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First Baptist Church website at
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Calendar - last page



The First Baptist Church of Dover

301 Walker Rd., Dover, DE 19904

March 2018

From the Pastor's Desk Reverend Daniel Taylor



M a r c h

As we turn the calendar to March we are already three Sundays into the season of Lent and we are on a Journey to the Cross as we move towards Easter in just a few short weeks. This journey has taken us with Jesus through temptation, a challenge to follow and will be faced with greed, sacrifice and praise in the coming weeks before we walk with Jesus to the Cross. Lent is a period leading to Easter that allows each of us to look more closely at our own relationship with Christ and the love and sacrifice God made on our behalf. Holy Week – the time between Palm Sunday and Easter – is a special time of reflection for each of us and a service on Maundy Thursday will fill be a time of inspiration as we look to Easter.

Along our way this month we will also have a guest who will join us on Sunday, March 18, to help us learn more about the ministry we share as American Baptists across the United States and Puerto Rico



through the American Baptist Home Mission Societies. It is a privilege for us to welcome the **Rev. Lisa Harris Lee**, Director of Mission Engagement and National Network Initiative, who will share with us and help lead in worship. Lisa is a personal friend and has been with us two other times in the past few years. She headed the Children in

Poverty project coming in that capacity and returned for the special pastoral installation service in November 2014.

She will particularly promote the American for Christ Offering as we are highlighting it throughout the month of March. The AFC Offering goal for our congregation this year is \$3100. I hope you will make sure you worship with us on March 18 to hear Rev. Harris Lee and during Lent.



A special reminder for all of us this month is the shift to Daylight Savings Time on Sunday, March 11. Don't forget to turn you clocks up ... Spring Forward on March 11.

In the Hope of Christ,
Rev. Taylor

Dear Church Family and Friends,

The origin and goal of Christian ministry is in Christ, who gives spiritual gifts and gifted people to the church. Its goal is the building of the body of Christ in knowledge, faith and love. The following verses teach us that God gives to the church spiritual leaders whose role it is to equip saints for ministry.



In Ephesians 4:11-13 we read:

“The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ.”

God’s design for producing people with powerful faith and genuine love is not to have the pastor and church leaders do all the work of the ministry. They are to help equip the saints to do the ministry. They are you — all of you — who have set yourselves apart for God through faith in Christ. According to God’s design, the building of the body in faith and love is the immediate result of the ministry of the laity.

Your America for Christ offering is making life-changing impact through ministries and resources that vitalize our congregations and communities across the United States and Puerto Rico with the hope of Jesus Christ.
www.abhms.org

That’s right, Jesus Christ intends every member of the church to do the work of the ministry. The intention of ministry is to build up each other’s faith and love.

God’s design is to use men and women to support and encourage the faith of his children and to ease the burdens they bear.

The America for Christ Offering (AFC) 2018 reminds us that it is how we serve in the life of the church and in the community that many experience Christ in us. We are encouraged by this year’s theme to come work with one another and build up each other. I ask you to join me in giving generously to this year’s AFC offering and help us reach our goal of \$3100 as we partner in home mission. To make a gift during March please use the envelopes that are in the pew racks in the sanctuary and place it in the offering during worship. Thanks for your generosity.

In the Peace of Christ,
Rev. Dan Taylor



Signs have been posted on the church grounds that **prohibit smoking anywhere on the property**. The Board of Trustees presented this recommendation and it received a favorable vote at the Church’s Annual Meeting held on January 24, 2018. This will assure us of fresh air in and around the church building.



Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body. 1 Corinthians 6:19-20



An All-Church Easter Event

On Saturday, March 24, 2018, from 10 AM until Noon, the Board of Christian Education is sponsoring an ALL-CHURCH Easter Event in the Fellowship Hall. Plan to come and share together to hear the Easter story, create a craft, play games and enjoy a snack. At the end of the morning is an Easter Egg Hunt for the children. Donations of wrapped candy are needed and each child will be given an equal amount of candy, no matter how many eggs they find. Make it a fun and meaningful morning with friends of all ages.



