



The First Baptist Church of Dover

301 Walker Rd., Dover, DE 19904

February 2020 Newsletter

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



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“How should we love others?”

In John 13:34-35 Jesus said that He is giving us a new command -- love each other as He have loved us, and by doing so the world will know that we are His disciples.

Why is this a new command?

First, this command to love is new because it is founded on a new relationship – our relationship with Jesus Christ. We relate with one another now as people who are united in our faith with Jesus Christ. We are now brothers and sisters in Christ. We now view our relationship with others not just as classmates, party affiliates, officemates or family members but in the light of our relationship with Jesus.

Second, this command to love is new because it is presented in a new form – we love each other the way Jesus Christ loves us. What is a Christ-like love? Let me mention few of my views of Jesus’ love:

1. *It is sacrificial.* We have to be willing to sacrifice ourselves for the sake of our loved ones.
2. *It is prayerful.* We need to pray for our loved ones.
3. *It is forgiving.* We need to forgive our loved ones 70 times 7.
4. *It is helpful.* We must love others not just with words but with our actions.
5. *It is compassionate.* We need to care and emotionally support our loved ones.

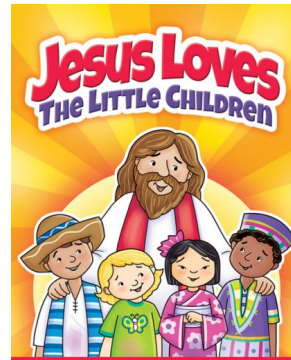
This kind of love should be demonstrated by us readily, sincerely, humbly, constantly, and creatively.

Praying for God's Continued Blessings.

“Happy Valentine’s Day”.

Contributed by Romeo Limson

Please place your used ink and toner cartridges in the labeled box located under the table inside the downstairs entrance. There will also be a labeled gray box located in the coat closet next to the Welcome Center. First Baptist Church receives credit for each cartridge that is turned in. As a result, this reduces the cost of the church’s office supplies.



Fairview Elementary School’s

Good News Club

GOOD NEWS CLUB is now meeting every Tuesday afternoon at 3:15 PM. Currently we have 24 children signed up to attend our club. Please keep the GNC Team and the children they minister to in your prayers.

A written prayer by one of our children:

Heavenly Father, thank you for this day, thank you for the food and water, most of all thank you for the Earth that you’ve created and we hope we can join you someday in heaven. I love you, God. Amen

We’re grateful for the opportunity to spend time with these precious children. Please pray not only for the children, but their parents, as well, as there are a number of them who desperately need your prayers.



Dear Ladies,

Happy February! Thank you to Lois Glading and Sue Moore for helping me with the taking down of our Chrismon Trees. Richard Waltz, of our Trustees, put our trees away for us. I thought our Sanctuary looked beautiful for the Advent Season this year. When we look at the lovely Chrismon Trees, we can remember with thanks those ABW Sisters who had that vision and made all the meaningful ornaments. Their legacy continues.

Our Women's Day of Renewal is scheduled for Saturday, February 8th from 9 a.m. -1 p.m. in the Davis Fellowship Hall. We will be looking at the field of education in the Democratic Republic of Congo and how it has changed through the years. Our guest speaker will be Sue MacDonald, ABCOPAD Foundation Director of Development. She recently attended the dedication of a new school in Mitendi and will be sharing pictures and the story of that event. We will start with a continental breakfast at 9 a.m. Instead of a craft, we will be putting together 30 baby layettes that will go to the Congo. It should be a great time of sharing with each other. The Easter Egg project will also have its "kick-off" that day with a presentation on the Regional Project for 2020. The sale of our Easter Eggs is how we raise the money that we donate to this project. I hope you all will take part in the sale and making of these Eggs. Here's hoping our day won't be postponed by snow this year. We will end with our lunch of delicious homemade soups and deserts. Mark your calendars and plan to attend.

No rolling bandages this year! An opportunity to think of other things you and your Circle Sisters can do. Until next month –

Blessings,

Margaret E. Steinhoff, President of ABWM of FBC Dover



**Mary Bonar/Rita
Chapman Circle**

**Meeting February 4, 10:00 at the
home of Beryl Gerhard
Rita is a missionary to the
Democratic Republic
of the Congo
Leader: Jo Rolison**



Joyce Reed Circle

**Meeting February 1, 10:00 in the
Great Truths Classroom
Joyce is a missionary to
IberoAmerica and the Caribbean
Leader: Sue Moore**

