



# The First Baptist Church of Dover

301 Walker Rd., Dover, DE 19904

July 2020 Newsletter

## The First Baptist Church of Dover

will gather in the sanctuary for  
worship  
on Sunday,  
**July 19, 2020 at 11 AM.**

Come wearing your mask and  
continue safe distancing.

More information will be  
coming by mail, email,  
Facebook and on the  
church website.

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

It will be a little different this year. Just like everything in the past four months, July will not be the same as we remember. Fireworks have already been cancelled; picnics and other celebrations will be modified and much smaller in size if not limited to family members. Yes, it will be different this year.



Vacation Bible School was originally on the calendar for late July in the church building as in past years, but now, because of the Coronavirus, it won't be happening. The Board of Christian Education is beginning to explore a new way to share a virtual VBS, but no final plans have been made yet. It will certainly be different. Remember – we've never done it that way before.

For the past four months we have been worshipping together yet in our own homes or wherever we could access the online service. It has been a gift from God that we could still share in worship in such a unique way. It has been a blessing to minister with others who share music and gifts of time and technology to make these weekly services possible. We are all serving together as the hands and feet of Christ.

After much discussion and now that Delaware is in Phase 2 of its reopening, we are planning to welcome you and others back to the sanctuary on Sunday,

**July 19 at 11 AM.** We want you to know that every effort is being made to create a safe environment including sanitizing the pews, and surfaces that one would normally touch, and designating seating so that we will be safely distanced from one another as we gather. We will ask that each person coming that day and on subsequent Sundays will wear a mask from the parking lot into the building and during the service, pause for a temperature check as you enter, use hand sanitizer and avoid hand shakes, and hugs. Yes, it will be different and I know that doesn't sound like the fellowship that we had, but It will be so good to be back in the sanctuary together. More information will be coming to you in letters and additional emails in the days ahead. Until then, please continue to join us for worship on *YouTube* at First Baptist Church of Dover DE and if you have access to *Facebook*, join the churches page at First Baptist Church of Dover Delaware. The services are also posted on the church's website at [fbcdover.org](http://fbcdover.org).

In the past few weeks our ears and eyes and our hearts have saddened with all that we have seen and heard. Men and women have been killed needlessly and under very stressful situations. Tensions that have been building for a long time have been loosed and people of all backgrounds, colors and religions are marching together. It is hard for many of us to comprehend, but I know this – we are all made in the image of God and no matter the color of our skin, the language we speak or the place we hold in society, we are all children of God. It is my hope that we can begin conversations about racism and what part it plays in our lives. It is my hope that we can begin to develop intentional relationships with others in the community and learn from one another. Paul told the Galatians – There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. (Galatians 3.28). I know that we can make a difference as we pursue this together. The Psalmist says it this way – Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it. Psalm 34.14

*In the Peace of Christ,*  
*Pastor Dan*

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## Contact Us

**Reverend Dan Taylor - Pastor**  
**Mike Metzger - Moderator**  
**Debbie Geiser - Newsletter Editor**  
**Vicky Smith - Church Secretary**  
**Church Office - 302-674-1980**  
**Email - [info@fbcdover.org](mailto:info@fbcdover.org)**  
**Calendar - last page**





## ***“A Reflection of the New Normal”***

One of the things that we can hear nowadays is the phrase “The New Normal.” In other words, this will be our new normal. This includes wearing of masks in public places, having a travel pass wherever you go, social or physical distancing, daily disinfection, taking vitamins, and many others. The way of life in the last 10 years has been and will be drastically changed. For Christians, what is the new normal? Actually, and let this sink in our hearts and minds — being a Christian, accepting Jesus Christ in our lives, has been and will always result in a new normal.

Why is this so?

*First*, the normal thing in this world is to be selfish.

It is ingrained in our nature to be selfish. This is the consequence of a fallen world. We always think of ourselves only, and how we can take advantage of the situation. And this continues to be the situation even in the midst of a pandemic. There are still hoarders, exploitative business practices like overpricing, and rumors of corruption. But if you have Jesus Christ in your life, the new normal for you is not to be selfish but to be selfless. You now bear each other's burden. You now love your neighbor as you love yourself. You now take care of others.

*Second*, the normal thing in this world is to exercise your freedom and forget about your moral responsibility.

