

Good news Letter

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

Santa Claus brought me a stocking again this year. It was filled with all kinds of wonderful things: peanut butter cups, earrings, a slinky, a stuffed smile face doll that laughs and shakes, a pen and pencil set and "Tamagotchi." A what? A "Tamagotchi" is a key chain pet. Mine was a turtle. It is alive. Really. It eats, drinks, sleeps, poops, gets sick, goes to school, plays ball and has an assortment of moods. It even dies. Death, of course, only happens if it is severely neglected. Which means that it's owner, in order to prevent death, is required to take care of it 24 hours a day, every day.

I took care of mine for 2 whole days. It would have lasted longer, but I decided to give it up for adoption. You see, my sister Karen also received a "Tamagotchi" pet (a Kitty Cat) which was dead when she tried to turn it on. So, I was more than willing to give mine up to her, because, after all, she's a better mother than I am. At least, she's a better mother to key chain pets.

Which makes me think of New Year's Day.

As we begin this new year, we often put a lot of time into thinking about the kind of resolutions we need

to make. All of us, of course, plan to eat less, exercise more, worry less, relax more, work less, improve our minds and be kinder to our fellow humans. Unfortunately, New Year's



resolutions usually last for 2 or 3 days and then all of our fabulous intentions go out the front door with the Christmas tree.

But remember, we're not just turning over the calendar from 1997 to 1998, we're also beginning a new church year, a new year in our life of faith. A life of faith, is kind of like a "Tamagotchi" pet. It's alive. It needs our constant care and attention or it will die. It needs, not only to be fed and cared for, but it also needs to be

nurtured, played with and loved or it won't grow and thrive.

Faith isn't just a concept that we preachers like to talk about on Sundays. Faith is a living, breathing, growing and constantly evolving reality. It lives and it can just as easily die. But, like the "Tamagotchi" pet, faith is forgiving. When your key chain pet is ignored and neglected and eventually dies, it has a special hole in the back where you can stick in a toothpick and bring it back to life. Faith has a similar feature.

Let us remember, as we begin this new year, that we do have a living Faith. May God give us the ability and the desire to nurture and feed and care for our faith, so that it becomes real in our lives and real in the lives of those whose lives our lives touch.

Many Blessings,

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An Invitation to Become an International Family

The youth Exchange Service is looking for Christian families to host foreign exchange students. Y.E.S. is searching for families who are interested in sharing their love and understanding with an international teenage student. Y.E.S. students are 15 to 18 years old and are scheduled to arrive in January for the second semester and again in August for the school year. Each student is carefully screened, brings his/her own spending money, and is fully covered by insurance. The students are coming from South America and People's Republic of China, among other places. For information about becoming a host family, please contact Youth Exchange Service (Y.E.S.), 4675 MacArthur Court, Suite 830, Newport Beach, California 92660, or call Y.E.S. at our 24-hour toll free number: (800) 848- 2121, ext. 10.

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What is an American Baptist?

Good question. What do American Baptist's believe? Where is our Denomination's headquarters located? What makes an American Baptist different from a Presbyterian, or a Methodist or a Roman Catholic? Why am I an American Baptist? If you're looking for answers to these and other questions, please look for

Please remember to put your name on your newsletter submissions. Most of the articles submitted this month were unsigned, which makes it difficult for me if I have a question about that article.

Thanks,

Jim Stephenson, editor

an interesting article in each edition of this year's newsletter.

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Annual Pulpit Exchange

The Delaware County Ministerial Association is hosting the Annual Pulpit Exchange on Sunday, January 18, 1998. The Rev. Matthew Morton-Wilson, Associate Pastor of First Presbyterian Church will be preaching at First Baptist and Pastor Hagans will be preaching at First Presbyterian with the Rev. Bill Nirote. Pastor Hagans drew Paul Randall's name (pastor of 1st Presbyterian) and Bill Nirote drew Matthew Morton-Wilson's name.

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Secret Advent Friends

If you'd like to participate in the year-long Secret Advent Partner relationship, please see Sue Elfner *as soon as possible* for your form and to choose a form that someone else has already filled out. This process should be completed before the middle of January.

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Fellowship of the Least Coin

The Fellowship of the Least Coin challenges us to act for Justice, Peace, and Creation. Since 1956, Christian Women on all continents have prayed for reconciliation in the home, the community, the nation, and the world, and to work for peace with justice.

The "least coin" of each country is set aside as the token of each prayer and sent to a common fund. Once a year the contributions are brought together at the Fellowship Day Celebration of Church Women United. Church Women United invites you to be a partner and to drop your "least coins" in the jar in the vestibule.

JANUARY WORSHIP

January 4

Epiphany

Holy Communion

Matthew 2:1-12

"Realistic Visionaries"

January 11

1st Sunday after Epiphany

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

"The Priesthood of ALL Believers"

January 18

2nd Sunday after Epiphany

Delaware County Ministerial

Association

Annual Pulpit Exchange

The Rev. Matthew Morton-Wilson,

preaching

January 25

3rd Sunday after Epiphany

Luke 4:14-21

"Christmas Present"

February 1

4th Sunday after Epiphany

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

"All You Need Is . . ."

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Teen News

In November the ABY held a dedication service to install the Peace Pole. What is a Peace Pole? It is a lovely weather-treated, four-sided wooden pole that proclaims, "Let peace prevail on Earth!" in four different languages.

The kids chose: sign language, English, Japanese and one other I can't remember... look and see for yourselves! It's a beautiful addition to our church's front lawn.

I'm so proud they worked hard to totally raise the full amount by pie sales and silent auction. Give 'em a pat on the back!

-Beth Trigg

Handicapped Accessibility Project



Work is nearing completion on the handicapped accessibility project. Here are some photos taken earlier in the project.

◀ digging the foundation

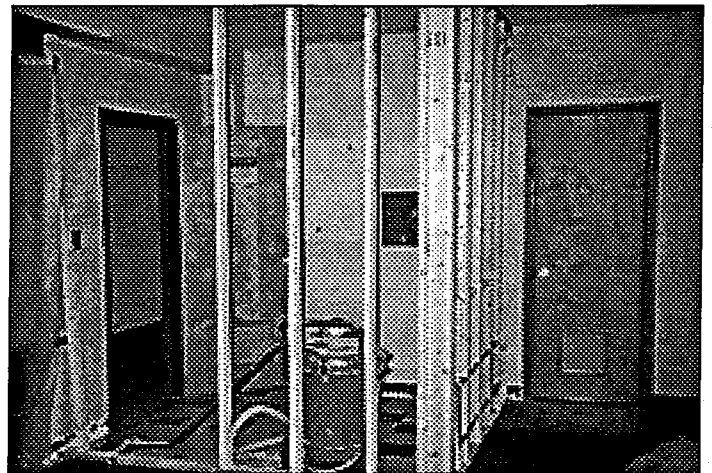
the foundation is complete and
the walls begin to go up ▶



◀ the walls are complete



the handicapped accessible
restroom under construction ▶



In next month's newsletter we'll have photos which show the project being completed.

Trustees Notes

- The pipe organ was tuned and serviced by Gary Mason. cost: \$150.00
- One box of altar candles was purchased. cost: \$30.60
- Mansfield Typewriter replaced our copier with a much newer model for the same monthly rate we were paying for lease and service on the old one.
- Peter White cleaned out the gutters and downspouts and raked up 17 bags of leaves at the "old" parsonage.

— Peter White, Chairman

Andrews House

- The Christmas Bazaar and Silent Auction raised approximately \$2,700. Thanks to all the volunteers for their hard work.
- "Let's Talk" is a new series of monthly public discussions focusing on issues in the Delaware community. The first session will be on Tuesday, January 20th at 7:30 pm, on the subject of "how to assure civil discussion." Future topics will include "Delaware's Growth" (February) and "Delaware's Unspoken Boundaries. (March)."

For more Andrews House news, see the Andrews House newsletter posted in the assembly room.

Personals

- Congratulations to CAP GABRIEL who celebrated his 96th birthday on December 18th!
- BETTY PORTER visited Jennifer and Ed Linn in California.
- CAROL SUE FOGLE visited for a week with Vic and Debbie in San Diego.
- JEAN OSBORNE spent the holidays in Grand Rapids, Michigan with son Gregg and family.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

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

Please report any errors or omissions to Jim Stephenson

Church Directory Update

New Address:

Carolyn Schneeberger
Sarah Moore Home
47 East William Street
Delaware, OH 43015

JANUARY 1998

First Baptist Church

101 North Franklin Street, Delaware, Ohio 43015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				New Year's Day 1	2	3
4 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship	5 7:00 Delaware Piecemakers; Boy Scouts	6 7:00 Board of Deacons	7 7:00 Choir	8 12:00 Young at Heart	9	10 9:30 DISCIPLE 1:30 Parish Council Calendar Planning
11 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship 2:00 Peace Camp Meeting 7:00 Community Forum for our Schools	12 7:00 Boy Scouts	13	14 7:00 Choir	15	16	17 9:30 DISCIPLE
18 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship 12:30 A.B.W. Ministries 2:00 Board of Christian Education	19 Martin Luther King Day 7:00 Boy Scouts	20 7:00 Board of Christian Education at Parsonage	21 7:00 Choir	22 7:00 A.B.W. Ministries at Parsonage	23	24 8:30 Men's Breakfast 9:30 DISCIPLE
25 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>	26 7:00 Boy Scouts	27	28 6:30 Covered Dish Dinner, followed by Annual Business Meeting	29	30	31

Sunday, February 1: Boy Scout Sunday

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February. The month of two very important holidays. One is a "Hallmark" holiday and one is a "religious" holiday. Valentine's Day, of course, on the 14th is the day when we celebrate love, in all of it's many facets, but especially the romantic variety. A day when couples of all kinds, ages and sizes will go out for a night on the town, or give one another amorous gifts as a way to symbolize the love they share with one another.

Ash Wednesday, is on the 25th, the day in which we remember our sinful nature and enter into a time of repentance. This day begins the six-week long season of Lent, which ends on Easter Sunday.

As it occurred to me that both of these holidays happen in February, it also occurred to me that they don't have very much in common. But, I knew that couldn't be right, that they must have something in common other than the fact that they both fall within the month of February. And even if they don't have anything in common, I knew that I could probably put on my creative thinking cap and come up

with some far-fetched connection.

But, the truth is, they both celebrate love. Granted, they do it in very different ways, but the object of the celebration is still the same. If people didn't fall in love and stay in love, then there wouldn't be any need for a Valentine's day. If God didn't love us and we didn't have a need to return that love, then there wouldn't be a need for Ash Wednesday and the season of Lent.

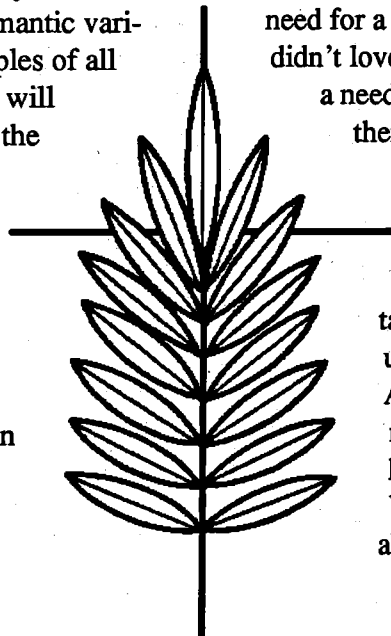
Those of us who take part in religious rituals, would say that Ash Wednesday is a much more important holiday than Valentine's day. And although I'm a BIG fan of Valentine's day, especially the practice of sending flowers (hint, hint), I tend to agree that

Ash Wednesday is slightly more significant. Christmas and Easter are gifts from God. There's nothing we can do accept receive the gift of life that they offer. But, the season of Lent, is the time of year when we take some time to think about and really contemplate our relationship with God and our responsibilities within that relationship. To discover the ways in which our relationship with God has become broken and has fallen short of what it can be,

and then to make some positive steps toward healing our relationship with God. If I'm correct, that's just a really long and fancy way of saying that we need to repent. To turn toward God.

So, I invite you, as an individual and as a congregation, to join with me as we gather on Ash Wednesday and during the days of Lent to turn our hearts, and minds and spirits toward the living, loving God who gives life.

Many Blessings,



ASH WEDNESDAY

Lenten Study

The season of Lent is once again upon us. We will kick off the Lenten season with our Ash Wednesday service on Wednesday, February 25. Then, on the First Sunday of Lent, March 1, 1998, we will begin our Lenten Study. The study will last for six weeks and will take place each Sunday evening in Lent beginning at 6:00 p.m. and



ending at 8:00 p.m.

This year we will study the Video series "Wisdom of Faith" with Bill Moyers and Huston Smith. Here is the schedule of dates and topics for the six week study:

- March 1 - Hinduism/Buddhism
- March 8 - Confucianism
- March 15 - Judaism/Christianity
- March 22 - Judaism/Christianity
- March 29 - Islam
- April 5 - Personal Convictions

Lenten Worship Services and Activities

Tuesday, February 24

6:30 p.m. - Shrove Tuesday
Pancake Supper

Wednesday, February 25

7:00 p.m. - Ash Wednesday
Service

Sunday, March 1

6:00 p.m. - Lenten Study

Sunday, March 8

6:00 p.m. - Lenten Study

Sunday, March 15

6:00 p.m. - Lenten Study

Sunday, March 22

6:00 p.m. - Lenten Study

Sunday, March 29

6:00 p.m. - Lenten Study

Sunday, April 5

6:00 p.m. - Lenten Study

Thursday, April 9

7:00 p.m. - Maundy Thursday
Communion

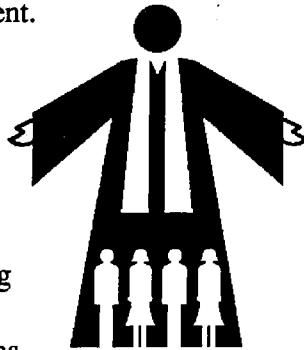
Friday, April 10

12:00 p.m. - Ecumenical Good
Friday Service at St.
Mary Roman Catholic
Church

Guest Preacher

On Sunday, February 15, the Rev. Dan Taylor will join us. Dan began his service as World Mission Support Person for the American Baptist Churches of Ohio on December 1, 1997. We are delighted that he is able to come and share with us his thoughts on stewardship, missions and especially our role in missions within the A.B.C. of Ohio. Dan will join us at 9:15 a.m. for the Adult Sunday School Class. Then, during morning worship, he will preach the morning message, give a mission moment and give the children's moment.

Randy Turner and Pastor Hagans will serve as hosts to Dan Taylor during his visit, and Pastor Hagans will serve as lay leader for morning worship.



Foster Homes Needed

The Delaware County Department of Human Services is in need of foster homes for youth. Many of our youth are sent out of the county due to lack of homes. This only adds to their problems. If you are interested in making a difference in a young person's life, please call Judy McCormick at 368-1990. Training for new parents begins February 18, 1998.

Handicapped Access Project Dedication Set

On Sunday, February 22 at 2:00 p.m., we will join together to formally



dedicate the Handicapped Access Project which includes the parking area, new restroom, sidewalk, and vestibule-elevator.

This accomplishment is the result of many hours of giving, planning, and working together to make all more comfortable in our church facility. Please take the time to join us in remembering those we will honor in memory and in person.

We've come a long ways since our Ground Breaking Ceremony on July 20. Plan to bring your entire family and friends as we celebrate together. The brief service will be followed by a reception in the Assembly Room.

Elevator rides and instructions will be given to all who desire.

Once the facilities are officially in use we hope you will make them available to those with special needs as was our goal.

In preparation for this special service, we need everyone to help the trustees and teachers to take part in cleaning and helping our entire church to look its best.

Let's make this time of dedication a very special event.

*-The Handicapped Access
Project Committee;*

*Rev. Jody Lynn Hagans, Peter
White, James Van Brimmer, and
Evelyn Lee, chairman*

FEBRUARY WORSHIP

February 1

4th Sunday after Epiphany
1 Corinthians 13:1-13
"All You Need Is . . ."

February 8

5th Sunday after Epiphany
Luke 5:1-11
"Reflections of Truth"

February 15

6th Sunday after Epiphany
Guest Preacher:
The Rev. Dan Taylor
A.B.C. of Ohio
World Mission Support Person
I Corinthians 4:1&2

February 22

Transfiguration Sunday
Luke 9:28-36
"The Mystery of Belief"

February 25

Ash Wednesday Service
7:00 p.m.

March 1

First Sunday of Lent

What is an American Baptist?

Throughout America, nearly two million men, women and children express their commitment to Jesus Christ through an affiliation with one of the 6,000 congregations of the American Baptist Churches in the United States and Puerto Rico.

We are one of about 25 Baptist groups in the United States, and we are about fourth in size among these Baptist groups.

We are delightfully rich in our variety. Thirty seven percent of us are Black. Three percent of us are Asian, Hispanic, and Native American. Sixty percent of us are White.

We are quite individualistic. We don't believe any pastor or denominational leader has a right to speak for us on matters of faith or conscience. We believe individuals should, with the guidance of the Holy spirit, make up their own minds about what they believe. And we believe all Christians—laity as well as clergy—have special callings to be ministers for Jesus Christ.

Our individualism leads to some disagreements in the political, social and theological positions we hold. Like most Baptists, we enjoy our differences and we enjoy discussing them. Even so, we don't let our diversity slow us down. Most of us agree on the matters we think are really important.

Please look in your March newsletter for more interesting

information about American Baptists.

Andrews House

• The Andrews House "town meeting" series will have its second program on February 17. The topic will be "Delaware's Growth — Problem or Opportunity?" The program will be free.

• A full-time position is now available at Andrews House for a person to manage their programs, oversee daily operations, and work with in-house community agencies.

* Volunteers are needed to work week day afternoons to greet visitors and answer phones. The person should be at least somewhat familiar with Andrews House. Call Scott Grissom at 369-4520 if you are interested.

Personals

• VICTOR FOGLE was home from San Diego for a few days to attend the funeral of his grandfather, Willard "Bill" Fogle of Prospect, who died on January 9.

• RICK RAMEY is slowing recovering from serious injuries received in an auto-train accident.

