

January 1999

Volume 28, Number 1

The Rev. Jody Lynn Hagans, Pastor  
Jim Stephenson, Editor

# Good News Letter

Published in the Cause of the Abundant Life by the First Baptist Church,  
101 North Franklin Street, Delaware, Ohio 43015; (614) 363-7021

In light of this busy and hectic holiday season, I thought it wise to take a hiatus from writing an editorial letter this month. I thought you would enjoy this story. It was sent to me by Jane Moore, mother

of Melissa Mercer and Jennifer Turner. Since Jane got "on-line" a year or so ago, she has been sending out five to ten e-mails each week to a list of friends & family. I count myself privileged to be included in the list.

Sometimes she sends jokes, sometimes humor-

ous quips or stories and sometimes a heartfelt story. So here is a sample of the latter. I hope you are enlightened and inspired.

It is entitled: "The Old Master and the Little Boy."

Wishing to encourage her young son's progress on the piano, a mother took her boy to a Paderewski concert. After they were seated, the mother spotted a friend in the audience and walked down the aisle to greet her. Seizing the opportunity to

explore the wonders of the concert hall, the little boy rose and eventually explored his way through a door marked "NO ADMITTANCE."

When the houselights dimmed and the concert was about to begin, the

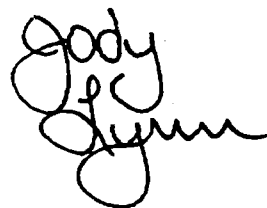
mother returned to her seat and discovered that the child was missing.

Suddenly, the curtains parted and spotlights focused on the impressive Steinway on the stage. In horror, the mother saw her little boy sitting at the keyboard, innocently picking out "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star." At that moment, the

great piano master made his entrance, quickly moved to the piano, and whispered in the boy's ear, "Don't quit. Keep playing." Then leaning over, Paderewski reached down with his left hand and began filling in a bass part. Soon his right arm reached around to the other side of the child and he added a running obligato. Together, the old master and the young novice transformed a frightening situation into a wonderfully creative experience.

And the audience was mesmerized.

Whatever our situation in life and history—however outrageous, however desperate, whatever dry spell of the spirit, whatever dark night of the soul—God is whispering deep within our beings, "Don't quit. Keep playing. You are not alone, Together we will transform the broken patterns into a masterwork of my creative art. Together, we will mesmerize the world with our song of peace."



## D.C.M.A. Annual Pulpit Exchange

On Sunday, January 31, we will once again participate in the annual pulpit exchange of the Delaware County Ministerial Association. The Rev. Tom VanBrunt from St. Peter's Episcopal Church will be preaching at First Baptist Church and Pastor Hagans will be preaching at St. Peter's Episcopal Church. By the way, the Episcopal church has two services, so Pastor Hagans will get an early start preaching at the 8 a.m. service.



# JANUARY

## Lenten Study

During the six Sundays in Lent (beginning on Sunday, Feb. 21), we will be having Lenten study classes on Sunday evenings from 6:00 to 7:30. We will be studying the book, *From Sacrifice to Celebration: A Lenten Journey*, by Evan Drake Howard.

What do Lent and the popular movie Dead Poets Society have in common? We'll find out as we read the broad range of contemporary examples that bring the journey from Lent to Easter alive for us today. This book will take us from the daily grind to a new level of spiritual growth.

The cost for this study will be \$12.00 a book. Scholarships are available. Please sign up with Pastor Hagans by Sunday, February 14.

## The Most Caring Child

Author and lecturer Leo Buscaglia once spoke about a contest he was asked to judge. The purpose of the contest was to find the most caring child. The winner was a four year old child whose next door neighbor was an elderly gentleman who had recently lost his wife. Upon seeing the man cry, the little boy went into the old gentleman's yard, climbed onto his lap, and just sat there.

When his mother asked him what he had said tot he neighbor, the little boy said, "Nothing, I just helped him cry."

## DISCIPLE Class Graduation

During morning worship on January 17, we will recognize the graduates of the 1997-98 DISCIPLE Bible Study Class.

In July, this class completed the *DISCIPLE I: Becoming Disciples Through Bible Study* class, a 34-week intensive program of Bible study.



*The DISCIPLE class (left to right, starting with top row): Jim Van Brimmer, Shannon Weakland, Tom Weakland, Beth Trigg, Jean Wickum, Randy Turner, Kathy Maher, Sue Elfner. Not shown (because she was taking the picture): Alison Mowery*

## Hurry, Hurry!

If you would like to be a Secret Advent Friend, please fill out a form as soon as possible because birthdays and other special occasions are happening as the new year begins. Sue Elfner has the forms and they are available on the table in the entrance of the church. Return them promptly so they can be given out quickly! (There is a doggy Christmas sack on the green table at the front of the Sunday

school addition that you may put the completed form.)

Thank you,  
— Sue Elfner

## What Is An American Baptist?

### Ten Key Facts about American Baptists

*And finally...*

#### Number 10: Diversity of race, ethnicity, culture, class and theology.

The patterns of our history have today woven together to give to the American Baptist Churches the gift of a great diversity of race, ethnicity, culture, class and theology. Over a third of our membership is black, Native American, Hispanic or Asian. Many of our congregations remember their origins among the German, Italian, Swedish, Danish,

Norwegian and other groups. It is our faith that God, as known to us in Christ, has important tasks for us as a people of faith as we seek a unity that embraces our diversities in our ministries of reconciliation.

*\*This concludes the series of the 10 Key Facts about American Baptists. In the following issues of this newsletter, you will learn about the American Baptist Mission and how it is carried out by local churches, associations and by the American Baptist Churches, USA.*

## JANUARY WORSHIP

**January 3**

Epiphany

Ephesians 1:3-14

"Hey, Have I Got A Story  
for You"

**January 10**

1st Sunday After Epiphany

Matthew 3:13-17

"Getting Carried Away"

**January 17**

2nd Sunday After Epiphany

John 1:29-42

"Things Could Get a  
Little Messy"

**January 24**

3rd Sunday After Epiphany

Matthew 2:12-23

"Extraordinarily Ordinary"

**January 31**

4th Sunday After Epiphany

Delaware Pulpit Exchange

Guest Preacher:

The Rev. Tom Van Brunt

**February 7**

5th Sunday After Epiphany

Matthew 5:13-20

"A Little Goes A Long Way"

*Most of us wait until we're in trouble, then  
we pray like the dickens. Wonder what would  
happen if, some morning we'd wake up and  
say, "Anything I can do for You today, Lord?"*

BURTON HILIS

.....

*Sunday is the golden clasp that binds together  
the volume of the week.*

LONGFELLOW

.....

### THE LAMB

*He heard the small cry in that night,  
So like his own — atrembling bleat,  
That he must answer by the right  
Of newborn lambs when first they meet.*

*He teetered up on woolly pegs  
And tottered to the manger-crib,  
Where pink-bead toes and kicking legs  
Put tickles to his fleecy rib.*

*His tail flew fast at what he saw;  
He thought it not at all so odd  
That one with whom he shared his straw  
Had wrinkled up his nose and baaed!*

*As Mary knelt beside the bed,  
He looked with pride at father-ram,  
And baaed and baaed at what she said,  
For she had called her baby, "Lamb!"*

RALPH W. SEAGER

.....

—submitted by Jean Wickum

## Personals

• **RICHARD E. LEE JR.**, son of **EVELYN LEE**, has been named a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, an honor bestowed on select members of the AAAS.

Richard is a professor of zoology at Miami University and is co-author of two books and more than 120 papers on cryobiology and ice-nucleating bacteria.

He and a colleague have long studied several unusual species of amphibians and reptiles which have the remarkable ability to freeze solid over the winter and then thaw back to life in the spring. Their goal is to learn how to mimic these techniques found in nature in order to preserve human organs intended for transplant.

### CHURCH DIRECTORY UPDATE

Please take a minute to update your Church Directory with this new information.

**Correction:** Last month's Church Directory Update had a typo. It incorrectly said that Michael and Tammy *Griffith* had moved. It should have said *Grubbs*, of course. Here is the correct info:

**Michael and Tammy  
Grubbs**  
327 West Central Ave.  
(their phone number is unchanged)

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

Jan. 4 Cynthia Bland  
Ashley Francis  
Shirley Parker  
5 Lola Jackson  
Evelyn Lee  
6 Edith Hall  
12 Larry Faulk  
13 John Linn  
18 Matthew Lovell  
20 Jennifer Turner  
22 Michael Mercer  
23 Jeff & Donna Reed  
26 Sophia Stephenson  
27 Steve Baker  
30 Calvin Turner

## February Newsletter

Please note the following changes from our regular routine:

1) Pastor Hagans will be our guest editor for the February issue. Please give your articles to her or leave them in the newsletter box at the church. I'll be out of town, so any articles mistakenly sent to me won't make it into the newsletter.

2) The February newsletter will publish one week earlier than usual. The submission deadline will be Sunday, Jan. 24, and the newsletter will be published on Sunday, Jan. 31.

- *Jim Stephenson, editor*



# JANUARY 1999

First Baptist Church

101 North Franklin Street, Delaware, Ohio 43015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship	4 7:00 Delaware Piecemakers; Boy Scouts	5 7:00 Board of Deacons	6 7:00 Choir	7 10:00 Sewing Group	8	10:00 Parish Council 7:00 Teacher's Meeting at White's
10 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship	11 7:00 Boy Scouts	12	13 7:00 Choir	14 12:00 Young at Heart	15	16 8:30 Men's Breakfast
17 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship; recognition of DISCIPLE Bible study class graduates 2:00 Board of Christian Education	18 <b>Martin Luther King Day</b> 7:00 Boy Scouts	19	20 7:00 Choir	21	22	23 10:00 Church Clean-Up Day (until 1:00)
24 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship 12:00 A.B.W. Ministries <i>Newsletter Deadline (submit articles to the guest editor, Pastor Hagans)</i>	25 7:00 Boy Scouts	26	27 6:30 Covered-Dish Dinner, followed by Annual Business Meeting	28	29	30
<b>Pulpit Exchange Sunday</b> 31 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship with The Rev. Tom VanBrunt from St. Peter's Episcopal Church <i>February newsletter available today *</i>	<b>February</b> 1 7:00 Boy Scouts; Delaware Piecemakers	2 7:00 Board of Deacons	3 7:00 Choir	4 10:00 Sewing Group 6:00 Parent Leadership Dinner at Andrews House	5	6

\* Normally newsletters are distributed on the first Sunday of the month, but the February newsletter will be distributed on the last Sunday in January.

# Good News Letter

Published in the Cause of the Abundant Life by the First Baptist Church,  
101 North Franklin Street, Delaware, Ohio 43015; (614)363-7021

Whose brilliant idea was it to publish the February Newsletter on January 31? Oh, it was mine.

When Jim asked me to be guest editor for this issue because he was going on vacation, I didn't think it would be a problem. And it wouldn't have been a problem if my hard drive hadn't crashed. At that point, I had about 5 million things (not an exaggeration) that needed to be done. But, alas, it didn't matter. No matter how much it needed to be done, it couldn't be done without my personal computer.

This got me to thinking about the Y2K problem. This is only a problem if you're completely dependent on technology, which it appears, is most definitely the case. Y2K, if you're not familiar with the term, means Year 2000.

There are a large number of people, not all of them religious nut cases, who believe that the world as we know it is going to end on December 31, 1999. We're not going to die. Unfortunately, the prognosis is even worse than that. These people, some of them scientists, believe that our modern world isn't prepared for the turn of the century. Therefore, the whole computer system network that keeps our world going, is, at the flip of the calendar, going to stop working.

The problem isn't actually with computers, but with the utility companies. Many people believe that computer manufacturers have made the changes that are necessary to handle this new century, but that utility companies are far, far behind. Therefore, when the calendar reads

2000,

we're going to be in the dark.

Books written. Seminars are being held. I kid you not. People are getting ready, for what they believe is going to be next best thing to the actual end of the world. A few weeks ago, I heard a report on National Public Radio featuring this Mennonite man who own a store in Northern Ohio. He sells non-electric appliances. His business is absolutely booming. People are coming from all over the country and stocking up on

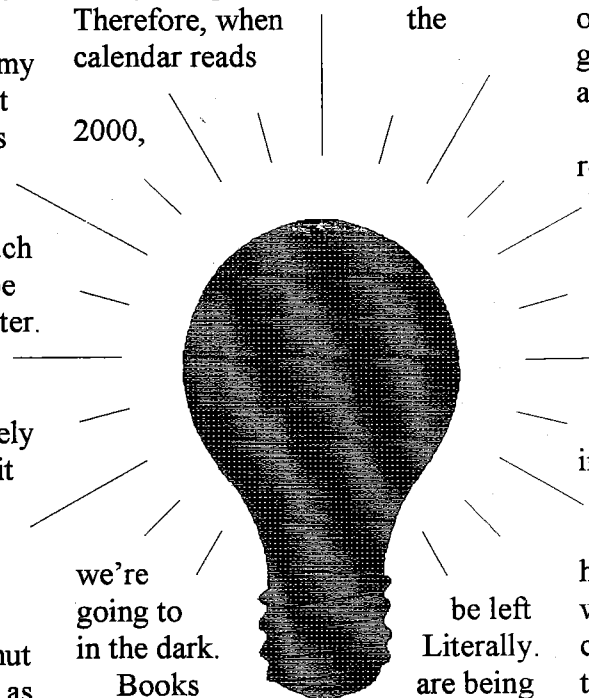
everything they'll need if this Y2K thing really does happen. Some families are spending all of their savings, thousands of dollars, just to be prepared.

My response? Let's not get carried away. So what if we lose all of our technological abilities? We got along without all of it 200 years ago; we could do it again.

This whole thing has made me realize just how much I (and all of us really) rely on electricity. What would I do if I didn't have a computer, or a microwave oven, or a vcr, or a television set, or even a radio? What would we do without all these modern devices that make our lives more interesting?

Well, for starters, we'd have a heck of a lot more time on our hands. We could spend more time with our families and friends, we could read more books, we could take walks out among nature, and we could even spend more time with God. The best thing of all, is that we would be free from the hassle and frustration that comes along with all of these modern conveniences.

And so here is my challenge to you. Lent is just around the corner. As a way to prepare for this season of reflection and self-examination, lets give this whole Y2K thing a trial run. Besides, we do want to be



prepared, just in case it really does happen. Let's all try, just for one day during the season of Lent, to go without using any modern, electric technology. (Except for lights and heat... and I guess that if you're wimps you can use your refridgerator and stove). Try not using your television, computer, radio, vcr or microwave for just one day.

It won't be easy. However, we may learn something about ourselves; and we may learn something new about our friends and family; and we just may learn something new about God. So, good luck. And may God be with us as we prepare our hearts and minds for the gift of Lent.

Many Blessings,  
Jody Lynn

## February Worship

### February 7

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Epiphany

Matthew 5:13-20

"A Little Goes a Long Way"

### February 14

Transfiguration

Matthew 17:1-9

"Can't See the Trees for the Forest"

### February 21

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent

Matthew 4:1-11

"God's Way Is the High-way"

### February 28

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent

Genesis 12:1-4

"Going for Broke"

### March 7

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent

Holy Communion

## Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Our annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper will take place on Tuesday, February 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring your appetite and a talent to share. A song, a skit, a reading, or some other talent will enhance our fellowship together.

-Larry Faulk

Pancake Supper Coordinator

## Ash Wednesday Service

Please join us on Wednesday, February 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. for a brief worship service. On this eve of the Lenten Season, let's take time out to prepare our hearts and minds for Lent. We will be begin at 7 p.m. and be finished in time for choir practice at 7:30 p.m.

## Lenten Study

From Sacrifice to Celebration:  
A Lenten journey

During the season of Lent, Pastor Hagans will be leading a special Lenten study. We will meet on six consecutive Sunday evenings beginning on February 21, from 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

If you are interested in participating, please let Pastor Hagans know by February 14, so she can order a book for you. The cost of the book is \$12.00. Scholarships are available.

## Christmas Program Thank You

Many thank to everyone who participated in the Christmas Program, "Mary Remembers": the actors and actresses, all the singers,

musicians and directors. Special thanks to all parents for bringing your children to rehearsals and came to see our final presentation. It was a great success, thanks to all of you!



## February Birthdays & Anniversaries

Feb 2 Fred Grubbs  
15 Deborah

VanBroekhoven

22 Bob & Sandie Heizer

24 Emilie Trigg

25 Mariah Bennett

March 5 Ben Turner

6 Shannon Stoner

## What Is An American Baptist?

### American Baptist Mission

American Baptist mission is carried out by the churches through their own local mission programs and through their support of their American Baptist region and our national boards.

### American Baptist Regions

There are 35 American Baptist regions located in the United States and Puerto Rico. Each region is autonomous, yet each region is intimately related to others and to the national boards as part of the American Baptist family. Territories covered by regions range widely, from the fourteen-state area covered by the American Baptist Churches of the South, the American Baptist Churches of Maine to the Los Angeles Baptist City Mission Society.

Each of the 35 regions is engaged in supporting and carrying out American Baptist

mission, in serving the churches within the region, and in providing an essential channel of communication through which the churches talk to the denomination and the denomination talks to the churches.

The regions play a vital role in raising the mission funds which fuel all American Baptist mission at home and overseas, more than \$38 million each year.

Some of the services each region provides its churches include: guidance for pulpit committees; counseling and support for pastors and their spouses; Christian education resources and support services; program resources for congregations; program ideas for all age groups; continuing education opportunities for pastors; salary paid for pastors; leadership development programs and resources; camping programs; women's and men's work programs; and many others. Regions also encourage their churches as they engage in the vital work of evangelism, social witness, and joint ministries with other denominations.

One region executive minister puts it this way: "The region is the most accessible link between a congregation and its American Baptist family. Through varied opportunities for enrichment, learning, and fellowship, the region represents- and at times challenges- congregations to 'greater faithfulness to Jesus Christ.'"



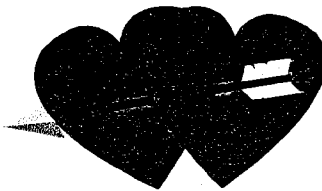
## Valentine's Day Party

The American Baptist Women's Ministries invites everyone to join us on Saturday, February 13 at 1 p.m. at the Wintersong Village Nursing Facility at 478 S. Sandusky Street. We will be having a Valentine's Day Party with the residents. Please give us 1 hour of your Saturday to help us sing with and visit with the residents. We'll also be eating cookies.

Remember, Frances Johnson, who's a member of First Baptist lives at Wintersong.

If you want to join us or have any questions, please talk with Evelyn Lee.

-Jody Lynn Hagans  
President, A.B.W. Ministries



## Trustee's Notes

- The electric motor that drives the water pump on the boiler at the old parsonage gave out and was replaced by Don Patrick. The cost was \$315.00.
- A water pipe froze and burst in the church basement during the cold weather. It was repaired by Don Patrick at the cost of \$42.28.
- Another repair was done in the woman's restroom. The bill has not arrived yet.
- A new floating switch had to be installed on the sump pump at the parsonage. Randy



Hagans installed the new device. The cost was \$37.99.

- A new grate was purchased for the fireplace at the parsonage. The cost was \$21.99.
- The weather was unbelievable during the first two weeks in January. I think that was the first Sunday service canceled since the blizzard of 1978. There were at least 3 official shoveling parties called to remove snow from around the church. I want to thank those that worked together: Randy Turner, Archie Trigg, Peter White, Scott Yant, Joe Mowrey (snow blower), Randy Hagans (snow blower), Jody Lynn Hagans, Alison Mowery and Adam Mowery.
- Two pianos were tuned by Clifford Rector.
- Peter White filled and heated the baptistry for baptisms on Sunday, January 10.
- A thank you to the workers who helped on the 2<sup>nd</sup> clean up day on January 23.
- The church thanks the Smale and McGrew families for the use of the beautiful flowers and small tree for two Sundays after Amy's memorial service.

-Peter White  
Chairperson, Board of Trustees

## Thank You

A special thank you to every one who lovingly provided food for the Amy Smale-McGrew family. Once again you came through at this time of very special need. What a pleasure to serve as your food-coordinator.

-Evelyn Lee  
Food Coordinator

## Personals

- Pam and Larry Faulk are pleased to announce the engagement of Jeff Faulk and Laurie Anderson. They plan to be married October 23, 1999 in Niles, Ohio.
- Erin Faulk has left to study in Paris, France until the end of May. Her e-mail address is in the church directory. Watch the next newsletter for her mailing address.
- Janet Porter received notice that she passed the State Board Test and will receive her license in massage therapy.
- Jennifer Linn is attending classes at a branch of the University of Phoenix pursuing her degree in Business Administration. She will also continue her full time employment in the travel office on Edwards Air Force Base.
- Barb Van Brimmer has received a promotion to Associate Professor (from Assistant Professor). Ahe is a medical reference librarian at the Prior Health Sciences Library at Ohio State, and curator of the Medical Heritage Center.
- An article about Shirley Parker's son, Joseph Fichter, recently appeared in the Delaware Gazette. In the article, Joe was recognized for his work as a sculpter. He recently completed a sculpture, "For Pentheus," which he created for the Vermont State Police barracks in Vermont's Chittenden County. Joe is currently teaching at the Putney School

in Vermont where he is head of the Art Department. The sculpture was funded through the Vermont Art in State Buildings program. The seven foot tall work is made of Danby Vermont marble and weighs more than a ton. It was dedicated on Friday, January 8 at the Williston Police Barracks.

## Church Directory Updates

Please take a minute to update your Church directory with this new information:

**Michael & Teresa Griffith**  
327 West Central Ave.  
(same phone #)

**Scott & Amy Yant (June 29)**  
2995 Curve Road  
363-3811  
Scott (Dec 31)  
Amy (Oct 18)  
Britten (Jan 23)  
Arianna (Dec 29)

## Amy McGrew

Amy F. (Smale) McGrew, 41 of Delaware died on January 5, 1999 at home with her family.

Amy was born on October 28, 1957 in Delaware to Charles and Marge Smale. She was a lifetime Delaware County resident and a member of First Baptist Church.

Amy owned Scenic Landscapes with her brother David. She enjoyed plants, flowers, birds and animals.

She is survived by her husband Phil, her stepchildren Rich and Michele, her step-grandchildren,

Dominic and Samantha, her mother Marge Smale, her brother David, her sisters Cindy and Becky, her cats, "Dude," "Calie," and "Tom Morgan" and a dog, "Jessie."

A memorial service was held at First Baptist on Friday, January 8. Memorial contributions are being accepted at Hospice at Grady and the Humane society of Delaware County.

## Inspiring Thoughts

From Bill Nirote (who still sends email from D.C.)

