

January 2002

Volume 31, Number 1

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Rev. Tim Chesser, 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

Dear Church Family:

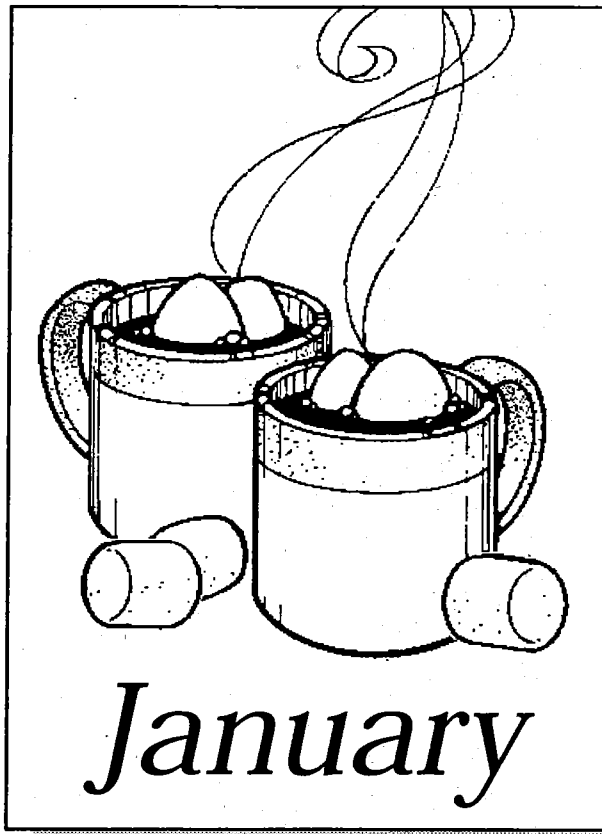
Thank you for making 2001 a special year for the Chesser family. When I met with the search committee for the first time in Cincinnati last May I could tell right away that they represented a unique church family. Now that I have become your pastor I see that uniqueness as a special gift from God.

Thank you for all you have done to help us make the change from being Hoosiers to Buckeyes. Sam, Kathy, and I thank you for your generous Christmas gifts.

Next week, when I meet with the diaconate, I will start the planning for Friday night get-togethers at the parsonage. We have found that it helps us to get better acquainted with church members. We have groups of twelve to fifteen over on Friday night. We have a time of sharing and then some light refreshments. I hope you will be a part of these gatherings and bring your children if you have any at home.

During the month of January we will be extending the right hand of fellowship to some new members. Jimmy and Jane Moore come to us from FBC Painesville.

Bob and Pat Foor come to us from FBC Marietta. If you haven't had a chance to meet these new members look them up one Sunday.



Work has begun on the restoration of the large room in the northeast corner of the basement. I am sure you will read more about this elsewhere in the newsletter. The parish council looks forward to having their meetings there again. The pastor is looking forward to be able to meet there without feeling he is

under attack by black mold.

One of the fun things about worship at FBC is children's time. We have a great bunch of kids here. In 2002 we hope to host some intergenerational events to build the fellowship. Ideas and offers of help are welcome at anytime. Please see the pastor or the Christian Education chairperson, Scott Yant.

With Advent and Christmas behind us, my preaching schedule will move away from the lectionary for a little while. After Epiphany Sunday I will be doing a short series about the church. The sermon on January 13 will be "Who Gets In?" January 20 will bring on "The Church Option." "Why are We Here?" will be presented on January 27.

I am looking forward to an exciting and growing time during 2002. See you in church this Sunday. Invite a friend!

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "Tim".

Thank You

Dear Friends at the First Baptist,

I want to say thank you to so many of you for so many kindnesses to me during my recent illness that I take this method of thanking you all in the newsletter. Evelyn's frequent calls at home and in hospital and her reporting all onto my daughter in Georgia. Jim Van Brimmer, Melissa Mercer and Marcie Sander for trips to Grady; and Sophie, Evelyn, Marci, Lovells, Jean and Alice Osborne for delicious meals sent and to many others who sent cards during the long weeks. Jim's house calls for oxygen tank and installing them—all these things and more were of timely help. The pastor's visit, the choir Christmas caroling, and the women's Christmas box of goodies. A multitude of aid, plus the prayers of all have given me a boast, and I hope will turn things around in this new year—making '02 a better new year than '01. Warmest thanks to you all for covering me in love. I send my love to you all.

—Shirley Parker

Do you know what would have happened if there had been Three Wise Women instead of Three Wise Men?

They would have asked for directions, arrived on time, helped deliver the baby, cleaned the stable, made a casserole, brought practical gifts, and there would be peace on Earth.

— Ann Landers column

Thank you for your donation of \$500 to Delaware County Habitat for Humanity. Your dedication and support is greatly appreciated as we seek to eliminate poverty housing and replace it with decent, affordable homes for families in our community.

—Delaware County Habitat for Humanity

Many thanks for your contribution of \$750 and your ongoing contributions to directly assist those in need of emergency assistance. Your generous gifts make it possible for HelpLine to continue to provide critical services to our neighbors here in Delaware County.

This past year, we assisted thousands of callers in crisis, providing a highly trained, caring person to help callers sort out their situation and get linked with community resources such as emergency financial assistance, food, legal help, housing, counseling, support groups, and medical services.

Our staff, board, and dedicated volunteers greatly appreciate your support. Happy holidays.

—Susan Hanson
Exec. Director of HelpLine

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Dear Friends,

What a delightful surprise it was to have people singing Christmas carols, coming into our home. I thoroughly enjoyed every bit of it! The singing was well done and cheery.

Thank you also for the beautiful Christmas box full of assorted homemade cookies and fruit that was given by the church women.

What a gracious way to remember an old grandma like me.

It reminded me of my earliest experience of singing Christmas carols. It was a happy, fun time.

A group of people, young and old, went to the main street of our village and stood in front of the stores where people had gathered to listen.



Our pastor, with his deep, rich voice, led the group. As the delightful, fluffy snow flakes fell that night, we sang and walked from home to home.

That was over 80 years ago, but I remember it as plainly as if it was only last week. "Noel, Noel" made a deep impression on me. Many thanks to you for your carols and for reviving precious memories. What a wonderful way to start celebrating the Christmas season. God bless you all.

—Mrs. Alice L. Osborne

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Thank you very much for your kind donation totaling \$152 from your Thanksgiving offering. We have designated this gift towards our Second Fridays program at Andrews House. Many of you are involved with this program and we are very grateful to you for the work you do to help others in the community.

—Rosalyn Smith, Exec. Director
Andrews House

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Thank you to all who gave cookies for the BloodMobile.

—Jeanne Ekelberry

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A big thank-you goes out to everyone who helped us raise \$550.22 as our church's contribution to this year's RMMO. Through this offering, American Baptists all over this country have helped to make a difference in the lives of over 3,000 retired American Baptist ministers and missionaries who have strength-

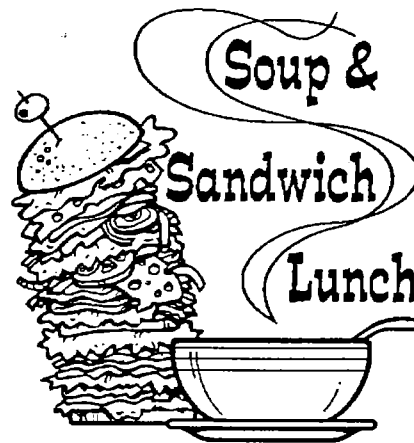
Scholarship Student to be Guest at A.B.W.M. Luncheon

Please plan to join us after church on Sunday, January 13. Our guest will be our scholarship student this year, Charity Jean Taylor. This meeting is open to everyone.

Bring a sandwich for lunch. Vegetable soup and drinks will be provided. We will dispense with our regular meeting as we hear Charity tell us of her studies.

Please remember your Love Gift!

—Jeanne Ekelberry



The ABWM scholarship student this year is Charity Jean Taylor of Westerville, who attends Trinity Lutheran Seminary in Columbus. Charity enjoys making crib quilts, with each stitch made "in an attitude of prayer for the children who will receive that warm piece of cloth to keep their bodies warm. Each prayer makes those children even more strong in God's confirmation of His calling on their lives."

After seminary she hopes to write books on prayer and encouragement. Her birthday is April 3, 1974, and if you'd like to send her a personal note, her address is: 5784 Varadero Drive, Westerville OH 43081.

Charity looks forward to sharing with us on January 13 as we share lunch with her.

—Karen Stoner
Scholarship Correspondent

ened the body of Christ by their service. Thanks for helping to say thank-you to them.

—Linda White
Mission Education Coordinator

Church Women United Annual Meeting

"Helping Hands" will be the theme of this year's annual meeting of Church Women United. It will be held on Friday, January 18 at Bellpoint United Methodist Church, 4771 State Route 257 South.

The program will begin at 11:30 with a covered-dish luncheon (please bring a covered dish and table service). Following lunch, speakers from local agencies will each give a brief overview of their respective agency. Child care will be available.

Trustees Notes

The large project to rehabilitate the senior high room / old basement / scout room to remove the mold and mildew problem is under way. The outside walls were wet behind the paneling, mostly due to condensation. Our intent is to return the room to its original design of stucco walls and beaded board ceiling. Wiring to light fixtures and outlets will be placed in conduits. Since the floor won't hold paint or tile, carpet (not glued down, but bound on the edges) is planned.

The scouts cleaned out over a third of their stuff which had not been used for years. During the restoration, the scouts will meet in the same place on Monday nights, except on the Mondays the quilters meet and then they will meet at the tables in the assembly room.

Junior church is meeting in the

fellowship hall. The choir is meeting in Barb Reed's classroom and the piano is temporarily stored in the east stairwell.

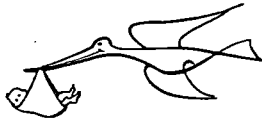
The trustees welcome your comments and input during the project. Joe Mowery is the contractor for the job.

—Peter White
Chairman, Trustees

Personals

• **NICHELLE TRIGG's** grandmother, Mildred Howald, died in December. We extend our sympathy to Nichelle and her family.

• Congratulations to **JEFF AND LAURIE FAULK** on the birth of their son. **CULLEN JAMES** was born at 6:02 a.m. on Monday, December 24, 2001.

He weighed  11 lbs. 7 ounces and was 23 inches long. Pam, Larry and Aunt Erin were at the hospital in Warren, Ohio when he was born and visited in Warren over the holidays.

• **SHIRLEY PARKER** was hospitalized for treatments.

• **FLORENCE FAULK** is now at home recovering from knee-replacement surgery.

• On January 1st, **BETTY PORTER** assumed her new position as the first "elected" Delaware Municipal Court clerk. She asks that we keep her in our prayers as she begins the challenge of this new adventure in her life.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Jan. 4	Shirley Parker
5	Evelyn Lee
12	Larry Faulk
16	Jane Moore
18	Matthew Lovell
20	Jennifer Turner
21	Timothy Fogle
22	Michael Mercer
23	Jeff & Donna Reed
	Britten Yant
	Deanna Fogle
26	Sophia Stephenson
27	Steve Baker
30	Calvin Turner
Feb. 1	Melissa Neill
2	Fred Grubbs

Please report any error or omissions to
Jim Stephenson




JANUARY 2002

First Baptist Church

101 North Franklin Street, Delaware, Ohio 43015

Rev. Tim Chesser, Pastor Office 363-7021 Parsonage 362-6033

Office Hours: Mon. to Thurs. 9 to 12 Days Off: Friday and Saturday

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		New Year's Day 1 	2 7:00 Choir	3	4	5
Epiphany 6 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship 	7 7:00 Boy Scouts; Deacons; Piecemakers	8 7:00 Board of Christian Education	9 7:00 Choir	10 12:00 Young at Heart	11 6:00 Second Fridays Dinner at Andrews House	12
13 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship 12:00 A.B.W.M. Luncheon with Scholarship Student Charity Jean Taylor	14 6:30 GLBT Christians 7:00 Boy Scouts	15	16 7:00 Choir	17	18 11:30 Church Women United at Bellpointe UMC	19 8:30 Men's Breakfast
20 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship 3:00 Martin Luther King Celebration at Zion AME Church	Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday 21 7:00 Boy Scouts 	22	23 7:00 Choir	24	25	26
27 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship <i>Last day to submit newsletter articles.</i>	28 6:30 GLBT Christians 7:00 Boy Scouts	29	30 6:30 Covered- Dish Dinner, followed by Annual Business Meeting	31	February 1	2

NORTH AREA NEWS

American Baptist Churches of Ohio

January 2002

Celebrating A Life and a Ministry

Yesterday, I attended a memorial service, a celebration of the life and ministry of the Rev. Dr. Ralph K. Lamb. I'm sure that many of you remember his work for two decades on the region staff of what was then the Ohio Baptist Convention, now the American Baptist Churches of Ohio.

I remember him best as the man who directed youth ministry in Ohio, who seemed to know thousands of junior high and high school youth personally, and who was passionately concerned that each of us have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. He had the intense desire for youth to recognize their gifts and skills for ministry and to learn to use them effectively and make a difference in the Kingdom of God. I was blessed to be a member of the Ohio Baptist Youth Fellowship Board my junior and senior years of high school and to benefit from his teaching, encouragement, and example. With his leadership and support, we as students developed programs and staffed retreats and other events for youth in local churches all over the region. It was an unforgettable experience, and Ralph Lamb was an unforgettable man and minister. I am grateful to him for the foundation he provided that is still valuable in my work in ministry nearly 30 years later. I am also grateful for the passion for ministry he passed on to his son Dr. Paul Lamb, who is pastor of First Baptist Church of Norwalk in North Central Association.

Some of you have heard me talk about an ongoing study at the Institute on Youth and Family Ministry that is identifying common characteristics among young adults who continue to be involved in the church. Among them are two that are exemplified by the work and life of Ralph Lamb. First, it is important for youth to have relationships with adults who talk with them about issues of faith and faith struggles. And second, it is essential for youth to have opportunities for meaningful ministry. I encourage you to remember the people who have been encouragers and mentors for you, and have played meaningful roles in your spiritual development. Give thanks for them and for the investments they have made in your life and in the Kingdom of God.

Those who knew Ralph Lamb may want to send words of encouragement and sympathy to his family. The following are addresses for Ralph's wife Joyce and for his son Paul.

Mrs. Joyce Lamb
248 Pine Tree Drive, NE
Granville, OH 43023

Dr. and Mrs. Paul Lamb
214 East Main Street
Norwalk, OH 44857

Sonshine and Smiles!
Rev. Jane Gibbons
North Area Minister, ABC/Ohio
899 Dickson Parkway
Mansfield, OH 44907
(419) 774-9886
jgibbonsohio@aol.com

NORTH AREA NOTES

Congratulations to...

- **Rev. Al Wilkes** who retired as Pastor of *First Baptist Church of Tiffin (North Central Association)* on December 31. The church gave a farewell celebration on Sunday, December 16. We welcome Rev. Wilkes as he becomes Interim Pastor at *First Baptist Church of Defiance (Northwestern Association)*.
- **Rev. Dan Brown** who was installed as Pastor of *First Baptist Church of Bellevue (North Central Association)* on Sunday, December 9.
- **Rev. Greta Wagner** who celebrates ten years of ordained ministry this year. She is a member of *First Baptist Church of Lima (Northwestern Association)* and ministers through chaplaincy at St. Rita's Hospital in Lima.

Ministry in a Shoe Box

Many North Area churches have participated this year in the project known as *Operation Christmas Child*, a ministry of Dr. Franklin Graham that delivers shoeboxes full of Christmas gifts for children around the world. Although it is not an American Baptist ministry, it is an excellent way that members of American Baptist churches have shown God's love and shared the good news of Jesus Christ with children throughout the world. This year *Chester Baptist Church*, a small church in *Mohican Association (Chuck Wythe – Pastor)* sent more than 500 boxes, and a group from the *Grand Prairie Baptist Church (Marion Association - George Herrick, Pastor)* went to the North Carolina distribution center to help sort boxes and get them ready to ship around the world. And Dan Taylor, our Minister of Mission Support for ABC/Ohio, told me recently that some of the boxes end up in the hands of our American Baptist missionaries to be distributed to children with whom they work. If your church has participated in the ministry this year, I'd like to hear about it. Please let me know who participated and how many shoeboxes were prepared by your church. Thanks. (My address, e-mail address, and phone number are listed above.)

ABC/OHIO REGIONAL NEWS January 2002

NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE MINISTER

On January 1, 2002, the American Baptist Churches, USA will begin a new era under the leadership of our new General Secretary, Rev. A. Roy Medley. The General Board of the American Baptist Churches, USA made official this nomination during their proceedings last month.

Rev. Medley has extensive experience in the American Baptist family. He currently is serving as Executive Minister for the American Baptist Churches of New Jersey, a position that he has held since 1992. Prior to his work as an executive minister, Rev. Medley was an Area Minister and Minister of Mission Support for the ABC of New Jersey from 1986-1992. From 1979-1985 he served as national director of the Neighborhood Action Programs of which the Dayton Christian Center and Neighborhood Ministries are examples. His local church experience includes service as an interim pastor and an associate pastor.

Perhaps Rev. Medley's strongest gift cannot be contained on paper. Rev. Medley is a warm and compassionate individual who brings a strong history of successful bridge building to his office. Roy has a very pastoral presence with people.

Why is the position called a "General Secretary?" The word "secretary" reminds us that such individuals serve as our "letter" to the world. The word general comes from the fact that we have regional, national, and general denominational agencies. Our American Baptist Churches of Ohio is one of 34 American Baptist *Regions* in the United States. Educational Ministries, International Ministries, and National Ministries are our three *national* Program Boards. The office of the General Secretary is responsible for supporting the entire *general* range of American Baptist life regionally, nationally, and globally.

Both Rev. Dianne Steelman and Rev. Jay Flu-Allen served on the search committee from our Region. I applaud these and other members of the committee for their hard work and for their selection.

Just as I know that many of you regularly support my staff and I in your prayers, I encourage you to support Rev. Medley in your prayers as well. Roy's vision for ABC/USA calls upon us to be "Centered in Christ." Recently, Roy added, "I rejoice in who we are and the wonderful things God has accomplished through us. I believe deeply in my heart that God has wonderful intentions for us."

May God's will be done through prayer and commitment, and through eager new leadership in the office of the General Secretary.

Sincerely, Dr. C. Jeff Woods

ABUNDANCE

In this New Year of 2002 we look ahead to new opportunities. Our country and many other countries of the world have experienced tragedies, war, hunger, and internal discord. The U.S. economy is in a recession. Investment earnings have fallen. Unemployment is on the rise. But yes, we look ahead to new opportunities.

