

Good News Letter

Published in the Cause of the Abundant Life by the First Baptist Church
101 North Franklin Street, Delaware, OH 43015 • 740-363-7021 • www.FBCDelaware.org

Dear FBC family:

On behalf of my family and myself I thank you for your incredible generosity during the Christmas season. In addition to your generous gift on Christmas Eve you have blessed us with candy, food, and other gifts during this Christmas. A special thank you goes out to the two anonymous folks who left presents for our granddaughter Taylor on my desk.

As the year ends I realize how much I have to be thankful for. I am grateful for the ongoing efforts of our church staff. Jim, Mary Lou, and Melissa make my life so much simpler with their help and support with their contributions to our music and worship. Thanks also to the choir members who toil without much recognition from Sunday to Sunday. Kudos go to Melissa Mercer for turning my various notes and email into a workable bulletin every Sunday.

As a church we have also been blessed by the addition of Kirsten Pfund to our church staff. As pastoral intern-children's coordinator since November 1, she has already endeared herself to our congregation. We look forward to her work with us for the rest of the time she is at Ohio Wesleyan. Please be ready to help her in any way when she asks.

I also want to extend a special word of thanks and appreciation to Rick Van Brimmer. Rick is rotating out of any elected position for the first time in many years. I first met Rick while he was serving as co-chair of the pastor search committee. I cannot imagine the last

five years without his help, support, and encouragement. Thank you Rick for what you have meant to me and to FBC.

We are blessed with committed and joyful leaders of all of our church boards. Thanks go out to all our chair persons, Larry Faulk, deacons; Jimmie Moore, trustees; Pam Faulk, Christian Education. Thanks to Betty Porter, Evelyn Lee, and Randy Turner for keeping

January



the money coming in, going out, and accounted for. Gratitude is extended to Lana Palmer for faithfully keeping a record of all that we do.

Finally, thanks to everyone who has made our church the Christian community that it is. Your service on boards, attendance in Sunday school and worship, and your giving makes us who we are. I am looking forward to a great 2007.

Your Pastor,

Rev. Owen W. Stewart

The Rev. Owen W. Stewart, age 81, of Dublin, passed away on December 24 at Riverside Methodist Hospital.

Owen served twice as an interim pastor at First Baptist. The first time was from December 1990 to August 1991, during the period between pastor Gene Gillin and pastor Jody Lynn Hagans.

The second time was in the summer of 2001, during part of the period between pastor Jody Lynn Hagans and pastor Tim Chesser. Owen served during that summer as our interim when our regular interim, Rev. Robert Hughes, went to Green Lake.

Owen was well known for his sense of humor. When he served a second time as our interim, he began his first sermon with the comment that he could handle a "second coming" but not a third.

At the time of his death, he was serving as pastor for Central Community Baptist south of Waldo. He will be missed by everyone who knew him.

Owen was born in 1925 in East Chicago, Indiana. He was a World War II U.S. Navy Veteran and a graduate of UCLA where he lettered in basketball. He earned his BD Degree and Masters of Theology from Northern Baptist Theological Seminary.

During his 54 years of ministry in the American Baptist Convention, he served churches in Illinois, Wisconsin and Ohio. While in Wisconsin, he served as President

of the Baptist State Convention.

When Owen first came to First Baptist in 1990, he had recently retired from the pastorate at North Baptist Church in Columbus. He went on to serve as an interim at numerous churches during his 16 years of retirement.

He is survived by his devoted wife of 54 years, Joan; four children, numerous grandchildren, and many other relatives.

Funeral services were held at Mountview Baptist Church in Columbus, and interment was at Kingwood Memorial Park.

The family requests that memorial contributions be made to the Charitable Giving Fund of Friendship Village of Dublin, 6000 Riverside Drive, Dublin, OH 43017.

— Portions of this article were submitted by Peter White

Mission Moment

What a wonderful way to close out our Mission Year! Your generous hearts have poured forth an amazing \$586.15 for the Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering. Those faithful servants who receive "Thank You" checks each December will benefit greatly.

—Jane Moore
Mission Coordinator

Andrews House Bazaar

Many thanks to all who helped make the Bazaar a successful fund raiser for Andrews House. Your contributions of cookies, breads, jams, vinegars and all other ways of participation are deeply appreciated.

— Evelyn Lee

Letter from the Davidsons in Japan

Friends,

Merry Christmas! This month, we wanted to send along this short "koan" (zen saying) for you... It reminded me of John 1:14—"The Word became flesh and dwelt among us. We have seen his glory—the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth..."

*The water is clear to the
very bottom;
The pearl gleams naturally,
without need of cutting and
polishing.*

Good stuff at Christmas time...

Well, like for most of you, Christmas is a busy season here in Japan. December is often called "shiwasu"—the "time when teachers, pastors and monks race around" trying to get things done! Gift giving is not an important tradition here, but people like to have a Christmas meal (of roast chicken) and a Christmas cake. In truth, Christmas is often celebrated as a "romantic" holiday in Japan—a time to go out on a date. The "racing around" in December is not due to Christmas so much as it's due to preparations for "O-

shogatsu" (Jan. 1-3)—the New Year's celebration which is the most important holiday in the Japanese calendar.

The picture I've attached this time was taken at our December Worship Gathering here at the Kanto Gakuin Mission House. Thanks for your prayers, everyone! Attendance has steadily grown since we started in October, and the fellowship has been edifying. This is usually a pot-luck type event with an emergent church-style worship service at the end.

At Kanto Gakuin University, we've tried to bring in some different, younger musicians for Christmas worship services at each of the college's campuses this year, and they've been really good so far. Just yesterday, about 300 students showed up for a wonderful service led by local Christian guitarist, Tatsue Shioya. Around 1,500 students out of the 15,000 enrolled at Kanto Gakuin are expected to attend special Christmas services on campus this year, so please pray that those leading worship will be able to share the good news faithfully and well.

Besides these major things, we're busy getting ready for Christmas at church and home. I'm preach-



ing at two churches this month, and Adam and Sarah are in the Christmas pageant at Kanto Gakuin Church—Adam will be Joseph and Sarah gets to be an angel. They're working hard on their lines in Japanese! The kids are anxious to see some snow this year, and there's no chance we'll see it in Yokohama, so we'll probably head to the mountains for a few days during "O-shogatsu." All the stores will be closed here, anyway, and all our Japanese friends will be with their own families!

We certainly want to pass on how encouraged we've been to have received so many cards and gifts from churches lately. It's heart-warming to know that so many folks are thinking of us and praying for us, and that you continue to value the ministry we're trying to do on your behalf here with our partners in Japan.

God's richest blessings to you this Christmas season!

— *The Davidsons*
Dwight & Kari, Adam (11),
Sarah (7) & Isaiah (3)

Young at Heart

Young at Heart met as usual in December in the Fellowship Hall. Fifteen members were present, and a guest, Virgie Peebles. As usual, there was lots of good food, and lots of fun and fellowship.

Peter White made the table festive with a Christmas arrangement. Ann Brown won the silver heart. The whereabouts of the January meeting will depend upon the weather.

— *Jean Wickum*
Convenor

A Letter From Shirley Parker

Dear Friends and Family,

I had hoped that this final letter of '06 would be from my little home on Franklin Street, but it looks like I'm not going to make it. I wasn't making progress in standing fast enough so I lost some ground there. All three kids check on the Sarah Moore Home when they're here as a preferred retirement place and its beautiful compared to The Arbors, but I'm on the waiting list. The kids think its too risky for me to be home on Franklin Street because with bad weather, I'd be stuck. I feel I'd be well covered with Med-Alert.

I've received pleasantly surprising letters and visits from people this fall. I was pleased that my kids and grandkids went to visit Rita who at 90 has been diagnosed with cancer. She still gets out everyday for a drive.

I've crunched a few more things in my electric wheelchair, but I'm still making progress. The church choir came to carol on December 8th and everybody in the building commented about what a good job they did.

Joe paid me a Thanksgiving visit and Allison's family will give me a post-Christmas visit. You're all welcome anytime. Enjoy the holidays!

Love to you all,

— *Shirley Parker*

People In Need (PIN)

The first Sunday of January is designated for our PIN basket contributions. This month we have a need for bar soap.

— *Linda White*

Trustees Notes

- In the classrooms, the heat ducts have been extended across the ceiling from the inside wall to the outside wall. The heated air now has to flow across the room before it is pulled out the doors and down the hall to the cold air return. The cost of this project was \$2,630.00.

- The pipe organ was tuned and serviced by John Muller, owner of the Muller Pipe Organ Co. The cost was \$200.00.

- In the assembly room, the loose paint and plaster was scraped off the north wall above the stained glass windows. Water damage has been a problem in this area for many years. Three different contractors have looked at this over the years and found the roof and flashing to be okay, so the moisture must have soaked through the masonry wall. Last summer we had this area treated with waterproofing. The paint used inside this time was an oil-base stain blocker from Sherwin Williams. Only the passage of time will tell if the problem is solved.

- A thank you to Dave Lovell for climbing the 40-foot ladder to change the floodlights which illuminate the big stained-glass window.

— *Peter White*
Reporting for the Trustees

Personals

- All of us at First Baptist extend our sympathy to Charles and Michael Ekelberry upon the death of their father, Dick T. Ekelberry, who died on November 25 after a long illness.

- Fran Cook went to the Grady emergency room after falling down the stairs at her home. She broke her thumb and received numerous bumps and bruises.

- Ray Serviss had surgery at Grady.

- Shirley Parker is back at the Arbors after being hospitalized for one week at Grady.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Jan. 4 Cynthia Biggar
Fred DeBiasio
Shirley Parker
5 Evelyn Lee
12 Larry Faulk
Matthew Cooper
16 Jane Moore
18 Matthew Lovell
20 Jennifer Turner
21 Timothy Fogle
22 Michael Mercer
23 Nick Porter
26 Sophia Stephenson
27 Steve Baker
30 Calvin Turner

*Please report any errors or omissions to
Jim Stephenson.*



First Baptist Church

101 North Franklin Street
Delaware, Ohio 43015

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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	3 7:00 Choir	4 7:00 Board of Christian Education	5	6 10:00 Parish Council Calendar Planning Meeting
7 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship	8 7:00 Deacons	9 7:00 Trustees	10 7:00 Choir	11 12:00 Young at Heart	12 6:00 2nd Fridays Dinner at Andrews House Wedding Rehearsal	13 4:30 Trigg-Jervis Wedding
14 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day 15 	16	17 7:00 Choir	18 11:30 ABWM	19	20 8:30 Mens' Breakfast
21 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship <i>Last day to submit newsletter articles.</i>	22	23	24 7:00 Choir	25	26	27
28 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship <i>February newsletter available today.</i>	29	30	31 6:30 Covered-Dish Dinner 7:00 Quarterly Business Meeting	February 1	2	3

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Dear FBC family:

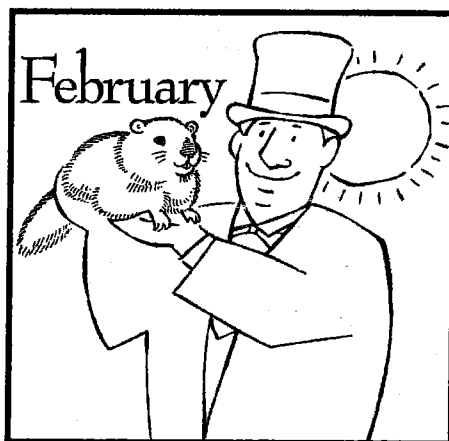
Sunday morning's snow storm was a reminder that there are many things that are unpredictable. For example, who would have thought that Tulsa, Oklahoma would have had more snow by now than Columbus, Ohio? After weeks of mild weather we got caught off guard when old man winter decided to make an appearance. I suppose we should be grateful to live in a place where we never get bored with the weather. It changes too often and too fast to allow boredom to set in.

In the upstairs Sunday school class we often find ourselves trying to reconcile the free will that God has given us with those things that seem beyond our control. Free will implies some control over our actions. A worldly view popular today says that we actually have very little control over our actions. We are captive to bad genes, bad environments, and bad company. I choose to believe that along with giving us free will God gives us the support and encouragement we need to make proper choices.

The gospel text this past Sunday talked about Jesus going to the synagogue as was his practice. I know that a Sunday when it starts snowing heavily at 7:30 in the morning is not a particularly good time to talk about making choices about being a faithful member of a worshipping community. For some folks there are some very serious safety issues to be considered. However, we know that a little inclement weather will keep many able bodied people away. Lest you

think I am complaining of a small crowd, we actually had pretty good attendance on that snowy Sunday. I am simply trying to get all of us thinking about our responsibility to God and one another.

To be a part of a community of faith means to make a choice to actively participate in that com-



munity. It means giving of yourself to the community. American Baptists used to have a stewardship program called Time, Talents, and Trash. It was a reminder that God cares about the totality of life and asks us to totally commit to Him and to one another. Nobody can make you care enough to participate, it's your choice. What will you do with the choice?

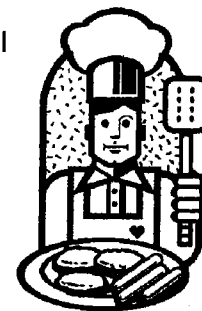
I hope to see you in church Sunday. Invite a friend.

Your Pastor,

Celebrate Mardi Gras

On Tuesday, February 20, the men will be cooking pancakes, sausage, and maybe a waffle or two for our annual Shrove Tuesday pancake supper. It will be held in the Fellowship Hall at 6:30 p.m. Come and share a meal and have a good time. Be prepared to share a talent, skit, or entertaining reading with the group if you can. We hope to see you there for this well-attended event.

— Larry Faulk



February Deacons Meeting

The Board of Deacons will be meeting on Monday, Feb. 5, at 7:00 at Dave Lovell's house. Please note that this is not the normal meeting date for this month.

— Larry Faulk

Thank You

I would like to thank all of the young people for giving their gift of music for the Christmas Eve service. Thanks for taking the time to practice to make this service special. Thank you to Emily Bowman, Colin Ferguson, Sarah Bowman, and Ian Ferguson for playing the piano selections.

Thanks to Halie Wall for playing the viola. Also, thanks to Jane Mercer and Sarah Bowman for the violin

duet and Jane Mercer for her violin solo, as well as Hannah and Hope Walls for playing the violin. Thanks to Michael Mercer for playing the trombone. You provided wonderful music to begin our service and I look forward to this again next year.

A sincere thank you to Melissa Neill who has spent hours taking organ lessons and practicing to prepare music each week since my absence in July. Sometimes things don't go the way we have them planned. It was great to have Melissa so willing to take the opportunity to provide music for the service every week.

I am grateful to the church for their support and providing organ lessons for Melissa.

Thanks for all your hard work and beautiful music, Melissa. I sure do appreciate it!

Melissa and I will playing the organ on alternate Sundays.

—Mary Lou Lovell

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Feb. 1 Melissa Neill
 2 Elizabeth Bowman
 4 Mary Early
 6 Janet Inscho
 13 Lana Palmer
 15 Deborah Van Broekhoven
 24 Emilie Trigg

Please report any errors or omissions to Jim Stephenson.

Volunteers

Date	Nursery	Tweenies	Jr. Church
Feb 4	—	Fogle	—
Feb 11	—	Bowman	—
Feb 18	C. Grubbs	Turner	—
Feb 25	Mercer	L. White	—

Thank you to all our volunteers! Please consider adding your name to the sign-up list on the bulletin board in the Assembly Room.

Personals

- Congratulations to Carrie Anne Jervis and Evan Kyle Trigg, who were married at First Baptist on Saturday, January 13, with Rev. Tim Chesser and Deacon John DuPrey officiating. The bride's parents are Randy and Brenda Jervis, and the groom's parents are Archie and Beth Trigg.


- Braden Lee Inscho, son of Thad and Jenna Inscho, and grandson of Melissa Neill, and Shannon and Tom Weakland, was born on January 9. Braden weighed 10 pounds, 3 ounces.

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 7:00 Board of Christian Education at the Faulks	2 Groundhog Day 	3
4 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship	5 7:00 Piecemakers 7:00 Deacons at the Lovells	6	7 10:00 Sewing 7:00 Choir	8 12:00 Young at Heart	9 6:00 Second Fridays Dinner at Andrews House	10
11 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship	12	13 7:00 Trustees	14 Valentine's Day 7:00 Choir 	15 11:30 ABWM	16	17 8:00 Mens' Breakfast
18 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship <i>Last day to submit newsletter articles.</i>	19 President's Day 	20 Shrove Tuesday  6:30 Pancake Supper	21 Ash Wednesday 7:00 Choir 	22 7:00 Parish Council	23	24
25 First Sunday in Lent 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship 7:00 Lenten Bible Study <i>March newsletter available today.</i>	26	27	28 7:00 Choir	1 March	2	3

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Dear FBC family:

For my column this month I am sharing with you an article on Lent that I found online at wilstar.com, a family oriented website. I hope it is helpful as you prepare for Easter.

