your missionaries.

Shoff O. Daugherty

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Thanks to all who participated in the Sunday School program, Sunday, December 17. I appreciate all the work the participants did to learn their parts. They did a terrific job of conveying the message of the nativity and combining old and new traditions!

Thanks to:

Stefanie Stoner
Micah Stoner
Erin Faulk
Jeff Faulk
Emilie Trigg
Evan Trigg
Jarrod Trigg
Elizabeth Davis
Richard Davis
Karen Stoner

Marcie Sanders
Laura Newman
Victor Fogle
Natalie Mowery
Barbara Lovell
Matthew Lovell
Debbie Lovell
Adam Mowery
Laura Mowery
Beth Trigg

Thank you to the instrumentalists who provided the wonderful Christmas music for Christmas Eve service:

Debbie Lovell-Violin Jarrod Trigg-Trumpet
Jeff Faulk-Trombone Matthew Lovell-Trumpet
Stefanie Stoner-Violin Erin Faulk-Flute

Thanks to Adam, Laura and Emilie for singing "Away in a Manager"! Thanks to our young Christmas Soloists - Matthew Lovell, and Barbara Lovell!!!

Thanks to Debbie, Stefanie and Matthew and Erin for singing Christmas Eve morning. It makes it even more special!!!

Thanks to those who contributed to the Camp Fund as a Christmas present to our Young People.

Thanks to all the Choir members, Wick and Jim, for presenting me with a beautiful Christmas arrangement for accompanying the cantata. We enjoyed it on our table for Christmas. I'm glad they took the time to praise God with this beautiful Christmas cantata!!

- Mary Lou Lovell

At our last quarterly business meeting, it was voted that Sunday School would start at 9:00 a.m. Unfortunately, on any given Sunday, only a handful of people are present at 9:00 a.m., thus delaying our opening. Please be considerate of the fact that Sunday School teachers have prepared lessons and deserve their complete teaching time.

Also, the class responsible for the opening exercises has worked hard to prepare something, and they deserve our full attention. Please make a resolution in this New Year to arrive at Sunday School promptly at 9:00 a.m.

- Board of Christian Education

HELP
NEEDED

NURSERY AND JUNIOR CHURCH

We still need workers for the Nursery and Junior Church for January, February and March. See me today and sign up for a month, a week or whatever! You'll be blessed by being with the children, if you do.

Nursery
News



YEAR-END WRAP UP FROM THE TRUSTEES!!

Arch Trigg will be the Chairman of the Trustees for 1990. Please support him in any way you can.

1. The third major electrical project for 1989 was completed with the ceiling fans being rewired into conduit. The Fire Department reinspected and said we now conform to code. The bill has been received and payment has been made for all three electrical projects, i.e. the complete rewiring of the kitchen, the new lights along the north walk and the fans, for a total of \$1,206.00. These were our largest projects for the year. The largest volunteer project for 1989 was the painting of the back hall which was done by Jim Stephenson.
2. The pipe organ was tuned and serviced, as per our annual contract with Gary Mason. This was done just before the church pipe organ tour in October. This year, the tour started at our church. Thank you, Mary Lou! If you missed this interesting experience in about seven downtown churches, join us next year.
3. All 8 gas furnaces were serviced by Phil Richert.
4. A Thank You goes to the City of Delaware for finally putting our tax dollars to work and repairing and paving the alley behind the church. It is a big improvement!
5. The lawnmower was serviced for next summer.
6. The gutters and downspouts were cleaned out and a broken window in the bathroom was replaced at the old parsonage.
7. A Thank You goes to Will Fogel for filling the baptistry and tending the heaters for Radnor's recent service and also to Dave, Will and Pastor Gene for standing by as church hosts.
8. Three pianos were tuned by Clifford Rector.
9. A water pipe broke during the cold snap and filled the furnace room with 4 inches of water. It was repaired by Phil Rickert.
10. A new light was installed over the kitchen sink by electrician Mike Clark.
11. Both sweepers were taken to be overhauled. The Hoover upright has been returned. The Electrolux tank is still waiting for parts.

12. The Trustees assembled our wish list of jobs and projects for the New Year, all of which will depend on money being available. Anyone wishing to give to the repair fund, please see Dick Lee.

Projects that have been given a go ahead but are not completed are roof and gutter repairs by Larry Lathrop. The leak on the stairs in the new building only happens in zero weather and is due to ice and snow buildups.

Also, plaster repairs have been approved in the front bedroom of the old parsonage where the ceiling caved in.

- Peter White
Chairman Trustees - 1989

Letter received from:
Pastor Alvin R. Cox
Radnor Baptist Church
Radnor, Ohio

December 6, 1989

Reverend Gene F. Gillin
First Baptist Church
101 N. Franklin Street
Delaware, OH 43015-1728

Dear Gene,

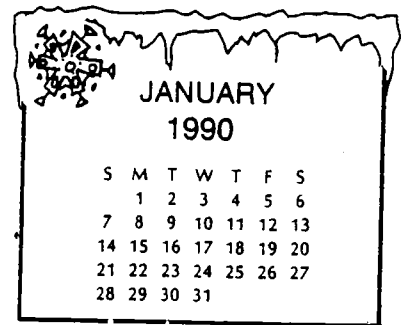
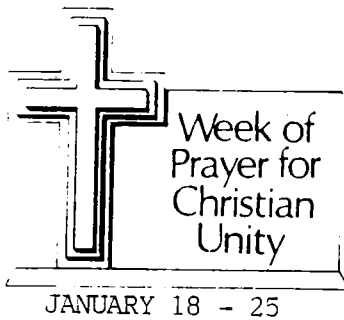
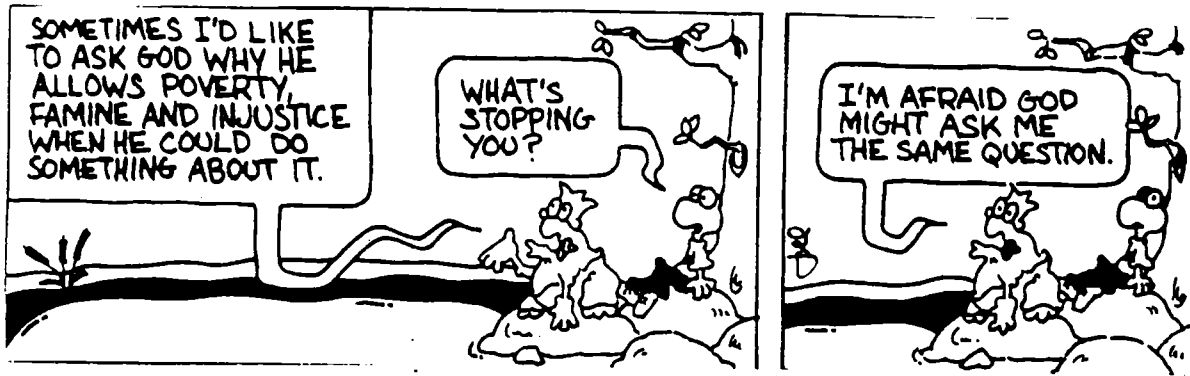
The baptismal service was a blessing to all of us. Our people felt at home in your church and it was good for us to be in a church building again. You worked everything out and made everything easy for us.

Please convey our appreciation to those who helped and to your entire congregation for opening your church home to us. I trust that we can share together again in special services such as this and other opportunities to worship together. We are thankful that we have brothers and sisters in Christ who share with us.

Our prayers and thoughts are with you. Best wishes for the holiday season!

Sincerely yours,

Alvin R. Cox, Pastor.



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
 101 N. FRANKLIN STREET
 DELAWARE, OHIO 43015

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



TO:

February, 1990
Volume 20, Number 2

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

As the Church Growth Task Force catches the vision of God's will for our congregation and begins to establish heartfelt goals and objectives for living out that vision redemptively, I would like to pledge myself to the growing ways of a "possibility pastor"..... to the caring ways of embodying God's love in our church family: to listen to others and respect their opinions be available help others discover and put into practice their God-given gifts treat each other as human beings - affirming, caring, forgiving, loving, encouraging compliment others when they deserve it pray for them by name and ask about their concerns ... show interest in their weekday work and life beyond the walls of the church building ... visit them in their homes and at their places of employment become involved in the life of the community help all to see and understand that they are a vital part of the larger Christian family, including the association, the state, the national and international denominational and interdenominational family and encourage family enrichment time in conferences at Judson Hills Retreat Cntr. and at Green Lake Summer Assembly.

Remember to keep our purpose in your prayers and service for First Baptist:

"OF ALL THAT YOU WANT THE CHURCH TO BE,
O GOD, WE WILL BE A SPIRITUAL PRISM
THAT RADIATES THE LIGHT OF CHRIST'S
LOVE TO ALL"

GROW BY CARING

A workshop from ABC/USA Board of National Ministries Evangelism Dept. on the Ministry Of Caring(40 Hour Lab Experience), Mar. 2-4, Mar. 30-Apr. 1, F.B.C., Kenton, Ohio..... Help In Learning The Language And Skills Of Healing ... led by the Rev. Saundra Heizer.



YOUTH NEWS

B.Y.F. LOCK-IN AND ROCK-A-THON

F.B.C. Fellowship Hall, Fri. + Sat., Feb. 23 + 24, 6 pm - 6 am Our young people will be joining with the youth of Radnor Baptist Church for 12 hours of food, games, music + "ROCKIN"! Randy + Jennifer Turner will tell about their trip to Haiti along with Bev Cox(just back from Haiti) will share her experience.... Tod Coffman of Marion General will discuss Alcohol Abuse:Drinking + Driving...A Disc Jockey from WCVO will spin records along the way.

And during all this, the youth will rock, rock, rockity rock in their rocking chairs.... to raise money(\$1,000) for our Haiti Mission. You can help by sponsoring your favorite youth with any sum of money you wish for each hour they rock. You can also help by volunteering with Beth Trigg to help on the Adult Support Staff during the wee hours of the night. HELP!!!

JUNIOR HIGH B.Y.F. EXTRAVAGANZA

Saturday, February 24, 10 - 5 pm., Trinity B. C., Marion, for youth in grades 6 - 9. Program: AVOID THE VOID - Combatting Spiritual Emptiness led by Jeff Cooper; Special Music: Jim Wade; Song Leader: George "of the jungle" Winters; Adult Training: Sponsoring Your Own Youth Retreat, led by Don + Jane Lewis of Judson Hills. See bulletin bd. for INFO.

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The Board of Christian Education met in January. Pam Faulk was named Chairperson; Carol Grubbs will be the Secretary; Linda White will represent the Board on the Nominating and Finance Committees; Lana Palmer will be the representative on the Pastoral Relations Committee.

We set the following goals for 1990:

1. Outreach to older members
2. Promote a junior choir
3. Participate in Peace Camp
4. Work with Second Baptist Church
5. Support the college student committee and host an international student weekend
6. Provide workshops in human sexuality for youth
7. Focus on youth ministry and enrichment. Encourage joint activities with neighboring Baptist youth groups
8. Form a young adult group
9. Initiate the Adventure in Sharing Program
10. Be sensitive to the recommendations of the Growth Task Force

Our next meeting will be Sunday, February 11 at 3 p.m. at Lana Palmer's house.

- Pam Faulk, Chairperson
Board of Christian Ed.

PEACE CAMP

Our church will take part in the Peace Camp this summer, together with First Presbyterian, Asbury Methodist and possibly Zion. First Baptist may possibly be hosting this Camp, so workers are needed. Our first planning committee meeting will be Saturday, February 10 at 9 a.m. at First Baptist. If you are interested in being on this planning committee, please join us then or contact Pam Faulk.

- Pam Faulk

THE KINDERGARTEN CLASS

The children of the Kindergarten Class - Emilie Trigg, Laura Mowry, Laura Newmar, Courtney Aleshire and regular visitor Natalie Griffith, want to share what they are doing.

In our Sunday School class, we always take time to share with each other, what we have done in the past week and to say our "Thank You" prayer for the good things and for getting us through the "not so good" things. We like to hear stories, do crafts, sing songs and play. We also enjoy a good snack now and then and accept all "cookie" donations!

If 4 and 5 year olds are a favorite age group of yours, stop in and visit us. We love company and we guarantee it will be a bright spot in your day.

- Carol Grubbs, Teacher

ANNUAL RETREAT

Our church family has expressed, in the past, that the Annual Retreat is a very important event in our fellowship. If you wish to see it continue, we need leadership. If you are interested in being on the Retreat Committee, please speak to Pam Faulk.

- Pam Faulk

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER AND TALENT NIGHT

Get tuned up and start practicing!! Larry and Dave will once again provide pancakes and sausage if you provide the talent. Our annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper and Talent Night will be held on February 27 at 6:00 in Fellowship Hall. All are invited. Bring a friend.

- Pam Faulk

PERSONALS

Erin and Jeff Faulk, and Marci Sander, all made the Honor Roll for the second 9 weeks of school. CONGRATULATIONS, ERIN, JEFF and MARCI !!!!!

