



The First Baptist Church of Dover

301 Walker Rd., Dover, DE 19904

April 2017

Visit the
First Baptist Church website at
<http://www.fbcdover.org>



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From the Pastor's Desk

Reverend Daniel Taylor



Throughout Lent, the 40 day period leading to Easter, we have been contemplating the issue of hunger and scripture passages that helped us look at both literal and spiritual hunger. We have done this in worship at the First Baptist Church of Dover and also during our times together on Wednesday evenings.

*The
Season
of
Lent*



What is called food insecurity (limited or uncertain availability of nutritionally adequate foods or not knowing the source of the next



meal) is present in so many places in our own country and around the world. We know that poverty is one cause of hunger, but in certain areas of the world terrorism and chaos block access to food for many. Here in Delaware 1 in 8 households struggles to put food

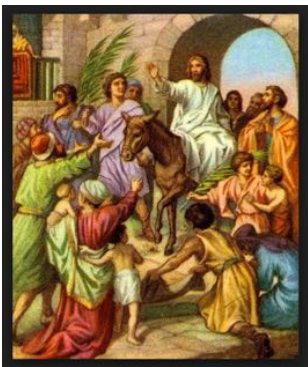
on the table. For decades our congregation has had a food pantry that directly relates to the state social services office to assist those who have food needs.



Also we have helped others in need including families and individuals within our church. Through the Board of Missions we have provided evening meals for the Dover Interfaith Mission for Housing (men's homeless shelter). I am sure that there are many other ways that we can work together to help those who are hungry and to encourage elected officials to continue to strive to find solutions to the problems that lead to food insecurity. Scripture compels us to feed the hungry and to assist the poor, the helpless and the strangers in our land.

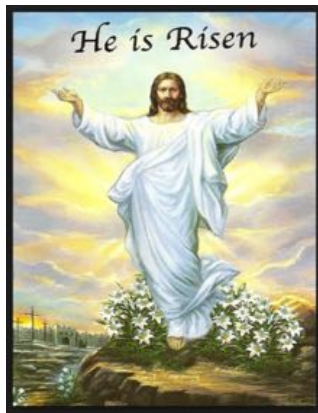
We also have those around us and even within our congregation who are spiritually hungry and we have a responsibility as followers of Jesus to help feed them. Times of worship, Bible study, Sunday School all are helps to encourage those who are hungry and searching for answers that can only come through the Bread of Life. *Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. John 6.35.* As we approach Easter and the celebration of the resurrection of Jesus, let's be intentionally inviting others who are hungry and need to be introduced to the Gospel – the Good News of how much God loves us all.

HOLY WEEK – Palm Sunday, April 9, begins Holy Week and during worship we will mark the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. The days that follow will include a Maundy Thursday service, April 13 at 7:00PM as we remember the Last Supper Jesus shared with his disciples and his arrest and crucifixion. A Good Friday service

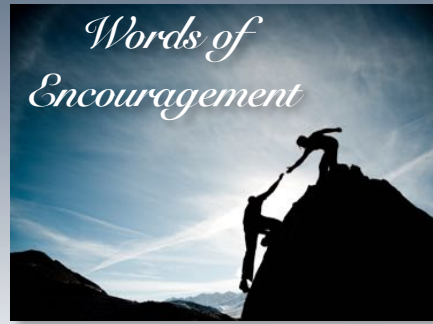


begins at noon April 14th at Christ Church Episcopal and includes a walk through downtown Dover with a cross being carried and prayers offered at stops along the way. The event concludes at Peoples Church UCC. On Easter Sunday an early service will be at 8:00 AM followed by a light

breakfast before Sunday School at 9:30 and Easter celebration at 11:00AM. A special guest for Easter Sunday will be violinist, **Claire Dent**. Let us worship, remember and celebrate together in the days ahead.



In the Hope of Christ,
Rev. Taylor



We are well into the new year, the election commercials are over, the last gasps of winter are behind us and spring is starting to show its glory. I just wanted to give some words of

encouragement and promise. These passages are some of my favorite and wanted to give these as reminders of God's promises to us.



Jeremiah 29:11

For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

Romans 8:28

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.



Joshua 1:9

Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the **Lord your God** will be with you wherever you go."



James W. Shepherd
Welcome to the Church Family!





Many thanks go to everyone who participated in our America for Christ offering. As of March 19, we have received \$2160.00 towards our goal of \$3000.00. Hopefully, as you read this, we will have surpassed our goal.