Your Pastor,

Lent: What Is It? Why Is It?

The highlight of the year for Christians is Easter, the day when our Lord rose from the dead. Lent is a forty-day season of preparation for Easter. Lent always begins on a Wednesday, called Ash Wednesday.



Why 40 days? Because, Jesus fasted and was tempted in the wilderness for

40 days. Lent, then, is our time of fasting, prayer, temptation and repentance. Lent is not required anywhere in scriptures, but it has been a custom, which Christians have practiced for most of the last two thousand years.

In many languages, the word "Lent" actually means "fast." This is where the custom of giving up something for Lent originated.

However, just to confuse things, Lent is actually 46 days rather than 40 days. Why? Because the 40 days of Lent are supposed to be days of fasting, which means days of discipline and self-restraint. But Sunday, the Lord's Day, should

never be a day of fasting, but a day of celebration! So each Sunday we suspend our Lenten disciplines and celebrate. Lent is 40 "fasting" days spread out over a total of 46 days beginning on Ash Wednesday.

The focus of Lent was always threefold:

1. It was a time to prepare new converts for baptism through intensive classes and instruction.



2. It was a time for long-standing Christians to review their lives and renew their commitment to Jesus Christ.
3. It was a time for backsliders to be restored to the faith.

In every case, it is a time for serious, disciplined self-examination, a time spent in intensive prayer and repentance before the cross of Calvary.

To represent the dark and serious business of Lent, one custom has been to strip the sanctuary of all flowers, candles, and colors during Lent. This custom helps us to turn inward and examine ourselves, even as it reminds us of the dark and colorless Sabbath day when Jesus lay dead in the tomb.

Put simply, Lent is a time to examine ourselves carefully. Here are some questions upon which you might pray and meditate during Lent:

- Am I sharing gladly what I have with others, especially the stranger and the poor?
- Do I have a gracious and patient attitude with others, especially those who irritate me?
- Do I feel the power of connection to God and the church in corporate worship?
- How is my devotional and prayer life progressing? Am I listening to God more and complaining less? Is it time for a change or a growth in my Bible study and prayer life?
- What are the lurking sin problems, which still plague me?
- Am I as thoughtful and forgiving of family as others, or do I take my frustrations out on them?
- Do I speak up for the maligned and oppressed, or do I remain silent in order to remain popular?

Mission Moment

Get out your Walkin' Shoes! Oil 'em up and get ready for the 3rd Annual First Baptist Church Walkathon! This wonderful time of fellowship and witness will be held on Sunday, April 22, 2007. We will meet at Mingo Park, back by the tennis courts, at 2 p.m. You'll be hearing more about this during the coming weeks, but be sure to put this date on your calendar so you will be available. There will be sign-up sheets to secure sponsors – be thinking about who you will approach to help you reach your goal. Our goal as a church is still \$500, but we've surpassed that each year lately. There's no reason we can't make it again!

America For Christ is a very important Offering. We join with National Ministries, American Baptist regions and churches throughout the United States, including Puerto Rico, in recognizing the great influence American Baptists have had on the social, religious and political landscape of our nation.

Spreading the gospel has been a priority of our denomination over the decades. From 1891 to 1946, Chapel Cars brought Bibles and literature, Sunday School classes and pastoral ministries to small towns that did not have a church in the American West. As needs changed and technology advanced, methods of reaching out have improved dramatically. With so much change afoot, American Baptists are urged on to share the gospel, ministering to all who are least and often left out in the rush toward what is sometimes dubiously called "progress." Individuals, churches and American Baptist regions are:

- Sending volunteers for the National Ministries/Habitat for Humanity Katrina build;
- Becoming equipped for ministry through Got Style? evangelism training;
- Ensuring chaplaincy services can reach people in the midst of

Volunteers

Date	Nursery	Tweenies	Jr. Church
March 4	P. DeBiasio	D. DeBiasio	–
March 11	P. DeBiasio	?	–
March 18	P. DeBiasio	Bowman	–
March 25	P. DeBiasio	Faulk	–

Thank you to all our volunteers! Please consider adding your name to the sign-up list on the bulletin board in the Assembly Room.

difficult life passages;

- And ministering to children in poverty.

Let's join together and make this our best year yet!

– Jane Moore
Mission Coordinator

Trustees' Notes

- The classroom areas have been quite cold this winter. A thank you goes to Dave Lovell and Larry Faulk for fitting slabs of styrofoam insulation over the classroom windows. This will keep the classrooms warmer until spring or until new windows can be installed.

The thermostat in the classroom area was moved to the west end of the hall, where it is away from the warm wall of the furnace room. This was done by Don Patrick at a cost of \$134.61.

- The fire extinguishers were serviced by B&J of Marion. Two had to be recharged. The cost was \$73.35.
- The sanctuary piano was checked over before the Trigg-Jervis wedding. It took a touch-up tuning, and a loose hammer was repaired. This work by Richard Dacks cost \$75.00.

- A thank you to Bruce Bowman for using a small tractor to plow heavy snow off the four parking spots behind the church.

– Peter White
Reporting for the Trustees

William R. "Bill" Lathrop

I'd like to note the passing of Janet Lathrop's brother-in-law, Bill Lathrop.

Bill and his brother Gene (Janet's husband) worked together for 15 years as Lathrop Roofing and Siding. Their first big job was modifying the roof on the "new" wing of our church. It originally had a flat roof that leaked constantly. Bill and Gene built a peaked roof with overhanging eaves that solved the problem.

They did a fine job, and also during their years in business they also installed new roofs for several of our church members.

Bill passed away on Thursday, February 15 at Marion General Hospital. He was 82. We extend our sympathy to his family.

– Peter White

People In Need (PIN)

The first Sunday of March is designated for our PIN basket contributions.

Angel Food Cakes Needed for Second Friday Dinner in March

First Baptist is scheduled to furnish dessert for the Second Friday dinner on March 9. Contributions of \$5.00 to purchase ten large angel food cakes may be given to me, and I'll purchase the cakes and deliver them to Andrews House.

We will be providing Mixers and Greeters for the dinners on April 13 and May 11. Volunteers to help will be welcome. You need to be there by 5:15 and will be finished by 6:45. You'll find this to be a great chance to serve others.

Please let me know how you can help, and thanks for fulfilling part of our responsibilities as a Partner Church.

– Evelyn Lee
362-9107

Women's Retreat

Save this date: April 28th.

All women of the church are invited to a one-day retreat on April 28th at Pam Faulk's home. I'll be leading this retreat based on Mother Teresa's book, *A Simple Path*. More details will follow in the April newsletter.

– Kathy Chesser

Personals

• Barb Reed's daughter-in-law, Kathy Reed, died unexpectedly. We extend our sympathy to her family.

• Jerry Palmer is back home after having knee replacement surgery in Marion on February 5.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

March 5 Ben Turner
7 Robert Foor
12 Evan Trigg
Sydney Kauf
13 Amy Pfarr
18 Dave Lovell
20 Natalie Campbell
21 Samantha Davis
27 George Riedmiller
28 Becky Sykes
Annette Fritsch-Lovell

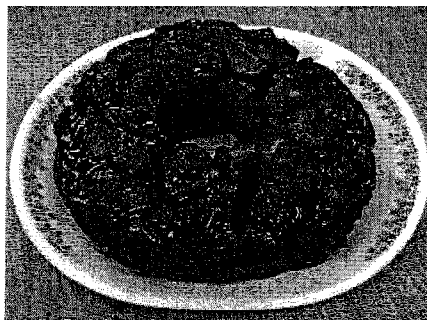
Please report any errors or omissions to Jim Stephenson.

Monkey Bread Recipe

- Preheat oven to 350
- Chop 1/2 cup pecans and place in the bottom of a well-greased bundt pan.
- Take 3 cans of biscuits and cut each biscuit into 4 pieces
- Place 1/3 cup sugar and 1/2 tsp cinnamon into a baggie. Drop biscuits a few at a time into the sugar mixture, then drop the sugar-covered biscuits into the bundt pan.
- Put these ingredients into a sauce pan: 1/2 cup sugar, 1/2 tsp cinnamon, 2 tsps vanilla extract and 1/2 cup margarine
- Stir over a low heat until margarine melts.
- Drizzle mixture over biscuits.
- Bake biscuits for 20 minutes in oven preheated to 350.
- Turn onto serving plate.
- LET STAND A FEW MINUTES BEFORE YOU MONKEY WITH THE BREAD.

We believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of the Living God. We want Him to be the Lord of our lives.

–Jim and Anna Brown






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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 7:00 Board of Christian Education	2	3
Second Sunday in Lent 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship; PIN Basket Collection 6:30 Lenten Study	4 7:00 Piecemakers	5 6	6 10:00 Sewing 7:00 Choir	7 8 12:00 Young at Heart	9 6:00 2nd Fridays Dinner at Andrews House	10 Set clocks forward one hour tonight. 
Third Sunday in Lent 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship 6:30 Lenten Study <i>Daylight Saving Time begins</i>	11 7:00 Board of Deacons	12 7:00 Board of Trustees	13 7:00 Choir	14 11:30 ABWM	15 16	Saint Patrick's Day 8:00 ABM 
Fourth Sunday in Lent 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship 6:30 Lenten Study <i>Last day to submit newsletter articles.</i>	18 19	20	First Day of Spring 7:00 Choir	21 7:00 Parish Council	22 23	24
Fifth Sunday in Lent 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship 6:30 Lenten Study <i>April newsletter available today.</i>	25 26	27	28 7:00 Choir	29	30	31

Note: April 1 is Palm Sunday

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Dear FBC family,

Journey across North America and celebrate the 175th anniversary of home mission in 2007. Join with National Ministries, American Baptist regions and churches throughout the United States, including Puerto Rico, in recognizing the great influence American Baptists have had on the social, religious and political landscape of our nation.

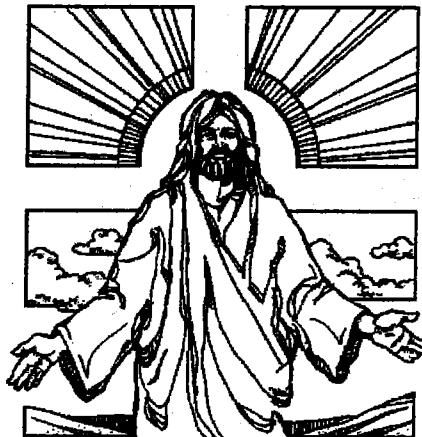
As you tour, recall the days past when you see the lasting influence of gospel ministry over the decades. From 1891 to 1946, Chapel Cars brought Bibles and literature, Sunday School classes and pastoral ministries to small towns that did not have a church in the American West.

Home mission developed a fresh vision in the second half of the nineteenth century once the frontier was settled and the needs of newly-freed Black people and immigrants became foremost. A Freedman's Fund was set up for missionaries to teach the Bible and develop new, self-supporting churches. Then as immigrants poured into American cities, those became new frontiers. Missionaries went into the inner cities to address problems and open up possibilities there.

Geographic and social movement has characterized home mission since its beginning, and responsiveness to change has remained a key marker on the road to more effective ministry. When American Baptists celebrated 150 years of home mission, our rally cry was to "Dare to do God's will!" in a world

of rapid change. Now, in 2007, technological advances and the pressures of global economies and politics are producing even more rapid changes.

With so much change afoot, American Baptists are urged on to share the gospel, ministering to all who are least and often left out in the rush toward what is some-



**"Why do you look for the living among the dead?
He is not here but has risen."
Luke 24:5**

times dubiously called "progress." Individuals, churches and American Baptist regions are:

- sending volunteers for the National Ministries/Habitat for Humanity Katrina build;
- becoming equipped for ministry through Got Style?™ evangelism training;
- ensuring chaplaincy services can reach people in the midst of difficult life passages;
- and ministering to children in poverty.

Together, we're moving forward with real progress, seeing whole communities transformed to serve Christ. And together, we continue to reach out from a rich heritage of mission and ministry — thanks to your gifts to the America for Christ Offering. Please give generously!

We will be receiving this offering during the month of April. Plan to join us for a Walk-a-Thon on April 22 at Mingo Park. Our goal this year is \$500.00.

Yours in the love of Christ,

Lenten Services

Palm Sunday (April 1) – Sunday School at 9:15; Morning Worship at 10:45; Lenten Study at 6:30.

Maundy Thursday (April 5) – A candlelight communion service will be held in the Fellowship Hall at 7:00 pm. Please enter and leave in silence.

Good Friday (April 6) – A community service will be held at noon at St. Mary Catholic Church.

Easter Sunday (April 8) – Sunday School at 9:15; Morning Worship at 10:45



Orders Being Taken for Easter Lilies

Easter lilies can be ordered for \$8.00 each to decorate our church on Easter Sunday. They can be given in memory or honor of someone, if you wish, and you can take them home with you after our Easter service.



Please place your orders with either me or Melissa Mercer by Palm Sunday (April 1).

— Jim Stephenson

Easter Offering

In your box of offering envelopes, there should be a special Easter Offering envelope. This year gifts received in these envelopes will be donated to the "Free Store" in Delaware.

— Larry Faulk

Secret Place

We are running out of the Secret Place devotional guide that we distribute once a quarter. We are going to increase our order and wondered if we have need of ordering large print editions. If you need a large print version will you please let the pastor know as quickly as possible.

Women's Retreat

All women of the church are invited to a one-day retreat on April 28th at Pam Faulk's home. The retreat will begin at 9:30 A.M. I'll be leading this retreat based on Mother Teresa's book, *A Simple Path*.

— Kathy Chesser

Women's Prayer Group

The Women's Prayer group will meet at the parsonage on April 15 at 6:30.

— Kathy Chesser

Benevolence Offering "Credit"

Did you know that you can receive "credit" for your offerings to the Deacon's Benevolence Offering which is received each Communion Sunday? If you give your benevolence offering by check or use a pew envelope to identify your gift, your contribution will be recorded for inclusion in your annual statement of giving to FBC.

Walkathon News

We're now in the midst of our annual America For Christ Offering. One of the exciting things we'll do is have our Third Annual Walkathon to help raise dollars for this worthy cause. Those who have participated in the past will tell you it's a great time of fun, fellowship — and exercise!

When: Sunday, April 22, 2007, 2 p.m.

Where: Mingo Park — back by the tennis courts

Who: Any and all who want to walk, stroll, be pushed in a stroller, be pulled in a wagon, or just sit there and chat with the Keeper of the Water Bottles.

There will be forms for you to get sponsors. Go for it! There will be prizes!

— Jane Moore

Parish Council Proposes Amendment to Church Constitution

Parish Council met February 22, 2007, and one order of business on that date concerned the subject of the Pastoral Relations Committee which is no longer functioning

at First Baptist. The Council agreed that reestablishing such a committee would now be redundant as each of the responsibilities outlined in the Church Constitution are currently being addressed by existing Boards and Committees. It is the recommendation of the Parish Council, then, that the FBC Constitution be amended by deleting Article 6 — Number 15, which reads:

The Pastoral Relations Committee will be composed of five people elected at large from the congregation. The committee will be responsible for providing a communication link between the Pastor and the congregation. They will serve as an advisory group to the Pastor, bringing concerns of the congregation to the Pastor; and as an advocacy group for the Pastor's leadership in the congregation. They will make recommendations on compensation and benefits, continuing education, and working conditions. They will facilitate an annual evaluation process. The Pastor and the Board of Deacons will each submit names of candidates for the Pastoral Relations Committee to the Nominating Committee.

Final dispensation of this issue will be by congregational vote at the April Quarterly Business Meeting.

This notice is in accordance with the Church's Constitution, Article 10 — Amendments, which states:

The Constitution may be amended at any regular or called business meeting provided one month's notice in writing is given to each person meeting the requirements of Article 4 (which explains specifications of membership) including a copy of the proposed amendment.*

(*Note: The words in parentheses are not printed in the Constitution, but included here for clarification.)

— Lana Palmer
Clerk

Retreat Committee

There will be a meeting of the Retreat Committee on Tuesday, March 27 at 7:00 at the Faulks' house. Anyone interested in being on this committee is welcome to attend.

— Pam Faulk

Trustees Notes

• A thank you to Dave Lovell for climbing the 40-foot ladder and changing the light in the front of the sanctuary.

• The Fire Department conducted an inspection on Monday, March 19, and we passed.

— Peter White
Reporting for the Trustees

Second Friday Dinner

Thanks to each family who contributed to the purchase of the Angel Food Cakes for the March Second Friday Dinner. Our guests really enjoyed the cake with Cool Whip and fancy sprinkles.

We'll be taking more turns at furnishing desserts as some of the Partner Churches are now providing a community meal on their own on a different night monthly at their church.

Many thanks.

— Evelyn Lee

Young at Heart

The Young at Heart group missed February because of the bad weather, but we really made up for it in March. We had 20 members present to enjoy great food and great fellowship. A big, most-welcome surprise was the presence of Shirley Parker and her son Andy Fichter. Shirley was happy to be with us, and entertained us with poems she had learned in her youth. Jerry Palmer was there, buzzing along with a walker and telling us about his knee surgery. And Flo Faulk made it too. Pastor Tim read us some humorous com-

ments, and a letter from Kansas from former church member Della June Nofsinger Dove. She included her picture, which was nice for those who hadn't known her when she lived in Delaware and taught released-time religious education.