We are to be reminded that the concept of justice and moral obligation comes from the Bible. All laws in this world can find its way to the Ten Commandments. If you do not believe in God, then you are not bound by ethics and morality found in the Bible. You can do what you want and just be subject to the laws of the land. But if you profess to be a Christian, you are bound to much

more. Jesus said, “walk the extra mile.” The Bible has a lot of “extra mile” commands. You may start reading Matthew chapters 5 to 7 for the commands of Jesus.

So, as a Christian, we have been living a new normal already. Let us continue to be examples of what it means to live a Christ-like life. Let us abide by the guidelines set forth by our government but more than that, let us not forget to live out the guidelines set forth by the Lord Jesus Christ!

*Let us continue to honor & glorify our Risen Lord as we celebrate our Nation's Independence Day.*

*May God bless us all.*

*Contributed by Romeo Limson*



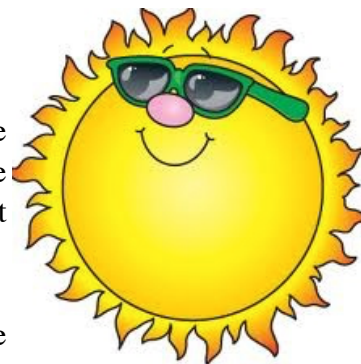
**Sermons are now available on the church's website, [fbcdover.org](http://fbcdover.org) under the title "Sermons". Or, if you prefer, you may request a CD copy of a Sunday's sermon by contacting the church office.**

Please place your used ink and toner cartridges in the labeled box located under the table inside the downstairs entrance. There is also a labeled 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. Thank you.



*Dear Sisters in Christ,*

Happy July 4<sup>th</sup>! Praying that this newsletter finds you all well and surviving the quarantine. As the restrictions are lessening and the State is re-opening, please observe precautions as you venture out. Remember to wear your mask and keep your 6-foot distancing. God is in control, so have faith and do not fear.



We have a final total for the Regional Project. A check for \$2,210.00 was sent to the ABWOPAD Treasurer. We actually have some eggs left that are still available for sale, but it was decided that any money raised from these eggs will be added towards next year's amount for the 2021 Regional Project, which has not been reported, at this time. Thank you to all who sold, helped prepare and purchased eggs this year.

As you know, we were not able to have our Spring Dinner/Installation of Officers in May. We have some offices that need to be filled. They are Secretary, Treasurer, and Coordinator of White Cross. If you have an interest in any of these offices, please contact me at [mesteinhoff@gmail.com](mailto:mesteinhoff@gmail.com) or 302-228-9301. We want to thank Micki Hooks, Agnes Robinson and Glenda Case for their service in these positions.

I will be calling an ABWM Board Meeting this month. We will most likely meet in the Fellowship Hall. I will be contacting members of the Board with details. As you have heard from Pastor Dan on the Sunday broadcast, the church is planning on resuming worship services at the church starting July 19<sup>th</sup>. Details will be available prior to that date. We will continue to broadcast the service, for those who do not feel comfortable with coming to the church for worship.

*Margaret E. Steinhoff, President of ABWM of FBC Dover*



**Mary Bonar/Rita  
Chapman Circle**  
Rita is a missionary to the  
Democratic Republic  
of the Congo  
Leader: Jo Rolison



**Joyce Reed Circle**  
Joyce is a missionary to  
IberoAmerica and the Caribbean  
Leader: Sue Moore

### **Ann Clemmer Circle**

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







## Birthdays

Kathy Becker	7/02
George Glading	7/05
Patricia Riddle	7/7
Charity King	7/16
Faeen Reynolds	7/16
Barbara Gilsdorf-Jones	7/20
Irv Culver	7/21
Chuck Fithian	7/27
Isaac Yarsiah	7/27
Ikegal Lenyee	7/30
Lester Blakeman, Sr.	7/31
Jerome Dunlap	7/31

## Anniversaries

Salvatore & Veronica Manno	7/13	46 years
Tom & Patricia Ward	7/19	17 years
Mike & Debbie Metzger	7/21	47 years
Harry & Diane Anthony	7/23	55 years