• MELISSA GILLETTE and NATALIE GRIFFITH were 5th graders chosen to attend the PALS (Positive Adolescent Leadership Skills) workshop on the weekend of January 24th, sponsored by Delaware Area Recovery Resources. BARBARA LOVELL was on the youth staff.

Winning Ohio for Christ

An ABC/OHIO Training event called "Winning Ohio for Christ" will be held March 13 and 14 at Mountview Baptist Church in Columbus. Keynote speakers will be Rev. Dr. John Kinney, Dean of Virginia Union Theological Seminary, and Rev. Daryl Ward, pastor of Omega Baptist Church. A variety of workshops will be offered.

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Birthdays & Anniversaries

Feb. 2 Fred Grubbs
15 Deborah Van Broekhoven
22 Bob and Sandie Heizer
24 Emilie Trigg
Meagan Fogle
25 Mariah Bennett
Mar. 5 Ben Turner
8 Katherine Clapper

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

FEBRUARY 1998

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Boy Scout Sunday 1 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship	2 7:00 Delaware Piecemakers; Boy Scouts	3 7:00 Board of Deacons	4 7:00 Choir	5 9:30 DISCIPLE	6	7
8 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship 2:00 Peace Camp Meeting 4:00 Ordination of Tony Jones, Trinity Baptist Church, Marion	9 7:00 Boy Scouts	10	11 7:00 Choir	12 12:00 Young at Heart	13	Valentine's Day 14 9:30 DISCIPLE 2:00 A.B.W. Ministries at Winterson
15 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship with guest preacher The Rev. Dan Taylor, ABC of Ohio, World Mission Support Person 3:00 Ordination of Tom Lewis, Richwood Baptist Church	Presidents' Day 16 7:00 Boy Scouts	17 7:00 Board of Christian Education	18 7:00 Choir	19	20	21 8:00 Men's Breakfast 9:30 DISCIPLE
22 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship 2:00 Handicapped Access Project Dedication <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>	23 7:00 Boy Scouts	24 6:30 Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper	Ash Wednesday 25 7:00 Ash Wednesday Service 7:30 Choir	26	27	28
First Sunday of Lent March 1 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship 6:00 Lenten Study	2 7:00 Boy Scouts	3	4 7:00 Choir	5	6	7

the offering throughout the month of March. Our designated Sunday for America for Christ will be March 8, 1998.

Please contribute generously to this offering that benefits missions here at home. We will fill a cross to track our progress toward our goal. Last year we raised over \$320 for America for Christ. Let's do even better this year!

—Randy Turner
Bd. of Christian Ed. Missions

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Easter Lilies

Lilies can be ordered to decorate the church for Easter. Lilies can be given in someone's memory or honor, if you wish. After Easter worship you can leave your lilies at the church or take them home with you.

Please place your orders with Jim Stephenson or Shirley Parker by Palm Sunday, April 5. The cost is to be announced.

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What is an American Baptist?

What American Baptist's Believe

We confess Jesus Christ as the Son of the Living God, our Lord and Savior. We are joyously united in our common task of sharing the whole Gospel with the whole world.

We believe in the Bible as the divinely inspired record of God's actions in history, and we believe it is a trustworthy, authoritative, and all-sufficient rule of faith and practice.

We believe that all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and we believe Jesus died to save us from our sins. Those of us who believe this are forgiven by God and enter into a new life. That is what Baptists mean when we say we are born again. Being born again does not make us perfect, of course. It means we know God loves us and God has forgiven us.

We observe two ordinances: We baptize believers by immersion. We regard "believer's baptism" as a sym-

bol of death to the old life, and resurrection to a new life in Christ. We celebrate the Lord's Supper (or Holy Communion) in memory of the sufferings of Christ. Most American Baptists practice "open communion," and invite all believers to participate in its celebration.

Finally, we believe that all American Baptists, laity and clergy, are called together to be a family of disciples; witnessing at home and throughout the world to the saving grace of Jesus Christ, and calling upon all individuals, groups, institutions, and nations to act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with their God.

Please look in your April newsletter for the first of the "Ten Key Facts about American Baptists."

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Pastor's Vacation

Pastor Hagans will be on vacation from Friday, March 6 through Monday, March 9. If you have any pastoral need or emergency please contact your "Watchcare Deacon" or the chair of the Board of Deacons, Alison Mowery at 369-3314.

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Guest Preachers

• On Sunday, March 8, we will be honored to have Kim Keethler-Ball as our guest preacher during morning worship. Kim is a member at First Baptist Church of Granville and is a 2nd year student at Methesco. She is currently serving as the part-time Director of Christian Education at the church in Granville.

• On Sunday, March 15, Chaplain Paul Hershey with the Racetrack Chaplaincy of America, will be preaching during the morning service. Pastor Hagans will assist him as lay leader. Following worship everyone is invited to join Chaplain Hershey in the Fellowship Hall for a covered-dish luncheon and a presentation about the Racetrack Ministry.

Chaplain Hershey's visit is being sponsored by the American Baptist Women's Ministries of our church.

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Race Track Chaplaincy of America

Needs for the Care and Share Table (located in the Assembly Room):

- baseball caps, cowboy hats
- Boots, work shoes
- Jeans, underwear
- guitars, banjos
- tuna, other ready-to-eat canned goods
- fans (even broken ones)
- blankets & quilts
- pots & Pans
- candle warmers
- hot plates, crock pots & electric skillet
- folding beds, pillows, sheets & pillow cases
- coffee, sugar & cremora
- snack foods
- drink mix
- 8 oz hot & cold cups
- disposable plates, plastic forks (no spoons or knives)

Please bring items to church on or before Sunday, March 15. On that Sunday, Chaplain Paul Hershey will be with us for worship and for a covered-dish luncheon after worship. We will give him all the items we've collected so he can take them back with him to use in his ministry.

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Covered-dish Luncheon

On Sunday, March 15, we will have a covered-dish luncheon after our morning worship. Please bring a dish to share, plus your own table service. Coffee will be provided.

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Marion Association Celebration Banquet

The 18th Annual Celebration Banquet will be held on Friday, March 27, 6:30 p.m. at Abundant

MARCH WORSHIP

March 1

1st Sunday of Lent
Luke 4:1-13
"The Last Word"

March 8

2nd Sunday of Lent
Phillipians 3:17- 4:1
Guest Preacher: Kim Keethler-Ball

March 15

3rd Sunday of Lent
Psalm 23
Guest Preacher: Paul Hershey
Chaplain, Race Track Chaplaincy of
America

March 22

4th Sunday of Lent
"Invite a Friend" Sunday
Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32
"There's A Time & A Place"

March 29

5th Sunday of Lent
Isaiah 43:16-21
"A New Thing"

April 5

Palm Sunday
Luke 22:14-23:56

Life Assemblies of God Church in Marion. The theme this year is "New Life in Christ," with a program being given by "The West Virginians," a singing group from Alderson-Broadus College. The cost is \$8.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children 12 years and under. New members are invited to attend at no cost. Please talk with Pastor Hagans if you are interested.

Andrews House

The next "Let's Talk" town meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 17 at 7:30 at Andrews House. The topic

will be "Delaware's Unspoken Boundaries." Everyone is invited and child care will be provided.

Trustees Notes

- Plumbing and heating repairs were carried out at the church by Don Patrick. The cost was \$103.18.
- Heating repairs were made at the parsonage by Don Patrick. The cost was \$125.00.
- All the carpets at the parsonage, upstairs and down, were cleaned. The cost was \$263.00.
- All the tile floors at the church were cleaned and waxed before the handicapped access dedication. The cost was \$528.00.
- A thank you to our youth and the Triggs for giving the senior high room (the old basement) a real cleaning.
- New rubber cups were located for a set of table legs that had "worn through." Thanks, Jennifer.
- Peter White, Chairman

Delaware Piecemakers

Delaware Piecemakers Quilt Guild will have a workday on Saturday, March 21 from 10:00 to 4:00 in the fellowship hall.

We will be making baby quilts as part of our Outreach program. On last year's workday we finished 50 quilts.

This day is open to the community; we invite you to come for the day or as much time as you wish. Bring a sack lunch and your own scissors.

You don't sew but want to help? You can iron, pin, tie, or measure. If you can't attend you can donate fabric (100% cotton, already washed), batting, or embroidery thread for tying.

Please see me if you'd like more information, or call me at 363-1432.

- Jeanne Ekelberry

ABW Ministries

The ABW Ministries women entertained about 30 residents of the Wintersong Nursing Home with a Valentine party. Cookies were served and there was lots of singing of hymns and songs popular in the '20's and '30's.

ABC/OHIO Training Event

An ABC/OHIO training event will be held on March 13 and 14 at Mountview Baptist Church in Columbus.

Volunteers Needed for The Pony Express

Yes, the official Pony Express ended in 1862, but the new and improved Pony Express will be coming to Delaware in April of 1998.

Since we are a partner church with Andrew's House, we are being asked to take part in the Pony Express as it come through our community. The Pony Express is the name of the name of the Financial Campaign that Andrew's House will implement this Spring. Making this campaign a success is a big and important job, requiring the support of many dedicated workers. "The mail must and will get through."

During this campaign, a letter will be sent to prospective donors; this will be followed by the appearance at their doors of various Relay Riders who will deliver a saddle bag to them. The bag will include information about Andrew's House and its programs, plus a pledge card for them to fill out. The Relay Riders will leave the bag for a few days and then pick it up and deliver it to the next house. Each Relay Rider will be responsible for delivering their saddle bag to about 6 homes.

The Pony Express Needs your help. We need Station Agents, Relay Riders, Drill Sergeants, Chuck

Wagon Crew (to prepare the Chuck Wagon Kick-off dinner) and Roustabouts (envelope stuffing, typing, phone calls, running errands). For complete job descriptions please see Pastor Hagans. If you are interested in supporting Andrew's House by helping with this Campaign, please talk to Pastor Hagans or call Scott Grissom, the Executive Director of Andrew's House at 369-4520.

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Birthdays & Anniversaries

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

Please report any errors or omissions to Jim Stephenson.

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Personals

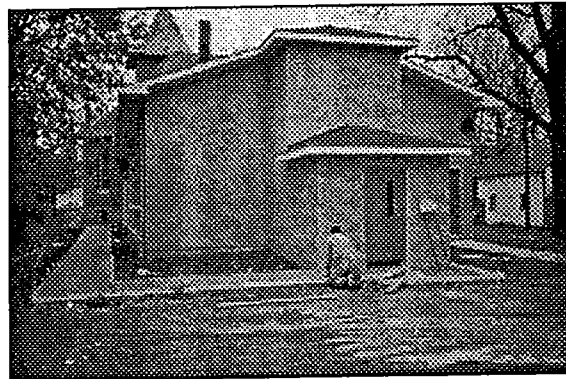
- JEAN WICKUM had foot surgery.
- JACK SMITH was a patient at Riverside Hospital for eight days with heart problems.
- SHIRLEY PARKER is a patient at Riverside Hospital with heart problems.
- JEAN OSBORNE was in Maine to complete the sale of her father's home.
- SOPHIA STEPHENSON and sons TED, JIM, and BOB spent four days at DisneyWorld in Florida.
- LARRY FAULK was in Florida on a business trip.

.....
Anger Management Group

The Central Ohio Mental Health Center will be holding an anger man-

HANDICAPPED-ACCESS PROJECT

Several months ago we printed pictures of the early stages of the project. Here are some photos showing its conclusion. Additional photos can be seen on the bulletin board in the assemble room.



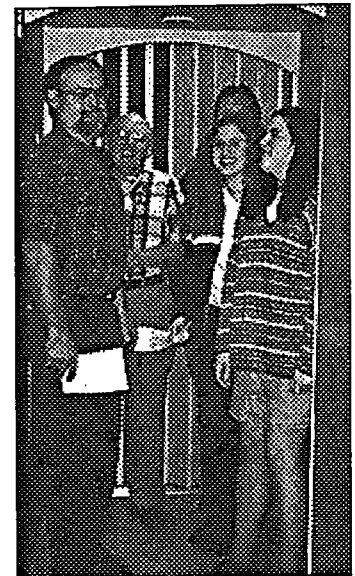
Above: A worker puts the finishing touches on the sidewalk.



Above: After the sidewalk was completed, the parking area was paved, parking spaces were indicated with paint and signs, and grass seed was planted.

Right, Top: Tours given after the dedication included a ride on the new elevator.

Right, Bottom: The handicapped-accessible rest room



agement group beginning Monday, March 9, 1998. The group will meet for eight weeks from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. every Monday.

This group is for individuals who have difficulty controlling their angry feelings. This can include people who have a history of explosive verbal or physical outbursts; who overreact to minor issues; who withdraw rather than express themselves; or who are regularly sarcastic, hostile or critical. Participants will learn to:

- identify how and why angry feelings start
- recognize that anger can be helpful or hurtful
- express angry feelings in helpful ways through assertiveness training
- manage angry feelings with the use of relaxation techniques.

For more information or to get started, please contact Lucy Hunter at 369-7688.

Good News Letter

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

IT WAS A BEAUTIFUL DAY: 82 degrees and sunny. A nice breeze kept it from getting too hot. We put on our shorts, took a drive with the windows rolled down and let the wind blow through our hair. It was a gorgeous summer day. Only thing was, it wasn't summer. I had to look at the calendar 2 or 3 times that day, but sure enough, it was only March 27.

What happened to Spring?

Maybe we're just going to skip spring this year and get right on with summer. Or perhaps we already had spring back in February and March, with the mild temperatures and dry weather we enjoyed in place of bitter cold and snow storms. Or perhaps this is just a trick of Mother Nature and we'll have a strange spell of cold weather and blizzards in April.

Blame it on El Nino, or global warming if you want to, but I don't know what's causing this unseasonable weather. What I do know, is that 82 degree days in March don't come without a cost.

Don't get me wrong, I'm not complaining, I love a beautiful, warm, sunny day as much as the next person. I've never seen tulips blooming in March. It's astounding. But the realist in me knows that it's still only March, and who knows what kind of weather could be around the next corner.

Besides, from a strictly spiritual point of view, warm weather during Lent is not a good idea. Lent is a season for serious self-examination and repentance. Warm and sunny days aren't conducive to either one of these religious attitudes.

I believe that God, in infinite wisdom, placed Lent in the late winter and Easter in the early spring for a reason. It was part of the divine plan for our little corner of the world. The gift of new life that God gives to us in



Easter

Christ, is so wonderfully illustrated in the birth of new life in the world around us. It just makes sense.

I'm not suggesting that during this last week of Lent, especially with it being Holy Week and all, that we should crank up our air conditioners, put on our sweaters and ear muffs and sorrowfully contemplate the sinful nature of our lives. What I am suggesting, is that we not confuse Easter with an early spring. It's still Lent.

Not that I want you to be sad and depressed, that's certainly not the aim of the Lenten season. But warm

weather can be distracting. That's why most people take vacations in the summer. That's why we don't make children go to school during the hottest months of the summer. It's too hard to concentrate. We'd rather be out playing or swimming or tooling around in the garden or laying in the warm sunshine. Enjoying life. That's why God didn't put Lent in the summer.

Easter will come. It's just around the corner. But for now, remember, it's still Lent.

Let us remember together, who we are as God's people. Let us pray for God to move within our lives and within our life together, to form us into a holy people.

Many Blessings,

Holy Week Worship

Sunday, April 5

10:45 a.m. Palm Sunday Celebration

Thursday, April 9

7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday
Communion

Friday, April 10

12:00 p.m. Ecumenical Good
Friday Service at St.
Mary Church

Sunday, April 12

- 8:00 a.m. Early Easter Service
- 8:30 a.m. Covered-dish Breakfast
- 9:15 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:45 a.m. Easter Worship

What Is An American Baptist?

TEN KEY FACTS ABOUT AMERICAN BAPTISTS

Number 1: We are a biblically oriented people.

From the time Baptists became identifiable as a distinctive Christian tradition in the 17th century, Scripture has been our authoritative guide in our continuing search for a deeper knowledge of God, Jesus Christ, and the Holy spirit. Our particular identity as American Baptist Churches was shaped over time as we engaged in continuing dialogue with the Bible. In all our congregations the Scriptures are read and heard each week in lesson, sermon, and song. The Bible is interpreted in various ways because our spiritual and historical experiences have varied. Even so, the Bible is always in our churches and in our homes. Diverse as we may be, we all struggle to understand and live by the biblical witness.



Vitamins for Vital Ministry

Sponsored by the American Baptist Churches of Ohio for Northwest Ohio at First Baptist Church, Lima on May 2, from 10 a.m. until 3:30 p.m.

Vitamin workshops will be offered in the areas of evangelism, campus

ministry, community ministry, discipleship, lay ministry, leadership, missions, spirituality and worship. Come to discover resources that work in a variety of ministry settings.

The staff of ABC/OHIO believes in the vitality of local congregations. Because of that, they offer these vitamins for today's and tomorrow's Church. Every presentation will be grounded in an uncompromising belief in Christ's Church and an unwavering trust in the power of the Holy Spirit to renew the church.

The registration fee is \$10.00. Scholarships are available for anyone interested in attending. Please see Pastor Hagans for registration forms and details.

ABWM to Tour PIN

On Thursday, April 16, at 10:00 a.m., the ABWM will visit the PIN facility to hear and see first hand how People In Need is serving our Delaware community. Mr. Kevin Crowley, Director of PIN, will be our speaker.

In addition to our regular giving to PIN, perhaps you could bring some of their most-needed items even if you can't join us that morning. They especially need toiletry items, including disposable razors, deodorants, Depends, soaps, and shampoo which would help them prepare to be presentable for seeking employment.

They always need oleo tubs with lids and sacks — plastic or paper — for dispensing food, and of course food items.

Help us show First Baptist cares about those less fortunate than ourselves.

Thank you.

— Evelyn Lee

Trustees Notes

- The "Pastor Parking Only" sign lasted just 11 days after the handicapped access dedication before it

was stolen right out of the ground, post and all! It has since been replaced and all the signs set in concrete.

- Two pianos were tuned by Clifford Rector.