We were able to send \$50.00 from our treasury to help PIN.

Pastor Tim won the silver heart.

Remember, if you are 50 years old, you can come anytime to join us on the second Thursday of each month.

— Jean Wickum
Convenor

Andrews House News

Free Medical Care: In January Grace Brethren Church of Powell started offering a weekly free medical clinic on Wednesdays from 6:30 to 8:30pm at Andrews House. They have

over 125 licensed doctors, nurses, counselors, pharmacists and others

who volunteering their time to provide holistic care— medical, psychological, spiritual—to children and adults from our region. They require no fee of any kind of services. They are off to a fantastic start averaging almost 14 patients/week! Check out www.graceclinicweb.org for more information or call them at 740-816-8335 if you have questions.

Make Your Mark At The Park: Need a project for youth groups or Sunday school classes? Paint tiles for the Children's Community Wall at Mingo Park! It will not only be a piece of history, but tons of fun for your group. Groups can go to Bare Bowl or Andrews House OR you can pick up supplies to use at your own location. Tiles are \$5 per student. Individuals are also welcome to paint a tile at the Bare Bowl. Gift

A N D R E W S
H O U S E



People Strengthening People

certificates are also available.

Partner Church Lunch: Wednesday, March 21 at Noon. Bring a bag lunch, dessert is provided.

Kendra Carlson—our new Community Relations Specialist: Kendra joined Andrews House staff at the beginning of February. She recently moved to Delaware from Ames, Iowa to be the Children's Pastor at Terra Nova Community Church (part-time). She desires to find ways to help families grow and brings experience from several churches and non-profits.

Latino Event Update: February's Valentine event was a great success. Another event is being planned for April.

Introductory Computer Classes: Our teacher, Larry Cooper, makes learning fun. Classes are limited to 12 participants. Four classes are available: Intro to PCs, Word Processings, Spreadsheets, and Internet Introduction. Classes meet from 7pm to 9pm on April 2, 4, 9, 11, or May 7, 9, 14, 16. Call Andrews House at 369-4520 to register.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

April 2 Adam Mowery
10 Jane Mercer
15 Ray Serviss
19 Grace Campbell
20 Fred & Pam DeBiasio
Tammy Ferguson
21 Jimmie Moore
27 Colin Ferguson
29 Deborah Fogle

Please report any errors or omissions to Jim Stephenson.

Personals

- Florence Faulk is now living with her daughter and son-in-law, Donna and Steve Mann. Their address is:
6666 McVey Boulevard
Columbus, OH 43235
(614) 764-8853
- Steve Yang worked during spring break with Habitat for Humanity in

West Virginia.

- Willa Corder's sister, Harriet, is visiting for several weeks with Jim and Jane Moore.
- March 15th was "Match Day" for 4th-year medical students nationwide. On that day, Matthew Cooper discovered his medical residency assignments. He will first complete a Transitional Medicine Year at Mount Carmel in Columbus, Ohio from July 2007 to June 2008. Following the transitional year, he will study Radiology at Indiana University in Indianapolis, Indiana for four years beginning in July 2008. Matthew is thrilled with this outcome and feels he will be well trained and given good opportunities. He and Marci look forward to a year at home with all of us before heading to Indianapolis, and they thank everyone for their support and prayers.

People In Need (PIN)

The first Sunday of April is designated for our PIN basket contributions.

ABC of Ohio Newsletter

The March issue of the ABC of Ohio newsletter, North Region edition, is printed on the back of the newsletter's calendar.

Every Good and Every Perfect Gift is From Above

What would it be like
In this world of ours,
If there were no trees
And there were no flowers,
If there were no dawns
With their morning light,
No stars to brighten
The heavens at night?
What would it be like,
If we didn't know
That rains would fall
And the winds would blow?
Oh, let us give thanks
In a special way
To God, the giver
of these everyday!!!

– *Ann Brown*



NORTH AREA NOTES

Marion, Mohican, North Central, Northwestern and
Toledo Associations

American Baptist Churches of Ohio

March 2007

From Rev. Jane Gibbons

Minister of Congregational Development-North

899 Dickson Parkway, Mansfield, OH 44907-1941 (419) 774-9886

jgibbonsohio@aol.com

Thank You and Farewell to...

- **Rev. Larry Cook**, who is completing his service as Interim Pastor of the Trinity Baptist Church in Marion (Marion Association).

Welcome to...

- **Rev. Richard Farmer**, who has been called as Senior Pastor of the Trinity Baptist Church in Marion (Marion Association). He and his wife Kimberly and their family will be moving from Fairmont, West Virginia, where he served as pastor of the First Baptist Church.
- **Rev. Robert Hughes**, who has been invited to serve as Interim Pastor of the First Baptist Church of Mount Gilead (Marion Association). He began his ministry there on February 15.
- **Rev. Larry Cook**, who will be serving as Interim Pastor of the Park Avenue Baptist Church in Mansfield (North Central Association). He will begin his service there at the end of March.

Congratulations to...

- **Grand Prairie Baptist Church** in Marion (Marion Association), which celebrated 140 years of ministry on Sunday, February 18 with a service of worship and celebration and a dinner at the church. **Rev. Tim Mohon** is pastor.

Upcoming Dates to Remember...

- **Marion Association Trustees**, Tuesday, March 13 at 7:30 p.m. at the Grand Prairie Baptist Church in Marion. **Rev. Jim Bell**, Mission Partnership Coordinator for International Ministries, ABC/USA has been invited to meet with trustees, pastors, and mission leaders from Marion Association churches to answer questions about American Baptist Mission Partnership Teams and mission funding.

- **Mohican Association Spring Meeting**, Sunday, March 25 at 4 p.m. at the First Baptist Church of Fredericktown. Association Trustees will meet at 3 p.m.
- **Marion Association New Member Celebration Banquet**, Friday, March 30 at All Occasions in Waldo. New members in the past year from Marion Association will be guests of honor. Reservations may be made through any Marion Association church.
- **2007 ABC/Ohio Annual Church Leadership Conference**, Saturday, April 14 at the Shiloh Baptist Church in Columbus. Keynote speaker will be Dr. Reggie McNeal, author of *The Present Future - Six Tough Questions for the Church*. Watch your church's mail and the ABC/Ohio website www.abc-ohio.org for conference information and registration materials.
- **Making New Connections: Black Church Education Conference**, April 19-21, 2007 at the Midwest Convention Center in Columbus. The New Salem Missionary Baptist Church in Columbus will be the local host. **Rev. Marvin McMickle** will be the Bible study leader. The conference will feature seven seminars and ten workshops to enhance ministries of discipleship in the local church. Presenters and worship leaders from ABC/Ohio churches will include: **Dr. Keith Troy**, Pastor of the New Salem Missionary Baptist Church, and **Rev. Donald Bean** and **Charlotte Wood**, of the New Salem staff, **Dr. Charles Booth**, Pastor of Mount Olivet Baptist Church in Columbus, **Dr. Otha Gilyard**, Pastor of Shiloh Baptist Church in Columbus, and **Drs. Darryl and Vanessa Ward**, Co-Pastors of Omega Baptist Church in Dayton. A pre-conference event, **Equipping for Intercultural Ministry**, will be held on April 18. The conference is co-sponsored by the Central Section Discipleship Team from the American Baptist Ministries ABC/USA. Registration information has been sent to your church office. On line registration and conference information is available through the ABC/Ohio website at www.abc-ohio.org

Please pray for...

- Our sister churches in the North Area who are *in transition in pastoral leadership...*
 - ♣ **First Baptist Church of Greater Toledo** (Toledo Area American Baptist Association)
 - ♣ **Prospect Baptist Church** (Marion Association)
 - ♣ **Central Community Baptist Church** in Waldo (Marion Association)
 - ♣ **Wyandot Baptist Church** in Nevada (Marion Association)
 - ♣ **First Baptist Church of Mount Gilead** (Marion Association)
 - ♣ **Concord/Liberty Baptist Church** in Johnstown (Mohican Association)
 - ♣ **First Baptist Church of Bellevue** (North Central Association)
 - ♣ **First Baptist Church of Lorain** (North Central Association)
 - ♣ **Park Avenue Baptist Church** in Mansfield (North Central Association)

First Baptist Church

101 North Franklin Street
Delaware, Ohio 43015

April 2007

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
Palm Sunday 1 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship; PIN Basket Collection; Last Day to Order Easter Lilies 6:30 Lenten Study 	2	3	4 10:00 Sewing 7:00 Choir	Maundy Thursday 5 7:00 Maundy Thursday Service 	Good Friday 6 12:00 Community Good Friday Service at St. Mary Catholic Church 	7
Easter Sunday 8 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship 	9 7:00 Deacons	10 7:00 Trustees	11 7:00 Choir	12 12:00 Young at Heart 7:00 Board of Christian Education	13 6:00 2nd Fridays Dinner at Andrews House	14
15 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship 6:30 Women's Prayer Group	16	17	18 7:00 Choir	19 11:30 ABW	20	21 8:00 Mens' Breakfast
22 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship 2:00 Walkathon <i>Last day to submit newsletter articles.</i>	23	24	25 6:30 Covered-Dish Dinner 7:00 Quarterly Business Meeting	26	27	28 9:30am Women's Retreat at Faulks
29 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship <i>May newsletter available today.</i>	30	May 1	2 7:00 Choir	3	4	5

Good News Letter

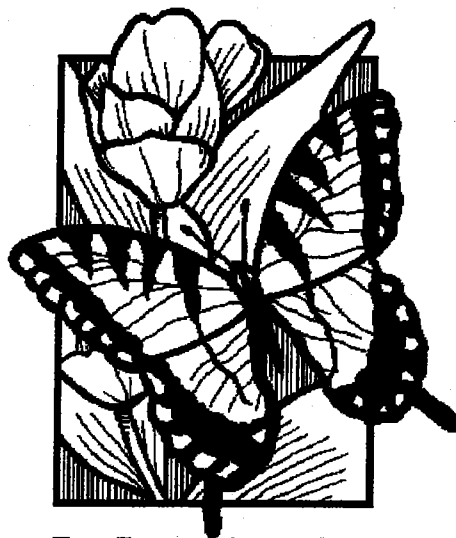
Published in the Cause of the Abundant Life by the First Baptist Church
101 North Franklin Street, Delaware, OH 43015 • 740-363-7021 • www.FBCDelaware.org

Several years ago Philip Yancy wrote a book entitled, *I Was Just Wondering*. In that book Yancy wondered aloud about many of the things that he just did not understand anymore. I thought of that book as I tried to process the events at Virginia Tech last week. There used to be a time when such tragedies occurred that you could almost count on a bump in church attendance as people tried to make sense out of such senseless violence.

I haven't had a chance to consult with my colleagues at other churches in town, but I doubt that they will report a substantial increase in church attendance. Like Yancy, that reality got me to wondering why people didn't turn to the church for guidance or answers. There has certainly been no shortage of people claiming to have answers. Sadly, the answers or solutions offered seem to contradict each other. Examples abound; more guns, less guns; more freedom, more restrictions.

Where are people turning for their answers to life's questions? Some turn to science where some scientists are suggesting that free will is an antiquated concept. Our actions are simply the by product of evolutionary development. Some turn to psychology which helps us to understand how we become the persons we are. Some turn to sociology which helps us to understand how we relate to one another in groups. Some still try to engage their personal faith to make sense of the world.

Knowing all the places that people look for answers still doesn't help me as I wonder why more don't turn to the place that has been asking questions about the meaning of life for longer than most of the new disciplines have been around. Perhaps, I am just longing for a lost world, the world where theology



M A Y

was known as the Queen of the Sciences. Perhaps people don't turn to God's house for answers because we have been more concerned with things that just don't matter to an unbelieving world. Perhaps we need to rediscover serious "Christian Questioning." Just wondering.

Your Pastor,

Deacons to Put Prayer Concerns in Newsletter

The Board of Deacons will be including the Prayer Concerns List in the newsletter each month to allow for more detailed updates and follow up on individual situations and long-term concerns.

Randy Turner will be coordinating the monthly update of Prayer Concerns for the newsletter. As you have follow-up information on individual concerns, please share your written updates with Randy.

The weekly worship bulletin will continue to include joys and concerns shared each week. Below is our most recent list of Prayer Concerns:

- George & Cathie Corder
- Bonnie Crim
- Dewey Fittro
- Jim Grant, Neighbor Of Jean Syler & Jean Wickum
- Olivia Langwasser
- Jerry Mercer
- John Murday
- Regan Reidmiller
- Kelly Rider
- Eloise Robinson
- Kathy Sharp
- Beverly Thomas
- Mary Tilson
- Rosemary Warner

- Larry Faulk
Board of Deacons

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- May 3 Rick Van Brimmer
7 Bertha Van Brimmer
8 Willard Fogle
9 Chris Riedmiller
Tim Chesser
10 Archie & Beth Trigg
Anna Kailyn
12 Jeanne Ekelberry
15 Barbara Lovell
Betty Porter
24 Jean Wickum
Sharon & Steve Baker
27 Lisa Lawrence

Please report any errors or omissions to Jim Stephenson.

Personals

- Jean Wickum — who has been a member of the Shade Tree Commission for 15 years — had a tree planted in her honor at the City Park (next to the Wilbur Bills Fire Station) on Friday, April 27, which was Arbor Day. Congratulations, Jean!
- Shirley Parker was hospitalized for several days at Grady.
- Jerry Palmer had outpatient surgery at Grady.
- Conner Owen Trigg was born on April 10 to Evan and Carrie Anne Trigg. Conner's grandparents are Archie and Beth Trigg. Congratulations!
- Melissa Neill was recognized at an OWU staff achievement luncheon for her 20 years of service as their Chemistry Labs Coordinator.

I Malk Like My Tom

Sometimes the words come out wrong. People say, Hey, what are you on? Men I say Im not on nothin. I just Malk like my Tom. Words come out backwards nothin is right.

I say Mi Helissa and weird things like that. People say, What a strange little brat. I can't make them see that it's really not me. I can't help it. I Malk like my Tom.

People think I'm crazy I guess that's true. But I meet a lot of people that start to smile whenever I can't get my point to come through, they look at me and say with a grin Hey, Wow you Malk like your Tom too.



Written by this young lady...



...for this young lady.

Mother's Day Blanket Sunday

On Sunday, May 13, we will again celebrate Mother's Day with Blanket Sunday. You will have the opportunity to remember or honor special women in your life by contributing \$5 for each one during morning worship.



Forms to note each will be available prior to the service. All contributions will go to Church World Service to aid those in need around the world.

Those remembered will be listed in the June newsletter.

— Evelyn Lee

Mission Moment

*America For Christ
Walkathon Report*

God certainly blessed us with a perfect day for the Walkathon at Mingo Park on Sunday, April 22. There were twenty brave souls who gathered to walk the trail. Our winner this year — once again — was Barb Reed. She brought \$105 in pledges. Runner-up for the "Good Sport Award" was Pastor Tim; he won a hula hoop. Total giving to date is \$603.44. Thanks to all who have participated. The many home missions around the country will benefit from your generosity.

— Jane Moore
Mission Coordinator

Volunteers Needed

"Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." - Matthew 19: 14

We are in need of volunteers for our children. There is a fun group of boys in Tweenies right now who need one person (high school and up) to supervise their play on

Sunday mornings. Beginning in mid-May and until we change to summer hours, we will be looking for a volunteer to work with the Junior Church kids, also a fun group! On occasion, we need someone to sit with a baby or two — please let me know if you are willing to be on "stand-by" for nursery duty. Please help us with our children's ministry and sign up for a spot (or two!) on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.

Thanks for your help!

— Liz Bowman
Board of Christian Education

Teacher Appreciation

Please take some time this month to thank our Sunday school teachers and substitutes for all their hard work. They put in a lot of time on their lessons and willingly volunteer their time.

The last day for Sunday school classes this year will be May 27. There will be an appreciation breakfast and short meeting for all teachers and subs on Saturday, June 2 at 8:30 a.m. at Pam Faulk's house.

— Pam Faulk

Potluck Luncheon

The women of William Street United Methodist invite all women to a potluck luncheon on Friday, May 4 at 11:30 a.m.

Beverages will be provided. Please bring a potluck dish and your own table service.

Bonnie Rister will speak about the Free Store.

Any questions may be directed to me. Come and fellowship with other church women.

— Evelyn Lee

People In Need (PIN)

The first Sunday of May is designated for our PIN basket contributions.

Trustees Notes

- Two examples of the new insulated windows for the rear wing of the church have been installed in the pastor's office. You are invited to go in and take a look at them. They will gradually be installed in the classrooms. They will help keep it warmer in the winter and will save on heating costs in the long run. A thank you to Larry Faulk for taking on this large project.