Mahatma Ghandi walked barefoot everywhere, to the point that his feet became thick and hard. He also was quite a spiritual person. Even when he was not on a hunger strike, he did not eat much and became quite thin and frail. Furthermore, due to his diet, he ended up with very bad breath.

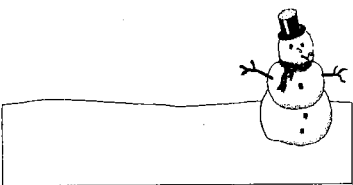



Therefore, he came to be known as a: "Super calloused fragile mystic plagued with halitosis."

And from Jane Moore (Jennifer Turner & Melissa Mercer's mother)

## Discouraged?

As I was driving home from work one day, I stopped to watch a local little league baseball game that was being played in a park near my home. As I sat down behind the first-base line, I asked one of the boys what the score was.

"We're behind 14 to nothing," he answered with a smile. "Really," I said. "I have to say you don't look very discouraged." "Discouraged?" he asked with a puzzled look on his face. "Why should I be discouraged? We haven't been up to bat yet."

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<h1>February 1999</h1> 						
<b>31</b> Delaware County Pulpit Exchange: Guest Preacher - The Rev. Tom Van Brunt	<b>1</b> 7 - Boy Scouts 7 - Piecemakers	<b>2</b> 6:30 - Board of Deacons, Brown Jug	<b>3</b> 7 - Choir	<b>4</b> 10 - Sewing Group	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 7 - Boy Scouts	<b>9</b> 7:30 - Association Trustees Meeting, Richwood	<b>10</b> 7 - Choir	<b>11</b> 12 - Young at Heart	<b>12</b> 	<b>13</b> 1 - A.B.W. at Wintersong Nursing Facility
<b>14</b> <i>Happy            Valentine's            Day</i>	<b>15</b> 7 - Boy Scouts  <i>President's Day</i>	<b>16</b> 6:30 - Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper	<b>17</b> 7 - Ash Wednesday Service 7:30 - Choir	<b>18</b> 7 - Board of C. E., Sue Elfner's House	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> 6 - Lenten Study	<b>22</b> 7 - Boy Scouts 	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 7 - Choir	<b>25</b> 7 - Parish Council	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 9:30 - Disciple Bible Study
<b>28</b> 6 - Lenten Study  <b>NEWSLETTER            DEADLINE</b>	<b>1</b> 7 - Boy Scouts 7 - Piecemakers	<b>2</b> 7 - Board of Deacons	<b>3</b> 7 - Choir	<b>4</b> 10 - Sewing Group 6 - Dinner for Parent Leadership, Andrew's House	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>

# Good News Letter

Published in the Cause of the Abundant Life by the First Baptist Church,  
101 North Franklin Street, Delaware, Ohio 43015; (614) 363-7021

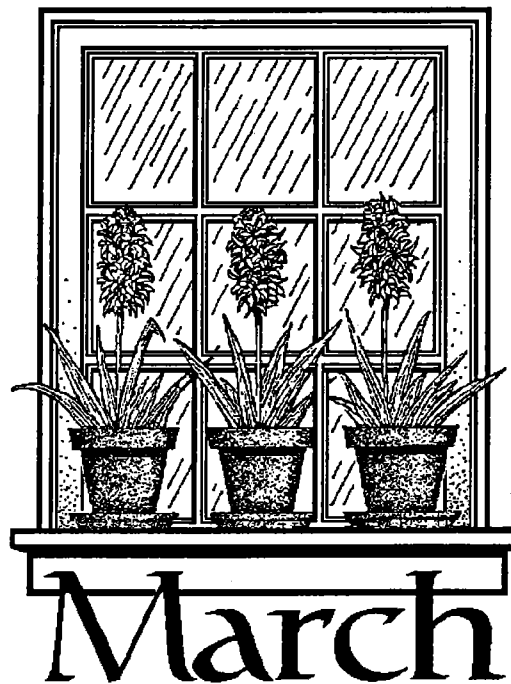
Being a pastor, I have to remind myself, every once in a while, that I'm just a "regular ole" member of the church like everyone else, and that along with this membership come several privileges and responsibilities.

Most people assume that it's just natural for pastors to talk about their faith with others. Not so, my friends. I talk about my faith on Sundays, and when I'm in an official role as pastor, and when I'm having a theological discussion with friends or colleagues. But, the trouble with being a pastor, is that when we're not officially "on duty," which isn't very often, we can have the tendency to forget who we are. I have to challenge myself, just like anyone else, to remember who I am, and whose I am, and that the only way to help others know God is for me to tell them about God. I can do that through my actions sure enough, but nothing works quite the same or quite as well as the good old fashioned spoken word.

During worship a week or so ago, we were reminded in a "creative" announcement from Tom Weakland that "Invite a Friend" Sunday is happening on March 21. In case your weren't there, Tom began his announcement at front door of the church, having a conversation with someone that had come to church with him. Evidently, Tom had gotten his Sunday's mixed up, and had invited his friend to church on February 21, so he was very nicely telling his friend to go home and come back on the right Sunday. We all laughed.

We laughed because it was funny.

But was laughter the right response? Wouldn't it have been better if someone had jumped up and gone running out of church after Tom's friend explaining that it was okay if they came on the wrong Sunday, they



could still come in and worship with us? But that didn't happen.

At our last Deacon's meeting we asked Tom, our newest Deacon, to be in charge of "Invite a Friend" Sunday. I don't remember if he actually said anything to me, or if I could just see it in his eyes, but I do remember thinking the same thing I thought he was thinking, "Why set aside one Sunday of the year for inviting friends?" This is the church after all. Shouldn't we be inviting friends every Sunday?

We hope that all of us will invite

someone to Church every Sunday, but we've set aside this particular Sunday, March 21, to challenge ourselves about the importance of being an inviting people.

After all, joy is contagious. We don't come to church here because we have to; nobody's holding a gun to our head and forcing us to come to church. We come here to church because we've found something here that we need, and we also believe that this church needs something that we have. We come here, because it is in this place and with these people that we have experienced God's love and grace. The only reason I can think of that we would want to invite and bring someone to church with us, is because we want them to know this same love and grace.

Let's set a goal for ourselves: between now and March 21, invite at least 5 people (friends or otherwise) to church. Then, on March 21, bring at least one of those people to worship with you. Think about it. We have an average of 60 people in Sunday morning worship. So, if each person, young and old alike, brings just one person to church, then there will be 120 people who will know the joy of being in God's presence on a Sunday morning. If each person brings all 5 people to church, then there will be 300 people worshipping God and knowing the joy of Christian fellowship.

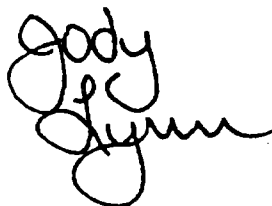
Don't know what to say? Try something like this, "You know, I really love going to my church. I've learned a lot about myself and about how much God loves me. I've been

thinking a lot about inviting you. Would you like to come with me sometime? We're having a special 'Invite a Friend' Sunday on March 21 and we'll have lots of visitors that day. Think about it and let me know."

Please don't get me wrong, this is not about increasing our numbers. Its about giving others the opportunity to experience the profound love of God. Besides, when we don't invite and bring others to our church, then what does that say about our church? Think about it.

On second thought, don't just think about it, pray about it.

Many Blessings,



## Lenten Prayer Breakfasts

Two Lenten prayer breakfasts will be sponsored by the Kiwanis. Donuts, coffee, and juice will be available; a \$1.50 donation is requested.

The first one will be in the fellowship hall of William Street Church on Wed., March 17, from 7:00 to 8:00 am. Rev John Power will officiate.

The second will be in the fellowship hall of First Presbyterian Church on Wednesday, March 24 from 7:00 to 8:00 am. The Rev. Warren Cambell-Gaston will officiate.

## Thank You

We would like to express our heartfelt thanks for all of the loving prayers, caring thoughts and the abundance of foods and gifts that were delivered during the time of Amy's illness and death. Since this was one of the busiest times of the year and the weather was not very

cooperative, we especially want you to know how much this meant to us.

Yours in Christ,

—Mrs. Marjorie Smale and family

p.s. I hope that I will be able to return to church soon.

+ + + + +

Sincere thanks to those who helped with dinner for the Maher family the night they returned from Indianaopolis following funeral services for Kathy's mother. Our sympathy to all of them at this difficult time.

- Evelyn Lee

## Easter Lilies

Easter lilies can be ordered for \$6.00 to decorate our sanctuary on Easter Sunday. They can be given in memory or honor of a loved one, if you wish. After our Easter service you can either leave your lilies at the church or take them home with you.



If you would like to purchase one, please give your money to either Jim Stephenson or Shirley Parker by March 28 (Palm Sunday).

## America for Christ and Special Mission Offerings

Hi, the America for Christ Offering will be taken this month. In addition to writing about it, I am taking the opportunity to remind you that we also take three other special mission offerings every year.

### AMERICA FOR CHRIST

The America for Christ offering is used specifically for home missions in the United States. America for

Christ supports American Baptist schools (colleges and seminaries), church planting, youth and adult conferences, Vacation Bible Schools, Sunday Schools, evangelism training and many other outreach programs. Our designated Sunday will be March 14 but we will continue to collect the offering throughout the month of March.

This year the theme is Luke 9:23 "Then Jesus said to all the people: If any of you want to be my followers, you must forget about yourself. You must take up your cross and follow me."

Our goal at 1st Baptist is \$300, however, the national goal is 2.2 million, so prayerfully consider a generous gift to support the America for Christ offering.

### OTHER SPECIAL OFFERINGS

Coming up in May-June will be the One Great Hour of Sharing offering which supports emergency and disaster relief. In October, we will be giving to the World Mission offering to support mission efforts outside the United States. Finally, in December we give to the Retired Ministers and Missionaries offering which provides a yearly love gift to those who have given their lives in professional service to the American Baptist Convention.

These four special offerings are authorized by the American Baptist Convention and all gifts go directly to service and support of the designated area. Administrative costs are borne by our regular giving to United Missions through our church budget.

—Randy Turner

## Celebration Banquet

On Friday, March 19, the Marion Association of the A.B.C. of Ohio will have its annual New Member Celebration Banquet. It will begin at 6:30 p.m. at Tri-Rivers Career Center



## MARCH WORSHIP

### March 7

3rd Sunday of Lent  
Holy Communion  
"The Woman at the Well"

### March 14

4th Sunday of Lent  
"Double Vision"

### March 21

5th Sunday of Lent  
"Resurrection Before Easter?"

### March 28

Palm Sunday  
"Why We're Here"

in Marion. The guest speaker will be the Rev. Francis Hitch from Columbus who is known for his inspirational and motivational messages. Tickets cost \$8.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children under 12. If you want to attend, please let Pastor Hagans know by Monday, March 8 (tomorrow), which is the deadline for reservations.

## Church Retreat

August 13 to 15

It's not too soon to begin planning for this year's all church retreat at Judson Hills Camp. Please mark these dates on your calendar now, so you can begin getting ready to join in fun, fellowship, relaxation, swimming, canoeing, fishing, and even a little learning. The retreat committee has already reserved a date for the retreat and will begin planning soon. If you would like to serve on the retreat committee, please talk with Pastor Hagans.

## HOLY WEEK WORSHIP

### April 1

Maundy Thursday  
7:00 p.m.  
Holy Communion  
Come & Go in Silence

### April 2

Good Friday  
12:00 p.m.  
St. Mary Catholic Church

### April 4

Easter  
8:00 a.m.  
Early Easter Worship  
8:30 a.m.  
Covered Dish Breakfast  
10:45 a.m.  
Easter Worship  
Holy Communion  
John 20:1-21  
"Empty Promises"

## Delaware Piecemakers

Delaware Piecemakers Quilt Guild invites you to participate in the A.B.C. Project on Saturday, March 21 from 9:00 to 3:00 in the Fellowship Hall.

We will again be making baby quilts for children with life-threatening illnesses. Last March we finished 60 quilts.

You can come and help or donate materials. For information, call Jeanne Ekelberry at 363-1432.

## Money Stolen From Church

A total of approximately \$60 was stolen from our educational building on Sunday, February 7. A deacon

caught a brief glimpse of a stranger in the educational building during morning worship and we believe that the unknown man she saw was responsible for the theft.

Pastor Hagans feels that it would be inappropriate to lock church doors during worship, but we should all remember not to leave purses or any other valuables unattended.

## A.B.W. Ministries

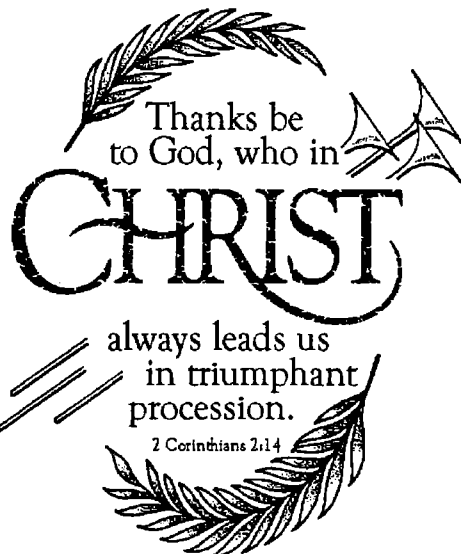
Thanks to the Youth Fellowship for helping prepare for the April meeting of the Marion Association. We will be hosts for a brunch meeting in April. We hope all the women will plan to be here.

- Jeanne Ekelberry

## Spring Educational Opportunities

Junior and Junior High Weekend  
March 19 to 21

The Junior High weekend (grades 7 through 9) will include a program entitled "Life 101: Living Life With No Regrets." The Junior program is entitled, "Created in the Image of God." If these program titles interest you or your children and you want more information, please contact Sue



Elfner at 363-2244. General information about these retreats will be on the table in the vestibule. The deadline is March 12.

## ABC/OHIO Leadership Conference

A leadership conference entitled "Rooted in the Word; Alive in the World" will be held at the Karl Road Baptist Church on April 24 from 9:30 to 4:00. Leaflets with more information are available in the vestibule.

## Second Friday Dinner

Our church needs to furnish ten large angel food cakes for the Second Friday Dinner on March 12. These

### CHURCH DIRECTORY UPDATE

Please take a minute to update your Church Directory with this new information.

#### New entry:

**McGhee** (July 4)  
**Denver** (June 19)  
**Dorothy** (April 17)  
27 Oakwood  
363-7293

#### New e-mail addresses:

Jennifer and Ed Linn  
jedlinn@ptw.com

Janet Porter  
jp8606@aol.com

#### Temporary address (until the end of May):

Erin M. Faulk - Student  
IES Paris  
77,rue Daguerre  
75014 Paris, FRANCE

unfrosted cakes need to be purchased and delivered to Andrew's House by 5:00 pm on Friday the 12th.

We also need volunteers to be mixers from 5:30 pm until 7:00 pm on that date.

Please report to Evelyn Lee (362-9107) if you can help with either of these tasks.

## Report from Handicap Access Committee and the Trustees

### Handicap Access

Country Side Construction, contractor for our original project, returned and completed the following "add on" projects:

- Installed a 12-volt back-up sump pump in the pit under the elevator along with a marine battery on a charger, good for eight hours in case the power goes off.
- Installed a dehumidifier in the elevator pit which drips into the sump pump. The heat output of the dehumidifier is a side benefit for the elevator shaft.
- Installed a new electric outlet to handle these items.
- Installed a steel plate over the door latch to handicap entrance.

These items cost \$1,160.

### Trustees

- Countryside installed a new panel divider in the mens' room and a handicap sign on the front of the church to indicate access is in the rear off the alley. These items cost \$161.
- Joe Mowery reglued all the loose areas on the black rubber baseboard in the newer part of the building.
- Dave Lovell climbed the 40-foot extension ladder and changed the

floodlights over the stained-glass windows in the sanctuary.

- *Peter White*

*Chair of Trustees and Member of the Handicap Access Committee*

## Alzheimer's Program

On Sunday, March 14, following morning worship, the Women's group will host a program about Alzheimer's Disease. We will meet at about 12:15 p.m., share in a soup and sandwich lunch (soup provided), then we will have a program presented by the Delaware branch of The Alzheimer's Association.

## Personals

*We express our deepest sympathy to the families of Marjory Goss and Bob Houston:*

• **KATHY MAHER's** mother, **MARJORY GOSS**, died on February 2 at the Arbors of Delaware. She had lived most of her adult life in Beech Grove, Indiana. A grave-side service was held on February 5 at Forrest Lawn Cemetery in Greenwood, Indiana, with Pastor Jody Lynn Hagans officiating. She is survived by her daughter, Kathy Maher, her son-in-law John Maher, grandson Michael Maher, and sister Kathryn Mills (formerly of Zanesville who now lives in Delaware).

• Former church member **BOB HOUSTON**, 76, died at Riverside Hospital in Columbus after a long illness. He had been residing in Mt. Gilead. The funeral was held at First Presbyterian in Mount Gilead and burial was at Quakerdom Cemetery near Cardington. He is survived by his wife, Virginia.

continued on back of calendar

continued from page four

## 1999 Watch Care List

- **MICHAEL MERCER** had outpatient surgery.
- **MARGE SMALE** has been undergoing outpatient treatments at Grady Hospital.
- **DOUG LEE** had successful laser eye surgery for an old injury.
- **VICTOR FOGLE** was here for a week from Okinawa, Japan. His wife Debbie teaches first grade Japanese children to speak English.
- **FLORENCE FAULK** attended her granddaughter's wedding in Oklahoma.
- **SOPHIA, JIM, AND BOB STEPHENSON** vacationed for a week in San Francisco.

### Birthdays & Anniversaries

- Mar. 5 Ben Turner  
6 Shannon Stoner  
12 Evan Trigg  
17 Shannon Weakland  
18 Dave Lovell  
20 Natalie Mowery  
Jeff Reed  
Micah Stoner  
24 Kathy Maher  
27 George Riedmiller
- April 2 Adam Mowery  
8 Nate Weakland

The birthdays and anniversaries come from the Church Directory. Please report any errors or omissions to Jim Stephenson.

#### Deacon Beth Trigg (369-7083)

Breece, Ty and Tracy  
Faulk, Florence  
Mercer, Phil, Melissa, Michael and Jane  
Perkins, Kelly, James and Dustin  
Porter, Betty and Janet  
Reed, Barbara  
Reidmiller, George, Chris, Katie, Jamie and Regan  
Turney, Bernice  
Wickum, Jean

#### Deacon Tom Weakland (369-0159)

Faulk, Larry, Pam, Jeff and Erin  
Gillette, Mary and Melissa; Hopkins, Paul, Liz and Chrissy  
Johnson, Frances  
Lee, Evelyn  
Martin, Craig  
Sander, Marci  
Schneeberger, Carolyn  
Smith, Jack and Marilyn  
Turner, Randy, Jennifer, Calvin, Ben and Claire

#### Deacon Jean Wickum (369-1884)

Bennett, Alex, Yonika and Moriah  
Bland, Cynthia  
Evans, Geneva  
Grubbs, Fred, Carol, Suzanne and Zachary  
Jackson, Lola  
McGhee, Denver and Dorothy  
Stephenson, Sophia and Jim  
Trigg, Archie, Beth, Evan and Emilie  
Trigg, Jarrod and Nichelle  
Van Brimmer, Jim and Bertha  
Van Broekhoven, Harold and Deborah

#### Deacon Mary Gillette (369-6121)

Ekelberry, Jeanne, Charles and Michael  
Fogle, Vic and Debbie  
Grubbs, Michael, Tammy, Jenny Beth and Benjamin  
Lathrop, Janet  
Linn, Jennifer and Ed  
Linn, John and Anne  
Mowery, Joe, Alison, Natalie, Adam and Laura  
Rice, Tim and Nicole  
White, Peter and Linda  
Yant, Scott, Amy Britt and Ariana

#### Deacon Alison Mowery (369-3314)

Fogle, Carol  
Gabriel, Cap  
Hall, Edith  
Hagans, Rudy and Jody Lynn  
Lovell, David, Mary Lou, Matthew and Barbara  
Maher, John, Kathy and Michael  
Stoner, Steve and Karen  
Stoner, Micah and Shannon  
Syler, Jean  
Van Brimmer, Rick and Barbara

#### Deacon David Lovell (369-6041)

Baker, Helen  
Baker, Steve and Sharon  
Elfner, Lynn and Sue  
Francis, Kirby, Tammy, Ashley and Justin  
Griffith, Mike, Teresa, Natalie and Katie  
Osborne, Jean  
Parker, Shirley  
Reed, Jeff and Donna; Davis, Richard, Betty  
Smale, Marge  
Weakland, Tom, Shannon, Jenna, Deanna, Nathan, Kit and Ned

# MARCH 1999

## First Baptist Church

101 North Franklin Street, Delaware, Ohio 43015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 7:00 Choir	4	5	6
7 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship 6:00 Lenten Study	8 7:00 Boy Scouts	9	10 7:00 Choir	11 12:00 Young at Heart	12 6:00 Second Friday Dinner at Andrew's House	13
14 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship with America for Christ Offering 12:00 A.B.W. Ministries Topic: Alzheimers 6:00 Lenten Study	15 7:00 Boy Scouts	16	17 <b>St. Patrick's Day</b> 7:00am Lenten Breakfast at William St. Church 7:00pm Choir	18	19 6:30 Celebration Banquet in Marion <i>Junior &amp; Junior High Weekend Begins</i>	20 <b>First Day of Spring</b> 8:30 Men's Breakfast 9:00 Quilting Project in Fellow. Hall
21 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship 2:00 Board of Christian Education 6:00 Lenten Study	22 7:00 Boy Scouts	23	24 7:00am Lenten Breakfast at First Presbyter. 7:00pm Choir	25 7:00 Parish Council	26	27
28 <b>Palm Sunday</b> 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship 6:00 Lenten Study  <i>Newsletter Deadline and Last Day to Order Easter Lilies</i>	29 7:00 Boy Scouts	30	31 7:00 Choir	1 <b>April</b> 7:00 Maundy Thursday Service with Holy Communion	2 12:00 Good Friday Service at St. Mary Catholic Church	3 <i>Daylight Saving Time Begins on Sunday, So Set Clocks One Hour Ahead Tonight!</i>

**EASTER SUNDAY, April 4** -- 8:00 Early Service; 8:30 Covered-Dish Breakfast; 9:15 Sunday School; 10:45 Easter Worship with Holy Communion

# Good News Letter

Published in the Cause of the Abundant Life by the First Baptist Church,  
101 North Franklin Street, Delaware, Ohio 43015; (614) 363-7021

Here is a typical conversation between me and my chiropractor:

Me: I'm tired. I have a headache. My muscles are so tight I can hardly move my shoulders.

My Chiropractor: You have to do something to relieve your stress.