BOOK OF THE MONTH

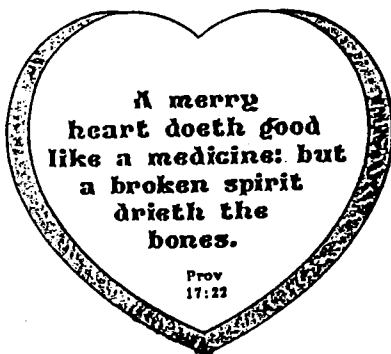
"PROBING HEAVEN: KEY QUESTIONS ON THE HEREAFTER"

Dr. John Gilmore, Pastor, Madisonville Baptist Church, Cincinnati, has recently been published by Baker Book House. He writes, "Nothing is more open to speculation than the idea of heaven. Options range from the sublime to the ridiculous, from fictitious dreaming to meaningless verbiage, from heaven as a pleasure palace from which none desire to vacate, to open territories where outdoor recreations dominate one's leisure."

We must be on guard against the importation of ideas which contradict Scripture. We must question whether ideas expressed by Christians today as well as by Christians in earlier ages really reflect the Bible or whether they are only perpetuating personal and cultural anticipations. We wrongly imagine that heaven is a subject that concerns only those with a mystical bent or bias..."

If you have been wondering about heaven, this book has the answer. Check it out soon!

OUR THANKS to Shirley Parker, unofficial humor reporter, who passed along some choice tales from Christmas pageants the 5 yr. old who was telling the story about Jesus' birth and standing tall and using the animated delivery that her mother had practiced with her, was doing well until she came to the portion about the Three Wise Men: "So Jesus was visited by three maggots that brought him gifts of gold, frankensteins and smurfs."



..... and the 6 yr. old boy at St. Vincent de Paul School who didn't want to play the innkeeper in the Christmas play because he hated the idea of saying "No room at the inn" to Mary and Joseph. He finally agreed, but when he came to the fateful line during the performance, he blurted, "There is no room at the inn - but what the heck, come in anyway and have a drink."

FEBRUARY EVENTS

- 4 - Deacon's Mtng., 5:30 pm
- 5 - Scout Troop 393 Mtng., 7:00 pm (wkly)
- 6 - Watchcare Ministry - C. Bland
Prayer + Bible Fellowship - VanBrimmers(wkly)
- 7 - Watchcare Ministry - J. Stephenson
- 10 - Peace Camp Planning Mtng., F.B.C., 9:00 am
- 11 - Bd. Of C.E. Mtng., Palmers, 3:00 pm
- 13 - Watchcare Ministry - J. Richards
- 15 - Watchcare Ministry - L. Faulk
- 17 - A. B. Men's Fellowship Breakfast, 8:30 am
- 18 - A. B. Women's Mtng., 2:30 pm
- 19 - Parish Council Mtng., 7:00 pm
- 20 - Watchcare Ministry - B. Turney
- 22 - Watchcare Ministry - M. Smale
- 23 - B.Y.F. Lock-in + Rock-a-thon, FBC, 6:00 pm
- 24 - Jr. High B.Y.F. Extravaganza, TBC, Marion
- 27 - Pancake Supper + Talent Night, 6:00 pm
- 28 - Ash Wednesday

NOTES FROM THE CHOIR LOFT

Our Church Choir is pleased to welcome three new members, Vini, Randy and Jennifer. The Choir has been invited by the Richwood Baptist Church to sing in the service on Wednesday, Feb. 7, 7:00 pm., the last night of their week of evangelism.

NEWS FROM THE CAMPUS

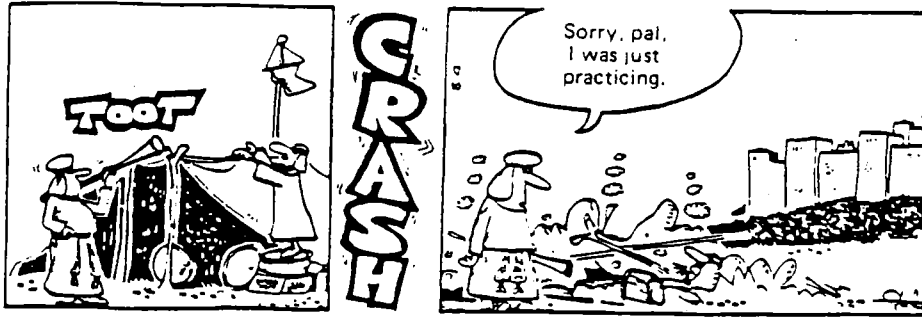
The Columbus Symphony Youth Orchestra will present VERDI REQUIEM with the Ohio Wesleyan, Otterbein, and Ashland university Choirs Friday, Feb. 16, 8:15 pm., Gray Chapel.... Call 368-3700 for tickets(\$7.00).

Do not look forward in fear
To changes and chances that might happen.
The same everlasting God who has always
cared for us
Will continue to care for us now
and in the future.
God will either shield us from suffering
Or will give us unfailing strength
to bear it.
BE AT PEACE, then,
And lay aside all anxious thoughts and
imaginations.

-St. Francis de Sales
1967-1622

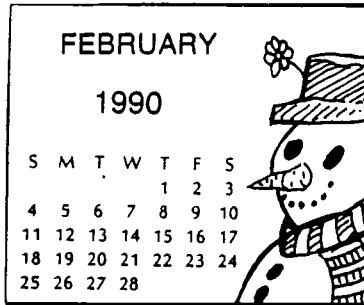
SUBMITTED BY JEAN WICKUM

BASICALLY BIBLICAL



BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

- 2 - Fred Grubbs
Barney Barkeloo
Millie Martin
- 8 - Della Dean
- 9 - Janet Inscho
- 13 - Lana Palmer
- 17 - Beth Linn
- 23 - Willard Fogle
- 2 - Jim Ringley
- 6 - Mary Barkeloo



CANDLELIGHTERS FOR FEBRUARY

- February 4 - Marci Sander
- February 11 - Micah Stoner
- February 18 - Matthew Lovell
- February 25 - Erin Faulk

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
101 N. FRANKLIN STREET
DELAWARE, OHIO 43015

(Address Correction Requested)



TO:

♥ FEBRUARY ♥

newsletter

March, 1990
Volume 20, Number 3

The

Good News Letter

Published in the cause of the abundant life by
THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, DELAWARE, OHIO

Rev. Gene F. Gillin
Pastor

Dear Christian Friends:

Did you receive your invitation? Did your neighbors receive theirs??

**YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED
TO ATTEND
A BANQUET IN HONOR OF
JESUS, THE CHRIST.
PLACE: THE KINGDOM OF GOD
R.S.V.P GOD**

Many people have not received their invitations and we are trying our best to contact them. You can help!

Beginning Sunday, March 4, you will be asked to help in a very special way through the **AMERICA FOR CHRIST OFFERING**. The theme for the offering is "Go to the Streets and Invite." It is based on the parable told by Jesus in Luke 14:16-23.

How will the offering help? The **AMERICA FOR CHRIST OFFERING** helps sustain the work of people like David Stone, Carrie Bell Brown, and Roger and Loretta Ramsel as they share God's invitation in our inner cities and with Native Americans.

This offering will open new churches and provide new pastors. It will support Educational Ministries staff like Don Ng, Linda Isham, and Irma Cruz as they develop the best Christian Education curriculum possible to help share the invitation. It will undergird the ministry of Sandra Heizer as she works with our church and with other missions in our Region.

The **AMERICA FOR CHRIST OFFERING** accomplishes all this and much more through National Ministries, Educational Ministries and our Region. Each will receive one-third of your gift to the **AMERICAN FOR CHRIST OFFERING**.

The invitation we have been asked to share is priceless. Carrying this invitation to people in every part of the United States and Puerto Rico deserves our fullest support.

I urge you not to set aside this letter without a second thought. You received your invitation because someone cared enough to share it with you. Now, won't you help send the invitation to others?

Join me. Give generously to support American Baptist mission at home through your gifts to the **AMERICA FOR CHRIST OFFERING**.

Lana Palmer, Chrm.
Missionary Education

CONGRATULATIONS TO.....

..... **RICHARD E. PAYNE** formerly a member at FBC, Delaware, who was recently named Executive Assistant to the President of Saginaw Valley State University, Saginaw, Michigan. Richard formerly served in a similar position with Rhode Island College, Providence, R.I.

..... **BETTY PORTER** Clerk of Delaware County, Court of Common Pleas, who was elected Treasurer of the Ohio Clerk of Courts Association at their recent conference in Columbus.

APPLAUSE, APPLAUSE !!!!!

TO.....Erin Faulk, Marci Sanders and Jeff Faulk for making the Honor Roll at Dublin Schools.

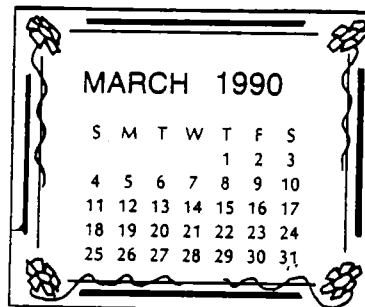
TO.....Debbie Lovell, Jarrod Trigg, and Matthew Lovell for being on the Merit Roll in Delaware City Schools.

PLEASE NOTE ----- NEW ADDRESS!!!!!!!

Jeff and Donna Reed
229 W. High Street
Ostrander, Ohio 43061
614-666-1229

MARCH EVENTS

- 4 - 5:00 pm Diaconate Meeting
- 5 - 7:00 pm Scout Troop #393 Mtg. (Wkly)
- 6 - 7:00 pm Home Bible Study-N.Sheets' Apt
- 7 - 7:00 pm Choir (Weekly)
- 8 - 7:00 pm Peace Camp Planning Mtg.
- 9 - B.Y.F. State Convention-Youngstown
- 11 - 11:45 am Special Congregational Business Meeting
- 13 - 7:00 pm Home Bible Study-Turney's
- 15 - 7:30 pm ABW Meeting
- 17 - 8:30 am Men's Fellowship Breakfast
am Recycling Collection
- 18 - 2:00 pm Delaware Ct. Chapel Service
- 3:00 pm Bd. of C.E. - C.Grubb's
- 5:00 pm Parsonage Dinner Meeting
- 19 - 7:00 pm Parish Council Meeting
- 20 - 7:15 pm P.R.A.Y. Meeting - Marion
- 21 - 7:00 pm Home Bible Study-C.Schneeberger's
- 23 - 6:30 pm Marion Assoc. Banquet-Marion
- 26 - 7:00 pm Trustees Meeting
- 27 - 7:00 pm Home Bible Study-J. Richards'



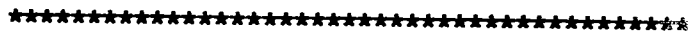
IN APPRECIATION

We would like to express our deepest appreciation to all of our friends at First Baptist Church for their cards, letters, flowers, food, visits, gifts, memorial donations and prayers during our time of sorrow.

We especially wish to thank Jim VanBrimmer, Pastor Gillin, Jean Wickum, Mary Lou Lovell, Wilbur Wickum and Fred Grubbs for their participation in the Memorial Service and those who planned the reception.

May God bless all of you.

- The Stephenson Family



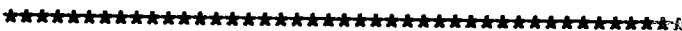
Christian Sympathy to the Family of our former pastor

JAMES B. STEPHENSON

who died on February 8 at Riverside Hospital.

Pastor Stephenson was born in Pomeroy, Ohio, in 1918 and served the First Baptist Church of Perry, Ohio, before coming to Delaware in 1947, where he concluded his ministry in 1987.

Our love and prayers go out to his family.



LET THE REDEEMED OF THE LORD SAY SO....

Our Deacon of the Month, Cynthia Bland, shared with the congregation in worship on Sunday, February 25, this good news about her spiritual journey within our First Baptist family. Because some were unable to be with us due to a bad winter storm, we wanted to include these remarks in our Good Newsletter and Cynthia has graciously consented to let us include them in this issueEditor

"Before leading the Responsive Reading, I'd like to share a few reflections with you. This is not a formal testimony and it's not printed in the bulletin, but I hope you won't mind listening for a couple of minutes as I tell you how God has blessed me in the last few weeks.

In January, when I began serving as a deacon, I felt willing but unworthy and ill-equipped. I didn't feel entirely right with God. Several aspects of my life felt out of control and there were barriers in my relationship with God that I myself had erected. On the evening of January 6, I arrived back in Ohio after the long drive from North Carolina and served my first communion January 7, willingly but with a terrible sense that I was doing something almost blasphemous. The following Sunday, all of the church officers, including the deacons were dedicated. While this dedication was meaningful, I still didn't feel worthy to be a spiritual leader in this church, though I wanted to do the job. At the end of the service that Sunday, I came forward at the invitation, feeling an irresistible call to rededicate my life to God so that I could serve God and this congregation effectively as a deacon.