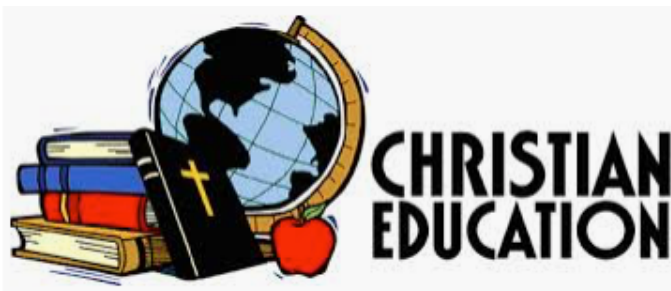
## Comfort Shawl Ministry



Soft fleece, sewing machines, colorful yarn, crochet hooks, and knitting needles in the hands of about 16 dedicated people, supported by lots of prayer have touched the lives of over 450 people during the past four years of this ministry! That's what Glenda Case informed our group in her "farewell letter" to us last month. We will miss her faithful guidance and send her on with our appreciation and prayers.

Even though our monthly meetings, on the third Monday of each month at 1:00 PM have been on hold, we have all been busy creating shawls so this ministry may continue. This September, as circumstances allow, we will gather in the Fellowship Hall for a time of encouragement, fellowship and prayer. We welcome anyone who would like to share in this ministry to join us. Even if you are not "crafty" there are many other ways you can support this ministry, so if you have any questions, please contact Janis Renz at 609-346-3148. Most importantly, if you know of someone in need of God's comfort in the form of a hand-made shawl, please contact the church office.

Janis Renz



Christian Education  
Committee Meeting  
July 21, 2020, 6:00 PM



I would like to thank everyone for the prayers and cards on my behalf since my accident on 6/13. I truly appreciate them all.  
Sal Manno



The Board of Missions is looking for an individual or couple interested in becoming the new **Food Pantry Coordinator(s)** by participating in an internship with Willis Case through the summer and taking over leadership of the Food Pantry in the fall.

Job duties include the business end of the Food Pantry such as keeping the books, providing monthly reports to the Board of Missions, organizing the fall food drive, and Thanksgiving and Christmas food baskets.

If you are interested in this rewarding opportunity, please contact the church office at (302) 674-1980.





We need **volunteers** to help with maintaining the lawn at First Baptist Church. This is an excellent opportunity for those who love the church and a great way to serve. If you are willing to volunteer and help mow a section of the lawn, please contact the church office at 302-674-1980 at your earliest convenience.



Thank you,  
Harry Anthony, Chair,  
Board of Trustees



## Here's What's Happening at our Church!



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!**



### Wednesday Evening Bible Study & Prayer Time Dinner at 6PM

in the Fellowship Hall  
followed at 7PM by Bible  
Study and a Children's  
Program.

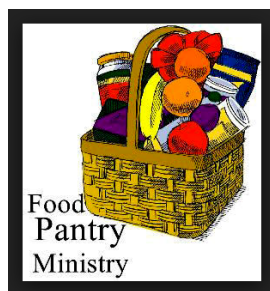
**ON HOLD FOR NOW**



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

### Stuff the Pantry @ First Baptist

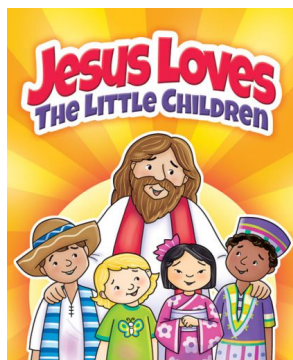
Grocery bags are located just outside the sanctuary and include suggested items needed to stock the FBC Food Pantry. Return the bag the next Sunday and place it under the Food Pantry sign in the narthex. This is a mission outreach for our needy residents in the community.



**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](mailto:secretary@fbcdover.org)



Fairview Elementary School's

### Good News Club

**Pray for the Children**

**Volunteers needed to share in this ministry.  
Come, sit and enjoy getting to know these  
precious children. No skills required.**



### 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? Contact the church office for more information about having 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 July

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	1	2	3	4 
<b>Scheduled activities subject to changes. Check with the Church Office for final dates and times.</b>						
5 11:00 Worship Online	6	7  7:00 Deacons	8	9	10  10:00 Missions Mtg.	11  9:00 Landscaping Workday  9:00 Coordinating Committee Mtg.
12 11:00 Worship Online  12:30 Trustees Mtg. Teleconference	13	14	15  August Newsletter Articles Due	16	17	18
19  Services Resume 11:00 Worship	20	21  6:00 Christian Education Mtg.	22	23	24	25
26  11:00 Worship	27	28	29	30	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.