

Good News Letter

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November starts on All Saints Day. Perhaps we are more aware of Halloween which is the evening before, but a reminder of the faithfulness of believers who precede us is always useful, especially if we remember that many of them experienced anxious times as we do.

One source of anxiety is the contentious election season that culminates on November 8th. Many Christians are concerned about the direction America has been heading for quite some time. Some of the most vocal Christians are promoting the idea that America needs to turn in a more conservative direction. Even though the most demonstrative voices on the political left are secular and not religious, there are many Christians who believe the opposite that a more progressive direction would be better. Thus, it is not just Americans who are divided, but Christians in America.

It is with this division that I am most concerned. My concern is not that Christians will find one political voice either achieving victory or suffering loss, but with relationships across party and ideological lines. My hope is that higher value will be placed on these relationships than political victory or loss. Whether on one side or the other or if you think neither side is a good option and are just sick of it all and can't wait until it is over, I hope we can remember that the rule of love is the highest rule and that we are each precious gifts to one another.

In this spirit of a higher Christian

unity I pass on this information: there will be a Prayer Service on the eve of the election at 7 pm at the William Street Methodist Church. This service is a prayer for healing and unity. It is not a partisan political event. It is sponsored



November

by concerned clergy in the Delaware community across the political spectrum. For some of you this meeting will be of no interest and that is okay. For those of you who are concerned about the divisiveness of this campaign season, it may be of some help.

November continues with the celebration of Thanksgiving. One of our expressions of gratitude is the giving of offerings for the support of the Lord's work here at First Baptist Church. The 2017 budget will be passed by the time this newsletter is published as well as the nominating committee report. In my first year I have considered it a blessing to serve as your pastor and

been amazed at your devotion to the ministries of our church, both inwardly and in the community. Our financial situation is sound, but this is a good time to mention a mild concern that our monthly spending has exceeded our income this year. With this encouragement and this awareness in mind, please give prayerful thought to your giving and service to the Lord this year.

Finally, November ends with the beginning of the season of Advent, the hopeful expectation of the coming of the Lord. Remember always to place your hope and trust in God who alone is able to transform the heart, renew the mind, and save the soul.

Blessings to all,

– Mark

From Our Pastorial Intern

November is fast approaching, and it seems unbelievable that the end of the year is on the immediate horizon. We are in the midst of the changing (and seemingly unpredictable) weather, changing landscapes, and changing of what we eat and drink. With the closing of the calendar year, it also brings us into an internal change. As we approach the holidays, we ourselves enter into a season and mindset of thankfulness and gratitude. In this same lens, we also look for ways in which we can be a giving spirit towards those around us, both seen and unseen in our daily lives. We actively look for ways in which we can serve and be in service towards others in our midst, being the active hands and feet of Christ.

Throughout the month, the youth will be partaking in activities that will be reflective of this thankful/grateful attitude. The youth will be doing a "church clean-up" party on November 13th beginning at 1 PM, where they will be cleaning/sprucing up various rooms/areas within the church building. And on November 17th, the youth will be doing the weekly Panera pickup.

I look forward to all of the exciting things that are on the horizon as we bring 2016 to a close.

- David Harris

Poinsettias

You're invited to order poinsettias to decorate our sanctuary during Advent. They can be given in memory or honor of someone, and you can take them home after our Christmas Eve service.



The cost is to be announced (probably around \$9). Place your orders with Mary Lou Lovell by Sunday Nov. 20 (Advent begins on the 27).

Volunteers For November

Fellowship Time

- Nov. 6 Open; We need a volunteer
- Nov. 13 Faulks
- Nov. 20 Open; We need a volunteer
- Nov. 27 Gossers

Kid Connection

- Nov. 6 Pam Faulk/Bowen Nace
- Nov. 13 Deb Nace/Aidan Ferguson
- Nov. 20 David Harris/Gabe Fogle
- Nov. 27 Pat Gosser/ Hannah Nace

Rides for David Harris

- Nov. 6 Lovells
- Nov. 13 Naces
- Nov. 20 Turners
- Nov. 27 Faulks

Panera Pick-up

- Nov. 3 Jeanne Ekelberry
- Nov. 10 Faulks
- Nov. 17 Youth Group

PRAYER LIST

This list is prepared by the Deacons. Prayer requests will be removed after 2 months unless "renewed". Please send changes to Larry Faulk (Lfaulk01@aol.com).