Since then several things in my life have changed, not suddenly, but I believe that my rededication opened me to be healed in several ways. I've always struggled with pessimism but now I find myself engaged in positive thinking a good bit of the time. I'm thinking positively about things I didn't know I could think positively about. Instead of feeling transient, I feel a security, a rootedness, a sense of being in the right place at the right time in Delaware,

Ohio, at Ohio Wesleyan University and at First Baptist Church. This feeling of security comes as a most pleasant surprise. Instead of sleeping in as long as possible, I get up earlier than I have for a long time. My prayer life has deepened, the barriers I felt between me and God have been battered down. The peace of Christ is with me most of the time. I know that, being human, I will experience doubt from time-to-time, and dry spells in prayer, but the new positive thinking, the feeling of security, and the new drive to get up in the morning seem miraculous to me, and I want to thank God in your presence for this healing.

This month, standing before you, I have also been in the presence of God. I am most grateful to you for this opportunity. And I must tell you that, in spite of our recent problems, I believe the Holy Spirit is in our midst. Not only have I felt this during Sunday morning worship, but also in the Adult Too Sunday School Class, in the Tuesday evening Bible study, at a recent playing of the choir's Christmas cantata performance on tape, in private conversations with several of you, and, very powerfully, at Pastor Stephenson's Memorial Service. I have sensed his spirit and his positive influence still at work here.

This month I have felt specially blessed. I want you to know that I'm glad to be part of this church, I pray for its healing and its growth, and especially, I love my church family.

- Deacon Cynthia Bland



BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

- March 6 - Mary Barkeloo
- March 9 - Annette Ringley
- March 12 - Evan Trigg
- March 18 - David Lovell
- March 20 - Micah Stoner
- March 20 - Natalie Mowery
- March 25 - Carey Beth Fogle
- April 2 - Adam Mowery
- April 4 - W.C. Wickum

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

OWU Chapter will be going on a work project to Columbia, S.C. to rebuild some homes destroyed by Hurricane Hugo last summer. 25 students will be involved the week of March 10 - 17. If you would like to sponsor a student in the amount of \$100.00, call Randy Lewis at Asbury Methodist, 363-3611.

A Delaware Community Chapter will be organized on Tuesday, March 6 at 7:30 pm at Asbury U.M. Church. A representative from each of the churches is requested.

DELAWARE ANNUAL HEALTH CHECK is scheduled for Saturday, April 7, 9-2 p.m. at OWU Branch Rickey Arena. Volunteers are needed to help staff this event. Call the Health Department - 363-6330, to register for a volunteer training session.

P.R.A.Y. (PLANNING, RESTRUCTURING, ACTION YEARS) MEETING is scheduled for the Trinity B.C., Marion, on Tuesday, March 20 at 7:15 to 9:15 p.m. W.C. Wickum, Jim and Bertha VanBrimmer, Gene and Ruth Gillin and any others interested in a Decade of Adventure for Ohio Baptist should plan to attend.

MARION ASSOCIATION ANNUAL BANQUET will again recognize our new members of 1989 in our 18 churches on Friday, March 23 at 6:30 p.m. at the Tri Rivers School Dining Hall, Marion. Tickets (\$7.00 + \$3.50) will be available from Jim VanBrimmer and Cynthia Bland. See Bulletin Board for program schedule.

DAYS OF INVITATION A workshop to train and equip lay people for the ministry of evangelism will be held at the Diamond Hills Baptist Church, Mansfield, on Saturday, March 17, 9:30 - 3:30 p.m. See Bulletin Board for program schedule.

TUESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY

At a recent home Bible study, the joyful comment was made, "You wonder why there are those who think they have to get 'high' on drugs, when you can get this 'high' on His word!" Everyone agreed. The study of the Gospel of St. John has been so enriching that the group decided it was too good to keep for themselves; therefore, during Lent, we are "taking it on the road!" Members will be visiting in homes of our Church family that find travel to church functions at night difficult at best, or, indeed, impossible. The group will provide refreshments. Our scheduled visits for March are:

- March 6 - Nellie Sheets
100 Georgetown, Apt. 122
- March 13- Ben & Bernice Turney
76 Campbell Street
- March 21- Carolyn Schneeberger
21 S. Sandusky
- March 27- John & Mary Helen Richards
523 W. William

Anyone interested in attending any of the studies is WELCOME!

- Lana Palmer



COME AND SEE
WHAT GOD HAS DONE

WHEN YOU GET TO THE END OF YOUR ROPE....
...TIE A KNOT AND HANG ON.....
...AND SWING !!!!!....

-Leo Buscaglia

MEDITATION AND PRAYER COVENANT SERIES

The Board of Christian Education has initiated a 16-week (concluding at Pentecost) **MEDITATION AND PRAYER COVENANT** series for the purpose of:

1. Promoting a deeper understanding and awareness of the work of the Holy Spirit in the life of the individual and of the church family.
2. Promoting the premise that as Christians we must be dedicated to being His prayerful instruments of truth and peace.
3. Providing a Lenten experience that will promote love, healing, Spiritual growth, and rededication to the Lordship of Jesus Christ because we have heard and responded to the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Many members of our church family have volunteered to be channels of the Spirit for this experience in faith, hope and expectation. They have committed themselves to praying and listening for God's message to them. Further, as channels, they will respond to the leading of the Spirit by creating a prayer and meditation guide as His message is given to them. These will then be printed and distributed to the congregation weekly. In order for us to recognize that these messages are given as the result of the leading of the Holy Spirit through Divine inspiration (and are therefore His ownership), the names of the channels will not be made known, that the honor and glory may be given to God. The board, nonetheless, very much appreciates the faith of these loving individuals who are thus inspiring others to become His channels in fresh, new, and productive ways by their example and the sharing of His word.

Matthew 19:26 declares "With God all things are possible!" As we open ourselves to becoming prisms of His Holy Light, we will become the church He would have us to be ... Spirit filled, Spirit directed and Spirit shared.

- The Board of Christian Education

GROWTH TASK FORCE UPDATE

As of this writing, your Growth Task Force has progressed to a critical point in its planning process. Goals in six key ministries of the church have been developed and are being proposed for adoption by the whole congregation at a special meeting of the church, following morning worship on March 11, 1990.

These goals are based upon our experiences in the past, our recent research, our hopes and dreams for the future of this church, and upon the leading of the Holy Spirit in our deliberations. They will have been distributed to all members of the congregation prior to the special meeting.

These proposals are not easily attained, short-term goals. We anticipate that a program to accomplish them would require several months to several years of effort. In reality, adoption would mean a new sense of direction for the church for the foreseeable future.

Please be with us on March 11 and help determine what our future as a congregation should be.

- Jim VanBrimmer, Chrmn
The Growth Task Force

SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL

Please make a special effort to join us at 9:00 a.m. each Sunday morning for Sunday Church School during Lent. We will be having "guest speakers" for opening assembly.

- Pam Faulk

REPORT FROM TRUSTEES

The Trustees would like to report that Jeremy Domire of Troop 393, which meets in our church, will be painting the last classroom on the northwest of the hallway in the Educational wing. Please give Jeremy our support as he is doing this as a Eagle Scout Service Project.

Thanks!! - Archie Trigg
Chrm, Board of Trustees

B.Y.F. ROCK-A-THON REPORT

Our First Baptist Youth combined their rocking efforts with the Radnor Youth, Friday evening, the 23rd of February, to raise over \$900 for mission work in Haiti. Contributions are still being accepted to help the kids reach their goal of \$1,000. See any BYF'er or Advisor Beth Trigg.

Speakers included Todd Coffman, a young man confined to a wheel chair. He spoke about the effects of drinking and driving. He shared the events that led to his accident and how it affected his life and family. He brought his nurse, Kathy, from Marion General. She lost a 23 year old brother from the effects of drinking and driving. They showed us some graphic slides of youngsters who drank and then got behind the wheel and didn't fasten seat belts.

Randy and Jennifer Turner contributed an informative slide show on their time spent at an agricultural camp in Haiti. Randy helped to build a machine shed, while Jennifer helped with laundry and cooking.

Bev Cox, Radnor BYF Advisor, recently returned from Limbe, Haiti. She and a teen from Delaware County spent 16 days assisting at the hospital there. They shared many sad stories of the poverty, AIDS, Tuberculosis and malnutrition. The young girl shared a very moving poem she had written about her experiences there. Upon her return to the States, she accepted Christ as her Savior.

An energetic Kirby Francis, accompanied by Steve Palmer, and three other young Christians combined to form The Tilted Halos, who performed Christian Rock.

Channel 56 interviewed us, as well as WCVO Radio. We are hopeful additional contributions will come in from this publicity.

Many new friendships were made, and all 17 youth re-committed their lives to Christ! A warm glow generated through the hearts of all who witnessed this. The Holy Spirit was moving through our Fellowship Hall in the wee hours of Saturday morning!

Heartfelt thanks to all who helped -- especially those who set the alarm to come in and chaperone in the early morning hours; Steve Stoner for setting up breakfast; Anne Linn for all her moral support and "hanging in" x-tra hours. But especially to eleven wonderful, sweet Christian angels-on-earth:

Jeff Faulk	Marci Saunder
Erin Faulk	Micah Stoner
Vic Fogle	Stef Stoner
Deb Lovell	Jarrodd Trigg
Matthew Lovell	Natalie Mowery
Vinnie Ministeri	

I'm proud of you. God smiles on you!

- Beth Trigg
BYF Advisor

YOUTH CAMP FUND

The Youth Camp Fund is steadily growing and stands at \$90.85. Thanks to the givers!

Last year, the Camp fee was \$110.00 per camper. We have almost enough to send one of our youth to Judson Hills or Kirkwood. Wouldn't it be terrific if we could send 3 or 4?

- Mary Lou Lovell

CANDLELIGHTERS FOR MARCH

March 4	Micah Stoner
March 11	Richard Davis
March 18	Marci Sander
March 25	Evan Trigg
April 1	Erin Faulk

Leo Durocher was coaching at first base in an exhibition game the Giants were playing at West Point. One noisy cadet kept shouting at Leo, doing his best to upset him. "Hey, Durocher," he hollered. "How did a little squirt like you get into the major leagues?"

"My Congressman appointed me," Leo shouted back!!

NOTES FROM THE CHOIR LOFT

Have you noticed that our Choir has grown in numbers? We now have six sopranos, three altos, two tenors and two bass.

The Choir Loft will accommodate more. So, if you've been thinking about joining, why not do it now?

After Choir rehearsal last Wednesday, the 21st, the Choir enjoyed listening to their Christmas Cantata on a tape made by Jim VanBrimmer.

As the current director, I must commend this talented group for their steadfast attendance and hard work at rehearsals and for providing great sounding and meaningful musical messages in the Sunday morning services.

- W. Wickum

A pastor in California was preaching in a revival where there were few visible results. Finally, after several verses of an invitation hymn, a young man started forward.

"And a little child shall lead them!" exclaimed the excited evangelist. The boy walked toward the pastor, turned to the left, and walked into the hall on his way to the bathroom!!



SOPHIA'S FUND

It was brought to my attention recently that the Stephenson's old car had given up, was too tired to start again. Some of Sophia's friends thought we should do something about it. I didn't think too much about it until Steve was called to his heavenly home. As I called folks outside of Delaware to tell them, I suggested that a car fund might be appropriate rather than flowers. Everyone I talked with thought it a great idea. Dick Lee suggested we call it Sophia's Fund. So this Fund came into being so her friends could help Sophia get a car she could go to the grocery store with or just take a ride in if she feels so inclined. Spring will soon be here and she needs some dependable transportation. The car would let her know how much we love her and to thank her for the years she has given us her help and love.

So if you have something to add to SOPHIA'S FUND, just mark it and drop it into the offering plate on any Sunday or give it to me or to Dick Lee. The account will be closed March 25.

Thank you so much for your love and help in this.

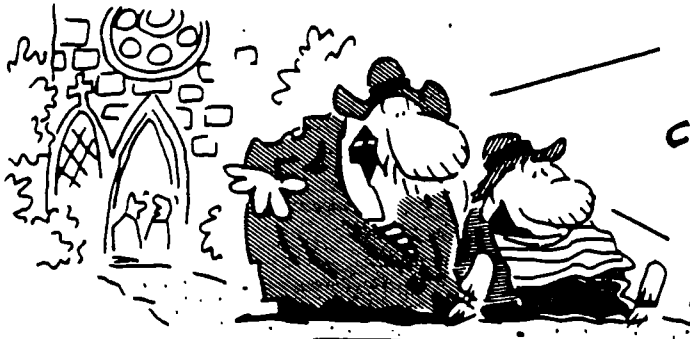
- Ernestine Frost

STEPHENSON MEMORIAL

A fund has been established to provide a memorial in the church in honor of our former pastor, James B. Stephenson. Steve was with us for almost 40 years as pastor and friend, and it is fitting that an appropriate memorial to his service be established.

Persons wishing to contribute toward this effort can do so by designating their offering to the "Stephenson Memorial". Contributions may be placed in the regular offering plates on Sunday mornings or given to our Financial Secretary, Dick Lee.

- Jim VanBrimmer



SOME PEOPLE I SEE IN
CHURCH ONLY FOR
CHRISTENINGS, WEDDINGS,
AND FUNERALS.

YEAH... TO HATCH,
MATCH, AND DISPATCH!