“The Entrance of Jesus To Our Lives”

The Holy Week is upon us once again. It is a good time to pause and reflect about our life.

Was Jesus a fool when He entered Jerusalem on Palm Sunday or the Triumphant Entry, knowing that it would lead to His death?

On the contrary, Jesus entered with the full knowledge that His entrance will cause an uproar that will lead to His arrest and execution. Nevertheless, Jesus did it for our own sake.

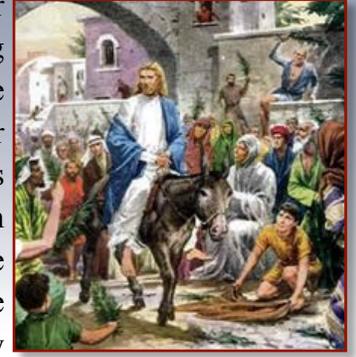
Will we let Jesus have a triumphant entry in our lives? The entrance of Jesus teaches us two things.

First – His entrance to our lives will lead to our cleansing. The entry of Jesus into Jerusalem led him to the temple in which he subsequently cleansed it by overturning the tables of the corrupt businessmen who were in connivance with the corrupt priests. For sure, there will be an upheaval within us when we let Jesus enter. Maybe some of us will not like His entrance and like the Pharisees, Priests, and Sadducees of olden times will plot for His demise in our lives. Or some of us will get angry like the moneychangers whom Jesus called thieves and robbers because of our corrupt ways. But hopefully, most of us will allow Jesus to cleanse the temple of our lives of any unclean practices.



Second – His entrance to our lives will teach us how to live humble lives. Amidst the chaos of Roman occupation, and the constant clamor of people for salvation from foreign domination, Jesus rode a donkey (a symbol of peace and humility) and not a horse (a symbol of war and success).

In the midst of our horsepower-driven society, we sometimes forget to acknowledge God as the source of everything. When we make ourselves as the center or the starting point of our successes, we are committing the sin of pride. Let us be reminded that the center letter of the word sin and pride is “I”. There is an illustration that tells about the story of the donkey that Jesus rode. The donkey was so fascinated by the event of the triumphant entry that he excitedly told his mother later that the people were praising him and extolling his humble virtues. His mother wanted to teach him a lesson about humility. So she asked him to ride the trail again all by himself. The result, the donkey went home unhappy and learned his lesson: “We are nothing without Christ.”



“Have a blessed Holy Week”

Contributed by Romeo Limson

XYZ
(extra years of zest)



You are invited to join us for lunch on March 15, 2018 at 11:30 am. We will be going to the Sheridan’s Irish Pub, 42 W. Commerce Street, Smyrna, DE. Please let us know if you are able to attend by signing the reservation sheet at the welcome center by Sunday, March 11th or by calling the church office. All persons available during the day are invited to attend.



**Coordinating
Committee**

**March 17th,
9:00 AM**

Board of Missions

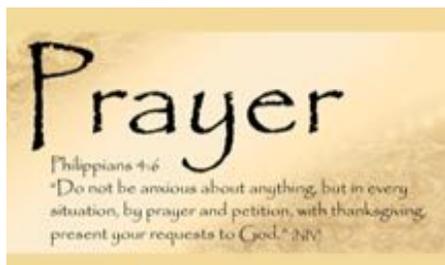
Percy Navarro, Co-Chairman



The America For Christ Offering will be received in the month of March. This year the theme is "Equipping the

Disciples." The Scripture is Ephesians 4:11-13: "Now these are the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers. Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ. This will continue until we all come to such unity in our faith and knowledge of God's Son that we will be mature in the Lord, measuring up to the full and complete standard of Christ. (New Living Translation). The America for Christ Offering is making life-changing impact through ministries and resources that vitalize our congregations and communities across the United States and Puerto Rico. Prayerfully consider what God is leading you to give.