In this time when it seems that we should be in despair from the situations that surround us, we have the opportunity to share from our abundance. God's abundance always overwhelms and outdoes the scarcity that the world tries to show us. We are loved by One who gives and gives and gives in such abundance that we always have enough to meet our needs and enough to share. We have the opportunity to share the love of God with others and share from our own abundance to help those who have needs.

- Do not keep striving for what you are to eat and what you are to drink, and do not keep worrying. For it is the nations of the world that strive after all these things, and your Father knows that you need them. Instead, strive for God's kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well. *Luke 12:29-31*
- And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. *2 Corinthians 9:8*

Recently someone shared this quote with me: *God has provided enough food for the world's hunger, but there will never be enough of anything for the world's greed.* It is our job as followers of Christ and as ones who have enough to meet our own needs to willingly and gladly set the example for others by sharing. We can encourage each other to be generous and give from our abundance because of God's abundance.

- Take Care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions. *Luke 12:15*
- And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds. *Hebrews 10:24*

As a way of giving back to God and sharing with others, give to support the ministries of your church. When each of us gives the church can do so much more. Your church can be involved in local ministries in your community, within Ohio, across the country and around the world. As you give from your abundance and from your need to give, God's mission continues in many places through United Mission and other American Baptist channels of giving.

So instead of wishing you a Happy New Year or a prosperous New Year, I wish for you a year filled with God's abundance. As you abundantly receive, abundantly give.

In the Peace of Christ, Rev. Daniel L. Taylor, Minister of Mission Support
740/587-0804;MMS4OHIO@AOL.COM

Richard Barbara Van...
3755 Shattuck...
2002

Rev. Tim Chesser, 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

Dear Church Family:

There are several events coming up in February that I would like to draw your attention to.

On February 10 the Marion Association will be holding the Sandie Heizer Festival of Praise at Trinity Baptist Church in Marion at

book *The Will of God* by Leslie Weatherhead. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board in the Sunday school assembly room. Please sign up as soon as possible so we will know how many workbooks to order. This book, written during World War II, will help us to understand what we are saying when we talk about God's will. Childcare will be available as needed.

For the past three weeks our worship has centered on the theme of what it means to be the church in our day. We considered God's amazing grace in inviting all to become

a part of his kingdom. We stressed the necessity of church membership to be obedient to God. The story of the Samaritan woman served as a jumping off place to ponder worship.

During Lent we will explore some of the great confessions of the church. I encourage you to make faithful worship attendance a part of your Lenten commitment to the Lord. If we truly believe that God seeks those who will worship in spirit and truth, then we also believe that life-changing things can happen in worship.

Invite a friend to worship with you.

See you in church this Sunday,

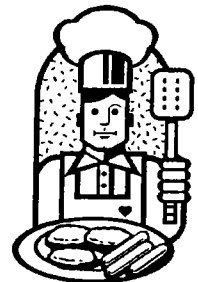
It's Mardi Gras!

Come to the church on Tuesday, February 12 to celebrate with our annual Shrove Tuesday pancake supper. Serving will start at 6:30 in the fellowship hall.

The ABM will do the cooking. Please join the fun by sharing a talent, a skit, a reading, or any other entertainment you care to

bring. This is usually a well-attended event and a good way to get to know one another, so don't miss out on the fun. Table service is provided and donations are accepted to help defray the cost.

-Larry Faulk



ABY News

During the month of December the youth participated in three community events. The first being PIN's Christmas Food Drive. The kids paired off bagging groceries and bathroom items for families in need this holiday season. While working we saw our good friend Dave Lovell volunteering as well. Emilie and Kim are picky shoppers and Sam wanted to give each family HOT SAUCE!

Deanna Fogle asked the youth to donate new winter hats and gloves for local children who needed such winter items. They are then placed on



6:00 P.M. This evening of music and praises will feature many choirs from the churches of our association.

On February 12 FBC will host a Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper at 6:30 P.M.

On February 13 we will have an Ash Wednesday worship service at 7:00 P.M. In New Testament times grief over wrongdoing was demonstrated by wearing of sackcloth and ashes. While we have done away with those practices, the Lenten period remains a part of the church year. It is designed to be a time where we recognize and deal with all the things in our lives that separate us from God.

On February 17 we will begin a Lenten Book study at 7:00 P.M. This book study will run through Palm Sunday. We will be studying the

the Christmas tree at Deanna's office for the children to choose from.

Finally a big THANK YOU to Jami Riedmiller for volunteering her Friday night to work at Andrews House preparing meals to go.

Jarrold and I are proud of all the commitment these kids have put for this fall!

In January we held a meeting to discuss the senior high convention, the Mad Riven Mountain trip, and to hold devotions. We also made root beer floats! On Sunday, January 27th we took the kids "snow tubing" at Mad River Mountain.

—Nichelle Trigg

Letters

The Board of Directors and staff of People in Need (PIN) wish to thank you for your generous donation of \$263 from your special Christmas offering. We have chosen the

Emergency Medical Assistance (EMA) program for your contribution. Your gift will assist with the purchase

of medications, small medical appliances, eyeglasses and miscellaneous over-the-counter items for residents of Delaware County. Thanks for being a friend of PIN.

—Kevin James Crowley
Executive Director, PIN



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I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the lovely donation of \$25 received in December. It was truly a blessing and came at the right time. Thank you so very much.

—Vernon Venter
The Salvation Army

You're Invited to Visit the Sarah Moore Home

*Sing for joy to the Lord
all the Earth; Praise Him with
songs and shouts of joy!*

PSALM 98 VERSE 4

We invite you to join us on Saturday, February 9 at 1:00 pm at the Sarah Moore Home for a time of visiting with residents there and singing some of the old romantic songs (and maybe some funny nonsense ones!). Song sheets will be provided. Bring a few cookies to share (no nuts). This is for all the church family—men, women, and children. Please plan to attend.

—Jeanne Ekelberry for A.B.W.

Memorial Contribution Used for Remodeling Project

Mrs. Dorothy McGhee gave a generous contribution in memory of her husband, Denver. It will be used to help with the remodeling project of the senior high room. Youth were of special interest to Denver and so this is a fitting memorial. We appreciate Dorothy's thoughtfulness.

Trustees Notes

• A new "state of the art" Dell computer and a Lexmark X83 scanner/printer were purchased for the pastor's office. The cost was \$1,437 from the Jones' estate.

• After two months of problems with the elevator, it was discovered that the heating element in the oil was not working. The cost for a new one was \$236.

• New cabinet doors were installed over the storage space between the men's and women's rest rooms. The work was done by Cedir

Woodworking at a cost of \$375. This should help the hallway look much neater outside the rest rooms.

— Peter White
Chairman, Trustees

Volunteers Needed for Junior Church and Nursery

The next time you're in church on a Sunday, take a good look at all the children who come forward for the children's moment. How well do you know them? You should know them very well because they are our future deacons, trustees, teachers, board members, etc.—the future leadership of this church. Won't you spend some time getting to know them and allowing them to get to know you? They are all wonderful children. Every Sunday we need volunteers to spend time in the nursery and at Junior Church with your children. There are materials available, and you can even work in pairs if you want to. Please see Pam Faulk or Barb Reed to sign up. There is an immediate need for more people to take a turn.

—Pam Faulk

Job Opportunities Helping Troubled Children & Families

The Delaware County Juvenile Court is asking local churches to pass the word that several part-time positions are available which pay \$10 to \$17 per hour:

• **Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs)** promote the best interests of abused or neglected children in court. Training will be provided. Candidates must be 21, possess good communication skills, be familiar with local community

resources, and have reliable transportation. Hours are primarily daytime and average 25 per month.

- **Family Advocates** provide in-home services for youth involved in court proceedings and their families. Candidates should have good communication skills and have a college degree in a field related to social service, or have related experience. Requires a commitment of 20 to 30 hours per month.

Contact Jenny Nicely at (740) 833-2655 for more information about either of these jobs.

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Personals

- **JIM VAN BRIMMER** had outpatient hand surgery at Grady.

- **LINDA WHITE's** aunt, Betty Tennant, died in Vienna, West Virginia. We extend our sympathy to her family.



- This photo, which appeared in the Delaware Gazette in January, shows **BETTY PORTER** in her new job as clerk of the Delaware Municipal Court. Previously she'd spent 24 years as the Delaware County Clerk of Courts.

- **WAYNE TURNEY**, son of **BERNICE TURNEY**, is the guest director at OWU for the play "Indulgences in the Louisville Harem," a comedy

continued on page 4

Why Do Lenten Dates Vary?

Why is there so much variation in the dates of Lent? Ash Wednesday, for example, can occur as early as February 3 or as late as March 9, and Easter can vary from March 23 to April 25.

Lenten dates are based on the date of Easter. To determine the date for Easter...

1) Find the spring equinox.

This is the first day of spring; the first day in which daytime is longer than nighttime. This date doesn't vary much; in the northern hemisphere it's usually around March 21.

2) Find the first full moon after the spring equinox.

This can vary considerably from year to year, since the full moon doesn't occur on the same day each March.

3) Find the first Sunday after that full moon.

That Sunday is Easter Sunday.

The Origin and Meaning of the Lenten Holidays

Lent is a 40-day period of spiritual preparation for Easter. It typically involves fasting, penance and prayer. It was originally established by various Christian groups as an interval ranging from a few days to a few weeks, but was eventually fixed in the 8th century as 40 days. The word "Lent" probably comes from the ancient word "lencten," which meant "spring."

Shrove Tuesday is the last day before the start of Lent. It's traditionally viewed as a last chance to live it up before beginning the solemn Lenten period. In many parts of the world it's the last day of a carnival celebration that's sometimes called Mardi Gras. Many churches observe the day with pancake dinners, which may derive from ancient times when this was the last chance to consume foods made with milk and eggs, which were forbidden during Lent. "Shrove" comes from the ancient word "shriven," which meant to confess and be absolved from sin.

Ash Wednesday is the first day of the 40 days of Lent. Some churches place ashes on the foreheads of the faithful to remind them of the sorrow they should feel for their sins. It's a time when we recognize the things in our lives that separate us from God.

Next month —

the origin and meaning of Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter.

which will be performed at the Chappellear Drama Center's Studio Theater on Feb. 1, 2, 8, 9, and 10. Wayne is a 1968 OWU graduate who is currently a faculty member at Case Western University. Wayne is an accomplished performer who won an Emmy award for his role in NBC children's program "Hickory Hideout."

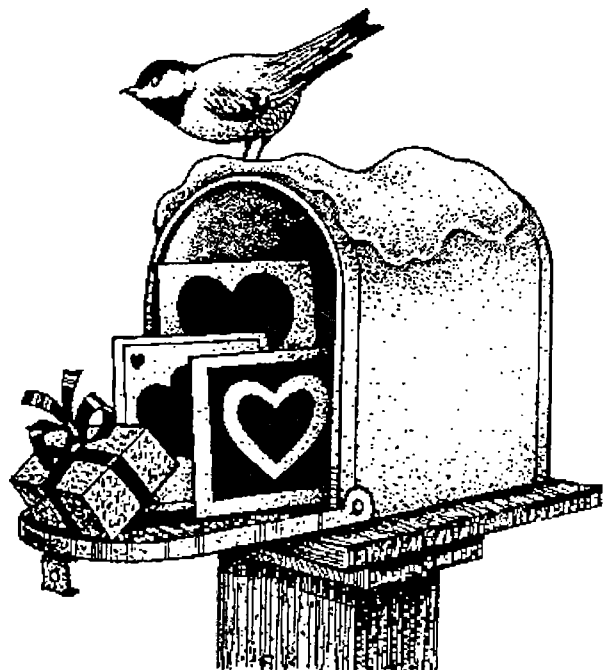
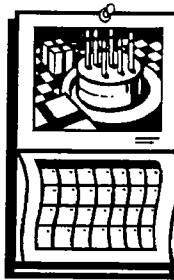
• Several of OUR CHURCH'S NEIGHBORS have been affected by a tragic event. Police suspect foul play in the disappearance of OSU student Christopher Gerspacher, who has been missing for over a month. As this newsletter goes to press, police believe that a body found near Kilbourne is Christopher, but a positive identification has not yet been made.

Christopher's sister, Kathleen Gerspacher-Johnson, lives with her husband John and their son in the yellow-and-green house next to the church (formerly Gladys Dunlap's home). His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Gerspacher, live nearby at 123 North Franklin.

We extend our sympathy to the Gerspacher family.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

- Feb. 1 Melissa Neill
2 Fred Grubbs
15 Deborah Van Broekhoven
24 Emilie Trigg
Meagan Fogle
Mar. 5 Ben Turner



FEBRUARY 2002

First Baptist Church

101 North Franklin Street, Delaware, Ohio 43015

Rev. Tim Chesser, Pastor Office 363-7021 Parsonage 362-6033

Office Hours: Mon. to Thurs. 9 to 12 Days Off: Friday and Saturday

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	5
3 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship 4:00 Community Choir Festival at Zion UCC	4 7:00 Boy Scouts; Deacons; Piecemakers	5	6 10:00 Sewing Group 7:00 Choir	7	8 6:00 Second Fridays Dinner at Andrews House	9 1:00 ABWM at Sarah Moore Home
10 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship 6:00 Sandie Heizer Festival of Praise at Trinity Baptist in Marion	11 6:30 GLBT Christians 7:00 Boy Scouts	12 Shrove Tue. 6:00 Board of Ed. 6:30 Pancake Supper 	13 Ash Wed. 7:00 Ash Wed. Service 7:30 Choir 	14 Valentine's Day 12:00 Young at Heart 	15	16 8:30 Men's Breakfast
17 First Sunday of Lent 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship 7:00 Lenten Book Study	18 Presidents' Day 7:00 Boy Scouts 	19	20 7:00 Choir	21	22	23
24 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship 7:00 Lenten Book Study <i>Last day to submit newsletter articles.</i>	25 6:30 GLBT Christians 7:00 Boy Scouts	26	27 7:00 Choir	28 7:00 Parish Council	March 1	2

Palm Sunday is March 24; Good Friday is March 29; Easter is March 31

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

Dear Church Family:

The following images will come into your home in the next month: bunnies, Cadbury chocolate eggs, colored eggs, gold, silver, and diamond crosses, butterflies, spring clothes, and invitations to attend the church of your choice. All of these images are an invitation to buy into an idea. That idea is that eternal life is as natural as the coming of spring. As surely as spring follows winter so eternal life comes to all but the most despicably bad people in the world. Another life is just another one of the rights that belong to all people, kind of like free Internet service. However, as Christians, who look to the Bible for our answers, we have a different understanding.

Most of the Old Testament is marked by great ambiguity about death. The most pessimistic view is that of Ecclesiastes, which notes that it is better to be the humblest of animals with the breath of life than to be the noblest of animals in death. Even those writers who had some hope of a continuing existence saw that life is a shadowy kind of half-life.

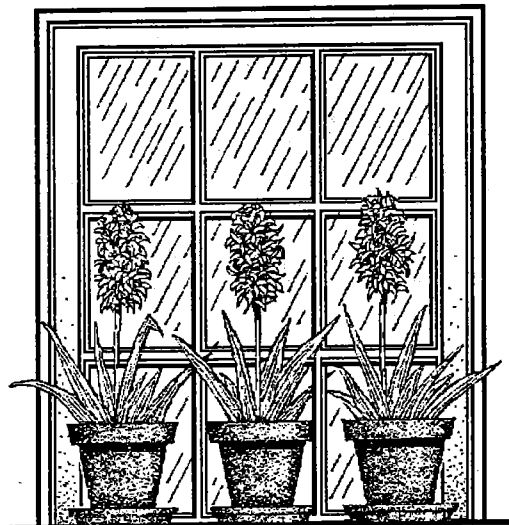
Only with the coming of Jesus Christ did we have some real hope. He promised to overcome death's dominion over our thoughts. The Bible teaches us that as Jesus Christ overcame death, so shall we, if we believe. In spite of that assurance we still find ourselves doubting at times. How do we deal with that doubt?

The stories we tell have an amazing capacity to influence our thoughts. We see this in every aspect of life. Those who regularly watch the evening news begin to see the world as a scary place. Those who regularly

watch Jerry Springer begin to think the world is full of strange people. Those who regularly watch Oprah begin to think every thing will be ok if we just listen to Dr. Phil. Those who regularly hear the good news of the gospel will begin to have hope. We are called to believe and act on the good news.

ing to the good news about Jesus Christ and act like you believe it.

See you in church this Sunday and on Easter Sunday.



March

A character in *A Taste for Death*, by P. D. James, witnessed unspeakable horrors in a church. After it was all over she asked a priest what one should do if they lost their faith. The priest responded that she should continue to act as if she still had faith until it returned. I think that is a powerful affirmation of faith. It reminds us that faith is also something that comes from outside of ourselves.

Do you have doubts? Keep listen-

New Members

Several new members joined First Baptist in February—**Robert and Patricia Foor** (previously they were members of the First Baptist Church in Marietta), **Jimmie and Jane Moore** (previously they were members of the First Baptist Church in Painesville), and **Melissa Neill**, who has attended our church for many years.

We welcome all of them to our church fellowship.

ABW

The next ABW meeting will be on March 21 at 7:00 pm, with the program by Donna Reed. Please remember your Love Gift boxes.

—*Jeanne Ekelberry*

Retreat News

Please plan now to attend our annual church family retreat on August 16, 17 and 18. Once again we will be at Judson Hills for this wonderful weekend. This will be our 30th year for an annual retreat. Please set aside those

dates now to come and celebrate. More details will follow in the months to come.

—Pam Faulk
Retreat Committee

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America for Christ Offering

- A** is for Area Ministers supporting pastors and churches
- M** is for a Multitude of caring ministries
- E** is for Extending Christ's witness in 2002
- R** is for Resources that help congregations reach out to their communities
- I** is for Inviting people to know Jesus
- C** is for Christian Centers
- A** is for Anti-violence ministries with youth involved in gangs
- F** is for Funding vital ministries here in the United States and Puerto Rico
- O** is for Offering boxes and envelopes that remind us to give
- R** is for Responding to the challenge of sharing the Good News
- C** is for Churches caring for children and youth in their communities
- H** is for Hispanic and Haitian resources
- R** is for Region camping programs that reach children, youth, and families
- I** is for Institutional and military chaplains
- S** is for Support for newly planted churches
- T** is for Training pastors and church leaders

Put it all together and it spells "America for Christ," the American Baptist offering that supports mission in this country—one of the most challenging mission fields in the world—and extends the witness of American Baptist congregations for Jesus Christ in the United States and Puerto Rico. (The America for Christ Offering will be taken throughout the month of March.)

Lessons from Geese

by Milton Olson

1. As each bird flaps its wings, it creates an "uplift" for the bird following. By flying in a "V" formation, the whole flock adds 71% greater flying range than if the bird flew alone.