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FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
101 N. FRANKLIN STREET
DELAWARE, OHIO 43015

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



TO:

Good News Letter

Published in the cause of the abundant life by
THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, DELAWARE, OHIO

Rev. Gene F. Gillin
Pastor

PASTORGRAPHS

Beautiful Believer's Baptism will be a part of our Easter celebration of our resurrection faith. We shall again witness the symbolic act of burial and resurrection in an evening worship service in our sanctuary with the Radnor Baptist Church. Victor Fogle and Jarrod Trigg of our First Baptist family will be among those who confess their faith in this service of baptism.

Paul assumed the believers in Colossae had taken this step of public renunciation of self and affirmation to the resurrection life given by Jesus to those who put their trust in him for salvation. Paul doesn't say if you are baptized, but "when you were baptized you were buried with Christ, and in baptism you were also raised with Christ through faith in the active power of God who raised him from death" (Colossians 2:12). He repeats the symbolism during his discussion in chapter 3.

From both the symbolism and the context of the New Testament passages relating to baptism it is obvious that it was for believers who had been converted, and it was by immersion.

While there are many denominations among Christians, not all are obedient to all of Jesus' instructions. While baptism itself does not save, it is an act of obedience to the example of Jesus (Matt. 3:13ff) and his direct command (Matt. 28:19,20). Christians have to be obedient to this example and command. It becomes the privilege of Baptists to give a witness of burial and resurrection not only to unbelievers, but to those believers who have not been obedient to the symbol or command.

Lest Baptists take undue pride in their obedience to what God has commanded his followers, they should also notice the example of Christians in other communions, who by obedience to other teachings of Jesus, might have something to teach Baptists.

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING

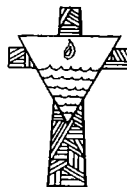
The Pastor has called a special business meeting to be held after morning worship services on Sunday, April 29.

The purpose of this meeting will be to consider for adoption, the first goal objectives for Church growth as presented by the Growth Task Force.

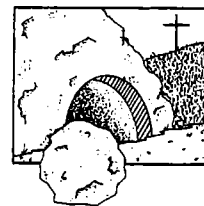
This announcement will serve as the required advance notice of a called business meeting.

Please plan to attend and lend your support to this very important effort.

- Jim VanBrimmer
Chairperson
Growth Task Force



BAPTISM



EASTER

EASTER SUNDAY SCHEDULE

- | | |
|------------|--|
| 8:00 a.m. | - Sunrise Service |
| 8:30 a.m. | - Breakfast Buffet |
| 9:00 a.m. | - Intergenerational Sunday School Class in Fellowship Hall |
| 10:15 a.m. | - Easter Worship Service |

Please join us Easter Sunday morning at 8:30 a.m. for a breakfast buffet. Bring an item to share. Beverages will be provided.

At 9:00 a.m. the Sunday School classes will be combined in Fellowship Hall for some very special Easter activities.

GROWTH TASK FORCE UPDATE

On March 11, at a called business meeting of the Church, a set of goals in six key ministries was approved and adopted for a long-term growth effort. Our next step will be to define the objectives we must accomplish in order to reach these goals.

In determining what the objectives are to be, we want to involve all of the existing church organizations, as well as any individuals in our congregation who may have special interests in any of the ministries. Anyone who is not involved through an organization but would like to contribute to this effort is urged to contact the chairperson or one of the facilitators.

Listed below are the persons and organizations that have been assigned primary responsibility for defining the objectives. The facilitators will call any necessary meetings and coordinate the procedure.

<u>MINISTRY</u>	<u>FACILITATORS</u>	<u>ORGANIZATIONS</u>
EVANGELISM	Lana Palmer Randy Turner	Deacons Christian Ed
CARE	Wilbur Wickum Larry Faulk	ABW ABM
WORSHIP	Gene Gillin Jean Wickum	Deacons Music Comm.
SERVICE	Beth Trigg Jeff Faulk	Adult Church School Classes BYF
EDUCATION	Linda White Shirley Parker	Christian Ed Church School Teachers
ADMINISTRATION	Cynthia Bland Jim VanBrimmer	Pastor Parish Council Finance Chrm.

It may well be that objectives for all of the approved goals will not be identified at this time, because it is obvious that we cannot accomplish everything all at once. The Task Force has the responsibility of selecting the one (or more) most appropriate goal to work toward first.

At the present time, our schedule calls for the first objectives to be presented to the church membership for consideration and adoption at a called business meeting after church on April 29.

- Jim VanBrimmer
Chairperson

"In everything give thanks: For this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.
I Thess. 5:18



THANKS

I would like to thank everyone who bought Girl Scout cookies from me. Our troop is saving for a trip.

- Erin Faulk

THANK YOU

Thank you for sending me to BYF Convention. I went up with Beth, and three other people from Radnor, Mary, Michelle and Vikki. We had a wonderful time sharing and praising God's name within the fellowship of 600 other Christians from around the State.

Thanks to Beth for driving and many thanks to the Church for sending me.

- Debbie Lovell

YOUTH CAMP FUND

The Camp Fund for our youth currently stands at \$101.00. Last year, the camp fee was \$110.00 per child for one week. We have not received this year's schedule of fees for camp, however, we do expect that will be higher. Thank you for your support.

Most of the children and youth that went to Judson Hills have very fond memories. Let's try to help them go to camp again!

JULIAN OF NORWICH

On April 19 at 7:30 p.m. JULIAN, a play by J. Janda, based on the Life of Julian of Norwich, will be performed at our church by Vernagaye Sullivan. The performance, co-sponsored by Ohio Wesleyan University and First Baptist Church, is free and open to the public. A number of OWU students will be present, and the other Delaware congregations will be invited. A committee is being formed to serve refreshments after the performance. If you'd be willing to help, please contact Cynthia Bland at 363-1327.

The following information about JULIAN is presented in the hope of persuading you to come to the performance. The play, JULIAN, conveys a vivid sense of what it was like to live in England during Julian's lifetime, c. 1342 - c. 1416. In this period, three outbreaks of the Black Plague killed off about half of the population; England was continually at war with France; the Peasants' Revolt of 1381 almost overthrew the government; and corruption ran rampant through the Church.

For most of Julian's life, she was an anchoress, a recluse, living in a small dwelling adjoining the Church of Saints Julian and Edward in Norwich. She chose this way of life in order to devote herself to prayer and contemplation, but she also functioned as a spiritual advisor for the local community. Today she is highly regarded as a writer, a mystic, and a theologian.

She is the earliest women writer in English that we know by name. The subject of her book, Revelations of Divine Love, is the series of visions of Christ which she experienced at the age of thirty when she believed she was on the point of death from a sudden illness. She says in both versions of her book (the "Short text" and the "Long Text" which she spent 20 years writing) that her visions were not just for her, but that God wanted her to share them with the world. As a theologian, she is best known for two concepts: first, despite the effects of sin and the terrible things that happen in this world, God will find a way to "make all things well"; second, just as surely as God can be seen as our father, so God can be seen as our mother.

The play makes Julian's unusual way of life seem natural and appealing, and through its depiction of Julian's life and teachings, it conveys a strong sense of God's love. I hope to see you there!!

- Cynthia Bland

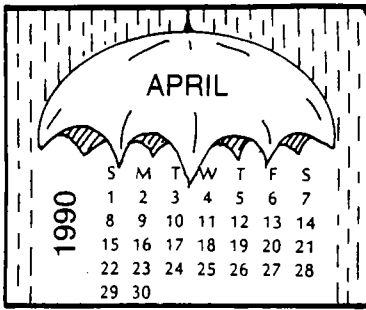


AN OPPORTUNITY FOR LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Saturday, April 28, will be the date for this year's annual church leadership training event, sponsored by the Commission on Church Education of the Ohio Baptist Convention. Karl Road Baptist Church will host this year's event where eleven workshops will be offered. Workshop topics include: Basics For Teaching Children; Arts and Crafts in the Church School and Related Areas; Caring When There is No Cure; Starting a Youth Group; Summer Work Camps; Recruiting Young Adults; Worship and Praise; "I Was Sick and You Visited Me"; Judson Bible Series Curriculum; Christian Lifestyles; Preaching Styles.

The day's activities will begin at 8:45 - 9:15 Registration and Coffee; 9:15 - 9:30 Song Fest; 9:30 - 11:30 Workshops; 11:30 - 1:00 Lunch (Many restaurants located nearby); 1:00 - 3:00 Workshops. You may select two different workshops - one for the morning and one for the afternoon. A registration fee of \$5.00 per person will be charged for program materials. Registration forms will be located on the hall table, so please pick one up if you are interested in attending this day of opportunities to strengthen your leadership skills in many important ministries in the church.

Linda White
Chrm.. Leadership Dev.
Bd. of Christian Educ.



APRIL EVENTS

- 1 - Deacons + Bd. C.E. Mtng., 4:00
Diaconate Mtng., 5:00
Parsonage Dinner Mtng., 6:00
- 2 - Pastoral Relations Committee Mtng., 7:30
Scout Troop 393 Mtng., 7:00(wkly)
- 3 - Prayer + Bible Study Mtng., 7:00(wkly)
- 4 - Choir Rehearsal, 7:00(wkly)
- 5 - Peace Camp Planning Mtng., 7:00
- 8 - Dinner Mtng. With Kent Beittel, 5:30
- 9 - Trustees Mtng., 7:00
- 12 - Maundy Thursday Candlelight Communion
- 13 - Community Good Friday Service, St. Mary's
- 15 - Worship 8:00 + 10:45 + 7:00 Baptism
Breakfast 8:30 - Church School 9:00
- 16 - Parish Council, 7:00
- 18 - Bd. C. E. Mtng., 8:00
- 19 - Men's Fellowship Breakfast Mtng., 8:30
- 20 - Delaware Earth Day, Jr. Fair Bldg., 12:00
- 25 - Church Supper + Bus. Mtng., 6:30
- 29 - Congregational Business Session, 11:45
American Baptist Women, 2:30
- 30 - Church Growth Task Force Mtng., 7:00



Supper

CHURCH LIBRARY AWOLS

Please check your book shelf at home for these two books:

- "FACING DEATH AND THE LIFE AFTER" -B. Graham
- 'A CHRISTIAN VIEW OF HOMOSEXUALITY" -Drakeford

Please return ASAP. Thanks!

DELAWARE CO. A.I.D.S. TASK FORCE

There are only three ways of stopping the dread affliction of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome(AIDS). They are Education, Education and still more Education.

It's a fact that one out of four persons in Delaware County will be touched in some way by this disease either by a family member, friend, neighbor or fellow employee who has been infected.

The Delaware County Task Force has provided helpful brochures for our literature table, believing EDUCATION is the key because there is no cure. Thanks for caring!

- Delaware Co. AIDS Task Force, Inc.

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP - JAN. + FEB.

	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Received</u>
Local Mission	5920.16	5575.41
World Mission	650.00	834.30



AMERICAN BAPTIST ASSEMBLY, GREEN LAKE, WI

As Carolyn Schneeberger, Beth Trigg, Lana Palmer, Jim and Bertha VanBrimmer, Randy and Jennifer Turner gather at Green Lake for their conference experience this summer, they will find a new walkway from the Roger Williams Inn to the Moore-Hopevale Vesper Circle. Memory Lane, as it is called, provides an opportunity to remember current and past Baptists, individuals and groups, who have enriched our lives. Memory Lane encourages those quiet walks along the lake where they can find that "closer walk with God" for which Green lake is dedicated.

VISION/HABITAT

Eyeglasses are building houses through Habitat For Humanity. Just 800 pairs will build a house in a developing country. By bringing our old eyeglasses to church we can help build houses overseas. Our Ohio Baptist Guild Girls are collecting for this project.
- Alice Meadows, Box 225, Utica, 43080

COMING SOON.....COMING SOON.....COMING SOON.....COMING SOON.....

Coming soon to First Baptist Newstands!!!

The second edition of our Easter Magazine. Be sure to look for this very special publication, created by our Youth. We are asking for a donation of \$2.00 per magazine. All proceeds will go to the Camp Fund. I want to thank all the Youth for working on this.

- Pam Faulk

A SPECIAL INVITATION

You are cordially invited to attend an evening presentation with Mr. KENT BEITTEL (Director of the Open Shelter in Columbus) at First Baptist Church on April 8 at 5:30 pm. Mr. Beittel will be speaking on the plight of the homeless in our area and suggesting ways that their needs might be met. This is an issue that no longer can be ignored - traumatic or devastating circumstances could place any one of us in such a position. The number of homeless are growing! Please let your presence indicate your caring and a desire to make a difference in the lives of these individuals.

First Baptist guests will include members from Radnor Baptist Church, 2nd. Baptist Church, and Zion United Church of Christ. We will be serving a simple potluck sandwich and salad supper. Please bring a salad (tossed, jello, pasta or potato) to serve 6-8 people and 1 dozen cookies. Hot chicken sandwiches and beverages will be provided by the two sponsoring Adult Sunday School classes. Baby sitting facilities will be available.