XYZ

(extra years of zest)



Please join us at the church on Thursday, April 6, 2017 at 11AM for a time of sharing and fellowship. We will then go to the Smyrna Diner for lunch. Everyone who is retired or available during the day is encouraged to join us. If you can not meet at the church, join us at 11:45 AM at the Smyrna Diner. Sign up at the Welcome Center or call the church office (674-1980) to let us know you are coming so reservations can be made.

Judy Daniels, Chairman
Board of Missions

Board of Christian Education

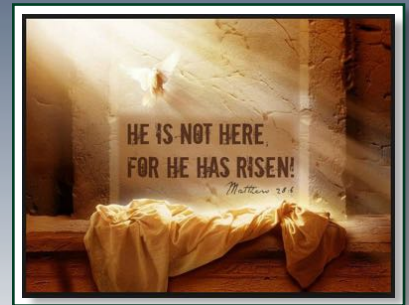


If you are interested in directing or just volunteering for a particular event, please contact us. We have a lot of talented people throughout our church that can help in various aspects of our events from planning, publicity, purchasing, set-up and leading.

We welcome your involvement!

All Church Easter Gathering

Please join us on Saturday, April 8th, from 10am - noon as we reflect on the story of Easter, and look at the symbols surrounding this celebration.



Easter Egg Hunt



Following this special time, we will host our egg hunt!! Look for registration information in the Welcome Center.



Women are so often challenged with the busyness of life; and a day at the spa sounds like an amazing gift. We invite all ladies to join us on **Friday, May 19th**, 6:00 - 7:30 PM and **Saturday, May 20th**, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM for a spa-themed day of spiritual wellness. Relax, share laughter and stories, and spend time with God. Together, we will be reminded of God's faithfulness and the power of connecting with other women as we journey through the psalms of the Bible. We will leave refreshed, with a fresh approach to prayer that will grow our faith.

Registration will be open until Sunday, May 7th.

Comments Welcome



Have an idea for a small group lesson? Interested in learning more about a certain topic? The Board of Christian Education welcomes any suggestions for small group study topics, seminars

or programs. Drop your comments in the Christian Education mailbox or at the church office.

Victoria Macklin, Chairman
Board of Christian Education



Looking Around



There are a number hidden treasures and locations in the church building that are under used and sometimes that is because folks just have not discovered them. One of those is the McKinney Library. It is a hidden gem that is just around the corner and down the hall from the sanctuary. The Library has a number of books available for readers and for those searching for good stories or helps with biblical research. It is a location for a number of board and committee meetings, but it can also be a place for individuals to relax, read and study. Before one leaves the building through the front doors, turn left, head down the hall and the second door on the left leads into the library. Stop in, look around and find a book or two to enjoy and be refreshed.



**Have you
ordered your
Easter Eggs?**

American Baptist Women's Ministry News

Our ladies are currently busy making our delicious Easter Eggs which will be ready to distribute April 9, Palm Sunday. We have sold just slightly over 500 eggs. If you can't eat the eggs but want to help with our regional camping project, you can make a donation instead. The Board will meet April 18 to plan for our annual covered dish dinner and installation of officers on May 30 at 6:30. The annual dinner is open to all women of the church and will have a sign-up sheet the beginning of May.

Spring is a great reminder of how things change. Although it is the ultimate transition season, it is not always a smooth ride. It is very similar to the maintenance that goes into First Baptist Church. There are duties and small



projects that take place on a day to day basis that are relatively inexpensive. Then there are those that are on a much larger scale that require more time and a more significant amount of money. For example, as you know, we recently had 2 heat pumps installed in Fellowship Hall. These 2 units cost almost \$28,000.00. These are just 2 of 12 heat pump units at the Church that are almost 30 years old. The next unit to be replaced is the heat pump for the narthex. Even the professionals at Service Unlimited (hvac contractor) were scratching their heads to say the least concerning this unit because of its location. It is located in the floor up in the Sanctuary balcony under the sound board. A bit of a tricky situation. This is one of many examples that we hope will come to pass in the very near future.

Please continue to keep the maintenance of the Church in prayer.

Remember that every 2nd Saturday of each month is the landscape work day . Come & check it out!

On behalf of the Board of Trustees,

Happy Easter!