Prayer Chain Update



Change in protocol for the Prayer Chain

If you have a request for the chain, please call Elaine Jarrell at the church office - 302-674-1980. It will then be passed on to both the phone and email chains.

Church office hours are: Monday- 9 until 12 noon, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday, 9 until 3 pm., Friday, 9 until 5 pm.

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. During the past 12 months we have stitched 150 prayer shawls and distributed most of them to date. No experience is necessary and we have a job for everyone. Meetings are held the 3rd Monday of each month and wrap up no later than 3PM. Perhaps 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 or Agnes Robinson (on Sundays).

Meetings are held in the Davis Fellowship Hall.

Bring a friend and [Share the LOVE](#).



We really need people who are interested and qualified to help with children's Sunday School and Paul's Place as well as occasional substitute teaching.



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.

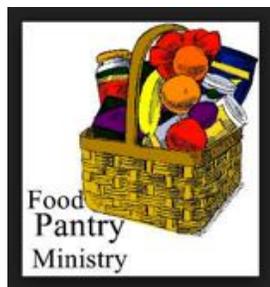
Here's What's Happening at our Church!



Wednesday Evening Bible Study and Prayer Time
Dinner at 6PM in the Fellowship Hall followed at 7PM by Bible Study & a Children's Program.

Stuff the Pantry @ First Baptist

Grocery bags are located just outside the sanctuary and include suggested items needed to stock the FBC Food Pantry. Return the bag the next Sunday and place it under the Food Pantry sign in the narthex. This is a mission outreach for our needy residents in the community.



Need a little extra help in monitoring your blood pressure? Check the Sunday Bulletin for screening Sundays and have your pressure checked by one of the FBC nurses. This activity is sponsored by the American Baptists Women's Ministries.



Sanctuary Flower Arrangements

Would you like to honor someone or celebrate a special occasion by providing the worship service flower arrangements? If so, please contact the church office at 302-674-1980.



Service of Healing Prayer

For those who seek healing from God, held in the Chapel immediately following the worship service.

Those who choose, may request anointing by the pastor or deacons during this prayer time.



Prayer Chain

If you have a request for the chain, please call Elaine Jarrell at the church office - 302-674-1980. It will then be passed on to both the phone and email chains.



**Stop by the
Welcome Center for
the answers.**



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!

ATTENTION

**Read all about it!
Don't forget the
deadline for
newsletter
submissions is the
15th of each month.**



Please email your articles to Debbie at
debbie_geiser@verizon.net

Anniversaries

John & Maureen Cannon	12 Years
Tom & Pat Roberts	65 years

Birthdays

John Kelly, Jr.	3/03
Daniel Macklin	3/04
Suzanne Porter	3/04
Randall Grunden	3/05
Theresa Thornburg	3/05
Brian Jones	3/08
Marsha Kemp	3/10
Christopher Cottrell	3/12
Lisa Clark	3/13
Karen Blakenman	3/14
Judy Sansbury	3/18
Scot Septer	3/20
Ken Booker	3/21
Anna McKinney	3/22
Sue Moore	3/26
Laraine Harris	3/27
Richard Waltz	3/27
Delois Gregory	3/28
Troy Jackson	3/30

Women's Bible Study Group

Leader: Suzanne Murr



Meetings are every Thursday at 2PM with an indepth study of Women of the Bible. All women are invited to attend. (Location: Rennie's Classroom).

Susan Harding Circle

March 13th, 10:00 AM
Susan is a missionary
to Alaska.

Leader: Norma Jean Courtney



Ann Clemmer Circle

March 8th, 1:30 PM
Church Library
Ann is a missionary to Eastern
Congo & South Sudan
Leader: Lois Glading



Joyce Reed Circle

March 3rd, 10:00 AM
Great Truths Classroom
Joyce is a missionary to
IberoAmerica and
the Caribbean
Leader: Margaret Steinhoff



Bonar/Niles Circle

March 6th, 10:00 AM
Meeting at the home of
Jo Rolison
Katherine is a missionary to the
Democratic Republic
of the Congo
Leader: Agnes Robinson



in between

March seems to be that in-between time of winter and spring. There are more warm days than cold, but snow is still never out of the picture. Spring officially starts on the 20th. The garden still must wait for at least one more month. Will it come in like a lamb and out like a lion, or the other way around. How will March Madness turn out? James 5:7 “Be patient, then, brothers and sisters, until the Lord’s coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop, patiently waiting for the autumn and spring rains.” We are in that ‘between’ time...

