



# The First Baptist Church of Dover

301 Walker Rd., Dover, DE 19904

December 2020 Newsletter



## 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

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.

**Church Office Hours**  
**Monday 8:00 - 2:00**  
**Tuesday - Friday 9:00 - 3:00**



## ***“A Message from Mary”***

Christmas season is a very busy time of the year. Amidst this busyness, what suffers the most is our moment of reflection on why we celebrate Christmas in the first place.

Luke 2:19 gives us a model that amidst the mystery of the birth of Jesus, the unavailability of a room, the visit of the shepherds late at night with accompanying stories of a host of angels, one can still have a moment of reflection. The verse says, "But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart."

*What can we learn from Mary?*

*First*, we must intentionally have time for reflection.

The verse starts with the word "but" which means a contrast of the previous statements. This means that Mary was not swallowed up with the bustling activities. She found the time to meditate about the birth of the Savior of the world. The verse tells us that Mary "pondered" in her heart on what happened. Most probably, Mary remembered the visit of angel Gabriel, the joy of Elizabeth, the faithfulness of Joseph, and her sacrifices. She was also looking forward to how to take care of Jesus, and on how Jesus would become the Savior of the world.

*Second*, we must intentionally select memories that will go into our hearts. The verse tells us that Mary "treasured" all these things in her heart. When you decide to treasure a memory, then it will stay there. Let us choose to treasure positive memories that could continue to inspire and encourage us. Mary, most probably, drew from the memory of the birth of Jesus when she, later on, became a single parent, and up to the time when Jesus was crucified. Mary was strengthened by her memory.

So in this Christmas season, let us find the time to meditate, treasure and recollect memories that could help us move forward into another year in our lives. May we never forget to ponder why we celebrate Christmas in the first place - *the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ*.

*Merry Christmas to everyone!*

*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**

Dear Ladies – Merry Christmas!

As we enter into this Advent Season, may we keep our focus on the wonderful gift from God in the form of the birth of His son, Jesus Christ. 2020 has been a crazy year. Isn't it reassuring that, in all of this uncertainty, we have the constant promise of God's love for us...that God is in control. Faith NOT Fear.



Each Circle will be celebrating Christmas together in their own way this month. During this pandemic, we have been able to gather together safely, as sisters in Christ. I have enjoyed attending each of your monthly meetings and sharing with the ladies. Each of your Circles had an interesting and informative program for Baptist Women's Day of Prayer, different but lovely. Thank you for allowing me to join your Circle and share in your Sisterhood.



The Board will have a meeting on Tuesday, December 8<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Come with your ideas for our Day of Renewal in February. I pray that things will be such that we will be able to gather together for our Day of Renewal.

Wishing you all a Joyous Advent Season!

Blessings,

*Margaret*



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

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

**Leader: Jo Rolison**

**Dec. 1, 10:00 ~ Fellowship Hall**



### **Joyce Reed Circle**

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

**Leader: Sue Moore**

**Dec. 3, 11:30 ~ Piazza Mia**

### **Ann Clemmer Circle**

**Ann is a missionary to Eastern  
Congo & South Sudan**

**Leader: Lois Glading**

**Dec. 3, 1:00 ~ Fellowship Hall**





If you are interested in ordering Poinsettias this year and do not attend Sunday services, you may reach out to Vicky Smith prior to Thursday, December 6<sup>th</sup> to let her know. You will also need to send your check to the church by December 6<sup>th</sup>. The cost is \$15.00 per Poinsettia and write "Poinsettia" on the memo line of your check. She will need the following information:

Total No. of Plants: \_\_\_\_\_

Given in Memory or Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Plant(s) are to be picked up by the donor after the Christmas Eve Service on December 24<sup>th</sup>.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact either Margaret Steinhoff or Vicky Smith.

Thank you.



# Birthdays

Jerusha	Yarsiah	12/01
Suzanne	Murr	12/08
Vicky	Smith	12/09
Rennie	Quible	12/14
Thomas	Ward	12/15
Kweeta	Lenyee	12/20
Myra	McDermott	12/20
Jerome	Rogers	12/22
Amber	Kelley	12/24
Sam	Geiser	12/25
Jacob	Septer	12/27
Jim	Kerr	12/28
Maureen	Cannon	12/30
Emily	Saunderson	12/31

*Comfort Shawl  
Ministry*



This December, 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.



Christian Education Committee Meeting  
December 17, 2020, 6:00 PM

# Anniversaries

Ray and Alice Murphey	34 years	12/19
-----------------------	----------	-------

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



## Christmas Card Project

If you are interested in participating in the Christmas Card Project this year and do not attend Sunday services, you may reach out to Vicky Smith prior to Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup> to let her know that you wish to participate and the name(s) that you want on the card. You will need to write "Christmas Card Project" on the memo line of your check in the amount that you would spend for postage for cards that you would send to the individuals at First Baptist. The money that is received will be sent to special American Baptist missionaries.



# Sanctuary Flowers



Anyone wishing to give flowers for the church worship services for the year **2021** may complete this form and mail it too the church office or place in the designated box in the Narthex. **You must fill out a separate sheet for each date you request.** The cost for the two vases is \$40.00.

If you have any questions, contact Margaret Steinhoff at 302-228-9301.

Your gift of flowers is a contribution to the church and is greatly needed and appreciated. FYI: Some flowers are more expensive (i.e. roses).

-----  
**Name**\_\_\_\_\_

**Address**\_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone #**\_\_\_\_\_

-----  
**Date Preferred**\_\_\_\_\_

**Type/Color of Flowers**\_\_\_\_\_

**What you would like your dedication to say**\_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*You will be contacted if the date you request is already taken. Every effort will be made to give you the date requested. Please complete a separate sheet for each date requested. **Thank you!**

First Baptist Church hosted a  
Craft and Vendor Fair on Saturday, November 7<sup>th</sup>.



Early morning set up!



Sarah Myers (Fair Coordinator) checking in vendors.



Harry Anthony passing out bags and water to attendees.





Some of the over 40  
crafter and vendors.



Tammy and Hannah Meyers  
with Rev. Taylor.

The Craft and Vendor Fair raised a total of \$835.00 for Missions. A huge thank you to Sarah Myers who coordinated the event. She spent many hours working hard to make this a successful event for First Baptist Church. She is hoping that this will be an ongoing event in the future. Not only does it support missions but is also an excellent way to expose First Baptist Church to our community.



## 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.

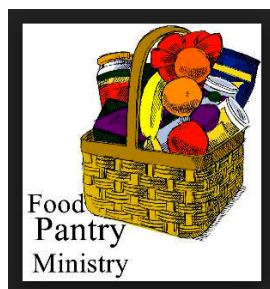
**ON HOLD FOR NOW**



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

### Stuff the Pantry @ First Baptist

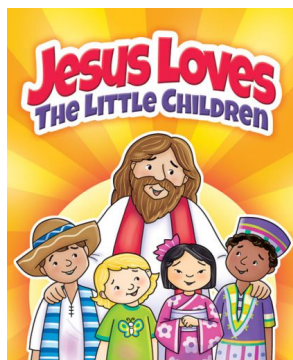
Grocery bags are located just outside the sanctuary and include suggested items needed to stock the FBC Food Pantry. Return the bag the next Sunday and place it under the Food Pantry sign in the narthex. This is a mission outreach for our needy residents in the community.



**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 December

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

## 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.