Short of taking a ludicrously early retirement, I'm not sure how a pastor is supposed to relieve what can sometimes amount to a humongous load of stress. So, I do what I can. I sleep eight hours a night, try to maintain a healthy diet; exercise regularly; have a dog who loves me, listen to soothing music, take time to relax and read a novel once in a while. On top of all this, I happen to have an incredibly loving, sweet and thoughtful husband.

In spite of all these preventative measures, I still have a great amount of stress in my life that I don't seem to be able to manage. You say I'm not alone?

But Spring has arrived. The earth around us is growing and showing signs of life. The grass is starting to turn green, the flowers are beginning to break ground, yards will soon be full of tulips, daffodils, and lilacs, and the trees have buds that will soon be sprouting leaves. I should feel renewed, full of life and energy, ready to sprint out of bed each morning and attack the day with strength and vigor.

But still, the pressures of life, the burdens of ministry and just the sheer amount of stuff that I have that's sitting around waiting to get my attention can bear down on my shoulders. And I get headaches. I want to lay down and take a nap in the middle of

stressed

But now its Easter. Rejoice and be glad. Christ is risen from the grave. Death is defeated. Embrace the new life that God has made possible. Look with hope toward the future.

These are the words of hope that dash through my mind as I contemplate the truckload of stress that is my life. And I think to myself. So what? Yes these are hopeful words, but they don't do anything to relieve my stress. Why not?

Well, I'll tell you. Because I think I can do it all by myself. I don't need any help. I'm a grown woman and I can do it on my own. So there. (These are my words, you can choose your own).

But Easter tells us that we can't do it all by ourselves. We came, we tried, we failed. And so God came into our world and lived life for a time as one of us, experienced the pain, joy, stress and pleasure of being human, and then showed us how its supposed to be done. And you see where it got God. Crucified. But even that wasn't enough.

Because God raised Jesus from death. Now we have life. All the time. Whenever we want it.

There's only one catch. We have to let go. We can't hold onto our lives; can't continue to tell ourselves that we can do it all on our own. Because that's not how God does things.

That's what Easter asks us to do. Let go. Trust only in God. Know that



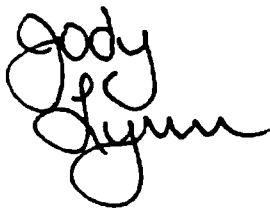
the afternoon.

Well, that's enough wallowing for one day. Time to move on.

Time to remind myself that life these days is stressful for everyone. We cram-pack our lives full of everything and anything that will possibly fit into a day, and then we wonder why we're tired, worn out and over-

life is a gift; we can do nothing to deserve it or earn it. It is God's to give freely and graciously. And that is just exactly what God intends to do.

Happy Easter!



## Church Clean-Up Day

We meet on a Saturday morning, four times a year, to help clean our church building. Please join us for this brief time on Saturday, April 17, from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. Snacks and beverages will be provided.

## 1999 Church Leadership Conference

Molly Marshall, author and professor, will be the keynote speaker at the 1999 Church Leadership Conference on April 24th. Her depth of thought is surpassed only by her ability to deliver her thoughts in a clear and inspiring manner to pastors and church leaders, according to promotional materials.

Two types of workshops will be offered in conjunction with the ABC Ohio theme, "Rooted in the Word; Alive in the World." Please see the flyer in the vestibule or get one from Sue Elfner. The registration form is part of the flyer. The forms should be turned in with a \$10 check by April 14th.

Childcare is available. The conference will be held on Saturday, April 24, from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm at the Karl Road Baptist Church.

— Sue Elfner  
Board of Christian Education

## Frances Johnson

Frances Johnson, 96, formerly of 21 South Sandusky Street, died on March 21 at Wintersong Village Nursing Facility.

Frances was a member of First Baptist Church for 56 years.

She was born on Nov. 15, 1902 in Radnor, to David Griffith and Anna (Marsh) Griffith, and was a lifetime Delaware resident. She was a graduate of Bliss College in Columbus, was a retired administrative assistant in the admissions office of Ohio Wesleyan University and at Grady Memorial Hospital.

Surviving are three daughters: Anne Linne, and Caroline Walker and Penny Lindstrom, both of Cape Coral, Florida; 11 grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; and a sister, Anita Swearingin of Delaware. She was preceded in death by a daughter, Jessica Johnson, and a sister, Christina Reed.

A graveside service was held on March 23 at Radnor Cemetery with the Rev. Jody Lynn Hagans officiating. A memorial service will be held at a later date at our church, and memorial contributions can be made to our church.

We extend our deepest sympathy to her family.

## Thanks

We would like to thank the wonderful people of First Baptist Church for their prayers, love and support during the illness and death of Marjory Goss. Thanks for the flowers, thanks for the meal and all who prepared it, and special thanks to Reverend Hagans and Rundy for coming all the way to Indianapolis to perform the service!

God bless each and every one of you!

— John, Kathy and Michael Maher,  
and Kathryn Mills,

+ + +

Our most sincere appreciation for the wonderful acts of kindness to every one of the Christian friends in the congregation. We were lovingly accepted, showered with blessings of cards, delicious food, prayers, and felt like family. We thank God for every remembrance of you, praise Him for his Grace, and look forward to attending services soon.

In Christ,

— Dorothy McGhee  
especially Denver, too

+ + +

Many thanks to all who helped with evening meals for the McGhees after Denver returned from a hospital stay.

As Dorothy said, it was such a nice way of showing love.

Thanks, also, to all who helped with the bereavement dinner following Frances Johnson's graveside services. It was good for the family to spend that time together. All was appreciated.

— Evelyn Lee

+ + +

Dear friends,

I am so pleased to belong to a church which is so loving. Thank you all for the cards and notes and the delicious lunch served us after the service. Mom loved our church and missed being with us the last 2-1/2 years. Jody Lynn and Tom Weakland, thank you for your words which were so meaningful.

Love,

— Anne Linn and family

## Church Retreat

It's not too soon to begin planning for this year's all church retreat, which will take place at Judson Hills Camp on August 13 to 15. Please mark

## APRIL WORSHIP

### April 4

Easter Worship  
Holy Communion  
John 20:1-18  
"Empty Promises"

### April 11

2nd Sunday of Easter  
John 20:19-31  
"You Call This a Church?"

### April 18

3rd Sunday of Easter  
Luke 24:13-35  
"Getting Down to the Brass Tacks"

### April 25

4th Sunday of Easter  
John 10:1-10  
"The Real Thing"

### May 2

Holy Communion  
5th Sunday of Easter  
1 Peter 2:2-10  
"The Priesthood of  
ALL Believers"

these dates on your calendar now, so you can begin getting ready to join in fun, fellowship, relaxation, swimming, canoeing, fishing, and even a little learning.

## 80th Birthday

My mother will celebrate her 80th birthday on April 12th. Since she knows many at First Baptist (especially Young at Heart!), I would like to ask you to send her a card or a note. Her address is:

Ethel Trogon  
P.O. Box 2117  
Wayne, W. VA. 25570

-Jeanne Ekelberry

## Andrews House

• **After-School Action** kicked off on Monday, March 1 with a good turnout of approximately 15 to 20 students. The program runs Monday through Friday from 2:30 to 4:30 at the Armory on William Street across from Willis Middle School. A variety of free activities, movies, music, and board games are offered, and there are free snacks on Fridays. Once a week there are prizes like Cedar Point tickets and autographed sports pictures. Volunteers are needed. For more information, call Dari Johnson at 368-1445.

• The "Pony Express" returns as the theme for this year's financial stew-

ardship campaign, which will begin on April 16 and run for three weeks. Last year the Pony Express raised over \$70,000 from individuals, local businesses, industry, and civic groups. The goal for 1999 is \$90,000. Contributions can be sent to the Andrews House at 39 West Winter Street, Delaware, OH 43015. If you'd like to volunteer to help in the fundraiser, please phone the Andrews House at 369-4520.

• An annual **spring open house** will be held on Saturday, May 15, from 10:00 to 3:00. There will be complimentary tours and refreshments.

## OUR CHURCH HAS NEW NEIGHBORS

We recently received a letter from the family that has purchased the house adjacent to our church.

*Hello,*

*We are your new neighbors at 107 North Franklin St. (Gladys Dunlap's old house):*

*John Johnson  
Kathleen Gerspacher-Johnson  
and Steven (age 6)*

*We will be renovating and restoring this grand old house over the next several months. It should prove to be an improvement that your congregation will welcome.*

*The previous boarding house will not be operated. The house will be occupied by a single family...just the three of us.*

*We would appreciate any old photos of the house (to borrow and copy), and any interesting stories about the house would be welcomed.*

*Again, we are glad to be joining this special neighborhood.*

*Best wishes,*

*John, Kathleen, and Steven*



## Personals

- **JANET LATHROP** had major surgery.
- **DAVE LOVELL** had hernia surgery.
- **JEFF FAULK** had emergency surgery on March 8 to remove his appendix. Everything went well.
- **LOLA JACKSON** broke her arm and was transferred to Delaware Court Nursing Facility.
- **SOPHIA STEPHENSON** had outpatient laser eye surgery.
- **STEVE BAKER** was a patient at Riverside Hospital for tests.
- **DENVER MCGEE** was hospitalized for a small stroke, and **DOROTHY MCGEE** broke a rib. (They are Shannon Weakland's parents.)
- **JAYDEN RENEE HAGANS** was born on Friday, March 12 at 7:47 p.m., weighing 5 pounds 10 ounces and measuring 18 inches in length. Her parents are Shaun Hagans and Stephanie Blair of Newark. The proud grandparents are Rundy and Jody Lynn Hagans.
- **ALISON AND TODD BRADFORD** of Marietta, Ohio, are the proud parents of Meredith Janelle. Meredith was born by c-section on March 19th and

weighted 9 pounds 8-1/2 ounces. This is their second child; Meredith has an older brother, Jacob. Carol Grubbs is the baby's grandmother.

Alison teaches piano and has 14 students. She also plays keyboard and does the vocals in a little band which performs in theaters, county fairs, and in concerts.

- **JEFF AND DONNA REED** and **MELISSA NEILL** vacationed for a week in the Florida keys.
- **JEAN OSBORNE** spent three weeks in Florida visiting her Aunt Alice.
- **FLORENCE FAULK** vacationed for a week in Phoenix.
- **PETER AND LINDA WHITE** vacationed in New York during spring break.
- **SHIRLEY PARKER's** grandson, **JONATHAN FICHTER** (Andy's son), received the highest score it is possible to get on his SAT's, was named National Merit Scholar and early admission to Yale in his junior year of high school in Meridan, PA.

## Birthdays and Anniversaries

- April 2 Adam Mowery
- 8 Nate Weakland
- 9 Kirby Francis
- 10 Jane Mercer
- 13 Benjamin Grubbs  
Tim Rice
- 16 Marjorie Smale
- 20 Melissa Gillette
- 26 Ty & Tracy Breese
- 29 Deborah Fogle
- May 1 Christine Reilly
- 3 Rick Van Brimmer
- 4 Ty Breese
- 5 Mike Griffith

This list comes from our Church Directory. Please report any errors or omissions to Jim Stephenson.

### CHURCH DIRECTORY UPDATE

Please take a minute to update your Church Directory with this new information.

Jennifer and Ed Linn  
10356 Oleander Ave.  
California City, CA 93505  
(760) 373-7715

Tom and Anna Francis Lasley  
41 Willowbrook Way  
363-4152



# APRIL 1999

## First Baptist Church

101 North Franklin Street, Delaware, Ohio 43015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 7:00 Maundy Thursday Service with Holy Communion	2 12:00 Good Friday Service at St. Mary Catholic Church	3 Daylight Saving Time Begins Tonight
Easter 4 8:00 Early Service 8:30 Covered-Dish Breakfast 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship	5 7:00 Boy Scouts; Delaware Piecemakers	6 7:00 Deacons	7 7:00 Choir	8 12:00 Young at Heart	9	10
11 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship	12 7:00 Pastoral Relations Committee; Boy Scouts	13	14 7:00 Choir	15 10:00 Marion Assoc. Women's Spring Brunch	16	17 8:30 Men's Breakfast 10:00 Church Clean-Up Day
18 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship 2:00 Board of Christian Education	19 7:00 Boy Scouts	20	21 7:00 Choir	22	23	24 9:30 ABC/Ohio Leadership Conference at Karl Rd. Baptist Church
25 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship  Newsletter Deadline	26 7:00 Boy Scouts	27	28 6:30 Covered- Dish Dinner and Quarterly Business Meeting	29	30	May 1 10:00 Ordination Council at West Mansfield Baptist Church

Sunday, May 2 — 9:15 Sunday School; 10:45 Morning Worship; 5:30 Mother-Daughter Banquet at Radnor Baptist Church

# Good News Letter

Published in the Cause of the Abundant Life by the First Baptist Church,  
101 North Franklin Street, Delaware, Ohio 43015; (740) 363-7021

I wasn't going to write anything this month — I was going to take a vacation. However, I came across a story on the internet that helped me put things in perspective. As you know if you heard me preach last Sunday, I've been fairly blown away (pun entirely intended) by the recent shootings at a school in Colorado. In light of that event, I'd like you to read and hear this story:

Two men, both seriously ill, occupied the same hospital room. One man was allowed to sit up in his bed for an hour each afternoon to help drain the fluid from his lungs. His bed was next to the only window. The other man had to spend all his time flat on his back. The men talked for hours on end. They spoke of their wives and families, their homes, their jobs, their involvement in the military service, even where they had been on vacation. And every afternoon when the man in the bed by the window could sit up, he would pass the time by describing to his roommate all the things he could see outside the window.

The man in the other bed began to live for those one-hour periods where his world would be broadened and enlivened by all the activity and color of the world outside. The window overlooked a park with a lovely lake. Ducks and swans played on the water while children sailed their model boats. Young lovers walked arm in arm amidst flowers of every color of the rainbow. Grand old trees graced the landscape, and a fine view of the city skyline could be seen in the distance. As the man by the win-

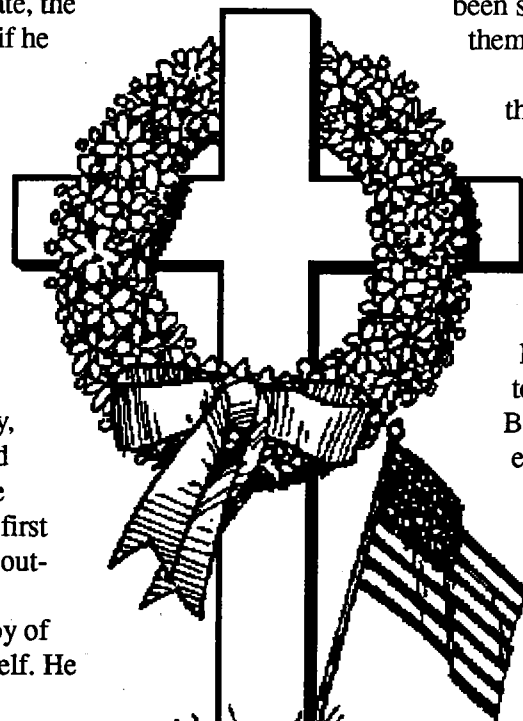
dow described all this in exquisite detail, the man on the other side of the room would close his eyes and imagine the picturesque scene. One warm afternoon the man by the window described a parade passing by. Although the other man couldn't hear the band, he could see it in his mind's eye as the gentleman by the window portrayed it with descriptive words. Days and weeks passed in similar fashion.

One morning, the day nurse arrived to bring water for their baths only to find the lifeless body of the man by the window, who had died peacefully in his sleep. She was saddened and called the hospital attendants to take the body away. As soon as it seemed appropriate, the other man asked if he could be moved next to the window. The nurse was happy to make the switch, and after making sure he was comfortable, she left him alone. Slowly, painfully, propped himself up on one elbow to take his first look at the world outside. Finally, he would have the joy of seeing it for himself. He

strained to slowly turn to look out the window beside the bed. It faced a blank wall. The man asked the nurse what could have compelled his deceased roommate to describe such wonderful things outside this window. The nurse responded that the man was blind and could not even see the wall. She said, "Perhaps he just wanted to give you hope."

Think of all the tragic events happening in our world today. Think of two 17 year old boys who are so angry and full of hate that they can kill 15 people and injure even more. Think of all the pain and suffering caused by their decision to take the matter into their own hands. Think of the pain that they must have been suffering inside themselves.

Thoughts like this can be overwhelming, and can inevitably lead to a feeling of complete hopelessness. This is too big for us. Besides, look at everything else going on in our world; if you ask me, this world is



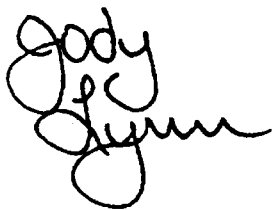
headed straight for hell (no hand-basket required).

But, before we forget, and get caught in this pit of despair, let me remind you that we don't see the world through the eyes of hopelessness. We are those who claim to believe in the power of the risen Christ who brings life from death. And because of this, we have a different kind of vision. We are blind to despair. We are blind to fear. We are blind to hate. And because we are blind to so much of the evil around us, we can describe a different kind of world to those around us, and especially to those without hope.

I'm not trying to say that we're unaware of the evil around us; because you can't live in the face of evil without being aware of it. What I am saying, is that we don't let the evil of despair and hopelessness get inside of us. It doesn't get under our skin, where it can spread and color the way we see and experience all of life.

So let us continue to describe this picture of hope to others, so that the community of those who believe in God's power over death will continue to get larger and larger. And let us continue to work to tell and show our children how much we love them and how much God loves them.

Many Blessings,



*Tom and Shannon Weakland  
and  
Melissa Neil*

*are proud to announce the  
Engagement of their children,  
Jenna L. Weakland  
and  
Thad L. Inscho.*

*Please join us in celebrating  
their happiness.*

## From the Pastoral Relations Committee

The pastoral Relations Committee has met several times since you responded to the 1998 Questionnaire (actually, most of you did not respond), and we have decided to follow up our study of those responses with a series of pieces in the monthly Good Newsletter so the whole congregation will know who serves on the Pastoral Relations Committee, and the responsibilities of that committee.

First let me introduce the members of the committee. Phil Mercer, chairperson; Bertha Van Brimmer, Pam Faulk, Chrissy Hopkins, Marge Smale, Shirley Parker and Pastor Jody Lynn Hagans.

The Constitution of our church states that the Pastoral Relations committee will be composed of 5 people elected at large from the congregation. This is done at the annual meeting in January. The names for prospective committee members are submitted by the Board of Deacons and the pastor. The committee should be a link between the congregation and the pastor, to serve as an advisory group to the pastor and serve as an advocacy group for the pastor's leadership in the congregation. The com-

mittee makes recommendations on compensation and benefits, continuing education, working conditions and facilitates an annual evaluation process. In addition, the committee will assist the pastor and the congregation in the employment transition process at the beginning and ending of a pastors tenure.

In the coming months the Pastoral Relations Committee will be submitting brief articles to the Good News Letter based on the suggestions gleaned from your responses to the 1998 Questionnaire. In the meanwhile, please feel free to speak to any of us with ideas you may have that will enhance the ministry of our church to our membership, to prospective members and to the community. Our phone numbers are in the church directory if you wish to talk to any of us at any time. This is our church and we need input from everyone in order to achieve the most effective ministry possible.

*-Shirley Parker  
Pastoral Relations  
Committee Scribe*

## Mother/Daughter Banquet on May 2

This evening, at 5:30 p.m. at Radnor Baptist Church, the women and girls of our church are invited to the annual Mother/daughter Banquet. It will be a covered-dish dinner, so please bring a dish to pass. Beverage, rolls and table service will be provided. The program is on "Quilts," so if you have a quilt that is special to you, bring it along to share.

## Blanket Sunday

On May 9, Mother's Day, we will also celebrate Blanket Sunday. This is a project sponsored by Church World Service, which provides blankets to people throughout the world. Because

## MAY WORSHIP

### May 2

Holy Communion  
5th Sunday of Easter  
1 Peter 2:2-10  
"The Priesthood of ALL Believers"

### May 9

Mother's Day  
Blanket Sunday  
1 Peter 3:13-22

### May 16

7th Sunday of Easter  
Acts 1:6-14

### May 23

Pentecost  
Acts 2:1-21 & Numbers  
11:24-30

### May 30

Trinity Sunday  
2 Corinthians 13:11-13

### June 6

Holy Communion  
Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

of the crisis in Yugoslavia, there is presently a great need for blankets. During our worship service, you will be given an opportunity to come forward and make a contribution towards the purchase of one or more blankets. In your worship bulletin you will find a Blanket Sunday form. Please let us know how much you wish to contribute (\$5.00 per blanket) and the name or names of the person you wish to remember or honor with your gift. If you have any questions, please talk with Pastor Hagans or Evelyn Lee.

## One Great Hour of Sharing

The One Great Hour of Sharing offering celebrates its fiftieth anniversary this year! The theme is from Mark 16:15, "Go into all the world." We will be collecting the offering at First Baptist from May 16 to June 6. This offering is designated for disaster relief all over the world. With the recent refugee situation in Kosovo, the need is especially critical and I hope that you will consider a generous gift to this important American Baptist ministry. While we collect this offering only once a year, obviously disasters do not only happen once a year. Please give as God directs. Our church goal for our special offerings is \$300 but I would love to see us double it in this special hour of need.

In Christ's service,

—Randy Turner  
Board of Christian Ed.

## New Address

Pete and Stef Heizer  
17600 Fries Ave.  
Lakewood, OH 44107  
(216) 221-5362

## Thank You

Thanks for all the cards that you all have sent. It sure makes life better and I always enjoy it when I come out to Jean's and see all of you.

Love,

—Ethel Trogon

## 1999 Summer Camp

A reminder to all of you campers out there. Camp is for most everyone, from young to old (O.K. - "grown-up"). Kirkwood and Judson Hills have exciting programs this year -

even some new camps! Registration deadline is June 1, so be thinking which camp(s) you're interested in. And remember, the church will pay 1/2 of camp fees. Plus scholarships are available if finances are a hindrance. Camp is a wonderful opportunity to grow closer to God and strengthen your faith.

—Melissa Mercer,  
Board of Christian Education

## Trustees Notes

• It is with great satisfaction that I would like to report the installation of all new windows and front storm door at the parsonage. The old ones were single-strength glass and metal frames that sweated and frosted badly in cold weather. The new ones are insulated vinyl, lower E argon, by Empire Window, manager Mike Vangundy. It was all done in one day by a crew that did a neat job and cleanup. The cost for 13 new windows and a storm door installed was \$4,411.00. They have a lifetime warranty and should make a big difference both winter and summer. It makes the house look better inside and out. All the "sliders" across the back were changed to double hung. This completes one of several projects at the parsonage. The others that should be done as money becomes available are:

- A new roof in the next couple of years.
- New carpet throughout to replace the 70s vintage carpeting.
- Paint badly faded aluminum siding or replace with vinyl.
- Heating and cooling system. It does ok now but is aging.

