

Good News Letter

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

It was my turn this week to write an essay for the Gazette and I found myself thinking about both it and this newsletter article at the same time. If you read them both you will find similarities. In the Gazette I made use of a quotation by Trappist monk Thomas Merton in a book called, Conjectures of a Guilty Bystander, about an experience he once had standing on a crowded street corner in the middle of an urban shopping district. I will make use of it again here. He wrote,

“In Louisville, at the corner of Fourth and Walnut, in the center of the shopping district, I was suddenly overwhelmed with the realization that I loved all those people, that they were mine and I theirs, that we could not be alien to one another even though we were total strangers.”

He writes about it from the perspective of a monk, who has “left the world,” in order to pray for a living. He considered prayer to be his vocation, and that seemed to him to make him different from everyone else. His experience taught him that the opposite is true, that we all belong to God whether we are conscious of it or not, and because of that, we have more in common than he had previously thought.

God’s love overcomes alienation, separation, and draws us near to one another and to those strange to us, even to those we don’t know. That is what the world needs, and it is the goal, if it can



be said that there is one, of our Year for Prayer. In whatever way we speak of it, we hope to experience something like what Merton did, and fall in love with each other, and with the whole human race.

I hope you have found our prayer emphasis meaningful. The prayers of the missionaries have been short and to the point and pack a punch. By the time you read this newsletter article, the Day of Prayer will be in the past and we will look forward to the inauguration of the Prayer Chest around the time of Advent.

In that Chest, the names of each member and friend of our church will be placed. Those willing will have an opportunity to draw a name each Sunday, and commit to praying for that person each day that week. When all the names have been drawn, they will be put back into the chest and the process repeated.

It is voluntary, of course, as is the decision of whether to make contact sometime during the week with the person whose name is drawn just to let them know that someone is praying for them. I hope that being more intentional about praying in this way will draw us nearer to God and to each other.

God bless you all as we enter into the season of Thanksgiving and Christmas.

God Bless,
-Mark

From Our Pastoral Intern

We are approaching the last days of 2018, and the weather is finally truly feeling like fall. As the stores and our minds begin to transition from Halloween candy to Thanksgiving turkeys (and I've even seen some Christmas decorations), we think about November as being a time in which we prepare for the oncoming holidays and what we have been thankful for over the first ten months of the year. When we gather around our respective Thanksgiving tables in a couple of weeks, we know and recognize that we are in the presence of family and/or beloved friends. We give thanks to God!

The youth were extremely grateful and thank everyone who was able to come out to and/or participate in the Halloween party on the 21st at church. There was a lot of fun and a lot of creative innovation that took place!

During the month of November, the youth will be giving back to the church by doing an outdoor clean-up around the church property one of the Saturdays in the month. The youth will also be gathering on November 18th (instead of the 25th) for their monthly youth group meeting.

Blessings and Peace,
-David L. Harris, Jr.

Mission/Outreach News

Since the October newsletter was published, Peter White has taken a trunk load of food to People In Need. Thanks to all of you for your generous giving. Those in our community who are recipients appreciate your donations.

The Mission Focus for October has been the World Mission Offering, the Crop Walk, and preparing a meal for the Stepping Up Class members which meet at William St. Church on Oct. 29th. Three people from First Baptist walked in the Crop Walk; 2 walked 3 miles, and one walked one mile. Collectively the churches raised over \$5,000. which will provide food for those in need.

The World Mission Offering continues through October. We are thankful for the prayers provided by the missionaries as a way to think of them and remember their faithfulness in doing their mission work.

The menu has been planned for the meal we are providing for the participants of the Stepping Up Class. If you can help cook food, buy an item and /or serve, sign the sheet in the Gathering Place.

Two women from First Baptist and a guest attended the luncheon at Second Baptist Church on Saturday, October 13th. We had a great lunch and listened to many survivors tell

their journeys of battling cancer. We laughed, were sad for, and were inspired by these women. There was a raffle of items filling 3 large tables to raise money for Susan B. Komen Cancer research. It was great to be a part of this endeavor. Sister Curtis worked very hard to make it all happen!

November Mission Focuses will be the collection of the Thanksgiving offering which will be given to People In Need, the Change for Change offering which will be given to the Andrews House summer lunch program, and a collection of items to be given for Christmas to children in foster care.

Volunteers For November

Fellowship Time

- Nov 4 Ekelberry
- Nov 11 Snyder
- Nov 18 Lee
- Nov 25 Gosser

Panera Pick-Up

- Nov 1 Grubbs
- Nov 8 Mark Allison + helper needed
- Nov 15 Faulk
- Nov 22 Faulk
- Nov 29 Faulk

Rides for David Harris

- there is a new sign-up sheet for this.
- Volunteers are needed.

We thank you all for volunteering. There will be new sign-up sheets for the winter quarter in the Gathering Place soon.

Sponsor Foster Children

FBC will again sponsor three foster children for Christmas this year.

Teresa is 13. She likes to draw with pastels and chalk and wants to learn to paint with acrylics. She would like make up, nail polish, and bows for her hair. A gift card for Kohl's or Wal-Mart would be nice so she can pick out some new clothes.

Mike is 5 years old. He likes board games and trucks. He wears a size 6X in shirts and pants. He would like a bike.

Britt is 9. She likes American Girl dolls and Barbies. She loves the color pink, and wants sheets and a comforter for her room. She wears clothes size 10/12.

You will find a sign-up list of the children's wish lists in the Gathering Place 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.