Lesson: People who share a common direction and sense of community can get where they are going more quickly and easily because they are traveling on the thrust of one another.

2. Whenever a goose falls out of formation, it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of trying to fly alone, and it quickly gets back into formation to take advantage of the "lifting power" of the bird immediately in front.

Lesson: If we have as much sense as a goose, we will stay in formation with those who are headed where we want to go (and be willing to accept their help as well as give ours to the others.)

3. When the lead goose gets tired, it rotates back into the formation and another goose flies at the point position.

Lesson: It pays to take turns doing the hard tasks, and sharing leadership—with people, as with geese, we are interdependent with one another.

4. The geese in formation honk from behind to encourage those up front to keep up their speed.

Lesson: We need to make sure our honking from behind is encouraging—and not something else.

5. When a goose gets sick or wounded or shot down, two geese drop out of formation and follow it down to help and protect it. They stay with it until it is able to fly again or dies. Then they launch out on their own, with another formation, or catch up with the flock.

Lesson: If we have as much sense as geese, we too will stand by one another in difficult times as well as when we are strong.

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Opportunity at Judson Hills

At our Judson Hills Camp and Conference Center there is a small stream, fed by the lake in front of the lodge, that meanders across the front of the property.

There is an approved proposal to alter this stream by running it through a large drainage pipe. The pipe would be covered, the area filled with dirt, leveled with topsoil and seeded. This would eliminate a safety problem and add about one acre of useful land.

The plan is to use volunteer labor, loaned equipment, and a cash outlay of \$4000 to accomplish the project. \$1000 has already been pledged by

the North Central Association.

Anyone interested in volunteering or making a contribution, please check with me for additional details.

—Jim Van Brimmer

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Service Opportunities for March

Volunteers are still needed in March to help out with our young people. Nursery helpers are needed for March 31 and April 7. Junior church teachers are needed for March 17, March 24, and March 31. See the sign-up sheet in the Sunday school room or see me or Barb Reed.

—Pam Faulk

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Andrews House Considering Housing Program

Andrews House is considering adopting the following program:

Direct Housing Program—
Andrews House has a great new opportunity for outreach. We are continuing talks with the Salvation Army in preparation for a partnership with them to provide transitional housing to families in need. This program will involve all our partner churches as well as additional volunteers to help these families with meals, family-oriented activities, and housekeeping activities. Families who need temporary housing would stay at Andrews House an average of 4 to 7 days with a maximum limit of two weeks and would already be a part of the Salvation Army's Direct Housing Program. With volunteer support and church partner "buy-in," it may be possible to have this program in operation by spring. Your comments are welcome as we continue to plan.

As a partner church, we need to consider whether, and to what extent, we could contribute to such an effort. This opportunity, together with further developments, can be discussed at our April business meeting.

—Jim Van Brimmer

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ABC Quilt Day

Wanted: Quilters, friends, family, and anyone who can sew, iron, use scissors, or tie a knot.

Goal: Make new friends while having fun and making this our best ABC Quilt Day ever.

Lunch: Soup will be provided. Bring side dish or dessert to share. Drinks and table service provided.

When & Where: Saturday, March,

The Origin and Meaning of the Lenten Holidays

(continued from last month)

Palm Sunday celebrates Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem where the crowds laid palms at His feet. Early Christians observed the day by having solemn processions while carrying palm leaves or olive branches. In centuries past, Christians in Europe sometimes carried flowers because palms weren't available in their countries and they called the day "Blossom Sunday."

Maundy Thursday is the Thursday before Easter and commemorates the Last Supper. "Maundy" is derived from the Latin "mandatum," which meant "the mandate of God."

Good Friday is the Friday before Easter and is a somber observance of Jesus' death on the cross. The origin of the name is in dispute. Some speculate that early Christians called this day "God's Friday"; others believe that "good" refers to God's blessings and the good news that Christ would rise from the grave.

Easter Sunday celebrates the resurrection of Christ. Christ was executed just before the Jewish celebration of the Passover (held on the first full moon after the first day of spring), so early Christians celebrated Jesus' resurrection on the Passover, but around the second century it became more common to celebrate it on the Sunday after Passover, which is what we still do today. The word "Easter" may have come from "Eastre," which was the name of a spring goddess worshiped in ancient springtime festivals. Many of the secular elements of Easter (Easter eggs, etc.) probably also derived from those festivals.

16, from 10:00 to 4:00 at First Baptist.

All baby quilts made will be donated to hospitals for children with life-threatening illnesses (leukemia, HIV, etc.). Please call me if you have any questions or would like to volunteer.

— Jeanne Ekelberry

p.s. There will be a quilt display at the Delaware County Library during the month of March.

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Easter Lilies

Easter lilies can be purchased for \$7.00 each to decorate our church on Easter Sunday. They can be given in memory or honor of someone, if you wish. After our Easter service, you can take your lilies home with you. Please place your orders with Jim Stephenson or Barb Van Brimmer by

Palm Sunday, March 24.

(Some of you may know that our pastor is allergic to some flowers, but I've spoken to him and he says it's okay to use the lilies, but we might need to remove the pollen and/or keep them a few feet from the pulpit.)

— Jim Stephenson

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Trustees Notes

• The old copier has been exchanged for a new one. Parts for the old one were no longer available. Our complete lease/service agreement will cost \$33.00 more per month, partly because we were making more copies than the old agreement called for.

• The restoration of the old basement/Scout room is almost finished. The last major item is new

carpet. There will be more details on costs next month.

—Peter White
Chairman, Trustees

Birthdays and Anniversaries

- Mar. 6 Ben Turner
- 7 Robert Foor
- 12 Evan Trigg
Sydney Kauf
- 13 Amy Pfarr
- 15 David & Kim Keethler Ball
- 18 Dave Lovell
- 20 Natalie Mowery Campbell
Jeff Reed
- 24 Kathy Maher
- 27 George Riedmiller
- 31 Kristina Aier
- April 2 Adam Mowery
- 3 Timothy & Deanna Fogle

Please report any errors or omissions to Jim Stephenson

Personals

- JANET INSCHO underwent triple bypass heart surgery at Riverside Hospital and is recovering at her daughter's home.
- FLORENCE FAULK was able to attend Young at Heart for the first time since her surgery in October.
- SAM CHESSEY was mentioned in a February 13th Gazette article for winning second place in a Delaware spelling bee. Forty students from Dempsey and Willis Middle Schools, Delaware Christian School, and St. Mary School participated. Sam is in the eighth grade at Dempsey Middle School.
- The TURNER, YANT, AND DEBIASIO families went skiing in Michigan.
- PETER AND LINDA WHITE took a two-week trip by train to the south-

A small child knelt at his bedside in prayer. "Thank you God for the nice time I had in Sunday school today. It was such fun—I wish you could have been there."
— submitted by Fran Cook

west and California. They stopped at Carlsbad, New Mexico to see the caverns, spent two days in El Paso, Texas, visited Peter's cousins in Escondido, California (near San Diego), visited Santa Barbara, and then returned home from LA.

- JEAN OSBORNE returned from Florida after getting her Aunt Alice settled into her home there.
- TED STEPHENSON in Indianapolis underwent knee surgery after injuring it while moving furniture at his church.

Melissa Neill Wins Poetry Award

Melissa Neill has been awarded one of 79 third-place prizes for her entry of a poem in The International Library of Poetry Annual Open International Poetry Contest for 2001. She will receive a bronze award medallion for the third place standing.

In addition, she has been awarded The International Poet of Merit Award by the International Society of Poets. The award will be an engraved silver bowl. She will also receive an honorary membership into The International Society of Poets for 2002-2003.

Her poem *Surrender* has been published along with 32 other winning poets in an internationally distributed three-album collection of poems. These poems were selected for their expressive quality which would best exemplify the art of poetry through the spoken word. *Surrender* has also been published in The International Library of Poetry's 2002 Poetry Anthology entitled Under A Quicksilver Moon.

Surrender

*Blackbirds cloud treetops whispering
rumors of chill winds and winter plans.
Twittering tall tales of a summer
now lost beyond the sun's grasp.
Earth exhales her sodden breath
into swirling breezes of velvet twilight.
Slanted sunbeams run shimmering
into autumn's magnetic embrace.
Elderly Katydid's stride slowly with
stiffness in their knees
singing low sad refrains
of coming frost and dying rose.
October has shredded Summer's dress
heavy-handed in her ruthless power.
Leaves tumble to their death in one last
brief flash of flaming passionate color.
Earth sighs.
The last surrender of her perfect love
contains a promise
born in dying autumn days.*

MARCH 2002

First Baptist Church

101 North Franklin Street, Delaware, Ohio 43015

Rev. Tim Chesser, Pastor Office 363-7021 Parsonage 362-6033

Office Hours: Mon. to Thurs. 9 to 12 Days Off: Friday and Saturday

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 9:30 Church Women United at St. Marks	2
3 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship 7:00 Lenten Book Study	4 7:00 Boy Scouts; Deacons; Piecemakers	5	6 10:00 Sewing 7:00 Choir ☾ Last Quarter	7	8 6:00 Second Fridays Dinner at Andrews House	9
10 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship 7:00 Lenten Book Study	11 9:15AM Retreat Committee 6:30 GLBT Christians 7:00 Boy Scouts	12 7:00 Board of Christian Education	13 7:00 Choir	14 12:00 Young at Heart ● New Moon	15	16 8:30 Men's Breakfast 10:00 Quilt Day (until 4:00)
St. Patrick's Day 17 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship 7:00 Lenten Book Study	18 7:00 Boy Scouts	19	First Day of Spring 20 7:00 Choir	21 7:00 ABW	22 6:30 Marion Assoc. New Member Banquet ☽ First Quarter	23 2:00 Ordination Council for Karen Stoner
Palm Sunday 24 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship 7:00 Lenten Book Study <i>Last day to order Easter lilies</i> 	25 6:30 GLBT Christians 7:00 Boy Scouts	26	27 7:00 Choir	Maundy Thursday 28  7:00 Maundy Thursday Service	Good Friday 29 ○ Full Moon  12:00 Service at St. Mary	30
Easter Sunday 31 (TBA) Early Service & Breakfast* 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship <i>Newsletter deadline</i> 	April 1 7:00 Boy Scouts; Deacons; Piecemakers	2	3 10:00 Sewing 7:00 Choir	4 7:00 Parish Council ☾ Last Quarter	5	6 <i>Daylight Saving Time begins Sunday</i> 

* Time to be announced, as the Easter early service and breakfast had not yet been scheduled when the newsletter went to press.

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

Dear FBC Family:

Thank you for a great Lenten/Easter season. It was a joy to participate in all of your traditions for the first time. From the intimate gathering for Ash Wednesday to the throngs gathered for Easter worship all of our times together have been special. I know that our 50-day journey to Pentecost will also be special. Please pray about how you can continue to strengthen the body of Christ at First Baptist Church.

As you know from the letter you have already received we will be voting on some constitutional changes at our April 24 business meeting. If you have been around FBC for a while you know that we have always had a pretty relaxed view of membership. This view has always been consistent with our understanding of the priesthood of the believer and our insistence on freedom of conscience.

These convictions have not changed and will continue to be hallmarks of our life together. Thanks to the insightful explanation by Harold Van Broekhoven we understand more clearly the distinction between those who are a part of the community of faith and those who seek to deepen that relationship by formal membership.

Many months of study, prayer, meetings, and hard work have gone into the proposals for our new membership policy. Please study and pray about the documents you have received before the business meeting. As with any constitutional change, the church body, gathered in a called

business meeting, can accept, reject, or amend the recommendations of the membership committee. We believe the changes recommended represent a thoroughly Baptist and Biblical approach to church membership. We will see what you think when we gather on the 24th.



Invite a friend to church this Sunday. You might change their life. Let us give thanks to God for all the new folks that are worshiping with us.

Tim

Planning Begins for Our Sesquicentennial Celebration

It's time to plan a celebration! In 2003 our church will be 150 years old. A Sesquicentennial Planning Group held a meeting on March 23, 2002 to organize activities and events for the coming year. Ideas included a rededication Service of February 8, 2003; a Homecoming Event on August 9, 2003; a written history outlining important historical activities of the church; oral histories; a quilt/banner project; exhibits; publicity within and outside our church; children's activities; a timeline of important events; and a financial enrichment program. And to think we are just getting started!!

If you have ideas you would like to share with us, please contact Barbara Van Brimmer, Chair., at (614) 457-1594 or by e-mail at vanbrimmer.2@osu.edu.

We also need your stuff! The planning of a 150 year birthday celebration requires finding memorabilia – pictures, newsletters from the 1950's (if they exist), old minutes from the different organizations, and anything else you have squirreled away about the church. Please start looking and bring things in to Barbara Van Brimmer. We need them ASAP!!

– Barb Van Brimmer, Chair
Sesquicentennial Planning Group

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America for Christ Offering Update

A big thank you goes out to each of you who contributed to the America For Christ Offering for 2002, taken during the five Sundays in March. We were able to meet and surpass our goal with gifts totalling \$519.36 for this most important opportunity to support missions throughout America.

—Linda White
Mission Education Coordinator

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New Members

In March we welcomed Steve and Tammy Ferguson as new members of our congregation. Steve and Tammy have three children—Ian, Alec, and Colen.

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Young Adult Weekend

There will be another Young Adult weekend at Judson Hills. It will be Memorial Day weekend, May 24 to 26. See Erin Faulk if you have any questions.

— Pam Faulk

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Adult/Youth Social

On Saturday, April 20 at 7:00 pm, we will be having a game night at the church. Bring your favorite board and card games to play, your own beverages, and snacks to share. This is a good opportunity to come and get better acquainted with people and have a fun evening. This social is for adults and youth of middle-school age and up.

— Pam Faulk

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Business Meeting

Our quarterly business meeting will be on Wednesday, April 24, starting with a covered-dish dinner at 6:30.

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Please Save Campbell Items

Please continue to save Campbell Company labels, bags and boxes for Neighborhood Ministries Christian centers near Youngstown. These will be cashed in not for a van but for computer equipment and other needs. If you get the complete label or container to me I'll remove the needed portion and send our collection on its way. Be careful not to cut labels through the crucial front panel. Here are the brands to save: Campbell, Franco-American, Pepperidge Farm, Prego, Swanson and V8. Thanks for your help!

—Karen Stoner

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Blanket Sunday

On Sunday May 12, Mother's Day, we will again participate in the Blanket Program project of Church World Services. This is an opportunity to remember those special people in your life. Forms will be available as you enter the sanctuary on which you may note those you wish to remember or honor with a gift of \$5 (five dollars) for each blanket. At a noted point in the service, you may come forward and attach your gifts to the blanket.

These blankets are used around the world for those in need of warmth and shelter. You will find it a fitting way to acknowledge those close to your heart. The list of contributors will appear in the June newsletter.

— Evelyn Lee

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ABW

The next meeting of the ABW will be at the church on Thursday, April 18 at 7:00. Betty Porter will present the program.

Oops...

It happened during the procession at at parish church in Ontario, Canada. As the choir moved in perfect unison to the hymn, the last young lady slipped her stiletto heel into the grating over a hot air duct in the center of the aisle. Without a thought for her fancy heel, the young woman slipped out of her shoe in time to the music and continued down the aisle. The first man following her noticed the situation and, without skipping a beat, reached down and swooped up the shoe. The entire grating came with it. Startled but still singing, the man marched on, carrying in his hand the shoe with the grating still attached. There was never a break in the procession and right in time to the beat, the next man fell into the open duct.

—from the Anglican Digest

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Chalk Sketch Artist Program

Zion United Church of Christ invites the women and children of our church to join them at a special program. Robbie Wolf, a chalk sketch artist, will present the program on Sunday, April 14 at 4:00 p.m. at Zion UCC, 51 West Central Ave. There will be a light meal for \$5 for adults and \$3 for children six and under. For reservations call 362-6691. Mr. Wolf is a member of the Moore's former church and they highly recommend this program. Check your calendar now and make that reservation.

—Evelyn Lee

Summer Camp

Have your children considered attending Judson Hills for summer camp? Many of our kids have attended camp in the past and found it a rewarding experience. Some have even formed lifelong friendships with young people from other Baptist churches. Did you know that our church will pay one-half the cost for your child to attend camp? Forms are now available. Check out the poster in the assembly room and see me for details.

— Pam Faulk

PIN Basket

We continue to remember those in need in our community through our PIN (People In Need) basket in the vestibule. PIN serves all of Delaware County.

Contributions of non-perishable foods, soaps, and paper products may be placed there and are taken weekly to PIN. Linda White volunteers there weekly and can advise you of some of the most needed items.

They can also use clean 18 oz. peanut butter jars as they divide some items when packing bags of food for the recipients.

Perhaps this would be a fun project for helping your children to share with those less fortunate than themselves.

— Evelyn Lee

Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are still needed for the nursery and for junior church. Check the sign-up sheet in the assembly room. It is all right to sign up in pairs if you don't want to do it alone. If you need ideas for junior church, see me or Barb Reed.

— Pam Faulk

Personals

• **Archie Trigg's sister, Catherine "Kitty" Trigg**, died unexpectedly on April 3rd. She lived in Delaware County and worked as a physical therapist at the Columbus School for the Blind. A memorial service will be held Monday, April 8, at St. Mary at 10:00 am. We extend our sympathy to her family and friends.

• **Jean Osborne** attended a relative's funeral in Boston.

• **Tim and Kathy Chesser** made a brief trip to Indiana last month to see their first grandchild, **Taylor Celeste Chesser**.

• **Jim and Bertha Van Brimmer** and **Karen Stoner** attended a wedding in Gulf Port, Mississippi.

• We had a number of out-of-town visitors at our Easter services, including **Jennifer Linn, Debra Van Broekhoven, Jeff and Laurie Faulk** and their baby, Cullen, Pam Faulk's mother **Pat Cole** and friend **Paul Stewart**, and **Doug Lee** and his family. (Our apologies if we missed anyone.)

• **Mary Lou Lovell** visited **Debbie** and **Vic Fogle** in South Carolina.

• **Pam and Larry Faulk** and Pam's sister, **Pat Rose**, traveled to Destin, Florida for a week in March.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

April 2 Adam Mowery
3 Timothy & Deanna Fogle
10 Jane Mercer
13 Benjamin Grubbs
Tim Rice
16 John Ball
17 Dorothy McGhee
20 Melissa Gillette
Pam and Fred DeBiasio
Tammy Ferguson
21 Jimmie Moore
24 Michael Grubbs
27 Colin Ferguson
29 Deborah Fogle
Anna Ball
May 3 Rick Van Brimmer

Please report any errors or omissions to Jim Stephenson

Important Calendar Dates

Please mark these dates on your calendar.

