



The First Baptist Church of Dover

301 Walker Rd., Dover, DE 19904

April 2018

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



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From the Pastor's Desk Reverend Daniel Taylor



APRIL

As the calendar turns to the 4th month of the year we realize that the first quarter of 2018 has gone by very quickly. On the very first day of the month we come to worship on Easter, the glorious celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus – the reason that God sent his son to the world. I hope you will join us and celebrate with us on that day.

April will provide us some very special opportunities as a congregation. The Board of Christian Education has scheduled a special Women's Retreat for Friday and Saturday, April 20 & 21. All women are invited to participate and share in the relaxation, reflection and inspiration of this event. Find more specific information elsewhere in the newsletter.



On Sunday, April 22, the Rev. Dr. Jeffrey A. Johnson, our American Baptist Churches of Pennsylvania and Delaware (ABCOPAD) Regional Pastor with Congregations, will be preaching during the worship service. We have been trying to schedule Jeff to be with us for quite a while. He will stay after worship for a light lunch and then a time to lead us as a congregation as we focus on God's vision for our church. We have a rich history, but we can have an even greater future together as we love and lead people into life-changing relationships with Jesus Christ.

Many of you remember that Dr. Johnson was with us in the Fall of 2015 for a Saturday discussion session and he has been here in the past years to preach. Please plan to come on April 22 and you will be blessed as he brings God's word to us.

At the March 17 Coordinating Committee meeting your Board and Committee leaders affirmed our participation in a Faith Build – a partnership project with Central Delaware Habitat for Humanity. Many churches in the Dover area will be working together by pooling resources and volunteers to build a new home on Kirkwood Street. Financial contributions will be needed and as we know more details in the coming days, volunteers can sign up for a day at the work site. If you would like to contribute, please note on your gift that it is for the Habitat project. The build will begin in late May or early June. This is a great way for us to serve as the hands and feet of Christ here in our own community.



Look for opportunities to invite others to join you in worship on Easter and on any Sunday in the days ahead. Let's build the church together.

In the Peace of Christ,

Rev. Taylor

Meals for the Men's Homeless Shelter



For three different weeks during 2018, First Baptist will be providing the evening meal at the Dover Interfaith Men's Homeless Shelter. Our first week of meals this year will be Monday through Sunday, May 7-13 (seven evenings). You have always been very generous in supplying what we need, and we hope you will do the same again this year. We need donations of food, money, and persons to help with the final meal preparation and to serve the meal at the Shelter. The menus and sign-up sheets for the May meals will be at the Welcome Center in mid-April. Our additional weeks are August 6-12 and November 4-10. Please join us in serving those in need in our community. You will be blessed! Questions? Contact Nancy Culver or Lois Glading.



Now that we can look toward warmer weather, we can also look to the spring rains that will jump start the earth to bring the flowers, grass and trees we will all enjoy. As I write this, we are enjoying a white day, full of snow on the 2nd day of spring. But this is the time of preparation that nature is getting ready for the spring.

We also should be getting prepared for the spring and summer. We need to be planning on how we can spring up and serve people who need help. A couple of the events we currently support are feeding the men at the Dover Interfaith Mission for Housing (DIMH) and Make a Difference Day. In the past we have worked with Habitat for Humanity in Frederica.



This year again, we have an opportunity to work with Habitat on their **Faith Build Generosity Challenge**. This will be an interdenominational build with 20 or more churches in our area. We would be obligated to raise \$2500 by June so the project can start. The possible work days right now are Wednesday and Saturday. Not sure when our day(s) will be, but we will need volunteers. We will discuss this more at the April Church Business Meeting on the 18th.

Also, we will also have a Men's Study like we did last year. The tentative kick-off date is May 19th, in the morning. Depending on the material, we can have subsequent evenings like last time that were on Tuesday evenings. More information will be coming.