- Jimmie Moore spent a week painting the kitchen. This included all duct work and electrical conduits. The refrigerator was moved out and all dark corners cleaned out. A rack to hang mops, brooms and dustpans was installed so they don't sit on the floor. A nifty plastic splash board was installed behind the sink to keep the wall clean. A thank you goes to Jimmie for a great improvement. We can all help keep the kitchen looking nicer if anyone who has an "event" will clean the coffee pots, put everything away, and wipe off the sticky counter tops!

- One of the projects to be done using funds from the Carolyn White Schneeberger estate has been completed. Mid State Contractors of Marion rebuilt the inside of the short box gutter on the side of the sanctuary at the left side of the front steps. It was rotten inside and leaking into the plaster cornice on the inside. All work was custom fitted in copper with new step flashing and plastic ice guard run up under the shingles for the ice dams in the winter.

- The peeling and cracked paint on the outside window sills of the sanctuary was scraped off and repainted on the south and east sides.

- Our renter in the old parsonage will be offered a new lease for another year.

—Peter White
Reporting for the Trustees



What Have You Done For Me Lately?

From time to time someone will ask the question, or make the statement **“What has ABC/Ohio done for our church lately.”** The nature of the question reminds me that it is important that we continually communicate the ministries that benefit the churches in the Region. This bulletin insert is designed to remind you of what ABC/Ohio is doing currently that can strengthen your church.

Pastoral Search Consultation: The Ministers of Congregational Development regularly provide search committees consultation and guidance for new pastoral leadership. At any one time the staff is working with approximately 30 open churches. The American Baptist Churches of Ohio search process is one of excellence results in positive pastoral calls.

Face To Face Placement Events: ABC/Ohio participates in a multi-region placement event that brings search committees and pastoral candidates together for first-level interviews and placement training. A growing number of ABC/Ohio congregations have met their new pastor at Face To Face.

Rise Up & Build Congregation Transformation: ABC/Ohio is currently working with 20 church leadership teams in an intentional transformation strategy that is bringing new life and a missional focus to participating churches. **Rise Up & Build** will continue to be a major emphasis by Region staff.

Leadership Development: ABC/Ohio is committing resources and effort to develop leaders that are equipped to lead churches and

strengthen ministry. This is being accomplished through training events such as the annual **Church Leadership Conference, Annual Gathering, and Bible & Missions Conference.**

Leadership development also takes place through the **Academy of Congregational Leadership Development (Lay Pastor Training).** A number of bi-vocational pastors in ABC/Ohio are graduates of this program.

Camping and Outdoor Ministries: ABC/Ohio continues to provide graded summer camp ministries for children and youth. A number of churches will send campers to Koinonia, while others will send campers to Heartland Conference Retreat Center. A week at camp results in new lives committed to Jesus Christ along with spiritual renewal for those who come to camp as believers.

Missions and Missionary Opportunities: Through the American Baptist Board of International Ministries ABC/Ohio provides ongoing opportunities for churches to host and support quality missionaries while on home assignment. Scheduling takes place through the region office all year long.

The next time you ask the question “What has ABC/Ohio done for me lately?” ...remember these and other ministries that benefit your church.

Now, let me ask you a question: **“What have YOU done for ABC/Ohio lately?”** The Region is able to provide these ministries through the generous mission giving of the churches. Do you know how much your church gives to the American Baptist mission? Or do you know if your church gives? Why not check out your church budget and become acquainted with your church’s participation in the mission of ABC/Ohio.

Thank you for your faithfulness. Next time you have a ministry need **THINK ABC/OHIO.** While you’re at it, check out www.abc-ohio.org.

Larry O'Svan, Executive Minister

Good News Letter

Published in the Cause of the Abundant Life by the First Baptist Church
101 North Franklin Street, Delaware, OH 43015 • 740-363-7021 • www.FBCDelaware.org

Dear FBC family:

There is only one more day of Sunday school until we start summer hours. Today (May 27) will be the last day of Sunday school followed by worship at 10:45. June 3 will be the first day of summer hours. Worship will start at 10:00.

As we wind up the Sunday school year I want to extend a hearty thank you to everyone involved with our Christian Education program. As a percentage of people in worship our Sunday school attendance is outstanding. Special thanks are due to the Board of Christian Education. They recruit the teachers, order curriculum, and make sure we have plenty of supplies.

No Christian Education program can be successful without committed teachers. In a time when many churches are finding that most people are unwilling to commit for more than six weeks at a time our teachers commit for a nine month year. Many also return year after year. Thank you teachers for your preparation time, your enthusiasm, and being there week after week.

The best program and the best teachers would still fail unless the students showed up Sunday after Sunday. I congratulate our students for being here every week. Our

presence is a sign of our belief that we always have more to learn about being disciples of Jesus Christ.

At the end of June Kathy and I will join with friends of ours from Indianapolis to travel to Washington, D.C. for the biennial of the American Baptist Churches U.S.A. This year marks the one hundredth anniversary of the founding of the Northern Baptist Convention, which would later become the ABC. Dr. Dennis

Schultz will be preaching for me on the first Sunday in July.

Invite a friend to church this summer.

Your Pastor,



New Church Directory Available

A new edition of our Church Directory is now available in the vestibule.

The information in the directory was compiled by the Board of Deacons. Please note that it's not a membership list.

If you find any errors in the directory, put a note in the newsletter box and we'll post a correction in the next newsletter.

Sunday School News

- The last day of Sunday school classes will be Sunday, May 27.
- We will begin summer hours on Sunday, June 3.
- Children's Day will be celebrated on Sunday, June 10.
- Don't forget the appreciation breakfast for all Sunday school teachers and substitutes on Saturday, June 2, at 8:30 a.m. Please RSVP to Pam Faulk before that.
- There is still a need for a few teachers next year. Please speak to me if you are interested in teaching a Sunday school class next year.

— Pam Faulk

Children's Sunday

On Sunday, June 10th, the children of the church will participate in the worship service with some special music. Immediately following church, please join us at the lower level shelter at Blue Limestone for a church picnic. Bring a dish to share and your own table service and drinks. Hope to see you there!

—Liz Bowman



Tools Of Hope Sunday

On Father's Day — Sunday, June 17 — we will again receive contributions to Church World Service in memory and honor of men we wish to remember. These funds may be used to dig wells, provide health clinics, distribute non-food items or improve farming methods, to name a few of the world-wide needs.

During morning worship you will have an opportunity to remember them. Forms will be available in the vestibule.

— Evelyn Lee

Church Constitution Amended

UPDATE: As reported in the April 2007 newsletter, the Parish Council recommendation to amend the FBC Constitution was addressed at the quarterly business meeting held on April 25, 2007. The recommended amendment would delete Article 6 – Number 15, which related to the existence of a Pastoral Relations Committee. A motion for the ammendment was made and after serious discussion and careful consideration, the issue was voted upon. The motion carried by a 14 to 4 vote of approval. Therefore the Church Constitution stands as amended.

— Submitted by Lana Palmer, Clerk

ABW Luncheon

Please mark June 21, July 19, and August 16 on your calendar and plan to join the other women of the church to enjoy a time of fellowship and lunch at Buehler's Main Street dining room. I will try to remind you so that we can reserve our table.

— Evelyn Lee

People In Need (PIN)

The first Sunday of June is designated for our PIN basket contributions.

Thank You

A big thank you to Kathy Chesser for planning such a wonderful women's retreat in April. Those who attended had a good time.

June Mission Moment

Final figures are in for the America For Christ Offering. Once again our wonderful congregation has met and exceeded our goal of \$500. Total giving was \$706.97. The footprints denoting \$10 donations stretched nearly all the way around the sanctuary...a visual encouragement to each of us. Thank you to each one who helped.

Neighborhood Ministries in Campbell, Ohio is one of the recipients of funds from the America For Christ Offering. We recently received a newsletter from them, telling of activities they have for children in that area. One of the leaders has taken several of the boys to visit a nursing home. After several visits the boys know the residents by name and actually look forward to visiting with them. They're planning a cookout, games and other activities to share with the residents and their families.

Fundraising for them is an ongoing project. They receive grants and donations, yet are always looking for new ways to finance their projects. If you're interested in helping above and beyond, please contact me.

— Jane Moore
Mission Coordinator

One Great Hour of Sharing

Did you know? This offering began more than fifty-five years ago in response to the devastation of

World War II. In March 1949, a national broadcast on a Saturday evening asked Americans to give generously the next morning in their churches. A remarkable assembly of national leaders and celebrities gave their efforts to the broadcast, and more than 75,000 churches responded the next day.

Today One Great Hour of Sharing serves people in over 80 countries around the world. Sponsored by nine Christian U.S. denominations and Church World Service, One Great Hour of Sharing makes sure that we can respond to needs as soon as they happen and that tens of thousands of people receive support for ongoing relief, rehabilitation, and development.

This year we will be receiving the One Great Hour of Sharing offering from June 17 until July 17. Our goal is \$500 – but we ALL know we can top that!!

— Jane Moore
Mission Coordinator

Trustees Notes

- The installation of the new, insulated classroom windows has progressed all along the north side and has started on the south side. You are invited to view the classroom windows to see this big improvement which will pay off next winter.
- The second project has been completed using funds from the Carolyn Schneeberger estate. The edge of the eaves along the northeast side of the assembly room were repaired and a new, heavy-duty, half-round steel gutter was installed. The old one was rusted through and broken at the corners. It had leaked for years on the walk and basement steps. The new gutter is hung in a different manner with brackets underneath instead of wire straps with nails through the shingles. This work was done by Mid State contractors from Marion.

—Peter White
Reporting for the Trustees

Blanket Sunday Dedications

Thanks to all who participated in our Mother's Day Blanket Sunday. Those remembered and honored by our congregation are listed here. If there are any errors or omissions, please contact Evelyn Lee.

IN MEMORY

From Jim & Ann Brown, in memory of Ruth Brown and Edith Hall
From Kathy Chesser, in memory of Jessie Street
From Jeanne Ekelberry, in memory of her mother, Ethel Trogdon
From Geneva Evans, in memory of Ernestine Frost
From Lisa Lawrence, in memory of Irene Lawrence
From Dave and Mary Lou Lovell, in memory of Margaret Morby, Jennie Lovell, Rose Verspy, Ida Morley
From Jimmie & Jane Moore, in memory of Edith Croston Moore
From Jerry & Lana Palmer, in memory of Helen Palmer
From Betty J. Porter, in memory of her grandmother, Blanche Burger, and her mother, Martha Jane Guy
From Crystal Arthur-Queen, in memory of Evelyn Arthur and Joshua Dague
From Barb Reed and Sharon Baker, in memory of Katherine Clapper
From Linda White, in memory of Carolyn Schneeberger
From Jean Wickum, in memory of Marty Chapman and Lloyd Mead

IN HONOR

From Bruce & Liz Bowman, in honor of Ann Brown
From Emily & Sarah Bowman, in honor of Emily Inscho and Barb Reed
From Sam Chesser, in honor of Kathy Chesser
From Tim Chesser, in honor of Hazel Chesser
From Erin and Larry Faulk, in honor of Pam Faulk
From the Ferguson Family, in honor of Sylvia Ferguson and Audrey Carter
From Pam and Larry Faulk, in

honor of Florence Faulk, Evoleno Cole, Jean Wickum, Laurie Faulk, and Erin Faulk

From Debbie, Will & Gabe Fogle, and Barbara & Kim Smith, in honor of Mom Lovell

From Emily Inscho, in honor of Melissa Neill and Ashlee Inscho

From Lisa Lawrence, in honor of Marge Matthews

From Evelyn Lee, in honor of Barbara, Linda and Marcia Lee, the mothers of her grandchildren

From David Lovell, in honor of Mary Lou Lovell and Deborah Lovell

From Michael and Jane Mercer, in honor of their mom, Melissa Mercer

From Jimmie and Jane Moore, in honor of Willa Smith Corder

From Jean Osborne, in honor of Alice Osborne

From Jerry and Lana Palmer, in honor of Bernice Turney

From Betty J. Porter, in honor of her daughter, Janet Porter, Anna, Nicki, and Bora, and her daughter Jennifer Cramer, and Wyatt

From Crystal Arthur-Queen, in honor of Mary Martin and Jean Wickum

From Barb Reed, in honor of Cris Riedmiller and Holly Kauf

From Jim Stephenson, in honor of Sophia Stephenson

From Randy, Calvin, Ben, and Claire Turner, in honor of Jennifer Turner, Jane Moore, Tonabell Turner, and Willa Corder

From Linda White, in honor of Margaret Seckman

From Jean Wickum, in honor of Pam Faulk and Evelyn Mead

Bon Voyage Party for Jarrod & Nichelle

Archie and Beth Trigg are hosting a Bon Voyage party at their home for Jarrod and Nichelle at 6:30 p.m. on Sunday, June 3.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

June 2 Jerry & Lana Palmer
4 Patricia Foor
7 Steve Yang
8 Pam Faulk
Carol Serviss
10 David & Mary Lou Lovell
Aidan Ferguson
11 Randy & Jennifer Turner
13 Ryan Coleman
16 Bud & Becky Sykes
17 Matthew & Marci Cooper
19 Wyatt Cramer
21 Willa Corder
22 June Grubbs
24 Beth Trigg
27 Dwight & Kari Davidson
28 Jami Riedmiller
Hannah Grubbs
30 Jimmie & Jane Moore

Please report any errors or omissions to Jim Stephenson.

Personals

- Bertha Van Brimmer was a patient at Grady Hospital.
- Richard E. Lee Jr., Professor of Zoology at Miami University, was awarded the university's prestigious Benjamin Harrison Medallion at a faculty assembly on April 18. Rick is known for his research on the cold hardiness and freeze tolerance of insects, amphibians and reptiles. He conducts research in the laboratory and in locations including Antarctica.

VACATION PERSONALS:

As we enter the summer, just a reminder that I generally don't list trips anymore unless they are submitted, since I don't want to list some and miss others. But if you'd like your trip mentioned, please submit a short description and I'll be glad to include it. - Editor

Good News Letter

Published in the Cause of the Abundant Life by the First Baptist Church
101 North Franklin Street, Delaware, OH 43015 • 740-363-7021 • www.FBCDelaware.org

Dear FBC family:

Kathy and I will be traveling to Washington D. C. next week to attend the Biennial of the American Baptist Churches U.S.A. This is an historic gathering of Baptists. We will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Northern Baptist Convention which later became the ABCUSA. On Friday we will also be meeting with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. The meeting together of these two large parts of the Baptist family in America foreshadows another larger gathering of Baptists in Atlanta, Georgia in January of 2008.

Since there have been Baptists in America since the earliest days of our history you might be wondering why we are only celebrating a centennial birthday. For much of our early history Baptists were loosely aligned in associations. Most national gatherings were only for the purpose of sending out missionaries. The Southern Baptist Convention was formed in 1840 because most of the church leadership in the south had no problem with appointing slave owners as missionaries. It was another 70 years before we felt the need for a more formal organizational structure.

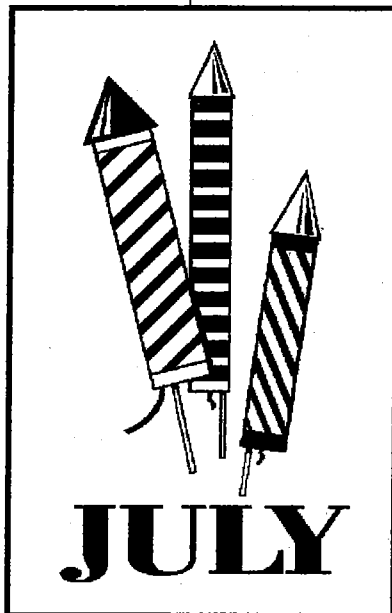
Today many are wondering if another realignment of Baptist families is due. We have seen increasing division in recent years. We don't seem able to determine what the real source of division is. Parts of the Baptist family have split, reminding us of the splits of

the nineteenth century. I don't think anyone can accurately forecast what the Baptist family will look like for the rest of the 21st century. I am glad that we have leaders in the Baptist family who are looking for solutions.

Thank you for the opportunity to attend this year's biennial. My first Biennial was in 1983. We made the trip from Indianapolis

to Cleveland for our first Biennial. It was a wonderful experience. We got to witness first hand the diversity and unity of the ABC family. Much has changed since those days. However, we still love gathering with our Baptist friends and colleagues from around the world.

Your Pastor,



Sunday School Opportunities

Plans are underway for next fall's Sunday school classes. We still have need of a teacher for the pre-school class. Have you ever thought that you might like to teach but were not sure?

A good way to get your feet wet is to be a substitute teacher. Subs are still needed in many of the classes. If you are interested in volunteering your time, please see Pam Faulk.

People In Need (PIN)

The first Sunday of July is designated for our PIN basket contributions. The most-needed items now are jelly and adult toothbrushes.

— Linda White

Young at Heart

There weren't very many of us at Young at Heart on June 14th — just nine! But the food was good and the fellowship was great.