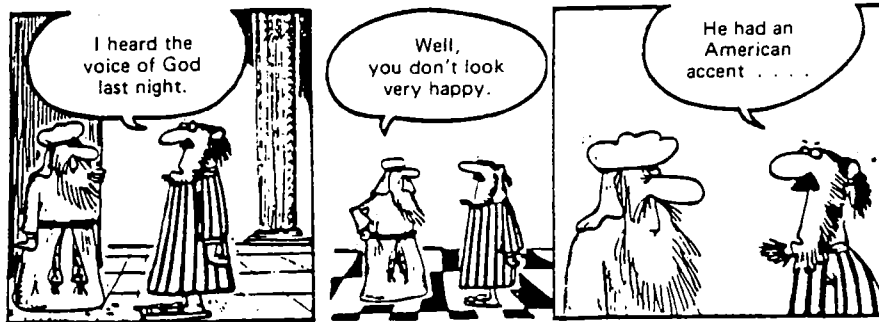
Also, we would like to make a gift of cans of coffee (or jars) to the Shelter. Coffee is always needed and we would like to help them with this food item. So please feel free to bring some coffee to be given to Kent to take back to the Shelter from us!

Thanks for your support in this most worthwhile cause!!!

- Lana Palmer &
Anne Linn
Chairpersons



CHILDREN OF THE HOMELESS ARE NOW THE FASTEST-GROWING GROUP OF STREET PEOPLE
- Dr. Raymond Bakke, Northern B. Sem.



BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

CANDLELIGHTERS

April 1 - Erin Faulk
 April 8 - Matthew Lovell
 April 15 - Barbara Lovell
 April 22 - Adam Mowery
 April 29 - Elizabeth Davis
 May 6 - Micah Stoner

2 - Adam Mowery
 4 - W. C. Wickum
 12 - Abby Brown
 16 - Marge Smale
 23 - Nellie Sheets
 24 - Michael Grubbs
 25 - Deborah Lovell
 2 - Don Faulk
 3 - Michael Linn

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
 101 N. FRANKLIN STREET
 DELAWARE, OHIO 43015

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



TO:

APRIL
 newsletter

Good News Letter

Published in the cause of the abundant life by
THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, DELAWARE, OHIO

Rev. Gene F. Gillin
Pastor

PASTORGRAPHS

The Evangelism Committee of our Church Growth Task Force is presently focusing on a proper definition.

Well, What is Evangelism?

I recall the reply of William T. Hall: It is the sob of God. It is the anguished cry of Jesus as He weeps over a doomed city. Evangelism is the heart-wringing plea of Moses, "Oh, this people have sinned...yet now, if you will forgive their sin...If not blot me, I pray you, out of the book which You have written." It is the cry of John Knox, "Give me Scotland or I die." It is the declaration of John Wesley, "The world is my parish." It is the sob of a parent in the night, weeping over a prodigal child. It is the passion of a great preacher and of a great Christian. It is the secret of a great church.

Howard Bell reminds us that God never told the world to go to church. He told the Church to go to the world. If we do not go, they will not come.

Herb Miller, writing in Fishing On The Asphalt, suggest that many churches are blocked from growth because their leaders work from three false assumptions: (1) They think people are tired of being asked to attend church. Not so! The average unchurched person is not offended by worship invitations, provided they are given in a positive, friendly manner. By far the largest percentage of Americans have not received a personal invitation to attend church in years. (2) They think people will come to church without being contacted personally. They seldom do. Letters do not get them. Personal contact does. (3) They think the average church members are not capable of making effective contacts. They are. The exact wording they use doesn't matter as much as using some kind of words. The concerned, caring voice of a non abrasive church member has more impact than ten billboards or a telegram.

We remember that Jesus did not hoard the qualities of divinity -- love, hope, peace. He gave them away. Through His Body, the Church, He still gives them away. This is called evangelism.

Invite someone to church this week!



**First Class
News!
Annual
Father/Son
Get-Away**

June 8-9
Judson Hills Camp
& Conference Center
Friday Evening thru Saturday Supper

Sponsored by the
American Baptist Men of Ohio

For brochure: OBC, Granville



HOMELESS

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

NEW ORGANIZED SOVIET UNION CHURCH
HAS 400 MEMBERS

A Baptist Church organized last October in the Soviet Union, already has about 400 members and between 800 and 1,000 worshipers on Sunday mornings. Leningrad's Temple of the Gospel recently received government permission to move into a historic church building closed by Joseph Stalin in 1933. The church, which has been supported by several Baptist groups in Leningrad, plans to begin at least a dozen new congregations and hopes eventually to open a school of mission and evangelism.

FROM OUR CHURCH CLERK.....

Betty Porter would like to remind anyone who orders materials to be more careful and more accurate with the billing and payment information. There has been too much confusion and is making bookkeeping more difficult than it should be.

Thanks!
Carol Fogle, Clerk



A special thanks to Phil Gillin who labored long and hard to get a number of layers of dirt off the floor of Fellowship Hall before Easter.

As one Trustee remarked --- "It looks 300% better"

THANKS - PHIL!!!

Dear Friends:

When Ernestine told me about the car fund, I shed many tears -- not tears of joy, but tears of sadness that Steve was not here to thank you, with me, for your generous gift of love! I was deeply touched.

I am still looking for a car and hope to find one soon.

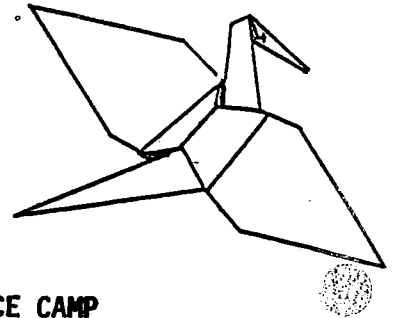
May God bless each of you.

Sophia Stephenson

AMERICAN BAPTIST WOMEN

The American Baptist Women of Ohio Annual Conference, will be held at Denison University, June 13 thru 15.

Highlights of the conference include: a Communion Service in Sweasey Chapel; a Missions Banquet; Dormitory and cafeteria accommodations; exciting and interesting elective workshops led by leaders like Evon Laubenstein; Bible study lead by Sandra Heizer; two missionary speakers; music ministry by "The Revelations" and much, much more.



PEACE CAMP

Be sure to mark June 11 - 15 on your calendars for Peace Camp. It is being hosted by our church this year. Workers and helpers are needed. We would like to see all our children participating. It is for ages 4 thru junior high, with nursery available for children of teachers under age 4.

High school students are welcome as helpers. We also need volunteers who will contribute breads for our snacks.

There is a meeting on Thursday, May 10 at 7:30 pm at our church for all teachers and teachers' helpers.

-submitted by Pam Faulk

CHURCH RETREAT

It is not too soon to start saving money aside for this year's retreat on September 7, 8, 9.

-submitted by Pam Faulk

GROWTH TASK FORCE REPORT

The following committees are at work just now, planning possible programs for First Baptist:

- EVANGELISM - Randy Turner
Ben Turney
Steve Stoner
- CARE - Wick Wickum
Larry Faulk
Anne Linn
- WORSHIP - Jean Wickum
Gene Gillin
- SERVICE - Beth Trigg
Jeff Faulk
Shirley Parker
- EDUCATION - Shirley Parker
Linda White
- ADMINISTRATION - Cynthia Bland
Jim VanBrimmer
Gene Gillin

These committess will meet with the additional input of the Men's Group, ABW, Board of Deacons, Board of Christian Education, Trustees, Parish Council, Adult Sunday School classes and Music Committee.

They would welcome your input also. If you would like to be a part of one of these committees, contact any of the members.

We're now entering to the Program Planning stage -- the most exciting part of our task!

Our next meeting will be Monday, June 18 at 7 p.m. Plan on joining us.

- Jim VanBrimmer - Chairperson
- Anne Linn - Secretary



REFUGEES

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

HAPPINESS IS

Making the Honor or Merit Roll, and that is just what Erin and Jeff Faulk, Marci Sanders, Jarrod Trigg, Stephanie Stoner, Abby Brown, and Matt Lovell did. Did I leave out anyone? Hope not! Way to go, guys!

Many thanks to the Bd of Ch. Edu. for inviting me to do a session on prayer on Easter Sunday and all of you who attended. We learned a lot about how and when we pray, and to whom and for what. Two of our number take the opportunity to pray as they have their evening walks, others do their prayers in the car on the way to work in the morning. It took one of the very young ladies to remind us of prayer at mealtime. And most of us begin "Dear God".

Our 20-minutes together did not give us time to practice ways and kinds of prayers. Let's hope that there will be a time in the future for all of us to learn more from each other about effective and joyous communication with God.

In case you did not notice, Pet White painted the floor in the Senior Hi room about April 3, and the choir managed to stay off of the new paint for a week, by going to the Women's City Club to practice on the 4th and while there, they shared a cake and ice cream in celebration of Wilbur Wickum's sixty mmmmmnth birthday.

A sad note to report to those of you who faithfully prayed for the health of Dr. Harry Davis of Warren, Ohio. Dr. Davis passed away on April 30. For a while he improved and was able to return to his practice. He told Martha Moffett, who was his patient, that he was encouraged to know that our church was praying for him.

Dr. Davis was for 30 years a general practioner in Warren, where he was active in both professional and community activities. He was a life-long Boy Scout leader, was active in helping men who were newly released from prison to get a new start, and was a Deacon at the FBC of Warren.

Submitted by Jean Wickum

NEW
MEMBERS



THE LORD ADDED AND THE CHURCH WELCOMED!!

By Believer's Baptism:

Victor Fogle

Jarrold Trigg

By Transfer of Church Membership:

Kirby Francis - Bryn Zion B.C.
Mt. Gilead, Ohio

Rededication of Life to Christ

Millie Martin

May we pledge our prayers and encouragement to each of these in their walk with their Lord and in their service for Him at First Baptist.

TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALLGAME

In sports, they seem to have a different word for everything. In baseball, the granddaddy of American sports, there seems to be more jargon than any other sport. Here's a bit of it:

A fast runner has good wheels. A pitcher with a 95 mph fastball has got a cannon, a bazooka, a rifle, a gun. When he strikes out someone with a fastball, he fans him with the heater. Some other baseball terms:

Bench Jockey: Player or coach who harasses opposing players and umpires by shouting insults at them from the bench.

Can of Corn: A fly ball that's easy to catch. It stems from old grocery stores when the grocer would use a pole to poke cans off high shelves, then catch them in his palm as they drop.

Chin Music: A brushback. A pitch thrown so close to the batter it forces him to lean backward to avoid being hit.

Pebble Picker: An infielder who claims he missed a ground ball because it hit a rock and bounced crooked.

A Peggy Lee: A fastball that's so slow, the batter asks: "Is that all there is?"

Rhubarb: A fight on the field in which a number of players and coaches join in.

- submitted by Shirley Parker

REPORT FROM BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The Board of Christian Education would like to thank all of those who shared their thoughts with us during Lenten Church School opening exercises - Jim VanBrimmer, Cynthia Bland, Ann Linn, Beth Trigg, Wilbur Wickum and Lana Palmer; and those who led sessions Easter morning: Beth Trigg, Steve Stoner and Jean Wickum; and everyone else who helped with Easter activities.

SATURDAY, JUNE 9 at 7:00 p.m. will be the Appreciation Dinner for Sunday School teachers, substitute teachers and their spouses.

SUNDAY, JUNE 10 will be Children's Day and Promotion Sunday. There will be a covered dish picnic after church.

Pam Faulk
Chairperson
Bd. of Christian Edu.

EXTRA CAMP FORMS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE

Pick yours up today!!



YOUTH NEWS

CONGRATULATIONS!! to the Youth who created a terrific Easter Magazine. Proceeds from the sale contributed \$69.00 to the Camp Fund. Don't forget to contribute to this fund. Thanks to all the kids who contributed their creative work.

-submitted by Pam Faulk



B.Y.F.

Our Youth will have a Spaghetti Dinner and their annual White Elephant auction on Saturday evening, May 12.

Check with your favorite youth or Beth Trigg, Youth Counselor, for more details!

BREAKTHROUGH ON HUNGER

The long-awaited PBS series on world hunger and development, "Local Heroes, Global Change," will air in May. The series is scheduled for four Monday evenings beginning May 7 at 10 p.m. EDT.

"This is a project that has emerged out of dialogue," said Richard Harley of Boston, president of World Development Productions, the company creating the programs. He described the series as "a genuine sharing event."

Study guides (including a media kit) and a videotape have been prepared by the 21-member Inter-religious Coalition for Breakthrough on Hunger. (ABC/USA is a member of the coalition.) Study guides are \$3 each; videotapes are \$8 each; both guide and videotape \$10. They are available from Alternatives/Coalition, P. O. Box 439, 5263 Bouldercrest Road, Ellenwood, GA 30049, 404/961-0102.