June 9 — Children's Day, and first day of summer hours (no Sunday School, Morning Worship at 10:00). There will be a family picnic after church. More details next month.

Jennifer Turner will be working with our children between now and Children's Day practicing songs they will sing that day.

August 16 to 18 — Church Family Retreat

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

Please put the following dates down on your calendar: August 16 -18. We will be having our 30th annual all church retreat at Judson Hills camp. The theme for this year's retreat will be Getting to Know You, which is also a song from the play The King and I. Our hope is that the song title will be easier to remember than focusing on the task of integrating new members into the church family.

The retreat leader will be Janet Hoover of Indianapolis. Janet is a graduate of the University of Indianapolis and the Christian Theological Seminary in Indianapolis. I have known Janet and her family for over 20 years. She and her husband Jerry and two daughters attended FBC for my first Sunday here. I feel that she is uniquely qualified to lead our retreat. Following many years of dedicated church service as a layperson Janet attended seminary. She has experience in several different types of churches. She will help us to think about our common life together.

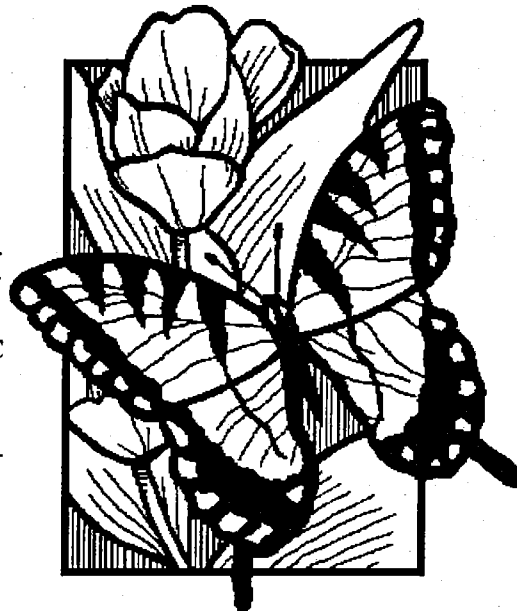
We are trying something brand new this year. It is fairly expensive to put on an all church retreat. There are costs associated with the facility, meal cost, speaker cost, and cost for the person working with the children. It was the feeling of the retreat planning committee that cost might keep some people from being able to attend. We decided that we had enough money in the retreat fund to offer to pay all costs for people who were attending the retreat for the first time. All you have to do is indicate on the applica-

tion form that this is your first retreat. As always, there are funds to help if the cost is a barrier. Please don't let money keep you from attending. Please speak to me or any of the deacons if finances are a problem.

In addition to the sessions with Janet, Solomon Ernst will be provid-

to the retreat fund so that we can make this opportunity available to everyone.

See you in church next Sunday. Invite a friend, it might change their lives.



M A Y

ing programming for the children. There will be ample free time built into the program. We will play games of all sorts. Weather permitting we will enjoy all of the facilities of Judson Hills.

Molding individuals and families into the community of faith is hard work. Help yourselves and help us by being a part of our 30th annual retreat.

If you are able I encourage you to make an over and above financial gift

Children's Day Services and Picnic

This year, Children's Day will be on Sunday, June 9. During church, we will be recognizing our Sunday school classes and our graduates and will be entertained by our children's choir. There will be no Junior Church. After church we will be having a covered-dish picnic at Blue Limestone Park in the upper shelter house. We have it rented from 12:00 to 3:00. Bring lawn chairs, outdoor play equipment, table service, beverages, and a covered dish. This picnic is for our whole church fellowship. Please come and join the fun.

- Pam Faulk

Summer Hours

Our summer hours will begin on Sunday, June 9. Our worship services will begin at 10:00 a.m. There will be no organized children's Sunday school classes during the summer. There will still be junior church and nursery during the worship service.

Karen Stoner Ordained at First Baptist

First Baptist hosted the Ordination Service for Karen F. (Van Brimmer) Stoner on Sunday, April 28. A life-long member of First Baptist, Karen currently serves as pastor at Wyandot Baptist Church.

Rev. Stoner presented her ordination paper to the Ordination Council of the Marion Association on March 23, 2002. A motion to proceed with her ordination was received at the meeting of the council.

Participating in her Ordination Service were Rev. Tim Chesser; Rev. Kenneth Durtsche of Fair Park; Rev. Robert Hughes, interim Pastor at Lincoln Park (Cincinnati), Rev. Kim Keethler



At the reception after the ordination service (left to right): Jim Van Brimmer, Rick Van Brimmer, Rev. Tim Chesser, Rev. Karen Stoner, Rev. Kim Keethler Ball, Rev. Robert Hughes, and Rev. Kenneth Durtsche.

Ball of University Baptist (Columbus); and family members Jim Van Brimmer (father), Stefanie Stoner Heizer (daughter), Micah Stoner (son) and Rick Van Brimmer (brother). Mary Lou Lovell of First Baptist served as organist.

Karen is a graduate of the Methodist Theological School in

Ohio, one of several American Baptist students at the seminary. She is also a graduate of The Ohio State University, and the daughter of Jim and Bertha Van Brimmer. Rev. Stoner and her husband Steve reside in Delaware.

Membership Amendment Voted Down

A proposed amendment to the First Baptist Constitution was defeated at the Quarterly Business Meeting held at the church Wednesday, April 25. The amendment was brought to the congregation by the Board of Deacons, who revised an earlier draft in conjunction with the Membership Committee. Several questions were raised about the new policy at the business meeting, and after lengthy discussion a motion to adopt the amendment failed.

Moderator Rick Van Brimmer, who served on the Membership Committee, has asked that those having specific questions or concerns about the proposed amendment submit them in writing to the committee

for further consideration.

The Membership Committee will review the comments and report back to the congregation at a future date.

—Rick Van Brimmer, moderator

Tweenies

Because of a recent increase in the number of babies in our fellowship (always a good thing), it is necessary that we separate the older pre-schoolers from the babies in the crib room during the worship service. We call the children who are too old for the crib room but too young for Junior Church "Tweenies." We now have a separate room for the Tweenies during the worship service. It is the third room on the right in the Sunday school wing. It is the same room that they go to for Sunday school, so all their toys are there.

Because of this change, we now need additional volunteers during the

worship service. We need an adult or two for Junior Church, an adult for the crib room, and an adult or high school student for the Tweenies. Please volunteer some of your time to spend with our young people. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the assembly room. See me or Barb Reed if you need ideas for Junior Church.

— Pam Faulk

Young Adult Weekend

There will be a Young Adult Weekend at Judson Hills Camp from May 24 to 27 (Memorial weekend). See the bulletin board in the assembly room for information.

Trustees Report

• We have moved back into the “old” restored basement. A great amount of work went into this room with removal of the paneling and the suspended ceiling. Stucco walls and the leaded-board ceiling were returned to use. The scouts threw out a huge amount of stuff, as did the church. All loose items are now in cabinets.

New carpet was put down and at the same time we had the carpet in the assembly room stretched to get all the wrinkles out. New items purchased for the room included a new “white” dry-erase board, new tables, new chairs, and a new cabinet. A new dehumidifier was purchased for the room.

So far the cost is at \$5,299.42; at press time the carpet bill had not come. Several funds have been used. The Denver McGhee memorial fund of \$2,000 was a tremendous help. An anonymous gift of \$1,000 went for the new furnishings so we didn’t have to move *all* of the old stuff back in. The Kathryn Mills memorial fund of \$445 was used to help with the carpet. Some funds were used from an earlier anonymous gift of \$5,000 for the trustees fund for property needs and repairs.

The carpet layers helped move the piano back in. A special thank you goes to the scouts for helping us move back in. Junior church has chosen to stay in the fellowship hall for now, so the southwest corner of that room will be set up with tables and chairs, unless we need all the space for a big reception. There will be some final detail work. It looks like we will need two more tables since the new ones are not as long as the old ones. The former tables and chairs will stay in the fellowship hall, which will mean less moving for big receptions.

Joe Mowery was our general contractor on the job and he made storm

windows for the four windows in the room.

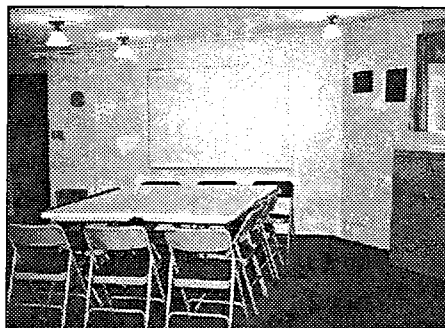
• A large spring on the garage door at the parsonage broke, trapping the pastor in the garage. It was repaired by the Overhead Door Company of Buckeye Valley. The cost was \$155.

• Don Patrick made a plumbing repair in the womens’ rest room. The cost was \$57.

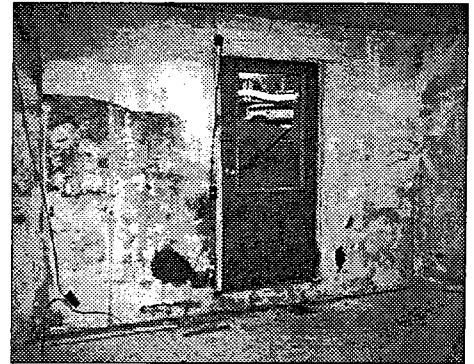
• The fire inspector did a walk-through inspection. We passed except for two burned-out exit lights and two extension cords.

• As many of you know by now, our former renter of the old parsonage has moved out after 14 years. The trustees are looking for a new renter, hopefully an office for lawyers, etc. We did rent it as a home once when someone was burned out in a fire and the mental health association was in it years ago. The trustees want at least \$650 per month with the renter paying all utilities. It is in rough shape inside, so we may bargain several months rent for redecorating. Your chairman has cleaned out all the rooms, including the basement, and has been washing the windows. Light bulbs had to be purchased for the entire house and glass in the front door had to be replaced. The renter forfeited the \$500 deposit.

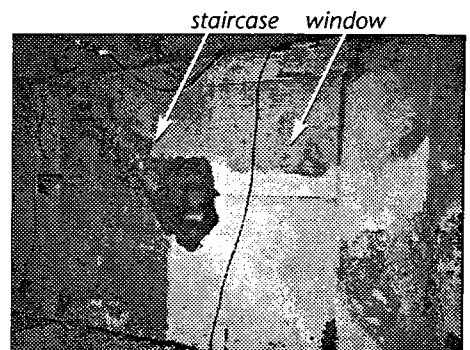
– Peter White
Chairman, Trustees



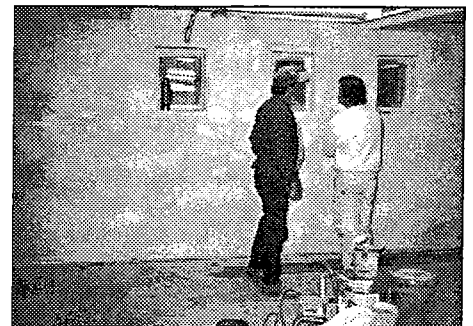
New carpeting and furnishings completed the renovation.



The basement paneling was removed, revealing mold and mildew in the insulation and on the outside walls.



On the west wall were remnants of an old staircase which used to lead to the assembly room, and a window which used to provide a view of the back yard. The stairs and window were removed years ago when the educational wing was built.



General contractor Joe Mowery (right) consults with an electrician while installing the new lights.

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Birthdays & Anniversaries

- May 3 Rick Van Brimmer
 7 Bertha Van Brimmer
 8 Michael Ekelberry
 9 Chris Riedmiller
 Tim Chesser
 10 Archie & Beth Trigg
 Anna Kailyn
 12 Jeanne Ekelberry
 15 Barbara Lovell
 Betty Porter
 Craig & Angie Sippola
 23 Helen Baker
 24 Jean Wickum
 Sharon & Steve Baker
 June 4 Patricia Foor
 5 Angie Sippola
 8 Pam Faulk
 Carol Fogle
 Vincent Ball

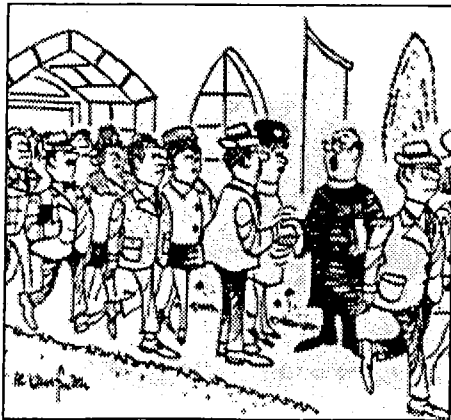
Please report any errors or omissions to Jim Stephenson.

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A.B.W.

Our next meeting will be May 16 at 7:00 p.m. at the church. Our program will be missions and we would like to remind you that this meeting will be the deadline to bring your items for Care and Share (remember our challenge for each of us to bring 15 items?) Also remember Campbells soup labels and don't forget your Love Gift!

— Jeanne Ekelberry



"Nothing personal... nothing personal...nothing personal..."

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First Baptist to Participate in Housing Program

At our church's quarterly business meeting on April 24, the church voted to participate in the Andrews House Transitional Housing Program.

This program will be in collaboration with the Salvation Army and will house homeless families for short periods (usually a week or less) while plans are being made for permanent housing. During their stay at Andrews House, they will be provided with comfortable rooms, home-cooked meals, laundry service, and hot showers.

Andrews House estimates that around 30 families will be helped each year, so the commitment needed from each church will be manageable. Participating churches will be asked to help out approximately once every four months.

Please consider how you might help with this program when our turn comes.

— Jim Van Brimmer
 Andrews House Representative

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Arthritis Self-Help Program

The Delaware General Health District is providing the following program to aid persons suffering from arthritis:

Having some aches and pains? Kind of stiff getting out of the chair? Did the doctor say, "You've got some arthritis"? Or, are you helping someone else who may have arthritis?

One Robin

One Robin sings
 at five fifteen.

Hesitant at first he chirps quietly
 to himself as if to tune his voice
 and summon the nerve
 to wake the neighborhood.
 Pied Piper of the Dawn,
 his little bird heart swells
 with joyous glee as notes tumble forth.
 Strong of voice and courage
 he beats my alarm clock to the draw.
 My gratitude is his!
 Not only for this early call
 but for consciousness that begins
 simply and delightfully
 because one Robin sings.

— Melissa Neill

Well, here is a free program that could help. The **Arthritis Self-Help Program** is full of information about the disease, medication, exercise and tips to deal with this chronic problem.

It's a three-session program. Session one is on May 1, session two is May 8, and the final session is May 15. The class will run from 1 to 3 p.m. and will be at Kananagh Hall (St. Mary Church, 15 South Union Street).

For further information or to register, call Kay Gale at (740) 203-2043 or call the Arthritis Foundation at 362-8400.

newsletter continues on other side

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Checking Up on Charities

Do you ever wonder about some of the charities that solicit your support? You can find out what they do with your money by searching at www.GuideStar.org, a national database of more than 850,000 nonprofits around the country, including universities and religious organizations. How much do they spend for fund raising? What do they pay their staff? How much actually goes to the cause for which the money is raised? You can look it up.

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Personals

- **BARB AND RICK VAN BRIMMER** recently visited Washington, D.C. and enjoyed the cherry blossoms in full bloom. They took in various monuments and museums, and attended Sunday services at the National Cathedral.
- **DESTINY FOGLE** received a first place award at the Invention Convention and is competing in the Central Ohio Invention Convention.
- **SAM CHESSER** has been selected to attend the OWjL (Ohio Wesleyan junior League) program at Ohio Wesleyan University in June.
- **CAROL GRUBBS** fell and broke her wrist.
- **SHIRLEY PARKER** spent a week in Atlanta with her daughter and family and friend Kay, who drove. They went to sites where azaleas, dogwoods, and other spring flowers were in blossom.

- **DEBORAH VAN BROEKHOVEN** was one of two scholars inducted into the Martin Luther King Jr. Collegium of Scholars at Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia on April 4, 2002. The Crown Forum Induction Service at Morehouse also honored several inductees to the M.L.K. Jr. Board of Preachers as well as the memory of American Baptist philanthropist, John D. Rockefeller who was a principle benefactor in the founding of Morehouse and Spelman Colleges.

- **JEAN OSBORN** visited her son and his family in Michigan and attended school events with her grandchildren.

- As the newsletter went to press, we received word that **NANCY FAULK** has died. Nancy was the wife of Mark Faulk, the daughter-in-law of Florence Faulk, and the sister-in-law of Larry and Pam Faulk. We express our deepest sympathy to her family.


MAY 2002

First Baptist Church

101 North Franklin Street, Delaware, Ohio 43015

Rev. Tim Chesser, Pastor Office 363-7021 Parsonage 362-6033

Office Hours: Mon. to Thurs. 9 to 12 Days Off: Friday and Saturday

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 10:00 Sewing 7:00 Choir	2	3 6:00 Wedding Rehearsal	4 11:00 Jones Wedding ☾ Last Quarter
5 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship	6 7:00 Piecemakers; Boy Scouts	7  Vote!	8 7:00 Choir	9 12:00 Young at Heart	10 6:00 Second Fridays at Andrews House	11
Pastor Chesser on Vacation						
12 Mothers' Day & Blanket Sunday 9:15 Sunday School 9:30 Teachers' Meeting (classes will be taught by substitutes) 10:45 Morning Worship ● New Moon	13 9:15am Retreat Committee 6:30 GLBT Christians 7:00 Boy Scouts	14 7:00 Board of Christian Education	15 7:00 Choir	16 7:00 ABW	17	18 Armed Forces Day 8:30 Mens' Breakfast
19 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship ☽ First Quarter	20 7:00 Boy Scouts	21	22 7:00 Choir	23 7:00 Parish Council	24 7:30 Wedding Rehearsal	25 3:30 Capin Wedding
					Young Adult Weekend at Judson Hills	
26 ○ Full Moon 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship Last day to submit newsletter articles.	27 Memorial Day 	28	29 7:00 Choir	30	31	1 June
Young Adult Weekend at Judson Hills						

Note: Sunday services will be at their regular time on June 2. Our summer hours will begin on June 9.

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Sesquicentennial Group Needs Your Help!

As the Sesquicentennial Group plans for the churches celebration for 2003, we have identified some needs that require your help!

1. We are creating a special mailing list to invite everyone back for our celebration. Who should we contact? Please provide Melissa Mercer or myself (Barbara Van Brimmer) with names and addresses of those you think we should invite to return in 2003. If they can not return we still want to contact everyone to ask for memory letters, pictures or memorabilia. Please provide us with the following information:

Name:
Address:
City/State:
Phone Number:
Email:

2. The Sesquicentennial Group is also trying to find out how long you have been associated with this church. Please provide Barbara Van Brimmer with this information ASAP. We are trying to develop a celebration project.