- Jim Van Brimmer repaired two of the wooden "Delaware Chairs."

- The lawnmower was repaired and serviced by Buckeye Tractor. The cost was \$29.58.

—Peter White, Chairman
Board of Trustees

Thank You

Thanks for your kindness and for the good items you shared for Race Track Mission.

— Chaplain Paul Hershey
Race Track Chaplaincy of
America

(Chaplain Hershey was our guest preacher on March 15.)

+++

The Handicapped Access Committee express a special thanks to those who were a part of the dedication service — all who provided music, served as hostesses and tour guides, and who provided refreshments. This was a historic day in our church life.



APRIL WORSHIP

APRIL 5
Palm Sunday
Luke 22:14-23:56
"The Whole Story"

APRIL 12
Easter
Luke 24:1-10
"The Grand Reversal"

APRIL 19
1st Sunday After Easter
John 20:19-31
"Invitation to Trust"

APRIL 26
2nd Sunday After Easter
John 21:1-19
"An Uneasy Peace"

MAY 3
3rd Sunday After Easter
Revelation 7:9-17
"A New Wardrobe"

Since appreciation to everyone who provided food and served as hostesses for the Ramey bereavement dinner. We welcomed over 90 friends into our church that day and provided a service of love to the Ramey family.

I also thank all of you who contributed food for the Van Brimmer's bereavement meal.

Your willingness to help when a plea goes out makes it easy to coordinate these special times in our church. I really do appreciate your concerns.

— Evelyn Lee

Using Soy Beans in Everyday Diets

On Tuesday, April 21 at 7:00 p.m., the Delaware County Home Economists will meet in our fellow-

ship hall. Marcie Williams, Volunteer Soy Promoters Coordinator, will speak on "Using Soy Beans in Everyday Diets." She will have samples for testing and recipes to share. Everyone interested in increasing their use of soy beans is welcome to attend. Please contact Evelyn Lee for any questions.

Andrews House News

- Jennifer Hull recently began her job as Andrews House's new full-time program administrator.
- On Tuesday, April 21 at 7:30 p.m., join the discussion with your concerns about "Children's Needs in Delaware." Child care will be available.
- The "Pony Express" will be the method for this year's fundraising campaign, which begins with a kick-off dinner on Friday, April 17.

Softball

It's that time of year again! Anyone interested in playing softball should please see Kirby Francis or Jarrod Trigg. Both kids and adults are welcome. Also see the roster and proposed schedule on the bulletin board.

P.I.N. Food Basket

Please don't forget the People In Need basket which sits on the floor at the main entrance of the church. The items in this basket are donated to the food pantry at People in Need, a service which provides Delaware County residents with emergency food. This food pantry is totally supported by public donations.

Here is a list of the most needed items:

Items NOT available with food stamps: toothbrushes, toilet paper, diapers (medium/large; cloth/disposable), paper towels, dish soap, tis-

sues, toothpaste, shampoo, laundry detergents, hand soap, deodorant, shaving cream.

Most-needed food items: canned meats/fish, noodles, cereal, pancake mix, syrup, peanut butter, jelly, canned fruit juices, canned fruit, soups, saltine crackers, graham crackers, canned vegetables, jello-puddings, spaghetti sauce, instant coffee, tea bags, hot chocolate, dry milk, canned pasta, boxed dinners, cooking oils, boxed potatoes, cheese products, cake mixes, sugar, cake frosting mix, pre-sweetened Kool-Aid.

Also needed are small plastic containers, such as margarine tubs.

Personals

• **RICK RAMEY**, 18, died on March 2 from injuries he received in train-



auto accident that occurred on January 11. Rick was a senior at Hayes High School and attended First Baptist. Rev. Jody Lynn Hagans officiated at the funeral service which was held at DeVore-Snyder Funeral Home. Burial was at Oak Grove Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to the OSU Unverferth House, Office of Medical Center Development, 1375 Perry Street, Fifth Floor, Columbus 43201.

• **ELLEN TREIBER**, 79, sister of **JIM VAN BRIMMER**, died on March 4 in Philadelphia. She was a graduate of Willis High School and attended OSU. She was active with singing and performing groups at Boston University and was a family advisor for the 58th Street Presbyterian Home for many years. A memorial service was held at First Baptist on March 21.

• **SHIRLEY PARKER** had double bypass heart surgery at Riverside

Hospital on February 26. She is now recuperating at home.

• On April 30, May 1 and May 2 at 8 pm Delaware Hayes High School will present the musical called "Children of Eden" in the new high school auditorium. BARBARA LOVELL and NATE WEAKLAND will be singing.

"Children of Eden" is based on the first books of the bible and relates the struggle of parents and children.

Tickets will be \$5 for adults and \$3 for students. Special senior citizen rates are available. You may call 369-7656 and ask for Dick Brulotte for ticket information.

• ANNE LINN spent 10 days in Florida visiting her sisters Caroline and Penny and their families.

Train With HelpLine

Training classes for HelpLine phone volunteers will begin in April. These training classes are a great chance to improve your listening and communication skills, learn about resources in the community, and learn about many of the serious problems facing individuals in our community. As a trained volunteer, you can put these skills to use at HelpLine and with family, friends and neighbors.

HelpLine is the 24-hour crisis, information and referral hotline serving Delaware and Morrow Counties. A wonderful group of caring people in the county makes this service possible for those in need in our community.

The next training classes will be

Church Directory Update

The Francis family has a new address:

40 Chamberlan Street
Delaware

(Their phone number remains the same.)

Jesus and Mohammed

Between moments of dispensing wisdom, it seems that historical religious leaders had also learned software programming.

One day, a great contest was held to test their skills. After days and days of fierce competition, only two leaders remained for the last day's event: Jesus and Mohammed. The judge described the software application required for the final test, and gave the signal to start writing code.

The two contestants feverishly typed away on their keyboards. Routines, classes, applets and applications flew by on their screens at incredible speeds. Windows, dialogs, and other intricate graphics began forming on their monitors.

The clock showed that the contest would soon be finished. Suddenly, a bolt of lightning flashed and the power went out.. After a moment it came back on...just in time for the clock to announce that the last competition was over.

The judge asked the two contestants to reveal their finished software. Mohammed angrily said that he'd lost it all in the power outage. The judge turned to the other competitor.

Jesus smiled, clicked a mouse and a dazzling application appeared on his screen. After just a few moments, the judge was clearly impressed and declared Jesus the victor.

When asked why the decision was made, the judge pointed out the unique characteristic that set the winner apart from all the other leaders: Jesus saves.

offered during the day. For more information about how you can help, call Nancy Geer at 363-1835.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

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

Please report any errors or omissions to Jim Stephenson.

APRIL 1997

First Baptist Church

101 North Franklin Street, Delaware, Ohio 43015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 7:00 Choir	2	3	4 9:30 DISCIPLE
Palm Sunday 5 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship 6:00 Lenten Study: "Mystery of Faith"	6 7:00 Delaware Piecemakers; Boy Scouts	7 7:00 Board of Deacons	8 7:00 Choir	9 12:00 Young at Heart 7:00 Maundy Thursday Candlelight Communion	Good Friday 10 12:00 Ecumenical Good Friday Service at St. Mary Catholic Church	11
Easter 12 8:00 Early Service 8:30 Covered-Dish Breakfast 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship	13 7:00 Boy Scouts	14	15 7:00 Choir	16 10:00 A.B.W. Ministries at People In Need (PIN) 7:00 Parish Council	17	18 8:00 Men's Breakfast 9:30 DISCIPLE
19 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship	20 7:00 Boy Scouts	21 7:00 Bd. of ChristianEd.; Home Econ. Meeting in Fellowship Hall	22 7:00 Choir	23	24	25 9:30 DISCIPLE
26 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship 2:00 Peace Camp Meeting <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>	27 7:00 Boy Scouts	28	29 6:30 Covered-Dish Dinner, followed by Quarterly Business Meeting	30	May 1	2

Good News Letter

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

I discovered some muscles I didn't know I had. This past weekend, Rundy and I, being the kind and generous people that we are, went up to Michigan to help my folks put up a wood deck in the side yard of their house. We put the whole thing in with screws. I'm not bragging, but I believe I must have put over half of those screws in myself. Thank God for the invention of the cordless screwdriver/drill.

The truth is, when it comes to working on my knees, I'm a big wimp. I will go great lengths to avoid having to be in a kneeling position. For instance, I'm a big fan of the long handled floor mop. I'd also make a pretty lousy Catholic.

Believe it or not, the job wasn't that hard on my knees, but my right hand was another story. Have you ever used a power tool for an extended period of time? If so, you know that it can cause your hand muscles to tighten up. This condition is exacerbated if you also happen to have Carpel Tunnel Syndrome in the hand that does all the gripping.

We worked all day Friday and all day Saturday, then drove home so we'd be here for church on Sunday. Well, it was no easy task getting out of bed when my alarm went off at too early of an hour on Sunday morning. Not only did my walk look like I'd been riding a horse for about a week, but I had trouble moving my right hand and arm. I was made keenly aware of the existence of muscles that I hadn't used for quite some time, if ever.

I'm sure that many of you gardeners will have the same experience

when you get out in your yards for the first time this Spring. Then you will learn this most difficult lesson: if you don't use it, you lose it. Muscles don't take very kindly to being neglected and so they aren't very forgiving.

In this regard, muscles have quite a



lot in common with faith. Faith like muscle, is always there. Just because we don't use our muscles, doesn't mean we don't have them. We have muscles, they're just out of shape. We lose our muscle tone. The main problem with not having conditioned muscles, is that we have poor endurance; we can't stay in it for the long haul. We could climb up a small hill, but we'd never make it to the top of a mountain.

The same is true of faith. Many of us proclaim our faith on Sunday mornings or when we're pressed to make a proclamation of what we

believe, but don't make use of our faith in our day to day living. Because faith is a gift from God, we always have it; it's never taken away. Unfortunately, many of us have an out of shape faith. What I call the "Flabby Faith Syndrome."

Unfortunately, God will give us all the faith in the world, but God won't make us use it. That's just not the kind of God we have. It's up to us to use and exercise our faith, so that it doesn't get flabby.

Fortunately, we don't have to deal with this problem all by ourselves. We have plenty of company. Just look around you on any Sunday morning. If you're not sure how to properly exercise your faith, God is always available for consultation. That is, if you're knees are up to it.

I'm also certain, that there are others, including myself, who would be more than willing to offer encouragement, prodding, nagging, or whatever kind of assistance you may require. Please feel free to return the favor; that's what we're here for.

May God bless our faith abundantly, so that we will be given the strength to exercise it wisely.

Many Blessings,

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Summer Worship Hours

Sunday, May 31 will be the last official day of Sunday School. Beginning on Sunday, June 7, we will begin our Summer Worship hours with worship beginning at 10:00 a.m.

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Blanket Sunday

In honor of Mother's Day, Sunday, May 10, we will celebrate Blanket Sunday. During morning worship you will have an opportunity to give the gift of a blanket in honor of your mother or a woman who has had a significant impact on your life. Each blanket costs \$5.00. There will be a special insert in the bulletin for you to fill out and then bring forward during the worship service. Blanket Sunday is sponsored by Church World Service.

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What Is An American Baptist?

"Ten Key Facts about American Baptists"

Number 2: We are a missionary and evangelically minded people.

It was a remarkable British Baptist, William Carey, who preached a famous sermon in 1792 on the theme, "Expect great things from God; attempt great things for God." This sermon marked one of the launching points of the modern missionary movement. Famous in our history is the witness of Adoniram and Ann Hasseltine Judson and George Lisle abroad, and of Joanna Moore and John Mason Peck at home. But there were and continue to be many other serving in difficult places, supported by the prayers and gifts of the faithful in pulpits and pews. The molding of our national mission boards was intimately related to our efforts to reach others in mission. When the Northern Baptist Convention was formed in

NEWSLETTER SUMMER SCHEDULE

JUNE

Pastor Hagans will be our guest editor for the June newsletter.

JULY / AUGUST

We will have a combined July/August issue, which will publish the first Sunday in July.

SEPTEMBER

The September issue will publish the last Sunday in August.

1907, it was declared that its purpose was "to give increased efficiency to efforts for the evangelization of America and the world."

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HELP NEEDED AT ANDREW'S HOUSE

Andrew's House is in need of someone to serve on their Program Committee. This committee is responsible for developing new ideas for ministries that can be implemented at the House and for seeing that those ideas become viable programs. If you are interested, please see Pastor Hagans or call Amy Waldron (740) 363- 6228.

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Mother-Daughter Banquet

This year's Mother-Daughter Banquet will be hosted by the Radnor Baptist Church on Sunday, May 3 at 5:30 p.m. All women and girls of the

church are invited to attend. If you don't have an available mother or daughter, there are always some in need of adoption.

Please bring a covered dish to share and your own table service. Beverages and rolls will be furnished. Jeanette Curren will be speaking on "Dolls."

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Trustees Notes

- A thank you to Arch and Dave for tending the baptistry for Easter Sunday.
- Another Sunday School hymnal was found, turned in, and rebound. Thanks Barb. Torn pages are also being repaired.
- Long-time neighbor (on the north side of the church) Gladys Dunlap fell and broke her hip on Monday, April 13. She had an operation the following day and is at Delaware Court Nursing Center. Gladys has been a friend to the church, calling me when she saw something amiss. She even called the police when she saw people messing around and could not reach me. We send her our prayers for recovery. This could mean a major change on the north side of the church.
- A thank you is extended to the Church of the Master and pastor Ted Stephenson in Indianapolis for the \$75 check for the wireless lapel microphone system. Our church found it to be unusable due to short-wave and CD interference at the most inopportune times! Ted's church tried it for several months without problems and we were happy to sell it to them.

*-Peter White
Chairman, Trustees*

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Bible Study at Mt. Gilead

"Making Disciples Till the End of the Age" is the theme of the Marion Association's Christian Education training sessions. It will be held on

MAY WORSHIP

May 3

4th Sunday In Easter
Revelation 7:9-17
"A New Wardrobe"

May 10

5th Sunday In Easter
Acts 11:1-18
"Beyond the Boundaries"

May 17

6th Sunday In Easter
John 5:1-9
"Just Deserts"

May 24

7th Sunday In Easter
John 17:20-26
"Coming or Going"

May 31

Pentecost
A.B.W. Ministries Sunday
"You—Sitting in the Pew
Next to Me"

June 7

Children's Day

Sunday, May 17 at the First Baptist Church, Mt. Gilead, between 2:00 and 5:00.

— Board of Christian Education

Missions Update — Special Offering

Our final tally for the America for Christ Offering in March was over \$340! Praise God! Our goal for all four American Baptist special offerings is \$300. Thank you and keep up the good work.

The materials for our next special offering have arrived and we will be taking the One Great Hour of Sharing offering during the month of June. One Great Hour of Sharing is primar-

ily for emergency needs and disaster relief. All of our special offerings are important and I hope you will plan once again to give generously so American Baptist mission efforts can continue to be effective and fruitful.

Our Easter offering was also a great success. We raised \$180 to send to the Race Track Chaplaincy of America. Chaplain Paul Hershey spoke to us on March 15. Our offering will help buy a video camera for this important ministry. Thank you for your support and prayers.

— Randy Turner,
Missions Coordinator

Benjamin Grubbs

Benjamin Michael James Grubbs was born at Grady Hospital on Monday, April 13th to parents Michael and Tammy Grubbs. Benjamin weighed 8 pounds 11.1 ounces and both he and Tammy are doing fine.



Keep Saving Campbell's Soup Labels

Bacone College is still in need of labels for a much-needed 12-passenger van for transporting athletic teams to games, students on field trips and for off-campus activities. Send labels to Bacone College, 2299 Old Bacone Road, Muskogee, OK 74403. For more information call 918-683-4581, ext. 221.

Personals

- PETER AND LINDA WHITE took a trip to St. Louis and Hannibal, Missouri.
- JEAN OSBORNE spent two weeks in Cairo, Egypt, visiting her son Gary and his family.
- DONNA REED took a trip to

Savannah, Georgia, with her sister-in-law.

- MELISSA MERCER had surgery for gall stones.
- SHIRLEY PARKER returned to Riverside Hospital due to an infection, but is now back at home.
- JIM AND BERTHA VAN BRIMMER visited relatives in Kentucky.
- BETTY PORTER travelled to Hawaii for two weeks with daughters Janet and Jennifer.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

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

Please report any errors or omissions to Jim Stephenson.

MAY 1998

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship 5:30 Mother/Daughter Banquet at Radnor Baptist Church	4 7:00 Boy Scouts; Piecemakers at Sunbury Guild	5 7:00 Board of Deacons	6 5:00 Inquirer's Class 7:00 Choir	7 10:00 Sewing Group	8	9 9:30 DISCIPLE
10 Mother's Day / Blanket Sunday 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship	11 7:00 Boy Scouts	12	13 5:00 Inquirer's Class 7:00 Choir	14 12:00 Young at Heart	15	16 8:00 Men's Breakfast 9:30 DISCIPLE
17 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship 2:00 Marion Association Education Event at First Baptist in Mt. Gilead	18 7:00 Boy Scouts	19	20 5:00 Inquirer's Class 7:00 Choir	21 12:00 A.B.W. Ministries at Ponderosa	22	23 9:30 DISCIPLE
24 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship 2:00 Board of Christian Education	25 Memorial Day 7:00 Boy Scouts	26	27 7:00 Choir	28 7:00 Parish Council	29	30 9:30 DISCIPLE
Pastor Hagans at Women In Ministry National Conference in Green Lake, Wisconsin						
31 A.B.W. Ministries Sunday 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>	1 June 4:00 Piecemakers 7:00 Boy Scouts	2 7:00 Board of Deacons	3 5:00 Inquirer's Class 7:00 Choir	4 10:00 Sewing Group	5	6 9:30 DISCIPLE
Pastor Hagans at Conference						

Sunday, June 7: Children's Day, Summer Hours Begin --Worship at 10:00, Children's Day Picnic at 11:30

Good News Letter

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Congratulations Graduates

High School Graduates:

Evan Trigg

Evan graduated on Saturday, June 6, 1998 from Hayes High School.