Jeanne Ekelberry took a lot of pictures at a previous meeting, and she made little albums for each of our "away" friends to whom we send cards each month — one for Bernice Turney in Cincinnati, one for Bertha McTaggart in Dayton, one for Della Dove in Oxford, Kansas. So that they can see who the "signees" are. Della Dove sends us a letter almost every month and we got her picture in a recent letter. It was nice for many of us to be reminded of how she looked, and

it was like an introduction for those who never met her. A huge "thank you" for Jeanne's thoughtful gift.

— Jean Wickum
Convenor

David Byerly

Former First Baptist member David A. Byerly, 65, of Reynoldsburg, passed away on June 16. He was preceded in death by parents Harold and Elsie Byerly, and sister Nancy Ellen Westbrook. He is survived by wife, Nancy, and several children and grandchildren. We extend our sympathy to his family.

Letter from Shirley Parker

(This letter was received after the June newsletter had already been printed.
— Editor)

May 15, 2007

Greetings Family and Friends,

Eb and Tina Haycock, who are frequent visitors, said this will be a year when we have no spring and they are right! It went from winter with snow early in April to summer by the end of the month with people using sunblock in the bleachers at the Reds game.

I go to the glassed-in area between the two sets of doors practically every day to enjoy the sunshine. Instead of getting irritated by having to wait a long time for somebody to answer my call button, I read one of the books I get from the library service. Some are frivolous romances, but I've also read some really good ones too. If you have any good titles, send them to me. A couple of good ones were Margie's suggestion of *Waiting for Snow in Havana* and Kim's (Kay's sister) suggestion of *Water for Elephants*. Allison suggested David McCullough's *1776* and I have just asked the library service to get it for me in large print, which they're very good about doing.

Joe came for a visit early this month. I had a long list of chores for him and we went for a drive one day, which was very nice. Unfortunately, our second planned drive had to be cancelled when my foot was injured while getting into the wheelchair. Laurie is very good about writing and keeping me up to date on their family, but it was nice to see Joe and get the news first hand.

Andy & Margie are vacationing in France. Their big news is that their son Jonathan is engaged! Jon and Molly live in DC where Jon teaches English in the public schools and Molly is a patent attorney.

My sister Rita died this past winter. She passed away peacefully and painlessly for which I am grateful. Her daughter Annette was a wonderful caregiver to Rita for which I am also very grateful. Allison, Joe and grandson James are attending a memorial service for Rita in Boston this weekend.

I have a lot of local visitors. Life is pretty uneventful, which in this case is a good thing! Let me hear from you - I like mail!

Love,

— Shirley Parker

News from the Davidson Family

Yokohama, Japan
June 2007

Dear Friends of the Davidsons,
A lot has been happening to the



Davidsons in Japan! Dwight is now a special full-time professor and the acting director of religious activities for the College (of Humanities) at Kanto Gakuin University. This means he now has an office on campus and access to a "Chaplains Room" where small groups can meet. It also means that he will be instrumental in shaping the vision for the chaplaincy at KGU. He would like to bring programs to campus (like Habitat for Humanity) to involve the students in ministry.

Kari has been active at Kanto Gakuin preschool helping the 5 and 6 year olds learn some simple English, sing Bible songs, do skits and dance. She works with 75 children each week. She also teaches a small group of Japanese women English conversation. The women are eager to learn English and Kari can witness her love for Christ with these women. She's organized a group of native English speakers to teach English to Japanese women. The Japanese women are both eager to learn English and to build relationships with international people, so it's a good chance to be

Prayer list for July

Church Contact	Name	Reason for Prayer
Erin Faulk	Kathy Sharp	Cancer treatments
Evelyn Lee	Mary Tilson Shirley Irvin Rosemary Warner Bertha VanBrimmer Dewey Fittro Eloise Robinson Florence Faulk	@ Willowbrook Health issues Health Issues @ Sarah Moore Home Riverside Hospital
Phil Mercer	Jerry Mercer Judy Mercer	Health Issues Health Issues
Jane Moore	George Corder Cathie Corder Beverly Thomas Aiden Rumbalski Olivia Langwasser	Health Issues (Heart, Diabetes) Continued recovery Heart transplant 2 yr. old with difficulty swallowing Young girl with leukemia
Barb Reed	Regan Riedmiller	
Randy Turner	Kelly Rider	Cancer Treatments
Jean Wickum	Jim Grant Martha Green Fran Cook	Arbors Heart Problems
Carol Serviss	Vic Fogle	Hit by Car
Marci Cooper	Marc Parulekar	Cancer treatments
Harold Van Broekhoven	Brenda Egolf-Fox	Hit by Car
Ann Brown	David Byerley Family	Bereavement

a witness for Christ. The fees the Japanese women pay to be part of the group go to support the House of Blessing an American Baptist mission to immigrant children in Northern Thailand.

With the retirement of Carolyn Predmore and the Armagosts back in the US for a year, that leaves Roberta Stephens, Dwight and Kari to carry on the work in Japan. This means many added responsibilities (like Kari being the new treasurer for the Japan mission and Dwight overseeing some construction projects).

Dwight has had opportunities to preach at Tokyo Union Church, Kanto Gakuin Church, and Noken-

dai Bible Fellowship.

Adam and Sarah have completed the school year at the International School in Yokohama and look forward to the summer vacation. Isaiah continues to grow and flourish and recently had his fourth birthday.

Dwight conducted a survey of incoming freshman in the college of humanities at KGU this spring. He found that of the 900 students only 5 were baptized Christians. Thanks be to God for the Davidson's presence in Japan to share the love of Christ. Please keep the Davidson family and their ministry in your prayers.

Trustees Notes

- The installation of the new insulated windows has progressed all along the south side of the classrooms, and is complete except for trim work. The next big challenge will be to take out the bottom third of the old windows (which were covered over on the inside years ago). Then we'll fill those spaces with insulation and cover them on the outside with panels.
- The elevator received it's big annual safety and service inspection by the Gable Elevator Company.

– Peter White
Reporting for the Trustees

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- July 1 Robert & Patricia Foor
3 Phil Mercer
6 Sam Chesser
14 Sara Bowman
15 Aunt Alice Osborne
Sandy Van Brimmer
17 Nichelle Trigg
Ed and Angie Burton
18 Peter & Linda White
19 Jarrod Trigg
28 Regan Riedmiller
30 Bernice Turney
31 Ashlee Inscho

Please report any errors or omissions to Jim Stephenson.

Personals

- Florence Faulk was a patient at Riverside Hospital where she was treated for an infection. She is now at Delaware Court Health Care Center.
- Fran Cook was hospitalized with a heart attack.
- Congratulations to Cory Lawrence who graduated from Hayes High School.

- During morning worship on June 17, Pastor Tim presented Matt Cooper with a framed certificate in honor of his graduation from The University of Cincinnati College of Medicine.

- Congratulations to Ashlee Inscho (daughter of Emily Inscho), who graduated from Delaware JVS North and received her Completion of Cosmetology. She also received the Presidential Education Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement, which is given to students who overcome life's struggles and achieve their education. She takes her State Boards for her cosmetology license on June 19th.

- Bob Foor is back after spending the winter in Florida.

Church Directory Update

Please update your 2007 directory with this new info:

Penny Hagaman
2178 Bruce Road Apt. 103
Delaware, OH 43015

Jarrold and Nichelle Trigg
3 Broadway
Madison, NJ 09740
973-377-1127

Matthew and Marci Cooper
1558 W 1st Ave.
Columbus, OH 43212

Matthew cell: 513-520-7097
Marci cell: 614-314-9699

Matthew's email: mattcooper5@gmail.com
Marci's email: marcella_sander@hotmail.com

2007 Church Directory



First Baptist Church

101 North Lincoln Road

Delaware, Ohio 43015

973-344-1022

www.fbcdelaware.org

Good News Letter

Published in the Cause of the Abundant Life by the First Baptist Church
101 North Franklin Street, Delaware, OH 43015 • 740-363-7021 • www.FBCDelaware.org

Dear FBC family:

Below is a wrap up of the events of our Biennial in Washington. In addition to the events for everyone Kathy and I also attended a dinner sponsored by the Roger Williams Fellowship, a breakfast sponsored by the American Baptist Historical Society, and an after event sponsored by Preservation of Baptist Principles Group. We also visited with friends from around the country. The biennial planning committee built in a fair amount of free time. We used this time to visit some of the sights in Washington. We were especially moved by the World War II memorial, which had been built since we were last in Washington. A visit to Washington always makes me proud and grateful to be an American. Thank you for making it possible for us to attend this year.

The 2007 Biennial gathering of American Baptist Churches USA opened with programs on children in poverty and on church renewal and ended with a missionary's vivid call for shining light into the world's darkest corners.

The gathering also featured events as diverse as a centennial birthday party, a performance of Handel's "Messiah," and a presentation honoring the denomination for its ministry to Japanese-Americans interned during World War II. The theme of the Biennial was "Arise and Shine!"

There was a first-ever event when a combined worship service was conducted by ABCUSA and the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, an

organization that broke off from the Southern Baptist Convention in the early 1990s. The meetings of the two groups overlapped in Washington, and Lott Carey and the Progressive National Baptists were invited to participate. Its meeting in Washington overlapped that of American Baptists. There



was also a combined press conference of all the groups and others under a banner, "A New Era of Baptist Cooperation."

Rallying the denomination for the future, General Secretary A. Roy Medley said, "It is morning in our midst, American Baptists. The dawning of our new century is bringing with it power and light."

The Biennial began on Thursday, June 28, and ended Monday night, July 2. Saturday, June 30, was Centennial Day and featured a morning gathering led by four of the denomination's younger "emerging voices," followed by a centen-

nial luncheon, a panoramic photo of the nearly 2,500 delegates and visitors, and three evening musical programs, including "The Messiah" by the senior choir at Shiloh Baptist Church. A 100th birthday party, sponsored in part by the Christian Community Credit Union, featured ice cream, cake, and music in a convention center lobby.

American Baptist Churches USA was founded May 16-17, 1907, as the Northern Baptist Convention, in Washington's Calvary Baptist Church where a pre-Biennial General Board meeting took place.

Thursday's events included a program at Howard University Divinity School on "Seeing the Children — Transforming the Church." Featured events on Friday included a program on "Ministry in Such a Time as This" (a call for church renewal led by Diana Butler Bass and Parush Parushev) and "120,000 Nikkei Voices of Gratitude," the Japanese-American presentation. Other events during the day focused on American Baptist women.

A highlight of Sunday's program was an impassioned sermon on radical discipleship by Elizabeth Condé-Frazier, associate professor of religious education at the Claremont School of Theology.

Delegates held two business sessions, on Sunday and Monday, but in contrast to the 2005 Biennial in Denver, when some controversial matters called for attention, this year's gatherings were low-key. Delegates adopted by-law changes specifying how Biennial representa-

tives are chosen, and fixing the number of General Board members through 2009. A "statement of concern" urging more informed and diligent civic action by churches and members was also adopted, as were ones affirming "Baptist polity and identity" and urging more attention to "the image of Christ in an addictive society." Two other "signature" statements of concern — urging congressional representation for the District of Columbia and an end to the Iraq war — were submitted by petition and referred to the General Board.

A proposed by-law change giving General Board "voice and vote" to chaplains and pastoral counselors was referred back to the General Board.

Mary Armacost Hulst, ABCUSA vice president, was elected as president for 2008-2009, and Frank Christine was chosen as vice-president. Acting Budget Review Officer James Ratliff was named as review officer for a two-year term. Presiding over the sessions was Dr. Arlee Griffin, Jr., outgoing president of the denomination. The next ABCUSA Biennial will be in 2009 in Pasadena, California.

Your Pastor,



Rally Day and Sunday School

I am really excited about our Sunday school classes for the fall. Rally Day will be Sunday, September 9. Please try to make a commitment to include Sunday school in your Sunday morning plans every Sunday. We have dedicated teachers who have chosen excellent curriculum for this year.

Once again, we will have two adult classes to choose from. Pastor Tim Chesser will be teaching one class using the Judson quarterly. Tim's substitute will be Larry Faulk.

Randy Turner who will be selecting curriculum according to the wishes of the class will teach the other adult class.

Erin Faulk will teach the Senior High class which will continue their study of pop culture. Sam Chesser will be her sub.

Liz Bowman has selected a new, exciting curriculum for the Junior High class (grades 6-8) called 'The Amazing Bible Race.' Her sub will be Pam DeBiasio.

The Juniors (grades 3-5) will be taught by Linda White, who is developing her own curriculum focusing on our Baptist history and missionaries. Linda's sub will be Lana Palmer.

The Primary and Pre-school classes will be using the David C. Cook material. The Primary class (grades K-2) will be taught by Kathy Chesser with Marci Cooper as her sub. MaryLou Lovell will teach the pre-school class (ages 2-4), and Pam Faulk will be her sub.

Debbie Fogle will supervise the crib room if the need arises.

Please plan to join us in September.

—Pam Faulk

Retreat News

Be sure to mark your calendars for the weekend of October 12-14. This is the weekend for our annual all-church family retreat at Camp Christian. This is a very good way to get to know each other better and to have fun with our church family. Information letters and registration forms will be mailed out during the month of August. If you do not receive one by the end of August, please contact Pam Faulk.



—Pam Faulk

Sunday School Teachers To Meet

There will be a meeting for Sunday school teachers on Saturday, August 25 at 9:00 a.m. at the church.

—Pam Faulk

Tools of Hope

Many of you remembered Father's Day with your gifts to the Tools of Hope program of Church World Service. Our congregation remembered or honored those listed below.

If there are any errors or omissions, please contact Evelyn Lee.

Thanks to each and every one of you for your gifts to be used around the world for those in need. Our gifts totalled \$285.

- Evelyn Lee

In Honor

From the Bowmans, in honor of Jim Brown
 From Jim and Ann Brown, in honor of our son-in-law Bruce Bowman, who does so much for us
 From Kathy Chesser, in honor of Wynson Hope
 From Sam Chesser, in honor of Tim Chesser
 From Marci and Matt Cooper, in honor of William Sander, Robert Newman and Larry Cooper
 From Larry and Pam Faulk, in honor of Jeff Faulk and Paul Stewart
 From Pam and Erin Faulk, in honor of Larry Faulk
 From Evelyn Lee, in honor of Douglas and Rick Lee
 From Dave Lovell, in honor of Richard Lovell and Ray Morby
 From Mary Lou Lovell, in honor of Dave Lovell and Raymond Morby
 From Jim and Jane Moore, in honor of their sons-in-law, Phil Mercer and Randy Turner
 From Jean Osborne, in honor of Gregory Osborne
 From Betty Porter, in honor of Joe Mowery, with thanks to the First

Prayer list for August

(List prepared by the Board of Deacons)

Church Contact	Name	Reason for Prayer
Erin Faulk	Kathy Sharp	Cancer treatments
Evelyn Lee	Mary Tilson Shirley Irvin Rosemary Warner Bertha VanBrimmer Dewey Fittro Eloise Robinson Florence Faulk	@ Willowbrook Health issues Health Issues @ Sarah Moore Home Riverside Hospital
Phil Mercer	Jerry Mercer Judy Mercer	Health Issues Health Issues
Jane Moore	George Corder Cathie Corder Beverly Thomas Olivia Langwasser	Health Issues (Heart, Diabetes) Continued recovery Heart transplant Young girl with leukemia
Barb Reed	Regan Riedmiller	
Randy Turner	Kelly Rider	Cancer Treatments
Jean Wickum	Jim Grant Martha Green Fran Cook	Arbors Heart Problems
Marci Cooper	Marc Parulekar	Cancer treatments
Angie Burton	Lillie Temple	Hospitalized for numbness

Baptist Church Trustees
From Barbara and Kip Smith,
Debbie, Will and Gabe Fogle, in
honor of Dave Lovell
From Jackson Trigg, in honor of
Jarrod Trigg
From the Turner family, in honor of
Heryl Turner and Jimmie Moore
From Linda White, in honor of
Michael Seckman
From Jean Wickum, in honor of
Larry Faulk, Dave Lovell, and
David Mead

In Memory

From Jim and Ann Brown, in
memory of Charles N. Brown
and Fred B. Grubbs, Sr.
From Tim Chesser, in memory of A.
G. Chesser

From Jeanne Ekelberry, in memory
of her father, Hewlett Trogon
From Larry and Pam Faulk, in
memory of Donald Faulk, Ralph
Cole, and Wilbur Wickum
From Carol Grubbs, in memory of
Charles Brown and Fred Grubbs,
Sr.
From Janet Lathrop, in memory of
Gene Lathrop, Will Fogle, and
Cap Gabriel
From Lisa Lawrence, in memory of
John Matthews
From Evelyn Lee, in memory of
Dick and Bruce Lee
From Dave Lovell, in memory of
Robert Jay Lovell, A. George Cray
From Jim and Jane Moore, in
memory of our fathers, James C.
Moore and Nathan Corder

From Jean Osborne, in memory
of David Osborne and Gary
Osborne

From Betty Porter, in memory of
her father, Ralph Guy, and her
grandfather, Samuel Berger
From Barb Reed, in memory of Jim
Reed and David Murday
From Jim Stephenson, in memory
of Rev. James B. Stephenson
From Sophia Stephenson, in
memory of Rev. James B.
Stephenson
From Bertha Van Brimmer, in
memory of her father
From Jim Van Brimmer, in memory
of his father
From Linda White, in memory of
Charles Seckman

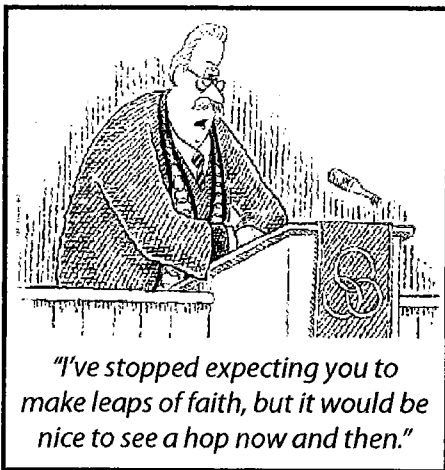
Trustees Notes

- The glass in the lower third of the classroom windows has all been replaced with new exterior panels. Insulation was placed first behind the panels. This will be a big help in the winter.
- A new dehumidifier was purchased for the "old" basement room. The old one had failed beyond repair. It's made a big improvement.
- At the parsonage, the downspout at the corner of the garage had washed away at the foundation. The elbow was raised and a cement splash extension was placed to run the water further out in the yard. A considerable amount of stone was used to backfill against the foundation.
- The state elevator inspector conducted an inspection. We passed except for two minor "pickey" items.