MAY EVENTS

- 2 - 8:00 Church Retreat Planning Mtg
- 4 - 11:45 Church Women United May Fellowship
- 4 - 7:00 Bd. of Christian Education
- 6 - Mother-Daughter Banquet
- 7 - 7:00 Boy Scout Troop 393 (Wkly)
- 7 - 7:00 Diaconate Meeting
- 8 - 7:00 Prayer & Bible Study (Wkly)
- 9 - 7:00 Choir Rehearsal (Wkly)
- 10 - 7:00 Peace Camp Planning Meeting
- 12 - 8:30 Men's Fellowship Breakfast
- 12 - 6:30 Spaghetti Supper & Auction
- 15 - Ordination Council - Trinity, Marion
- 18 - 6:30 ABW Meeting-Restaurant Dinner, Election of 1990-91 Officers
- 19 - Delaware Arts Festival
FBC Ice Cream Social
- 21 - 7:00 Parish Council Meeting
- 30 - Deadline for June Newsletter items
- 31 - 7:00 Peace Camp Meeting

MAY CALENDAR



S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

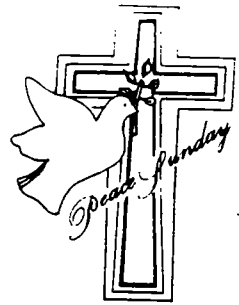
MAY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

- May 7 - Bertha VanBrimmer
- 8 - Michael Ekelberry
- 10 - Archie & Beth Trigg
- 12 - Jeanne Ekelberry
- 15 - Barbara Lovell
- Betty Porter
- 24 - Jean Wickum
- 30 - Jim and Annette Ringley
- 31 - Ruth Gillin

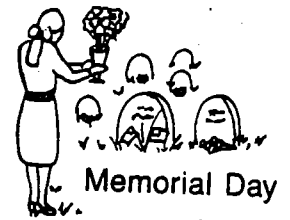
CANDLELIGHTERS

- May 6 - Micah Stoner
- May 13 - Richard Davis
- May 20 - Marci Sander
- May 27 - Evan Trigg
- June 6 - Erin Faulk

Pentecost



Mother's Day



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
101 N. FRANKLIN STREET
DELAWARE, OHIO 43015

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



TO:



May NEWSLETTER

Good News Letter

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

Rev. Gene F. Gillin
Pastor

ANNUAL JUDSON HILLS RETREAT

Our annual church family retreat at Judson Hills will take place the weekend of Sept.

7-9. Our leaders this year will be Revs. Don and Jane Lewis, who are the camp managers. The theme will be "Capture the Dream." We're hoping for 100% attendance!

Please see Pam Faulk for more details.

(Our Sunday service on Sept. 9th will be at Judson Hills, and no service will be held that Sunday at our church in Delaware.)

RALLY DAY

Rally Day will be Sunday, Sept. 16 (the Sunday following the retreat).

We will begin with a breakfast buffet at 8:30am. Beverages will be provided. Please bring a breakfast item to share. Sunday school will begin at 9:00 with opening exercises, and morning worship will follow at 10:45.

A DEATH IN THE CHURCH FAMILY

Richard E. Lee Sr. passed away August 2 at his home. Dick had served as our Financial Secretary for many years. He had also served as a trustee, Sunday School teacher, and had been a member of the building committee and finance committee.

Dick was a World War II veteran

of the Naval Air Force and was a Field Maintenance Engineer for the Ohio Department of Transportation.

He had been a 4-H advisor for 18 years and had been active in the Boy Scouts of America for 30 years.

Dick's last service was the gift of his eyes to the Central Ohio Eye Bank and his body to the Ohio State Univ. Department of Anatomy. When he is returned to us, his inter-

ment will be in Delaware Oak Grove Cemetery.

A memorial service was held on August 25 at DeVore Wildman Funeral Home, and was followed by a time of fellowship at our church.

All of us at First Baptist wish to extend our deepest condolences to the Lee family.

A LETTER FROM THE LEE FAMILY

The Richard Lee family thanks all of you who worked so hard to clean our church before the fellowship celebration of Dick's life. We know you spent many hours washing windows, cleaning floors, removing cobwebs and general cleaning to make the fellowship hall sparkle as we prepared for guests.

Our thanks also for the many delicious cookies you made to grace the table and for the hours spent hostessing and in the kitchen. We've had many compliments on your



graciousness and the facilities.

Your bouquet of red glads and variegated pink and red carnations which was placed beside the flag on the table was lovely and our family appreciated the church's thoughtfulness in sending it.

Calls, notes, visits, cards and especially prayers of all our church friends have been such a help in getting through these last months and I know that concern will still be there in the months ahead.

What a tribute to have everyone say yes when asked to be a part of the Memorial Service - even our Youth Choir. Each and everyone was appreciated and hopefully I can eventually thank you more adequately.

The contributions to Dick's memorial fund are also appreciated and I'm sure it's eventual use will be appropriately used to benefit many.

"Thank you" sounds so simple but it couldn't be more heartfelt!

Evelyn Lee for all
the Lees

REMEMBERING DICK

In my mind I know I shall always see Dick Lee in a certain pew in church which he had reserved for years.

I also see him greeting people. Leaping to someone who became ill, caressing the children who clung to him after church, then finally collecting our offering, which he carefully credited to the givers, a task which took much time. I never heard him complain.

I know we are a caring church, and as a memorial to Dick, could we drop all the petty views and differences of opinion and draw closer together? We each have a job to do, and we need one another.

Frances Johnson

MARION ASSOCIATION TRUSTEES TO MEET HERE

The quarterly meeting of the Trustees of the Marion Association churches will meet at our church on September 11, 1990 at 7:30pm.

Cynthia Bland and Jim VanBrimmer represent our congregation at these meetings. The meetings are

open to all church members. However, only the officers and trustees may vote on issues.

Needed will be (you guessed it) some volunteers to prepare refreshments to be served after the conclusion of the business session.

Please see Bertha VanBrimmer if you want to help demonstrate hospitality for our guests. We should plan for 50 or so persons.

GROWTH TASK FORCE

Your growth task force has been resting through the dog daze of summer, but is alive and well, and ready to go to work again come September.

We will complete the goal objectives phase of the planning process shortly. Then our adviser Dr. Doug Hargis is to meet with us to work out a procedure to follow during the time we are without a permanent pastor.

Effective pastoral leadership is vital to any successful, sustained growth effort, so we will be somewhat handicapped until we have a regular pastor again.

However, there is much that can be done in the meantime to pave the way for the long term programs to follow, and we will be working on the opportunities that are open to us in the near future.

preceding 2 articles by
Jim VanBrimmer

SPACE! THE FINAL FRONTIER:

Is your basement, garage, or back porch running out of space? Are the things that you are saving for recycling pick-up taking up too much space?

The very reason you are recycling is to save space in our environment, so when you think, "I wish they would pick up this stuff," think of how much space you are taking up with your trash, and save some space in our world!!

RECYCLING will be picked up on the third Saturday of September. Call if you need to have things picked up, or get involved yourself and take it down to the center on

Cherry Street Wednesday-Saturday
9:00am - 3:00pm.

Remember: IF YOU ARE NOT RECYCLING,
YOU ARE THROWING IT ALL AWAY!

Steve Stoner
369-7754

PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE

The Pastoral Search Committee will meet at the church on Monday, Sept. 10 at 7:30pm.

MEMORIAL TREE

Dear Church Members,

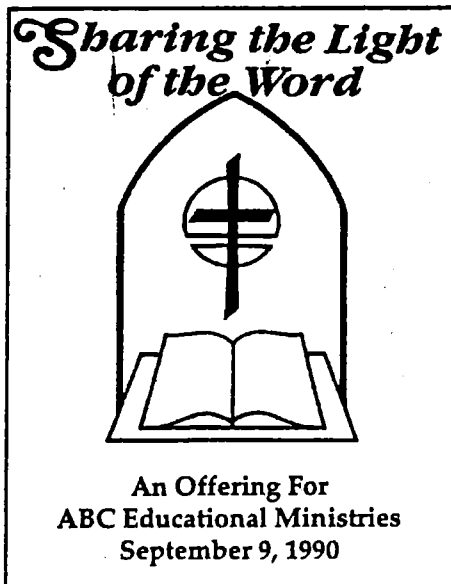
We would like to take this opportunity to advise you that the DeVore-Wildman Funeral Home is arranging to have a young tree planted in memory of Richard Earl Lee. This memorial tree will be planted on public lands during the earliest appropriate season by a Certified Nurseryman.

Bruce B. Hadlock
Lofty Oaks Assoc.

(The paragraph above is an excerpt from a letter to the church. The letter is posted on the bulletin board in the Assembly Room.)

WORLD MISSION OFFERING

The American Baptist Church Education division in Valley Forge has been facing an extremely severe financial problem. To help their situation, they are asking OBC churches for a one-time offering on Sept. 9.



MARION ASSOCIATION FALL RALLY

The Fall Rally of the Marion Association churches will be held September 23 (Sunday) beginning at 2:45 and running through 8:15pm. Dinner will be served at 5:30 (\$2.50 for adults).

An exciting program has been planned which will feature a message from the Rev. Robert Coats, missionary to Thailand, during the evening session.

Also featured are 6 workshops, lasting 1½ hours, in the afternoon on the following themes:

- Prison Ministry -
Dr. David Donnelly
- Curriculum Resources -
Annette & Craig Hayes
- Basic Cult Education -
Rev. Reginald Martin
- Ministry to Aging -
Revs. Art Derry and
Herschel Roper
- AIDS Awareness -
Chaplain Carver Williams
- Youth Activities -
Karla & Mike Sturgeon

This rally is probably the best opportunity we have to meet and fellowship with members of the other churches in our association, and it is worthy of our enthusiastic support.

The Grand Prairie church will be the location of the rally. It is located a few miles north of Marion, close to Route 23.

A program is posted on the bulletin board in the Assembly Room.

Jim VanBrimmer

AMERICAN BAPTIST MEN OF OHIO

The annual conference of American Baptist Men of Ohio will be held September 14 and 15 in Granville, at the First Baptist Church. The full conference runs from 6:00pm Friday through 3:00pm Saturday. An outstanding program has been planned, which will include our own Fred Grubbs at the piano. Registration fees are: Friday evening only - \$8; Saturday only (includes breakfast at 7:30) - \$15; or \$20

for the full time. Motel reservations are available for Friday night at \$46.

Some men have already indicated an interest in attending the Saturday-only sessions, so there may be a car pool made up. Please see me for further details if interested. The registration deadline is September 12.

Jim VanBrimmer

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

We would like to report that the One Great Hour of Sharing offering produced a total of \$244.92.

PEACE CAMP

Peace Camp was held in our church the week of June 11-15. We participated with First Presbyterian, Asbury, and Zion. We had a total

of 92 students and 33 teachers and helpers. Participants from our church were:

Students - Natalie Griffith, Laura Mowery, Laura Newman, Emilie Trigg, Adam Mowery, Evan Trigg,

Erin Faulk, Andrea O'Brien, and Marci Sanders. Teachers - Randy Turner, Jennifer Turner, Carol Grubbs, Alison Grubbs, Teresa Griffith, Carolyn Schneeberger. Teacher Helpers - Jarrod Trigg, Abby Brown, Jeff Faulk. Kitchen Staff - Bertha VanBrimmer, Jim VanBrimmer. Clean Up - Archie Trigg, Will Fogle. Coordinator - Pam Faulk.

Thanks to all who participated and to all who contributed bread.

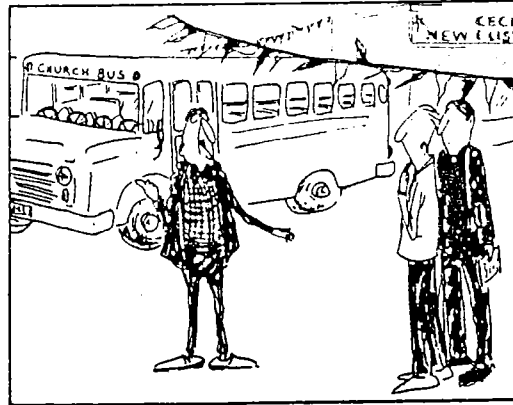
Pam Faulk.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS EVENT

All Sunday School teachers are invited to attend this event on September 28-29 at Judson Hills. See Pam for more information.

TEACHERS' MEETING

A meeting for all church school teachers and substitutes will be held on Saturday, September 15 at 9:30am at the church.



"It's a special model for committees. . . . It comes equipped with one gas pedal, 4 steering wheels and 10 sets of brakes."

THANK YOU

I wish to thank all those who contributed to the camp fund this year to help pay for my camping experience. I had a good time and got reacquainted with old friends and made some new friends.

Erin Faulk

PERSONALS

Wilder Emmons Fichter, son of Joe and Laurie Fichter and grandson of **Shirley Parker**, was born on August 20 in Connecticut.

The **Faulks** vacationed in Michigan, Canada, and at King's Island with the Lovells. **Jeff** attended scout camp and band camp. **Erin** attended horseback day camp and spent a week at Judson Hills. **Erin** and **Pam** spent 3 days camping with their Girl Scout Troop. **Erin** also performed 4 dances and a ballet solo at a dance recital.

Several church members have recently attended conferences at Green Lake, including **Jennifer & Randy Turner**, **Beth Trigg & Lana Palmer** (writers' conference), **Jim & Bertha VanBrimmer** (mens' & womens' conferences), and **Carolyn Schneeberger** (missions).

NOTE: Due to the number of submissions and a shortage of time, several articles submitted for the newsletter which were not time-sensitive had to be set aside for next month's newsletter. Also, the list of birthdays and anniversaries was not included because I could not locate the list.