• Clifford Rector tuned and checked over the piano in the fellowship hall.

• New floor mats were purchased for the back and side doors. Cost \$210.03. We are still looking for an

odd size for the front vestibule.

For those who are newer in our fellowship, most of the trustee's funds come from the rental of the old parsonage, plus \$1,500 (or whatever we can spare) in the regular budget .

—Peter White

Chairman Trustees

## Open House at Andrew's House

Andrew's House will be having their annual Spring Open House on Saturday, May 15, from 10:00 am until 3:00 pm. They will offer complimentary refreshments and tours, and will feature an art exhibit by the Olentangy Middle School.

## Personals

- MARGE SMALE is at home from Riverside Hospital after a series of radiation treatments.
- JANET LATHROP returned to the hospital for an infection following major surgery. She is recuperating at home.
- EDITH HALL was in Grady Hospital for two days.
- JEAN OSBORNE was in Grand Rapids, Michigan for two weeks for son Greg's surgery.
- TERESA GRIFFITH underwent outpatient surgery at Mt. Carmel.
- BERNICE TURNEY visited for a week with son Wayne and family in Cleveland.

## Spell Checker

Eye halve a spelling checkquer  
It came with my pea sea  
It plainly marques our my revue  
Miss steaks eye kin knot sea.  
Eye strike a key and type a word  
And weight four it two say  
Weather eye am wrong oar  
write  
It shows me strait a weigh.  
As soon as a mist ache is maid  
It nose bee fore two long  
And eye can put the error rite  
Its rare lea ever wrong.  
Eye have run this poem threw it  
I am shore your pleased two no  
Its letter perfect awl the weigh  
My chequer tolled me sew.

—submitted by Jean Wickum

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

- May 1 Christine Reilly  
3 Rick Van Brimmer  
4 Ty Breese  
5 Mike Griffith  
7 Donna Reed  
Bertha Van Brimmer  
8 Kit Weakland  
Michael Ekelberry  
9 Cris Riedmiller  
10 Archie & Beth Trigg  
12 Jeanne Ekelberry  
14 Tom Weakland  
15 Barbara Lovell  
Betty Porter  
16 Rundy Hagans  
23 Helen Baker  
24 Jean Wickum  
Sharon & Steve Baker  
DeeDee Weakland  
29 Bob Heizer  
June 3 Justin Francis  
8 Pam Faulk  
Carol Fogle

This list comes from the church directory. Please report any errors or omissions to Jim Stephenson.

## CARE AND SHARE

In the northeast corner of the Assembly Room is a table covered with items we have been collecting all year, under the Mission outreach of the ABWM. In JUNE, it will be taken to the Women's Conference, to join Care and Share items from all over Ohio. It will then be divided between two Christian Centers -- Dayton Christian Center, and Neighborhood Ministries at Campbell, OH. ( that is near Youngstown ).

Problem is, we ought to have a bigger stack of items to send. So here is a plea to add your contribution to the stack. Some items needed are sheets, towels, dish towels ( new or used Sunday School take home pictures, Christian pictures or posters Glue, colored chalk, erasers, crayons and like supplies. \$ 1.00 children's toys or gifts , and games. These things are for the Centers.

The Race Track Ministry is in need of quilts, , good used pots and pans, good used jeans, sneakers and caps for men women and children. Also fans -- even broken ones which are used for parts.

\*\*\*\*\*

# MAY 1999

First Baptist Church  
101 North Franklin Street, Delaware, Ohio 43015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship 5:30 Mother/Daughter Banquet at Radnor Baptist Church	3 7:00 Boy Scouts; Delaware Piecemakers; Peace Camp	4 7:00 Deacons	5 7:00 Choir	6	7	8
9 <b>Mother's Day / Blanket Sunday</b> 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship	10 7:00 Boy Scouts	11	12 7:00 Choir; Prepare dinner at Andrew's House	13	14	15 8:30 Men's Breakfast 10:00 Open House at Andrew's House (until 3:00)
16 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship 12:15 Board of Christian Education	17 7:00 Boy Scouts	18	19 7:00 Choir	20 7:00 A.B.W. Ministries	21	22
23 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship	24 7:00 Boy Scouts	25	26 7:00 Choir	27 7:00 Parish Council	28 7:30 Wedding Rehearsal	29 1:30 Wedding
30 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship	31 <b>Memorial Day</b>	June 1 7:00 Board of Deacons	2 7:00 Choir	3	4	5

# Good News Letter

Published in the Cause of the Abundant Life by the First Baptist Church,  
101 North Franklin Street, Delaware, Ohio 43015; (614)363-7021

## CONGRATULATIONS SENIORS: Richard, Paul, Barbara & Nate!

### Richard Davis

Richard has been part of the First Baptist Church family for ten years. In that time, he has been involved in Sunday School, worship, and in the American Baptist Youth Group.

While at Hayes High School, Richard played on the baseball team for one year and during the 1998/99 school year took an independent business/accounting class in which he was the business manager for the school store.

After graduation, Richard will take a "road trip" to St. Louis to see the Cardinals play the Chicago Cubs in 2 games. After returning home, he will work for D.C.S., a Telemarketing Company where he has been working for the past year.

This August, Richard will attend Florida State University in Tallahassee, Florida where he will study pre-law with the hopes of becoming a sport's agent.

Richard was awarded a Scholarship Voucher of \$500.00 for passing the 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Proficiency Test, which was passed by only 90 out of 283 students.

### Paul Hopkins

Paul has been a member of First Baptist Church for about 10 years. He has been active in Sunday School, worship and the American Baptist Youth Group.

In high school Paul was awarded a Scholarship Voucher of \$500.00 for passing the 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Proficiency Test. He also played on the Hayes tennis team for 1 year.

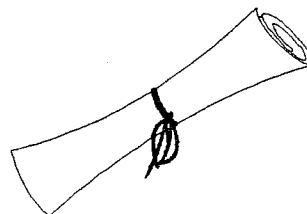
Paul has worked at East of Chicago Pizza since he was 16, and plans to continue working there through the summer. Following graduation, Paul will take a vacation to Florida to go sailing with his grandfather.

This Fall, Paul will attend Ohio State University in Marion for one year, and then transfer to Kent State University where he will study architecture.

### Barbara Lovell

Barbara has been a life-time member of First Baptist Church. In 1995 she was baptized by her uncle, James Maynard who is a pastor in New York. Barbara has been and is currently involved in Sunday School, worship, and in the American Baptist Youth Group. She has helped in the nursery and with Junior Church.

In high school, Barbara was on the tennis team for 3 years, ran on the track team during her freshman year, sang in the Symphonic Choir for 3 years, and was in Hayes Singers for 2 years. She was also in the chorus for



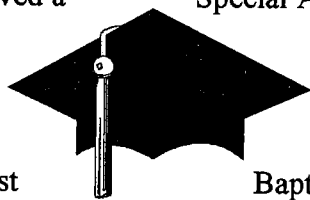


4 musicals: Pippin, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat, Children of Eden, and The Secret Garden. Barbara began playing violin when she was in Kindergarten and was a member of the Hayes Orchestra for 4 years.

In addition, Barbara was also involved in 4-H and Girl Scouts. She was on the Junior Fair Board for 4-H from 1994-98 and served as a 4-H Camp Counselor. Barbara was also a Carteens Member from 1995-99 and served on the Youth Staff of Delaware Area Recovery Resources (DARR) from 1995-99. As a Girl Scout, Barbara has earned both the Silver and Gold Awards for Scouting.

In academics, Barbara was given the Renaissance Club Award given for grades, attendance and involvement in school activities. She was listed in the Who's Who Among American Students for 1998-99. Barbara was also awarded a Scholarship Voucher of \$500.00 for passing the 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Proficiency Test.

Following graduation, Barbara will spend two weeks in Japan visiting with her sister Debbie and brother-in-law Vic. In the Fall, Barbara will attend Muskingum College in New Concord, Ohio, where she will study math, business and accounting. She received a Special Acknowledgments Award from Muskingum College for \$1,000.00.



## Nate Weakland

Nate has attended worship at First

Baptist Church with his family for about 3 years.

In academics, Nate was given the Renaissance Club Award given for grades, attendance and involvement in school activities. He was also awarded a Scholarship Voucher of \$500.00 for passing the 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Proficiency Test. Nate also received the Scottish Rite Scholarship from the State of Ohio.

In high school Nate played soccer for 4 years and has been on the varsity team for 2 years. Nate received a letter in soccer and during his senior year the team won first place in the O.C.C. Nate also played tennis for 4 years with 2 years on the varsity team and a letter. During his senior year, he and his partner received a trophy for doubles at the O.C.C.

Nate was also a member of the Symphonic Choir for 3 years and Hayes Singers for 2 years. He was in two of the high school musicals. In Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat he played one of Joseph's brothers and in Children of Eden he played Noah's son Japheth. Nate was also a member of the O.C.C. Choir.

Nate worked as a counselor for the Muscular Dystrophy Camp and went on the Summer Work Camp with the Ecumenical Youth Group for 3 years. During the 1998/99 year Nate served as a big brother for Big Brothers/Big Sisters.

Following graduation Nate will go on a celebration trip to Mertle Beach. This Fall, Nate will attend the College of Wooster in Wooster, Ohio where he will study pre-health, a field which could lead to a career in massage therapy or sports medicine.

\*\*\*All four of these high school seniors graduated from Hayes High School on June 5, 1999\*\*\*

## Trustee's Notes

- The door knob and lock on the door to the pastor's office broke beyond repair and was replaced by Dave Lovell and Peter White at the cost of \$22,82.
- Archie Trigg replaced six broken and loose floor tiles.



- Three additional personal PAs were purchased from the Williams Sound Corporation at the cost of \$167.50. These units are used to amplify the sound from our speakers in the sanctuary to help people hear our worship service better.
- Randy Hagans repaired and painted the mail box at the parsonage.

- Randy and Jody Lynn Hagans cut down the sugar maple tree in the side yard of the parsonage because it was split in several places from wind damage. Some fire wood was salvaged.
- On Sunday afternoon, May 16, the Delaware Baptist Church used our sanctuary for a service of Baptism

because their church is being remodeled. Pastor David Warton officiated. Peter White filled the baptistry and served as building host.

- On Saturday, May 29, our church hosted the wedding of Bobbi McGhee and Eric Burris. Pastor Jody Lynn Hagans officiated, while Betty Porter played the organ and Peter White served as building host.
- Our church will be faced with 2 major expenses in regard to the pipe organ and the sound system: John Muller of the Muller Pipe Organ Company met with Peter White, Jim Van Brimmer and Mary Lou Lovell. Rubber tubing carrying air from the blower to the bellows and from the bellows to the great and swell sections of the organ is leaking air and needs to be replaced. Replacement of the rubber tubing with a better material was recommended at the cost of \$700 to \$800. In regard to the sound system, the cables between the pulpit microphone and amplifier was damaged by a carpet tack. A sound system expert from Corbin Electronics in Columbus is going to come give us an overview on what is needed and what if anything can be salvaged from our current sound system. An estimated cost will be reported as soon as possible.

-Peter White  
Chairperson, Board of Trustees

.....

## Personals

- On Sunday, May 9, Sophie, Jim and Bob Stephenson and Carol Grubbs, Natalie Griffith and Donna Brown traveled to Indianapolis to attend the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Ted Stephenson's pastorate at Church of the Master in Indianapolis, Indiana.

.....

## Church Retreat

The 1999 all-church retreat will take place from August 11 – August 13 at Judson Hills Camp. Our leader for this year's retreat will be The Rev. Heather Rittenhouse. Costs for the retreat and registration forms will be available soon. Please stay tuned

.....

## Eagle Scout Court of Honor

Mr. and Mrs. James O'Neill request the honor of your presence at the Eagle Scout Court of Honor for their son Michael James O'Neill on Monday, June 7, 1999 at 7 o'clock p.m. at First Baptist Church. A reception will follow.

.....

## Thank You

Thank you for the gift given for the bereavement dinner in memory of Mrs. Elizabeth Heizer.

-- Bethel United  
Methodist Church & Bethel  
United Methodist Women

To: First Baptist Church  
Re: Meals for Parent Leadership  
Training Institute on March 11  
and May 13.

Thanks – Marci L. Young

Thank you – Sue Wilcox

Thank you for the

thoughtfulness – Rhonda Shaw

Thank you – Judy Henry

Thank you for your kindness,  
God bless you – Janet Naticchea  
& Family

Thank you – Dawn, Alan &  
Emily Swartz

We appreciate your work,  
thanks so much – Ginny Berry

Thank you so much; the class  
was great and I wouldn't have  
been able to attend if it hadn't  
been for the meals you provided.

– Cathy & Girls

Thank you for your kindness  
and generosity with the great  
dinner! – Deborah Condow

.....

## June Birthdays & Anniversaries

3 Justin Francis

8 Pam Faulk

Carol Fogle

9 Mike & Teresa Griffith

10 Dave & Mary Lou Lovell

11 Randy & Jennifer Turner

12 Anne Linn

15 Charles Ekelberry

23 Ned Weakland

24 Beth Trigg

25 Sandie Heizer

27 Joe & Alison Mowery

Jenna Weakland

28 Jami Riedmiller

29 Scott & Amy Yant

July 3 Phil Mercer

7 Jody Lynn Hagans

Happy Birthday

## June Worship

June 6  
Holy Communion  
Matthew 9:9-13; 18-26

June 13  
Children's Day  
Graduate Recognition  
Sunday School Promotions

June 20  
Father's Day  
Romans 6:1b-11 &  
Matthew 10:24-39  
"The Living Dead"

June 27  
Proper 8  
Deacon Led Hymn Sing

July 4  
Peace Sunday  
Isaiah 32:14-20  
"The Fruit of Justice Is Peace"

## Summer Worship, Nursery Care & Junior Church

Beginning on Sunday, June 13, the time of morning worship will change from 10:45 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

There will be nursery care and a "tweenies" class provided for preschool through kindergarten. Those children in 1<sup>st</sup> grade or higher are asked to stay in worship following the Children's Moment.

## Children's Day

On Sunday, June 13, we will celebrate Children's Day with the youth of the church leading us in

the worship service, "Celebrate the Children." This service was planned by senior Barbara

Lovell, Melissa Mercer and Pastor Hagans. The children's choir, directed by Mary Lou Lovell will sing during this service. We will also recognize our

four high school graduates, present Bibles to those going into the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and give Sunday School promotions.

Following this service, we invite everyone to join us for a reception honoring our graduates.

## Paradoxes

The paradox of our time in history is that we have taller buildings, but shorter tempers; wider freeways, but narrower viewpoints; we spend more, but have less; we buy more, but enjoy less.

We have bigger houses and smaller families; more conveniences, but less time; we have more degrees, but less sense; more knowledge, but less judgment; more experts, but more problems; more medicine, but less wellness.

We have multiplied our possessions, but reduced our values. We talk too much, love too seldom, and hate too often. We've learned how to make a living, but not a life; We've added years to life, not life to years.

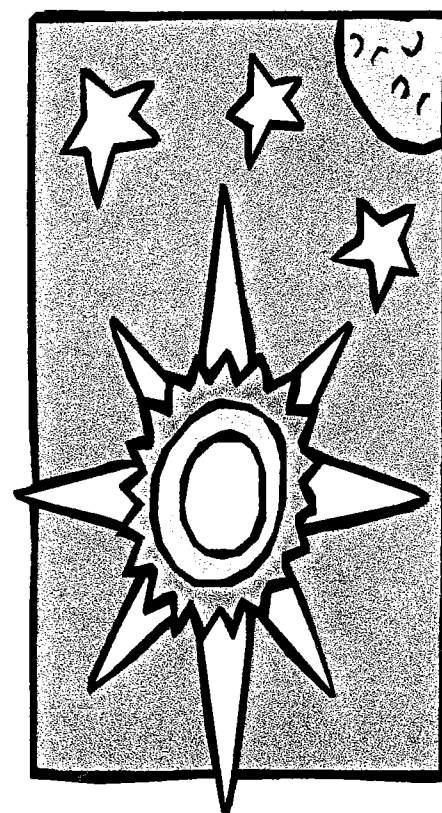
We've been all the way to the moon and back, but have trouble crossing the street to meet the new neighbor. We've conquered outer space, but not inner space; We've cleaned up the air, but

polluted the soul; We've split the atom, but not our prejudice; We have higher incomes, but lower morals; We've become long on quantity, but short on quality.

These are the times of tall people, and short character; steep profits, and shallow relationships. These are the times of world peace, but domestic warfare; more leisure, but less fun; more kinds of food, but less nutrition. These are days of two incomes, but more divorce; of fancier houses, but broken homes.

It is a time when there is much in the show window and nothing in the stockroom; a time when technology can bring this letter to you, and when you can choose either to make a difference, or to just hit delete...

- Author Unknown



# **BLANKET SUNDAY ~ MAY 9, 1999**

## **In Honor of...**

Emogene Ekelberry – Ethel Trogdon  
Larry & Pam Faulk – Mary Anderson, Evoleno Cole, Florence Faulk, Jean Wickum  
Mary Gillette & Family – Marilyn Herboltzhimer, Jeanie Gillette  
Rundy & Jody Lynn Hagans – Marge Smale  
Sydney & Spencer Kauf – Holly Kauf  
Barbara Lovell – Mom; Mary Lou Lovell  
Dave Lovell Family – Margaret Morby, Rose Verespi  
Evelyn Lee – Daughters-in-Laws Marcia, Linda & Barbara Lee  
Phil & Melissa Mercer – Willa Corder, Nancy Happeny  
Shirley Parker – Margaret Jewel, Emma McAuley  
Donna Reed – Doreen Scurlock  
Jeff Reed – Jane Reed  
Katie, Jami & Regan Riedmiller – Cris Riedmiller  
Jarrod Trigg – Anne Linn  
Randy & Jennifer Turner – Jane Moore, Tonabell Turner  
Barbare Van Brimmer – Inez Steinbrecher  
Bertha Van Brimmer – My Family  
Rick Van Brimmer – Bertha Van Brimmer  
Jim Van Brimmer – My favorite mother, My Wife  
Linda White – Loraine Elder, Carolyn Schneeberger, Margaret Seckman  
Jean Wickum – Marcia Chapman, Karen Ellison, Pam Faulk

## **In memory of...**





Cynthia R. Bland – Rena Cheek Bland, Pauline Boyd Cheek  
Frances Cook – Wallace Frank Leight  
Florence Faulk – Mable Faulk, Alpha Graham  
Mary Gillette & Family – Mary Paulette Rogers  
Rundy & Jody Lynn Hagans – Amy McGrew  
Dave Lovell Family – Jennie Lovell  
John Maher – Cora Poling  
Kathy Maher – Marjory Goss  
Betty J. Porter – Mother; Martha Jane Guy, Grandmother; Blanche Berger  
Barb Reed – Katherine Clapper  
Paula Showaltee – Dorothy Hocter, Bertha Hocter  
Sohpia Stephenson – My mother  
Triggs – Archie and Catherine Trigg  
Jim Van Brimmer – My mother, Mary  
The Yants – Rae Harris

## **Additional Gifts...**

Lynn & Sue Elfner  
Tom & Anna Frances Lasley

**Total Contributions ~ \$355.00**

# June 1999 SUMMER

		1	2	3 10 - Sewing Group	4	5  Graduation 12-4 - Nate Weakland 8:45-? Barbara Lovell Open House
COMMUNION 6 1:30-3:30 - Paul Hopkins Open House 2-4 - Richard Davis Open House	7	7 - Board of Deacons 10 - Retreat Committee	7 - Choir	10 12 - Young at Heart	11	12 6:30 - Children's Day Rehearsal
13 CHILDREN'S DAY - Graduate recognition - Sunday School recognition - Reception	14 FLAG DAY  7 - Boy Scouts	15	16	17  6:30 - A.B.W. Ministries Picnic at Jean Wickum's	18	19 8:30 - Men's Breakfast
20  HAPPY FATHER'S DAY *Tools of Hope Sunday*	21 <Pastor -----	22 ----at ABC/USA----	23 -----Biennial-----	24 7 - Parish Council -----Meeting-----	25 -----in Iowa-----	26 -----
27 ----->	28	29	30 7 - Choir	July 1 10 - Sewing Group	2	3

# Good News Letter

Published in the Cause of the Abundant Life by the First Baptist Church,  
101 North Franklin Street, Delaware, Ohio 43015; (740) 363-7021

Not long ago, I was reading the Friday religion page in the Delaware, Gazette. There was an article about the Lutheran Church, and how they have embraced the best of computer technology and have put it to use for their denomination.

I believe it has to do with the fact that people in this country are just plain lazy. Some say its because we are too busy. Maybe we just have more money that we really need. Whatever the reason, our technology has advanced to the point where a person can go through their entire lives without ever entering a bank and speaking with an actual bank teller. Personal contact is no longer needed in the world of finance. It can all be done by the stroke of a key and a click of the mouse.

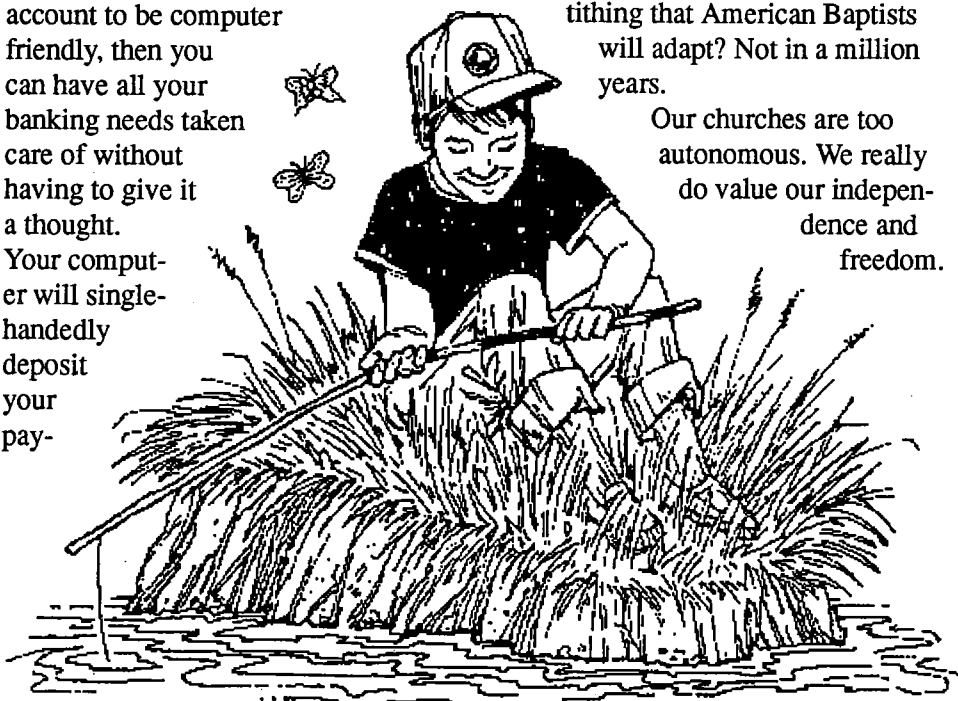
If you set up your bank account to be computer friendly, then you can have all your banking needs taken care of without having to give it a thought. Your computer will single-handedly deposit your pay-

check, pay your bills, put money into a separate savings account, and do everything short of earning the money for you.