– Peter White
Reporting for the Trustees

Young at Heart

There were only 11 of us at this month's Young at Heart meeting. We had nine seniors and two guests—Jane Mercer and Claire Turner. Nevertheless we had our usual good time and good food. After we caught up on all the news,



Pastor Tim told us all about his time in Washington at the Biennial Convention. Fran Cook won the silver heart. As usual, we sent a flock of cards to absent members, ill members and to far-away old friends.

– Jean Wickum
Convenor

People In Need (PIN)

The first Sunday of August is designated for our PIN basket contributions. The most-needed items are school supplies.

– Linda White

Mission Moment

Our One Great Hour of Sharing offering officially came to a close on Sunday, July 15. Due to your generosity we surpassed our goal and received a total of \$664.39! Praise the Lord! Additional donations may be made at any time.

We received a nice thank-you note from Mark A. Samuel, Executive Director of Neighborhood Ministries in Campbell, Ohio. We sent a budgeted amount (\$600) to them recently and they will put the money towards hiring dedicated, Christian staff to work with children and families living in low income, high crime neighborhoods in that area.

Our local Free Store is in need of donations of gently used household items (clean and with all pieces included, please), gently

used toys (also clean and with all pieces included) and SUMMER clothing only (gently used and clean) at the present. They want the shoppers to receive items that make them feel happy and excited.

The Free Store will accept material donations on SATURDAYS from 10:00-2:00. The Store is located on East Central Avenue, just across the railroad tracks – on the left. You'll be hearing more about this outreach in future Mission Moments.

– Jane Moore

Mission Opportunity

Would you like something different to do this year for the Labor Day Weekend? How about if you knew it was nearby and reasonably priced? Well, SIT DOWN!! I have news for you!

The American Baptist Churches of Ohio Missions Conference 2007 will be held **August 31 – September 3 at Heartland Conference Retreat Center in Marengo**. (Pssst – that's only 18 to 20 miles from Delaware!) What a treat to have this practically in our backyard.

Speakers for this conference will be **Dr. David Brown**, former American Baptist Churches International Ministries missionary who served in Prague, Czech Republic, and **Duane and Marcia Binkley**, current missionaries who serve the people of the Karen tribe both along the Thai-Burma border and here in the United States. Dr. Brown taught at the International Theological Seminary in Prague and has recently served as an interim pastor with two congregations. The Binkleys, who are living in the Akron area, are helping Baptist churches across the country make connections with Karen refugees who are being resettled in great numbers from refugee camps in northern Thailand. The opening preacher for this conference will be **Dr. Rick Farmer**, senior pastor of the Trinity Baptist Church in Marion.

If you're interested, please contact me soon. It would be possible to just register and attend the daily sessions, coming home at night to sleep. I have information regarding the housing there. This is a great opportunity to learn more about our mission program.

– Jane Moore

Personals

- Jim and Ann Brown's son, Charles, and his wife Elisha, are visiting from Taiwan. Both teach at the university there.
- The Turners, Moores and Mercers attended a Baptist church camp in West Virginia.
- Congratulations to Aunt Alice Osborne, who recently celebrated her 99th birthday!

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- Aug. 3 Ray & Carol Serviss
- 4 Gabriel Fogle
- 5 Bruce & Elizabeth Bowman
- 7 Jennifer Cramer
- 8 Jim Van Brimmer
Jean Syler
- 9 Steve Stoner
- 11 Steve & Tammy Ferguson
- 17 George & Chris Riedmiller
- 18 Pam & Larry Faulk
- 20 Spencer Kauf
- 21 Jim Stephenson
- 24 Florence Faulk
- 27 Linda White
Penny Hagaman
- 28 Pam DeBiasio
- 30 Katie Riedmiller
Archie Trigg

Please report any errors or omissions to Jim Stephenson.

Andrews House news
is on the back of
the calendar.

Good News Letter

Published in the Cause of the Abundant Life by the First Baptist Church.
101 North Franklin Street, Delaware, OH 43015 • 740-363-7021 • www.FBCDelaware.org

Dear FBC family:

As I passed by Smith school on my way to work this morning I saw the sign that announced one more day until school starts. It was one more reminder that summer is almost over. Summer vacations are at an end. Endings also bring beginnings.

September 9 will be Rally Day at FBC. We will resume our school year schedule of Sunday school at 9:15 followed by worship at 10:45. I want to encourage each of you to be a part of a Sunday school class this year. Our commitment to Christian education has never been more evident that it is for the 2007 – 2008 school year. We have several new teachers and new ideas about curriculum. Hopefully all of you will receive an invitation to be a part of a class this year.

This is a special word to parents. The Board of Christian Education and the teachers, who have volunteered to teach this year, need your help and commitment. In addition to making sure your children are here for each lesson, if possible, we are asking that you help them to follow-up on the material they are learning. The Bible tells us that it is our responsibility as parents to raise our children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. We get to teach for one hour a week. The other 167 hours of the week are up to you.

Both of the adult classes offer opportunities to start anew if you have not been a part of a Sunday school class. Randy Turner will continue offering the class on

contemporary issues. I will be teaching the Gathering Place class. We continue our use of the American Baptist curriculum. The theme for this quarter will be Genesis: the God of Promises creates a people. It will be an excellent opportunity to discuss how the Old Testament narratives inform our faith and our understanding of our world.



Since 1992 I have been involved with CROP walks around the country. I hope by now you know the slogan: help CROP stop Hunger. This year's CROP walk will be held on October 7 at 2:00 P.M. The walk will begin at the Hamilton-Williams building on the campus of Ohio Wesleyan University and will end at the First Presbyterian Church. There will also be a shorter route established for families with younger children. I hope we can have at least 10 walkers with pledge of \$100 or more each. Please ask me for details and a pledge envelope. 25% of every dollar raised goes to People in Need. Kevin Crowley, executive director of PIN, notes

that the funds usually arrive after the first of the year and are an important part of their work.

Invite a friend to church.

Your Pastor,

Sunday School Starts!

Have you participated in Sunday school lately? There will be some interesting topics discussed this year. Why not come and join in? Rally Day is September 9. We will begin with intergenerational opening in the assembly room at 9:15 and then go to our classes. Church worship service will begin at 10:45. Make a commitment this year to attend Sunday school every Sunday. Feel free to bring a friend too.

– Pam Faulk
Board of Christian Education

New Windows to be Dedicated

The new windows in the Sunday school rooms will be dedicated on Sunday September 2, 2007. We hope to fill the church that Sunday so that all may see the new windows that will keep our children and Sunday school teachers much warmer this winter. Cake and punch will be served during the fellowship hour after services.

– Jerry Palmer

Mission Moment

It's so exciting to be the Mission Coordinator here at First Baptist. I never know what each special offering will bring. Your response is just overwhelming. Yet another contribution came in for One Great Hour of Sharing giving us a total of \$674.68. Praise the Lord for your generous hearts!

There's another opportunity for us to share of our bounty on a local level. The Common Ground Free Store (that I wrote about last month) is going strong, but there are on-going needs for items to be given out.

1. They are accepting gently used household items (clean and with all pieces included, please), gently used toys (also clean and with all pieces included) and SUMMER clothing only (gently used and clean) at present.

You are encouraged to bring items that you would share with a good friend or family member. They want the shoppers to receive items that make them feel happy and excited.

2. Material donations will be accepted on SATURDAYS from 10:00-2:00. With their small space for accepting and sorting items, this enables them to stay on top of things.

3. They are in constant need of NEW underwear and socks – all sizes. To that end we will be sponsoring a basket for you to bring donations on Sunday, September 9. We'll be calling this "Undie Sunday". There will be reminders for you prior to that date.

Thanking you for all you do for The Kingdom,

– Jane Moore
Mission Coordinator

Teachers' Meeting

There will be a meeting for Sunday School teachers on Thursday, Aug. 30 at 9:00 a.m.

– Pam Faulk

Bertha McTaggart

Bertha (Tower) McTaggart, 89, died on July 26 at Miami Valley Hospital in Dayton following a brief illness.

Bertha and her husband John were members of our church for over 20 years when they lived in Delaware.

Born in Marion, Bertha graduated from Marion Harding High School, Baptist Missionary Training School in Chicago, Schauffler School of Religious Education in Cleveland and earned her Master Degree in Christian Education at The Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Philadelphia. She served with the Navy WAVES during WWII.

In 1947 Bertha married John McTaggart. During their marriage they lived in Berkley, CA and in Delaware, where John served as Head Librarian at the Methodist Theological School.

They spent most of their retirement years in Dayton, where they were members of First Baptist Church of Dayton.

Bertha was preceded in death by her husband of 52 years, John, and is survived by sister-in-law Margaret Mumpower, brother-in-law Bruce McTaggart, and many nieces and nephews.

A memorial service was held Saturday, August 11 at First Baptist Church in Dayton.

Her family suggests that her friends in Delaware make memorial contributions to our church to be used for Missions, in recognition of Bertha's lifelong interest in Missions.

A Letter from Bertha's Nephew

Some of you may not know that my aunt, Bertha McTaggart, went to be with the Lord on July 26, following a brief illness. She was 89 years old.

On July 18 she fell, broke her hip and had a stroke. On July 19 she had surgery to repair the hip, but the stroke left her not being able to swallow and affected her speech. While in the hospital, pneumonia set in and she died around noon on Thursday, July 26. I do not know the exact cause of death.

She was able to continue her normal routine in the St. Leonard Assisted Care Unit until the events of July 18. During the next week she had several visitors including friends, relatives and her Pastor at First Baptist Church Dayton.

Like her late husband, John, she had arranged to have her body donated to the Wright State University School of Medicine so there was no funeral service.

I am thankful for the time I spent with her following John's death. She kept her sweet spirit even as she lost her independence over the past year and one half. I visited her and helped with her affairs almost every Saturday. And most Sundays we went to church together at First Baptist Dayton. She always enjoyed greeting her many friends there.

We will all miss her.

Her nephew,

– Ted A. Greenwood



Prayer list for September

prepared by the Board of Deacons

Church Contact	Name	Reason for Prayer
Erin Faulk	Kathy Sharp	Cancer treatments
Evelyn Lee	Mary Tilson Shirley Irvin Rosemary Warner Bertha VanBrimmer Dewey Fittro Eloise Robinson Florence Faulk	@ Willowbrook Health issues Health Issues
Phil Mercer	Jerry Mercer Judy Mercer	Health Issues Health Issues
Jane Moore	George Corder Cathie Corder Beverly Thomas Olivia Langwasser	Health Issues (Heart, Diabetes) Continued recovery Heart transplant Young girl with leukemia
Barb Reed	Regan Riedmiller	
Randy Turner	Kelly Rider	Cancer Treatments
Jean Wickum	Jim Grant Martha Green Fran Cook	Arbors Heart Problems
Marci Cooper	Marc Parulekar	Cancer treatments
Angie Burton	Lillie Temple	Hospitalized for numbness
Carol Grubbs	Haycox Family	Children's health issues

Church Retreat

Plan now to attend our annual church family retreat at Camp Christian the weekend of October 12-14. The retreat is for everyone in our church family. It is a weekend where we enjoy studying a topic for our spiritual growth, as well as A LOT of fun activities! The camp is beautiful, the food is great, the price is cheap, and the fellow-



ship is rewarding. If you are new to our church fellowship, it is a good way to get to know people better. If you are not so new, it is a good way to just have fun and fellowship and replenish the spirit. Information letters and registration forms should be coming your way this week. Please register by September 23.

– Pam Faulk

Recipe

As promised, below is the recipe for a casserole I served when my daughter Emily and I hosted the

last after-church fellowship time.

This actually is not "my" recipe. It is taken from a new cookbook produced by Gooseberry Patch, a local company here in Delaware. I believe this book is now available for sale. This edition, called "Coming Home With Gooseberry Patch", features my gardens (thus, the reason I have this recipe in advance of the book's sale!).

Sweet Onion & Zucchini Bake

1/4 cup butter
3 cups sweet onion, thinly sliced
3 cups zucchini, thinly sliced
2 eggs, beaten
1/4 cup half-and-half
1 teaspoon salt
1/8 teaspoon pepper
1/4 teaspoon dry mustard (I was a bit more liberal)
1 cup Swiss cheese, shredded and divided

Melt butter in large skillet over medium heat; saute onion and zucchini until tender. Arrange vegetables in a lightly greased 8" x 8" baking pan. Combine eggs, half-and-half, salt, pepper, mustard and 1/2 cup cheese. Pour over vegetables. Sprinkle with remaining cheese. Bake at 375° for 20 minutes, or until center is set. Makes 6 to 8 servings.

For the brunch, I doubled this, but added an extra egg and a bit more cheese. Next time, I think I will cut the zucchini the night before and layer with sea salt so that it reduces the juices.

Enjoy!

– Melissa Neill

Thanks for Donations

(The complete letter is on the bulletin board in the Sunday School room – editor)

Thank you for your generous donations totalling \$400 from the Deacon's Fund. We have chosen your gifts to be applied to the School Shoes program of the People In Need (PIN) Agency. Each participating child is presented

with a gift card to purchase a new pair of school shoes.

Thank you for your continued support.

– Kevin James Crowley
Executive Director
People In Need

Highlights of the July 25 Quarterly Business Meeting

The important issue of needed repairs to the parsonage was addressed. Jim Moore recommended the porch and underlying basement wall be repaired at this time at a cost of \$2,400.00. He explained how the chimney could be protected from further weather damage which would allow actual repairs to be completed at a later date. This recommendation was subsequently placed before those in attendance in the form of a motion and serious discussion and consideration followed. The motion was then amended to include how the work would be funded, i.e., 1/2 from the general fund and 1/2 from the house and property fund. The amended motion was ultimately called to a vote, and it carried by a unanimous vote. The much needed work will therefore be completed in as timely a fashion as possible.

– Lana Palmer, Clerk

Officers Needed

Its not too late to be included in the slate of officers for 2008-09 years. There are several slots left to be filled so if you have a desire to do a bit more for your church, please let me know as soon as possible. Thank you.

– Jerry Palmer

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- Sept. 3 Alec Ferguson
- 5 Jessi Inscho
- 7 Christy Sykes
- 9 Barbara & Kip Smith
- 11 Barbara Reed
- 13 Jerry Palmer
- 14 Marci Cooper
- 15 Janet Porter
Jim & Bertha Van Brimmer
Sarah Sykes
- 17 Ed Burton
- 18 Melissa Mercer
- 22 Angie Burton
- 26 Phil & Melissa Mercer
- 29 Ian Ferguson
- 30 Mary Lou Lovell

Please report any errors or omissions to
Jim Stephenson.

Personals

• **Shirley Parker** was a patient at Grady for gallstones, kidney stones and pancreatitis.

• **Bob Foor** is recovering from a bout with kidney stones.

• **Flo Faulk** is in assisted living at Delaware Court Health Center.

• **Penny Hagaman** had thyroid surgery.

• **Carol Grubbs'** grandson Nickolas was a patient at Children's Hospital.

• **Bernice Turney**, who resides at Marjorie P. Lee Retirement Center in Cincinnati, entered The Association of Ohio Philanthropic Homes Services for the Aging's 2007 Arts and Writing Exhibition. Her entry was a crocheted doily made just this summer in the "Parisian Pineapple" pattern. The annual exhibition includes fine arts, needle arts, photography, poetry, prose (fiction & nonfiction), quilting, woodworking, etc.