-Editor

November, 1990

The

Good News Letter

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

Giving of the Greens

On Sunday, December 2, we will have a very special worship service called "The Giving of the Greens," planned by the Board of Education. This should be a very meaningful Advent service of music, sharing, and learning the importance of some of our traditions, as well as sharing the decorating of the church.

Please plan on joining us at our regular morning worship. Volunteers who wish to stay after church and help finish decorating are welcome. Please feel free to bring a sack lunch and stay to help.

Pam Faulk

Report from the Pastor Search Committee

The committee is at this time in the beginning steps of searching

for a new pastor. We are working with our Area Minister Sandra Heizer in developing a profile of the church, which will be used in selecting the most likely candidates from among available American Baptist ministers. These persons will then be subjected to further screening and interviewing preparatory to making a final recommendation to the church. This is a lengthy process.

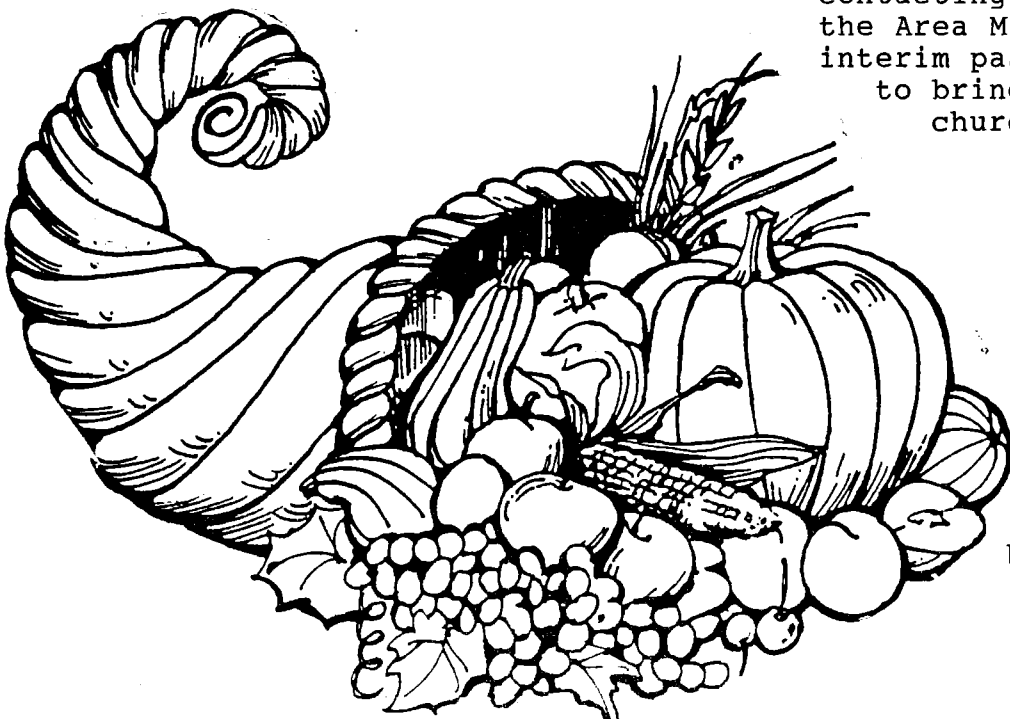
We are currently engaged in a survey of the entire church membership in an attempt to develop the most accurate profile possible. We want to provide an opportunity for everyone to voice their feelings and convictions relative to pastoral leadership and responsibilities. In its determinations, the committee needs to be aware of, and influenced by how others view this vital role in the life of our church.

Regarding interim arrangements, we are presently in the process of contacting persons recommended by the Area Minister/OBC staff for our interim pastor. We hope to be able to bring a recommendation to the church very soon.

Jim VanBrimmer
Chairperson

Growth Task Force

In September your Task Force completed their work on the objectives that must be met in order to achieve the goals previously accepted by the church membership



in the six vital ministries of Evangelism, Care, Worship, Education, Service and Administration. These objectives will be presented at the Oct. 31 quarterly business meeting.

Our advisor, Dr. Doug Hargis, has received a copy of our goals and objectives, and he has indicated his general approval. He will be coming to meet with the Task Force early in November, to help us determine how to move forward with this effort in the absence of a permanent pastor.

The next step in our growth process is to develop and implement action programs that will accomplish the objectives and goals that we have set for ourselves.

In all probability, we will be able to go ahead with a number of programs on our own, or with an interim pastor that will help us now, and serve to undergird the work of a new pastor when we finally obtain his or her services.

We earnestly solicit your prayerful support.

Jim VanBrimmer
Chairperson

Many Happy Returns

Just a reminder - if you borrow educational materials from the file cabinet in the office, please return them when you are done.

Pam Faulk

Retired Ministers & Missionaries

For Everything There is a Season...

a time to Love

RMMO

1990

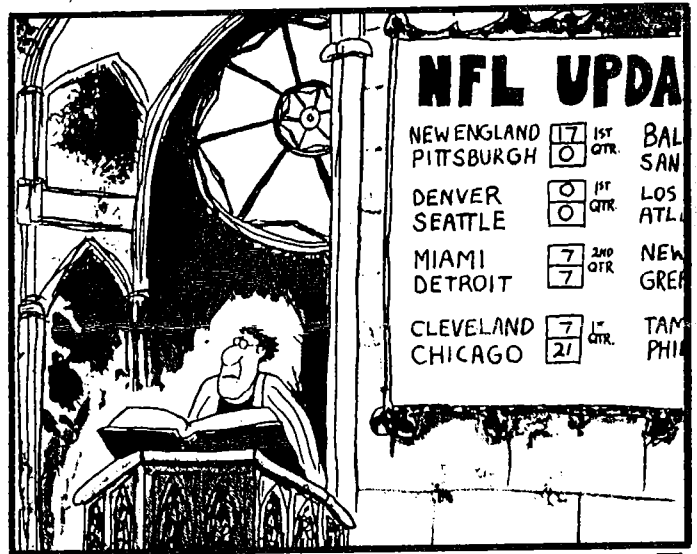
is fast approaching. It will be collected December 2 during the

The time for the retired ministers and missionaries offering

Giving of the Greens service. 43% of the offering will provide emergency and special financial assistance for retired ministers and missionaries. 53% of the offering will be distributed as ABC Thank-You checks to retired ministers and missionaries, based on their years of service.

Please remember on Dec. 2 to take this opportunity to express your love for the retired spiritual leaders of our denomination.

Thanks,
Jennifer Turner



1991-92 Church Officers

The following slate of officers was approved at the quarterly business meeting on Oct. 31:

- Moderator:** Jean Wickum
- Asst. Moderator:** Jim VanBrimmer
- Clerk:** Carol Fogle
- Treasurer:** Betty Porter
- Asst. Treasurer:** Jim VanBrimmer
- Financial Secretary:** Evelyn Lee
- Church School Clerk:** Steve Stoner
- Finance Comm. Chair:** Wilbur Wickum
- Board of Deacons:** Shirley Parker, Larry Faulk, Marge Smale, Randy Turner, Cynthia Bland, John Richards
- Board of Trustees:** Archie Trigg, Jeff Reed, David Lovell, Peter White, Will Fogle

Board of Education: Donna Reed,
Carol Grubbs, Pam Faulk,
Jennifer Turner

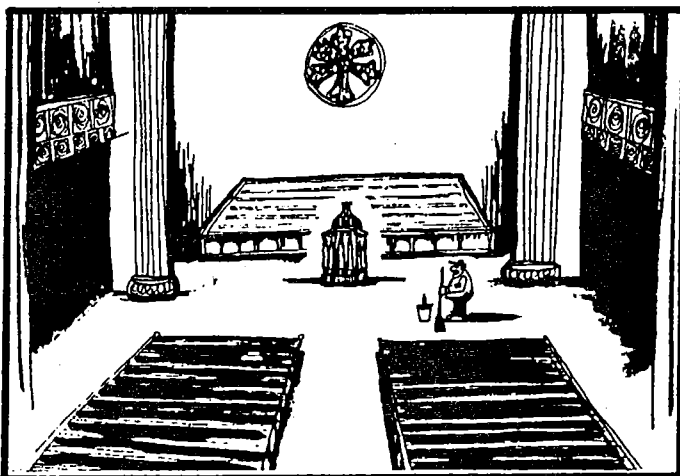
Candlelighters

Nov. 4 - Richard Davis
11 - Elizabeth Davis
18 - Barbara Lovell
25 - Richard Davis
Dec. 2 - Evan Trigg

Birthdays and Anniversaries

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

Note: The Deacons are in the process of updating this list. If you know of a name that was omitted, please contact Larry Faulk.



"No, Pastor.
It's Spring forward, Fall back."

World Mission Offering

I am pleased to report that our 1990 WMO total (as of 2 weeks ago) is \$112.33. The children have

contributed \$13.33 of that total. We'll continue to collect for this offering until mid November.

Let's remember to send our prayers along with our offering as it reaches out to help those for the cause of Jesus.

Thank you,

Jennifer Turner

Personals

JANET INSCHO and husband have left to spend the winter in Florida.

RECOVERING - DON FAULK from hernia surgery; JEAN EKELBERRY from foot surgery; MARY BARKELOO from hip socket replacement surgery.

December 1990

The

Good News Letter

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

Rev. Owen Stewart
Interim Pastor

Interim Pastor Called

The pastor search committee is happy to report that Rev. Owen Stewart has accepted the call to serve as our Interim Pastor.

Rev. Stewart has just recently become available for interim services, having retired from the pastorate at North Baptist Church in Columbus last June, after having served there for 17 years. He will begin his ministry here on Monday, December 3.

In addition to Sunday services, Owen will be in the church office from 10:00am to 1:00pm on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday each week. On two of these days he plans to spend the afternoons visiting members of our church family. Rev. Stewart will also be available to attend meetings of the Parish Council, and meetings of other boards or committees as may be necessary. He also has indicated an interest in participating in the Wednesday night Bible study.

We feel most fortunate in having a person of Rev. Stewart's ability and experience to serve the church as pastor during this transition period. Please join us in welcoming him and his wife into the life of our church family.

The Pastor Search Committee

Carol Grubbs, Anne Linn, Cynthia Bland, Willard Fogle, Jeff Faulk, Jim VanBrimmer

Birthday Party for Jesus

Please make a point of staying after church on Sunday, Dec. 23 for our

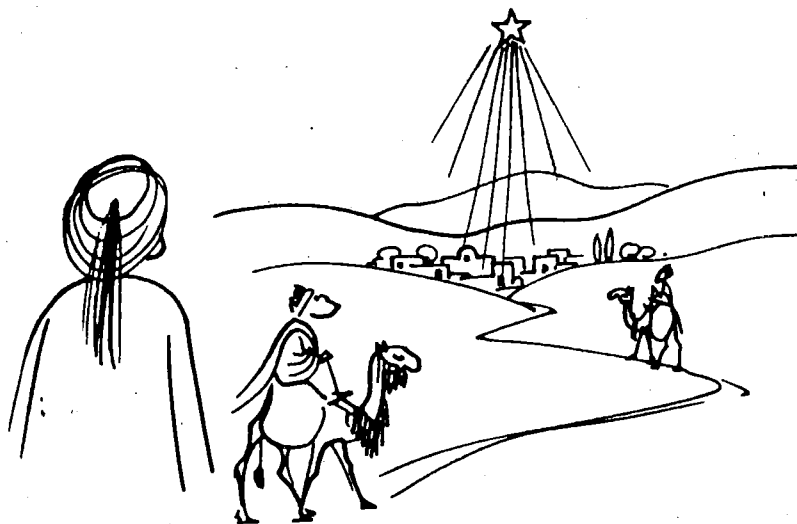
traditional birthday party for Jesus in the Sunday School room.

Christmas Eve Candlelight

Communion Service

Please make plans to join your church family for our annual Christmas Eve worship service on Monday, December 24 at 7:30pm. The service will be preceded by special preludes which will begin at 7:15pm.

Board of Deacons



Advent Devotionals Available.

"On This Day, Earth Shall Ring!" is the title of an Advent devotional booklet that is a gift to you from Northern Baptist Theological Seminary. Please pick up your family's copy at the church.

Board of Education

Epiphany Celebration

On Sunday, January 6, at 7:30pm the church will have a party to celebrate Epiphany. Please plan to join us in the Fellowship Hall for food and fun.