Church Contact	Name	Reason for Prayer
	Ray Serviss	Health issues
	Dr. Ernest Jones	Health issues
	Alvin Cox	Health issues
Trustees	Christina Kilhefner	Transplant recovery
	Penny Hagaman	Health issues
	Steve Baker	Health issues
	Bora Porter (Janet's daughter)	Health issues

Remember daily all the men and women in the military — those stationed in the USA and those deployed throughout the world. GOD BLESS AMERICA!

Nov. 24 Gossers

Thank you all for volunteering your time.

Thank You Notes

We recently received the following thank you notes...

On behalf of the Conger staff and students, we wish to thank you for your generous donations of school supplies and headphones. Our students and parents are so appreciative of the help with this. Watching the child's eyes light up and the look of relief from the parents is priceless. Again thank you for choosing Conger and have a blessed year.

- The Conger Staff,
Josh Page (principal)

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What a generous gift for our program! Thirteen gift cards donated to be used in our fall Getting Ahead class will be such a blessing, helping make it possible to fund that session.

Some graduates are finding more suitable and safe housing, some are working their way "up the ladder," and others are going on to get additional education. With new confidence, many of our grads have

become co-facilitators for subsequent classes. Your participation and support is gratefully received. You truly are helping to make a difference!

Blessings,

- Bonnie Ristau

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Thank You! They say it takes a village to raise a child. You have been a huge help in making sure that children in the community received over 3100 good lunches this summer. We could not have done it without you!

Thank you for giving your time and energy to make this summer special for so many children. Your thoughtfulness is appreciated!

- Carrie Grogan
Summer Lunch Program
Coordinator

Thanksgiving Offering

The offering in the Thanksgiving envelopes will go to People in Need (PIN).

Birthdays and Anniversaries



- Nov. 11 Jonathan Allison
- 12 Jackson Trigg
- 15 Harold Van Broekhoven
- 17 Jim and Ann Brown
- 18 Phil Lee
- 19 Steve Ferguson
- 20 Randy Turner
- 21 Mark Allison
- 22 Peter White

Please report any errors.

Adult I Sunday School Class

Topics for November for the Adult I Sunday school class are as follows:

Nov. 6 - Making Things New (Revelation 21:1-8)

Nov. 11 - I See a New Jerusalem (Revelation 21: 9-27)

Nov. 20 - Living Waters (Revelation 22: 1-7)

Nov. 27 - Alpha and Omega (Revelation 22: 12-21)

Church Directory Update

Please make the following changes in your copy of the 2016 church directory.

Philip and Candace Lee and Brennan Howe

2000 U.S. Highway 23 North, Lot #67

Delaware, OH 43015
330-697-0923 - Candy
330-777-9844 - Phil

Anniversary: July 12

Birthdays: Candy Feb. 4,

Phil Nov. 18, Brennan Aug. 20

School Address Update

Michael Mercer is attending University of Northwestern Ohio in Lima, OH. His address is:

2800 Racers Way
Racers Village, Coffey House
Room 33
Lima, OH 45805

Thanks to Jeanne Ekelberry

This is the quilt that Jeanne Ekelberry presented to the church on Sunday, Oct 16. Thank you, Jeanne!



Challenges

If you have brothers you understand. My brother Allen posted a picture of a quilted Cross Wall Hanging on Facebook and said, "Hey, quilting sisters, can you make me one?" Allen is the pastor of a small, country church.

Of course we did, but we didn't even mention that we saw the post!

We gathered our fabrics and cut 2-1/2 inch squares at Nancy's, about 1,700.

On August 21 we attended Community Holiness Church, Lessage, West Virginia, where Allen is pastor.

Nancy presented her wall hanging to Allen and the church.

On Sep 25 we went to Homecoming at our family church, Canada

PREVIOUS NEWSLETTERS

1 Year Ago

Nov. 2015 Newsletter

Ray Biggar, the husband of former member Cynthia Bland-Biggar, died after a long illness in Maine.