Evan has been a part of First Baptist Church all his life and he was baptized and then became an official member in June of 1996. Evan has been a regular participant in worship, Sunday School class and the American Baptist Youth group.

While in high school, Evan played for the golf team for 2 years. He has been and currently is a member of our church's men's softball team. Evan is also a car stereo enthusiast and enjoys writing poetry.

During the summer, Evan will work for Honda of Marysville, and will attend DeVry Institute of Technology where he will study to become a Computer Systems Analyst.



Jason C. Hagans, son of Rundy & Jody Lynn Hagans, graduated on Sunday, May 31, 1998 from Riverview High School in Warsaw, Ohio. Jason will attend Kent State University in the Fall.

Lance Douglas Whitacre, graduated on Tuesday, June 2, 1998 from Reynoldsburg High School, Reynoldsburg, Ohio.

College Graduates:

Jarrold Trigg, graduated on Sunday, May 3, 1998 from Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, Michigan. He graduated magna cum laude with a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration. Jarrold has accepted a position with Coopers and Leybrand, a major accounting firm in Columbus.

Nichelle Hedges, will graduate from Columbus State University on June 12, 1998. Nichelle is currently serving as a Radiology Technician at Riverside Hospital.

Karen Ann Brummett, Pastor Hagan's sister, graduated on Saturday, May 9, 1998 from Albion College, Albion, Michigan. She graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts in Visual Art and a Certification in Elementary Education. Karen has accepted a 1st Grade teaching position in Southern California.

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What Is An American Baptist?

"Ten Key Facts about American Baptists"

Number 3: We believe in and practice the baptism of believers.

In the New Testament accounts we find that those who committed their lives to the way of Christ personally professed their faith in him and were then baptized. Early in Baptist history the biblical mode of baptism of believers by immersion was adopted, and it further dramatized the importance of the remarkable decision of the one being baptized. American Baptists have respected Christians who hold other views, while being faithful to our biblical understanding of baptism which gives us our name.

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Summer Newsletter

The next issue of the newsletter will be published the first Sunday in July and it will be a combined July/August issue. If you need to publicize an August event, please plan ahead and have your article ready for the July/August issue.

The September issue will be published the last Sunday in August so we can give advanced notice of September events.

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Pastor's Vacation

Pastor Hagans will be on vacation from July 1 through July 8. During that time, the Rev. Dr. Bill Nirote will be on call for pastoral care emergencies. You can reach him at 362-6691. For all other

pastoral needs, please call your watchcare deacon or the chairperson of the Deacons, Alison Mowery at 369-3314.

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June Birthdays & Anniversaries

- June 3 Justin Francic
8 Pam Faulk
Carol Fogle
9 Mike & Teresa Griffith
10 Dave & Mary Lou Lovell
11 Randy & Jennifer Turner
12 Anne Linn
13 Sue Elfner
15 Charles Ekelberry
23 Ned Weakland
24 Beth Trigg
25 Sandie Heizer
27 Joe & Alison Mowery
28 Jami Riedmiller
July 2 Tracy Breese
3 Phil Mercer
7 Jody Lynn Hagans

*Please report any errors or omissions to Jim Stephenson.

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Church Family Retreat

Mark you calendars now! This year's retreat will take place at Judson Hill's Camp from August 21 thru August 23—Friday evening through Sunday at noon. Our retreat leader is going to be

the Rev. Dan Taylor, World Mission Support Person for the American Baptist Churches of Ohio.

You'll remember that Dan visited our church back in February, when he led the adult Sunday school class and preached in morning worship. We've invited Dan, his wife Rebecca and their two children to be our guests at the retreat.

Stay tuned for information about registration and fees. Please don't let finances keep you from attending the retreat. We will keep the cost as low as possible and will make scholarships available to those in need.

If you have any questions, please speak to one of the members of the '98 Retreat Committee: Evelyn Lee, Donna Reed and Jim Van Brimmer.

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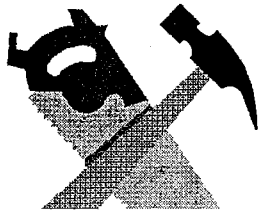
A.B.W. Ministries Picnic

The American Baptist Women's Ministries will have their end of the year picnic on Thursday, June 18 at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Jeanne Ekelberry. Please bring a dish (with food in it) to share. Drink and table service will be provided. All women of the church are invited to attend this time of fellowship.

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Pastoral Visitation

Pastor Hagans will be making pastoral visits on the following dates in June: 15, 17, 29, 30 and in July 14, 15 & 16. If you would like to request a visit on one of these evenings, please let her know, otherwise she will make visits following her own visitation list.



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Trustee's Notes

- On May 3rd our church was honored to share our building and baptistry with Delaware Baptist Church (Southern Baptist) for a service of baptism. Pastor David Warton officiated. A thank you to Archie Trigg for filling and heating the baptistry on Friday, Jim Van Brimmer and Dave Lovell for checking it on Saturday and Randy Turner and Lynn Elfner for serving as building hosts on Sunday.
- The trustees are still waiting on the electrician who is waiting on state approval on plans for a fire alarm system.
- A new faucet was installed downstairs at the parsonage. The cost was \$34.90. A thank you to Rundy Hagans for doing the installation work.
- A thank you to Jeff Reed for making a beautiful new wooden podium to hold the guest book in the front vestibule. This will also save carrying in the heavy podium from the Sunday School room for weddings and other services that require a guest book.
- A thank you to Jeanne Ekelberry for providing new table clothes for the fellowship hall tables.
- The wedding that wasn't. A couple had asked to use the church on May 15 & 16 for a rehearsal and wedding, and

would supply their own minister. Mary Lou Lovell and Peter White showed up to serve as organist and building host. No one showed. The wedding party's phone number had been disconnected and apparently the nuptials had too! Perhaps it was for the best.

*-Peter White
Chairperson, Board of Trustees*
.....

A Prayer

Dear Lord, So far today, I've done all right. I've kept my mouth shut, I haven't lost my temper, or told a lie. I haven't been greedy, grumpy, nasty, or over-indulgent. I'm really glad about that. But in a few minutes now, I'm going to get out of bed, and from then on, I'm probably going to need a lot more help!

.....
Personals

- Rundy & Jody Lynn Hagans attended two graduations this spring. On, Saturday, May 9, Jody Lynn traveled to Albion, Michigan to attend her sister Karen's graduation and then they both traveled to Dearborn, Michigan on Sunday, May 17 for Karen's graduation open house. Then, on Sunday, May 31, they both attended Jason Hagans' high school graduation in Warsaw, Ohio.
- During her recovery from open heart surgery, Shirley has been visited by several family

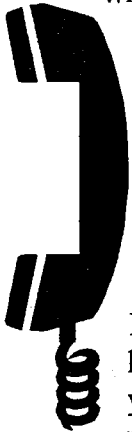
members. Her brother George & daughter Alison both came for 2 weeks each, and her sons Joe and Andy, each visited for one week each.

- Barbara Lovell earned her Gold Award, the highest award in Girl Scouting on May 28 during a special service at William Street U.M.C. Her project was tutoring 4th graders at Smith School. As part of that project she created two original games to demonstrate that learning can be fun. One game was based on States & Capitals and the other was based on Ohio. Mrs. Shively was her supervising teacher.
- Vic & Debbie Fogle arrived in Delaware on May 26 and will be visiting until July 8. After their leave, they will be going to Okinawa, Japan where they will be stationed for 3 years. During their visit, you please feel free to call or visit Vic & Debbie at either the Fogle's or the Lovell's.
- Matthew Lovell had an emergency appendectomy on Sunday, May 3, and was given a one-week reprieve from classes at Ohio State University.
- The Rev. Ted & Jeanne Stephenson's daughter Jennifer and Daron Colgan of Indianapolis were married on May 30, 1998 at the groom's church in Indianapolis. The couple will be moving to the Cleveland, Ohio area where Deron will work as manager of a Christian bookstore. Jim & Sophia Stephenson and Carol & Suzie Grubbs traveled to Indianapolis to attend the wedding.

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Calling the Pastor

During the weeks of June 15th, June 29th, and July 13th, Rundy will be working the night shift from Monday through Thursday. This means that I will have the ringers and the answering machine at the parsonage shut off from about 7am until 3pm on Tuesday through Friday. Fortunately, we have caller I.D., and so your name and phone number will be registered, and I will return your phone call as soon as possible. Thank you for understanding.



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Graduation Open House

We invite our church family to come and celebrate Evan's high school graduation with us on Sunday, June 14th, from 6 to 8 p.m. Outside Hopefully - at Mom's if raining (1478 Stratford Road)

This is a joyous occasion and we thank God for blessing us with Evan 18 years ago!

-Archie & Beth Trigg

.....

Dear Fellow Baptists,

In this, my birthday month, I took time to think about how very glad I am to be a part of this particular church family, and how much I appreciate your kindnesses to me.

I need to say "thank you" for offering me comfort when I lost Aunt Martha Moffet in October, and my sister-in-law Helen Mead on Thanksgiving Day. I miss

them both sorely, but neither could get well and both looked forward to reunions in heaven.

Aunt Martha, in particular, loved this church and the people in it. She called me often to ask about your welfare, and was a prayer partner for me. Did you ever wonder why you were asked to pray for someone in Warren, Ohio? She would feel the need of strong prayer for that person, and knew she could find it here.

Thank you all for the watchcare you extend to me, and for the delight I find in knowing all of you.

Here to salute 79 years, is a little poem.

*Age is the top of a mountain high
Rarer the air and blue;
A long hard climb, a bit of fatigue,
But oh - what a wonderful view!*

- Jean Wickum

.....

Tools of Hope

On Father's Day, Sunday, June 21, we will celebrate Tools of Hope Sunday. During the morning worship service, we invite you to make a donation in honor of or in memory of your father or a man who has had a significant impact on your life. Contributions can be made in \$5.00 amounts, and you can make as many contributions as you like. Our contributions will be used by Church World service to help purchase tools of all kinds for people in need around our world.

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Peace Camp '98: "Caring for God's World"

First Baptist will host this year's Peace Camp experience. The theme: "Caring for God's

World" is about environmental issues.

Peace Camp will happen on Sunday, August 9 - Thursday, August 11, from 6 - 8:30 in the evening, beginning with a light supper. Class will go from preschool through adult. A nursery will be provided.

Our church will be providing the meal for Sunday evening. If you are willing to help out, please speak with Bertha Van Brimmer or Jean Wickum.

Anyone willing to help team-teach a class, please talk with Pastor Hagans. We need 2 teachers for each class. The grade levels are: preschool, kindergarten, 1st & 2nd, 3rd & 4th, 5th & 6th, youth, and adult.

Registration forms and t-shirt order forms will be available on June 7.

June Worship

June 7
Children's Day
Evan Trigg
Barbara Lovell
Preaching

June 14
Luke 7:36-8:3
"Beyond Love"

June 21
Father's Day
Galatians 3:23-29
"From the outside In"

June 28
Luke 9:51-62
"Choose the Greater Good"

July 5
The Rev. Dr. David Ball
Guest Preacher

Blanket Sunday

May 10, 1998


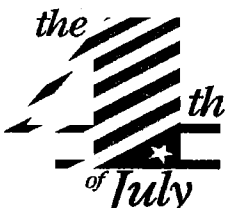
In Honor of:

*Ethel Trogden – Jeanne Ekelberry
Ruth Pierson – Lynn & Sue Elfner
Evelono Cole, Florence Faulk, Jean Wickum – Pam & Larry Faulk
Jeanie Gillette – Mary Gillette & Family
Karen Ann Brummett – Randy & Jody Lynn Hagans
Holly Kauf – Spencer & Sydney Kauf
Marcia, Linda & Barbara Lee – Evelyn Lee
Mary Gay Mowery – Joe Mowery
Margaret Jewell – Shirley Parker
Doreen Scurlock – Donna Reed
Betty Jane Adams Reed – Jeff Reed
Cris Riedmiller – Katie, Jamie & Regan Riedmiller
Tonabelle Turner, Jane Moore – Randy & Jennifer Turner
Margaret Seckman, Carolyn Schneeberger – Linda White
Inez Steinbrecker, Bertha Van Brimmer – Barb & Rick Van Brimmer
Amy McGrew*

In Memory of:

*Mary Francis Elfner – Lynn & Sue Elfner
Mary Pauleth Rogers – Mary Gillette & Family
Lillian Uptain – Randy & Jody Lynn Hagans
Annie Marsh – Anne Linn
Martha Jane Guy – Betty Jane Porter
Katherine Clapper – Barbara Reed
Mrs. Ann Volk – Marge Smale
Hazel Smith – Jack Smith
Sophia Stephenson's mother
Aunt Martha Moffett, Helen Mead – Jean Wickum
Mary Van Brimmer – Jim & Bertha Van Brimmer*

** Contributions for Blanket Sunday totaled \$200.00*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<h1>June 1998</h1>						
	1 7 - Boy Scouts 7 - Piecemakers	2 7 - Board of Deacons	3 5 - Inquirer's Class 7 - Retreat Committee 7 - Choir Rehearsal	4 10 - Sewing Group	5	6 9:30 - Disciple Bible Study
7 10 - Children's Day Worship 11:30 - All-church Picnic	8 7 - Boy scouts 7:15 - Peace Camp	9	10	11 12 - Young at Heart	12 5 - Wedding Rehearsal	13 9:30 - Disciple Bible Study 12 - Wedding
14 2 - Prayer Service for Amy McGrew	15 7 - Boy Scouts	16	17	18 6:30 - A.B.W. Ministries Picnic at Jeanne Ekelberry's	19	20 8 - Men's Breakfast 9:30 - Disciple Bible Study
21 Father's Day 	22 7 - Boy scouts 7:15 - Peace Camp	23	24 7 - Choir Rehearsal	25 7 - Parish Council	26	27 9:30 - Disciple Bible Study
28	29 7 - Boy Scouts	30	1 JULY	2	3	

Good News Letter

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

His name is Diamond. Instead of starting our own family right away, we decided to adopt. We brought him home last Thursday. He's only eight months old. He can already walk, though he doesn't have much to say yet.

He's a good eater, goes to sleep without any trouble, and is almost potty trained.

And did I mention...he's a beagle.

His hair is black, and white with some brown. His signature mark is a big white diamond on the back of his neck and back. His legal name is "Diamond In-the-Rough." He was part of a litter of 10, and one of 2 puppies that wasn't snatched up at Christmastime. We don't know why no one picked him, but we're glad that he waited around for us.

We decided to get a beagle, because they are lovable, good-natured, don't bark much, and are excellent with children (this isn't an announcement). And so far, he's been true to form, and just a delight to have around. We hope you'll all come by and say welcome and howdy to him.

As you can imagine, we've spent a good part of the last few days getting to know Diamond, and letting him get used to us. Right now, as I sit at my computer writing, he's laying at my feet sound asleep. This is the life.

Diamond was born in Morley, Michigan, a very rural town. He lived for 8 months in a Kennel in the back yard of a house that was out away from other houses. And all in one

day, he was dragged away from his mom and dad and little sister, forced to wear a collar, confined by a leash, and dragged in a truck for 5 hours back to a subdivision in Delaware, Ohio. He was then brought into a

noisy neighbors who have barking dogs and noisy lawn mowers and cars. There's also a pretty noisy train that makes a rather large racket several times each day. But he's finally settling in. It's been almost 5 days, and we're finally starting to see his true personality. Let me tell you, he's quite a charmer.


If you think about it, dogs are pretty amazing creatures. They have to learn to be totally dependent on us for their care. And what's even more amazing, is that when they do learn to trust us, they are completely and utterly loyal. What an awesome responsibility.

But ya know, we're not all that different from dogs. Perhaps that's why we relate so well to them and want to have them as pets.

Now, before you get offended, let me explain.

Those of us who find ourselves caught up in the life of the church, believe that we have been adopted by God and are now part of God's family. However, it takes quite a bit of adjusting to learn how to be a child of God. It isn't automatic.

We're taken out of our familiar setting, and away from the people we know, and put into a whole new place, with lots of new and different people and expectations. So, the only way to truly become a child of God and a member of this new family is to trust. Because as part of God's family, we're asked to be totally dependent on God to care for us.



May
the Lord
direct your
hearts
into
God's
love....

2 Thessalonians 3:5

house, and put into a little cage to spend the night. That's a lot of changes in just one day.

At first, this was all just a bit too much for Diamond. He cowered back into the far corner of the family room, refused to eat or drink and jumped at the slightest noise. He's had to adjust to a lot. In our back yard, we have a small kennel for him to run around in, but we're also surrounded by lots of

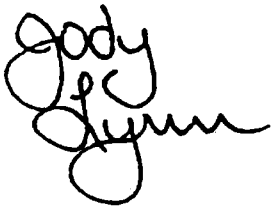
continued

Some of us who've been part of God's family for a many years, still have trouble being dependent on God; it's just so hard for us to completely and utterly trust another.

Well, you'll probably guess what my advice is going to be. When you're having trouble trusting others, and especially God, watch a dog. They're our best teachers. If you don't have one of your own, then you can come learn from Diamond.

May we all be given the gift of trust; so as we learn to be members of God's family, we will come to depend on God's gracious care.

Many Blessings,



Church Family Retreat

*"Living In Grace—
Growing In Grace"*

Our 26th annual church retreat will take place from Friday, August 21 - Sunday, August 23, 1998 at Judson Hills Camp. Our retreat leaders this year are going to be Dan and Rebecca Taylor. Dan is the Minister of World Mission Support for the American Baptist Churches of Ohio. Rebecca, an ordained American Baptist minister, has served as an Associate Pastor, a Missionary to Thailand and has co-pastored a church with her husband Dan. They will lead us using the theme: "Living In Grace—Growing in Grace."

We will begin with a hot dog roast on Friday from 6 to 7:30 p.m., with our first session beginning at 8 p.m. There will be inter-generational sessions as well as separate programs for the children. We will provide nursery care if it is needed—if you are bringing children 3 years old or younger,

NEWSLETTER SUMMER SCHEDULE

Please note that this issue is a combined July/August issue. The September issue will publish the last Sunday in August (a week earlier than usual).

please let us know. The pool will be open for swimming during our free time on Saturday. We will close the weekend with an early session Sunday morning followed by a worship service.