Contributed by Mike Metzger



“What Jesus Died For”

In our lifetime we have encountered and will encounter many heroes. They are real flesh and blood like us. They were inspired by someone or something, and they gave their life for a cause. But long before them, there was Jesus who gave his life for our salvation. Jesus was actually executed as a rebel. This means that his death was not just a spiritual matter. It also had a political dimension. What did Jesus die for aside for the remission of our sins and the salvation of our souls? What are the things that he stood for? Let me suggest and mention a few.

A – Jesus was against anyone or anything that hinders people from achieving a meaningful life.

In John 10 Jesus describes himself as a good shepherd. A shepherd is not someone who just stand by and watch. A shepherd not only leads the sheep to green pastures and still waters but also fights the wolves and robbers that would try to harm or take the sheep. As Christians, we need to lead people towards a meaningful life and that involves identifying and fighting the "wolves" that hinder us from having it.

B – Jesus fought for freedom.

The Israelites during Jesus' time were under the Roman Empire. When Jesus preached about the Kingdom of God, he was telling everyone that the reign of God is better than the emperor of the Roman Empire or the leadership of the Israelites. The Roman Empire and the Israelite leadership were enslaving the people in many ways. Jesus taught that the only way to be free is to accept the reign of God in their lives.

As Christians, we need to fight any form of slavery and proclaim that God is on the side of those who fight for freedom because God wants us all to be free.

C - Jesus empowered the marginalized.

A lot of powerful people were angry with Jesus. When Jesus overturned the tables of the merchants and priests in the Temple who were overcharging and exploiting the people, he was empowering those who were in the margins of society. In turn, he got the ire of powerful people and he was marked for execution.



As Christians, we need to stand for what is right and we need to be angry if there is any form of exploitation. And if there is a need for it, we are to sacrifice our lives for the cause of Jesus.

“We May Have a Happy Easter”

Contributed by Romeo Limson

XYZ

(extra years of zest)



You are invited to join us for lunch on April 26th, 2018 at 11:30 am. We will be going to the Piazza Mia, 492 South Red Haven, Camden, DE. Please let us know if you are able to attend by signing the reservation sheet at the welcome center by Sunday, April 22nd or by calling the church office. All persons available during the day are invited to attend.



Coordinating Committee

No meeting in April

Board of Missions

Percy Navarro, Co-Chairman



The America For Christ Offering was 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.

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.



Comfort Shawl Ministry

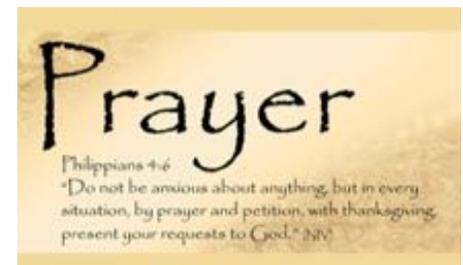


You are invited to join us for a time of fellowship that includes knitting, crocheting & sewing shawls and blankets for our shut-ins and patients at the Kent General Cancer Center. During the past 12 months we have stitched 150 prayer shawls and distributed most of them to date. No experience is necessary 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](#).

Prayer Chain Update



Change in protocol for the Prayer Chain

If you have a request for the chain, please call or email the church office (302-674-1980) and/or (secretary@fbcdover.org). The secretary will relay the information to Elaine Jarrell to be passed on to the phone and email chains. If the office is closed, call Elaine directly.

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

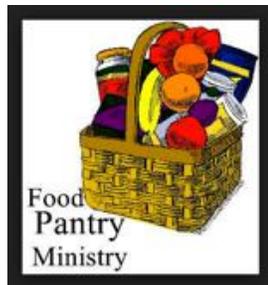
Here's What's Happening at our Church!



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.