3. Do you have any memorabilia about our church? Anything associated with our church will be useful for displays planned for 2003 and will help with writing our church history. I can make copies and return original material if necessary. Let me know if you have anything to share.

That's it for now. If you have any questions or ideas for events in 2003, please feel free to contact Barbara Van Brimmer (Chair); Jeanne Ekelberry; Linda White; Kathy Chesser; Rick Van Brimmer; or Rev. Tim Chesser. Anyone is welcome to join us.

– Barb Van Brimmer, Chair
Sesquicentennial Group

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ABW Announces New "Care and Share" Ministry

Your ABW board is proud to announce that we have added a new Care and Share ministry to the list of those supported by American Baptist Women in Ohio. The ministry is:

The Used Book Depository
c/o Roland and Polly Dedzoil
11251 Montgomery Road
Cincinnati, Ohio 45249
(513) 922-0138

Their Care and Share needs are: 2-inch clear packaging tape; 3-inch reinforced brown tape; 1-inch ribbed strapping tape; shrink wrap, scissors, Bibles, Elmer's glue, and scripture stickers.

The Used Book Depository is a ministry sponsored by ABC/USA International Ministries and is facilitated through the Montgomery Community Baptist Church of Cincinnati under the direction of Roland and Polly Sedzoil. This ministry collects new and used books and periodicals and literally mails them all over the world. These items include Bibles, Bible commentaries, concor-

dances and dictionaries, theological and sermon books, devotional books, Guideposts, Daily Bread, hymnals, Sunday school quarterlies and tracts.

Requests come from ABC/USA missionaries from around the world, as well as non-missionaries, new Christians, students, pastors, teachers and evangelists. ABC/USA missionary requests are answered first.

New and used Bibles are in high demand. Volunteers repair damaged books and they affix the Scripture stickers over donor names to assure confidentiality.

In addition to your gifts, please pray for this ministry. Pray that needed materials will be given and that materials will be used effectively to reach souls for Christ's kingdom. Pray for the many who volunteer their time to sort, repair, label and package these materials. Thank you.

–Bertha Van Brimmer
A.B.W. White Cross Chairman

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2002 Church Directory Now Available

The 2002 edition of our church directory was distributed in April. If you find any errors in your family's listing, please put a note in the newsletter box and we'll put a correction in the next newsletter.

The directory is compiled each year by the deacons. Please note that it's not a membership list.

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Thanks

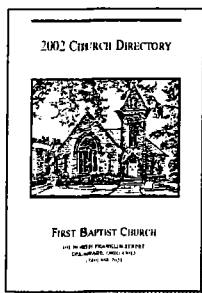
Our thanks to Sunbury Garden Center for donating pansies to area churches for Easter. Pansies are one of the few annual flowers that thrive in chilly spring weather and we planted ours in front of the church.

Sunbury Garden Center is located at 8202 E. State Route 37 (about 1/2 mile east of the route 71 interchange).

newsletter continues on page 5

Church Directory Update

Please take a moment to update your copy of the directory.



Robert Foor's e-mail should be:
r_foor@juno.com
Patricia Foor's e-mail is:
foor_p@treca.org

Rev. & Mrs. [redacted]
3700 [redacted]
Columbus, OH 43201

June 2002

Volume 31, Number 6

Rev. Tim Chesser, 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

Dear FBC Family:

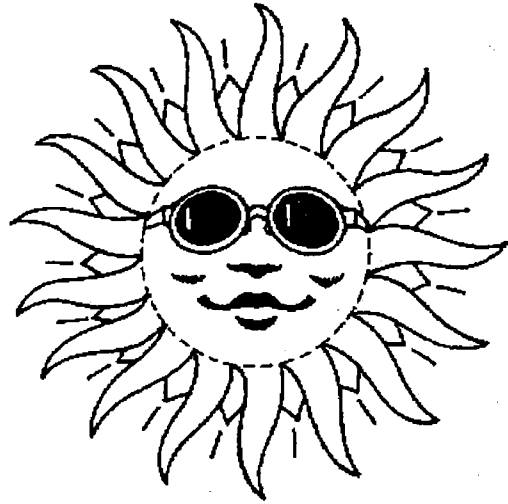
The parsonage is vacant. The good news is that I am talking about the old parsonage. The Chesser family is still happily living in the new parsonage. I know that we have announced in church that our tenant for the last fourteen years has moved out of the old parsonage next door to the church. What hasn't been shared is what this news means about the overall health of the church.

For years we have depended on the income from renting the old parsonage to meet trustee expenses. These expenses include property taxes on both parsonages, repairs, insurance, and maintenance for the church. Until a new tenant is found we are going to have to keep a very careful eyes on expenses. Until we determine the future usage of the old parsonage, we are not going to be able to determine how much we are going to have to do to the house. If rented as a residence more repairs will be necessary.

This lack of income is only one of the factors affecting our church's financial health. Although we have seen a healthy increase in giving over the last nine months we are still facing a negative cash flow. Simply put, that means we are spending more than we are taking in. Although we have some cash reserves because of lowered expenses during the interim period, we cannot continue to spend more than we take in indefinitely.

How can you help? I always start any discussion of church finances with a reminder of the biblical mandate to invite God's people to honor

the tithe. Before I was called to the ministry I used to belong to a church that preceded every offering with the following statement, "The Bible teaches it, I believe it, tithe it." I still believe today that if we were a tithing church we would have the resources



June

we need to witness to God's saving power in Delaware and beyond. If you need help in understanding the tithe or developing a plan to move your giving toward a tithe please let me know. I will be glad to help.

Since I am beginning my first summer as your pastor, I do not know how church attendance is during the summer. I have been told that giving always declines in the summer. I know that I will be gone for two weeks during the summer. However,

my giving will not drop off by two weeks worth. God's church is not financed by user fees or admission charges, but by the free will giving of God's people. We are counting on you to do the right thing.

Invite your friends to church. You just might change their lives.

Your Pastor,

Church Family Retreat

- Renewal, Reflection
- Enjoyment of the outdoors
- Talent and skit night
- Refreshing relaxation
- Excitement of new ideas
- Acquaintances become friends
- Taking part in fun and fellowship

Don't forget our annual church family retreat, August 16 to 18 at Judson Hills Camp. You will be receiving complete information about this next month. In the meantime, we ask that you signify your intent by signing the sign-up sheet at church, so that we can get a rough estimate of numbers.

- The Retreat Committee

Tools of Hope Sunday

On Sunday, June 16, Father's Day, we will again have the opportunity to remember and/or honor special people in our lives through this Church

World Service project.

Tools of Hope helps in 80 countries. Your gift of five dollars (\$5.00) given in memory or honor of a special person will be sent to this program. Please use the forms that will be available on that day. The types of tools range from hoes, shovels, and rakes to drilling a clean water well for a village.

Remember June 16 and be prepared to help others through your gifts.

- Evelyn Lee

All Church Picnic

Don't forget the church picnic after church on Sunday, June 9 at Blue Limestone Park.

Bring a covered dish to share, your own table service, beverages, lawn chairs, and outdoor equipment. Please come and join the fun.



Summer Book Study

Beginning June 16, Kathy Chesser will be leading a study of *Christian Peacemaking: From Heritage to Hope* by Daniel Buttry. This study will be from 9:00 - 9:45 on Sunday mornings. Since this is during our Summer Schedule there will be no other Sunday School classes offered during this time period. However, we will be having activities for children.

Installation Service for Kim Keethler Ball

A service of installation will be held for Kim Keethler Ball at 4:00 on Sunday, June 23 at University Baptist Church. All are invited.

Blanket Sunday a Success

Our congregation gave generously in memory and honor of special people in their lives. The total was \$280, which will purchase 56 blankets for the Church World Service project.

The following lists indicates the givers and those they remembered.

IN MEMORY

- Bruce & Liz Bowman - Jackie Bowman; Ruth Brown; Teresa Griffith
- Kathy Chesser - Jessie Street, grandmother
- Dominique De Biasio - Meme De Basio
- Faulk Family - Nancy Faulk
- Pat Foor - Marjorie S. Shively
- Martha Green - Robby Green
- Rick Lee - Richard Lee
- Betty Porter - her grandmother, Blanche Berger; her mother, Martha Jane Guy; her friend, Ruth G. Scott; her friend, Katherine Clapper
- Barb Reed & Sharon Baker - Katherine Clapper
- Sykes Family - Martha B. Sykes
- Sophia Stephenson - Her Mother
- Bernice Turney - Her Mother, Emily Bowers Cooperider
- Jim & Bertha Van Brimmer - Mary Van Brimmer and Hattie Sparks
- Jean Wickum - Marie M. Mead; Sarah E. Mead
- Yant Family - Theresa and Adolph Retter; Clarence and Mary Large; Lewis and Rae Harris

IN HONOR

- Sam Chesser - Kathy Chesser
- Tim Chesser - Hazel Chesser
- Pam, Larry and Erin Faulk - Evoleno Cole; Florence Faulk; Laurie Faulk; Pat Rose; Jodie Mustard; Debbie Fogle; Jean Wickum
- Tami Grubbs - Carol Grubbs; Judy Thompson
- Spencer & Sydney Kauf - Holly Kauf

Newsletter Summer Schedule

A combined July/August issue will be available on the first Sunday in July.

The September issue will be available in late August so we can give advanced notice of September events.

- Jim Stephenson, editor

- Evelyn Lee - Marcia, Linda and Barbara Lee
- Rick Lee - Evelyn Lee
- Phil and Melissa Mercer - Jennifer Turner; Kathy Irwin, Katie, Jamie and Regan Riedmiller, Cris Riedmiller
- Marci Sander - Sue Newman
- Angie Sippola - her kids
- Jim Stephenson - his mother, Sophia Stephenson
- Sykes Family - Betty J. Stout
- Turner Family - Jane Moore; Tonabelle Turner
- Barb Van Brimmer - Inez Steinbrecker
- Rick Van Brimmer - Bertha Van Brimmer
- Linda White - Margaret Seckman; Carolyn Schneeberger
- Jean Wickum - Catherine C. Peters

Thank you for your gifts. These 56 blankets will be welcomed by the recipients wherever they live.

Thank You

Our special thanks to Jim Stephenson for our updated directory and our monthly newsletter. Many contribute to these but Jim brings them to reality for us. Your hours of dedicated service are deeply appreciated, Jim.

- Evelyn Lee on behalf of the church

Help! Help! Help!

Many volunteers are needed to help with our young people during church this summer. We need adults for the nursery, Junior Church, and high school students or adults for Tweenies. Please sign up now. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the assembly room. If people don't volunteer, we cannot offer these opportunities to our children.

- Pam Faulk, Barb Reed

Trustees Notes

- Dave Lovell made an insulated cover for the case the holds the oil for the elevator. This should help keep it warmer when the heating unit is working. Jim Van Brimmer made the lid.
- The ceiling light in the old parsonage living room was rewired with new sockets and a new wall switch was installed. The cost by electrician Mike Clark was \$43.
- A light was purchased for the piano the choir uses in the restored basement. Funds came from a gift given in memory of Edith Hall.
- Dr. Leslie, retired chaplain of OWU, has been recaning our "Delaware chairs" in the assembly room. He has completed 12 so far and has repaired 5 others.
- On May 4th, Tabitha Jones and Paul Morrow were married at First Baptist. Pastor Chesser officiated, Amy Logan (pianist at Bellpoint UMC) was the pianist, and Peter White was our building host.
- On May 25th, Melissa Chapin and Shawn Dart were married at First Baptist. Pastor Chesser officiated. Tina Milcetick, organist at Grace UMC, was organist. Peter White was our building host.
- We are still looking for a renter for

One Great Hour of Sharing

One Great Hour of Sharing is a non-profit, ecumenical ministry that provides for the needy in the US and around the world. We'll be taking offerings for it throughout the month of June and our offerings will be dedicated on 23rd.



September 11th and Beyond

Dear Friends,

Some people say that on Sept. 11, 2001, America lost its sense of invulnerability and invincibility. Perhaps, but certainly the people of this nation and of nations around the world found a renewed sense of generosity and compassion.

Gifts poured into One Great Hour of Sharing from individuals and congregations-first in response to the survivors and victims' families; then to people across the country who lost jobs, were dislocated, and suffered emotional and mental trauma as a result of the attacks; and then to the millions of Afghan refugees who fled civil war, Taliban tyranny, drought and attacks by the U.S. military. Thank you for these generous, responsive gifts from the heart.

I would like to ask you to give the One Great Hour of Sharing offering special consideration and reflection this year.

Regrettably, eastern United States and Afghanistan we're not the only places that suffered serious devastation last year. El Salvador, India, Peru, and Seattle suffered earthquakes. Puerto Rico and West Virginia had floods, as did the Ukraine and Hungary. Hurricane Michelle hammered Cuba. And because of the great needs in the world, the ABC World Relief Committee approved more than 85 relief and development projects around the world to receive grants from One Great Hour of Sharing funds.

The 2002 One Great Hour of Sharing theme is appropriately from the first letter of Peter: "Serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received." The letter was written in a time of great distress, uncertainty, violence, and what the writer called "fiery ordeal." His advice in the midst of it all was to hold unflinching your love for others, practice hospitality, and be good stewards of what you have received from God's grace by sharing with others.

I pray that you will think profoundly about and respond faithfully to the call to be good stewards of the rich and varied grace of God, and to share compassionately of what has been entrusted to us with people in need in our world.

Because of the response of thousands of American Baptists throughout the U.S., One Great Hour of Sharing has offered help and hope not only to those affected by the "fiery ordeal" of Sept. 11, but also to millions of people everywhere. Your gifts offer hope in life again.

And through your continued support, One Great Hour of Sharing will remain a vital way American Baptists can join millions of other Christians in serving one another with whatever gift each of us has received.

On behalf of all the people for whom the ministries support-thank you.

Yours in Christ,

- Charles Sydnor
ABC World Relief Officer

the old parsonage. Everyone keep your eyes open. We would prefer an office.

• The cost of the carpet in the restored basement was \$2,716.75. This brought the total for the restored basement to \$8,016.17,

– Peter White
Chairman, Trustees

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- June 4 Patricia Foor
5 Angie Sippola
8 Pam Faulk
Carol Fogle
Vincent Ball
10 David & Mary Lou Lovell
11 Randy & Jennifer Turner
15 Charles Ekelberry
16 Bud & Becky Sykes
21 Willa Corder
22 June Grubbs
24 Beth Trigg
27 Joe & Alison Mowery
28 Jami Riedmiller
29 Scott & Amy Yant
30 Jimmie & Jane Moore
July 1 Robert & Patricia Foor
3 Phil Mercer
Jimmy Sorgina
5 Victor & Deborah Fogle
6 Sam Chesser

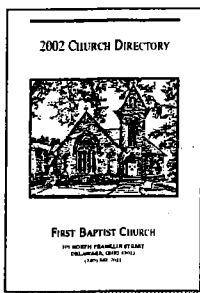
Please report any errors or omissions to Jim Stephenson.

Church Directory Update

Please make these changes to your directory...

The Sykes phone number is (740) 524-0130.

The Riedmillers have moved to 187 Curly Smart Circle. Their phone number stays the same.



ANDREWS HOUSE Summer Computer Workshops

Classes are free to all partner church members.
You can sign up by calling Chris at 369-4520. Or by visiting
<http://home.columbus.rr.com/andrewshouse/regsummer.htm>

Classes:

Introduction to Computer
Ongoing Throughout Summer

Digital Photography- Scanners and Cameras
June 3 -14

Build Your Own Web page
June 17 -28

Desktop Publishing-
Greeting Cards, Photo Albums, Banners
August 5 - 9

Asbury UMC
Delaware Society of Friends
Delaware Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
First Baptist
First Church of Christ, Scientist
First Presbyterian
Grace United Methodist

St. Mark's Lutheran
St. Mary Catholic
St. Peter's Episcopal
Stratford St. Paul's United Methodist
William Street United Methodist
Zion AME

39 W. Winter St., Delaware, OH

Computer instruction is now available through Andrews House. Additional information and registration forms are available in the church vestibule.

Personals

• We have received word that JACK SMITH'S WIFE, MARILYN, is suffering from Alzheimer's disease and is in an assisted living arrangement. Her address is 1926-1 South Lincoln Ave., Salem, Ohio 44460.

• CAROL FOGLE and DAVE AND MARY LOU LOVELL are the proud grandparents of Willard



David Fogle, born to Victor and Deborah Fogle in Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. Willard was born on May 8th and weighed eight pounds.

• Congratulations to our graduates: EMILIE TRIGG graduated from Hayes High School, and CLARK COVINGTON graduated from Ohio Wesleyan University.

• JEANNE EKELBERRY spent several weeks in Wayne, West Virginia, where she helped her mother, Ethel Trogden, while her sister was away. While there, Jeanne won first prize in a local quilting contest!

JUNE 2002

First Baptist Church

101 North Franklin Street, Delaware, Ohio 43015

Rev. Tim Chesser, Pastor Office 363-7021 Parsonage 362-6033

Office Hours: Mon. to Thurs. 9 to 12 Days Off: Friday and Saturday

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship <i>Contributions to "One Great Hour of Sharing" can be made throughout June.</i>	3 7:00 Piecemakers; Boy Scouts; Deacons ☾ Last Quarter	4 10:00 Pastoral Relations	5 10:00 Sewing	6 6:30 ABWM	7	8
9 Children's Day 10:00 Morning Worship 11:00 Church Picnic <i>Summer schedule begins today.</i>	10 6:30 GLBT Christians 7:00 Boy Scouts ● New Moon	11 7:00 Board of Christian Education	12	13 12:00 Young at Heart	14 Flag Day 6:00 Second Friday Dinner at Andrews House	15 8:30 Men's Breakfast
16 Father's Day 9:00 Book Study 10:00 Morning Worship with "Tools of Hope" Offering	17 7:00 Boy Scouts	18 ☽ First Quarter	19	20	21 7:00 Wedding Rehearsal at Church	22 4:30 Wedding at Church
23 9:00 Book Study 10:00 Morning Worship 4:00 Installation Service for Kim Keethler Ball at University Baptist Church	24 ○ Full Moon 9:15 Retreat Committee 6:30 GLBT Christians 7:00 Boy Scouts	25	26	27 7:00 Parish Council	28	29
30 9:00 Book Study 10:00 Morning Worship <i>July/August newsletter deadline (see note below)</i>	July 1 7:00 Piecemakers; Boy Scouts; Deacons ☾ Last Quarter	2	3 10:00 Sewing 7:00 Choir	4 Independence Day 	5	6

Items for the July/August newsletter must be submitted by noon on Sunday, June 30. Due to my schedule that week, I can't accept late submissions. – 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

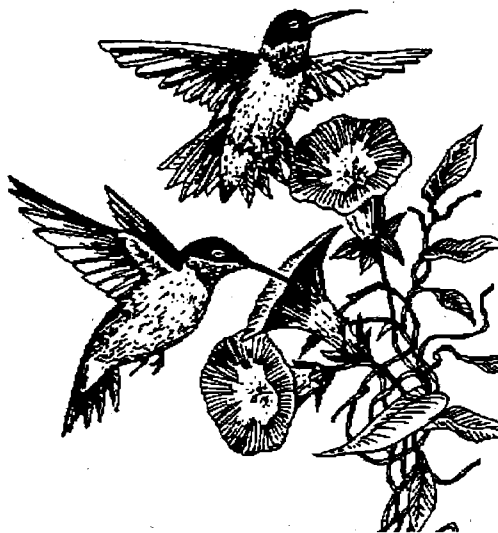
Dear FBC Family:

The time is at hand to sign up for the all-church retreat, August 16-18. Sometime in the next week you should be receiving a letter with all of the sign up information. Before worship in the next two weeks we will be sending around a sign up sheet. It is important to know how many people are going to be attending the different sessions. Even if you are only going to be able to attend a portion of the retreat, please let us know. As you have heard the theme of the retreat will be Getting to Know You. As we continue to grow as a community of faith it is critical that we think about what it means to welcome new members. This is an excellent opportunity to get to know one another better.