Following are the prices for the retreat. *Please note that there is a cap on the maximum that each family needs to pay:*

TWO NIGHTS OF LODGING:

Cabins:
\$26 per person
(up to a maximum of \$76 per family)

Nehemiah Center:
1 person per room: \$70 per person
2 people per room: \$42 per person
3 people per room : \$38 per person
4 people per room: \$32 per person
(up to a maximum of \$98 per family)

MEALS:

Meals for the entire retreat (includes breakfast, lunch and dinner on Saturday and a continental breakfast on Sunday):

Adult (11 and up) - \$19.00
Child (4-10) - \$12.25
Under 4 - no cost

Our goal is for everyone in the church to attend this year's retreat. We hope you will prayerfully consider being part of this fun, community-building event.

Scholarships are available. If getting a scholarship from the retreat

committee will enable you and your family to attend, please ask for one. Please note that a family of 4 can attend the retreat for the entire weekend for only \$138.50.

If you have any questions about the retreat, please speak with a member of the retreat committee.

*—The Retreat Committee
Evelyn Lee, Donna Reed,
Jim Van Brimmer and
Jody Lynn Hagans*

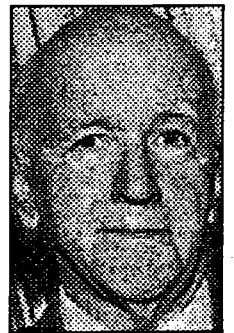
Chaplain James Miller

James M. Miller, 81, died June 14 in Monroe, Ohio. Chaplain Miller served as interim pastor at First Baptist from May to October of 1987, the period between the retirement of Rev. James B. Stephenson and the hiring of Rev. Gene F. Gillin.

He had served as associate pastor at Broad Street United Methodist

Church, and was a retired U.S. Army chaplain and Grady Memorial Hospital chaplain.

He is survived by his wife, Jane, and several children and grandchildren. Calling hours were held at Robinson Funeral Home in Delaware and at Broad Street United Methodist Church in Columbus, where services were held. Burial was in Oak Grove Cemetery.



Pastor at Judson Hills

From Sunday, July 19 through Friday, July 24, Pastor Hagans will be serving as Camp Pastor for Senior High Frontier Camp at Judson Hills Camp in Loudonville, Ohio. This week will consist of sleeping under the stars around a camp fire, cooking meals chuck-wagon style, taking a ropes initiative course, repelling, and taking

JULY WORSHIP

July 5

Guest Preacher:

Dave Ball

Luke 20:20-26

"Patriotism and Discipleship"

July 12

Amos 7:7-17

"Back to Start"

July 19

Amos 8:1-12

"Judgmental Grace"

July 26

Luke 11:1-13

"You Want to Know How to Pray?"

AUGUST WORSHIP

August 2

Joint Worship at Zion U.C.C.

Luke 12:13-21

"Making A Descent Life"

August 9

Luke 12:31-40

"In it for the Long Haul"

August 16

Luke 12:49-56

"Family Ties"

August 23

Church Family Retreat

Worship at Judson Hills Camp

August 30

Luke 14:1,7-14

"Mind Your Manners"

ated. Betty Porter served as organist and Peter White was building host.

- New shrubbery called Green Mountain Box Wood was installed at the parsonage. A thank you to Rundy and Jody Lynn for pulling out the old and installing the new. Cost \$140.69
 - A new medicine cabinet and lights were installed in the upstairs bathroom at the parsonage to replace a rather cheap plastic one the finish had worn off of. Cost \$114.55
 - A thank you to Rundy and Jody Lynn for the labor on the two jobs mentioned above. It saved us a bundle!
 - A thank you to Larry Faulk for donating the tall stand to hold the TV and VCR.
- Peter White, chairman
Board of Trustees

What Is An American Baptist?

"Ten Key Facts about American Baptists"

Number 4: We are a congregationally structured group.

Organizationally, the early Baptist congregations arose in the context of separatist, congregationally structured groups of English Puritanism, with some secondary influences from the Anabaptist tradition. John Calvin's theology also helped shape our heritage, as did later evangelicals and revivalists.

Number 5: We uphold the autonomy of the local congregation.

We continue to emphasize that the local congregation is the basic manifestation of the church. The words of Jesus in Matthew 18:20 are much treasured among us: "For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them." We believe Christ is the head of each congregation, and we are convinced all members should participate in governing its affairs. In order to be

a 2 day canoe trip on the Mohican River. Barring any unforeseen accidents, the Pastor will be back in church on Sunday, July 26.

Peace Camp '98: Caring for God's World

Our church will serve as host to this year's Peace Camp. All ages are invited to join in this ecumenical vacation Bible School, which includes children and adults from Asbury United Methodist Church, Zion United Church of Christ, First Presbyterian Church and First Baptist.

Peace Camp will take place from Sunday August 9 through Thursday, August 13, from 6:00 p.m. through 8:30 p.m. We will begin each evening with a light supper followed by age-graded classes, inter-generational classes and a time of worship. The theme for the week is "Caring for God's World" and will focus on issues relating to the environment.

We're still in need of teachers, youth helpers, kitchen workers for the Sunday night meal and partici-

pants. Registration and t-shirt order forms are available. If you want to take part in this event, please speak with Randy Turner or Pastor Hagans.

Joint Worship Services with Zion United Church of Christ

On Sunday, July 26, we will worship at First Baptist Church, beginning at 10:00 a.m. The Rev. Dr. William R. Nirote will be preaching and Pastor Hagans will serve as lay leader. Then, on Sunday, August 2, we will worship at Zion United Church of Christ at 10:30 a.m. Pastor Hagans will be preaching and Pastor Nirote will serve as lay leader.

Trustees Notes

- On Saturday, June 13, Russell Snider and Kathy Bunten were married at First Baptist. Pastor Fred Evans of the East Side Mission officiated.

free to follow the divine leading, the congregation must be self-governing, able to select its own leadership and administer its own affairs. It is recognized as a great gift when the Holy Spirit moves in the midst of a worshipping congregation, or guides the congregation when it carries out Christ's business. This is the gift which opens the way to renewal and mission.

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Thank You

My first seminary year has passed and it feels strange to be away from classes. I'm back at Gooseberry Patch now, and I continue to minister to folks at Wyandot. I miss all of you and appreciate the contacts we do have. Next year my name will go to different associations in Ohio as special seminary student, in the ABWM, so I want to express my love to you for your loving care so far, and I know you will support your new special person, Karen Helton.

Thank you for helping me follow the path to service in the Kingdom.

Peace and Blessings,

-Karen Stoner

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Tools of Hope

The total gift from Tools of Hope was \$160. The gifts were donated by:

Fran Cook - in memory of Wallace Frances Leight

Jeanne Ekelberry - in memory of her father, Hewlett Trogdon

Larry and Pam Faulk - in memory of Donald Faulk, Ralph Cole, Wilbur Wickum

Rundy and Jody Lynn Hagans - in memory of Gilbert Hagans and Bromo Brummett

The Hopkins and Gillettes - in honor of Ray Gillette and Thomas Rogers

Bethany Lee - in memory of Richard E. Lee

Daniel Lee - in memory of Richard E. Lee

Evelyn Lee - in honor of Rick, Doug, and Bruce Lee

Marcie Lee - in memory of Richard E. Lee

Rick Lee - in memory of Richard E. Lee

Anne Linn - in memory of David Griffith

Betty Porter - in memory of Ralph E. Guy

Barbara Reed - in memory of Jim Reed, David Murday, and Ray Clapper

Marge Smale - in memory of F. J. Volk

Sophia Stephenson - in memory of James B. Stephenson

Archie J. Trigg - in memory of Archie Louis Trigg and their fathers

Beth Trigg - in memory of Ben Turney

Bertha Van Brimmer - in honor of Jim Van Brimmer

Jim Van Brimmer - in memory of his father, Elmer L. Van Brimmer

Jean Wickum - in memory of Wilbur Wickum and in honor of Larry Faulk

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Personals

• Our thoughts and prayers are with **JOE MOWERY** and his family on the death of his brother, Guy, who died on May 21.

• **FLORENCE FAULK** visited England for two weeks recently.

• **KAREN STONER AND BERTHA VANBRIMMER** joined Susie VanBrimmer Leonard for a weekend

in Washington, Pennsylvania in late May. They enjoyed a rib fest, trolley museum and a castle.

• **STEVE AND KAREN STONER** and Steve's parents John and Doneta traveled to Pigeon Forge, Tennessee by way of Corbin, Kentucky, and back by way of Manchester, Tennessee where Steve's uncle Fred Stoner lives. Had a fabulous time and got home just ahead of all the storms and flooding. Ask Steve and Karen about climbing to the peak of Clingman's Dome.

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Birthdays and Anniversaries

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

Please report any errors or omissions to Jim Stephenson.

Church Directory Update:

Janet Porter
 1575 Covina Drive
 Columbus OH 43228
 614-274-7516

JULY 1998

(August calendar
on other side.)

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 7:00 Choir	2	3	4 Independence Day
Pastor On Vacation						
5 10:00 Morning Worship with guest preacher Dave Ball	6 7:00 Boy Scouts	7	8	9 12:00 Young at Heart	10	11 9:30 DISCIPLE
Pastor On Vacation						
12 10:00 Morning Worship	13 7:00 Boy Scouts 7:15 Peace Camp Meeting	14	15 7:00 Teacher Training	16 7:00 Pastoral Relations	17	18 8:00 Men's Breakfast 9:30 DISCIPLE (Final Class)
19 10:00 Morning Worship	20 7:00 Boy Scouts 7:15 Peace Camp Meeting	21	22	23	24	25
Pastor Serving as a Camp Pastor At Judson Hills						
26 10:00 Morning Worship at First Baptist (Joint Service with Zion United) 11:00 Business Meeting (time approximate; follows morning worship)	27 7:00 Boy Scouts 7:15 Peace Camp Meeting	28	29 7:00 Choir	30	31	August 1

AUGUST 1998

(July calendar
on other side.)

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 10:30 Morning Worship; Joint Service held at Zion United Church of Christ	3 7:00 Piecemakers; Boy Scouts 7:15 Peace Camp Meeting	4	5	6 10:00 Sewing Group	7	8
9 10:00 Morning Worship 6:00 Peace Camp '98 — "Caring for God's World"	10 6:00 Peace Camp	11 6:00 Peace Camp	12 6:00 Peace Camp	13 12:00 Young at Heart 6:00 Peace Camp	14	15 8:30 Men's Breakfast
16 10:00 Morning Worship	17	18	19	20 12:00 A.B.W. Ministries Executive Committee at Parsonage	21	22
23 Note: As the newsletter goes to press, it hadn't been decided yet if there will be a service at First Baptist today. <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content; margin-top: 5px;">Judson Hills Retreat</div>	24 <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>	25	26	27 7:00 Parish Council	28	29
30 10:00 Morning Worship 7:00 Crop Walk Recruiter's Rally <i>Newsletter available today (one week earlier than usual)</i>	31	September 1 7:00 Deacons	2 7:00 Choir	3 10:00 Sewing Group	4	5
					Pastor On Vacation Friday through Tuesday	

July calendar on other side →

Good News Letter

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

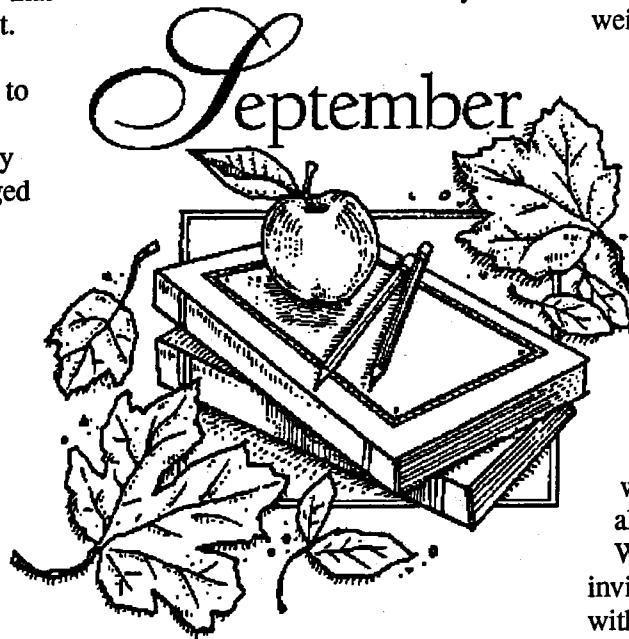
Last year, at the end of September, I stepped on the scales and was horrified to discover that I had finally broke the 200 pound mark. I won't say by how much. I know what you're thinking: "She didn't look like she weighed that much at her wedding, but she's tall and so she can carry her weight well." But, the hard, cold, truth is that I was some 40 pounds overweight. Believe it or not.

So, I bit the bullet, and decided to finally do something about it. It took almost 8 months, but I finally lost 35 pounds, and even exchanged some of my bad eating habits for healthier ones. How did I do it? I joined Weight Watchers. Even though I've never been one for joining groups or clubs, I thought that the discipline of weekly meetings and the support of others would be helpful. And it was. In fact, I had such a positive experience, that every time someone told me they were trying to lose weight, I'd tell them all about Weight Watchers. So far, I've recruited four people, and three of them are from our church. They're still going, and are having a very positive experience so far.

Why did they listen to me? What did I do or say that caused them to want to check out Weight Watchers for themselves? Well, I suppose they saw that it had worked for me; that I'd been changed by the experience. Not only did I lose weight, but I felt better about myself and I was living a healthier life, exercising regularly and eating right. They probably thought to themselves, "Well, if it can work for her, then it can work

for me."

This got me to thinking. Every time I'm excited about a new product I discover, or a new restaurant, or a great store, I always tell people about it. For instance, I'm always telling people how wonderful it is to be able to buy my clothes over the phone using the J C Penney catalogue, especially since they have



a special catalogue for tall chics. I even warn people when I have a negative experience. There's a certain restaurant in town that we've had two bad experiences with, and I'm very bold to tell people not to go there.

You know what this is called? This telling people about things and places that are exciting? There's a religious word for it. It's called evangelism. I looked the word up in my American Heritage Dictionary, and this is what I found. Evangelism. The zealous preaching and dissemination of the gospel, as through missionary work.

Militant zeal for any cause.

When is the last time you went away from Sunday School or Sunday Worship so filled with excitement about your experience that you just had to tell everyone you saw? Last week? Last month? Last year? Never?

People can survive very well without hearing about the latest new weight loss program, and they won't die if you don't get to tell them about the newest restaurant in town. But, can people survive if they aren't invited to church where they can come and experience God's love and the love of a church family? I don't think so. In fact, I would even go so far as to say that it is a life and death matter. So then, how come we don't treat it like a life and death matter? Why is it that I'm more willing to invite someone to come along with me to a Weight Watchers meeting than I am to invite someone to come to church with me? Good question.

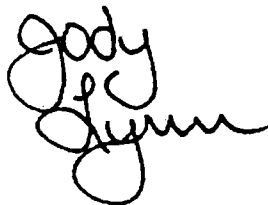
Even if I do tell someone about my church and invite them to come with me to Sunday School and worship, what will make them say yes? After all, the reason I don't invite people to church is that I'm afraid they'll be offended and say no. But you know, I believe that this fear of rejection is unfounded. It's just an excuse we use. If we invite someone and they already have a church or don't want to come with us, they'll just tell us.

This is what I think. The real reason we don't tell other people about our church is that we (myself included) are just too lazy. And I don't mean

the laying around doing nothing kind of lazy, but the we're just too busy and we don't have time to get to it kind of lazy. If we wait around until we have the time to do it, then we'll never get around to it. You know how the saying goes, "If it's important to you, then you'll make time for it."

Our church and our church's relationship with God is important to us. It is my prayer that we will become so excited about what God is doing in our lives and in the life of our church, that we will invite everyone we meet to come to our church. The people we invite will look at us and see that we have been transformed by the experience. They will see that God has been moving in our lives and that we have been changed. They will come, because they want to have this same life-changing experience.

Many Blessings,



Board of Christian Education

September is rapidly approaching and a new church school year is about to begin. Rally Day is August 30, beginning with a breakfast at 8:30 in the fellowship hall, followed by Sunday school classes at 9:15.

The following people have accepted the challenge to teach for this church school year:

- Nursery: Donna Reed
- Kinder: Barb Reed;
substitute - Carol Grubbs
- Primary: Mary Gillette;
sub. - Evelyn Lee
- Middler: Linda White;
sub. - Jeanne Ekelberry

*In the spirit of Christian joy
Mr. and Mrs. William Hedges
and
Mr. and Mrs. Archie Trigg
invite you to share in the joy of
the marriage uniting their children
Londa Nichelle
and Jarrod Benjamin
on Saturday, the third of October
nineteen hundred and ninety-eight
at two-thirty in the afternoon
First Baptist Church
101 North Franklin Street
Delaware, Ohio

Reception following ceremony
Riverby Party Lodge
820 Pollock Road
Delaware, Ohio*

- Jr. High: Sue Elfner
sub. - Pam Faulk
- Sr. High: Larry Faulk
sub. - Arch Trigg
- Adults: Randy Turner and
Jim Van Brimmer

Teaching is a very big commitment and as Church School Coordinator I want to give a big thank you to each of you who have made a commitment to teach. You will find this to be a very rewarding experience.

-Linda White
Board of Christian Education

What is An American Baptist?

Number 6: Devotion to the Associational Principle.

Very early in Baptist history the emphasis on congregational polity was balanced by devotion to the associational principle. Individual churches recognized that the Holy Spirit

was at work among many congregations, and he felt called to work together in the tasks of evangelism, mission, education, and good works. Soon these gatherings became regularized, confessions were drawn up, and officers were appointed. In time "associations of associations" grew into many Baptist churches, often called conventions. Today there are more than 370 Baptist conventions in the world. There are so many because the associational principle operated openly and freely; a given congregation is free to break its

ties and seek others. Yet freedom also has encouraged a surprising level of loyalty and inner cohesion among us, and every congregation knows that it can accomplish more working with others than it can accomplish working alone. At the global level, we associate with the great majority of Baptists in the world through the Baptist World Alliance (founded in 1905.)