Chris Cottrell



The Faith of a Child

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.” *Mark 10:14-15*



When I was seven years old, I made the decision that I wanted to be baptized and join the church. My mother wasn't sure if I was truly ready to make that decision. The pastor of First Baptist at that time was Dr. Lawrence T. Slaght. He told my mother that I should come to the membership classes and he would be able to tell if I was ready or not. At that time, the membership class that was taught was intergenerational, so I was the youngest member of the class. After a number of classes, Dr. Slaght assured her that I was ready, that I was able to answer questions that even some adults in the class didn't have answers for. She had done a wonderful job of raising me and teaching me about God and His Son, Jesus. I also had dedicated, Christian Sunday School teachers and role models in my life, such as my grandparents and family friends.

Dr. Slaght conducted baptisms twice a year – around Christmas and around Easter. I was to be in the group being baptized around Easter. He always held the baptisms during a Sunday evening service and there were usually 20 or more being baptized. You can imagine my excitement and expectations of this event. Then, the week before my baptism, the worst thing happened. I got very ill. All week I had been running a very high fever. Mom had taken me to the doctor a couple of times. I just wasn't getting any better. The Saturday before my scheduled baptism, Mom sat on my bed bedside me and told me that if I wasn't better by the next day, I would have to postpone my baptism until Christmas. I was devastated and cried and pleaded with her...I had to be baptized the next day... I knew it was to be then. I continued to beg my mother into the next day. I promised her I would come right home afterward and go straight to bed. Finally, I wore her down and she agreed that I would have to stay in bed until time to go to the church and would go right back to bed as soon as we got home and to be careful not to get chilled.

My temperature when we left the house that Sunday evening was still 102. My parents tried one more time to talk me into waiting until Christmas, but I was firm in my belief that this was the time. (Those who know me well, know that I have always been “strong willed.”) I went to the church and prepared for the baptism along with the many others to be baptized that evening. I was so excited. I had to actually stand on a block in the baptismal pool at Division and Bradford or I would have been completely submerged when I stepped down

off the next to the last step. The baptism went as I had hope. I felt wonderful. The joy inside of me was overflowing.

When we returned home, I got into my pajamas and crawled into bed. Mom checked my temperature to see if it had gone up as a result of going out when I was ill. She was surprised to see that my temperature was normal, but I was not surprised at all. My fever was gone. It was just as I had learned – through my baptism and belief in Christ, I had been washed clean. I was new. No longer sick. I knew it was my time to be baptized – God had told me so. Oh, to have the faith of a child. Isn't it sad when we lose that kind of faith as we grow older and the world has its effect on us.

“Dear heavenly Father, please help me to have the faith that I had as a child, to believe without hesitation or doubt that You will always be there and do as You have promised. Amen.”

Margaret Steinhoff
Board of Deacons

**Comfort
Shawl
Ministry**



You are invited to join us for a time of fellowship that includes knitting, crocheting & sewing shawls and blankets for our shut ins and patients at the Kent General Cancer Center. Do you know someone that needs a little extra TLC? If so, please share the name by calling the office at 302-674-1980. To learn more about this ministry and/or to donate your unused yarn and material, contact Glenda Case.

Join us every third Monday at 1PM in the Great Truths Sunday School classroom.

Bring a friend and **Share the LOVE.**

I wish to thank all my First Baptist family for your caring with hospital visits, flowers, and cards while I was in the hospital for 3 operations within 3 weeks.



Every day I am improving and feel your prayers and support are the reason for my steady recovery. Some people make the world more special. So happy you're a part of mine. God bless all of you!

Laraine Harris

Missions Update

For many years people from First Baptist have gone to the Brethren Service Center, New Windsor, MD on work mission trips. Recently on a trip there to deliver the FBC White Cross materials to the

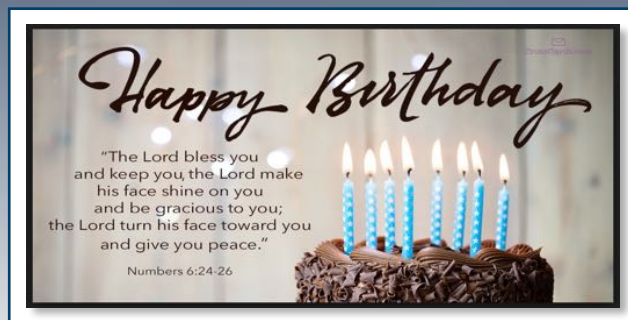


Material Resource Warehouse for shipment to the Congo, I was told that the Service Center campus has been sold and will become a boarding school. The Warehouse, on the lower level of Main Street, was not for sale and was not sold. Volunteer work will continue there in the Warehouse and in the SERRV area, but there will no longer be overnight accommodations on the campus.



