



# The First Baptist Church of Dover

301 Walker Rd., Dover, DE 19904

October 2020 Newsletter



## Contact Us

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Calendar - last page

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

## The First Baptist Church of Dover

will gather in the sanctuary for  
worship  
on Sunday,  
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.

# From the Pastor's Desk



**We have never done it this way before.** That is a phrase that we have both said and heard quite a bit in the past few months. That is usually a phrase that churches hear when new ideas are suggested that might involve change. Well, in 2020, everything that we have been doing is something that we've never done nor did we ever expect.

After being closed only one Sunday in March we began recording and posting worship services the following week



and then on July 19 we took on the challenge of in-person worship. We're wearing masks, are socially distanced, have hand-sanitizer available and have carefully cleaned the sanctuary, restrooms and touchable surfaces. Yet we are still recording services and posting those on YouTube, Facebook and on our website ([fbcdover.org](http://fbcdover.org)). Nearly 70 worshipers are gathering in person and many of you are among those who are participating online. I hope you will invite friends and family members to join you or to tune in online with us.

September 20 was the last Sunday that Mike and Janis Renz were with us in worship as residents of Dover. After a number of years here, Mike has retired and they have moved to Gordonville, PA that is not far from Lancaster. While a part of our church family Mike preached several times allowing me to be out of town with family and was a vital part of a Pastoral Relations Task Force. Janis used her gifts with the Shawl ministry, was on the Worship Committee and was active in many other ways. Both enjoyed working with children in VBS. We wish them many blessings and will miss them here.



In just the past few weeks a new bench was placed at the entry to the church building. This marble bench matches the other one that has been there for years. We are honored that this was donated in memory of Bill and Pat Livingston and one of his favorite verses of scripture is etched on the front – This is the day which the Lord hath made, we will rejoice and be glad in it.

We have not been able to have a congregational Business meeting since our annual meeting in January not gathering as we normally do on Wednesday evenings. Following our time of worship on Sunday, October 11, we will have a brief meeting. We hope that you will plan to be present as we look forward to what God has in store for us in the days ahead.

***In the Hope and Joy of Christ,  
Rev. Dan Taylor***



## *“Heed the Warning”*

Nowadays, you can see a lot of warnings like “Wear a facemask”, “No facemask, no entry”, “No face shield, no mask, no ride”, “Senior Citizens especially have very limited access to the outside world, etc.”, “Be honest with your travel history and possible exposure”, and many more. Even with these warnings, you can still see a lot of people who are not heeding it. This is the reason why the transmission of COVID-19 continues.

In the Bible, we can also read about stiff-necked people who did not listen to the warnings of God through the prophets.

“The LORD warned Israel and Judah through all His prophets: “Turn from your evil ways. Observe my commands and decrees, in accordance with the entire Law that I commanded your ancestors to obey and that I delivered to you through my servants the prophets”. But they did not listen and were stiff-necked as their ancestors, who did not trust the LORD their God.

### **What can we learn from these verses?**

*A)* God continues to warn people not to do evil things.

Since God has endowed us with the freedom of choice, we can either choose to obey or disobey God. God’s commandments are clearly written in the Bible. It is up to us to heed it or not. Just remember that when you do not obey God’s commands, there are corresponding consequences.

*B)* God calls people to be His mouthpiece.

In the Bible, we can read how God has called different people to be a prophet, judge, king, priest, apostle, pastor, teacher and many more. This means that in every

generation, God sends people to warn other people to choose what is right and to shun what is wrong.

If God calls us to be His mouthpiece, then accept it. It is a noble calling. It is difficult because sometimes you will be speaking to people who refuse to listen, but it is rewarding when you see someone surrender his or her life to God.

Let us do our part in heeding the warning. Let us be responsible citizens of our country. Above all, let us be exemplary Christians who live out God’s commandments and also, do our sacred duty to warn others to turn from their wicked ways.

*May God bless us all as we follow and obey the word of God.*

*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.



The following printer ink cartridges are available. If you can use them, please contact Vicky Smith at 302-674-1980.

**1 HP 564 ~ 1 HP 920  
Several Epson 200 & 220**



## Happy October –

Dear Ladies –

Welcome back to Circle. The Circles will begin meeting again in October in The Davis Fellowship Hall where we can social-distance around the tables. If you don't feel good about coming out to meetings yet, no problem. I'm sure that your Circle Leader will keep you informed as to what occurred at your meeting. Just to review the guidelines that were set up at the August 18<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting for the Circles:



1. All Circle Meetings will take place in the Davis Fellowship Hall. They have placed a large circle of round tables at the end of the Hall near the doors to the courtyard. We can meet there while still social-distancing.
2. Masks need to be worn during the meetings (except when eating 12). If you are in need of one, let me know.
3. If you have refreshments at your meeting, they should be individual bottles of water and the snacks need to be ones that are pre-packaged. Examples would be packs of crackers, muffins, etc.
4. ABWM Sunday was postponed. Not really a good time to have it now. Hopefully we can reschedule it later in the year.
5. We have a very nice balance in our checking account at this time, so it was decided that there isn't a need this year for a voluntary assessment to be collected. If things change, we will revisit this option.

Your Circle Books will be available at your first meeting. Hopefully, I will have been able to get information as to our White Cross quotas for this year. Nothing has been available so far. The Regional Project will be that same as last year. They have decided to continue it.

I pray you are well and have been staying safe and look forward to seeing you at your October Circle meeting.