Now it appears, the Lutherans are wanting in on the action. They've discovered that financial contributions to their church, as a rule, go way down during the summer months. The reason? Because people, human as we are, tend to only give money to church when we're actually at church. And because summertime has traditionally been a good time for people to take vacations, people go to church less during the summer. So, to solve this problem, some Lutheran churches are now giving their members the opportunity to have a tithe from their paycheck (10%) sent directly to the church's bank account. Not a bad idea.

Do I think its a method of tithing that American Baptists will adapt? Not in a million years.

Our churches are too autonomous. We really do value our independence and freedom.



**The next issue of the newsletter will be the September issue. It will be released the last Sunday in August.**

We don't want some larger authority, outside of God Almighty, telling us what to do.

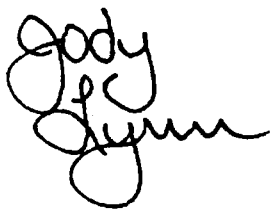
Besides, tithing is something we should do not because we have to, but because we want to. It makes sense to have our bills automatically deducted from our paycheck, because if they weren't, then we might pay them when we're supposed to. But giving money to our church isn't mandatory, we won't be penalized if we miss a week. God won't have the bank put a lean on our house if we are delinquent in paying our due to the church.

Paying bills is a financial obligation. Giving money to the church (or to charities) is a spiritual matter. We give, not because we have to, but because we must. We give because we have been blessed by God's love in our lives and we want to say thank you by giving back some of what we've been given. Does 10% truly express how thankful we are? Probably not. But remember, 10% is a guideline not a limit. Give as much as you can. If you can give more than 10%, by all means do it. If you aren't able to give 10%, remember the widow's mite and give what you can. God blesses what we give. We should not strive to give 10% because its what we feel God wants us to give, we should strive to give abundantly

because we have been abundantly blessed.

If you are inspired to give money to God by giving to the ministry of First Baptist Church, then I ask just one thing. Please don't forget us during your vacation. While you're away, we'll pray for you. Please pray for us as you enjoy some time of recreation and rest.

Many Blessings,



## Report from Pastoral Relations Committee

Continuing our promise to inform you of the work and responsibilities of the Pastoral Relations Committee, we submit our second report on the evaluation questionnaires some of you returned to us.

First we looked at reasons the response was so small. Was our timing bad? Were there too many other things going on in the church and community at the same time? Was the questionnaire too lengthy or too vague? Or are people simply reluctant to express in writing their positive and negative feelings about the ministry of the church? Did young people feel that their opinions did not count? Whatever the reason, we are resolved to do it differently next year.

Even though the response was limited, the few themes that ran through most of them are worth taking note of. The dominant theme could be described as having to do with the "priesthood of all believers," or put more simply; we are all responsible for the ministry of this church, not just the Pastor, but each one of us. As individuals, we need to take the lead

in inviting members into the church, calling on prospective members, being aware of some service that would enhance the ministry of the church and offering to do it. The outreach of the church needs more than a few pairs of hands, it needs many. There are people in the church now who are doing just this, but no one should hold back if they think they have a good idea worth promoting, nor should they be offended if their idea runs contrary to some existing function. St. Paul dealt with such conflicts within the early church, yet it survived and thrived.

There were many specific suggestions pertaining to outreach such as leadership training, advertising church events and marketing for greater growth. Most of the things suggested we are already doing to some extent, but our ability to do more depends largely on an enlarged membership and for this we need all our present members.

— Shirley Parker  
Member of the Pastoral Relations Committee

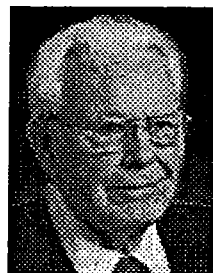
## Peace Camp '99: Join the Jubilee

Sunday, August 1 through  
Tuesday, August 3

Peace Camp begins Sunday, August 1 at 6:30 p.m. at Zion United Church of Christ with an Ice Cream Social. This shorter version of Peace Camp will be for all ages, nursery through adult. We will have an inter-generational worship, learning activities and crafts that focus on the theme of "Jubilee." Registration forms are available from Randy Turner.

## Cap Gabriel

Lester Frank "Cap" Gabriel, 97, formerly of 97 Troy Road, died on Friday, June 18, at Sunny Vee Nursing Home.



Cap had resided in Delaware since 1924 and was owner of Cap's Barber Shop for more than 40 years.

He had been a member of First Baptist for over 70 years and had served as Sunday school superintendent, deacon, trustee, and usher.

He is survived by a son and a daughter-in-law, Nevin and Peggy Gabriel of Colorado Springs, Colorado; two daughters, Janet Lathrop and Carol Fogle; eight grandchildren, and 14 great-grandchildren.

Services were held at Robinson's Funeral Home on June 21, and burial was at Oak Grove Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to First Baptist or to the charity of the donor's choice.

We extend our deepest sympathy to his family.

## The Back Pew

*Dedicated to Myrtle and Cap Gabriel*

A long time ago three children were taken to the First Baptist Church by their Mom and Dad. The family wasn't sure just where to sit in the large, lovely sanctuary, but decided the back pew would be fine.

During Sunday morning worship, these children often wiggled, giggled, played ti-tac-toe, and usually asked Mom, "when can we go home?" Her reply was silent, a finger to her mouth meant "be quiet".

After years of church fellowship, the children no longer asked, "how

## JULY WORSHIP

### July 4

Peace Sunday  
Holy Communion  
Isaiah 32:14-20  
"The Fruit of Justice Is Peace"

### July 11

Matthew 13:1-23  
"Something Old,  
Something New"

### July 18

Matthew 13:24-30  
"The Problem with Weeds"

### July 25

Zion U.C.C. hosts First Baptist  
Matthew 13:31-33,44-52  
"True Value"

## AUGUST WORSHIP

### August 1

First Baptist hosts Zion U.C.C.  
Preacher: Dan Bill

### August 8

Matthew 14:22-33  
"Hang Tight"

### August 15

Worship at Judson Hills  
Baptist Camp  
All Church Retreat  
Loudonville, Ohio  
No Worship at First Baptist

### August 22

Romans 12:1-8  
"The Real World"

### August 29

Romans 12:9-21  
"Be Who You Are"

### September 5

Matthew 18:21-35  
"How to be a Church"

long til we leave", because the word of God became very important in their lives.

Many Easter, Christmas, Baptisms, and weddings celebrated in the church will be remembered, as well as the loss of members through death or a move from town.

One day, God decided to take the Mom, to sit with the other angels in His Kingdom. The Dad and children were sad because they missed this special lady.

Time took its toll on the Dad. He became tired, lonely, and frail. His white hair wasn't as full or as white anymore. He wanted to be with his partner in death, as he was in life. The three children bid the Dad farewell with love and acceptance but will forever remember the lady and gentleman who took them to church.

The pew is now empty, but only to some. These children remember family members who filled each seat and these memories will last forever.

God Bless the Mom and Dad who took three children to church and chose the back pew.

— Carol Fogle

## Audio Tapes of Biennial Meeting Available

While at the ABC/USA Biennial Meeting in Des Moines, Iowa, I purchased tapes of four different events: an evening worship service, a morning Bible Study, a luncheon speaker, and a preaching seminar. If anyone would like to borrow any or all of these tapes, just let me know.

— Jody Lynn

## Thank You

The Griffith family would like to thank everyone for all the meals. This really helped us as we spend a lot of time driving to Mount Carmel West. Also, a special thanks for all the cards, this really brightens my days. Thank you!

— Teresa, Mike, Natalie, and Katie

+++

To my church family,

I want to thank everyone who sent cards, flowers, and all the prayers for me during my illness and stays in the hospital. I am truly grateful.

— Janet Lathrop

## All Church Retreat

August 13 – 15 at Judson Hills Camp

Our retreat leader will be the Rev. Heather Rittenhouse. Registration forms are available at the entrance vestibule or from a member of the Retreat Committee: Carol Grubbs, Evelyn Lee and Jim Van Brimmer.

## Managing Stress: Seeking Serenity for the Soul

Beginning on Wednesday, July 14 at 6:00 p.m., Pastor Hagans will lead a small group study on "Managing Stress: Seeking Serenity for the Soul." Each class will last 1 hour and babysitting will be provided. This study will last six weeks with the following topics for each week: Balance and Harmony; Generosity and Abundance; Humility and Trust; Wisdom and Responsibility; Surrender and Change; Purpose and Fulfillment. The cost of a study book will be \$6.00. If you are interested in participating, please contact the pastor by Sunday, July 11.



## Through the Eyes of a Child

I took two of my grandchildren with me to the June Young at Heart gathering. Brittany, seven years, sat between Peter White and me at the luncheon. On the way home, I was telling the children that the lady next to Mr. White was his mother and that Carolyn used to teach school but now she had difficulty in remembering who we were and that we missed being able to talk with her. Brittany said, "But she can smile!" And so she can, and we shall continue to appreciate every one of these smiles as we remember Carolyn over the years and all she means to our church family.

— Evelyn Lee

## Helpers Needed for "Second Fridays" at Andrews House

As a partner of Andrews House, we have responsibilities to make Second Fridays a reality — a free meal for individuals and families once a month. Helpers are needed to pre-cook, cook, serve, provide transportation to and from the dinners and to deliver meals to the home-bound, and to clean up. If you would like to help in any of these areas occasionally, please let me know (362-9107). You will find it a rewarding 2 to 2-1/2 hours.

Thank you for your support.

— Evelyn Lee

## Tools of Hope Sunday

The total contributions on June 20th were \$255.00.

### Given By — In Honor Of:

Mary Gillette and family — Thomas M. Rogers, Ray Gillette, Gail Lapp  
Evelyn Lee — her sons Rick, Doug,

and Bruce Lee  
Barbara Lovell — her father, Dave Lovell  
Dave Lovell — Ray Morby  
Mary Lou Lovell — her father, Ray Morby  
Phil and Melissa Mercer — Jerry D. Mercer, Jimmie R. Moore  
Mowery Children — Joseph George and Joseph M. Mowery  
Jeff and Donna Reed — Bob Scurlock  
Beth and Archie Trigg — Archie J. Trigg  
Barbara Van Brimmer — Paul Steinbrecher  
Rick Van Brimmer — Jim Van Brimmer  
Linda White — Michael Seckman  
Jean Wickum — Larry Faulk

### Given By — In Memory Of:

Jeanne Ekelberry — her father, Hewlett Trogdon  
Pam and Larry Faulk — Ralph Cole, Donald Faulk, Wilbur Wickum, Richard Lee, Keith Anderson  
Rundy and Jody Lynn Hagans — Gilbert Hagans  
J. and A. Lasley — their father  
Dave Lovell — George Croy, Robert Lovell  
Jean Osborne — David Osborne  
Shirley Parker — her brother, George Parker  
Betty J. Porter — her father, Ralph E. Guy, and her grandfather Samuel Berger  
Jeff and Donna Reed — Ronald Reed  
Sophia Stephenson — Rev. James Stephenson  
Beth Trigg — Archie L. Trigg  
Jarrod and Nichelle Trigg — Laurence Howald  
Jim Van Brimmer — his father  
Linda White — Charles Seckman  
Jean Wickum — Louis C. Wickum  
And a contribution by Jennifer and Randy Turner.

## Wedding Shower

There will be a wedding shower for Jeff Faulk and Laurie Anderson at the church on Sunday, August 8 from 1:00 to 3:00 in the fellowship hall. Please RSVP to Jean Wickum (369-1884), Mary Lou Lovell (369-6041), Betty Porter (363-7892), or Erin Faulk (614-873-4856).

## Care and Share

On Thursday June 11, Jody Lynn and Rundy delivered our Care and Share boxes to the American Baptist Women's Ministries conference in Granville. Folks have been collecting and sewing this past year to produce the following items, which Bertha Van Brimmer and Karen Stoner sorted and packed at the church:

### Judson Village

5 bars soap, 1 pair house slippers, 4 antiperspirants, 8 hairnets, 7 body lotions, 4 rubbing alcohol, 3 petroleum jelly, 1 shampoo, 3 toothpaste, 2 denture cleanser, lots of stationery, 2 baby powder, 4 hydrogen peroxide

### Neighborhood Ministries

1 towel holder, 1 placemat, 3 Bible story books, 4 boxes crayons, 1 bubbles kit, 2 jump ropes, 2 packages construction paper, 2 boxes colored chalk, 9 spiral notebooks, 5 scissors, 1 novel, 2 rulers, 1 canvas tote, 6 paper tablecloths, 1 centerpiece, 1 Christmas decorative tape, 1 Christmas pin, 2 card games, 1 soft baseball, 4 children's cookbooks, 2 pairs curtains, 1 puzzle, 3 hand towels, 2 washcloths, 3 erasers, 1 glue, 7 pillowcases, 8 sheets, 1 doll blanket, 1 package tracing paper

*continued on next page*

## Racetrack Ministries

15 blankets, 6 large quilts, 2 cameras, lots of plastic forks, 1 bag shoes/clothing, pots and pans, 200 plastic cups, 2 caps, 1 meal-in-a-cup, 1 video, 16 belts, 1 giant soft drink canister, 3 sweatshirts, 6 small quilts, shoes galore, 6 boy's jeans, 2 blouses, 1 sweater, 1 stuffed animal, 5 work shirts, 1 jacket, 13 sheets, 4 pillow-cases

## Dayton Christian Center

1 sand bucket, 4 stuffed animals, 4 toothbrushes, 1 egg coloring set, 1 package party cups, 3 baby shirts, 3 belts, 2 toothpaste, 1 set diaper pins, 1 sweater, 1 sweatshirt, 2 scissors, 6 pairs girl's socks, 2 games, 2 pencils, 1 eraser, 2 skirts, 2 blouses, 2 receiving blankets, 2 baby washcloths, 1 baby sleeper, 18 pillowcases, 1 box sidewalk chalk, 6 girl's panties, 1 bag cotton swabs, 1 bag cotton balls, 12 bandages, 2 combs, 2 nail files, 1 package hair barrettes, assorted sewing notions, 1 cross-stitch kit, 1 playsuit, assorted shoes, 2 dolls, 2 girl's tops, 7 paper tablecloth, 5 spiral notebooks, 1 blender cover, 1 towel, 1 game, 1 Christmas cup construction paper, 19 sheets

## Ordination Service

At 4:30 p.m. on Sunday, July 25, the West Mansfield Baptist Church will celebrate the ordination of their Associate Pastor, Eileen M. Erdosi. A reception will follow.

## Church Members Open Tea Room

We are pleased to announce the upcoming opening of Lady B's Apple Tree Cottage Tea Room. Open Sunday afternoons by reservation only. Serving a traditional British High Tea. A great place to entertain best friends, grandma, auntie, or busi-

ness associates. We will also specialize in baby and bridal showers and children's Teddy Bear Tea Parties. Please call ahead to make your reservations now — 369-5239. Remember God is our CEO.

— Anne Linn, Beth Trigg, and  
Melissa Neill.

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

- July 2 Tracy Breese  
3 Phil Mercer  
5 Victor & Deborah Fogle  
7 Jody Lynn Hagans  
13 Sue Elfner  
17 Nichelle Trigg  
18 Peter & Linda White  
19 Jarrod Trigg  
20 Alex Bennett  
23 Alison Mowery  
John & Kathy Maher  
26 Jeff Faulk  
27 John & Anne Linn  
28 Regan Ann Riedmiller  
30 Bernice Turney
- Aug. 3 Carolyn Schneeberger  
7 Jennifer Linn  
8 Mary Gillette  
Jim Van Brimmer  
Jean Syler  
9 Steve Stoner  
14 Rick & Barbara  
Van Brimmer  
17 George & Cris Riedmiller  
18 Pam & Larry Faulk  
19 Tom & Shannon Weakland  
21 Jim Stephenson  
24 Florence Faulk  
Lynn & Sue Elfner  
25 Betty Davis  
26 Kirby & Tammy Francis  
27 Linda White  
Christina Hopkins  
29 Lynn Elfner  
30 Fred & Carol Grubbs  
Katie Riedmiller  
Archie Trigg

# JULY 1999

August calendar  
on other side.

First Baptist Church

101 North Franklin Street, Delaware, Ohio 43015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
<b>Independence Day Peace Sunday</b> 10:00 Morning Worship	7:00 Boy Scouts	7:00 Board of Deacons		12:00 Young at Heart		
10:00 Morning Worship	7:00 Boy Scouts		6:00 Small Group Study- "Managing Stress: Seeking Serenity for the Soul"	7:00 Board of Christian Education		8:30 Men's Breakfast
10:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Quarterly Business Meeting	7:00 Boy Scouts		6:00 Small Group Study			
10:30 Morning Worship – Joint Service at Zion U.C.C. 4:30 Ordination Service at W. Mansfield (Note: The next newsletter is the September issue; the submission deadline is August 22.)	7:00 Boy Scouts		6:00 Small Group Study 7:00 Choir	7:00 Pastoral Relations Committee		August calendar on other side of this page. →

Sunday, August 1 – 10:00 Joint Service with Zion U.C.C. at First Baptist; 6:30 Peace Camp '99 at Zion U.C.C.

# AUGUST 1999

July calendar  
on other side.

First Baptist Church  
101 North Franklin Street, Delaware, Ohio 43015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> 10:00 Joint Service with Zion U.C.C. at First Baptist 6:30 Peace Camp '99 at Zion U.C.C.	<b>2</b> 6:30 Peace Camp '99 at Zion U.C.C. 7:00 Boy Scouts	<b>3</b> 6:30 Peace Camp '99 at Zion 7:00 Board of Deacons	<b>4</b> 6:00 Small Group Study—"Managing Stress: Seeking Serenity for the Soul"	<b>5</b> 10:00 Sewing Group 7:00 Boy Scouts	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 10:00 Morning Worship 1:00 Wedding Shower for Jeff Faulk and Laurie Anderson 4:00 Wedding (non-members)	<b>9</b> 7:00 Boy Scouts	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 6:00 Small Group Study	<b>12</b> 12:00 Young at Heart	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> (No worship today at First Baptist.)  <div>All Church Retreat at Judson Hills</div>	<b>16</b> 7:00 Boy Scouts	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 6:00 Small Group Study	<b>19</b> 12:00 A.B.W. Ministries Executive Committee at Parsonage	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 10:00 Morning Worship  <i>Last day to submit articles for September newsletter.</i>	<b>23</b> 7:00 Boy Scouts	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 7:00 Choir	<b>26</b> 7:00 Parish Council	<b>27</b> Wedding Rehearsal	<b>28</b> 4:00 McPherson/Hughes Wedding
<b>29</b> 10:00 Morning Worship  <i>September newsletter available today (one week earlier than usual).</i>	<b>30</b> 7:00 Boy Scouts	<b>31</b>	<b>September 1</b> 7:00 Choir	<b>2</b> 10:00 Sewing Group	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> <div>           July calendar on            other side of this            page. →         </div>

# Good News Letter

Published in the Cause of the Abundant Life by the First Baptist Church,  
101 North Franklin Street, Delaware, Ohio 43015; (740) 363-7021

**R**undy and I are getting ready to celebrate our second wedding anniversary. Can you believe it?

I've noticed that many things increase when a person gets married. Since this is true for me, I naturally assume it must be true for everyone. Not only did our household income increase, but so did the amount of bills we pay. Not only did our number of relatives increase (children, siblings, and in-laws), but our gift giving list also increased. Not only did I add a husband to my life, but I also doubled my laundry, dish washing and cooking responsibilities (I'm not complaining, really honey). Not only did we receive many beautiful gifts, we also managed to accumulate an enormous amount of stuff.

I've learned to accept and enjoy most of these increases. All except this enormous accumulation of stuff. I'm not sure where it all came from; it seems to be crawling out of the woodwork. One day my living room chair will be empty, the next day it will be full of stuff. One minute the dining room table will be entirely clutter-free, the next minute it will be covered with packages, dishes, clothes, etc... One night you'll be able to walk through the upstairs hallway, the next night you'll trip on something that has appeared out of nowhere.

Sometime in the middle of July, I'd finally had all I could take; I'd

ignored the piles of stuff as long as I possibly could, when I decided that something had to give. Either some of it had to go, or I would have to go (crazy that is).

As providence would have it, I had decided to lead a 6 week study group, starting in the middle of July. The

One of the suggestions in our book, was to take time to realize how much we really do have. We live in a society of abundance. The book also suggested an exercise: go through all your clothes, take out everything you haven't worn in one year and give it away. By doing this, you would prob-

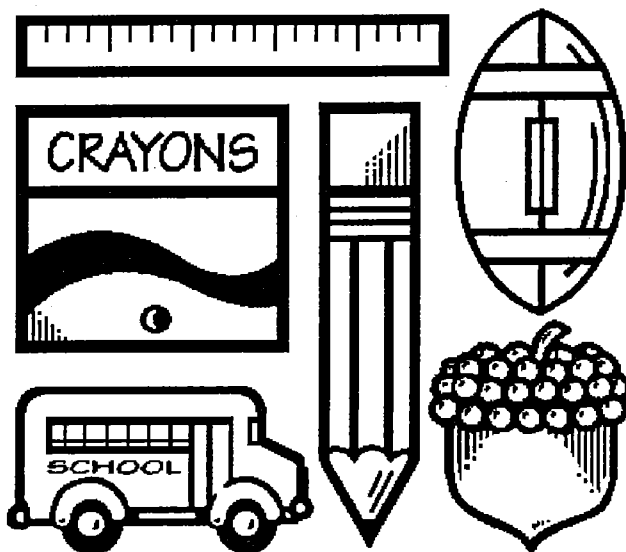
ably give away over 1/4 to 1/3 of your clothing. This is only one way that we can look at our abundance, and instead of hoarding it, learn to be generous with it.