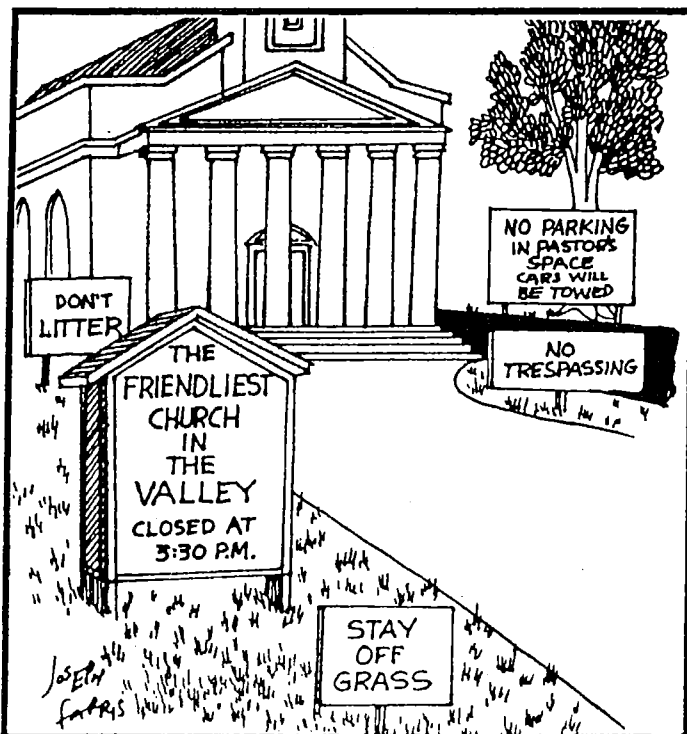
This will be the night that we reveal ourselves to our Secret Advent friends. This will allow people to celebrate all of the Advent season in secret. You might wish to bring a gift for your Secret Advent friend to this party.

Growth Goals and Objectives Approved

At the last quarterly business meeting the goals and objectives in six vital ministries of the church were approved for adoption by the church. This is the result of about one year's development work by members of the Growth Task Force.

These goals and objectives are summarized and attached to this newsletter.

The next step is to develop programs that will accomplish these



lofty visions - this is where the fun starts!

Members of the Task force who were responsible for developing the objectives will be recruiting persons to help with program planning. If you would like to be a part of this, please contact one of the members. This could be a very exciting time for our church!

The Growth Task Force

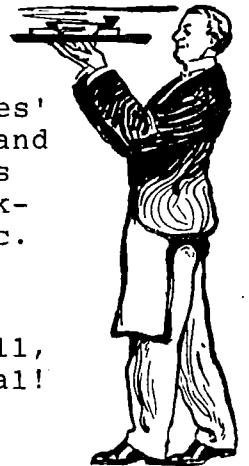
Anne Linn, Beth Trigg, Steve Stoner, Jeff Faulk, Larry Faulk, Cynthia Bland, Randy Turner, Wilbur Wickum, Jean Wickum, Jim VanBrimmer

Attention Please!!

The December Mens' Fellowship Breakfast will be a couples' breakfast. All men and their wives or guests are invited for breakfast on Saturday, Dec. 15, 8:30am at Dennys Restaurant.

Merry Christmas to all, and to all a good meal!

Steve Stoner
Chairman



Help the Homeless

The Junior High class has made a commitment to help the homeless as much as we can, but we need some help. We would like families to contribute a pack of disposable razors during the next few weeks, as a small Christmas gift.

Don't forget to contribute to the homeless by bringing food or helping out at the shelter. Please contact me for more information.

Beth Trigg

Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

Parish council will be on Dec. 10th at 7:00pm in the pastor's office.

Steve Stoner
Moderator

Thanks for Contributions

Sorry I took so long to thank all of you for contributing to Sophia's fund. We received \$2000 for her towards a car. She added \$1100 more and purchased a 1984 Buick Skylark at the auction of Betty Mackley's estate. We knew that Betty had taken good care of the car and that it was in good condition.

Sophia has taken Bertha and I to Plain City and Ashley to eat. Thank all you good folks so much and God bless you.

Love,
Ernestine

Boy Scouts Receive Awards

Boy Scout Troop 393, which meets at the church, held a Court of Honor in the sanctuary Monday, November 19. Scouts who received awards were:

Scout	Ben Guikema
Tenderfoot	Chris Estep
Second Class	Matt Lovell Kyaun Regan
First Class	Trevor Lyle Chris Brinkman Josh Weiser
Merit Badges	Dave Holt Trevor Lyle Chris Brinkman Josh Weiser

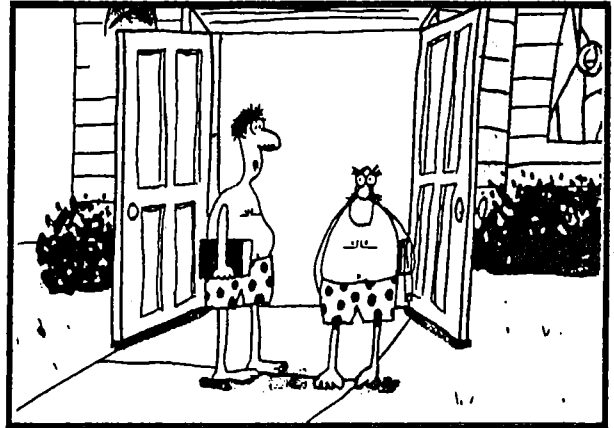
LEADERS:

Scoutmaster - Dave Lovell
Committee Chairman - John Lyle
Carter Organ. Rep. - Randy Turner

Thanks

Thanks to all of you who remembered me during my recovery from foot surgery. Your telephone calls, cards, and of course, great food, helped make the time go faster.

Jeanne Ekelberry



"That was the best sermon on giving I've ever heard."

New Addresses

Mildred Bowers and Nellie Sheets have been residents of Delaware Court for the past several months. Their address is Delaware Court Health Care Center, 4 New Market Drive, Delaware, Ohio 43015. Their room is #110. Delaware Court is off of Route 36 (William Street) just west of Delaware.

Candlelighters

Dec.	2	Evan Trigg Jim VanBrimmer*
	9	Marci Sander Shirley Parker*
	16	Micah Stoner Carolyn Schneeberger*
	23	Erin Faulk Will Fogle*
	24	Matthew Lovell
	30	Adam Mowery
Jan.	6	Elizabeth Davis

*Advent Candle

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Dec. 1 Alison Grubbs
 4 Erin Faulk
 9 Virginia Houston
 13 Geneva Evans
 18 Cap Gabriel
 25 Carol Grubbs
 Steve & Karen Stoner

Jan. 5 Evelyn Lee
 Lola Jackson

Note: The Deacons are in the process of updating this list. If you know of a name that has been omitted, please contact Larry Faulk.

Growth Goals & Objectives

Attached to this newsletter are the growth goals and objectives as developed by the Growth Task Force (see story on page 2).

Mouth of Babes

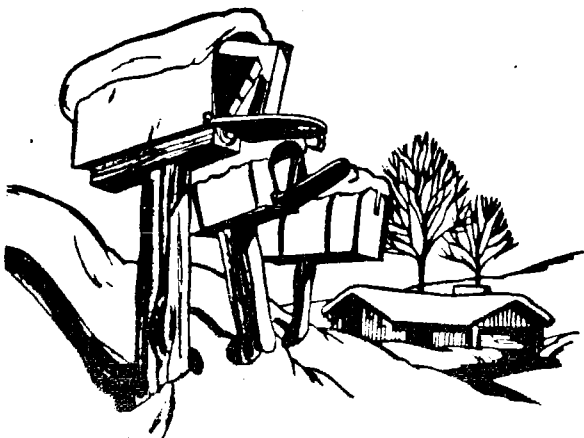
A three-year-old girl told her mother she learned that Jesus will come to live in the heart of those who invite him. That is a difficult concept for a little girl to grasp.

The mother was sitting on the couch and her three-year-old came over and put her ear to her mother's chest.

"What are you doing?" asked the mother.

"I'm listening for Jesus in your heart," replied the child. The mother let the little girl listen for a few seconds and then asked, "Well, what do you hear?"

"He's there," replied the little girl, "and it sounds like he's making coffee."



GROWTH OBJECTIVES

MINISTRY OF EVANGELISM

- I. Goal: Define evangelism as an individual and corporate responsibility to witness.
 - A. Develop a working definition of evangelism for use in church outreach and witness, by September 1990. MUST priority.
 - B. Prepare a structured and systematic way to instill said definition within the church membership, by December 1990. OUGHT TO priority.
- II. Goal: Understand evangelism is continuous and pervades all areas of life.
 - A. By December 1990, develop methods of reminding each other of our commitment to Christ's kingdom, when we are dispersed in the community, implementing them as appropriate during 1991. OUGHT TO priority.
- III. Goal: Identification and follow-up of visitors will be continued and expanded.
 - A. Develop a systematic follow-up for identifying visiting prospective members and monitoring each. This system should be in place by June 1991. MUST priority.
- IV. Goal: Develop programs in evangelism and outreach specific to all age groups.
 - A. Develop programs for, and monitor progress of, each church group, providing prayer support, encouragement and resources when needed, coordinating the evangelism efforts of the whole church for the edification of the fellowship. MUST priority.
 - B. Develop a strategy of corporate witness for First Baptist Church, Delaware by June 1991. MUST priority.
- V. Goal: Provide congregational education to define types of witness and outreach.
 - A. Create an evangelism committee for the church, headed by the Board of Christian Education member in charge of missions, by March 1991. MUST priority.
 - B. The evangelism committee will institute, at least quarterly, workshops covering various types of missions and evangelism, providing church members the opportunity to learn new techniques and methods of witness for home and abroad, by June 1991. WANT TO priority.
- VI. Goal: Organize active participation in witness to the community.
 - A. Provide inspiration, encouragement, and training for participants. MUST priority.
 - B. Identify, develop, and cultivate those areas of evangelism to which our church is most responsive. MUST priority.

MINISTRY OF CARE

- I. Goal: Members become more aware of and responsive to the needs of those within our fellowship.
 - A. Review and evaluate the telephone calling chain by September 1990. MUST priority.
 - B. Review and evaluate the deacon watch-care program by January 1991. MUST priority.
- II. Goal: Members become more aware of and responsive to the needs of others beyond our fellowship.
 - A. Establish a liaison between church and community service agencies. OUGHT TO priority.
- III. Goal: Members unite in caring for the needs of others.
 - A. Share caring opportunities with the appropriate group within the church. MUST priority.
 - B. Form a laity support group. OUGHT TO priority.

MINISTRY OF WORSHIP

- I. Goal: Worship be Bible-based and inclusive of all expressions of God, Son and Holy Spirit.
 - A. Evaluate to confirm and insure continuance of goal. MUST priority.

- I. B. Research convictions and attitudes of the members regarding theological content of the church's teaching, preaching, and witness. OUGHT TO priority.
- C. Encourage the use of inclusive language in worship services. OUGHT TO priority.
- II. Goal: Worship services provide a welcoming atmosphere as people gather.
 - A. Develop a strategy for welcoming new persons, by January 1, 1991. MUST priority.
 - B. Develop a strategy to prevent neglect of established members, by January 1, 1991. MUST priority.
- III. Goal: Develop a worship service that will include all God's gifted people.
 - A. Develop an inventory of persons with special gifts, by March 1, 1991. MUST priority.
- IV. Goal: Inspire and motivate spiritual growth and individual commitment.
 - A. Explore opportunities for new and varied growth experiences, through 1990 and 1991. OUGHT TO priority.
 - B. Explore ways to enhance the prayer life of the church during 1990 and 1991. MUST priority.
- V. Goal: Provide an experience that can be extended beyond the sanctuary.
 - A. Identify areas of the present and potential ministries that are an outgrowth of our worship experience, by March 1991. MUST priority.
 - B. Encourage one another through prayer throughout 1990 and 1991. MUST priority.
- VI. Goal: Establish a worship planning and coordinating group to facilitate continuity in worship.
 - A. Initiate a worship planning and coordinating group by January 1, 1991. MUST priority.

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

- I. Goal: Demonstrate the value and importance of Christian education.
 - A. Expand our promotion and advertisement of educational opportunities at First Baptist Church, by September 1991. OUGHT TO priority.
 - B. Develop a plan for increased creativity in individual or group study and endeavor, by September 1991. WANT TO priority.
- II. Goal: Promote our present Sunday School classes and achieve broader service to all age groups within the church.
 - A. Promote opportunities for young adults to have educational and social experiences together, by January 1991. MUST priority.
- III. Goal: Utilize present resources of the established groups within the church, i.e. American Baptist Women, Baptist Youth Fellowship, American Baptist Men, music ministry, Bible Study groups.
 - A. Investigate and suggest established educational programs available through American Baptist and other resources appropriate to First Baptist Church groups, by September 1991. OUGHT TO priority.

MINISTRY OF SERVICE

- I. Goal: Pursue our programs in world mission and special interest missionaries.
 - A. Aim for one or more special objectives each year, to be determined prior to September 1 each year, and to be incorporated in program planning. OUGHT TO priority.
 - B. Establish mission education as a priority concern for the church school and for the congregation in Sunday worship. MUST priority.
- II. Goal: Educate ourselves as to opportunities in our town, and act on one specific need.
 - A. Publicize and promote support for selected programs. OUGHT TO priority.
 - B. Make church facilities available for service or character-building organizations in the community. OUGHT TO priority.
 - C. Establish a way to discover and to communicate to the church opportunities to aid in established programs in human services. MUST priority.

MINISTRY OF ADMINISTRATION

- I. Goal: 1) Support the ministries of the church so they can function as planned.
2) Develop a system of communication and follow-up which would assure that the ministries' objectives are accomplished.
- A. Establish a statistical record-keeping system, by January 1, 1991. MUST priority.
 - B. Develop a tracking system to monitor progress on growth objectives, by January 1, 1991. MUST priority.
 - C. Establish guidelines and procedures for record keeping and reporting, by January 1, 1991. MUST priority.