Ann Clemmer Circle

**Meeting February 6, 1:00
at Church Library**

**Ann is a missionary to Eastern
Congo & South Sudan
Leader: Lois Glading**





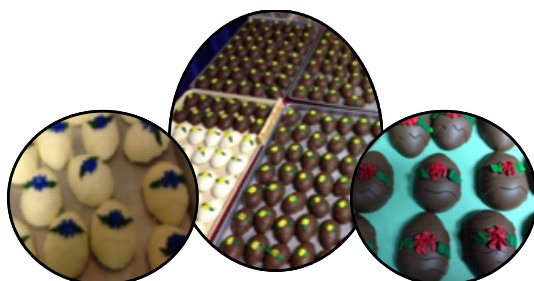
It's That Time Again

The ABWM will be taking orders for homemade Chocolate Easter Eggs – February 8th through March 8th. 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. Look for order forms in the church bulletin or see any ABWM member.

(You can insert the picture that was in last February's Newsletter here It is a group of three pictures of eggs)

The proceeds from the Easter Egg sales will go, again, to our ABWM of PA/DE regional project. The regional goal is \$15,000 and is entitled ***Brighter Days for Brazilian Youth***. The money raised will help renovate, decorate and open a thrift shop in Vitoria, Brazil. The ***thrift shop***, besides providing jobs, will be one more step that leads to self-sustainability for the homeless street children and youth ranging in age from 8 to 18 who are part of a residential program that rescues these children and youth. The program provides guidance, education, and training for future employment. All students have completed a paid internship and are employed before they leave the program. Corenne Smith, Missionary to Vitoria, Brazil, is mainly involved with the older children, working with them on life skills so that they can eventually transition away from a boarding school to independent living. She also serves as a surrogate mother to many of the children, sharing with them the love of Jesus. This Regional Project will assist the poor youth of Brazil.





Birthdays

Brandon Lentz	2/4
Charlotte Smart	2/4
Wilfred Clark, Jr.	2/5
Jeff Twilley	2/5
Jo Rolison	2/7
Rebecca Taylor	2/7
Willis Case	2/9
Xander Moscrip	2/13
Xerex Navarro	2/14
Ray Murphey	2/16
Victoria Macklin	2/18
Maria Higdon	2/20
Linda Brothers	2/23
Dorothy Gampp	2/23

Anniversary

Russell and Glenda Perry	47 yrs.	2/5
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Comfort Shawl Ministry



What a blessing it has been for the members of this group to gather on the 1st Monday of each month in the Fellowship Hall. We pray over the shawls we create, fellowship and deliver shawls to individuals needing and wanting a soft, warm wrap; as well as delivering shawls to cancer patients at Dover Bayhealth. Two of our members delivered 20 shawls to the oncology unit at Bayhealth In October. We were humbly honored to speak to, pray with and deliver shawls, personally, to four patients! We hear so many comments from recipients, family and friends of the love and warmth they feel when wrapping up in one of these lovely shawls. Please notify a member of this group if you or someone you know could use a prayer and a "Shawl Hug"!

Sermons



Sermons are now available on the church's website, fbcdover.org under the title "Sermons". Or, if you prefer, you may request a CD copy of a Sunday's sermon by contacting the church office.

XYZ

(extra years of zest)



If you are retired or just available during the day, please join us for a time of food and fellowship on the third Thursday of the month. We will be going to Longhorn Steakhouse on February 20 beginning at 11:30 am. Please sign up at the welcome center or call the church office at 302-674-1980 to make reservations by February 16th. All persons available during the day are invited to attend.



AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES USA
Serving as the hands and feet of Christ

As We Enter 2020...A Message from American Baptist Churches USA Acting General Secretary

Happy New Year! Have you made your New Year's resolution yet? "I resolve to..." As Christians, perhaps these should be more like prayer requests than resolutions. "Lord, help me to..." As spirit-filled Christians, we have an immense power within us to make the world a better place.

Rather than making resolutions, some persons choose a particular scripture verse to focus upon during the year, or adopt a spiritual practice, or embrace a song. "Speak to one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs," (Ephesians 5:19). Instead of being hounded by that random song or jingle that pops into your head, why not be proactive and choose a song for the year that uplifts you? Still others focus upon a single word for the year such as "thriving," "overcoming," "peace," or "justice."

Personally, when I consider improvement or betterment, I focus upon values that are at the core of all adaptive change. This year, I seek God's help in treating every person that I encounter with dignity and respect.