So, I decided to give it a try. But instead of limiting myself to my clothes, I decided to attack the whole house (well, at least most of it). Now, it wasn't easy; it took about a month to sort through everything and decide what to give away. It took another two weeks with all this stuff filling our living room before I could arrange for "Good Will" to come and pick it up.

What a great feeling. And I'm not talking about the feeling of doing a good deed by

giving to the needy. I'm talking about the feeling of liberation I had when that Good Will truck loaded up all that stuff and drove away from our house leaving our house nearly clutter-free.

We seldom take time to sit back and take inventory of everything we have. And I'm not just talking about the material stuff here; I'm also talking about the emotional stuff and the relational stuff and even the sentimental things we've managed to accumulate



## SEPTEMBER

topic was stress management. In the very first session, we talked about abundance and generosity. We discovered that we live in a society that has a scarcity complex, meaning we've come to believe that we don't have enough. We don't have enough money, time, friends, or even stuff. So, we work and strive our whole lives to acquire more and more of these things, so that eventually we can get enough. The only question is, what is enough?

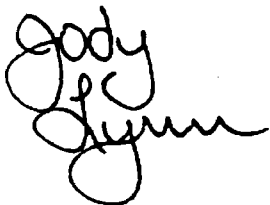
over the years.

This is a spiritual exercise. It's important to sit ourselves down, every once in a while, and take a look at everything we have. Because, its all a gift. This abundant mass of stuff and people and love that fills our live is nothing less than a gift.

The challenge comes, not in realizing that all of this "stuff" is a gift from God, but in learning to treat it for what it is.

May God move within our lives, teaching us to look at our abundant blessings and inspire us to give generously.

Many Blessings,



## Rally Day 1999

The dictionary suggests several related meanings for the verb "rally": to unite, to gather for a common purpose, and to renew an effort. And, indeed, Rally Day at First Baptist is a time when children and adults gather together for the common purpose of renewing our teaching and learning commitment to God by attending Sunday School classes once again.

The theme for this year's Christian Education focus is to have "a heart for teaching and learning." You will be hearing more about this on September 26 which is Christian Education Sunday.

Rally Day begins today with a breakfast at 8:30, followed by opening activities in the Sunday School room.

Following is a list of our Sunday School teachers who have made a commitment to teach for the 1999-2000 church school year:

**Nursery** — Donna Reed, teacher, Melissa Mercer, substitute

**Pre-school/Kindergarten** — Barb Reed, teacher; Pam Faulk, sub.

**Primary/Middlers** — Mary Gillette, teacher; Evelyn Lee, sub.

**Jr. High** — Jennifer Turner, teacher (1st quarter), Sue Elfner, teacher (2nd and 3rd quarters); Jeanne Ekelberry, sub.

**Sr. High** — Larry Faulk, teacher; Arch Trigg, sub.

**Adult** — Randy Turner, teacher; Jim Van Brimmer, sub.

A dedication service for our church school workers will be a part of the worship service today. We invite each of you to be a part of our church school this year. We meet at 9:15 for opening with classes meeting from 9:25 to 10:25.

As part of the dedication service, we invite you to take part in a unique opportunity for our church school ministry. We would like you to consider being a prayer partner for a Sunday School class this year.

We would ask that you would make a formal commitment to remember your adopted class on a regular basis. Pray for the teacher and for the pupils that God will bless their experiences and that they will truly have "a heart for teaching and learning."

—Linda White

*Sunday School Coordinator*

## Marion Association Fall Rally

The Marion Association Fall Rally will take place on Sunday, September 26, at 4 p.m.

The Adults will meet at First Baptist Church, Mt. Gilead for a meal followed by worship and a program. The cost for the meal is \$3.00. The youth will be meeting at Bryn Zion Baptist Church in Mt. Gilead.

## Marge Smale

Margorie Jean Smale, 73, died on Saturday, July 17, at her home.

She was born April 16, 1926, in Delaware, to Francis Jacob Volk and Anne Marie (Downing) Volk. She was a life-time resident of Delaware.



Marge was a retired library assistant at Methodist Theological School.

She was a member of First Baptist where she served as deacon and belonged to the Women's Society, sewing group, and Church Women United. She also was a volunteer for Meals on Wheels and Andrews House.

Surviving are a son, David Smale of Delaware; two daughters and sons-in-law, Cindy and Ron Bartlett of Middletown, California, and Becky and Joe Hanson of Boston; a grandson, Spencer Haney of Boston; and two brothers, Robert Volk of Delaware and William Volk of Columbus. She was preceded in death by her husband, Charles L. Smale; a daughter, Amy McGrew; and a sister, Frances Brandum.

A memorial service was held at First Baptist with the Rev. Jody Lynn Hagans officiating.

Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice at Grady Hospital.

## A.B.W. Ministries

The first meeting of the American Baptist Women's Ministries (a.k.a. "The Women's Group") will take place on Thursday, September 16, at 6:30 p.m. at Bun's Restaurant. Please call Pastor Hagans if you have any questions.

# SEPTEMBER WORSHIP

**August 29**

Romans 12:9-21  
"Be Who You Are"

**September 5**

Matthew 18:21-35  
"How to be a Church"

**September 12**

Guest Preacher: Sandie Heizer

**September 19**

Matthew 20:1-16  
"That's Not Fair"

**September 26**

Philippians 2:1-13  
"Downward Mobility"

**October 3**

World Communion Sunday  
CropWalk Sunday  
Matthew 21:33-40  
"When Will it End?"

## WatchCare Picnic

Jean Wickum and I look forward to hosting our joint WatchCare picnic on September 18, 4:00 p.m. at the Mowery's. Meat, paper products and beverages will be provided. Bring a side dish of your choice to share! Please come and share in a relaxed time and great company!

Love,

-Alison Mowery

## Thank You

Becky, David and I thank everyone who arranged and contributed to the reception following Mom's church service. It was so appreciated. Mom's

"church family" was so important to her. We miss her so much.

Take care and thank you,

-Cindy

Cindy Bartlett

11968 Loch Lomond Rd.  
Middletown, CA 95461

+ + +

A big thank you to all who helped in any way for meals and the reception for Marge Smale and her family; for Mike and Teressa Griffith with meals taken in for the family; and the peach pies for the August Second Friday dinner. Thank you for opening your hearts to all of these needs.

-Evelyn Lee

+ + +

I wish to thank you all for your prayers and cards I received while mending with my broken foot. I am doing just fine. Thanks to all.

I would like to thank all for the 98-99 Sunday School year and Junior Church. It always goes by so fast for me and I'm not sure I remember to thank:

- God for allowing me to serve my church.
- The parents for bringing or seeing your children get to come on Sunday.
- The adults for all your help in every way that I ask.
- To the Board of Christian Education for the wonderful materials we get to use.
- To Jody Lynn for being so appreciative of my efforts.
- To those who gave me craft material.
- To all my children. I am here every Sunday because of your desire to learn and create. You fill me with such joy it carries me through until the next time we meet.

Thanks to all. I'm sure only more wonderful times are ahead as we

begin another year of Sunday School.

In Jesus name,

Love,

-Barb Reed

## Memorial Gifts

Memorial gifts continue to come in for those we have lost this year. Perhaps the following will be of interest to those who share their loss and miss their presence with us.

- L.F. "Cap" Gabriel - \$350.00
- Frances Johnson - \$1,080.00 (designated for the public address system)
- Marge Smale - \$100.00

We appreciate these family's designating memorials to our church.

## All Church Retreat

Another "family retreat" is history. The twenty-two who were able to attend came away with good memories, renewed, and grateful to Heather Rittenhouse for leading us through in-depth Bible study and a new outlook on our relationship with others and God. We missed all of you who were unable to attend. Hopefully next year?

## Pastor's Vacation

Pastor Hagans will be on vacation from Monday, September 6 through Monday, September 13. If you have a pastoral emergency or need, please call your watch-care deacon or Deacon Alison Mowery at 369-3314.

## Area Minister to Preach

Sandie Heizer, our Area Minister, will be leading us in worship and serving as our guest preacher during Pastor Hagan's vacation. Please plan to join us for worship on Sunday,

September 12 and help give Sandie a warm welcome.

## Retirement Luncheon for Rev. Carrie Bell Brown

You are cordially invited to attend a buffet luncheon in honor of the retirement of Reverend Carrie Bell Brown and her ministry at the Dayton Christian Center from 1982-1999. The luncheon will take place on Sunday, September 26, 1999 at 2:00 p.m. in the Great Hall at Sinclair Community College, 444 West Third Street, Bldg. 12, Dayton, Ohio 45402. The cost for each person is \$8.00, payable on the day of the luncheon.

Please make a reservation by calling Dayton Christian Center (937) 275-7174 by September 3.

## Rev. Carrie Bell Brown to be Guest Preacher

After 17 years, The Rev. Carrie Bell Brown retired from her position as director of Dayton Christian Center.

The Executive Committee of the American Baptist Women's Ministries has invited Carrie Bell to come to our church on Sunday, October 17, so we can thank her for her years of service and celebrate her retirement. Carrie Bell will be preaching during our morning worship service, then will join us for a covered-dish luncheon in the Fellowship Hall.

In addition to having a cake at the luncheon, we would like to present Carrie Bell with a cash purse to show our appreciation for her many years of service. Contributions for this gift will be gratefully accepted by our treasurer Evelyn Lee.

## Items Needed for Dayton Christian Center

Carrie Bell Brown, former director of

the Dayton Christian Center, will be visiting with us on Sunday, October 17. We would like to present her with items to take back to the center. Here is a list of needed items:

(Items can be new or gently used where applicable)

School Supplies

Bibles

Videos

Linens of all kinds

Surprises

Flashlights

Games for Gameroom: Checkers,

Uno, bingo, Candyland, Chutes & Ladders, etc...

Kitchen Utensils: pots, pans, silverware, dishes, etc...

Paper products

Polident & Poligrip

Ball-point pens

Cosmetics

Jewelry

First Aid Supplies

Children's Blunt Scissors

3/4 " Scotch Tape (refills)

Whiteout/Liquid paper

Personal Grooming & Hygiene items

1" Masking tape

Highlighters

Window Dressing (Curtains, etc...)

35 mm film

Your Prayers

Please place your items underneath the Care and Share table in the Assembly Room. Thank You,

-A.B.W. Ministries

## A Word From Your Children's Ministries Coordinator

Here it is, the end of August already. We are back to our fall schedule and this means that Junior Church has resumed. Junior Church will be for children 5 years to 11 years. If this doesn't meet your needs, please see me or any Board of Christian Education member and we would be glad to work something out for your

situation.

Unless there is a need, Tweenies will not be held until next summer. We will continue to have the nursery available for children through the age of four. Please feel free to contact me if you'd like to volunteer to help in either the nursery or Junior Church. My thanks to those of you who volunteered during the summer months.

A couple of words about Junior Church. Barb Reed has graciously volunteered to do Junior Church on the first and second Sundays of each month. I am asking Junior Church volunteers to prayerfully consider signing up for the remaining Sundays of a month; this will help provide consistency for the children involved. Also, there are many resources available to use when planning Junior Church activities. Please see Sue Elfner for details.

Remember that our children are the future. It is important that we take time to nourish them in their walk with Christ.

-Melissa Mercer

## Non-Sewing Day

Our regular sewing group will meet Thursday, September 2, from 10:00 to 2:00.

If you've been staying away because you don't sew, this is your chance to come and help and share in our fellowship. We will be rolling bandages and cutting fabric squares for missions.

Come for an hour or bring a sack lunch.

-Jeanne Ekelberry



## Trustee's Notes

- At the end of June (too late for the last newsletter), pipe organ repairs were completed by the J. W. Muller pipe organ company at a cost of \$509.61.
- Jeanne Ekelberry reupholstered the platform rocker in the nursery.
- Arch Trigg washed both the back doors and the handicap signs that someone had smeared mud all over!
- On August 8, Brian Christi and Thank Nguyen were married at First Baptist. Chaplain Syd Schnarrs officiated. Ed Kolcz was organist. Peter White served as building host.
- Rundy Hagans installed a new electric plug in the parsonage garage on it's own circuit. Cost \$32.00.
- The trustees gave the "go ahead" for the new sound system by Corbin Electronics of Columbus. This project will be done as a memorial to Francis Johnson. There are enough funds in this memorial to almost cover the job and the trustees can cover the difference, but anyone who would still like to give to this memorial should see Evelyn Lee. The installment date is set for Friday, September 3.
- On Sunday, August 22, First Baptist shared our building with Delaware Baptist (Southern) for a service of baptism. Pastor David Wharton officiated. Peter White served as building host.
- A thank you goes to the library committee, which has gotten under-way and cleaned out, sorted, and straightened up the huge stack of "stuff" along with the Ernestine Frost book collection along the west wall of the nursery room.

—Peter White  
Chairman, Trustees

## Handicap Access Committee

Evelyn Lee, chair of this committee, has been busy on the phone with maintenance problems. Recent elevator costs have been:

State license - \$10.00

Inspection - \$ 75.00

Repairs - \$380.00

The company we purchased the elevator from has been sold to a much larger company which has greatly increased service and repair costs. That will have to be reviewed.

—Peter White  
Member of Handicap Access Committee

## Christian Education Sunday on Sept. 26

John Westeroff of Duke University in his book, *Will Our Children Have Faith*, says, "Unless we help children to know what it means to commit their lives to Christ, we are not going to have people coming to faith." We see our Sunday School as a major source of help for our young people. But this is not the 1950's during the Golden Age of Sunday School, when many entire families attended Sunday School weekly and 82% of Americans were part of a nuclear family. Now, only 7% of Americans are in the category of a nuclear family and our Sunday Schools aren't bursting at the seams.

This year's Education Sunday theme — *A Heart For Teaching and Learning* — is not only calling for each teacher to reclaim their heart and courage for teaching, but for the entire congregation to do the same. You will be seeing hearts in September (not February) with verses from Mark, highlighting Jesus, The Teacher, and other theme scripture.

Symbolically, the heart can be looked at as not just a place of emo-

tion, but a center of our being, thoughts, feelings, passions and decisions. When the theme talks about teaching from the heart, it's talking about the wholeness of each of our unique experiences—the intellectual, the emotional and the spiritual. What is a concrete contribution that all our church members can make based on this? Based on a study of young people, here are three questions that they want to have answered:

1. Who is God?
2. How can I make friends?
3. What is right and wrong?

From our hearts, drawing from our spiritual life journey, I know we can answer!

—Sue Elfner  
Board of Christian Education

## Tools of Hope

The following dedications were omitted from the list in the last newsletter:

From Anne Linn, in honor of Archie Trigg

From Archie J. Trigg, in honor of Jarrod and Nichelle Trigg

From Archie J. Trigg, in memory of Archie L. Trigg

From Beth Trigg, in memory of Ben Turney

## Library Committee Formed

A library committee has been formed to help organize the books given to the church by the family of Ernestine Frost several years ago. Members of the committee are as follows: Evelyn Lee, chair; Donna Reed, Shannon Weakland, and Linda White. We have met three times to date. Two bookshelves, purchased a couple of years ago, are now located in the last class-

room on the right where we hope to be able to shelve many of the books given to the church from the Ernestine Frost collection. We each have many thoughts and ideas concerning this project and would welcome your suggestions.

—Linda White

## Prayer and Healing Group

This fall (sometime in September) we would like to re-instate our prayer and healing group. I believe it would honor Marge if we called it "The Marge Circle." She felt so strongly about the power of Jesus' healing. We'll meet every two weeks to start. What days/times are good for you? Please contact Beth Trigg, Shannon Weakland, or Jennifer Turner.

## Church Members to Participate in "Lady's Getaway"

Anne Linn, Beth Trigg, and Melissa Neill, associates of Lady Britannia, will present A "Lady's" Getaway: *Preparing for the Holidays* on October 8-10 at the Super 8 Motel in Delaware. Donna Reed will serve as organizer, and Linda White and Jeanne Ekelberry will be craft

## Church Directory Update

**Aaron Faulk**  
357 Lincoln Ave.  
Holland, MI 49423  
616-355-0298  
(e-mail address stays the same)

**Jeff Faulk**  
235 Parkinswood Blvd. S.E.  
Warren, OH 44483  
330-394-3917

demonstrators.

The getaway costs \$175 per person double occupancy, \$225 single occupancy, and includes two night's accommodations, two continental breakfasts, mini crafts, a cooking demonstration, traditional High Tea, a style show, dinner at the Branding Iron, and free gifts.

## Old-Fashioned Hymn Sing

On Saturday, September 11 at 7 p.m., the Zion United Church of Christ on 51 W. Central Avenue will have an Old Fashioned Hymn Sing. Refreshments will be served. For favorite hymn requests, call Jeanette at 363-7552 or call the church office at 362-6691 before August 27.

## Delaware CropWalk 1999

The Delaware CropWalk will take place on Sunday, October 3, beginning at 2:00 p.m. at the Benes Rooms of the Ohio Wesleyan University Hamilton William's Campus Center. Registration will begin at 1:30 p.m. Walker Sponsor forms will be available starting Sunday, September 5. The recruiter for our church will have all forms and information.

## Personals

- JANET LATHROP had surgery at Grady.
- CAROL SUE FOGLE was hospitalized with pneumonia.
- BARB REED broke her foot.
- TERESA GRIFFITH continues with chemotherapy treatments at the James Cancer Center
- EDITH HALL has moved to a nursing facility in Sunbury
- EMILIE TRIGG received all A's for the 4th quarter at Hayes High School

During our church's worship service, the pastor invites all the young children to join her up front for the Children's Moment. One Sunday, with seven small children in attendance, she spoke about the ingredients required to make up a church, using a chocolate chip cookie as an example. She explained to the children that, as with a cookie requiring ingredients such as sugar and eggs, the church needs ingredients to make up the congregation. Holding a cookie up, she asked, "If I took the chocolate chips out of this cookie, what would I have?" A shy six-year-old raised his hand. He replied, "Six less grams of fat."

—Submitted by Barb Reed

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

- Aug. 29 Lynn Elfner  
30 Fred & Carol Grubbs  
Katie Riedmiller  
Archie Trigg
- Sept. 8 Tammy Francis  
10 Katherine Griffith  
11 Barbara Reed  
13 Rundy & Jody Lynn Hagans  
14 Marci Sander  
Richard Davis  
15 Janet Porter  
Jim & Bertha Van Brimmer  
18 Melissa Mercer  
26 Michael & Tammy Grubbs  
Phil & Melissa Mercer  
30 Mary Lou Lovell
- Oct. 3 Janet Lathrop  
5 Laura Beth Mowery

Please report errors or omissions to Jim Stephenson.

# SEPTEMBER 1999

*Reck + Barb Van Brimmer*  
**First Baptist Church**  
 101 North Franklin Street, Delaware, Ohio 43015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 7:00 Choir	2 10:00 Sewing Group 7:00 CropWalk Recruiter Training at Asbury	3	4
5 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship	Labor Day 6	7	8 7:00 Choir	9 12:00 Young at Heart	10	11
Pastor on Vacation						
12 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship with Sandie Heizer, our Area Minister, as our guest preacher	13 7:00 Delaware Piecemakers; Boy Scouts	14 7:30 Marion Assoc. Trustees at Allen Center	15 7:00 Choir	16 6:30 A.B.W. Ministires at Bun's	17	18 8:30 Men's Breakfast 4:00 Wickum/Mowery WatchCare Picnic
Pastor on Vacation						
19 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship <i>Special Cong. Mtg</i>	20 7:00 Boy Scouts	21	22 7:00 Choir	23 <b>First Day of Autumn</b> 7:00 Parish Council	24	25
26 <b>Christian Education Sunday</b> 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship 2:00 Retirement Luncheon at Dayton Christian Center for Rev. Brown 4:00 Marion Assoc. Fall Rally <i>Newsletter Deadline Today</i>	27 7:00 Boy Scouts	28	29 7:00 Choir	30	October 1	2

October 1999

Volume 28, Number 9

Rev. Jody Lynn Hagans, Pastor  
Jim Stephenson, Editor

# Good News Letter

Published in the Cause of the Abundant Life by the First Baptist Church,  
101 North Franklin Street, Delaware, Ohio 43015; (740) 363-7021

Our world has been hit with several serious natural disasters as of late. There's the devastating earthquakes in Turkey and Taiwan resulting in thousands and thousands of deaths, loss of homes, business, crops and many injuries. There has been the terrible flooding as a result of Hurricane Floyd along the eastern coast of our country, resulting in the loss of lives, homes, crops, livestock and the accumulation of millions and millions of dollars worth of damages.

And that's just natural disasters. Have you watched the news lately? There's violence, destruction, joblessness, conflict, war, disease, homelessness and hunger which seem to eat away at the hope that exists in our world.

And I think about all of the problems in our world, and all of the help that is needed, and everything that needs to be done to make things right again. And I think to myself, "It's hopeless."

I've heard many people look up from this bad news in desperation and exclaim, "It's no use... there's just too much going against us. And besides, I'm just one little person; what could I possibly do that could change this situation?"

Then I remember the Moringa seed. This may ring a bell, as Alison Mowery told us about it when she was promoting the Delaware CROP

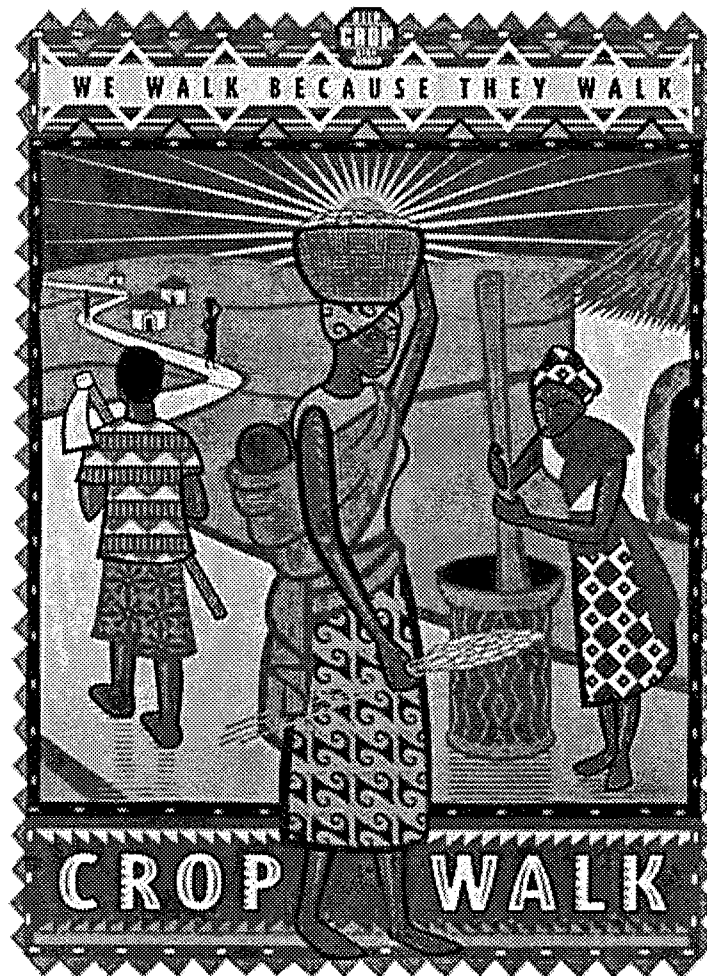
height of 12 feet within the first year. Because the Moringa Tree likes sunshine and can withstand drought conditions, it thrives in an African climate. This humble tree has many uses. The leaves and the young, green pods can be eaten like other vegetables. The leaves can be prepared similarly to spinach and are low in fats and carbohydrates but contain a very high content of protein; calcium; minerals; iron; and vitamins A, B, and when raw, vitamin C. As a source of nutrients and vitamins, Moringa leaves rank among the best of perennial tropical vegetables.