We are also in that between time of Ash Wednesday and Easter. In that 40-day period of waiting, looking forward to the resurrection. As you prepare for Easter, think more about the act of love that God made than the Easter bunny and eggs. Think more about the pain and torture on that Good Friday than the meal you will share with family on Easter Sunday. Think about the true sacrifice of God’s love recognizing that any sacrifice we may have made during this time - some people do not eat meat on Friday. **Focus on Easter.**

We are also in that in-between time in our life and also waiting on the 2nd coming. In our life, we have many days behind us and still more to come. We have a history of the things we have done, and even maybe regrets of things we wish we could have done better. We have family, we have work accomplished and other things we have done with our lives. We may have plans for the future or unsure what the future will bring.

We are also in that in-between time waiting on Jesus’ return. We wait for the sky to be opened wide and His returning to take His people up before the time of trial. We don’t know when this will happen, so we must always be prepared. Matthew 24:42-44 (NIV) “Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come.

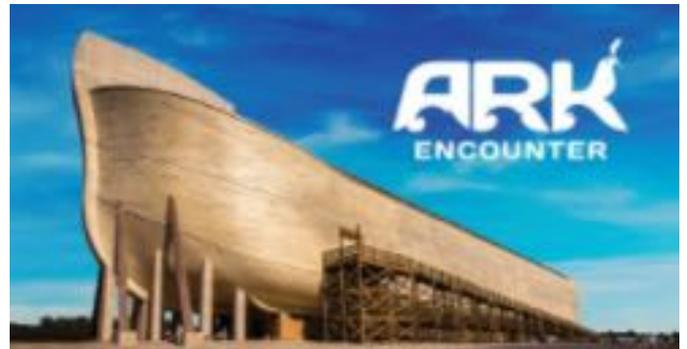


But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what time of night the thief was coming, he would have kept watch and would not have let his house be broken into. So, you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.”

And we all are in the in-between time as we wait; Revelation 21:3-4 (NIV) “And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Look! God’s dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. ‘He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.”

Contributed by Mike Metzger

Creation Museum and Noah’s Ark presentation by Avis



Mark your calendar for this exciting trip through the Bible. March 6, 10:00 at Jo Rolison’s home.





The ABWM will be taking orders for homemade Chocolate Easter Eggs – February 3rd through March 4th. They will, again, be available in the Dark Chocolate, Milk Chocolate or White Chocolate. You will also have a choice of seven (7) different fillings – Peanut butter, Strawberry cream, Chocolate cream, Orange cream, Buttercream, Coconut cream and Chocolate coconut cream. The cost will remain the same as in previous years: \$2.75 each or Two (2) for \$5.00. The eggs are delicious and freeze well, so that you can enjoy them anytime throughout the year.



Easter Egg Making Workshop

Location: Kitchen

Schedule

March 4th - Orders Due

March 7 - 9 AM

March 10 - 9 AM

March 12 - 9 AM

March 14 - 9 AM

March 17 - 9 AM

March 19 - 9 AM

March 22 - 10 AM

Packing Egg Orders - Fellowship Hall

March 23 - Eggs Delivered

Don't miss out on this opportunity for fellowship and to learn the secret of the 'perfect' First Baptist Church Easter Eggs.



ABWM Easter Egg Order Form

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

Sales Person _____

Coating/ Flavor	White Chocolate	Milk Chocolate	Dark Chocolate	Total
BUTTER CREAM				
COCONUT CREAM				
CHOCOLATE COCONUT CREAM				
ORANGE CREAM				
STRAWBERRY CREAM				
CHOCOLATE CREAM				
PEANUT BUTTER CREAM				

Eggs cost \$2.75 each or 2 for \$5.00
Please pay with the order. Checks can be made
out to "ABWM of FBC."