5 Years Ago

Nov. 2011 Newsletter

Pam DeBiasio died in October after a long illness.

Evelyn Lee, 84, died in October after falling at her home and receiving serious injuries. She was active at First Baptist for over 60 years.

15 Years Ago

Nov. 2001 Newsletter

Thanks to Jim Van Brimmer and Dave Lovell for installing a "Knox Box" at the rear of the church. The box allow the Fire Dept. to enter our church in case of a fire.

Joe Mowery has been doing work at the parsonage.

20 Years Ago

Nov. 1996 Newsletter

A party was held for Pastor Brummett's 5th anniversary at First Baptist.

Bernice Turney visited her daughter in Cincinnati.

Marge Smale visited her daughter in Boston.

Chapel, Wayne, West Virginia, and Ida gave hers to the church.

On Oct. 16, I gave mine to First Baptist, Delaware, Ohio. It has been my church since 1953.

Sometimes a challenge can be a lot of fun our three church families enjoy as much as we enjoyed being together and making them

– Jeanne Ekelberry

Homecoming

What a great word — especially for those of us who have moved away — college, jobs, married with a new home, and a new church.

My family's home church, Canada Chapel, Wayne, West Virginia, has a Homecoming the 4th Sunday in September and I try to go every year.

This year was special. Our pastor, Johnny Jackson, has been there 40 years, but sadly he was too ill to attend.

Also for my family, my brother Allen, pastor of another church was our guest speaker. All four of my brothers and two sisters were there, for a total of 21 family members attending.

My sister Ida presented her cross wall hanging to the church.

At one o'clock we had dinner, Gospel singing, children playing and laughing, and lots of hugs and kisses. See you next year completing our day.

Homecoming — special words leading us to that last home.

– Jeanne Ekelberry

Sponsor Foster Children

FBC would like to sponsor foster children for Christmas again this year. We should have the ages and wish lists for three or four children in the next week. During the month of November, we encourage you to donate items to make their Christmas a joyous occasion. Toys, clothes, and gift cards or money to

buy gifts are welcomed.

Pumpkin Pies

FBC will be donating 8 pumpkin pies to Andrews House for the Second Friday meal on Nov. 11th. Sorry, they are not able to accept homemade pies. Your contribution of \$8 to me will help us fill this need. Thanks,

– Larry Faulk

Take Your Picture?

We would like to have all new pictures for the 2017 church directory.

During fellowship time after worship each Sunday in November, our photographer will be available to take your pictures. In addition to using them for the directory, you will receive a cd of your pictures and 4x6 prints.

Mission/Outreach News

The Mission/Outreach group met on October 16, 2016 at 2 p.m.

The "Stepping Up Meal" was served at William St. Church on Monday, Oct. 17th by Pam Faulk, Dr. Allison, David Harris, Linda White, Pat Gosser and Mary Lou Lovell.

The "Stepping Up" class participants were very appreciative of the sloppy joe meal prepared by Genevieve Peterson, Linda White, Pat Gosser, David Harris, Pam Faulk, Beth Trigg, and Jeanne Ekelberry.

Many thanks to all who purchased food and/or prepared it, and/or served it. It takes all of you to make it happen.

October Mission focus was the Crop Walk. Several of our church congregation walked. \$9,000 was raised with 25% of that remaining in Delaware going to People In Need.

Each week in October during the "Mission Moments" we have learned about the missionaries that we support. The world Mission

offering was collected during the month of October.

David Harris led the youth in Bible Study and game night on October 16th. The youth have planned a Halloween Party for everyone in the church on Oct. 30th at 4:00 p.m.

The Mission Focuses for November are :

Nov. 6th- Collection for "Change for Change" to be given to the Delaware City Schools Summer Lunch Program.

We will also be purchasing gifts to be given to families in need in the community. Larry Faulk will be displaying a wish list of items to help families celebrate Christmas.

Our special Thanksgiving Offering will be given to People In Need.