Retreats

I remember Hula Dancers, Ore cookies, chairs with glue on them, weird talking bugs and lots of laughter.

I remember church in the glen, in the circle singing by the campfire, and sessions, sessions, sessions.

I remember canoe rides, tumbles in the lake, muddy shoes and wet, wet clothes.

I remember geese with personal vendettas, or so it seemed, feeding the ducks, beautiful scenery and quiet

SEPTEMBER WORSHIP

August 30

Luke 14:1,7-14

"Mind Your Manners"

September 6

Communion Celebration for
Labor Day

September 13

Luke 15:1-10

"Party Down-Jesus Style"

September 20

Luke 16:1-13

"The Model Disciple"

September 27

Luke 16:19-31

"Your Money or Your Life"

October 4

World Communion Sunday
Luke 17:5-10

my nights on my back on the bed rather than sleeping exclusively in my lift chair, and what passes for meals I generally get for myself.

I do leg exercises, walk up and down the ramp and stairs a few times each day. Three times a week I drive to a rehab program at Grady.

It has been a long six months with several set-backs requiring additional surgery and putting the healing process back. I pray there will be no more trips to Riverside for anything other than check-ups, but during those painful and anxious months had the loving care and attention of family and friends. The number of people from church who sent cards and performed other acts of kindness are too numerous to mention by name, but I want you to know how much your loving attention meant to me. Frankly, there were times, especially after the last surgery, when I had doubts that I would make it, so your prayers, calls, and your many gifts of yourselves have my everlasting thanks.

I look forward to the day when I'll be back in my pew at First Baptist.

With love and deep appreciation,

—*Shirley Parker*

Trustees Notes

• Our largest project this summer has been a joint effort with the handicap access committee. It was decided to extend the new sidewalk (which goes from the double blue doors to the handicap access entrance) by two additional blocks of cement so it connects with the old sidewalk by the rear door. Rather than hire a contractor for just that small amount of work, we also did the sidewalk in front of the old parsonage which was badly broken up.

Handicap access share	\$ 600.00
Trustee's share	1,200.00
Total cost	\$1,800.00

The work was done by Virgil Mitchell.

- Lynn Elfner donated a good slide/movie screen. The two beat-up ones were thrown away!
- Joe Mowery located a transformer cord set to replace a missing one for the Sunday school tape players.
- Peter White trimmed all the branches back from the edge of the roof on the rear wing.
- Rundy, Jody Lynn, and Eric cleaned the windows, power-washed the outside, and did extensive cleaning inside the rear classroom wing before Peace Camp.
- The storm drain tile that carries the flow from the large downspout off the roof at the south-east corner of the church was found to be plugged up. It was cleaned up by John Mansfield and crew. Thanks so much, John.

• On Saturday, August 8, John Derr and Natalie Koukis were married at First Baptist. Father Sarris from the Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Columbus officiated. Mary Lou Lovell served as organist and Peter White as the building host for the rehearsal, wedding, and cleanup.

• Don Patrick did a plumbing repair in the mens' room and checked out the sewer in the kitchen floor. Total cost \$60.00.

• A special thank you to those who worked so hard during Peace Camp, especially the kitchen crew for keeping things cleaned up and picked up.

— *Peter White*
Chairman, trustees

Peace Camp '98: Caring for God's World

Many thanks to all who helped to make Peace Camp '98 a great success. We couldn't have done it without the gracious help of the following people:

Participants: Alex, Yonica and

walks.

I remember endless food and oatmeal with brown sugar.

I remember many different retreats, faces have come and gone, and leaders have given their time and talents to make these retreats special.

Somehow I believe that as our life stories unfold the seeds, idea of fellowship and faith learned during these retreats will make a difference.

I remember retreats!

—*Mary Sealey*

Letter to Congregation

Dear friends at First Baptist,

I keep telling all enquiring friends that I am not quite out of the woods yet, although my incisions have almost completely healed, I am walking more without the aid of my walker (although I hold onto door frames and furniture), I am spending more of

Moriah Bennett; Michael and Jane Mercer; Natalie and Katie Griffith; Melissa Gillette; Jim Van Brimmer
 Teachers: Mary Lou Lovell, Donna Reed, Betty Davis, Melissa Mercer and Jody Lynn Hagans
 Nursery Workers: Chrissy Hopkins, Evelyn Lee
 Kitchen Coordinator: Jeanne Ekelberry
 Sunday Evening Meal Coordinators: Jean Wickum and Bertha Van Brimmer
 Custodians: Teresa and Mike Griffith
 Building Host: Carol Grubbs, Linda White
 Behind-the-scenes Clean Up: Peter White
 Peace Camp Committee Members: Randy Turner, Jody Lynn Hagans

If you know someone who should have been thanked and isn't included in this list, please tell Pastor Hagans.

.....
**ABC of OHIO
 ANNUAL MEETING**

The ABC of Ohio 173rd Annual Meeting will take place from Friday, October 16 through Sunday, October 18 at the Perry Education Village in Perry, Ohio. Please contact Pastor Hagans for further information and registration materials.

**Church Directory
 Update:**

Matthew Lovell
 107 East 11th
 Columbus, OH 43210
 e-mail: lovell.17@osu.edu

Vic and Debbie Fogle
 PCS 557 Box 2176
 FPO AP 96379-2176

(Although they are in Japan, their mailing address is complete exactly as written above.)

phone: 011-81-6117-46-4193
 e-mail: fogle@marinemwr.or.jp
 anniversary: July 5

.....
**Marion Association Fall
 Rally**

The Marion Association Fall Rally will take place on Sunday, September 27, beginning at 4:00 p.m. with a business meeting and election of officers. A light supper will be served at 5:00 p.m. followed by worship and the Fall Rally program.. The event will end by 8:00 p.m. The cost of the meal is \$3.00 per person. Child care will be provided.

.....
**American Baptist
 Churches of Ohio Update**

New south Area Minister

On July 16, 1998, the region board unanimously selected the Rev. Dr. Wayne Paulsen as the next South Area Minister for ABC/OHIO. Er. Paulsen comes to us from North Platte, Nebraska, where he is currently serving as a senior pastor. He will begin his work with us on September 1. He and his wife, Julie, have two grown daughters.

.....
**The Alzheimer's
 Association of Central
 Ohio Learning Lunches**

On Wednesday, September 9, from noon to 1:30 p.m., at The Centrum at Willow Brook, the Delaware staff will speak on the topic "Alzheimer's disease: An Introduction".

On Wednesday, October 7, from noon to 1:30, at Andrews House (30 West Winter St.), Jane Acri from the Central Ohio Agency on Aging will speak on the topic "Communicating with the Confused Older Adult".

.....
**Arts Castle Offers
 Autumn Classes**

Located at 190 West Winter Street, the Delaware county Cultural Arts

Center is dedicated to nurturing the creative energies of residents of Delaware County and surrounding areas by offering multi-arts experiences for people of all ages — classes, workshops, exhibitions, performances and events.

The Arts Castle announces registration for the autumn class session, with classes beginning the week of September 8. Class brochures are available at the Arts Castle. Members of the center and senior citizens receive a 10% discount on workshops and classes. Please call the center at 369-ARTS for more information.

.....
**Delaware County Parent
 Leadership Training**

What is Parent Leadership Training? The Parent leadership Training helps parents: learn about laws and government in their community; learn how to speak out for themselves and their children; learn how to make changes in their schools, neighborhood and government.

Who Should Attend? People who want to get more involved in their community.

What is Expected? People will attend an all day retreat and 20 weekly sessions.

Retreat: Saturday, October 3 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Sessions: Beginning Monday, October 5 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Location: Andrews House, 39 West Winter Street, Delaware. Dinner and Childcare will be provided.

Topics: The focus of the first 10 weeks will be on how to become a leader. The last 10 weeks will concentrate on local laws and government and how to make change happen.

How to Apply: People who are interested should complete an application. Applicants will be contacted September 21-25 by telephone to

continued on back of calendar

discuss the training in further detail. Please see Pastor Hagans for more information and applications.

.....
Letter to God

A Sunday school teacher challenged her children to take some time on Sunday afternoon to write a letter to God. They were to bring back their letter the following Sunday. One little boy wrote: "Dear God, We had a good time at church today. Wish You could have been there."

.....
The Crop 1.3 K Challenge

(Like the CropWalk only Different)
October 4, 1998 - 2:00 p.m.

The Crop 1.3 K Challenge is a fund-raising/food-drive to benefit Church World Service (The Crop Walk People) and People In Need (PIN). The object of the event is to raise money for Crop and to work together in teams to collect food items and personal necessities for PIN. Oh, and to be challenged to work and learn together while having a lot of fun for a good cause! Remember, 25% of the money we earn will come back to Delaware and be used by People in Need.

Churches and Religious Groups are each asked to sponsor one team of ten by paying their registration fee of \$100.00. (It is okay to raise more than \$100.00 if you can) Then they help that team collect non-perishable food items and personal necessity items. On the day of "The Crop 1.3 K Challenge," each team gathers, with their collected items, in the parking lot of the Hamilton-Williams Campus Center on the campus of Ohio Wesleyan University. (Here comes the interesting part.) Each team must work together to move their items safely, in one trip, from the H.W.C.C. Parking Lot on Spring Street to People In Need on Sandusky Street. The distance is exactly 1.3 kilometers. (No motorized vehicles/devices

can be used.)

If you are interested in being on the First Baptist Team or in contributing money and/or food, please see Rick Van Brimmer or Jody Lynn Hagans.

*The Rain date is Sunday, October 11, 1998 - 2:00 p.m.

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Personals

- **DR. GEORGE PARKER**, brother of **SHIRLEY PARKER**, died on August 25 in Louisville, Kentucky. He was a retired professor of religion and an ordained Baptist minister. We extend our sympathy to his family and friends.
- **EVELYN AND RICK LEE** travelled to Pittsburgh to visit with Bruce and family.
- **PETER AND LINDA WHITE** vacationed in California.
- **FLORENCE FAULK** took a cruise to Alaska.
- **JEAN WICKUM** took a trip to northern Ohio and Pennsylvania with her brother to visit relatives.

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Birthdays and Anniversaries

- Sept. 8 Tammy Francis
- 10 Katherine Griffith
- 11 Barbara Reed
- 14 Marci Sander
Richard Davis
- 15 Janet Porter
Jim & Bertha Van Brimmer
- 18 Melissa Mercer
- 26 Michael & Tammy Grubbs
Phil & Melissa Mercer
- 30 Mary Lou Lovell
- Oct. 3 Janet Lathrop
Laura Beth Mowery

Note: Please report any errors or omissions to Jim Stephenson, who is in the process of updating the list.

SEPTEMBER 1998

First Baptist Church

101 North Franklin Street, Delaware, Ohio 43015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 7:00 Deacons	2 7:00 Choir	3 10:00 Sewing Group	4	5
6 9:15 Church School 10:45 Morning Worship	Labor Day 7	8 7:30 Marion Association Trustees, West Mansfield	9 7:00 Choir	10 12:00 Young at Heart	11	12
13 9:15 Church School 10:45 Morning Worship	14 7:00 Boy Scouts	15	16 7:00 Choir	17	18	19 8:30 Men's Breakfast
20 9:15 Church School 10:45 Morning Worship 2:00 Board of Christian Education	21	22	23 First Day of Autumn 7:00 Choir	24 7:00 Parish Council	25	26
Christian Education Sunday 27 9:15 Church School 10:45 Morning Worship 4:00 Marion Association Fall Rally <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>	28 7:00 Boy Scouts	29	30 7:00 Choir	October 1	2 Trigg/Hedges Wedding Rehearsal	3 2:00 Triggs/Hedges Wedding

October 1998

Volume 27, Number 9

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Columbus, OH 43220

The Rev. Jody Lynn Hagans, Pastor

Jim Stephenson, Editor

Good News Letter

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

When I was growing up, we had a rule in my family. If you spent the night at your best friends house on Saturday, you had to go to church with her on Sunday morning.

Kim and I met in the third grade, and were joined at the hip until we grew up and both went off to separate colleges. During that time, we spent countless Saturday nights at each other's houses. When I was at her house, we didn't go to an American Baptist church, but to St. Collette's Catholic Church where her family attended. This is where I first learned the songs, prayers and rituals of the Roman Catholic Church. I learned when to sit, kneel and stand and when and how to make the sign of the cross. I'm probably one of the only Baptists who knows both the Apostle's and Nicene Creed. And when it came time to take communion, her family took me up to the altar with them and taught me how to receive the host and drink from the cup.

Last weekend, Rundy and I went up to visit with Kim and her husband Greg and their new daughter Melissa. Then on Sunday morning, according to the rules, we went to church with them at St. Joseph Catholic Church. It has been over 15 years since I've been to a Catholic mass, but I was amazed at how much I still remembered. I'm not sure why this surprised me, after all, the Lehrs had brought me up to be a good Catholic.

After the regular Sunday morning mass, Kim, Greg and Melissa went forward with 11 other groups of parents and infants to take part in the sacrament of Baptism. Then Kim's

brother Peter and I were called forward to stand behind them, along with the other 22 godparents who also stood behind the family that they were supporting.

When Kim first called and asked me to be Melissa's godmother, I was



October

honed and excited. But as I stood through the long ritual of the baptism, and listened as the officiating Deacon asked us to accept this responsibility and taught us what exactly our responsibility would be, I grew increasingly apprehensive and overwhelmed. The religious and moral future of this small, fragile, innocent child was being placed into the hands

of 4 under-qualified, bumbling adults. What was God thinking?

Then the Deacon read a passage from the 10th chapter of Mark's Gospel. "And they were bringing children to Jesus, that he might touch them; and the disciples rebuked them. But when Jesus saw it he was indignant, and said to them, 'Let the children come to me, do not hinder them; for to such belongs the kingdom of God. Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it.' And he took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands upon them."

Then he spoke to the adults. I didn't take notes, of course, but I'll give you my version of what he told us.

When Jesus spoke these words, he wasn't meaning that we should act like children. Instead, we should relate to God the way an infant relates to its parents. An infant is completely dependent on her parents. Her life depends on them. Our challenge, to fulfill our duty as parents and godparents, is to relate to God the way Melissa relates to her parents. Putting our life into God's hands. Allowing ourselves to depend completely on God.

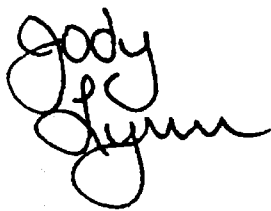
Unfortunately, we were taught that real adults shouldn't have to depend on anyone but themselves. We raise people in this society to become self-sufficient and independent. To be dependent on anyone or anything, is to be weak.

I'll be the first to admit that I'm a very independent person and sometimes (or almost always) hate to admit that I need help; that I can't do it all by myself. But I'm also smart enough to know that most of what I

accomplish in life that is truly an accomplishment, is a direct result of God's wisdom, love and power working through my life. I also know that if I am to have any kind of positive impact on little Melissa Ann's life, it will be because she depends on a godmother who depends on God.

We are, above all else, a community of faith called into being by a gracious and mighty God. The only way we can become the people God calls us to become, is by becoming like children, who depend on their parents for everything. Let us strive to become completely dependent on our heavenly parent who is the source of our life.

Many Blessings,



George Young

George Hazen Young, 63, died on September 11 at The Arbors of Delaware. George was a lifelong Delaware resident and a member of First Baptist. He is survived by his sister Margaret of Delaware, his uncle Clarence Young of Columbus, and several cousins.

George's mother, Helen, served for many years as our church's choir director, and his uncle, Edgar Ebenhack, served for many years as our organist.

Visiting hours were held at Robinson Funeral Home and graveside services were held on September 14 at Oak Grove Cemetery, with Rev. Jody Lynn Hagan officiating.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Humane Society of Delaware County, 4920 Ohio 37E, Delaware.

A.B.W. Ministries

The Sewing Group is looking for old sheets for roller bondages. If you have any to donate, please bring them to church or phone me at 369-2661.

—Bertha Van Brimmer
White Cross Chairman

What Is An American Baptist?

“TEN KEY FACTS ABOUT AMERICAN BAPTISTS”

Number 7: The Importance of Religious Freedom

Consistent with our whole heritage, American Baptists have emphasized the importance of religious freedom, not only for ourselves but for all people. In our early history, we Baptists suffered harsh and brutal persecution at the hands of legally established state churches which regarded us as dissenters. Since that time, we have firmly believed that religious freedom is best protected by the separation of church and state. Some of the heroes of our past fought for that in no uncertain terms: Roger Williams, John Clarke, Isaac Backus and John Leland.

ABC of Ohio Annual Meeting

The ABC of Ohio 173rd Annual Meeting will take place from Friday, October 16 through Sunday, October 18 at the Perry Education Village in Perry, Ohio. Please contact Pastor Hagans for further information and registration materials.

Trustees Notes

• On August 30, First Baptist shared our building with Delaware [Southern] Baptist for a service of Baptism. Pastor David Warton offici-

ated. Their church is being remodeled. Peter White served as building host.

• A thank you to Carol Grubbs and Donna Brown for the two new high-chairs in the fellowship hall.

• The electric circuit breaker for the kitchen stove at the parsonage went bad. It was replaced by “Mr. Electric” at a cost of \$50.00.

—Peter White
Chairman, Trustees

The Alzheimer's Association of Central Ohio Learning Lunches

Date: Wednesday, October 7

Time: Noon to 1:30 p.m.

Topic: “Communicating with the Confused Older Adult”

Speaker: Jane Acri, Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging

Location: Andrews House, 39 West Winter Street

Date: Wednesday, November 4

Time: Noon to 1:30 p.m.

Topic: “Surviving the Holidays”

Speaker: Carol Kelly, OTR/L, Occupational Therapist

Location: Women's City Club, 135 North Franklin Street

Delaware CROP Walk

“The CROP 1.3 K Challenge”
October 4 – 2:00 p.m.

Our CROP Walk team has been organized and is ready to move. The “First Baptist Express” will gather at the parking lot of the Hamilton-Williams Campus Center at 1:30 on Sunday, October 4, where we will then transport large quantities of items to People in Need.