Total Eggs _____ Total Cost _____

ORDERS DUE BY MARCH 4TH

Here's what's happening in March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 1:30 Ann Clemmer Circle (Library) 2:00 Women's Bible Study (Renne's Classroom) 7:00 Narcotics Anon 7:00 Sanctuary Choir	2 6:00 Frontline Ministries	3 8:00 Children's Choice (Fellowship Hall) 10:00 Joyce Reed Circle (Great Truths Classroom)
4 9:10 Prayer 9:30 Sunday school 11:00 Worship Egg Orders Due  7:00 Chrysalis	5 7:00 Deacon's 7:00 Visitation Teams	6 10:00 Bonar/Niles Circle (Jo Rolison home) 7:30 Narcotics Anon	7 9:00-2:00 Community Bible Study 9:00 Egg Making Workshop (Kitchen)  6:00 Fellowship Dinner 7:00 Bible Study & Prayer Time - Adults & Children	8 1:30 Ann Clemmer Circle - (Church Library) 2:00 Women's Bible Study (Rennie's Classroom) 7:00 Narcotics Anon 7:00 Sanctuary Choir	9	10  Time Change 9:00 Egg Making Workshop (Kitchen)  10:00 Children's Choice (Fellowship Hall)
11 9:10 Prayer 9:30 Sunday school 11:00 Worship 12:15 Blood Pressure Screening 7:00 Chrysalis	12 9:00 Egg Making Workshop (Kitchen)  7:00 Visitation Teams	13 10:00 Susan Harding Circle (Fellowship Hall) 7:30 Narcotics Anon	14 9:00-2:00 Community Bible Study 9:00 Egg Making Workshop (Kitchen)  6:00 Fellowship Dinner 7:00 Bible Study & Prayer Time - Adults & Children	15 March Newsletter Articles Due  11:30 XYZ Sheridan's Pub, Smyrna, DE 2:00 Women's Bible Study (Rennie's Classroom) 7:00 Narcotics Anon 7:00 Sanctuary Choir	16 4:30 Board of Missions 5:00 MS Support Group	17 9:00 Egg Making Workshop (Kitchen)  9:00 Coordinating Committee 10:00 Daniel Plan
18 9:10 Prayer 9:30 Sunday school 11:00 Worship 12:30 Service of Healing Prayer 5:00 Trustees 7:00 Chrysalis	19 9:00 Egg Making Workshop (Kitchen)  1:00 Comfort Shawl Ministry 6:30 Board of Christian Education	20 2:00 Sisters of Ruth 4:30 Missions 7:00 Visitation Teams 7:30 Narcotics Anon	21 9:00-2:00 Community Bible Study 10:00 Stewardship Committee 6:00 Fellowship Dinner 7:00 Bible Study & Prayer Time - Adults & Children	22 10:00 Packing Egg Orders (Fellowship Hall)  2:00 Women's Bible Study (Rennie's Classroom) 7:00 Narcotics Anon 7:00 Sanctuary Choir	23 Easter Eggs Delivered 	24 10:00 Easter Event (Fellowship Hall) 
25 PALM SUNDAY  9:10 Prayer 9:30 Sunday school 11:00 Worship 7:00 Chrysalis	26 5:30 Quilt Guild 7:00 Visitation Teams	27 7:30 Narcotics Anon	28 9:00-2:00 Community Bible Study 6:00 Fellowship Dinner 7:00 Bible Study & Prayer Time - Adults & Children	29 7:00 Maundy Thursday Service	30 Good Friday 	31

Survey Question

How would you prefer to receive your newsletter?

In vivid color on the website (<http://www.fbcdover.org>) or black & white in the mail.

To respond, one may contact the office at 302-674-1980
if the preference is by mail.

Please be sure we have your current email address.