Kathy, Sam, and I will be on vacation from July 14 - 28. We will be visiting family in Georgia. Kathy and I will also be attending the 35th reunion of my high school graduating class. Ted Stephenson will be preaching for me on July 21. Please plan to be here to welcome Ted. I will be preaching on July 14.

Thank you for your gratifying response to my column last month about our cash flow difficulties with the old parsonage. For the month of June we took in more money than we spent. It has been a while since we accomplished that goal. I continue to believe that if we will be faithful stewards, then God will bless our church. Although expenses tend to be a little bit lower during the summer we still have some fairly fixed figures

in our budget. It is especially important to remember our giving for the Sunday of the retreat and the Sunday we will join with Zion UCC for worship. Pastor Bertie Dell, of Zion UCC, will be preaching at FBC on July 28. On August 4 I will be preaching at



July/August

Zion as we join them for worship. Although started as a way for the preacher of both churches to be away during the summer, this remains an excellent opportunity for us to bear witness to our ecumenical commitment.

Our worship service last week was a special blessing for me. It was the first time in my ministry that I have had the opportunity to baptize an entire family during one service. It was a blessing to be a part of the very public commitment of Scott, Amy,

Britt, and Ari Yant. Although the church has many different functions, I do not believe any surpass the importance of being the place where we publicly profess our faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

Invite your friends to church next week. You might just change their lives.

Your Pastor,

What is Your Topic?

The Pastoral Relations Committee is "responsible for providing a communication link between the Pastor and the congregation." In an effort to fulfill this role, we need your help. On a regular basis, the committee will seek your input on individual topics, rather than a single, large annual survey. In future newsletters and/or bulletin inserts, we will outline a topic for your consideration.

This month's topic is "Topics." What "Topic" do you suggest that we consider as an item for congregational discussion and input that would be helpful in our congregation's relationship for Rev. Chesser? Please take a moment to jot down an area of interest and share it with one of the committee members.

The Pastoral Relations Committee members are Mary Lou Lovell, Nichelle Trigg, Laura Mowery, Rick

Van Brimmer, and Larry Faulk. Additionally, as you have comments, compliments, or concerns which you need to share with Rev. Chesser, but are unable to do so directly, please feel free to share them with a committee member.

— Larry Faulk, Chairman
Pastoral Relations Committee

Picnic a Success

The Children's Day picnic was the best-attended for a long time! If you would like to be on a committee to plan more social events, or if you have ideas for these, please contact Pam or Erin Faulk.

American Baptist Women

American Baptist Women met June 6 at Betty Porter's home for a picnic. There were 13 present, including our guests. Thanks to Betty for a great evening.

The following officers were elected:

Meeting Chair — Jeanne Ekelberry
Secretary — Sophia Stephenson
Treasurer — Evelyn Lee
Chair, Church & Community —

Betty Porter

There is still a need for someone to chair the Committee for Personal Development, Missions and Scholarship. Also, in the past years our Care and Share Missions and Service was chaired by Bertha Van Brimmer who feels its time to step back and let someone else take over.

We collected 15 boxes that were taken to convention this year, plus others that were mailed or delivered by others.

If you feel you can spare some time to help us, please contact me or Evelyn Lee and we can tell you what's involved. We will be planning programs sometime in July and would appreciate help from all of you.

Regular programs start again in September and sewing is still the first Wednesday of each month.

— Jeanne Ekelberry

Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are still needed for the rest of the summer for nursery, tweenies and junior church. Please, please sign up.

— Pam Faulk

One Great Hour of Sharing

Our offerings for One Great Hour of Sharing totalled \$542.38.

Trustees Notes

- Tim Fogle installed a railing for the three steps down into the "old" back hall just past the women's rest room.

- A new phone was purchased for the pastor's desk, after the old one quit working. The new one has a built-in answering machine to save room on the pastor's desk. The cost was \$39.96.

- Our long-distance phone service at the church has been changed from World.com to Verizon. This will bring a modest savings, considering the small number of long-distance calls that are made.

- The pastor's health insurance has been changed from Anthem (which was cancelled) to Cigna. The first year's savings to the church for the same coverage will be \$3,200.00. Rate increases in future years will reduce this difference, but it is a huge improvement.

- On June 22, Dale Sapp and Tammy Stander were married at First Baptist. Pastor Chesser officiated. Ernestine Peebles, organist at Zion UCC, was the organist. Sue Sturni,

Newsletter Summer Schedule

This is the July/August issue. Calendars for both months are included.

The September issue will be available on August 25 so we can give advanced notice of September events. Articles must be submitted by the 18th.

Note: The church will be closed on the 18th due to the retreat, so articles submitted that day can be left in the outside mailbox any-time that day. Please note that this only applies on the 18th, as normally I never check the outside mailbox.

— Jim Stephenson, editor

choral music teacher at Buckeye Valley, was the soloist. Peter White was the building host.

- The church's trash pickup will undergo a major change the first of July. The city's "commercial" route will no longer pick up trash cans along the alley, only dumpsters. Since we do not have enough trash to justify the cost of a dumpster, the city is switching us to residential service and we'll put our trash in a blue tip truck. The cost will increase only 80 cents per month.

The disadvantage is that someone must trundle it out in front of the church and bring it back when it is empty. The pickup day changes to Tuesday out front, instead of Wednesday on the alley. They come very early Tuesday, so it has to go out Monday night. Your chairman may ask for volunteers when I'm away.

A new advantage is now that we are on the residential route, we can have recycling. A blue bin will be supplied, which we will keep in the

Tools of Hope

Church World Service will receive \$300 from First Baptist. This is the largest gift since we started remembering others for the Tools of Hope project. You have helped by providing tools, clean water wells, and perhaps even tree seedlings to someone around the world. Thank you for your gifts.

The following lists indicate the givers and those they remembered.

(Please report any errors or omissions in this list to Jim Stephenson.)

IN MEMORY

Tim Chesser — A. G. Chesser
 Mrs. Willa Corder — Nathan G. Corder
 Flo M. Faulk — Jess Graham
 Larry, Pam, and Erin Faulk — Don Faulk; Ralph Cole; Wilbur Wickum; Jess Rose; Ron Rose
 Deanna Fogle — Will Fogle; Cap Gabriel; Angus Slone
 Carol Grubbs — Teresa Griffith; Ruth and Charles Brown
 Bob & Pat Foor — Dan Shively; Albert Foor

Tami & Mike Grubbs — Ben Martin, Sr.
 Janet Lathrop — Gene Lathrop; Cap Gabriel; Will Fogle
 Evelyn Lee — Dick and Bruce Lee
 Melissa Mercer — Nathan Corder
 Jim & Jane Moore — Jim's father, James C. Moore
 Allison, Adam, and Laura Mowery — John Linn
 Betty J. Porter — Ralph Guy, father; Samuel Berger, grandfather
 Barb Reed — Jim Reed
 Sophia & Jim Stephenson — Rev. James B. Stephenson
 Jarrod Trigg — John W. Linn; Archie L. Trigg
 Jim & Bertha Van Brimmer — William Sparks; Elmer Van Brimmer
 Linda White — Charles Seckman
 Jean Wickum — Wilbur Wickum

IN HONOR

Bruce & Liz Bowman — Emily and Sarah Bowman
 Kathy Chesser — Wynson Hope
 Sam Chesser — Tim Chesser
 Larry, Pam, and Erin Faulk — Jeff Faulk; Paul Stewart; Steve

Mustard
 Pam & Erin Faulk — Larry Faulk
 Deanne Fogle — Tim Fogle; Dave Lovell; Jim Van Brimmer
 Tami & Mike Grubbs — Carl Thompson; Mike Grubbs
 Evelyn Lee — Doug and Rick Lee
 Barbara Lovell — Dave Lovell
 Melissa Mercer — Jimmie Moore
 Jim & Jane Moore — Jane's mother, Willa Corder
 Allison, Adam & Laura Mowery — Joe Mowery
 Betty J. Porter — David Lovell; Joe Mowery
 Jarrod Trigg — Archie J. Trigg
 Calvin, Ben and Claire Turner — their dad, Randy
 Randy & Jennifer Turner — Heryl Turner; Jimmie More
 Jennifer Turner — Harold Van Brockhoven; Peter White
 Rick & Barb Van Brimmer — Paul Steinbrecher; Jim Van Brimmer
 Linda White — Michael Seckman
 Jean Wickum — Larry Faulk; David Mead
 Yant Family — Thomas Ritter; William Yant

back stairwell. It will have three bags — one bag for plastics (only plastic containers which have the recycling symbol on the bottom with a number 1 or 2), one bag for glass, and one for cans. This container would have to be put out on Monday night, too, if it is full.

The city simply will not empty the tip truck if it's left on the alley.

—Peter White
 Chairman, Trustees

Corrections to Blanket Sunday Gifts

Sorry, there were several errors in the Blanket Sunday dedications listed in

last month's newsletter. The dedications should have read as follows:

IN MEMORY

Betty Porter — her grandmother, Blanche Berger; her mother, Martha Jane Guy; her friend, Ruth G. Scott; her friend, Nellie M. Donovan

IN HONOR

Phil and Melissa Mercer — Jennifer Turner, Kathy Irwin
 Katie, Jamie and Regan Riedmiller — Cris Riedmiller

WatchCare List

There have been some changes and additions to the deacons' WatchCare list:

- Bud, Becky, Sarah and Christy Sykes have been added to David Lovell's list.
- Natalie and Katie Griffith have been transferred to Jean Wickum's list.
- Jim and Bertha Van Brimmer were inadvertently left off Jean Wickum's list on the back of the church directory.

—Jean Wickum, Secretary
 Board of Deacons

.....

Rally Day

Put September 8 on our family calendar as the first day of 2002-2003 Sunday School year. Classes will be available for all ages, crib to adult. Sunday School begins at 9:15 AM with classes finishing by 10:25 AM. If you have any questions, or are interested in teaching, please call me at 740-363-3811. We look forward to seeing all members curious in furthering their Christian education.

- Scott Yant

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Second Friday

Thanks to all who have helped by being mixers and greeters at the the Second Friday dinners. Our responsibility on August 9 is to furnish ten large angel food cakes for dessert. If you could contribute to this, please have them at Andrews House by 5:00 pm that day. If you would like to furnish a cake but could not get it to Andrews House that day, you may give me the money and I will purchase the cake for the dinner. I will appreciate your notifying me of your help.

- Evelyn Lee, 362-9107

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Young at Heart

The Young at Heart group has started to participate in a helping project for our service men and women overseas. We are collecting cents-off coupons to send to them. The PXs overseas will honor the coupons several months past their due dates.

We especially want coupons for cereals, vitamins, diapers, toiletries, and some canned goods. But not perishables.

We need your help. After you have taken the coupons you need out of the coupon section, bring the rest to church and put it in the Young at Heart section of the mailboxes in the

back hall. We'll clip the rest, if you don't want to.

We'd appreciate your participation.

-Jean Wickum, Convener
Young at Heart

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Baptisms

Scott, Amy, Britt, and Ari Yant were baptized during morning worship on Sunday, June 30. Pastor Chesser says it was the first time in his career that he baptized an entire family during one service!

.....

Softball Schedule

Friday, July 12, 8:30 pm —
Emmanuel Baptist

Monday, July 15, 8:30 pm —
Old Stone

Thursday, July 25, 8:30 pm —
Hyatts UMC

Monday, July 29 —
Northwest Assembly of God

.....

Personals

• CAROLYN SCHNEEBERGER is back at the Sarah Home Health Care Center after being a patient at Grady Hospital.

• SHIRLEY PARKER was a patient at Grady.

• JEAN WICKUM had eye surgery at Grady.

• Third-graders SYDNEY KAUF and DESTINI FOGLE participated in *Junior Great Books* and the *Destination Imagination* competition, and Destini was a finalist.

.....

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- July 1 Robert & Patricia Foor
3 Phil Mercer
Jimmy Sorgina
5 Victor & Deborah Fogle
6 Sam Chesser
11 Jarrett Sippola
14 Sara Bowman
Kenny Brown
15 Aunt Alice Osborne
16 Lisa Alison Ball
17 Nichelle Trigg
18 Peter & Linda White
19 Jarrod Trigg
23 Alison Mowery
John & Kathy Maher
24 Peter Sorgina
25 Destini Fogle
28 Regan Riedmiller
29 Craig Sippola
30 Bernice Turney
Aug. 3 Carolyn Schneeberger
5 Bruce & Elizabeth Bowman
7 Jennifer Linn
8 Mary Gillette
Jim Van Brimmer
Jean Syler
9 Steve Stoner
11 Steve & Tammy Ferguson
14 Rick & Barbara
Van Brimmer
15 David Ball
17 George & Chris Riedmiller
18 Pam & Larry Faulk
20 Spencer Kauf
21 Jim Stephenson
24 Florence Faulk
27 Linda White
Christina Hopkins
28 Pam DeBiasio
30 Katie Riedmiller
Archie Trigg

Please report any errors or omissions to
Jim Stephenson


JULY 2002

First Baptist Church

101 North Franklin Street, Delaware, Ohio 43015

Rev. Tim Chesser, Pastor Office 363-7021 Parsonage 362-6033

Office Hours: Mon. to Thurs. 9 to 12 Days Off: Friday and Saturday

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 7:00 Piecemakers; Boy Scouts; Deacons	2 7:00 Pastoral Relations ☾ Last Quarter	3 10:00 Sewing	4 Independence Day 	5	6
7 9:00 Book Study 10:00 Morning Worship	8 6:30 GLBT Christians 7:00 Boy Scouts	9 7:00 Board of Christian Education	10 ● New Moon	11 12:00 Young at Heart 7:00 Strategy	12 6:00 Second Friday Dinner at Andrews House 8:30 Softball	13
14 9:00 Book Study 10:00 Morning Worship	15 7:00 Boy Scouts 8:30 Softball	16	17 ☽ First Quarter	18	19	20 8:30 Men's Breakfast
Pastor Chesser on Vacation						
21 9:00 Book Study 10:00 Morning Worship with Guest Preacher Rev. Ted Stephenson	22 6:30 GLBT Christians 7:00 Boy Scouts	23	24 ○ Full Moon	25 8:30 Softball	26	27
Pastor Chesser on Vacation						
28 9:00 Book Study 10:00 Joint Service with Zion U.C.C. at First Baptist with Rev. Bertie Dell Preaching	29 7:00 Boy Scouts 8:30 Softball	30	31 6:30 Covered- Dish Dinner, followed by Quarterly Business Meeting	August 1 ➔ August Calendar on Other Side ☾ Last Quarter	2	3

AUGUST 2002

First Baptist Church

101 North Franklin Street, Delaware, Ohio 43015

Rev. Tim Chesser, Pastor Office 363-7021 Parsonage 362-6033

Office Hours: Mon. to Thurs. 9 to 12 Days Off: Friday and Saturday

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 July Calendar on Other Side				1	2	3
				☾ Last Quarter		
4 9:00 Book Study 10:30 Joint Worship Service at Zion UCC with Rev. Chesser Preaching	5 7:00 Piecemakers; Boy Scouts; Deacons	6	7 10:00 Sewing	8 12:00 Young at Heart ● New Moon	9 6:00 Second Friday Dinner at Andrews House	10
11 9:00 Book Study 10:00 Morning Worship	12 6:30 GLBT Christians 7:00 Boy Scouts	13 7:00 Board of Christian Education	14	15 ☽ First Quarter	16	17 Church Retreat at Judson Hills
18 No services at First Baptist today due to church retreat at Judson Hills. <i>Last day to submit newsletter articles (see note at bottom of page).</i> Church Retreat at Judson Hills	19 7:00 Boy Scouts	20	21	22 7:00 Parish Council ○ Full Moon	23	24
25 10:00 Morning Worship <i>The September newsletter will be distributed today.</i>	26 6:30 GLBT Christians 7:00 Boy Scouts	27	28 7:00 Choir	29	30	31 ☾ Last Quarter

Notes: 1) Newsletter articles submitted on the 18th can be left in the outside mailbox anytime that day (the church will be closed). 2) Sunday School classes resume on September 8.

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

Dear FBC Family:

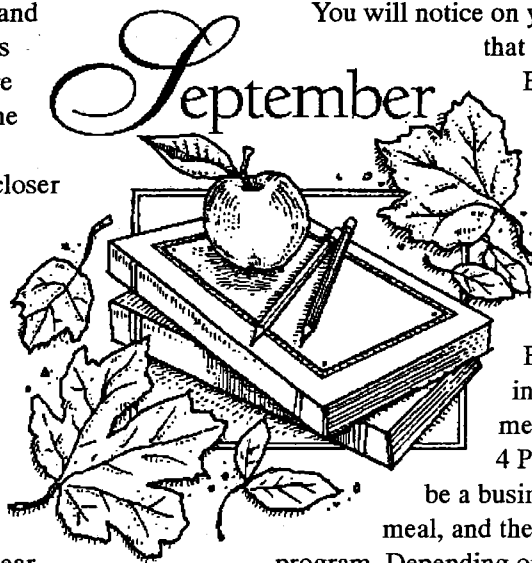
With the 30th annual church retreat under my belt I have just about completed the cycle at First Baptist. The retreat was a great way to finish out my first year as your pastor. If you were not able to attend this year, you should ask someone about the weekend. We learned so much about one another and enjoyed the process so much that we are thinking about a one day, mid-winter retreat, to be held closer to town. Let us know what you think about the idea.