OCTOBER WORSHIP

October 4

World Communion Sunday
Luke 17:5-10
"The Meaning of Faith"

October 11

Luke 18:1-8
"The Gumball Theory"

October 18

Guest Preacher:
Deacon Jean Wickum

October 25

Luke 18:9-14
"What's the Meaning of This?"

November 1

Luke 6:20-31
"Practical Saints"

If you want to help out you can make a donation of non-perishable food items, personal items or a monetary gift. These can be made on the day of the walk and up until 2 weeks following the walk. Please speak with Pastor Hagans if you want to help out

*The Rain date is Sunday, October 18 - 2:00 p.m.

White Cross Gifts of the Heart

The American Baptist Women's Ministries group of First Baptist Church, asks for your assistance in helping White Cross stock a warehouse with layettes. These special recovery kits are given to disaster survivors to assist them in reclaiming their homes and lives. When we help to keep warehouses stocked with inventory, they are able to make an immediate response to an emergency appeal.

If you would like to donate a

layette kit or contribute an item to a layette kit, please put items on the Care & Share Table located in the Assembly Room.

What to put into one layette kit:

- 2 shirts (or onesies)
- 2 gowns
- 2 receiving blankets
- 2 wash clothes
- 4 cloth diapers
- 1 sweater
- 2 diaper pins
- If you wish, enclose a personal note letting them know that this gift has been sent with love and prayers.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- Oct. 3 Janet Lathrop
5 Laura Beth Mowery
7 Jack Smith
9 Suzanne Grubbs
Ed & Jennifer Linn
11 Joe Mowery
Tim and Nicole Rice
19 Paul Hopkins
20 Yonica Bennett
25 Jenny Grubbs
28 Ed Linn
30 Jean Osborne
31 Ray Biggar
Melissa Claire Turner
Nov. 1 Micah & Shannon Stoner
5 Victor Fogle

These dates come from the Church Directory. Please report any errors or omissions to Jim Stephenson.

Meals on Wheels

Meals on Wheels of Delaware, a private, non-profit organization is in need of volunteer drivers for their home delivered meal routes within the city.

Currently there are openings on Monday, Tuesday and Friday. Each route takes about 1-1/4 hours to drive, with all deliveries being made prior to the noon meal. You may volunteer for one or more routes. There is also a need for substitute drivers. There are no weekend deliveries.

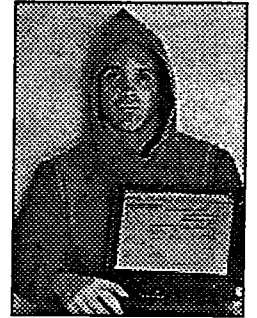
All delivery routes leave from the

kitchen of Asbury United Methodist Church, located at 55 West Lincoln Avenue. If you would like to volunteer or need further information, please contact the on-site director, Beverly Reiner at 369-4024.

Monastery Plans High-Tech Experiment

Until recently, the Monastery of Christ in the Desert (located in rural New Mexico) didn't even have electricity. Now it's at the center of a high-tech experiment by the Catholic Church.

Brother Aquinas (pictured), a computer programmer turned Benedictine monk, is in the process of developing a worldwide virtual community for Catholics.



The monastery has a web site at <http://www.christdesert.org/pax.html>. By January they plan to replace their chapel choir books with IBM flat-panel displays as part of their plan to wire their monastery into the Internet.

According to the New York Times, the monks say that when work is complete, "anyone, anywhere on earth, will be able to pray directly and interactively with the monks over the Internet." They will also provide online religious discussion groups, articles, religious artwork, and special programs for children.

"This is a new understanding of community," says Brother Aquinas. "This will shake the organization of the church profoundly."

Personals

• JANET PORTER has just completed a year of study at the Massage Away School of Therapy and graduated with honors. She will be taking the

state board test in December for certification as a licensed massage therapist. She celebrated her accomplishment by going on the Disney Magic Cruise including a visit to Disney World.

- **FRANCIS JOHNSON's** daughters, Caroline and Penny, and their families, visited here from Florida.
- **BETH TRIGG** and **ALISON MOWERY** flew to California to visit with Ed and Jennifer Linn.
- **MARY LOU LOVELL** is teaching music half-time at Delaware elementary schools.
- **DEBORAH VAN BROEKHOVEN** has accepted the position of Executive Director of the Historical Society at the American Baptist national headquarters in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania. She is on a three-year leave from teaching at Ohio Wesleyan.
- **BERTHA** and **JIM VAN BRIMMER** made a trip to visit daughter Suzi and family in Pennsylvania.

OCTOBER 1998

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
					1	2	3
4 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship 1:30 Crop Walk Registration at Parking Lot of OWU's Hamilton-Williams Campus Center 2:00 Crop Walk	5 7:00 Delaware Piecemakers	6 7:00 Deacons	7 7:00 Choir	8 12:00 Young at Heart	9	10	
11 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship	Columbus Day 12 7:00 Boy Scouts	13 7:00 Youth Commission	14 7:00 Choir	15 10:00 A.B.W. Ministries at Andrews House	16 Pastor at ABC of Ohio Annual Meeting	17 8:30 Men's Breakfast	
18 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship Pastor at ABC of Ohio Annual Meeting	19 7:00 Boy Scouts	20 6:00 Board of Christian Education	21 7:00 Choir	22	23	24 <i>Daylight Saving Time ends tonight; set clocks back one hour</i>	
25 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship	26 7:00 Boy Scouts	27	28 6:30 Covered-Dish Dinner Followed by Quarterly Business Meeting	29	30	Halloween 31	

November 1998

Volume 27, Number 10

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

Good News Letter

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

Welcome to November. Time to rake leaves. Time to bake pumpkin pies. Time to eat turkey. Time to talk about money.

I've spent the last week, racking my brain, trying to come up with yet another creative, imaginative, yet inspiring way to talk to you about stewardship.

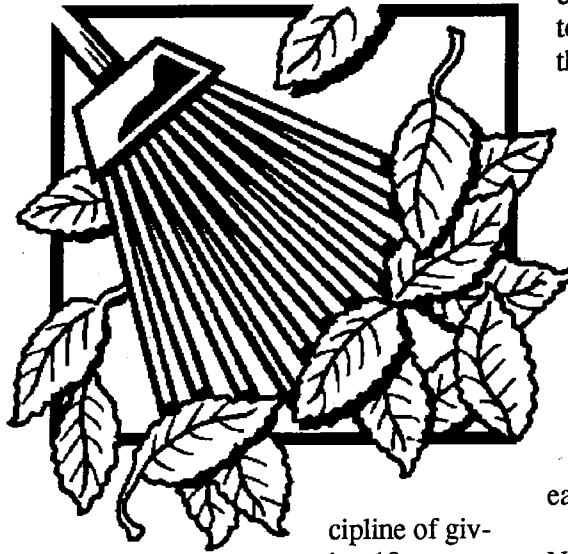
Now, we all know that the topic of stewardship covers several topics under the heading, "stewardship of..." However, in November, when we talk about stewardship, we mean money.

You will receive this edition of your Newsletter on November 1. A peaceful Sunday morning, when you have come into the beauty of this sanctuary to worship and to gather together with other believers. What you may not know, is that for the past 3 or 4 weeks, the finance committee and the pastor, with the help of the other committees of the church, have been hard at work planning and preparing a budget for this church for the coming year. Then on Wednesday, October 28, they presented this budget to the church at our quarterly business meeting for (limited) discussion and approval. Now that this budget has been approved, members of the finance committee will be talking to you during the "stewardship moment" which will be part of our worship services for the next three Sundays. It is their hope to educate us about the financial needs of our church as we prepare to do another year of ministry as God's church in the world. Then they will do their best to inspire you to make a finan-

cial commitment to God's church, the First Baptist Church of Delaware, on Stewardship Sunday, which is Sunday, November 22.

Part of my job, as pastor of this illustrious group of believers, is to preach the discipline of tithing. Tithe means ten. Tithing is the spiritual dis-

NOVEMBER



cipline of giving 10 percent

of all you have (usually we mean money) to God. What the finance committee wants you to do is give 10 percent to this church. This isn't such a bad idea, at least from my perspective, since I receive my paycheck from money that is given to the church. Unfortunately, the principle of tithing doesn't specify where the money should go; it only specifies who the money should go to. It should go to God.

If you already tithe, I encourage you to challenge yourself to give over and above your tithe. If you don't tithe, shame on you. Just kidding.

Tithing isn't an easy thing to do, and it's almost impossible to do all at once. In fact, don't try to do it all at once. Work up to it. Each year, when you prayerfully consider what you're going to give to God, start with what you gave this year and increase it by 1%.

We've established that it's important to give money to God. But, why should we give money to this church? Good question. We promise to make a financial contribution to the ministry of this church, because we believe it is God's will. We believe that God has called this church to be about the business of ministry within the families of this church, within this community and within the world. We make a pledge to give our contribution each week or each month, because we know that even though we can't always be present to worship with our church family, that it's ministry needs to be supported each and every day.

As we travel together into this November. As we rake leaves, bake pumpkin pies, eat turkey and even as we talk about money, let us remember that it is the God of all life who has graciously given us all we have; time, talents, money. Let us now return to God a portion of all we have received. Let us give thanks for all the blessings of this life. Amen.

Many Blessings,

.....

Come One, Come All to the Fall Clean-Up!

We'll be having a fall clean-up on Saturday, November 21st, starting at 10 am. Please bring rags, mops, buckets, cleansers, paper towels, brooms, etc.

We'll have a soup luncheon. Soup and beverage will be provided; please bring your own sandwiches.

This is a great opportunity for stewardship to our church, while at the same time providing community amongst us! Please join us!

.....

Youth Group to Lead Worship Service

The youth group will lead our worship service on Sunday, November 15th. The theme will be our church history. "Cookies on the Concrete" will be available for sale after the services. Should be an interesting day — come see!

.....

Poinsettias

You can order poinsettias to decorate our sanctuary during Advent for \$8.00 each. You can take your poinsettias home with you after our Christmas Eve service, if you wish, or leave them at the church. Please place your orders with Jim Stephenson by Sunday, November 22nd.

.....

Thank You

Dear Church Family,

Peter and I have been overwhelmed by the many kindnesses that have been sent our way during the recent sadness experienced by our family at the death of my father on October 7. The flowers sent to the funeral home were a beautiful expression of love. The numerous cards and notes sent were wonderful tributes and will be read and reread many times as they

give comfort to us in the days ahead. And finally, we deeply appreciate the many prayers given for our family to help us through this difficult time.

With sincere gratitude,

—Linda and Peter White
on behalf of the Seckman family

.....

What Is An American Baptist?

"TEN KEY FACTS ABOUT
AMERICAN BAPTISTS"

Number 8: We're Active in the Ecumenical Movement

Although there are differences of opinion among us about it, the American Baptist Churches has historically been active in the ecumenical movement and is a founding member of both the National Council of Churches of Christ and the World Council of Churches. The ABC is also an official observer in the National Association of Evangelicals. Faithful to the light that has been given to us, we recognize that God is also at work among others, and we choose in freedom to love them, witness to them, work with them, and learn from them.

.....

Andrews House News

- The Parent Leadership Training Seminars that were to be held at Andrew's House each Monday evening from October through February have been postponed. Our church was scheduled to prepare a meal on Monday, October 26 for the participants. As soon as this event is rescheduled, we will sign up for another date to prepare supper for the program's 30 or so participants. Stay tuned for more information.
- The annual Andrews House Christmas Bazaar is scheduled for Friday, December 4th (10:00 am to 8:00 pm) and Saturday, December 5th

(10:00 am to 2:00 pm). Donated baked goods, candies, jellies, crafts, and donated gently-used items with a value of at least \$25 are needed. Proceeds will benefit Andrews House. For more information, contact the Andrews House office at 369-4520, or call Connie Whitaker at 369-2011.

- **Second Fridays** celebrated its second anniversary last month. Second Fridays is an Andrews House program that provides free family dinners once a month to the Delaware community
- **Support Groups** are available for children's bereavement, Alzheimers, and cancer support. Phone Andrews House at 369-4520 for more information.
- A **Ginger Bread House Contest and Auction** will be held on Thursday, December 3rd, in conjunction with the Andrews House Christmas Bazaar. Phone Debra Weaver at 369-6221 for more information.
- The Andrews House **Computer Learning Center** began offering classes in October. Classes are free and are for all ages. For information about future classes, or if you are interested in teaching a computer class, call Andrews House at 369-4520.

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Delaware Area Handbell Festival

On Sunday, November 22, at 7 p.m., the 3rd annual Delaware Area Handbell Festival will take place in Gray Chapel on the Ohio Wesleyan University Campus. Eight handbell ensembles from Delaware, Sunbury, Waldo and Prospect churches will perform separately and as a massed ensemble. Featured by the entire ensemble will be arrangements of "America" and Beethoven's "Hymn to Joy" plus a handbell-accompanied sing-along of familiar carols.

NOVEMBER WORSHIP

November 1
All Saint's Day
Luke 6:20-31
"Practical Saints"

November 8
Luke 20:27-38
"Not An Intellectual Matter"

November 15
Hebrews 12:1-2
"A Journey Through Our Past:
the Faith History of our
Sanctuary"

November 22
Stewardship Sunday
John 6:25-35
"Living Graciously in a
Graceless World"

ADVENT WORSHIP

1st Sunday of Advent
November 29
"The Hanging of the Greens"

2nd Sunday of Advent
December 6
Matthew 3:1-12; Isaiah 11:1-10
"The Sky Is Falling"

3rd Sunday of Advent
December 13
James 5:7-10
"Patience Is a Virtue"

4th Sunday of Advent
December 20
Matthew 1:18-25
"It's a Baby!"

The public is invited to attend this sound sensation experience for a thrilling prelude to the Christmas season. There is no admission charge, but donations will be accepted.

A.B.W. Ministries Scholarship Student

The A.B.W. Ministries at our church is helping the other churches in our association to support the new 1998-99 scholarship student. We want to introduce her to you, so that you can help us support her through your prayers and cards.

Karen Helton
8593 Kingston Drive
Franklin, Ohio

United Theological Seminary,
Dayton

Karen became a Christian at an early age and was baptized at the age of eleven at Shroyer Road Baptist Church in Dayton. During her teen years, she began experiencing the spiritual uplifting of choral music through the adult choir and youth group musicals. She was active in retreats and state youth conferences.

Her college years were at the University of Cincinnati but found her missing the fellowship of her church. She became active in the Mt. Auburn Baptist Church where she became a Sunday School and VBS teacher of 5th and 6th graders. She learned how to share her faith and experiences with others.

During the last years of college, the Holy Spirit called her into the pastoral ministry. Because her college studies were in Industrial Engineering, she felt God had plans for her to work as an engineer for a time and experience a work life similar to many Americans. She found many hurting people. They need the love and strength of the Holy Spirit to help them in their journey through life.

A few years after college, Karen and her husband moved to Middletown, Ohio where they became members of the First Baptist Church. She became a part of the handbell choir and taught Jr. High Sunday School. The Friendship

Circle of women gave her spiritual support and became trusted friends. She preached on women's Sunday and shared her call to the ministry.

She began her seminary work in the fall of 1993. In 4 years of part time seminary, she completed one year of work. Last summer she and her husband decided the time had come for her to leave her engineering job and attend seminary full time. This year has been the fulfillment of a dream. It is her hope to graduate with a Master's Degree of Divinity in May of 1999.

The Alzheimer's Association of Central Ohio Learning Lunches

Wednesday, November 4, 1998 Time:
Noon to 1:30 p.m. Topic: "Surviving
the Holidays" Speaker: Carol Kelly,
OTR/L, Occupational Therapist
Location: Women's City Club, 135
North Franklin Street

Delaware Piecemakers

The Delaware Piecemakers Quilt Guild invites members of the community to a workday on Saturday, November 7th from 10:00 to 4:00 in the fellowship hall.

We will be making Baby Quilts as a part of our outreach program. Materials will be available but you can donate; 100% cotton, washed batting and embroidery thread for tying.

Bring a sack lunch and your own scissors; come for an hour or all day.

In March we finished 60 quilts. This project — "ABC Quilts" — is for hospitalized babies at risk with AIDS, leukemia, and other life-threatening diseases.

For more information, call 363-1432.

—Jeanne Ekelberry

Card Shower for 70th Anniversary

Melissa Mercer and Jennifer Turner's grandparents, Willa and Nathan Corder, will be celebrating their 70th wedding anniversary on November 17th. In honor of this very special occasion, their family is having a "Card Shower" and hopes that at least 70 cards will be received, one for each year of their marriage. If you'd like to participate, please send an anniversary card by November 17th to:

Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Corder
1349 Bitonti Street
Morgantown, WV 26505

Personals

- **LINDA WHITE's** father, **CHARLES SECKMAN**, passed away in Vienna, West Virginia on Oct. 7 from a heart attack. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family.
- **MARY F. "POLLY" FOCKE**, 87, died on October 25 at Northland Terrace Medical Center in Columbus. Polly had been a member of First Baptist a number of years ago. She was the former director at the Delaware County Speech and Hearing Center, and later was a librarian at the Delaware Country District Library.

CHURCH DIRECTORY UPDATE

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

New Address and Phone:

Jeff Faulk
701 Summit Street
Apt. 111
Niles, OH 44446
(330) 652-0024

- **JARROD TRIGG AND NICHELLE HEDGES** were married at our church on Saturday, Oct. 3rd.

- **BERTHA VAN BRIMMER** required 21 stitches after she fell down the stairs at her home. Her daughter Susy and and her husband Jeff came from Pennsylvania to visit for a few days.

- **CAP GABRIEL** was hospitalized after a fall at his home.

- The **LOVELL** family drove to New York to visit with Mary Lou's brother and father, both of whom have been hospitalized. Her father has a skull fracture from a fall from a ladder at his work, and her brother has heart problems.

- **ERIN FAULK** has been invited to become a member of Sigma Omicron, a dance fraternity at Hope College. She is already a member of the Kappa Delta Chi sorority and lives in the sorority house on campus.