Bernice placed second in the Marjorie P. Lee competition and third place in the needle arts division of the Southern Regional AOPHA Exhibition. This year there were over 268 entries from 19 participating agencies at the regional level. First, second, and third

winners of the regional competition now go on to compete in the State Exhibition which will be held September 25 through the 27th in Columbus, Ohio.

Congratulations, Bernice and best wishes from the First Baptist Church family for continued success in Columbus.

• The **Faulk family** is back from their travels. In June they all traveled to the Outer Banks of North Carolina to spend a week in a beach house. It was great fun for Larry, Pam, Erin, Jeff, Laurie, Cullen, Brigid, and all of Laurie's family too. Pam spent a month in July/August at Lake Erie at Geneva-on-the-Lake in their trailer. Larry came up for a few days at a time to relax and then go back to work. Erin was there at the beginning and then went to Wyoming for almost 3 weeks. Erin had a great time in Wyoming in a program for Ohio elementary teachers studying science. The program is offered through Miami University for two weeks. She found out about it from Rick Lee, who teaches one of the sessions. Erin stayed out there longer in order to spend more time in Yellowstone.

• **Pat Foor** told the Delaware Area Career Center Board of Education that she will be retiring in July, 2008. Pat has been the Superintendent of the Career Center for eight years. She plans to start her retirement next summer by relaxing, travelling, and spending more time with her family.

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is on the back of
the calendar.

Good News Letter

Published in the Cause of the Abundant Life by the First Baptist Church
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Dear FBC family:

You and I follow Jesus because God used someone to share the Good News. We have continued and grown as followers of Jesus because God has used others to celebrate with us in victory, encourage us in defeat and call us forward in faith.

You can help make the same things happen in the lives of people half a world away! That's why I am writing to ask you both to pray for and to give to the World Mission Offering.

Our congregation uses the World Mission Offering to support the work that God is doing through the missionaries of International Ministries in more than 30 countries around the world. The World Mission Offering also enables International Ministries to support mission outreach by partner churches in some 40 additional countries.

Our giving to the World Mission Offering helps people

Come to Christ
Grow in Christ and
Change their world with Christ.

Those are the results International Ministries seeks through its commitment to "make disciples of Jesus Christ." The missionaries and partners of International Ministries pray and work for those results as they meet a wide variety of human needs, train leaders and, yes, preach, launch new churches and do evangelism.

As you prayerfully consider your contribution this year I am asking you to put a face on your thoughts. In the past two years it has been

our pleasure to connect directly to some of our International Missionaries. Dwight and Kari Davidson minister in Japan. Jim and Debbie Kelsey are involved in a new ministry in Italy. Think about the sacrifices they have made to serve the Lord in your name. Honor



October

them, the whole International Ministries team, and God has you make your gift.

Our goal this year is \$500.00. That arbitrary figure simply helps us establish the priority of making sure we tithe our overall giving. We hope and pray that we will far exceed the goal.

Invite a friend to church so they might hear the Good News.

Your Pastor,

No Services Here on Retreat Sunday

Please remember that there will be no worship service in our home church on Sunday, October 14, while we are at the retreat.

We invite you to attend our service at Camp Christian that morning. Feel free to stay afterwards for lunch (price to be announced). Directions to the camp can be found in your retreat letter.

—Pam Faulk



Business Meeting

The third quarter business meeting and pot-luck supper will be held the evening of October, 24, 2007 beginning at 6:30 p.m. sharp. New officers will be presented and voted on by the nominating committee to serve for a two year period beginning January 1, 2008.

I encourage all of our officers but especially those being nominated for the new two year period to come to this meeting and enjoy a great meal, a time of fellowship and truly be a part of the business meeting.

— Jerry Palmer, moderator

New Windows Dedicated

A year ago at this time there were many in our congregation worrying about the coming winter weather and the cold temperatures

in the Sunday school rooms. This issue had been discussed many times with many fixes presented. At the January 2007 business meeting, Larry Faulk said that he could have new energy efficient windows delivered in just a matter of days.

Thanks to Larry and Pam Faulk and David and Mary Lou Lovell the windows have become a reality and the Sunday school rooms should be much warmer this coming winter. Their financial support for the gift of the windows and the labor by Larry and Dave is much appreciated by the entire congregation.

The windows were dedicated on September 2 just prior to the fellowship hour. If you haven't seen the new windows, feel free to visit any of the Sunday school rooms from both the inside and the out. They are a welcome addition to the church.

— Jerry Palmer, moderator

Dorothy Crane

Dorothy Crane, 91, of Washington Court House, died on Tuesday, August 14, at Court House Manor Nursing Home in Washington Court House.

Dorothy was a member of First Baptist when she lived in Delaware, and long-time members will also remember her parents, Rufus and Helen Crane, who attended here for many years, and her sister, Marge.

Dorothy was a graduate of the White Cross Hospital School of Medical Technology, and Ohio Wesleyan University. She owned and operated Cranedox Kennel for many years, and was a medical technician at Fayette County Memorial Hospital and St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Dayton until her retirement in 1983.

She is survived by her sister, Marge Adams, of Washington Court House, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Services were held at the First Baptist Church in Dayton, and burial was in Oak Grove Cemetery in Delaware.

Mission Conference Report

The Annual Missions Conference of the American Baptist Churches of Ohio was held over Labor Day weekend at the Heartland Retreat and Conference Center in Marengo. This marvelous facility is owned by another denomination, but they happily rent it out to other groups. The 350+ acres are well tended and the conference building is well-planned with ample, comfortable seating, and the cafeteria in the next room.

The main speaker for the weekend was Dr. David Brown, a former missionary to Prague, Czech Republic. He also lectured and taught in Russia and told several stories of his experiences there. He has just been called to be the Executive Director of the American Baptist Theological Center at Fuller Seminary in California.

Duane and Marcia Binkley were the missionary speakers. Formerly serving in Thailand, they now reside near Akron. They are helping Karen hill tribe refugees from northern Thailand and Burma who are coming in great numbers to the United States to be resettled here. Many churches are reaching out to these Christians who have no homeland. Over twenty Karen came to the conference on Sunday and sang some of their hymns in Burmese.

It was time well-spent learning more about how God is at work in our world, through the missionaries and those who support their efforts.

—Jane Moore
Mission Coordinator

Common Ground Free Store

It's amazing how something as simple as providing clothing and household items to people in need can help open new doors in their lives. Kids who might otherwise do without can walk proudly into school because they have clothes that fit and coats to keep them warm. A struggling single mom who can't afford a business suit can be well dressed for an important job interview. A family who can barely pay the rent can find the bed linens, towels and other items they need to make their house a home – without worrying about how they'll pay for it.

Having a place to meet these everyday needs is making a world of difference in Delaware. That's the ongoing mission of Common Ground Free Store Ministries – an unusual store led by local churches, businesses and caring citizens where life's necessities are provided FREE of charge to our neighbors in need.

What Exactly Is A Free Store?

We believe God's mercy doesn't come with a price tag. The store is a warm and welcoming place run by volunteers where needed items are available to everyone, FREE. From clothing, shoes, diapers and linens, to small appliances, books, and toys. There are no income requirements, no questions and no scrutiny – only the support of people who care. Everyone is on common ground.

The Free Store concept has already proven successful in other areas, including Columbus.

Why Is A Free Store So Important?

Right here in Delaware, 2,190 residents live below the poverty line, many of whom are under age 18 or over age 65. More than 1,900 families are classified as low-income households, with 692 falling into the critical housing needs category. And in a single six-month period, 74 families were identified as

Prayer list for October

prepared by the Board of Deacons

Church Contact	Name	Reason for Prayer
Erin Faulk	Kathy Sharp	Cancer treatments
Evelyn Lee	Mary Tilson Shirley Irvin Rosemary Warner Bertha VanBrimmer Dewey Fittro Eloise Robinson Florence Faulk	at Willowbrook Health issues Health Issues at Sarah Moore Home Delaware Court
Phil Mercer	Jerry Mercer Judy Mercer	Health Issues Health Issues
Jane Moore	George Corder Cathie Corder Olivia Langwasser	Health Issues (Heart, Diabetes) Continued recovery Young girl with leukemia
Barb Reed	Regan Riedmiller Richard Reed	Health Issues
Randy Turner	Taylor Nelson	3-year-old with cancer
Jean Wickum	Jim Grant Martha Green Fran Cook	Arbors Heart Problems
Marci Cooper	Marc Parulekar	Cancer treatments
Angie Burton	Lillie Temple	Hospitalized for numbness
Carol Grubbs	Haycox Family	Children's health issues
H. Van Broekhoven	Deborah Van Broekhoven	ABC USA Historical Society

homeless by the American Red Cross of Delaware County, Salvation Army, People in Need and other service agencies. The need is great. So is our vision – but it doesn't stop with free clothing and household items.

Since some people's needs go beyond our scope of service, we will partner with other local service agencies to ensure that every need of every person who comes to us is met by serving as a referral resource in the community.

If someone is in need of a job, food, shelter or other specialized service, we will provide information and place that person in contact with the appropriate resource in Delaware.

How Successful Was "Undie Sunday"?

Wow! You folks have come through once again! Grand total delivered to the Free Store was 19 packages of underwear and 10 bundles of socks.

What Are Other Ways To Help?

There is always a need for someone to volunteer in the store. Sorting and greeting are two very important jobs. They also need donations of money to pay rent and utilities. For more information or if you have items to donate, please call **740-369-FREE** or visit their website at commongroundfreestore.com

We'll repeat the Undie Sunday drive again after the first of the year, so be READY!

– Jane Moore
Mission Coordinator

World Mission Offering

The World Mission Offering, which we will be receiving during October, gives our church an opportunity to partner with International Ministries to deeply touch the lives of thousands of people all over the world.

Those blessed by our generosity include Rosa (who is pictured on our posters this year). She is a 36-year-old widow and mother of six, who lives in Pueblo Nuevo Sitala in Chiapas, Mexico.

Rosa is one of the women being helped by the Antzeti'k Women's Mayan Crafts Collective. This project is a holistic development that incorporates Christian discipling, economic advancement and social transformation. Currently, about 80 women belong to the Antzeti'k Collective. Rosa is a member of the Baptist church that is pastored by Ramon Gutierrez.

As she hones her skills in traditional embroidery, she is also deepening supportive relationships with other women, learning about the wider world, increasing her household income and growing deeper in her faith in Jesus Christ. She has transmitted her enthusiasm to her 12 and 9-year old daughters, both of whom have also become members of the collective.

Every gift given by our church to WMO goes 100% to help people

come to Christ, grow in Christ, and change their world with Christ. Share your resources. Be a blessing. Support the vital work of over 1,800 missionaries and international partners of International Ministries around the world. This year we've raised our goal to \$600. During the month of October keep an eye on the north wall of the sanctuary as we chart our progress toward that goal.

— Jane Moore
Mission Coordinator

Trustees Notes

- All the furnaces at church were serviced, checked over and had their filters changed. Several checked and cracked fan belts were replaced. This work by Don Patrick cost \$203.59.
- The sanctuary piano was tuned on the first of September for the resumption of choir. This work by tuner Richard Dacks cost \$75.00.
- The new classroom windows are complete. A big thank you goes to these four workers: Larry Faulk, Dave Lovell, Jimmie Moore, and Jerry Palmer.

— Peter White
Reporting for the Trustees

Birthdays and Anniversaries

- Oct. 1 Bruce Bowman
Kathy Chesser
3 Janet Lathrop
Jarrod & Nichelle Trigg
Tim & Kathy Chesser
7 Ann Brown
20 Jim Brown
21 Ray & Cynthia Biggar
24 Emily Bowman
28 Bora Porter
Ed Linn
30 Jean Osborne
31 Ray Biggar
Melissa Claire Turner

Please report any errors or omissions to Jim Stephenson.

The Temperance Sermon

A minister was completing a temperance sermon. With great emphasis he said, "If I had all the beer in the world, I'd take it and pour it into the river."

With even greater emphasis he said, "And if I had all the wine in the world, I'd take it and pour it into the river."

And then finally, shaking his fist in the air, he said, "And if I had all the whiskey in the world, I'd take it and pour it into the river."

Sermon complete, he sat down.

The song leader stood cautiously and announced with a smile, "For our closing song, let us sing hymn #365, "Shall We Gather at the River."

— submitted by Melissa Neill

Personals

- Rev. Robert Hughes (who has served as interim pastor at First Baptist) had a pacemaker installed at Riverside
- Shirley Parker is recovering from pneumonia
- Janet Lathrop was a patient at Grady Hospital for four days for blood pressure problems
- Francis Cook was a patient at Grady
- Carol and Ray Serviss visited Ray's father in Florida
- Jarrod, Nichelle and Jackson Trigg, who moved to New Jersey in June, visited First Baptist
- Don Williams, son of Rev. Morgan Williams (our pastor from 1938 to 1946), attended Sunday services at our church recently, along with his wife Sally, and with their friends Don and Mary Berneson, and Liz and Steve Mintos.



Rev. Williams

Good News Letter

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Dear FBC family:

As November approaches we realize that another year is drawing to a close. In a few short weeks we will be celebrating Thanksgiving. As we walked down the last aisle at Buehler's I noticed the Christmas display at Ace hardware. I said that it seemed too early to have Christmas decorations out. Kathy said it only seemed that way since the weather is still singing the song of summer.

Thanksgiving is the time to give God thanks for all of the blessings of life. We have much to be thankful for as a church and as a people. I hope that you will remember that November is also the time that we ask people to prayerfully consider their giving for the year to come. As always certain expenses rise with the passing of time. Our most recent financial statements indicate to me that many of us have room to grow in our stewardship.

Bob Roberts, former general secretary for world mission support of the ABC, once asked in a publication that he edited, "Could you live on 10 times what you give to the church?"

The question we need to ask ourselves is whether or not we are being faithful to God. If we are then the work of the church will not suffer.

I learned at the Annual Meeting of the American Baptist Churches of Ohio last week that we need to communicate that same message to our churches. Without giving

specifics the treasurer told the gathering that gifts to the United Mission Budget are not measuring up to the expenses of the region.

We had another wonderful all church retreat again this year. Special thanks are due to Pam Faulk for all her work in managing

NOVEMBER



the logistics of the retreat and to Kathy Chesser for her work in getting the information for the retreat in a form I could use for my presentations. It was a privilege to serve as the retreat leader this year. However, it was your contributions that made the retreat special.

I will be on vacation from November 12 to 24. The Reverend David Seidzol, former chaplain for the Grady Hospice program and American Baptist pastor, will be preaching on November 18. On

November 25 we will have a special hanging of the greens service.

Invite a friend to church.

Your Pastor,

Thank You

A very special thank-you goes to our Pastor, Tim Chesser, for leading such a special retreat this year. And also, thanks go to Kathy for helping Tim with some of the legwork.

— Pam Faulk

Bertha McTaggart Memorial

The memorial fund for Bertha McTaggart totaled \$150, and we gave it to Bacone College. Bacone was one of Bertha's missionary interests, it was where she and John went on John's sabbatical, and her family thought it would be appreciated.

— Evelyn Lee

People In Need (PIN)

The first Sunday of November is designated for our PIN basket contributions. Special needs this month are corn, juice, rice, boxed potatoes.

— Linda White

Andrews House 13th Annual Christmas Bazaar

This year's bazaar will be held on November 30 from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. It will again feature the famous cookie sale. Dozens of cookies—fancy, plain, small or large—are needed to make this a success.

If you can furnish cookies, please have them there by 5:00 p.m. on November 29 in order for them to be arranged and ready for the rush at 10:00 a.m. the next morning.

We will again have a bake sale table all day at the bazaar. We would appreciate yeast or quick bread, pies, candy, jams and jellies, jars of mixes and other items suitable for this popular table. These need to be at Andrews House by 9:00 the morning of the bazaar. Please let me know if you can bring any of these items.

The bazaar again will feature a drawing for one of Milt Wyman's beautiful stained glass nativity sets and a quilt by Brenda Venzke. Tim has tickets for this and will be glad to sell them to you. Milt will also have a roomful of stained glass items from jewelry to lawn ornaments.

A new feature this year will be a decorated wreath sale.

January Newsletter

The January newsletter will be released on Sunday, January 6, which is **one week later** than our usual schedule. This is so I won't have to work on it during Christmas week.

If you plan to submit an article or calendar item concerning an event in early January, you may wish to put it in the December issue instead (Nov. 18 deadline).

— Jim Stephenson, editor

Remember this bazaar is one of Andrews House's most important funding projects. Please try to give it your generous support.

— Evelyn Lee,
362-9107

Second Friday Dinners

For the past six months, First Baptist has served as Greeters and Mixers at these meals. Those working with me have been Sharon Baker, her granddaughter Kaitlyn Maker, Jeanne Ekelberry, Barb Reed, and Sophia Stephenson. My thanks to each for their hours of service.

— Evelyn Lee

Pumpkin Pies Needed for Andrews House

We will be furnishing 12 large-size pumpkin pies for the November 9 Andrews House dinner. If you can purchase a pie and have it there by 5:00 on that day, please let me know. The pies cost \$8 and I will be glad to purchase and deliver them to Andrews House if you prefer to give me the price of a pie.

