

Good News Letter

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101 North Franklin Street, Delaware, OH 43015•740-363-7021•www.FBCDelaware.org

Another month has gone by. It is my hope that we can begin in-person worship soon. Not only the deacons but the parish council have met to consider the possibility of re-opening toward the end of September if, after the opening of school, the Covid-19 epidemic is under control in Delaware. No decision has yet been made, but I want you all to know what is our thought process, and that we will be responsibly concerned to keep our congregation safe and our community safe as well, as we make this crucial decision.

Having said that, I want to commend all of you for your faithfulness throughout this time of shutdown. You are being what we as church are called to be, faithful to Jesus Christ. Thank you for keeping in touch with each other. Thank you for all of your contributions to PIN and to the school supplies for Conger Elementary School, and to the support of the other mission emphases



that are a part of our regular ministries, and of course, for keeping the general operations fund healthy.

I thank all of you who have taken part in the work of producing the video worship services each week. Many of you have read scripture, recorded music, provided photos, and given helpful feedback. Previous to the shutdown, audio versions of our worship services have been available on our website, fbcdelaware.org. Whenever we do meet again, there will be videos there as well. When you are unable to attend, be aware of that opportunity.

We are living in weighty times that will be around for awhile before they ease. I am aware of the stresses upon everyone, and

confident in God's grace to strengthen us and comfort us, and encourage us in our spirits no matter what comes. God will help us in our grief, our isolation, in our concern for others and for our church. Please continue to pray for each other and keep in touch with phone calls and cards and emails and texts.

God bless everyone,

- Mark

People in Need (PIN)

The church will be open on Saturday, September 19th from 9 - noon to drop off contributions for PIN and Undies for Common Ground Free Store. Your generosity is appreciated.

Prayer List

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

Name	Reason for Prayer
Alvin Cox	Health Issues
Richard Lovell	Health Issues
Raeleen George	Health Issues
Ken & Genevieve Peterson	Health Issues
Dr. Allison's father & sister	Health Issues
Ken Shears	Health Issues
Stephenson family	Condolences
Brown / Grubbs families	Condolences

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

Worship In Person?

Dr. Allison, the board of deacons, and parish council have met to consider when and how best to resume worship in person. If the number of Covid-19 cases in Delaware County continues to appear stable and hopefully declines, we anticipate that the earliest we might reopen for worship could be Sunday, September 20th.

When we reopen, below are some of the protocols that will be in place to help us worship as safely as possible:

- Open with worship service only
 - Initially no Sunday School
 - No fellowship time in the gathering place
- Masks/face coverings required
 - We have disposable and cloth masks available
- Hand sanitizer will be available.
- Sit socially distanced at least six feet apart
 - families may sit together
 - maintain distance entering / exiting

- Visual greetings
 - No handshakes - hugs
- Disinfectant spray/wipes will be available in all restrooms
- Minimize contact with items
 - offering plate on stand at the back of the sanctuary
 - bulletins on table in the Welcome Center
- Microphone for joys & prayer concerns on an extender

Plans For Fall Sunday School

Whenever we begin having in-person worship services, Sunday school classes will not start until several weeks after that. Teachers for this year are Candy Lee (Adult I), Pastor Mark Allison (Adult II), Larry Faulk (Teens), and Pam Faulk (Youth). I am still looking for volunteers to be substitute teachers. Please let me know if you are interested.

-Pam Faulk

Office Hours by Appointment

Dr. Allison will be available by appointment.
Dr. Allison may be reached by phone at 618-210-9714 or by email at mallison1@twc.com.
Please call or email as needed.

Online Worship Continues

While we are not able to worship together in person, worship will continue online. We hope that the cases of Covid-19 will decline in Delaware County to the point that we can worship in person. Please join us at fbcdelaware.org or on facebook. Copies of previous worship services are available on the "Videos" page of our website. If you do not have internet access and would like a DVD copy of each service, phone or email me.

Once we resume in-person worship, we will video record the live services and make an edited version available on our website.
- Larry Faulk

Women's Fellowship

There will be no Women's Fellowship lunch this month, maybe in October.

People in Need (PIN)

Thanks to all who made contributions to PIN in the past months. Your donations are greatly needed and appreciated. We would like to offer another drop off day for PIN on Saturday, September 19th. The church will be open from 9 - noon to receive non-perishable items.

Personals

> Alvin Cox was a patient at the Cleveland Clinic for several days due to a leg infection.

> Pat Gosser and Chad Myford are moving to Arizona this month. There will be a "goodbye" party for them on September 13, weather permitting.

> Jeannie Stephenson passed away August 10th in Indiana. Jeannie was a former member of our church and was the wife to Ted Stephenson and daughter-in-law to Steve and Sophie Stephenson and sister to Jim and Ann Brown, Carol Grubbs, Donna Brown, and Donald Brown.

> From Ken & Genevieve Peterson - We are doing pretty well during another aspect of our virus distancing. We are eating in our own rooms again because some staff members were "positive" in the recent first testing of all of us. No residents were positive - and the test was "easy" to accomplish. One amazing outcome of the recent months is a great outpouring of loving support to each other in a variety of creative ways. Faith, Hope, Love - Abide! Thanks Be To God fo this Love to you from both of us -

Panera Volunteers

The Fogle family have been very kind to do the Panera pick-up all these many months. It is now time to give them a little break and help out. We are looking for volunteers to pick up the products from our local Panera on any Thursday night, starting in October. All you need to do is get the bins from church before that and show up at Panera around 8:45 that evening and take the baked goods home. We supply

bags and twist ties in order to bag all the baked goods. Put them in the bins and deliver them to Andrews House the next morning (Friday). Please let Larry or Pam Faulk know if you are available to help in October. September is taken care of.