Erin has also been accepted into the Paris Program at Hope College. She will be studying in Paris, France, for the second semester of this year.

- **JEFF FAULK** has taken a new job in Youngstown, Ohio, and will be living in Niles. (His new address is printed in the Church Directory Update in this newsletter.)

- **MARGE SMALE** and her daughter flew to Boston for several days to visit with daughter Becky.

- **KAREN STONER** attended a study conference in October at Green Lake, Wisconsin.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

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

This list is compiled from information in the Church Directory. Please report any errors or omissions to Jim Stephenson.

Calling All Stewards!

To ensure that First Baptist continues its ministry to its congregation and to the larger community, we must all be faithful stewards. Fulfilling that obligation doesn't have to mean agreeing to serve as chair of a committee, or volunteering to reroof the education building by yourself. We have immediate needs that are easily taken care of — little jobs that no one may even notice until they go undone. Too many times, they fall to those who are already serving the church in many others ways, and they become burdens when they are added to the weight of other responsibilities.

I urge you to take a minute and prayerfully consider the following needs of the church, and see if your talents or contribution would make a difference. Many are simple tasks which do not take a great deal of time — just commitment.

- **Newsletter Distribution Steward** — Affixes name and address labels and distributes monthly newsletter at Sunday morning service; mails newsletters to those who are not at services, shut-ins, students, etc. You will be reimbursed for postage.

continued on back of calendar

continued from page 4

- **Outdoor Message Board Steward** — Changes weekly sermon announcement and keeps board current. Can be performed either Sunday (after services) or Monday.
- **Copier Steward** — Checks and purchases copier paper supply so that paper is available at all times. You are reimbursed for paper costs.
- **Andrews House Representative** — Represents First Baptist to the Andrews House Board. Attends board meetings the first Thursday of each month, and other Andrews House functions.
- **P.I.N. Basket Steward** — Keeps an eye on P.I.N. food collection basket in vestibule, and transports donations to P.I.N. when necessary.

These are the most pressing needs, but represent just a few of the tasks performed by our stewards: Flower Committee, Kitchen Committee, Newsletter Editor, Candle Lighter Coordinator, Usher Coordinator, Bulletin Printing & Folding, Babysitting Coordinator and Nominating Committee Chair.

Do you know who now performs these tasks? Won't you consider joining them as a faithful steward? Please let me or Pastor Hagans know if you would like to help.

Thank You,

-Rick Van Brimmer, Moderator

NOVEMBER 1998

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship	2 7:00 Delaware Piecemakers; Boy Scouts	 3 ELECTION DAY 7:00 Deacons	4 7:00 Choir	5 10:00 Sewing Group	6 9:30 Church Women United, at Delaware Unitarian Univ. Fell.	7 10:00 Piecemaker's ABC Quilt Project
8 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship	9 7:00 Boy Scouts	10 7:30 Marion Assoc. Executive Committee	Veterans' Day 7:00 Choir 	12 12:00 Young at Heart	13	14
15 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship Led by Youth Group 2:00 Board of Christian Education	16 7:00 Boy Scouts	17 7:00 Parish Council	18 7:00 Choir	19 7:00 A.B.W. Ministries, White Cross Program	20	21 8:30 Men's Breakfast 10:00 Fall Church Cleanup
Stewardship Sunday 22 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship 7:00 Handbell Festival at Gray Chapel <i>Last day to order poinsettias.</i>	23 7:00 Boy Scouts	24	25 7:00 Choir	 26	27	28
First Sunday in Advent 29 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship with "Hanging of the Greens" <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>	30	December 1 7:00 Board of Deacons	2 7:00 Choir	3 10:00 Sewing Group	4 10:00 Andrews House Christmas Bazaar (until 8:00)	5 10:00 Andrews House Christmas Bazaar (until 2:00)

Good News Letter

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

I can't believe its December!
I'm having trouble believing a lot of things this year. I'm have a lot of trouble believing that it's November 30th and it's nearly 70 degrees outside. I'm having trouble believing that in the course of 5 months I've been given a god-daughter, a nephew and a niece. I can hardly imagine that Rundy and I are getting ready to celebrate our 3rd Christmas together, and that we've been married for almost 15 months. I absolutely refuse to believe that Christmas is less than a month away.

The truth is, I know that December is breathing down my neck, but unfortunately I'm still somewhere back in August.

I've been struggling to adjust to the changes in my life and the new demands on my time. Some of this is due to the fact that I was single for 32 years. The rest is due to the fact that I keep running out of time. I need about 5 more hours added onto the end of each day.

In case you're not aware, here are some of the things going on in our life:

- We have a hectic schedule during the week, with Rundy leaving at 4:30 a.m. and coming home at 7:15 p.m., Monday through Thursday.
- I have the strange notion that when a person works 10 hours and drives 4 hours, they should have a meal waiting for them when they get home.
- I went from having 2-3 loads of laundry a week to having about 10 loads of laundry a week.
- I have spent the last 4 months dealing with neck and headache problems.

• I have four step-sons (Chad, Shaun, Jason & Eric) and a granddaughter (Kelsea) who live 80 miles away, and need regular visits from us.

• On top of all this, during the past year, my family in Michigan has had many special needs where my presence was requested &/or needed.



DECEMBER

• Let's not even mention housecleaning.

I apologize, that on many occasions I've not handled these demands in the most efficient or professional manner. In fact, I've had days where I've felt so overwhelmed, that I didn't want to get out of bed.

I don't tell you all of this so that you'll feel sorry for me, or so you'll feel guilty for making even more

demands upon my time. That is not my purpose. My purpose is to help myself and all of us put things in perspective.

The truth, is that my life, Rundy's life, and our life as a congregation has changed dramatically. I went from being single to being married. Rundy went from being single to being married to a pastor. And all of you went from having a single pastor (for 6 years) to having a married pastor. Let us not underestimate how dramatic these changes have been and still are.

Thanks to the Board of Deacons, I've come to realize and understand that I don't have to struggle with all of this on my own. That I should look to my church family for support and encouragement and even for a swift kick when I need it.

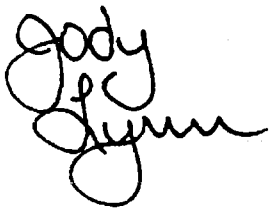
The wedding was easy because it was a celebration. The honeymoon was fun because the situation was new and fresh. But now is when it becomes challenging: in the day-to-day living out of a life together. I apply this to Rundy and I in our life together, but I also apply it to our church family in our life together. This time of adjusting to a whole new life-style hasn't been easy for any of us. I am not the same person who came to you seven years ago (thank God), and you aren't the same church I came to pastor seven years ago (thanks to God). That's the way life works. We grow and change; new members join our families and others leave our family. And it isn't easy. But that's life.

The good news, is that we've faced changes and growth before, as individuals, as families and as a church family, and we've made it through to

the other side. But, let's be careful not to think that we have to do it all on our own or even that we can do it all on our own. Because we can't.

May this season of advent be a time of preparation for the birth of Christ into our lives. Let us remember that the only way we can face the changes and challenges in our lives is when we recognize that not only do we need each other, but we also need God. Let us take time to sit back, pray, think, relax and make room in our hearts for the many changes that have taken place in our lives and for the many changes that will take place. Let us make room for God.

Many Blessings,



Pastoral Visitations

In an attempt to be more intentional about making pastoral visits, I have scheduled visitation times into my regular weekly schedule. I will make scheduled visits on Monday evenings (7:00 to 8:30) and on Sunday afternoons (2:00 to 3:30), when there are no previously scheduled meetings or events.

Of course these times are flexible and can be made earlier or later as the need may arise. If these times and days do not fit into your schedule, another day and time can be arranged. I will make contacts for visits, going through the church directory in alphabetical order. If you would like a visit before I reach your name, please let me know, or give me a call and invite me over.

In addition, I will continue to make hospital visits and emergency visits, contacts with visitors to our church, and visits with our shut-ins.

Christmas Activities

Please see the enclosed church calendar for a complete listing of Advent and Christmas activities.

Also, if you would like an opportunity to visit with me and Rundy, we are usually available for lunch on Sunday after church. Please be warned, that if you invite us to go to lunch with you to a restaurant, we will expect to pick up our own tab.

Christmas Carolling

Everyone is invited to join the choir for our annual Christmas carolling on Saturday, Dec. 12th at 6:30. We'll be singing familiar Christmas carols that everyone knows.

Carolling usually lasts about 90 minutes, and afterwards we'll have refreshments.



Christmas Program

Please mark your calendars and join us for the Sunday School program which be held on December 20th at 7:00. The program will be "Mary Remembers," a nativity presentation with music by Carol Christians. Come see our Sunday School as they present this special program for our Christmas season.

Christmas Party

After our Christmas program to be held on Sunday evening, December 20th, we will be having our annual Christmas gathering in the fellowship hall. If possible, bring a plate of

cookies or other Christmas dessert to share and enjoy each other's company as we catch our breath for the coming weeks. This will also be the time when we find out who our secret advent partner has been for the year. If you have any questions, please call Sue Elfner at 363-2244.

Pastor's Office Hours

Beginning in December, Pastor Hagans will have new office hours: Tuesdays from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., and Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Thursday afternoon will be set aside for sermon writing, when she can be found at her parsonage office (363-4785).

The pastors day off is Friday. Please call only in case of an emergency. If you want to leave a message on Friday, please call the church and leave a message on the answering machine.

Saturday will be taken as a day off unless there are scheduled workshops, Association events, or church activities.

During other times, call the parsonage to speak with Pastor Hagans directly, or if she's not home, please leave a message on the answering machine. If you are allergic to answering machines, she does have "caller ID" and will know that you attempted to call, and will return your call.

What Is An American Baptist?

Ten Key Facts about American Baptists

Number 9: Taking a Stand on Controversial Issues

In keeping with our dissenting roots, our tradition has found a place for persons and groups to take a stand on issues that often have been highly controversial. Many Baptists partici-

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS WORSHIP

December 6

2nd Sunday of Advent
"The Sky is Falling"
Matthew 3:1-12; Isaiah 11:1-10

December 13

3rd Sunday of Advent
"Patience IS a Virtue"
James 5:7-10

December 20

4th Sunday of Advent
"It's a Baby!"
Matthew 1:18-25

December 24

Christmas Eve Candlelight
Communion
6:45 p.m. - Instrumental Preludes
7:00 p.m. - Worship

December 27

1st Sunday of Christmas
Guest Preacher

January 3

2nd Sunday of Christmas

Convention in 1921. Fresh in our memories is the leadership of Martin Luther King, Jr., in the civil rights movement.

"The Nights of a Thousand Lights" to Benefit Habitat for Humanity

A Christmas Lights Spectacular called "The Nights of a Thousand Lights" will be held to benefit Habitat for Humanity of Delaware County.

It will be held nightly at the Cross Creek Campgrounds (across from Alum Creek State Park on Old State Road) from Nov. 27 to Dec. 30, from 5:00 - 9:00 weekdays and 5:00 - 10:00 weekends.

Six to eight volunteers are needed for each shift (5:00 - 7:00, and 7:00 - 9:00/10:00) to take donations, pass out cookies, and take pictures with Santa. Each volunteer is asked to bring two dozen cookies. Call Smith Runyan at (740) 363-9203 to volunteer.

Trustees Notes

- Four fireproof file cabinets with two drawers each were purchased to hold the important church records. Rick and Barb Van Brimmer did all the leg work on this project. The cost was \$1,000.
- The furnaces were all checked and filters changed by Don Patrick. The cost was \$159.01.
- The fire extinguishers were checked and serviced by B&J of Marion, Ohio.
- Arch Trigg found a light globe to replace the broken one in the men's room, and was able to get a hole drilled in globe to make it fit!
- Joe Mowery repaired the church door bell at the blue side doors that rings in the pastors office.

- A repair was made to the parsonage refrigerator by A-1 appliance. The cost was \$75.90.

- Three pianos were tuned by Clifford Rector

- Jennifer Turner located a box of the eight-foot fluorescent bulbs for the fellowship hall and classrooms. The cost was \$65.00 for 15 bulbs. Not a bad investment since the last box of spares lasted 25 years!

- Mansfield Typewriter made a repair to the copier.

- Peter White cleaned out the gutters at the church. Rundy Hagans cleaned out the gutters at the parsonage.

- On Saturday, November 28, Tosha Hansen and Adam Stevens were married at First Baptist. Pastor Dale Baker, from God's Country Church near Marysville, officiated. Mary Lou Lovell served as organist and Peter White as building host.

- Beth Trigg and the youth organized a church cleanup day on Saturday, November 21 that was quite successful. Thank you to everyone who came and helped.

- On Sunday, November 29, right at the close of morning worship, a baseball was thrown through a basement window in the fellowship hall by a neighbor. Joe Mowery repaired it on December 2.

- The pipe organ was tuned and serviced by Gary Mason. The cost was \$150.00.

- Peter White
Chairman, trustees

Lost and Found

- A "Delaware Gazette" umbrella, found in the front vestibule
- One pair of black women's gloves were found on the desk in front of the rest rooms.

pated in such reform crusades as those for abolition, temperance, and the education of emancipated Blacks. The leading American prophet of the social gospel in its search for justice for working people was Baptist pastor and theological educator Walter Rauschenbusch. Baptists have played a role in the long struggle for women's suffrage and rights. Though not often done until very recently, the ordination of women among us began in the late 19th century. Helen Barrett Montgomery, whose translation of the New Testament from the original Greek was published, was the first woman to preside over a major denomination when she was elected president of the Northern Baptist

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ABY News

Two recent fundraisers were held to make monies for a new canoe for Judson Hills. After our historical service on November 15th, the kids sold "cookies on the concrete." This project netted \$43. Also, a rummage sale was held on Thursday evening, November 19th, and Friday morning, November 20th, made \$72.

Thanks to all who contributed and assisted.

- Beth Trigg

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Trigg-Hedges Wedding

At 2:20 in the afternoon on Saturday, October 3, Londa Nichelle Hedges and Jarrod Benjamin Trigg were united in marriage by the Rev. Brian Williams from Delaware Grace Brethern church with assistance from our home pastor, Rev. Jody Lynn Hagans.

CHURCH DIRECTORY UPDATE

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

**Michael and Tammy
Griffith**

327 West Central Ave.
(their phone number is unchanged)

Jarrold and Nichelle Trigg
171 Curly Smart Circle
362-3237

Pastor's Office Hours:
Tuesdays 10:30 to 1:30
Thursdays 9:00 to 12:00

Please respect Friday as the pastor's day off and phone the parsonage only in case of emergency on that day. (Messages can always be left on the church's answering machine, of course.)

Best man was Jerrod Jenkins, college chum of Jarrod's. Maid of Honor was Carrie Martz, longtime friend of Nichelle.

Emilie and Evan Trigg, sister and brother of the groom, were part of the wedding party. Also, Melissa Hedges stood up with her sister.

Approximately 300 guests and family members attended the celebration.

A reception followed at Riverby Party Lodge. The couple are happily settled at 171 Curly Smart Circle.

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Thanks to "Faith History" Participants

The Board of Christian Education wants to thank all those who planned, helped, and participated in the November 15th worship service which highlighted a number of historical objects found in our sanctuary. Those who planned and helped were Beth Trigg, Jean Wickum, Rev. Jody Lynn, and Carol Grubbs.

The youth, while participating in all facets of the worship service, focused on our "Faith History" during the morning message. Those youth who participated were: Adam and Laura Mowery, Barbara Lovell, Michael Maher, Emilie Trigg, Chrissy Hopkins, Dee-Dee Weakland, Melissa Gillette, and Natalie Griffith.

It was so appropriate that our young people would connect us once again to our past. With our new fireproof archive files holding much of our history in one location, maybe more of our history will be shared.

Thanks again,

-Sue Elfner

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LaVida Adoption Agency

Parent(s) are needed to adopt orphaned Asian-born infants and toddlers. You are cordially invited to attend a free information meeting in Columbus on February 2, 1999. For more information, please call toll-free: Michaelina at (800) 513-1910.

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Personals

• Over the Thanksgiving weekend, **JEFF AND DONNA REED** hosted an ABY reunion for those youth who had graduated from 1994 to the present. Attending were **ERIN FAULK, BARBARA LOVELL, MATTHEW LOVELL, AND MARCI SANDER**. A good time was had by all.

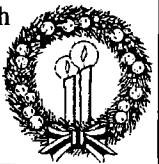





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Birthdays & Anniversaries

- Dec. 4 Erin Faulk
5 Zachery Grubbs
13 Tammy Grubbs
Geneva Evans
18 Cap Gabriel
19 Michael Maher
24 Frances Cook
25 Carol Grubbs
Steve & Karen Stoner
28 Sharon Baker
29 Harold & Deborah
Van Broekhoven
- Jan. 4 Cynthia Bland
Ashley Francis
Shirley Parker
5 Lola Jackson
Evelyn Lee

DECEMBER 1998

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 7:00 Choir	3	4	5
2nd Sunday of Advent 6 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship with Holy Communion 12:00 Fellowship Time and Birthday Party for Jesus 	7 7:00 Boy Scouts 7:00 Delaware Piecemakers	8	9 6:00 Christmas Program Rehearsal 7:00 Choir	10 12:00 Young at Heart	11	12 6:30 Christmas Carolling 
3rd Sunday of Advent 13 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship 	14 7:00 Boy Scouts	15 7:00 Board of Christian Education	16 6:00 Christmas Program Rehearsal 7:00 Choir	17 2:00 A.B.W. Ministries, Christmas Boxes	18	19 8:30 Men's Breakfast 10:00 Christmas Program Dress Rehearsal
4th Sunday of Advent 20 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship 7:00 Christmas Program followed by Party and S.A.F. Revealing 	First Day of Winter 21 7:00 Boy Scouts	22	23 7:00 Choir	24 6:45 Instrumental Preludes 7:00 Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion	Christmas Day 25 Pastor's Vacation Begins 	26
27 9:15 Sunday School 10:45 Morning Worship with guest preacher <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>	28 7:00 Boy Scouts	20	30 7:00 Choir	New Year's Eve 31 	January 1999 1	2