As we begin a new Biennium in ABCUSA life, I am thankful for the leadership of previous officers President Josué Gómez-Menéndez and Vice President Dean Parker, who provided remarkable leadership for us as a Board of General Ministries these last two years. I very much look forward to working with our new BGM President Karen Podsiadly and Vice President Jim Wolfe, National Executive Council members Dr. Jeffrey Haggray (Executive Director of the American Baptist Home Mission Societies), Rev. Gina Jacobs-Strain (Executive Director of American Baptist Women's Ministries), Rev. Sharon Koh (CEO/executive director of International Ministries), and Louis Barbarin (chief executive officer of MMBB Financial Services), as well as our Regional Executive Ministers Council and officers President Frank Frischkorn, Vice President Cheryl Dudley, and Secretary/Treasurer Robin Stoops. We wish former General Secretary Lee Spitzer all the best during the retirement chapters of his ministry.

May we as American Baptists draw upon the power of God to make our world a better place in 2020.

Dr. C. Jeff Woods
Acting General Secretary
American Baptist Churches USA



HAVE YOU HEARD?

Would you like to save some money on federal taxes? If you are 70 ½ or older you can now make gifts directly from your Individual Retirement Account (IRA) to First Baptist without paying federal income tax on the withdrawal. This provision, called a **Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD)**, has been possible for several years but the regulation is usually passed as an added part of the tax law near the end of the calendar year. It was done on a year to year basis. The **Tax Cuts and Jobs Act** passed by Congress in 2017 has made it a permanent part of the tax code.

How it works

- You must be age 70 ½ or older at the time the gift is made.
- At age 70 ½ you are required to receive an annual RMD (required minimum distribution).
- Fund received from this distribution are fully taxable.
- You must request from the IRA plan custodian a direct transfer of funds to First Baptist for the gift to be tax free.
- Gifts through a QCD can satisfy part or all of your required distribution.
- Notify your tax preparer of the amount of your which is a charitable gift.
- The account types that are eligible for QCDs include: Traditional IRAs, Inherited IRAs, SEP IRA (inactive plans only and SIMPLE IRA (inactive plans only).

Contact a member of the Finance Committee for further information.

Here's What's Happening at our Church!



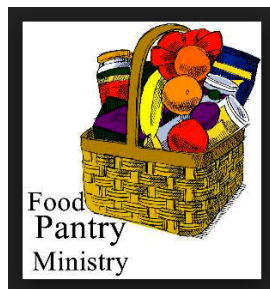
**Wednesday Evening Bible
Study & Prayer Time
Dinner at 6PM**
in the Fellowship Hall
followed at 7PM by Bible
Study and a Children's
Program.



**About the church or one of our
programs? Stop by the Welcome
Center for the answers.**

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.



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



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!

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.







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.

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.



Here's what's happening in February

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 10:00 Joyce Reed Circle (Great Truths Classroom)
2 9:10 Prayer 9:30 Sunday school 11:00 Worship	3 Meeting (Library) 7:00 Visitation Teams	4 10:00 Bonar/ Chapman Circle (Home of Beryl Gerhard) 3:00 Game Day (Fellowship Hall)  3:00 Good News Club (Fairview Elementary School) 6:00 Deacon's Meeting (Library)	5 9:30 Community Bible Study 6:00 Fellowship Dinner 7:00 Bible Study & Prayer	6 1:00 Ann Clemmer Circle (Church Library) 7:00 Sanctuary Choir	7	8 9:00 Coordinating Committee (Library)  9:00 Women's Day of Renewal (Fellowship Hall) ~ Easter Egg Sale "Kick Off"
9 9:10 Prayer 9:30 Sunday school 11:00 Worship 12:00 Blood Pressure Screening	10 7:00 Visitation Teams	11 3:00 Good News Club (Fairview Elementary School) 5:30 Missions Mtg.	12 9:30 Community Bible Study 6:00 Fellowship Dinner 7:00 Bible Study & Prayer	13 7:00 Sanctuary Choir	14	15 9:00 ABWM Weather Contingency  March Newsletter Articles Due
16 9:10 Prayer 9:30 Sunday school 11:00 Worship 12:30 Trustees Meeting (Library)	17 1:00 Comfort Shawl Ministry 6:00 Board of Christian Ed 7:00 Visitation Teams	18 3:00 Good News Club (Fairview Elementary School)	19 9:30 Community Bible Study 6:00 Fellowship Dinner 7:00 Annual Business Meeting	20 11:30 XYZ (Longhorn Steakhouse)  7:00 Sanctuary Choir	21	22
23 9:10 Prayer 9:30 Sunday school 11:00 Worship	24 7:00 Visitation Teams	25 3:00 Good News Club (Fairview Elementary School)	26 9:30 Community Bible Study 6:00 Fellowship Dinner 7:00 Bible Study & Prayer	27 7:00 Sanctuary Choir	28	29

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.