If the church retreat marks the end of summer, then Rally Day marks the beginning of the new church year. This year Rally Day will be on September 8. Watch for more details. One thing to be added this year is a short class for newcomers to our community of faith. I will be teaching this class, which I call Unlocking the Mysteries, or how First Baptist really works. I expect that this class will last approximately six weeks.

Christian education is one of the most important ministries of the church. Not only do we pass on biblical and personal truths to the next generation, but we continue to expand our own understanding of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ. I encourage every parent to make sure

that Sunday School is a priority in your household. We are also going to attempt to offer different options for adult Sunday School. If we just drop our children off for Sunday School they will learn the lesson that continuing education in the Christian faith is not necessary for adults. We don't believe that, do we?

You will notice on your calendar that the Marion



Baptist Association will be holding their fall rally on September 22 at the Grand Prairie Baptist Church in Marion. The meeting begins at 4 PM. There will

be a business session, a meal, and then an evening program. Depending on action taken when the Marion Association trustees meet on September 10, I anticipate a new association constitution, statement of faith, and statement on Human Sexuality to be presented at this meeting. Efforts are underway to determine how much diversity is acceptable in our association. I hope you want our church to be a part of this conversation.

Invite your friends to church this Sunday.

Your Pastor,

Rally Day

Sunday, September 8 will be the first day of our 2002-'03 Sunday School year. We'll start with a breakfast at 8:30. Sunday School begins at 9:15 with classes for all ages, crib to adult, then morning worship at 10:45. Please talk to Scott Yant (363-3811) if you have any questions. We'll look forward to seeing you there!

Sesquicentennial Committee Needs Your HELP

The committee will be sending "Save The Date" postcards in October 2002 to all current and previous church members, pastors, students etc. of the First Baptist Church. The postcard will announce the special events coming up in 2003 to celebrate our 150 years of activities.

We need addresses of everyone who has ever been involved with the church in order to successfully spread the word of the celebration and invite people to return for a visit. If you know of anyone who should receive this card and additional special mailings in 2003, would you provide names and addresses to Melissa Mercer to add to the Sesquicentennial mailing list.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 614-457-1594 after 5:00 pm or <vanbrimmer.2@osu.edu>. Thank you for your help!

-Barbara Van Brimmer
Sesquicentennial Committee

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Trustees Notes

- The living room carpet in the parsonage was replaced by Delaware Floor due to an unsightly defect that occurred during installation. There was no charge.
- Two additional matching tables were purchased for the "old" basement room to make a larger table area for meetings. This room should be used more this winter when the heating season is on. The schedule is: scouts on Monday nights, choir on Wednesday nights, and Parish Council on the 4th Thursday of each month. With the pastor and the board of education each sponsoring an additional Sunday school class, it is likely to be used on Sunday mornings also. The memorial funds for Marge Smale and Jack Smith were used to defray the cost.
- The major focus of the trustees this fall will be the tuck pointing of the east and north walls of the church.
- Four offers to rent the old parsonage have not worked out. More leads are being explored.

– Peter White
Chairman, Trustees

.....

ABY

A BIG THANK YOU to Randy Turner and Scott Yant for a wonderful afternoon of water skiing, tubing, knee boarding and just plain summer FUN! We all had a great time braving these water sports for the very first time. Scott nicknamed Laura "Grace" after four unsuccessful attempts at water skiing, however she redeemed herself on the knee board. Calvin and Brit are just too good at all these events! If anyone ever needs tips on spinning while riding the knee board, just ask Ari!

ABY will meet Saturday, August 31st in the church kitchen to prepare

some yummy items for the fellowship table following the church service the next morning. We will meet Saturday around 3pm.

In September we will hold our first meeting and choose an ABY treasurer. If you are interested in this position, please let me know!

Here's to another great ABY year!
– Nichelle Trigg

.....

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- Aug. 24 Florence Faulk
- 27 Linda White
Christina Hopkins
- 28 Pam DeBiasio
- 30 Katie Riedmiller
Archie Trigg
- Sept. 3 Alec Ferguson
- 7 Christy Sykes
- 10 Katherine Griffith
- 11 Barbara Reed
- 12 Chase Sippola
- 14 Marci Sander
- 15 Janet Porter
Jim & Bertha Van Brimmer
Sarah Sykes
- 18 Melissa Mercer
- 26 Michael & Tammy Grubbs
Phil & Melissa Mercer
- 29 Ian Ferguson
- 30 Mary Lou Lovell
- Oct. 1 Bruce Bowman
Kathy Chesser
- 3 Janet Lathrop
Jarrod & Nichelle Trigg
Tim & Kathy Chesser
- 4 Tim & Nicole Rice
- 5 Laura Beth Mowery

Please report any errors or omissions to
Jim Stephenson

.....

Letter of Thanks

Thank you so much for your generous gift of \$580. By supporting the Tools of Hope & Blanket program, you are sharing your love with our worldwide family.

Thanks to these programs, farm families in Cambodia have received cows to pull plows, carry burdens, and

provide manure for fertilizing crops. Teachers and students in Afghanistan have received chairs and desks. Homeless and migrant families in the state of Washington have received blankets and "gift of the heart" kits.

Again, I thank you for your prayers and support.

–Rev. John McCullough
Executive Director
Church World Service

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Personals

- Rev. Ted Stephenson of Indianapolis was our guest preacher on Sunday, July 21. The service included the dedication of Willard David Fogle, son of Vic and Debbie Fogle and grandson of Carol Fogle and Dave and Mary Lou Lovell, and Mary Lou's father came from New York to attend.
- Melissa Neill's garden was one of the six gardens featured in the Delaware County Garden Tour on July 7. The event was sponsored by the Delaware County Garden Club and the Chamber of Commerce.
- Bob Foor had foot surgery.

.....

If We Reflect on the Meanings of Words, the Lord's Prayer Will Be More Powerful

By George R. Plagenz
Columbus Dispatch

.....

What has become of the Lord's Prayer?

I have been to Sunday services in 11 Columbus churches since beginning the weekly church ratings. I have heard the Lord's Prayer recited only twice.

There was a time when the Lord's Prayer was said every Sunday in every church. somewhere along the line we seem to have dropped this

Are You Interested in Serving?

At the next Quarterly Business Meeting (October 30), the congregation will elect officers and board members for 2003. Fourteen positions will need to be filled for two year terms which begin January, 2003.

Here is a list of those positions and a brief description of duties and expectations. If you are interested in serving in one of these positions, please indicate on this form and return it to me.

– *Larry Faulk, Chair*
Nominating Committee

Moderator

- Preside at all business meetings (4 per year) and Parish Council (monthly).
- “Moderate” the interactions of all boards and committees.
- Represent the church as the lead administrative officer.

Clerk

- Maintains minutes and permanent record of business meetings and Parish Council meetings.
- Assists Board of Deacons in maintaining the membership records.
- Maintain church journal of “vital statistics” and safe storage of church records.

Treasurer

- Expend all money belonging to the church.
- Pay bills and record such.
- Submit Quarterly reports to the congregation.
- Serve on the Parish Council (monthly)

Assistant Treasurer

- Serve in the absence or incapacity of the treasurer.
- Assist the treasurer’s duties.

Sunday School Clerk

- Keep all records of the Sunday School and order supplies
- Make regular reports to the Board of Christian Education.

Board of Christian Education
(2 members to be elected)

- The Board is responsible for planning and administering the church program of Christian Education.
- Each member has a “focus” area of responsibility. For 2003, the positions to be elected include Missions and Adult Work.
- The Board of Christian Education meets monthly.

Board of Deacons
(3 members to be elected)

- Advise and assist the Pastor in caring for the spiritual needs of the church including visitation.
- Preparation and distribution of Holy Communion.
- Assist Pastor as Lay Leader.

- Shepherd a Watchcare group.
- Maintain membership records.
- Administer the Fellowship Fund.
- The Board of Deacons meet monthly

Board of Trustees
(2 members to be elected)

- Assist in the management, protection, and upkeep of the church property.
- Recommend and/or perform physical repairs and enhancement projects.
- Supervise the custodian.
- The Board of Trustees meet bi-monthly (or as needed)

Pastoral Relations Committee
(2 members to be elected)

- Communications link between the Pastor and the congregation.
- Advisory group to and advocacy group for the Pastor.
- Recommend compensation and benefits for the Pastor.
- The Pastoral Relations Committee meets quarterly.

I am interested in the position(s) that I have checked.

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Please return to Larry Faulk.

practice except in liturgical churches like the Lutheran or the Episcopal and maybe a few other congregations.

Not everybody will find anything too disturbing in this. Most people, when they mumble the Lord's Prayer in unison in church, are not paying much, if any, attention to the words they are saying — if, indeed, they understand them at all.

That, however, does not necessarily make the recitation of the Lord's Prayer a wholly futile endeavor. For most of us the prayer has hallowed associations which are evoked whenever we say it.

In this respect it is like the cross. The cross speaks no words whatsoever but, held "before our closing eyes," it can "shine through the gloom and point us to the skies," in the words of the evening hymn.

Still, if we can find meaning, too, in the words of the Lord's Prayer, this can make the prayer much more powerful.

When I was a minister at King's Chapel in Boston, one Sunday each month I would say the Lord's Prayer phrase by phrase, kneeling at the altar, pausing after each phrase to insert a meditation on that phrase. Then, when I had gone through the entire prayer, the congregation and I would recite the Lord's Prayer in unison.

The meditations were not my own. I put them together from, as I recall, some words written by the Rev. Walter Bowie, rector of Grace

Episcopal Church in New York, and the Rev. Theodore Ferris, rector of Trinity Church in Boston.

I would like to share these meditations with you. You may wish to use them as part of your Lenten devotional program.

Our Father who art in heaven

Help me to believe this day that there is a Presence to lift me up which is stronger than all the things which hold me down.

Hallowed be Thy name

May I become more aware of the beauty of thy holiness, and the holiness of all things which come from thee, by thinking only on such things as are true, honest, just, pure, lovely, and of good report.

Thy kingdom come

Help me to be quick to see, and ready to encourage, whatever brings the better meaning of God into that which otherwise might be the common round of the uninspired day.

Thy will be done on Earth as it is in heaven

Help me to realize that there is a higher will than mine and that my life will never be what I want it to be or what it can be until I bring myself to say, "Not my will but thine be done."

Give us this day our daily bread

Open the way for me to earn an honest living without anxiety but help me never to seek or have or to own more than is needful, so that I may never use my gifts as a means of power over others. Make me want only that benefit for myself which will also be their gain.

Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us

Make us patient and sympathetic with the shortcomings of others, especially of those we love, and keep us sternly watchful only of our own sins. Help us to remember the many blessings of

this life which we can never pay for. May we receive them with thanks and, mindful of the debt they represent, may we pray humbly, "Forgive us our debts."

And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil

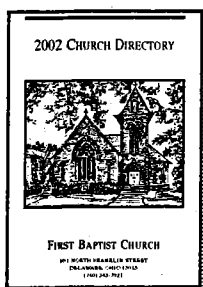
Let me not go carelessly this day within the reach of any evil which may capture and conquer me but if in the path of duty I must go where temptation is, then give me thy strength so that I may meet it without fear.

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

And so in my heart may I carry the knowledge that thy greatness is above me and around me and that thy grace through Jesus Christ my Master is sufficient for all my needs. Amen

Church Directory Update

Please take a moment to update your copy of the church directory.



- The Lovell's new e-mail address is: rlov344@bright.net



SEPTEMBER 2002

First Baptist Church

101 North Franklin Street, Delaware, Ohio 43015

Rev. Tim Chesser, Pastor Office 363-7021 Parsonage 362-6033

Office Hours: Mon. to Thurs. 9 to 12 Days Off: Friday and Saturday

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10:00 Morning Worshp	Labor Day 2 	3	4 10:00 Sewing 7:00 Choir	5	6	7 ● <i>New Moon</i>
Rally Day 8 8:30 Breakfast 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship 	9 6:30 GLBT Christians 7:00 Deacons; Boy Scouts	10 7:00 Board of Christian Education	11 7:00 Choir	12 12:00 Young at Heart 7:00 Pastoral Relations Committee	13 6:00 Second Friday Dinner at Andrews House D <i>First Quarter</i>	14 9:00 Sesqui- centennial Meeting
15 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship	16 7:00 Boy Scouts	17	18 7:00 Choir	19	20	21 8:30 Men's Breakfast ○ <i>Full Moon</i>
22 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship 4:00 Marion Association Fall Rally at Grand Prarie Baptist Church	23 6:30 GLBT Christians 7:00 Boy Scouts	24	25 7:00 Choir	26 7:00 Parish Council	27	28
29 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship <i>Last day to submit newsletter articles</i> D <i>Last Quarter</i>	30 7:00 Boy Scouts	October 1	2 10:00 Sewing 7:00 Choir	3	4	5

Rich & Debbie V. [unclear]
8788 Cleveland Avenue
Cincinnati, OH 45228

October 2002

Volume 31, Number 9

Rev. Tim Chesser, 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

*"May God's glory
fill the whole earth."
-Psalm 72:19*

Dear FBC family:

The events of the past year have introduced us to a world that is smaller than we ever imagined it to be before. Tragedy and conflict have become part of our daily lives, but God gives us something greater on which to focus. In today's world, where the word "neighbor" can describe someone living on the opposite side of the world, negativity is not the only thing that can permeate borders. Positive change for the sake of God's kingdom can as well.

International Ministries and its partners in mission throughout the world-including us here at First Baptist-are seeking to create such change through Go Global, the ten-year strategic plan that we have discerned as God's vision for American Baptist global ministry through 2010.

This month our church will Go Global as we receive the WORLD MISSION OFFERING. Our gifts to the offering are not over-and -above contributions; rather, they support 149 missionaries and vital mission projects of our global partner churches.

In the weeks ahead, we will learn more about how we will Go Global by giving to the WORLD MISSION OFFERING. Our "Week of Prayer"

begins Sunday, October 13. During this time, please pray for our world by using the devotional booklet, which will be distributed that Sunday.



October

And please prayerfully consider the commitment you will make to help us reach our church goal of \$400.00. Glory be to God as we Go Global with the message of love through God's son, Jesus Christ.

Blessings,

The Business of Budgets!!

Our Fall Business meeting will be held on October 23 at 6:30 PM. We will begin with a potluck dinner followed by the business meeting. The fall business meeting is where we vote on the 2003 officers and budget.

As a part of our new policy of sharing information and encouraging participation, we are making some changes this year. The finance committee will be mailing a copy of the budget prior to the meeting. This will give you time to study the budget before you are asked to vote.

If you have any questions about the subject please ask the pastor or Jarrod Trigg, chairperson of the finance committee.

ABW

ABW's first meeting was a delightful dinner with 14 present.

In October we will meet on the 17th at 7:00 p.m. at the church. Our program will be in two parts. Fran Cook will tell us how her church has a food pantry as outreach, and Linda White will tell us what happens to the food we collect that goes to P.I.N. and her volunteer work there.

Please try to attend and join us in fellowship.

-Jeanne Ekelberry

.....

Thank You

I would like to thank everyone who brought me some very tasty food during my recovery. I appreciate your concern and all your good wishes.

Thanks,

– Carol Fogle

+++

I wish to thank all the volunteers who helped out with nursery, Tweenies, and junior church over the summer. Your help is much appreciated.

– Pam Faulk

CHOIR NEWS

New Children's Choir

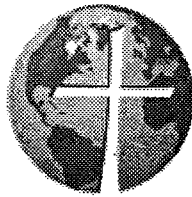
I am excited to announce the beginning of a children's choir at First Baptist. We are so fortunate to have a great group of children. I am looking forward to working with them.

–Jennifer Turner

You're Invited to Join the Adult Choir

This fall we were pleased to welcome two new choir members — Jane Moore and Nichelle Trigg — and we'd like to extend an invitation to anyone who enjoys singing to join us. Rehearsals are from 7 to 8 on Wednesday evenings.

– Jim Stephenson



Go Global

Give to the **WORLD MISSION OFFERING**

.....

ABY

In September the youth baked cookies and brownies for the Fellowship Table. Sam turned out to be an excellent chocolate chip cookie baker! A BIG THANKS to Laura who washed ALL the dishes up that Sunday.

On Sunday, September 22, we will head to Magic Mountain Fun Center... I will give you the details next month!

On Friday, October 18, ABY will head to Grace Brethren at Polaris to see FFH live in concert. Tickets are \$14 each. Any parents wanting to join us, please see Nichelle. We will purchase tickets at the door.

On Sunday, October 27, we will have a special speaker at our youth meeting. The topic will be "Spiritual Fruits."

– Nichelle Trigg

.....

Young Adult Retreat

The next Young Adult Retreat weekend at Judson Hills will be the weekend of November 8 to 10. This is for adults of ages 18 to 35. Please see Erin Faulk if you have questions.

.....

Trustees Notes

• The state came for the annual elevator inspection, which cost \$85.00. We failed because the elevator company had not done the annual service and inspection. This has now been done and is covered by our service contract. The only cost was \$4.40 for an emergency light bulb which was out. We were also cited for not having a fire extinguisher in the mechanical room (the large closet off the fellowship hall). Our regular fire extinguisher service, B&J of Marion, came and installed one with a tag to pass city inspection. The cost was \$51.95.

• Pastor Chesser replaced the broken door knob and lock at the parsonage with a new one. The cost was \$23.00.

• Plumbing repairs and service at the "old" parsonage cost \$75.00 when the water was turned back on after being left off all summer. Our agreement with the new renter is as follows: \$300 per month plus utilities for the first six months, in exchange for decorating. Then at the rate of \$600 per month plus utilities after that.

• A complete furnace inspection and service at the church included all filters, belts, carbon monoxide tests, and replacement of a fan control that was stuck in the "continuous run" position. The cost was \$324.33.

The inspection found that the furnace that's located next to the rest

My Favorite Things

Maalox and nose drops and needles for knitting,
Walkers and handrails and new dental fittings,
Bundles of magazines tied up in string,
These are a few of my favorite things.

Cadillacs, cataracts, hearing aids, glasses,
Polident, Fixodent, false teeth in glasses,
Pacemakers, golf carts and porches with swings,
These are a few of my favorite things.

When the pipes leak,
When the bones creak,
When the knees go bad,
I simply remember my favorite things,
And I don't feel so bad.

Hot tea and crumpets, and corn pads for bunions,
No spicy hot food or food cooked with onions,
Bathrobes and heating pads, hot meals they bring,
These are a few of my favorite things.

Back pains, confused brains, and no fear of sinnin',
Thin bones and fractures and hair that is thinnin',
More of the pleasures advancing age brings,
When we remember our favorite things.