N'Deye Sakho is a nurse in charge of pediatrics at the hospital in Bignona, Senegal. She keeps dried Moringa leaf powder on hand to give out to mothers of malnourished children. She says, "When women bring their children here, we explain to the mothers the importance of Moringa and advise them to put a little bit of leaf powder in the child's food every day.

When the women bring

back their child some time later, we hardly recognize them!" It is believed that increased consumption of Moringa leaves and pods by children and child-bearing women could completely eradicate malnutrition.

And that's why I love the CROP



Walk last Sunday. The Moringa seed is only about the size of a watermelon seed (only a little fatter), yet it has singlehandedly waged a war against malnutrition in West Africa. The Moringa Tree grows quickly from seed or cuttings and can reach a

Walk. It's such a simple, small act, that takes very little time and effort and can result in something as big as the eradication of hunger and malnutrition in the world. By taking the time to get a few pledges on my walker sponsor form and by giving up two hours of my Sunday Afternoon, I am helping put an end to hunger.

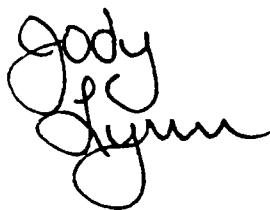
The Moringa Tree is an amazing creation of God; which comes complete with so many of the elements that contribute to healthy nutrition. The Moringa Tree is no accident. All it took was one person to realize how important this tree could be to the health of the people of Africa. And now people are buying seeds, planting trees, and educating the people about how the Moringa can help them and their children become healthy. It only took one person.

God has given us this simple gift. It's nothing extravagant or expensive. If I raise the suggested \$80 in pledges for the CROP Walk, then I will help to purchase 40 Moringa seedlings and 2, 2 pound bags of Moringa leaf powder. That's pretty cool!

As we celebrate World Communion Sunday and participate in the Delaware CROP Walk, lets remember that God doesn't ask us to solve the whole problem on our own. God only asks that we have faith in the

Holy Spirit to work in us and through us so we can do much more than we could ever ask or imagine.

Many Blessings,



## Delaware CROP Walk 1999

The Delaware CROP Walk will take place on Sunday, October 3, beginning at 2:00 p.m. at the Benes Rooms of the Ohio Wesleyan University Hamilton William's Campus Center. Registration will begin at 1:30 p.m. Thank you to all who donated items to People in Need, gave pledges to our walkers and who took the time to walk with us on the CropWalk.

## One-Day Retreat For Women

Sandie Heizer, our Area Minister, will be leading a one-day retreat at First Baptist Church, Mt. Gilead on Saturday, October 16 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. If you are interested in attending, let Pastor Hagans know so she can call in a number for registration.

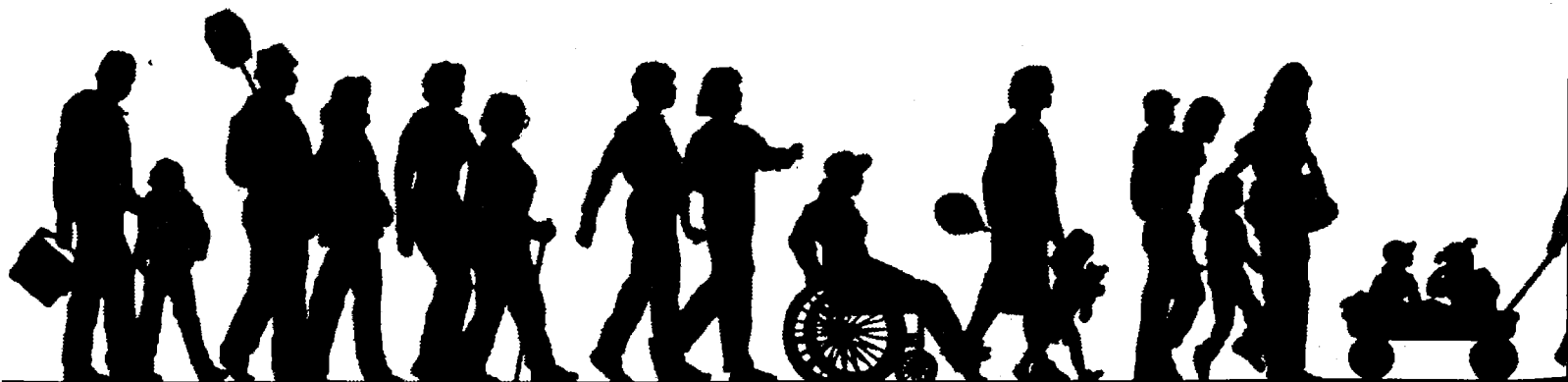
## Retirement Luncheon for Carrie Bell Brown

After 17 years, The Rev. Carrie Bell Brown retired from her position as director of Dayton Christian Center. The Executive Committee of the American Baptist Women's Ministries has invited Carrie Bell to come to our church on Sunday, October 17, so we can thank her for her years of service and celebrate her retirement.

Carrie Bell will be preaching during our morning worship service, then will join us for a covered-dish luncheon in the Fellowship Hall. In addition to having a cake at the luncheon, we would like to present Carrie Bell with a cash purse to show our appreciation for her many years of service. Contributions for this gift will be gratefully accepted by our treasurer Evelyn Lee.

## Watchcare Picnic

Mary Gillette and Beth Trigg would like to extend an invitation to their Deacon Watchcare groups to attend a potluck picnic at the Triggs. The event is to take place on Saturday, October 9th at 4:00 pm. They will have a bonfire and outdoor games. Bring a dish to share. Please plan on attending!



## OCTOBER WORSHIP

### October 3

World Communion Sunday  
CropWalk Sunday  
Matthew 21:33-40  
"When Will it End?"

### October 10

World Mission Offering  
Matthew 22:1-14

### October 17

Guest Preacher:  
The Rev. Carrie Bell Brown

### October 24

Matthew 22:15-22

### October 31

All Saints Day  
Revelation 7:9-17

### November 7

Holy Communion  
Matthew 25:1-13

## Thanks

Special thanks to Jeanne Ekelberry  
for the perky new curtains in the Sr.  
High room. Great job!!

—Beth Trigg

## Andrews House Christmas Bazaar

The closest thing our church has to a Christmas Bazaar is our participation as a (member) partner in Andrews House. Last year the Bazaar raised about \$3,000 to help support the many great programs of Andrews House. The hope is that the partner churches will help again this year, not only with making and donating items of holiday crafts and baked goods, but with man and woman power to service the tables. Start thinking about ways you can help. The dates for the Bazaar will be December 3 and 4.

—Shirley Parker

p.s. The Andrews House Fall Open House will be October 23rd from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm. They'll have tours, refreshments, etc.

## Sister Jane Morrissey to Speak at OWU

Sister Jane Morrissey (who spoke at First Baptist in March, 1995) will speak at OWU as part of the National Colloquium series. Her talk will take place on Wednesday, Oct. 6, at 7:30 p.m. in the Bayley Room of Beeghly Library. Her topic will be, "Another Way of Seeing and Being: My Summer with the Kaqchikels."



"This is my *fourth* sermon on the transforming power of the gospel. Why do you all still look the same?"

## Trustees Notes

◆ On Saturday, August 28, Jamie McPherson and Jennifer Hughes were married at First Baptist. Pastor Jody Lynn Hagans officiated. Betty Porter was organist and Lynn Elfner served as building host. Jennifer is a cousin of Tammy Francis.

◆ "Phase One" of the new sound system has been installed. This includes a new amplifier, all new shielded cable under the floor, two new jack boxes in the corners behind the front railing and new mikes.

"Phase Two," coming in a few weeks, will be an internal recording system able to handle two tapes at once and capable of automatically reversing tapes and recording on the other side when one side is full. (No more changing tapes during the service.) Also included will be a



high-quality lapel or remote mike system that we will test against radio interference before purchasing.

After several more weeks of use, when we are satisfied that all the bugs are out of the system, it will be dedicated in memory of Frances Johnson, a long-time member of First Baptist, during a Sunday morning service.

— Peter White  
Chairman, Trustees

## Birthdays and Anniversaries

Oct. 3 Janet Lathrop  
5 Laura Beth Mowery  
7 Jack Smith  
9 Suzanne Grubbs  
Ed & Jennifer Linn  
11 Joe Mowery  
Tim and Nicole Rice  
19 Paul Hopkins  
20 Yonica Bennett  
25 Jenny Grubbs  
28 Ed Linn  
30 Jean Osborne  
31 Ray Biggar  
Melissa Claire Turner  
Nov. 5 Victor Fogle

Please report any errors or omissions to  
Jim Stephenson

## Personals

◆ Former member CARTER SCITES, 77, died in Sun City, Arizona, on September 10. He is survived by wife Phyllis and four children. Carter served as Master Sergeant in the Air Force in World War II and in Korea.

◆ CYNTHIA BLAND has been granted a three-year leave of absence from OWU to pursue a Master of Divinity degree at Harvard Divinity School. She will enter there next fall (2000).

◆ HAROLD VAN BROEKHOVEN spent six weeks with an archaeological dig in Israel.

◆ RICK AND BARB VAN BRIMMER spent two weeks in England.

◆ GENEVA EVANS spent time in California caring for son Gary's mother-in-law.

◆ Former member JOHN MCTAGGART is recovering in a Dayton hospital from triple bypass surgery.

◆ SOPHIA STEPHENSON had outpatient cataract surgery.

◆ EVAN TRIGG has a new part-time job. He will be an office clerk for a local chimney sweep, Sootbusters.

## Billboards

Recently a Florida advertising agency, hired by an anonymous sponsor, launched a non-denominational billboard campaign with messages from God:

Let's Meet at My House Sunday  
Before the Game. - God

What Part of "Thou Shalt Not...."  
Don't You Understand? - God

Have You Read My Bestseller?  
There Will Be A Test. - God

Keep Using My Name in Vain and  
I'll Make Rush Hour Longer. - God

Need Directions? - God

## THE SENILITY PRAYER

*God grant me the senility  
To forget the people  
I never liked anyway...*

*The good fortune  
To run into the ones I do...*

*And the eyesight  
To tell the difference!*

— From M&M Retirement Publication

## Church Directory Update

*new address:*

Jeff Faulk  
235 Perkinswood Blvd. SE  
Warren, OH 44483  
(330) 394-3917

# OCTOBER 1999

## First Baptist Church

101 North Franklin Street, Delaware, Ohio 43015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>World Communion Sunday</b> 3 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship 1:30 CROP Walk Registration at OWU 2:00 Delaware CROP Walk 	4 7:00 Delaware Piecemakers; Boy Scouts	5 7:00 Deacons	6 7:00 Choir 7:30 Sister Jane Morrissey speaks at OWU	7 12:00 Sewing Group	8	9 4:00 Gillette/Trigg WatchCare Picnic at Triggs
10 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship with World Mission Offering	<b>Columbus Day</b> 11 7:00 Boy Scouts 	12	13 7:00 Choir	14 12:00 Young at Heart	15	16 8:30 Men's Breakfast 10:00 A.B.W. Retreat at Mt. Gilead First Baptist
17 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship with guest preacher Carrie Bell Brown 12:00 Covered-dish retirement luncheon for Carrie Bell Brown	18 7:00 Boy Scouts; Board of Christian Education	19	20 7:00 Choir	21	22 <div>A.B.C. of Ohio Annual Meeting in Columbus</div>	23 1:00 Faulk/Anderson Wedding
24 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship <div>A.B.C. of Ohio Annual Meeting in Columbus</div>	25 7:00 Boy Scouts	26	27 6:30 Covered-Dish Dinner, followed by <b>Quarterly Business Meeting</b>	28	29	30 Daylight Saving Time Ends Tonight 
<b>All Saints Day</b> 31 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship <i>Last day to submit newsletter articles</i>	<b>November</b> 1 7:00 Delaware Piecemakers; Boy Scouts	2 7:00 Deacons	3 7:00 Choir	4 10:00 Sewing Group	5	6



# Good News Letter

Published in the Cause of the Abundant Life by the First Baptist Church,  
101 North Franklin Street, Delaware, Ohio 43015; (740) 363-7021

On a slow morning last week, as I was trying to sort out everything I had to do in the next three weeks, I found myself watching the "Today Show." The reporter told about how a major soup company had done a study and found that personality characteristics can now be related to soup preferences. My favorite soup is "tomato." If you've ever gone with me to Bun's, then you know that I always figure out a way to order their tomato basil soup, which is absolutely superb. The study discovered that lovers of tomato soup tend to be creative, pet-loving, avid book readers. The truth, is that I fancy myself all of these things.

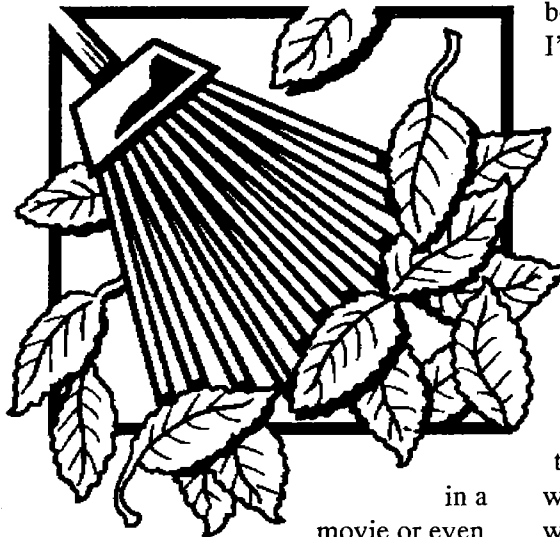
This got me to thinking about books, especially novels and how much I enjoy reading them.

When I read a book, I have an irritating habit of getting so wrapped up in the story that getting my attention away from the book is like trying to wake the dead. When I finish reading a really good book, I sometimes forget that the world of the book isn't part of my real world. I go about my business, half-expecting to run across the different characters from the story. More often than not, I get so absorbed in a novel that I don't realize I'm coming toward the end, and when I turn the page to keep reading, I come to the shocking realization that the book is over. I liked the story and I wasn't finished. I just wasn't ready to let it go.

I often have this same feeling when a movie ends. I like endings to be neat and tidy, and above all, happy.

But unfortunately for me, life doesn't work that way and as we all know, art really does imitate life. Life is messy. Things don't always turn out the way we want them to or the way we expect them to turn out. The only thing that can be certain in a novel, or

## NOVEMBER



in a movie or even in life, is that eventually all things do come to an end.

These past couple of weeks, I've felt like I was reading a really good novel, and suddenly I reached the end. As you know, I made the decision to accept the call to serve as chaplain of Keuka College and Rundy and I decided that it is the right time for us to make this move in our life together. And while I do believe God is calling me to continue my life's journey by entering into this new ministry, I still can't help feeling that this part of the story is coming to an abrupt end. This past week, I've come to the realization that this chapter is

nearly over. Unfortunately a part of me loves this part of the story and isn't quite finished with it yet. I'm just not wanting to let go; to turn the page.

I've thought long and hard, trying to put my ambiguous feelings about saying goodbye to all of you into words. I finally realized that if I was only leaving a job, all of this would be a piece of cake. But the truth is, I'm saying goodbye to a community of people who over the last eight years have grown into family. You are part of my family-part of our family-and nothing will ever change that. It won't be easy to say goodbye, because I love all of you so much.

I believe whole-heartedly that this chapter of my life couldn't have been written without all of you. I also believe that by saying goodbye to each other, and by saying goodbye well, we help each other begin to write the next chapter.

I believe that whatever has happened in our life together and whatever will happen in our futures, happens through the power of the Holy Spirit which so gracefully guides the story of our lives.

May we continue to trust and live in the grace of God's love; and may that love bind us together no matter where our life's stories take us.

Many Blessings,

*Jody Lynn*

# Pastor Hagans Accepts Call To Chaplaincy

On Sunday, October 24, Pastor Hagans announced in her sermon that she has accepted the call to serve as Chaplain of Keuka College. She will celebrate her last Sunday with us on November 21, and Randy and she will move to Keuka Park, New York on November 22.

Keuka College is an American Baptist affiliated college located in Keuka Park, New York which is in the Finger Lakes Region of upstate New York. It is only about 400 miles from Delaware, Ohio and is located half-way between Rochester and Syracuse. The college was founded by an American Baptist Pastor in the late 1800's as a Teacher's College, and remained an all-girl school until 1985 when it became co-ed. There are 880 students on campus, with 85 percent of them female. Keuka is now a liberal arts college with a strong education program and in 1997 Money Magazine ranked Keuka as the best value in small liberal arts colleges in the North-East.

As chaplain of the college, Jody Lynn will be responsible for serving as pastor to students, faculty and staff, as well as administering an office in the

student union and in the chapel. Her main office, which is part of the Student Affairs office, will be staffed 40 hours a week by work-study students. She will also supervise a field education student from Colgate Rochester Divinity School who will work on campus 20 hours a week. Chapel services are currently being held every other week on Sunday afternoon. Other responsibilities include working with the development office to strengthen relationships with the American Baptist Churches of New York and with local churches, teaching opportunities in the Philosophy/Religion Department, and possible leadership of a four week Field Period which is a hands-on learning experience for students. Another exciting aspect of this position, is that the college is only one hour from Rochester, where Jody Lynn's former seminary is located and where she will be able to pursue studies in the Doctor of Ministry Program.

Jody Lynn and Randy will be living on campus in a house owned by the college. Their new address is printed in the Church Directory Update box on page four of this newsletter.

## Marriage

On October 23, 1999, Jeff Faulk married Laurie Anderson at Blessed Sacrament Church in Warren, Ohio. Laurie is the daughter of Keith and Mary Anderson of Brockton, Mass. Jeff is the son of Pam and Larry Faulk. The couple met at Notre Dame where they were both in the marching band and studying engineering. They spent a two-week honeymoon in Hawaii. They will reside in Warren, Ohio. Their new address is printed in the Church Directory Update box on page four of this newsletter.

## Christmas Poinsettias

Poinsettias can be ordered for \$7.00 each to decorate our church for Advent. They can be purchased in honor or memory of a friend or relative, if you wish. After our Christmas Eve service you can either take your poinsettias home with you or leave them at the church.

Please place your orders with Shirley Parker or Jim Stephenson by Sunday, November 21.



## World Mission Offering

As of Sunday, October 31, we have collected \$342.27 for the World Mission Offering. Thank you First Baptist! Also a big thank you to the choir for their wonderful rendition of "Change Our World, God". It was a beautiful introit.

Our next special offering is the Retired Ministers and Missionaries offering which will be taken in December. Remember, each dollar we give to special offerings goes directly to that particular cause. All overhead and administrative expenses are covered by our United Mission offerings.

Thanks again and congratulations on exceeding our \$300 goal!

— Randy Turner

## Thanks Giving

Not only upon an appointed day in November, but each day of the full round year. I am thankful...

- For life, love and labor.
- For this our wonderful world, and for a faith that bids me walk joyously in it undismayed by its follies—undiscouraged by its failures—unharmd by its achievements—and unafraid to leave it.
- that my ears have not been dulled to the songs of birds, the drone of bees, the melody of flowing streams, the dripping of rain from the eaves, the wind in the pine-tops, and all the myriad sounds that swell the ensemble of Nature's chorus.
- That my eyes have not been blinded to the majesty of the stars, the glory of the western sky at twilight, the glint of the humming-bird's ruby throat flashing in the sunlight, the colorful pageant of the flowers, and all the unnumbered glories in God's great garden.
- That my soul can sometimes thrill responsive to the music of the sphere.
- For courage to love and not to fear the truth—and to so live that I can be at peace with myself.
- For freedom to greet and worship the Great Spirit in the only way I know—with an abiding trust that He who holds the stars in place will guide me safely through Eternity.
- For these, today and every day throughout the year—and years—I am thankful.

(Copyright 1926 by J. W. Wright. This prayer was found in a booklet belonging to Carolyn G. W. Schneeberger which was given to me by her son Peter White.)

—submitted by  
Rev. Jody Lynn Hagans

## New Church Officers

The following slate of new officers was ratified at the quarterly business meeting on October 27. The numbers in parenthesis after the names are the years that their term expire.

### Assistant Moderator

Jim Van Brimmer ('01)

### Financial Secretary

Evelyn Lee ('01)

### Finance Committee Chair

Jarrold Trigg ('01)

### Board of Christian Education

Melissa Mercer ('01)

Scott Yant ('01)

### Board of Deacons

John Maher ('01)

Jim Van Brimmer ('01)

Better Porter (unexpired term '00)

### Board of Trustees

Jeff Reed ('01)

Dave Lovell ('01)

Adam Mowery ('01)

Nichelle Trigg ('01)

### Pastoral Relations

Anne Linn ('01)

David Lovell ('01)

Adam Mowery ('01)

Nichelle Trigg ('01)

## Thank You

Sincere appreciation for all who generously contributed to the meals we supplied to the Griffith family when Teresa was struggling with reactions to her chemo-therapy. It is indeed good news to hear her say she feels she has turned a positive corner. We wish them well.

—Evelyn Lee

Thanks to all who helped to make Rev. Carrie Bell Brown's time with us pleasant. You helped to give her a warm welcome, a generous purse, a

tasty luncheon, and many items for the Dayton Christian Center.

—American Baptist Women

## BULLETIN BLOOPERS

"Don't let worry kill you — let the church help."

"Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our church and community."

"The Ladies Liturgy Society will meet on Wednesday. Mrs. Jones will sing, 'Put me in My Little Bed,' accompanied by the pastor."

"At tonight's evening service, the sermon topic will be 'What is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice."

"A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening. Music will follow."

"On Thursday there will be a meeting of the Little Mothers Club. All wishing to become little mothers, please see the minister in his study."