**Birthdays
and
Anniversaries**



November

- 11 Jonathan Allison
- 12 Jackson Trigg
- 15 Sarah Byall
Harold VanBroekhoven
- 17 Jim & Ann Brown
- 19 Steve Ferguson
- 20 Randy Turner
- 21 Mark Allison
- 22 Peter White

Please report any errors.

Personals

- Jane and Jim Snyder attended a storytelling conference in Tennessee recently.
- Will Fogle played a beautiful violin sonata for the church service on September 30. Thanks Will.
- Dave and Mary Lou Lovell recently traveled to visit Dave's brother Richard and Mary Lou's sister Raeleen. Both have been undergoing cancer treatments and remain in our prayers.
- Former members, Sam and Linley Chesser are expecting their third child in April.
- Ken and Genevieve Peterson recently moved out of their duplex at Willowbrook and into the main building.
- The total for the Crop Walk was \$310, and 3 of our members walked in it.
- Brennan Howe had 6 teeth pulled this past week in preparation for implants.
- Gabe Folge won Reserve Champion for his brownies, and Connor Trigg won two Reserve Champion awards for his rabbits at the Delaware County Fair in September.
 Congratulations guys!
- Charles Ekelberry recently suffered a compression fracture in his back.

Thanksgiving Offering

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

Prayer List

This list is prepared by the Deacons.
Please send changes to Larry Faulk (lfaulk01@aol.com).

Name	Reason for Prayer
Richard Lovell	Health Issues
Jim Brown	Recovery and Rehab
Raeleen George	Health Issues
Archie Trigg	Eye Surgery Recovery
Brennan Howe	Recovery
Charles Ekelberry	Recovery

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

Stewardship Sunday

Our pledges to support the 2019 budget will be dedicated during worship on Stewardship Sunday, November 18. Please prayerfully consider your commitment both to financial support and to attendance and participation in worship, study, and service at FBC.

2019 Officers & Budget

At the Quarterly business meeting Oct. 24th., the 2019 budget was approved and church officers were elected. Copies of the budget are available in the Welcome Center.

The 2019 officers are:

Moderator - Randy Turner
 Asst. Moderator - Jeanne Ekelberry
 Church Clerk - Pam Shears
 Treasurer - Larry Faulk
 Asst. Treasurer - Candace Lee
 Financial Secretary - Randy Turner
 Asst. Financial Sec. - Linda White
 Church School Clerk - Pam Faulk
 Finance Chairman - Deb Fogle
 Board of Education - Pam Faulk,
 Pat Gosser, Carol Grubbs,
 Erin Faulk
 Board of Deacons - Dave Lovell,
 Larry Faulk, Claire Turner, Jennifer
 Turner,
 Colin Ferguson
 Board of Trustees - Ken Shears, Peter
 White,

Archie Trigg

Dr. Allison - Guest Column

Dr. Allison had a guest article, **“It's time for all of us to experience Merton's Miracle”**, printed in the Oct 26 edition of the Delaware Gazette. We have included a copy on the Pastor's Page of our website: www.fbcdelaware.org.

Change For Change

Several years ago the adult Sunday school classes took on a project to help eliminate childhood hunger in Delaware. We called it Change for Change.

On the two Sundays during the year when we change our clocks, we bring in all our loose change to church that morning for a special offering. The money is then given to Andrews House which oversees the Delaware Summer Lunch Program for children.

Next Sunday, November 4, we will change our clocks back from Daylight Saving Time, so please bring all your loose change to church that day.

Women's Fellowship

Our October outing to the Powell United Methodist Church Aspire event was very rewarding and enjoyable. The five ladies who attended from our church had a great time in an evening full of music, laughter, stories, prayer, and fellowship.

Our November lunch will be on Saturday, November 10 at Bob Evans at 11:30. Please let Pam Faulk know if you will attend so she can call ahead with a count.

Dear First Baptist Church,

Thank you so much for your donation of \$100 to Common Ground Free Store which we received on 8/23/2018. Your gift makes it possible for us to serve thousands of needy families in Delaware County and surrounding areas.

Last year we were able to provide hot meals, clothing and household goods to more than 9,700 families - more than 14,500 individuals! We would not be able to feed and gift necessary items to so many without thoughtful generous people like you...

...Again, thank you so much for giving to Common Ground Free Store. Because of you, we are able to share God's love with our community in practical and meaningful ways.

If you would like a personal tour of the store, please call any time. I would be honored to show you the impact your financial gifts are making.

Sincerely,
Sharon Griner, Executive Director

Thank You

Thanks to all who contributed to the World Mission Offering. Our goal was \$700 of which \$477 was contributed. You can still give to this to help us reach our goal.

Our 60 Days of Prayer will continue until the end of November.



Financial Update

Copies of the Third Quarter Financial Report are available in the Welcome Center. While our General Fund has improved, we are still in a deficit for the year. Thanks to all who have increased their weekly giving to help this situation.

- Larry Faulk, treasurer

New Addresses for the Church Directory

Marci and Matt Cooper
780 Wood Ct
Zionsville, IN 46077

Ken and Genevieve Peterson
100 Delaware Crossing West
#3047
Delaware, OH 43015

Alec Ferguson
(correction from last newsletter)
522 East Merry Avenue
Apt. 37
Bowling Green, OH 43402

Jonathan Allison
508 South William St
Columbia, MO 65201

Evan Allison
2707 Valmont Rd
Apt 205A
Boulder, CO 80304