It's Time for Undies Sunday

During the month of September we usually collect new underwear of all sizes and that is given to the Common Ground Free Store. With the uncertainty of when our church will open for services, we still would like to make this donation to the Common Ground Free Store. When we have had the drop off mornings at church on Saturdays, our congregation has continued to support People In Need by donating food. On September 19th from 9 a.m. to 12:00 noon we will have another drop off for donating food for People In Need. If you can buy some new underwear to donate to Common Ground Free Store, we will have a basket ready for your undies.

Thanks

Thanks to Peter White for delivering the items that you donated for People In Need each month since April.

Thanks to all who bought supplies for the students in need at Conger Elementary School. You donated:

- 12 packages of pencils
- 14 glue sticks
- 3 boxes of markers
- 9 boxes of crayons
- 6 notebooks 13 folders
- 1 box of colored pencils

Thanks to all who gave money to buy shoes for children. That

Birthdays and Anniversaries



September

- 1 Elijah Showalter
- 3 Alec Ferguson
- 9 Kip & Barbara Smith
- 13 Jerry Palmer
- 14 Marci Cooper
- 22 Calvin & Taylor Turner
- 29 Ian Ferguson
- 30 MaryLou Lovell

Please report any errors.

money will be given to People In Need to give gift cards for the purchase of shoes. Thanks to all for your continued generosity. You will bring smiles to many children's faces.

Thanks to all for your continued support to our community in a difficult time with COVID.

Wus Ministry Update

Finally, IM approved our relocation to Taiwan until August 2021. This doesn't mean we drop our ministry in Hong Kong, instead we keep all the previous works going that include monitoring the COVID relief and recovery works, our work relations with Swatow Baptist churches and Emerson's service at the American Baptist Mission Swatow Baptist Churches Community Service Association Board in Hong Kong. In addition, by God's grace, we were invited to serve with two new partners in Taiwan.

A Prayer so appropriate for these troubled times.

(shared by Jolene Herman)

A while back I read a story of a visiting pastor who attended a men's breakfast in the middle of a rural farming area of the country.

The group had asked an older farmer, decked out in bib overalls, to say grace for the morning breakfast.

"Lord, I hate buttermilk" , the farmer began. The visiting pastor opened one eye to glance at the farmer and wonder where this was going.

The farmer loudly proclaimed, "Lord, I hate lard." Now the pastor was growing concerned, without missing a beat, the farmer continued, "And Lord, you know I don't much care for raw white flour The pastor once again opened an eye to glance around the room and saw that he wasn't the only one beginning to feel uncomfortable. Then the farmer added,

"But Lord, when you mix them all together and bake them, I do love warm fresh biscuits."

"So Lord, when things come up that we don't like, when life gets hard, when we don't understand what you're saying to us, help us to just relax and wait until you are done mixing. It will probably be even better than biscuits."

AMEN

Within that prayer there is great wisdom for all when it comes to complicated situations like we are experiencing in the world today. Stay strong, my friends, because our LORD is mixing several things that we don't really care for, but something even better is going to come when HE is done with it.
AMEN!

Vote Ohio

For the November 3 general election, every registered voter can vote by mail if they choose. For Delaware County voters, you can order a ballot by going to

[https://
vote.delawarecountyohio.gov](https://vote.delawarecountyohio.gov)

Then, under Voting Options, click on Download Absentee Application. Print the application. Once you complete the application, you can drop it off at the drop box behind the BOE building or you can send it by mail to:

Delaware County Board of Elections
2079 US Highway 23 N
P O Box 8006,
Delaware, OH 43015-8006.

You may also call the Delaware County Board of Elections at 740-833-2080, if you do not have a printer, and they can help you request a ballot.

Absentee Ballots will be mailed out the first week in October.

Directory Update

Randy & Jennifer Turner have moved. Their new address is;

1222 Penry Rd.
Delaware, OH 43015




September

2020

Dr. Mark Allison, Pastor

Office Hours: by appointment

All onsite services cancelled until further notice

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Online Service Available fbcdelaware.org</p> <p>30</p>	31	1	2	3	4	5
<p>Online Service Available fbcdelaware.org</p> <p>6</p>	<p>Labor Day 7</p> 	8	9	10	11	12
<p>Online Service Available fbcdelaware.org</p> <p>4 - 8 pm Goodbye Party for Pat & Chad</p> <p>13</p> 	14	15	16	17	18	19
<p>Possible In-Person Worship or Online Service Available fbcdelaware.org</p> <p>Oct newsletter deadline today</p> <p>20</p>	<p>International Day of Prayer for Peace</p>  <p>21</p>	22	<p>Autumn Begins</p>  <p>23</p>	24	25	26
<p>Christian Education Sunday</p> <p>Possible In-Person Worship or Online Service Available fbcdelaware.org</p> <p>Oct newsletter available today</p> <p>27</p>	28	29	30	<p>October 1</p> <p>7:45 Panera Pickup - Volunteer Needed</p>	<p>August Mission Focus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undie Sunday - Common Ground Free Store 	