About the church or one of our programs? 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 Vicky Smith at secretary@fbcdover.org

Anniversaries

Randall & Jennifer Grunden	4/3	35 years
Leon & Sara Prescott	4/7	68 years
Charlie & Peg Wright	4/7	56 years
Paul & Charlotte Smart	4/19	32 years

Birthdays

Nelma Owen	4/2
Violet Cannon	4/5
Norma Jean Courtney	4/5
Leon Prescott	4/7
Donna Hutchins	4/8
Mickie Walsh	4/16
Suzanne Jenson	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
Patricia Ward	4/27
Margaret Steinhoff	4/28
Faith King	4/29
Elaine Jarrell	4/30

Women's Bible Study Group



Leader: Suzanne Murr

The Women's Bible Study Group is on **SPRING BREAK** until further notice. All women are invited to attend. (Location: Rennie's Classroom).

Bonar/Niles Circle

April 3rd, 10:00 AM
Meeting at the home of
Agnes Robinson

Katherine is a missionary to the
Democratic Republic
of the Congo

Leader: Agnes Robinson



Joyce Reed Circle

April 7th, 10:00 AM
at the home of Mary Emma Tisinger
Joyce is a missionary to
IberoAmerica and
the Caribbean
Leader: Margaret Steinhoff

Ann Clemmer Circle

April 5th, 1:30 PM
Church Library
Ann is a missionary to Eastern
Congo & South Sudan
Leader: Lois Glading



Susan Harding Circle

April 10th, 10:00 AM
Fellowship Hall
Susan is a missionary
to Alaska.

Here's what's happening in April

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1  9:10 Prayer 9:30 Sunday school 11:00 Worship 12:15 Blood Pressure Screening	2 7:00 Deacon's Committee 7:00 Visitation Teams	3 10:00 Bonar/Niles Circle (Agnes Robinson home) 4:30 Missions Meeting	4 6:00 Fellowship Dinner 7:00 Bible Study & Prayer Time - Adults & Children	5 1:30 Ann Clemmer Circle (Library) 7:00 Narcotics Anon 7:00 Sanctuary Choir	6 2:00 Finance Committee (Conference Room)	7 8:00 Children's Choice (Fellowship Hall) 10:00 Joyce Reed Circle (Mary Emma Tisinger home)
8 9:10 Prayer 9:30 Sunday school 11:00 Worship 12:15 Blood Pressure Screening 7:00 Chrysalis	9 7:00 Visitation Teams	10 10:00 Susan Harding Circle (Fellowship Hall)	11 8:30-2:00 Community Bible Study 6:00 Fellowship Dinner 7:00 Bible Study & Prayer Time - Adults & Children	12 7:00 Narcotics Anon 7:00 Sanctuary Choir	13	14 10:00 Children's Choice (Fellowship Hall)
15 9:10 Prayer 9:30 Sunday school 11:00 Worship 12:00 Service of Healing Prayer 7:00 Chrysalis	16  May Newsletter Articles Due 1:00 Comfort Shawl Ministry 6:30 Board of Christian Education 7:00 Visitation Teams	17	18 8:30-2:00 Community Bible Study 6:00 Fellowship Dinner 7:00 Quarterly Business Meeting	19 11:30 XYZ Piazza Mia, Woodside, DE 4:30 Board of Missions 7:00 Narcotics Anon 7:00 Sanctuary Choir	20 5:00 MS Support Group	21
22 9:10 Prayer 9:30 Sunday school 11:00 Worship 12:30 Service of Healing Prayer 5:00 Trustees 7:00 Chrysalis	23 5:30 Quilt Guild 7:00 Visitation Teams	24 6:00 Children's Choice	25 8:30-2:00 Community Bible Study 10:00 ABWM Board Meeting 6:00 Fellowship Dinner 7:00 Bible Study & Prayer Time - Adults & Children	26 7:00 Narcotics Anon 7:00 Sanctuary Choir	27	28
29 9:10 Prayer 9:30 Sunday school 11:00 Worship 7:00 Chrysalis	30 7:00 Visitation Teams					

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.