— From an Ann Landers column

## Volunteers and Donations Needed for Andrews House Christmas Bazaar

Andrews House will hold their annual Christmas Bazaar from 10:00 to 7:00 on Friday, December 3, and from 10:00 to 3:00 on Saturday, Dec. 4. Proceeds will benefit Andrews House programs.

They need hand-made holiday craft items which can be sold for \$1 to \$20, baked goods, jams and jellies. They also need volunteers to work two-hour shifts, and musicians of all ages to work one-hour shifts.

For more information, call Connie Whitaker at 369-2011.

## Thanksgiving Offering

Our Thanksgiving offering will be dedicated to Second Fridays (a service of Andrews House which serves free meals on the second Friday of each month).

### Church Directory Update

**Jeff and Laurie Faulk**  
235 Perkenwood Blvd S.E.  
Warren, Ohio 44483

+ + +

(after Nov. 22)

**Rundy and Jody Lynn Hagans**  
15 South Avenue  
P.O. Box 208  
Keuka Park, NY 14478-0208

+ + +

New e-mail address:

**Vic and Debbie Fogle**  
fogle@konnnect.net

## John McTaggart

Dr. John B. McTaggart, 81, died on November 1 after many weeks in a Dayton hospital recovering from heart bypass surgery.

John was formerly a member of our church and held many church offices during the years that he and his wife Bertha lived in Delaware. He was the former Director of Library Services at the Methodist Theological School in Ohio, and was also an American Baptist Layman.

A memorial service is planned for Sunday, November 7, at the First Baptist Church of Dayton at 2:00 p.m. Condolences may be sent to:

Bertha McTaggart  
8330 St. Francis Court  
Centerville, OH 45458-2760

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

- Nov. 1 Micah & Shannon Stoner  
5 Victor Fogle  
8 Nicole Rice  
10 Natalie Griffith  
15 Teresa Griffith  
Harold Van Broekhoven  
Barbara Van Brimmer  
20 Randy Turner  
22 Peter White  
John Maher  
26 Elizabeth Hopkins  
28 Karen Stoner  
Dec. 4 Erin Faulk  
5 Zachery Grubbs

Please report any errors or omissions to Jim Stephenson.

## Personals

• **JEAN OSBORNE** was at the Mayo Clinic in Minnesota while her son, Gary, was receiving treatment for a serious illness.

• **JACK AND MARILYN SMITH** attended Jack's 50th high school reunion in Warren, Ohio.

• **ED AND JENNIFER LINN** of California visited for one week with parents Betty Porter and Anne and John Linn and families.

• **PETER AND LINDA WHITE** had a long vacation in Yellowstone Park and other sites in the west.

• **SHIRLEY PARKER** visited her sister in her old hometown last week, where a mural done by Shirley's nephew David Fichter was newly dedicated. The mural was on a 125-foot wall at the former Notick Depot site. Shirley's father was featured in one of the historic scenes standing beside his locomotive engine. He had been an engineer on the B&A line before retiring many years ago. The visit ended in Vermont where a family birthday party for about ten family members was celebrated.

# NOVEMBER 1999

First Baptist Church

101 North Franklin Street, Delaware, Ohio 43015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 7:00 Delaware Piecemakers Boy Scouts	<b>Election Day</b> 2 7:00 Deacons	3 7:00 Choir	4 10:00 Sewing Group	5	6
7 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship	8 7:00 Boy Scouts	9 7:30 Marion Assoc. Executive Committee at Trinity	10 7:00 Choir	<b>Veterans Day</b> 11 12:00 Young at Heart 7:00 Deacons at Bun's Restaurant	12	13
14 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship	15 7:00 Boy Scouts	16	17 7:00 Choir	18 7:00 A.B.W. Ministires, at the Church	19	20 8:00 Men's Breakfast
<b>Pastor Hagans' Final Sunday</b> 21 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship 1:30 Reception for Pastor Hagans (until 3:00) <i>Last Day to Order Poinsettias</i>	22 7:00 Boy Scouts	23 7:00 Parish Council	24 7:00 Choir	<b>Thanksgiving</b> 25 	26	27
<b>First Sunday in Advent</b> 28 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship with The Hanging of the Greens <i>Newsletter Deadline</i> 	29 7:00 Boy Scouts	30	<b>December</b> 1 7:00 Choir	2 10:00 Sewing Group 7:00 Board of Deacons	3 10:00 Andrews House Christmas Bazaar (until 7:00)	4 10:00 Andrews House Christmas Bazaar (until 3:00)

# Good News Letter

Published in the Cause of the Abundant Life by the First Baptist Church,  
101 North Franklin Street, Delaware, Ohio 43015; (740) 363-7021

*This month's editorial  
was written by Cynthia Bland.*

## ADVENT

Advent means "coming, arrival." This year it presages not only the coming of Christ and of Christmas but also of a new millennium. With all the hoopla in the media about the new millennium, it's easy to focus on the problems Y2K may bring, or on what we will wear to that extra special millennial New Year's party. But do we expect to meet Christ in the new millennium? The new millennium is coming, Christmas is coming, Christ is coming—whether we are ready or not.

Years ago, when I was in graduate school and living with my grandmother in Chatham County, NC, near Chapel Hill, starting right after Thanksgiving all the women in the Lystra community (near Lystra Baptist Church, our church), would greet each other with, "Are you ready for Christmas?" Sometimes they would ask me this question, and since I was always studying for exams, writing papers, and also grading them at that time of year, I never could answer "yes."

What they meant by the question was, "Have you cleaned your house from stem to stern? Washed all your curtains? Put up your Christmas tree? Baked your cakes, pies, and cookies? Bought the groceries for Christmas dinner? Wrapped all your presents?"

*continued on page 2*

## First Baptist Says Goodbye to Pastor Hagans

Sunday, November 21, was Jody Lynn's last day as our pastor. During our morning worship service, Allison Mowery, Peter White and Jim Van Brimmer each spoke on behalf of the congregation, and Allison presented Jody Lynn with a financial gift from the congregation.

Later that day, a reception was held in the fellowship hall from 1:30 until 3:00. Jeanne Ekelberry presented Jody Lynn and Randy with a wall hanging she'd made which included the signatures of our church members. Music was provided by Adam Mowery and Mary Lou Lovell, and Nacrina Alvarez sang.

Rundy and Jody Lynn have moved to Keuka Park, New York, where Jody Lynn will be chaplain of Keuka

College, an American Baptist-affiliated college of 880 students.

Their new address is: Rundy and Jody Lynn Hagans, 15 South Avenue, P.O. Box 208, Keuka Park, NY 14478-0208

All of us at First Baptist are grateful for Jody Lynn's eight years of devoted service to our church and to our community, and for her love, friendship and support. We'll miss her and Randy, and wish them much joy and success in the future.



*more photos on page 3*

## Editorial

(continued from page one)

My grandmother and the other women sincerely believed that they had to do all of these things to be "ready for Christmas," and considered it a virtue to have done them early—by, let's say, the first Sunday in Advent. (Grandmother knew how to make and wrap the Christmas cakes so that they just got better during the month of December: a chocolate pound cake, a fig preserve cake, and an applesauce cake.)

Of course, the ladies of Lystra Church, until about twenty years ago, did not think about Advent *per se*. It was too Catholic. Sometime in the early '80's, Grandmother, who was chairman of the flower committee, wanted to decorate the altar with an advent wreath. This idea was controversial, but with the support of several other women (especially one who had grown up Lutheran), she was able to dispel objections and bring in this new custom. As far as I know, advent wreaths have graced Lystra throughout December ever since. Until the advent of the Advent Wreath, we in the Lystra community did not think about "Advent"; nevertheless, the women of Lystra Church were preparing for Christmas as if they expected Christ Himself to be one of their holiday guests.

When I was busy studying, writing, and grading, I wanted to ignore Christmas. One Christmas season when I did almost nothing to "get ready," I became so depressed that I learned my lesson. Today it's almost impossible to forget that Christmas is coming, with the decorations appearing in stores around Labor Day—but it's all too easy to forget about the coming of Christ. One thing that might remind each of us is the scripture passage that ends, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto the least of these my brethren ye have done it unto me"

(Matthew 24:40, KJV)—"it" being feeding the hungry, visiting the sick and the imprisoned, clothing the naked, and so on. We can try to see the face of Christ in that of a homeless, sick, or imprisoned individual and treat him or her as a neighbor.

To "get ready" for the turn of the millennium that will occur a week after Christmas, we don't need to stockpile a year's supply of food and fuel and guns (as groups all over the world are reportedly doing). Nevertheless, it wouldn't hurt to consider prayerfully what the advent of the new millennium means and commemorate it in our own way as individuals and families. (I have heard of a group who will go together to the Atlantic Ocean at 7 a.m. on December 31, 1999, when it becomes January 1, 2000 at the International Date Line, and, on the assumption that all oceans connect, they will each put one foot in the ocean and keep the other on shore so that they can have one foot in each millennium!) As we commemorate the end of the old and the beginning of the new year and millennium, we can remember that Christ, whose coming we celebrate at Christmas, enters the year 2000 with us, ready or not.

God bless us every one.

*Cynthia Bland*

## Sunday Worship During Advent

A trio of exuberant pastors will lead us in morning worship during the Advent season. On December 5th, Kit Ripley will give a sermon entitled "Breaking News on Route 101." Kit just moved to Ohio with her husband, Steve, who pastors at our ABC church in Mt. Vernon. She graduated from Fuller Theological Seminary with a Master of Divinity.

The following Sunday, December 12, Bonnie Frost, Chaplain at the

Ohio Reformatory for Women, will give the morning message. Bonnie and her husband copastor a Methodist church near Indian Lake, Ohio.

Finally, Kim Keethler Ball will lead us in worship on December 19. Kim is finishing her Masters' at METHESCO. She lives in Granville with her husband, Dave, who is Chaplain at Dennison University.

Please make a special point to attend church in support of these pastors who are helping us through our transition.

*Allison Mowery*

## Advent Activities

Jim VanBrimmer will be leading an Advent Study beginning Nov. 28 and ending in January at the time of Epiphany (the 2nd or the 9th). The book entitled "Rekindling the Hope of the Manger" will be the topic of the study. Babysitting will be available.

On December 5 following the church service, we will be having the Birthday Party for Jesus Celebration during the traditional Fellowship Time.

On December 19 the Christmas Program will be held at 7:00 pm. If you have a special Christmas Memory that you would like to share with everyone and would like to have used in the program, please let Mary Lou Lovell know. Following the program, we will have a fellowship time downstairs. Everyone is asked to bring a dozen cookies to share. Secret Advent friends will be revealed during this time as well.

Our Christmas Eve service will begin with musical preludes at 6:45, followed at 7:00 by our candlelight worship service with communion.

As always, if you have a burning desire to give a hand and be a volunteer in the Nursery or Junior Church,

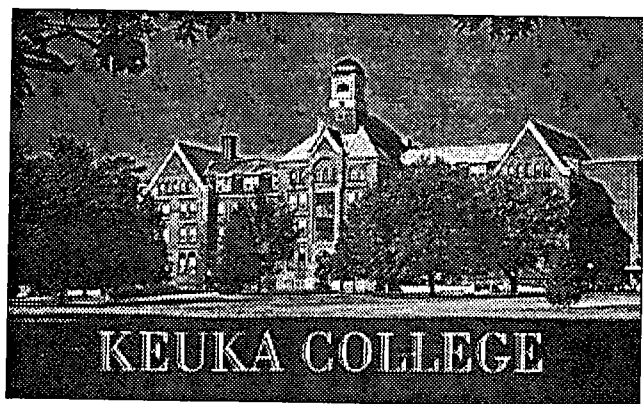
*continued on page 4*



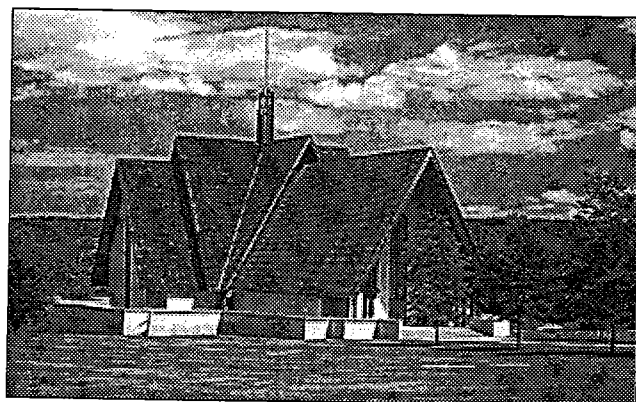
*Jeanne Ekelberry presented Jody Lynn and Randy with a wall hanging she created which incorporated the signatures of church members.*



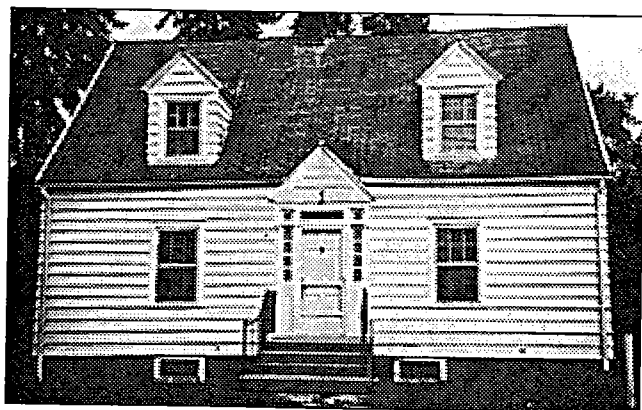
*Jody Lynn and Randy talking to guests at the reception.*



*A post card showing Ball Hall, the building at Keuka College which houses the college's main offices.*



*The Arthur H. Norton Chapel, which serves as a center for cultural and religious activities for both the college and the community.*



*Jody Lynn and Randy's new home.*



continued from page 2

please let me know. I'd be glad to reserve a volunteer spot just for you!!

Faithfully,

Melissa Mercer for the  
Board of Christian Education

## Christmas Program

"What is Christmas?" It is the title of our Sunday School Christmas Program to be held Sun. Dec. 19th at 7p.m. in the sanctuary. The scenes in the program are being designed from the forms the congregation filled out describing their favorite Christmas memories. If you have not filled out a form, please call Mary Lou Lovell(369-6041) with your favorite Christmas memory so it can be included. Thanks to all who have turned in the forms, they have brought a smile to my face.

Following the program will be the Secret Advent Friend Revealing and refreshments.

Mark your calendars now so you can share in the Christmas memories!

Mary Lou Lovell

## Secret Advent Partners

After the Christmas program on Sunday evening, December 19, we will have a get-together to share social time with one another. Please bring cookies or snacks to share.

## Church Directory Update

new address:

Betty Porter  
444 West Central Ave.  
(phone remains the same)

Then we will find out the identity of our Secret Partner. If you have any questions, call me at (740) 363-2244.

Sue Elfner

## Jean Wickum Honored for 50 Years in Choir

During our morning worship service on November 14, Pastor Hagans made a surprise presentation to Jean Wickum in honor of Jean's 50 years of service in our choir. The presentation included two gifts from the choir — a special gold stole made by Jeanne Ekelberry (a 50th anniversary is traditionally a gold anniversary), and a gold pin in the shape of a musical treble clef.

## Christmas Caroling

Everyone is invited to join us for Christmas caroling on Saturday, December 11, at 6:30 pm. If you haven't gone caroling with us before, be assured that we'll be singing familiar Christmas carols that everyone knows, and enthusiasm counts much more than musical talent!

We'll meet at the church at 6:30 and at approximately 8:00 we'll return to the church for refreshments.

If you know any of our shut-ins, we especially encourage you to attend as some of them haven't been able to attend church for years and may not know many of the younger carolers. It's always nice when they can see familiar faces and greet old friends.

Caroling is great fun and a wonderful way to bring a little holiday cheer into the lives of our shut-ins, so please plan on joining us!

Jim Stephenson  
Choir Director

## Thank You

I thank you for the lovely mum plant and for the six dear friends who shared John's service with me.

With love,

Bertha McTaggart

+++

I want to thank all of you who assisted in Jody Lynn and Randy's goodbye reception. A large number of First Baptist members and friends helped with organizing, greeting, serving and hostessing the event. Nacrina Alvarez sang several beautiful solo pieces; in addition, music was provided by Adam Mowery and Mary Lou Lovell. I believe we provided a memorable day for our former pastor and her husband.

Allison Mowery

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

- Dec. 4 Erin Faulk  
5 Zachery Grubbs  
13 Tammy Grubbs  
Geneva Evans  
19 Michael Maher  
25 Carol Grubbs  
Steve & Karen Stoner  
28 Sharon Baker  
29 Harold & Deborah  
Van Broekhoven  
Jan. 4 Cynthia Bland  
Ashley Francis  
Shirley Parker

Please report any errors or omissions  
to Jim Stephenson

## Adult Socials

They're back! Adult socials will be back, starting in January. Anyone wishing to help plan them or who has an idea for one, please contact Donna Reed.

## Trustees Notes

- The new sound system was completed and dedicated in Frances Johnson's memory during morning service the last Sunday in October. The final cost was \$3,553.40.
- The furnaces at the church were checked, filters changed and some belts replaced by Don Patrick. The cost was \$153.41.
- The water pump on the boiler at the old parsonage went bad and had to be replaced. The whole system had to be drained to do the job and then refilled. The cost was \$370.00. It had only been in service since 1949! The work was done by Don Patrick.
- Joe Mowery put new corners on the steps in front of the sanctuary where the carpet was wearing badly.
- Peter White cleaned out the gutters and downspouts at the church, old parsonage and parsonage.

## Poinsettia Dedications

From Rundy and Jody Lynn Hagans  
in thanksgiving for the generous  
people of the First Baptist Church  
From the Lee family in memory of  
Dick Lee  
From Linda White in memory of her  
father  
From Geneva Evans in memory of  
her mother  
From Sophia Stephenson in memory  
of Rev. James B. Stephenson  
From Jim Van Brimmer  
From Jean Osborne in memory of  
David Osborne  
From Shirley Parker in memory of  
her brother, Rev. George Parker  
From Rick and Barb Van Brimmer, in  
memory of Topper Hill  
From the Mowery family (two poin-  
settias) in memory of Frances  
Johnson, Guy Clifford Mowery,  
and Joseph George Mowery  
From Jean Wickum (two poinsettias)

in memory of Wilbur Wickum and  
Martha Moffett

From Cynthia Bland and Ray Biggar  
(four poinsettias) in memory of  
Jule and Polly Cheek, Rena Cheek  
Bland, Robert and Grace Biggar,  
and Bob Biggar  
From Betty Porter in memory of Jim  
"Billy" Porter

*If there are any errors or omissions,  
please contact Jim Stephenson and  
a correction will be placed in the  
bulletin.*

## Education Packets

Education packets which contain  
ideas to enhance our Sunday School  
program have been given to teachers  
and board members. They have been  
asked to respond to these sugges-  
tions. A good number of the sugges-  
tions are already part of our program.  
There may be a number of our church  
family who want to become a part of  
this exercise. Please let me know if  
you would like a copy of this packet.  
Then more directions will be given to  
you.

*Sue Elfner*  
363-2244

## Andrews House

Paul Nicely, Interim Executive  
Director of Andrews House, recently  
informed all the Partner Churches of  
some staff changes. Scott Grissom  
resigned as Executive Director, effec-  
tive October 31, and Jennifer Hull's  
last days as Program Director was  
November 3.

The next Partner Church meeting  
will take place on January 31. One  
topic of discussion will be a proposal  
by Barbara Hickcox about the possi-  
bility of collaborating to develop a  
Parish Nurse program. Andrews  
House has sent us materials about  
this proposal; they will be posted in  
our assembly room.

## Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering

Hi all, once again it is time to tell you  
about a special mission offering for  
the American Baptist Convention.  
This is a unique offering that benefits  
some of our own church members,  
the RMMO.

Our goal is \$300 and we have con-  
sistently exceeded this goal for the  
last few years. We will collect the  
offering beginning December 5, 1999  
and throughout the month of  
December. The main offering will be  
collected on December 12, 1999 and  
envelopes can be found in the pew  
racks.

The RMMO provides financial  
resources to assist retired American  
Baptist ministers and missionaries, or  
their surviving spouses. 43% of the  
Offering is designated to meet emer-  
gency and special financial needs;  
57% is distributed in the form of  
ABC Thank You checks to over  
3,000 recipients. Because the  
Ministers and Missionaries Benefit  
Board absorbs the cost of promotion-  
al expenses, 100% of your gift will  
go to a retired ABC minister, mis-  
sionary or surviving spouse.

The RMMO is a people offering.  
After the Thank You checks are dis-  
tributed each year, hundreds of letters  
are received from the recipients with  
heartwarming stories about how their  
quality of life has been improved  
because of the offering.

This years theme is "Rejoice in  
Their Ministry". Our generous gifts  
and support of this important offering  
is a wonderful way to show our grati-  
tude for their dedication and service.  
We can make retirement a little easier  
for those who continue to minister  
and show God's love in this world.

In His Service,  
*Randy Turner*  
*Missions, Board of Christian*  
*Education*

# DECEMBER 1999

## First Baptist Church

101 North Franklin Street, Delaware, Ohio 43015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 7:00 Choir	2 10:00 Sewing 7:00 Deacons	3 10:00 Andrew's House Christmas Bazaar (until 7:00)	4 10:00 Andrew's House Christmas Bazaar (until 3:00)
5 <b>2nd Sunday in Advent</b> 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship with Guest Pastor Kit Ripley 11:45 Birthday Party for Jesus 7:15 Advent Study	6 7:00 Boy Scouts	7	8 7:00 Choir	9 12:00 Young at Heart 7:00 Search Committee	10	11 6:30 Christmas Carolling (meet at church) 
12 <b>3rd Sunday in Advent</b> 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship with Guest Pastor Bonnie Frost; Retired Ministers & Missionaries Offering 7:15 Advent Study	13 6:30 Board of Christian Ed. (Dinner at White's) 7:00 Boy Scouts	14	15 7:00 Choir	16 2:00 A.B.W. Packing Christmas Boxes	17	18 8:30 Mens' Breakfast 9:30 Rehearsal for Christmas Program
19 <b>4th Sunday in Advent</b> 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship with Guest Pastor Kim Keethler Ball 7:00 Christmas Program, followed by Revealing of S.A.F.'s ? Advent Study (time to be announced)	20 7:00 Boy Scouts	21	22 7:00 Choir	23	24 6:45 Preludes 7:00 Christmas Eve Service	25  <b>CHRISTMAS</b>
26 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship 7:15 Advent Study  <i>Deadline to submit newsletter articles.</i>	27 7:00 Boy Scouts	28	29	30	31 11:00pm - Midnight Ecumenical New Year's Celebration at Gray Chapel	1 <b>January 2000</b>  <b>HAPPY NEW YEAR!</b>