The SERRV Outlet store on the campus must vacate their building by the end of April. As of this writing, everything in the store is 30% off. There is a possibility they will relocate somewhere in the Westminster area, but that is not yet definite. SERRV is a Fair Trade enterprise. They sell items made by artisans around the world, which provides much needed income for these people. Why not this month make a day trip to New Windsor (less than a three hour drive), and check out the SERRV store before they close? They are open Tuesday-Saturday, 10:00-5:00, 500 Main Street, New Windsor, MD 21776. It might be your last opportunity to purchase SERRV items locally!

Lois Glading



Nelma	Owen	4/2
Violet	Cannon	4/5
Norma Jean	Courtney	4/5
Leon	Prescott	4/7
Donna	Hutchins	4/8
Pat	Livingston	4/9
Emily	Gamp	4/10
Carissa	Stevens	4/11
Mickie	Walsh	4/16
Suzanne	Jensen	4/17
Bill	Fausey	4/21
Steve	Gedney	4/22
Nancy	Culver	4/23
Doris	Parks	4/23
Rich	Paxton	4/25
Veronica	Manno	4/26
Margaret	Steinhoff	4/28
Elaine	Jarrell	4/30

Happy Anniversary

Randall & Jennifer	Grunden	4/3	35 years
Leon & Sara	Prescott	4/7	67 years
Charlie & Peg	Wright	4/7	55 years
Paul & Charlotte	Smart	4/19	31 years

Here's what's happening in April!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 8:00 Children's Choice 10:00 Joyce Reed Circle 3:00 Wedding
2 9:10 Prayer 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 7:00 Chrysalis	3 5:00 Children's Choice 7:00 Deacon's 7:00 Visitation Teams	4 10:00 Bonar/Niles Circle 6:00-9:00 Egg Making Workshop 7:30 Narcotics Anonymous	5 10:00 Stewardship Committee 6:00 Dinner 6:30 Children's Time 7:00 Quarterly Business Meeting	6 10:00 Egg Making Workshop 11:00 XYZ@ Smyrna Diner 2:00 Women's Bible Study 2:30 Clemmer Circle 7:00 Narcotics Anon 7:00 Sanctuary Choir	7	8 8:00 Children's Choice 9:00 Landscape Committee 10-12:00 Packing Eggs 10-12:00 All Church Easter Fellowship
9 Palm Sunday 9:10 Prayer 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 12:00 Blood Pressure Screening 7:00 Chrysalis	10 5:00 Children's Choice 7:00 Visitation Teams	11 10:00 Harding Circle 3:00-9:00 Children's Choice Conference 7:30 Narcotics Anon	12 No Dinner or Bible Study	13 Maunder Thursday 2:00 Women's Bible Study 7:00 Communion Service 7:00 Narcotics Anon 8:00 Sanctuary Choir	14 Good Friday 12:00 Service starting at Christ Episcopal Church	15 May Newsletter Articles Due
16 Easter Sunday 8:00 Sunrise 8:30 Breakfast 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 12:15 Service of Healing Prayer 5:00 Trustees	17 1:00 Comfort Shawl Ministry 5:00 Children's Choice 7:00 Visitation Teams	18 4:30 Missions 6:00 ABWM Board 7:30 Narcotics Anon	19 6:00 Dinner 6:30 Children's Time 7:00 Bible Study & Prayer	20 2:00 Women's Bible Study 7:00 Narcotics Anon 7:00 Sanctuary Choir	21 5:30 MS Support Group	22 9:00-12:00 Church Vision Gathering
23 9:10 Prayer 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 7:00 Chrysalis	24 5:30 Quilt Guild 7:00 Visitation Teams	25 6:30 Christian Education 7:30 Narcotics Anon	26 6:00 Dinner 6:30 Children's Time 7:00 Bible Study & Prayer	27 2:00 Women's Bible Study 7:00 Narcotics Anon 7:00 Sanctuary Choir	28	29 5:00-9:00 Event Fellowship Hall

30 9:10 Prayer 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 7:00 Chrysalis
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Survey Question

How would you prefer to receive your newsletter?
 Online on the website in vivid color or in the mail in black & white.
 To respond, one may contact Judy at the office (302-674-1980) if the preference is by mail.
 Please be sure we have your current email address.