*Blessings - Margaret*



### **Mary Bonar/Rita Chapman Circle**

**Rita is a missionary to the  
Democratic Republic  
of the Congo**

**Leader: Jo Rolison**

**Oct. 6, 10:00 ~ Fellowship Hall**



### **Joyce Reed Circle**

**Joyce is a missionary to  
IberoAmerica and the Caribbean**

**Leader: Sue Moore**

**Oct. 3, 10:00 ~ Fellowship Hall**

### **Ann Clemmer Circle**

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

**Oct. 1, 1:00 ~ Fellowship Hall**







## Food Pantry Reminder

We will soon be collecting 12-15 pound turkeys for the Food Pantry Thanksgiving baskets. Again, this year we are collecting 25 turkeys for the Thanksgiving baskets and 25 turkeys for the Christmas baskets for needy families in our community. Please be on the lookout for sales of turkeys in the near future. Thank you once again for your support of this important community ministry.

## Butterfly Pin



This butterfly pin was found in the upper parking lot several weeks ago. If you recognize this pin and it belongs to you, please call the church office so that I can return it to you.

Thank you and have a blessed day! Vicky Smith



Christian Education Committee Meeting  
October 20, 2020, 6:00 PM

If anyone is interested in a free plug-in electric mower, please contact the church office or Harry Anthony.



Comfort Shawl  
Ministry



Even though our monthly meetings, on the third Monday of each month at 1:00 PM have been on hold, the dedicated members of this group have all been busy creating shawls so this ministry can continue. This October, as circumstances allow, we will gather in 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 aren't "crafty" there are many other ways you can support this ministry, so if you have any questions, please contact Sue Moore. 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.



## Sanctuary Flower Arrangements

All the dates have been filled for Sunday Sanctuary Flowers for 2020. Thank you to all of you who responded to the openings on the calendar. Look for the flyer that will be available in the coming months for 2021. We also hope to have a flyer for Poinsettias for Christmas. The flowers have been a beautiful addition to the Sanctuary on Sunday mornings at worship.

## From the Board of Missions



Operation  
Christmas  
Child

Empty shoe boxes are in the Narthex and on the bench just outside the secretary's office. Please fill & return them on the following dates:

10/04 ~ 10/11 ~ 10/18 ~ 10/25



# Anniversaries

Danny & Victoria	9 years	10/15
Richard & Gaynor	5 years	10/17
Cliff & Violet Cannon	65 years	10/22

Gerri Lee	10/02
Joyce Lake	10/04
Beryl Gerhard	10/09
Jake Fithian	10/10
Barbara McCarty	10/10
Dan Taylor	10/10
Michelle Rogers	10/10
Dorothy Kerr	10/12
Pat Roberts	10/15
Keni Zheng	10/20
Liooul Tilahun	10/21
Gladys Hutchins	10/27
Debbie Geiser	10/29

# Birthdays



**A huge thank you to Chris Cottrell who was instrumental in securing a bike rack for the church. It was donated to First Baptist Church by Chris' friend, Fred Wimbrow, after Chris expressed to Fred a need for it. Also, thank you to Mark Moore for painting the bike rack. Now, individuals who chose to ride their bikes to church are able to safely secure them during services. Thank you Chris, Mark and Mr. Wimbrow for blessing First Baptist Church!**



# Landscape Work Day



Please come out and join us  
Saturday, October 17th, at 9am!  
*Your help is needed!*

If you are willing to volunteer or have questions,  
please contact Chris Cottrell at 302-363-1765.





## 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.

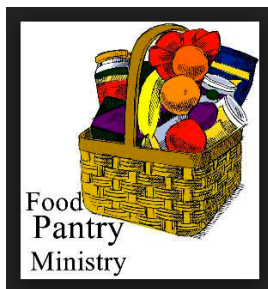
**ON HOLD FOR NOW**



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

### Stuff the Pantry @ First Baptist

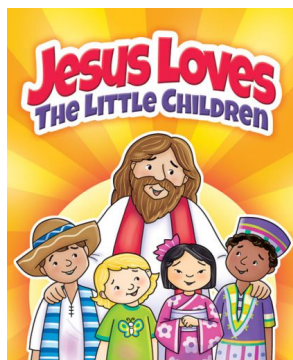
Grocery bags are located just outside the sanctuary and include suggested items needed to stock the FBC Food Pantry. Return the bag the next Sunday and place it under the Food Pantry sign in the narthex. This is a mission outreach for our needy residents in the community.



**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 October

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div> <b>Scheduled activities</b>  <b>subject to changes. Check</b>  <b>with the Church Office for</b>  <b>final dates and times.</b> </div>				1 1:00 Ann Clemmer Circle (Fellowship Hall)	2	3 10:00 Joyce Reed Circle (Fellowship Hall)
4 11:00 Worship	5	6 10:00 Bonar/ Chapman Circle (Fellowship Hall)  7:00 Deacons (Library)	7	8	9 10:00 Missions Mtg.	10 9:00 Coordinating Committee Mtg. 
11 11:00 Worship 12:30 Quarterly Business Mtg.	12 Church Office Closed 	13	14	15 November Newsletter Articles Dueß 	16	17 9:00 Landscape Workday
18 11:00 Worship 12:15 Trustees	19 1:00 Comfort Shawl Ministry	20 6:00 Board of Christian Education	21	22	23	24
25 11:00 Worship	26	27	28	29	30	31

## 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.