There will be a church Service for Willow Brook residents to be held at Willow Brook at 2 p.m. on Oct. 30, 2016. All from our church are welcome to attend. Dr. Allison will lead the service with Will Fogle providing special music on the violin.

Up Coming Events!

Pink Piggy Party!

Nov. 12 at 6:30 pm

What is a Pink Piggy Party?

Come and find out. It is for all ages and it is a lot of fun!

Wear pink and plan on having a great night time with friends!

Second Annual "Sing and Soup"!

December 11th at 5:30 p.m.

Remember when families and friends gathered in the parlor to have fun singing around the piano?

We want to share in group singing of Christmas songs and carols, then enjoy soup together.

We enjoyed last year's event and want to do it again. Come and bring friends and neighbors!

If you would like to make a crock

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pot of soup, sign the sign up sheet in the gathering room. There will be a place to sign up for crackers and desserts as well. Last year it was a treat to sample lots of different homemade soups after singing!

Andrews House Christmas

Cupboard is Sat., Dec. 3rd 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

If you like to make Christmas cookies, they would welcome your donations. They need many dozens of cookies for the cookie sale in which people buy a box and fill it with their choice of cookies that have been donated! It is a great way to get a wonderful variety for your holiday gathering without having to make them all yourself. Cookies to be donated for the cookie sale may be taken to Andrews House on Friday, Dec. 12th from 6-9 p.m.

There will be raffles as well on Dec. 3rd at Andrews House.

See the bulletin board in the gathering room for more information.

December Mission Focus will be the Ministers and Missionaries Offering.

It is a time to give to those who have been in the ministry and those missionaries presently serving for God.

There will also be a Christmas Offering" taken and given to Andrews House.

The group also discussed ways that we might be of help to others in the community:

- 1) Warming Center at Zion United Church of Christ
- 2) "Point of Grace" a group that is currently forming to give support to those who are released from jail
- 3) A group being formed to discuss race relations in the Delaware community.

We have plans to send envelopes to college students to let them know we are thinking and

praying for them.

This group is an active group and wants to help those in our community to show God's love in action. We welcome new ideas and would like to have a greater number in attendance at our meetings.

Please join us at 2 p.m. on November 20th !

Personals

- Mike and Emilie Showalter now have both of Mike's daughters living with them, Makayla and Brianna.
- On October 15, Dan and Sherry Chambers once again hosted their annual fall party at their house, and our church was well-represented there. Thank you Dan and Sherry for a wonderful party!
- Lana Palmer injured her foot and had surgery.
- On October 23, we had a guest minister, Dr. Ernest Jones, the Executive Minister of ABC Ohio.
- Pastor Allison's father and his wife visited on October 16 on their way back from visiting Mark's sister in Virginia.
- Mary Lou Lovell's cousin, Diane Chase, visited her for several weeks in October.
- Marci and Matt Cooper had a baby girl, Claire Elise, on October 10. She weighed 8 lb. 2 oz. and measured 19 3/4 inches. Congratulations to the Cooper family!
- Sam, Lindley, and Spencer Chesser visited Jane and Jim Snyder on their way through Delaware recently.
- On October 16, Jeanne Ekelberry presented the church with a beautiful quilt hanging of a cross. Thank you Jeanne!
- Pat Gosser's sister Candy Lee, who has visited us quite often, has a new job with Alpha, and they have moved here to Delaware. Please see the item about new information for the directory for their contact info.
- Our Executive Minister from ABC Ohio, Dr. Ernest Jones, who spoke

in our October 23 service, has been diagnosed with colon cancer and is starting treatment.

- Former member Jean Osborn and her son Greg visited our congregation on October 23. Jean is currently living in Michigan.
- Ken Shears was recently honored by being chosen to go on an Honor Flight to Washington, D.C.
- Pam and Larry Faulk were able to spend a few days with their grandkids in Warren while Jeff and Laurie celebrated their anniversary in Las Vegas.
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– Pam Faulk, Personals Editor

Community Prayer Service

In view of the contentious nature of the present election season, there will be a Community Prayer Service on the eve of the election, November 7. The service will be held at the William Street Methodist Church.

This is a non-partisan service to pray for unity, healing, and hope in the days following the election. Everyone is welcome to attend.