When the joints ache, when the hips break,
When the eyes grow dim,
I simply remember the great life I've had,
And then I don't feel...so bad!

rooms and which heats the classrooms has a cracked or burned-through heat exchanger, which created a high carbon-monoxide level. This furnace has been shut down and at press time is going to be replaced. At a special meeting after church, the trustees accepted Don Patrick's bid of \$2,100 for complete replacement. These funds will come from the Jones estate fund.

• At press time, the masonry repairs, tuck pointing, and stone cleaning on the east and north outside walls of the church is due to begin. The work should take about one month and is being done by Midstate contractors of Marion, Ohio.

• On Sunday, August 25, Grace United Methodist Church used our sanctuary for a service of baptism. Pastor Carl Schaefer officiated. Peter White was the building host.

• The drain pipe under the kitchen floor was cleaned out. This cost was part of the plumbing and heating bill from Don Patrick for the furnaces.

• The garage door opener at the parsonage had to have a new set of gears. The cost by Overhead Door of Buckeye Valley was \$105.00.

• At press time, it was found that major electric work will need to be done, partly in connection with the new furnace. There was no ground for the furnace and no ground to the upstairs breaker box. Several bad wires were found and the panel must be replaced. More on costs next month.

*-Peter White, chair
Board of Trustees*

..... **Volunteers Needed**

There is a new sign-up sheet on the bulletin board for nursery, Tweenie, and junior church volunteers. There are plenty of blank spaces to be filled. Please volunteer some of your time to spend with our young ones. Feel free to sign up with a partner, if you wish. If you need ideas for junior church, please see me.

- Pam Faulk

..... **Quilt Show Invitation**

On Saturday, October 12, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., the Delaware Piecemakers Quilt Show will feature beautiful quilts, vendors, and our quilt raffle will benefit Hospice. The show will be held in the Benes Room of the Hamilton-Williams Campus Center (handicapped accessible) at Ohio Wesleyan University.

- Jeanne Ekelberry

*Before you criticize someone,
walk a mile in their shoes.*

*That way, when you criticize them,
you're a mile away and you
have their shoes.*

- Reader's Digest

Come Celebrate God's Universal Love!

The Gay Straight Christian Alliance of Delaware invites our community to join together in ecumenical communion.

WHEN? October 13 at 7:00 pm.

WHERE? Asbury United Methodist Church

WHY? To express God's love for all people within a just society

Society's discrimination against gay people is often justified on a "Christian" basis. We represent persons of Christian faith who choose to stand up and say we interpret the Bible as being inclusive of all. The Gay Straight Christian Alliance seeks to open a pathway to discuss the issue of homosexuality within the Christian Church.

Inspired by Jesus's teachings of love, hope and justice, we invite all

of Delaware to worship together in open communion. The service will be guided by area ministers Warren Campbell-Gaston of Asbury United Methodist Church, Tim Chesser of Delaware First Baptist Church Karen Stoner, Interim Pastor ABC USA, and Heather Rittenhouse of Granville First Baptist Church.

Worship leaders will model dialogue between alternative interpretations of the Bible and its teaching on homosexuality. Refreshments will be provided after worship, followed by a discussion session.

Asbury United Methodist Church is located on the corner of Franklin Street and Lincoln Avenue.

All are welcome!

— Scott Yant

Personals

• We extend our Christian sympathy to the family of **NICOLE RICE** following the death of her mother, **BETTY HOWARD**, on September 25.

• **CAROL FOGLE** is doing well after having bypass heart surgery at Riverside.

• **JEAN OSBORNE** had hand surgery in September, and will have surgery on her other hand in October.

• **TIM FOGLE** broke two fingers.

• **DEBBIE FOGLE** and her baby, **WILL**, are visiting the Lovells and Carol Fogle.

• On Labor Day, **JARROD AND NICHELLE TRIGG** participated in the Prospect Labor Day Church softball tournament. Many churches from around Ohio (including Urbana, Dayton, and many local churches) also participated in the event. Their team, which also included members from Hyatts United Methodist and Liberty Presbyterian, won the tourna-

ment after six straight victories.

Nichelle recently visited Las Vegas with other friends in September. They visited many landmarks and attended the Lance Burton magic show during their visit.

Jarrold visited Lake Cumberland, KY and Dale Hollow Lake, TN during a recent fishing trip with friends.

• **PAM AND LARRY FAULK** vacationed in eastern Canada and New England in September.

• **PETER AND LINDA WHITE** vacationed in the northeast and visited Cynthia and Ray Biggar in Concord, Mass.

• The **LOVELLS** travelled to Cincinnati to visit Matthew.

• **BETTY PORTER** attended a conference in Williamsburg, Virginia.

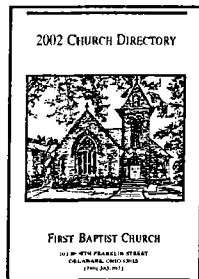
• **RICK AND BARB VAN BRIMMER** attended the wedding of Rick's nephew in Pennsylvania.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- Oct. 1 Bruce Bowman
Kathy Chesser
3 Janet Lathrop
Jarrod & Nichelle Trigg
Tim & Kathy Chesser
4 Tim & Nicole Rice
5 Laura Beth Mowery
9 Suzanne Grubbs
11 Joe Mowery
18 Amy Yant
19 Paul Hopkins
21 Ray & Cynthia Biggar
24 Emily Bowman
25 Jenny Grubbs
27 Sam Campbell
Sam & Natalie Campbell
28 Ed Linn
30 Jean Osborne
31 Ray Biggar
Melissa Claire Turner
Nov. 5 Victor Fogle
8 Nicole Rice

Church Directory Update

Please take a moment to update your copy of the church directory.



Sam and Natalie Campbell

1719 Arlin Place
Fairborn, OH 45324
cell phone: (614) 565-7431

Adam Mowery

Offenhauer East 1009
704 Merry St.
Bowling Green, OH 43403-4500
(419) 214-6281

OCTOBER 2002

First Baptist Church

101 North Franklin Street, Delaware, Ohio 43015

Rev. Tim Chesser, Pastor Office 363-7021 Parsonage 362-6033

Office Hours: Mon. to Thurs. 9 to 12 Days Off: Friday and Saturday

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>Go Global Give to the WORLD MISSION OFFERING</p>		1	2 10:00 Sewing 7:00 Choir	3	4	5
6 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship ● <i>New Moon</i>	7 7:00 Deacons; Boy Scouts; Quilters	8 7:30 Board of Christian Education	9 7:00 Choir	10 12:00 Young at Heart	11	12 9:00 Sesque- centennial Committee 10:00 Piecemakers to Quilt Show 4:00 at OWU
13 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship 7:00 Ecumenical Service at Asbury <i>Beginning of our Go Global week of prayer</i> D <i>First Quarter</i>	Columbus Day 14 7:00 Strategy Committee; Boy Scouts	15 7:00 Trustees	16 7:00 Choir	17 7:00 ABW	18 ABY Trip to See FFH in Concert	19 8:30 Men's Breakfast
ABC Ohio Annual Meeting in Zanesville						
20 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship	21 7:00 Boy Scouts ○ <i>Full Moon</i>	22 7:00 Trustees	23 6:30 Covered- Dish Dinner, followed by Quarterly Business Meeting	24	25	26 <i>Daylight Saving Time Ends on Sunday; Set Clocks Back Tonight</i>
27 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship <i>Last day to submit newsletter articles.</i>	28 7:00 Boy Scouts	29 D <i>Last Quarter</i>	30 7:00 Choir	Halloween 31	November 1 9:30 Church Women United	2

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

Dear FBC Family:

November marks the beginning of our stewardship promotion at FBC. This year we have tried to communicate clearly our needs as well as our plans for meeting those needs. The dual needs of personnel and finances have been put before the church.

The response to the nominating committee has been very positive. Every open position has been filled. I would like to extend my personal thanks to all who took the time to indicate your interest in serving in a position for the coming year or years. At our fall business meeting last week we elected a full slate of officers and committee members. All new people will begin their terms on January 1, 2003.

The budget which was mailed out two weeks ago was also presented at the fall business meeting. It was passed without change. We had a very good turnout of people to discuss and vote on both the budget and the report from the nominating committee.

We will now turn our attention toward securing commitments toward meeting the budget for 2003. In the past we have passed out pledge cards around the first of November and asked people to return them by the third week

in November. I have really never liked the term pledge to raise a church budget. I believe that the Bible leads us in the direction of showing gratitude and commitment to God. However, I am in

NOVEMBER



favor of a tangible way of demonstrating our expected support. Therefore, I will be working with the financial secretary to design a commitment card, which we will offer to God during our worship service on Stewardship Sunday.

Commitment Cards will be reviewed and tallied by the financial secretary. Her report to the church will only include the total amount committed and the

number of people turning in cards.

Because of the way our church budget is designed it will be necessary to have spaces on the card for two different commitments. We ask for commitments to the general budget and the mission budget. Both are important.

If you have any questions about our budget or the commitment process please feel free to ask me or our financial secretary, Evelyn Lee.

I believe God is doing great things at FBC. Invite your friends to share in God's presence at FBC.

Your Pastor,

.....
**"Star Journey"
Christmas Program**

Save the date of December 22nd for our Christmas program, "Star Journey." This is a heavenly journey that depicts the birth of Christ from the perspective of the stars and moon. We will discover that though Christ was born 2,000 years ago, He can still "light our way" today. This

program will be an intergenerational event, featuring adults, youth, and our very special new children's choir.

— *Board of Christian Education*

Holiday Offerings

The special Thanksgiving offering will go to People In Need. The special Christmas offering will go to the Second Friday meals at Andrew's House.

Orders Being Taken for Poinsettias

You are invited to order poinsettias to decorate our sanctuary during Advent. They can be given in memory or honor of a friend or relative, if you wish. You can take your poinsettias home after our Christmas Eve service, or leave them at the church, if you prefer.



The cost is \$9 each. Please place your orders with Jim Stephenson or Barb Van Brimmer by the last Sunday in November.

Volunteers Needed

Please volunteer your time for our children. Sign up for Nursery, Tweenies, and Junior Church. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the assembly room.

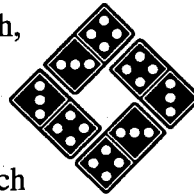
— *Pam Faulk*

Church Family Social

Didn't get your fill of fun and games at the annual church retreat? Do you still want to beat Tim at Trivia, Pam and Erin at Balderdash, or Kathy at Scattogories?

Well, here's your chance. The church will be having "Fun and Games" night on Saturday, November 16. It will be in the fellowship hall and will start at 7:00 p.m. Bring snacks to share and your own beverages as well as any interesting games you might want to play. We hope to see everyone there. See me if you have any questions.

— *Pam Faulk*



World Mission Offering

Throughout the month of October, our church received the World Mission Offering that supports 149 missionaries and vital mission projects of our global partner churches throughout the world.



Go Global
Give to the WORLD
MISSION OFFERING

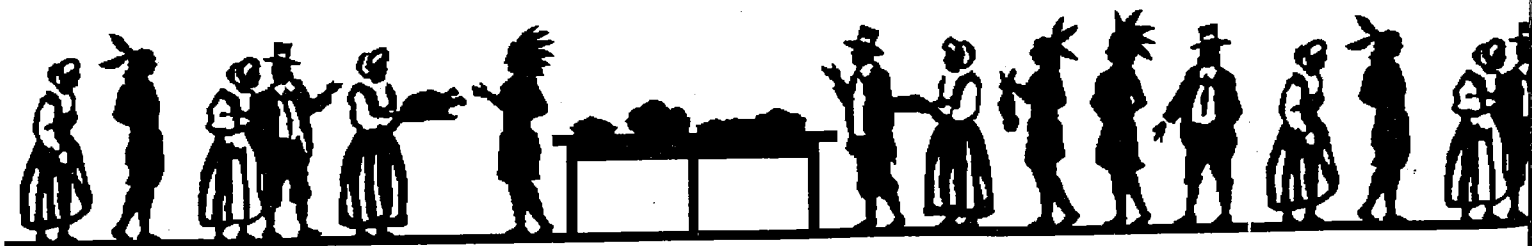
Thanks to the generosity of our church family, we have received \$587.75 which establishes our church as a "leadership church" in this most important ministry.

Thank you for your participation in the World Mission Offering! As Christ taught us through His example, we can make a difference in our world by reaching out to our neighbors for the sake of God's kingdom.

— *Linda White*
Mission Education
Coordinator

ABWM

At the American Baptist Women's Ministries meeting in October, we learned about some of the food assistance available to families here in Delaware through Church Food Pantry and our own contributions to P.I.N.



Please take time to check the list on the food basket in the vestibule (and remember to bring that food back the next time you attend church).

Our next meeting will be on November 17 at noon. We will share soup (provided) and sandwiches, and learn more about White Cross from a video. This meeting will be for all the church; please plan to stay and share lunch and fellowship with us.

—Jeanne Ekelberry

Andrews House Christmas Bazaar

Andrews House will hold their annual Christmas Bazaar on Friday, December 6 from 10:00 am to 7:00 pm. If you'd like to volunteer, or wish to donate craft items or baked goods, please call Jill Lee at 369-4520.

Trustees Notes

• Black steel railings are being installed around the two open stairwells by Jim Van Brimmer and Dave Lovell. There was concern that a small child could be pushed through the open railings, but this should take care of that. Acrylic plastic was checked out, but would have cost over \$600. The imitation black wrought-iron railings will be a little over \$300.

Church Sesquicentennial Celebrations

Postcards are being sent to members and friends of the church to inform them of the upcoming celebrations for our church's sesquicentennial (150 years). Please mark these dates on your calendar:

Feb. 9 – Founder's Day

A special Sunday service, with guest speakers

Aug. 9 & 10 – Homecoming

On Saturday, August 9, we'll have an evening dinner to celebrate the first church

gathering. A short program will follow.

On Sunday, August 10, Rev. Ted Stephenson will be our guest speaker.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 614-457-1594 after 5:00 pm, or email me at vanbrimmer.2@osu.edu.

—Barb Van Brimmer, chair
Sesquicentennial Committee



- The new furnace beside the mens' room is complete and cost \$2,100 installed.
- The electrical work is all done, except for masking the new box around the conduit in the handicapped restroom. We won't receive that bill until it is done.
- At press time, the tuckpointing is about two-thirds done. The stone cross on top of the north wall crumbled apart and was caught by one of the men on a ladder. They'll make a new base for the cross.

• Three pianos were tuned by Richard Dacks. The cost was \$195. Mr. Dacks replaces Clifford Rector, who tuned at First Baptist since 1960; that's 42 years! He retired at age 93 and resides in the Arbors of Hilliard.

• A thank you goes to Dave Lovell for climbing the forty-foot ladder and changing the floodlights over the big stained-glass window. Dave says we aren't getting any younger! Any volunteers out there?



• Peter White's new neighbors, the McDonalds, donated a very nice used refrigerator for the kitchen at the "old" parsonage. A stove is going to someone without one. Our renter at the old parsonage is doing some extensive repair to the plaster walls, which are in bad shape. This restoration work would cost us thousands, so we are holding his rent at \$300 a month plus utilities for now.

• A thank you goes to Steve Ferguson for the use of his truck to move the refrigerators and stoves.

• We could use volunteers, adults or youth, for leaf raking and window washing.

— Peter White, chairman
Board of Trustees

.....
Birthdays & Anniversaries

- Nov. 5 Victor Fogle
- 8 Nicole Rice
- 10 Natalie Griffith
- 15 Harold Van Broekhoven
Barbara Van Brimmer
- 19 Steve Ferguson
- 20 Randy Turner
Kim Keethler Ball
- 22 Peter White
- 24 Tucker Sippola
- 26 Liz Hopkins Sorgina
- 28 Karen Stoner
- Dec. 4 Erin Faulk
- 5 Zachery Grubbs

Mankind's Golden Rule

*From the Reader's Digest; condensed from
"The World's Great Scriptures" by Lewis Brown*

Through the scriptures of seven of the world's leading religions runs a single theme, expressed in astonishingly similar form:

Brahmanism: This is the sum of duty: Do naught unto others which would cause you pain if done to you. - *Mahabharata 5:1517*

Buddhism: Hurt not others in ways that you yourself would find hurtful. - *Udanavarga 5:18*

Confucianism: Is there one maxim which ought to be acted upon throughout one's whole life? Surely it is the maxim of loving-kindness: Do not unto others what you would not have them do unto you. - *Analects 15:23*

Taoism: Regard your neighbor's gain as your own gain, and your neighbor's loss as your own loss. - *T'ai-Shang Kan-Ying P'ien*

Judaism: What is hateful to you, do not to your fellow man. That is the entire Law; all the rest is commentary. - *Talmud, Shabbat 31a*

Christianity: All things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the Law and the Prophets. - *Matthew 7:12*

Islam: No one of you is a believer until he desires for his brother that which he desires for himself. - *Sunan*

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Personals

• **DEBBIE FOGLE** and baby **WILL** returned to North Carolina after a six-week visit with Carol Fogle and the Lovells.

• **JEAN OSBORNE** had outpatient hand surgery.

• **NATALIE GRIFFITH** is now living in Delaware with her grandmother, Carol Grubbs.

• **RICK VAN BRIMMER** visited Washington, D.C. on a business trip.

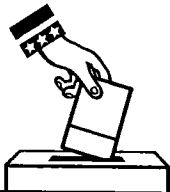


NOVEMBER 2002

First Baptist Church

101 North Franklin Street, Delaware, Ohio 43015

Rev. Tim Chesser, Pastor Office 363-7021 Parsonage 362-6033

Office Hours: Mon. to Thurs. 9 to 12 Days Off: Friday and Saturday

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 9:30 Church Women United	2
3 9:15 Sunday School & Teacher's Meeting 10:45 Morning Worship	4 7:00 Deacons; Boy Scouts; Quilters ● New Moon	5 Election Day 	6 10:00 Sewing 7:00 Choir	7	8	9 Young Adults Retreat
10 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship Young Adults Retreat	11 Veteran's Day 7:00 Boy Scouts D First Quarter 	12 7:00 Board of Christian Education	13 7:00 Choir	14 12:00 Young at Heart	15	16 8:30 Men's Breakfast 7:00 Church Family Social
17 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship 12:00 A.B.W.M.	18 7:00 Boy Scouts	19 7:00 Trustees	20 7:00 Choir ○ Full Moon	21 7:00 Parish Council	22	23
24 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship • Last day to order poinsettias. • Last day to submit newsletter articles.	25 7:00 Boy Scouts	26	27 7:00 Choir ☾ Last Quarter	28 Thanksgiving 	29	30

December 1st is the first Sunday in Advent.