As I've stated before, more churches are **sponsoring their own community dinners** and thus we need to take more turns at the various needed tasks. I need to know by November 4. Your past help has been much appreciated.

— Evelyn Lee, 362-9107

News from Cynthia Biggar

A recent note from Cynthia and Ray Biggar states that she is continuing a pastoral internship at Edwards Church, UCC, in Farmington, MA, serving as an

BAKED SAUERKRAUT

Makes 8 servings. (It's good with pork.)

5 slices thick-sliced bacon
¾ cup firmly packed light or dark brown sugar
¼ cup (½ stick) margarine or butter
1 can (about 27 ounces) sauerkraut, drained
1 can (about 20 ounces) tomatoes
or stewed tomatoes, drained

1. Fry bacon crisp; drain and crumble.
2. Mix brown sugar, margarine (or butter) and crumbled bacon to make a topping.
3. Place drained sauerkraut and tomatoes in a 13 x 9-inch baking dish; mix well. Sprinkle sugar mixture on top.
4. Bake, uncovered, in preheated 350-degree oven for 1 hour.

— submitted by Jane Moore

assistant pastor. Over the summer she preached quite a bit. She will be at Edwards Church through December.

Her ordination interview is scheduled for December 18 in Boston. If all goes well, she would then be eligible to "search for a call" (find a real job as a pastor).

They send their best and hope to see us in the near future.

— Evelyn Lee

Worn Sheets to Hospital Bandages

We recently finished rolling dozens of 3" x 10 yd. bandages made from your old sheets. Harold Rittenhouse is sending them to a hospital in Haiti, which they have supported for years.

Our supply of sheets is now exhausted so we welcome any you might wish to pass along. These may be left on the table under the mailboxes in the back hallway. Plain and printed sheets are welcome.

Thank you for thinking of others who depend on handmade bandages for their health needs.

— The Sewing Group

November
Prayer list for December

prepared by the Board of Deacons

Church Contact	Name	Reason for Prayer
Erin Faulk	Kathy Sharp	Cancer treatments
Evelyn Lee	Mary Tilson Shirley Irvin Rosemary Warner Bertha VanBrimmer Dewey Fittro Eloise Robinson Florence Faulk	at Willowbrook Health issues Health Issues at Sarah Moore Home Delaware Court
Phil Mercer	Jerry Mercer Judy Mercer	Health Issues Health Issues
Jane Moore	George Corder Cathie Corder Olivia Langwasser	Health Issues (Heart, Diabetes) Continued recovery Young girl with leukemia
Barb Reed	Regan Riedmiller Richard Reed	Health Issues
Randy Turner	Taylor Nelson	3-year-old with cancer
Jean Wickum	Jim Grant Martha Green Fran Cook	Arbors Heart Problems
Marci Cooper	Marc Parulekar	Cancer treatments
Angie Burton	Lillie Temple	Hospitalized for numbness
Carol Grubbs	Haycox Family	Children's health issues
H. Van Broekhoven	Deborah Van Broekhoven	ABC USA Historical Society

Trustees Report

The concrete repairs at the parsonage have been completed. The cement floor of the porch was leveled, which required bracing and strengthening the basement wall and then injecting cement under the porch. Also, two blocks of the front walk between the driveway and the front steps were leveled in the same manner. The cost was \$2,600. The work was done by A1 Concrete.

— Peter White
Reporting for the Trustees

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, and you can take your poinsettias home after our Christmas Eve service.



The cost is to be announced

(probably around \$9). Please place your orders with Jim Stephenson or Melissa Mercer by Sunday, Nov. 25.

Personals

- Fran Cook was hospitalized for heart problems.
- Jim Van Brimmer had cataract surgery.
- Steve Stoner had hip replacement surgery, and has been re-admitted to Grady due to infection.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- Nov. 5 Victor Fogle
- 8 Matthew & Annette Fritsch-Lovell
- 10 Natalie Griffith
- 12 Jackson Trigg
- 15 Harold Van Broekhoven
- 17 Jim and Ann Brown
Emily Inscho
- 19 Steve Ferguson
- 20 Randy Turner
- 22 Peter White
- 28 Karen Stoner
- 29 Sophia Campbell

Please report any errors or omissions to Jim Stephenson.



Partner Church - UPDATE -

NOVEMBER 2007

KID'S ACTIVITIES!

The First Friday of each month brings a special children's activity* to Andrews House in partnership with Main Street Delaware! Bring your kids from 6-8pm on these evenings:

November 2: Tile painting, environmentally friendly Christmas ornament making!

December 7: Tile painting, making Christmas cards. Gift wrapping fundraiser**

*Volunteers are needed to help host these fun events. Contact us if you would be interested in helping.

**Supplies and volunteers needed.

FREE SERVICES

Every month Andrews House offers a variety of free services to our community. Help us get the word out!

Free Meals

Second Fridays • 6:00pm
A full course hot meal.

Third Thursdays • 5:00pm
Soup, sandwiches and dessert.

Interfaith Legal Clinic

Third Tuesday of the month,
5:30pm

Computer Classes

Mondays this fall, 7-9pm. Openings in November classes. Call for more information

Grace (Medical) Clinic (held by partner church Grace Brethren, Powell)
Wednesdays, 6:30-8:30pm

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30

The annual Christmas Bazaar will be on Friday, November 30 from 10am-6pm. It will feature the popular cookie sale, baked goods, stained glass sale, an OSU wreath & a Christmas wreath for silent auction, and the annual raffle for a stained glass 11-piece nativity and a handmade quilt (tickets available at Andrews House). We will also be selling note cards from Passion Works designed by disabled artists, proceeds benefit both organizations. Donations of cookies, baked goods (no layer cakes please), or silent auction items are welcome. Donations can be dropped off anytime on Thursday, Nov. 29, or on Friday, Nov. 30 between 8-10am.

HOLIDAY DOG PARADE!

November 18 brings Delaware's Annual Christmas Parade. This year Andrews House is participating by holding its first annual Holiday Dog Parade and Contest. Entry fee is \$10, forms are available at Andrews House and at many pet stores around Delaware. The contest for most OSU spirit, funniest, and best costumes will take place at Mingo Park at 1:30 pm and followed by participating in the Christmas Parade! All entry fees benefit Andrews House. Please contact Jill Lee at Andrews House if you have questions or need more information.

FIRST FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7TH

Kids Activities: Kids of all ages are invited to come make Christmas cards and to come paint a tile for the Children's Community Wall at Mingo Park. Tiles are \$5 and benefit Andrews House.

Gift wrapping services: Love to shop, hate to wrap? Bring your boxed gifts to Andrews House to be wrapped for a donation that will benefit Andrews House.

WISH LISTS

Volunteers: Come work at one or more of our upcoming events: Dog Parade, Christmas Bazaar or First Friday. We would appreciate your help!

Supplies: Christmas wrapping paper, bows, ribbon, tape, gift tags.

NEW COORDINATORS FOR THIRD THURSDAYS!

Andrews House is grateful to have a new coordinators for this free meal! Duane & Dawn Woodford have stepped up to plan, coordinate and help serve this meal. We are also thankful to FCA at Ohio Wesleyan for providing monthly volunteers to help prepare and serve!

ANDREWS HOUSE 15TH ANNIVERSARY NEARS

2008 brings a great milestone to Andrews House—15 years of service. We are excited to celebrate with our supporters and our great community who make Andrews House possible. If you would be interested in serving on a planning committee for this anniversary celebration, please contact us.

Good News Letter

Published in the Cause of the Abundant Life by the First Baptist Church
101 North Franklin Street, Delaware, OH 43015 • 740-363-7021 • www.FBCDelaware.org

Dear FBC family:

We had a special moment in worship a couple of weeks ago. As Steve Yang was telling us about his plans for his last Spring Break Mission trip in 2008 he said the only family he had in Ohio was his church family. Steve has been attending FBC since his freshman year. It is hard to believe that in just over six months we will be saying goodbye as Steve graduates and goes on to medical school. Be sure to look on the bulletin board for a print out of an article about Steve that appeared in an Ohio Wesleyan University electronic publication.

When we think about sojourners who are helped by strangers our attention is drawn to the advent and Christmas season. The Holy Family would encounter many as they anticipated the birth of the savior. Some were helpful, some not. Let us make sure that our hearts are open to others during this season. As we worship in December our services will revolve around the themes of Hope, Peace, Love, and Joy. Advent and Christmas at FBC is about the coming of the light of God into the world. From the lighting of Advent candles every week to our candlelight communion on Christmas Eve we will be bathed in the light. Please plan on being at every service and invite your friends.

Word arrived by email this week that Jarrod, Nichelle, and Jackson Trigg will be back in town during December. We look forward to hearing exciting tales of their new

life in New Jersey. The Davidsons will also be visiting from Japan.

December is also the time when we remember the services of our retired ministers and missionaries by taking up the annual Thank You



December

offering. Our goal this year is \$600.00. Our own Sophie Stephenson is featured in a national publication promoting the offering. Please give generously.

Please prayerfully consider making a pledge toward next year's budget.

Have a blessed Christmas season. Invite a friend to church.

Your Pastor,

Children's Christmas Program

Please join us on December 16th as we celebrate Christmas with the children of the church. During Sunday School Opening, we will have our birthday party for Jesus followed by refreshments in the fellowship hall. During the worship service on the 16th, the children will present the musical, A Shepherd's Story. Kirsten and the children have been working hard on the costumes, set, music and lines for this performance. Hope you'll all attend and show your support for all of their hard work!

— Liz Bowman

Christmas Caroling

Everyone is invited to join us for our annual Christmas caroling on Sunday, December 9. We'll meet at the church at 6:30 p.m. and will visit our shut-ins. We'll be singing familiar carols that everyone knows, and will be done by around 8:00 pm. Hope to see you then.

— Jim Stephenson
Choir Director

Christmas Offering

The Christmas offering envelope will be donated to Second Friday's at the Andrews House.

— Larry Faulk

Mary Helen Richards

Mary Helen Richards, 90, died on Nov. 17 at Willow Brook Christian Village in the presence of her two sons.

Mary Helen and her husband John (who died last year) had formerly been members of First Baptist. Mary Helen taught Sunday School here for many years and was active in the ABWM.

Mary Helen was a gourmet cook and cultivated a renowned asparagus garden and a small orchard along with growing herbs and flowers. Both she and John were particularly fond of Colorado and made many numerous trips out West to visit their sons. They also enjoyed traveling in Europe.

She was a member of the American Legion Auxiliary, the Delaware Child Study League, St. Peter's Episcopal Church, The First Baptist Church, Outlook Club and the Sarah Moore Home Board.

Later in life, she endured poor health with grace and dignity, and was admired for a sweet disposition in the face of her physical adversity.

She is survived by two sons and daughters-in-law, Jon and Kathy Richards of North Bend, Ore., and Jeffery and Carolyn Richards of Denver; one grandson, Cameron; three granddaughters, Alison, Laetitia and Nathalie; one sister, Lou Ann Heinrichs of Greenville; numerous nieces and nephews; and many friends.

She was preceded in death by her husband, John, on Sept. 11, 2006.

A memorial service was held at Willow Brook Christian Village, with the Rev. Charles Wilson Jr., officiating. Memorial contributions may be made to Willow Brook Christian Village.

People In Need (PIN)

The 1st Sunday of December is designated for our PIN basket contributions.

2008 Church Directory

It's time to update the Directory for 2008. Please check your address, phone numbers, and email addresses in the directory and forward any changes to one of the deacons during December. Also, please see Dave Lovell or Larry Faulk to "update" your photo.

– Larry Faulk

Parish Council

The combined November/December Parish Council meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. on November 27th at the Palmer residence.

– Jerry Palmer

Andrews House Needs Help with Christmas Bazaar

Don't forget the Andrews House's annual Christmas Bazaar on Friday, Nov. 30. The one thing we are a bit short on right now is volunteers. We need 1 to 2 cashiers in the afternoon and 3 to 4 greeters. These volunteer positions are all for 2 to 3 hours shifts between 10 am and 6 pm. Please call me at 740-369-4520 if you're interested..

– Kendra Carlson
Andrews House

Mission Moment

Our World Mission Offering was very successful again this year. We received \$817.57. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

And once again it's time to remember the saints and servants of our denomination. The RMMO will be received during the month of December. This is a tangible way we as an American Baptist congregation can honor retired ministers, missionaries and their widowed spouses. This offering provides emergency and other financial assistance, based on financial need; and Thank You checks to over

January Newsletter

The January newsletter will be available on Sunday, January 6, which is **one week later** than our usual schedule. (This is so I won't have to work on it during Christmas week.)

The deadline to submit articles will be Sunday, Dec. 30.

– Jim Stephenson, editor

3,000 recipients, based on 15 or more years of ABC service.

Our own Sophia Stephenson is featured in this year's promotional material as a recipient of a Thank You check each year. She wrote, "I want to express my heartfelt appreciation for the Thank You check. I have had a lot of medical expenses this year and the check has helped me pay some bills. God bless you."

When we know our contribution is used for such worthy recipients, it makes the giving much easier. Our goal is \$600.

Children will be receiving their offering boxes on December 2 and we ask that they be returned by Dec. 23

REMEMBER with LOVE – GIVE with GRATITUDE

– Jane Moore
Mission Coordinator

Trustees Notes

- The furnace that heats the fellowship hall was noisy and required a new electric motor which powers the fan. The cost of removal, installation and rewiring by Don Patrick was \$265.23. This included some work on a slow-moving drain in the mens' room.

- An effort has been made to eliminate the occasional bat from entering the church. An inspection

Prayer list for January

prepared by the Board of Deacons

Church Contact	Name	Reason for Prayer
Erin Faulk	Kathy Sharp	Cancer treatments
Evelyn Lee	Mary Tilson Shirley Irvin Rosemary Warner Bertha VanBrimmer Dewey Fittro Eloise Robinson Florence Faulk	at Willowbrook Health issues Health Issues at Sarah Moore Home Delaware Court
Phil Mercer	Jerry Mercer Judy Mercer	Health Issues Health Issues
Jane Moore	George Corder Cathie Corder Olivia Langwasser	Health Issues (Heart, Diabetes) Continued recovery Young girl with leukemia
Barb Reed	Regan Riedmiller Richard Reed	Health Issues
Randy Turner	Taylor Nelson	3-year-old with cancer
Jean Wickum	Jim Grant Martha Green Fran Cook	Arbors Heart Problems
Marci Cooper	Marc Parulekar	Cancer treatments
Angie Burton	Lillie Temple	Hospitalized for numbness
Carol Grubbs	Haycox Family	Children's health issues
H. Van Broekhoven	Deborah Van Broekhoven	ABC USA Historical Society

(which cost \$189.00) determined that the main point of entry was the tower above the entrance vestibule. Work was needed to seal the tower-room ceiling and redo the trap doors at the top of the stairways in the front vestibule. This was completed at a cost of \$485.00 This may have a side benefit of holding more heat downstairs. The work was done by Creature Catchers of Columbus, LTD.

- The heat pump and electric furnace at the parsonage was checked for winter. The "old" boiler at the "old" parsonage needed repairs and cleaning on the controls for the burner and pilot light to get it working for the winter. This work was done by Don Patrick and cost \$180.00.

– Peter White
Reporting for the Trustees

Second Friday

Many thanks to all who helped purchase the 12 pumpkin pies we provided for the November Second Friday Dinner. They were put to good use as the dining room was completely filled this month.

Our thanks also to Jim Van Brimmer who has picked up the leftover bakery goods for many months from the Belle Avenue Food Pantry and delivered it to Andrews House to be distributed at Second Fridays following the meal.

– Evelyn Lee

"Grow Old With Me"

Jim and Ann Brown and family wish to thank our friends and family of the First Baptist Church for the love and joy that was shown and shared in the celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary.

God bless you all!

Love,

– Jim and Ann

Personals

- Florence Faulk was in the hospital from October 30 to 31 after she fainted and was found to have very high blood pressure.
- Aunt Alice Osborne has returned to her home with Jean after spending several months at Delaware Court, where she received physical therapy as she recovered from a fractured hip.
- Jim and Ann Brown renewed their wedding vows at First Baptist on Nov. 10, in honor of their 50th wedding anniversary.
- Janet Porter had shoulder surgery and Anna Kailyn had appendicitis surgery. With both of them recovering from surgery at the same time, they needed help from relatives to care for their four children (two with special needs).

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- Dec. 4 Erin Faulk
11 Holly Kauf
13 Geneva Evans
15 Bud Sykes
23 Dominique DeBiasio
24 Francis Cook
25 Carol Grubbs
Steve & Karen Stoner
27 Cory Lawrence
28 Sharon Baker
29 Harold & Deborah
Van Broekhoven
- Jan. 4 Cynthia Biggar
Fred DeBiasio
Shirley Parker
5 Evelyn Lee
10 Kip Smith
12 Larry Faulk
Matthew Cooper

Please report any errors or omissions to
Jim Stephenson.