



The First Baptist Church of Dover

301 Walker Rd., Dover, DE 19904

August 2021 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
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.

**Face Masks
are now optional.**

For more information check
our Facebook page and
the church website.

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



It is hard to believe that June and July have gone by so quickly and we turn the page to August. So much has happened in just a short time this Summer. In the life of our congregation, we celebrated the lives of two men of faith who passed away. We lost Al Sansbury on June 13 and Leon Prescott on July 1. Both men had been dedicated Christian witnesses to their family and friends.

August

We were blessed to share in the dedication of two children and their families in June. The great grandson of Wasana Sudler, King Warren, and his mother, Ayana Garvin and family and friends were in worship on Sunday, June 13 for a special time of sharing. Just two weeks later it was a privilege to dedicate Kaitlyn McIntosh along with her family, Youjay and Felix McIntosh and little brother Franklin on June 27. Youjay and her mother-in-law Tete, are new members of our church family and we are glad for their presence among us.

On Sunday, June 27, we had a wonderful church gathering with a picnic following worship. This was our first all-church get-together in over a year and a half and we counted at least 90 people. Since then, we have removed the tape that marked off the pews giving us safe distancing in the sanctuary as of Sunday July 18. On that Sunday two adult Sunday School classes began meeting back in their respective classrooms. We give thanks that so many of our congregation have received COVID19 vaccinations and now masks are optional for those who come into the sanctuary.

I am so thankful for the many volunteers who give their time to maintain and beautify the property around the church building. There are those who have a routine of cutting and trimming the grass and trees and others who are continuing to work on the landscaping as they trim, weed, mulch and add new plants. All of this makes turning off Walker Road onto the church property much more welcoming. Thank you for giving your time and energy as gifts to God. There are monthly landscape days scheduled for others who might want to participate.

This month there will be times scheduled for clean-up and fix-up days when those of us who can help inside with a variety of tasks will help prepare the building for welcoming others now that we are fully re-opening. There will be special times to gather and not only clean, paint, sort, and repair, but also to pray for the spaces in the building and for those who will be coming and using the facility. Together we look forward to how God will use us in the coming days.

This month our children will have the opportunity to participate in a fun Vacation Bible School. Two other congregations are joining together for VBS and we will join with Christ Church Episcopal and Saint Andrew's Lutheran on Monday – Thursday, August 9-12 from 5 PM to 8:30 PM for God's Wonder Lab – Jesus Does the Impossible. Saint Andrew's will host at their facility at 425 North Dupont Highway. Those who want to register children, grandchildren or others, please contact Rebecca Taylor.



On Sunday afternoon, August 8, a special service of remembrance for Anna McKinney will be held in the sanctuary at 2 PM. She passed away last year on August 20, 2020, and a graveside service was held at the Harmony Grove Cemetery near Pruntytown, WV. We will welcome her family and worship and share together.

A special gathering for new church members and those who have been attending and want to know more about our congregation will be held after worship on Sunday, August 22. Individuals will be contacted and invited to be a part of this gathering. It is the plan to share about the history and the mission of the church as well as opportunities for service and ministry in the days ahead.

Other plans are being made for a special emphasis this fall that will involve the whole church as we grow together and are transformed as God's witnesses in this community.

May God continue to give you peace in these days.

Rev. Dan Taylor



Birthdays

Teresa Gedney	8/2
Jane Meder	8/2
Cindy Cannon	8/4
Twyla Hinzman	8/5
Mark Knott	8/6
Bethel Chang	8/6
Ralph Hinzman	8/6
Morgan Stiegler	8/9
Aaron King	8/12
Mike Metzger	8/15
Phil Steinhoff	8/19
Ed Gerhard	8/20
Clarke Reynolds	8/23
Joan Foster	8/27
Gaynor Waltz	8/29
Clement Chang	8/31

Anniversaries

Terry and Terry Lentz	8/1	40 years
Gene and Sue Moore	8/5	49 years
Dan and Rebecca Taylor	8/13	33 years
Larry and Joyce Buckley	8/26	60 years
Ralph and Twyla Hinzman	8/27	61 years
Steve and Teresa Gedney	8/27	43 years



Thank you for the concern, cards, prayers, and offers to help during my recent hospitalization and recovery from knee replacement surgery. I felt your prayers and God's

healing and am doing well! Thanks!!
Lois Glading

Comfort Shawl Ministry



The Prayer Shawl Ministry members enjoyed a luncheon at Hall's Restaurant to end this season. We will start meeting again in September. Hopefully, by that time we will be able to take some of our 55+ shawls to the hospital and nursing homes. If you know of someone who needs a prayer shawl, let us know so we can get one to them.



**Join our Church
Services
Online**

YouTube.com at

First Baptist Church of Dover DE



Food Pantry Needs

The Food Pantry is in need of the following items:

Average size boxes of cereal
Macaroni and Cheese

If you are able to donate these items, please place them in the basket in the narthex or in the tub located outside of the Food Pantry. Thank you.



Dear Sisters in Christ,

I took last month off and I hope you will forgive me. I pray you have been able to enjoy your summer and have been able to stay cool in this very hot and humid weather. Delaware is certainly not the state to live in if you can't deal with heat and humidity.

September will be here before we know it. And with September will be the starting up of Circle Meetings again. Also, in September, we will be celebrating American Baptist Women's Sunday, an event we weren't able to celebrate in 2020. It will be the third Sunday of the month, September 19th. The Board had their planning meeting on June 22nd and decided that instead of having a luncheon at the church following the morning worship service, we would all go out to lunch on Saturday, September 18th at Piazza Mia and hold our Installation of Officers at that time. You will get more details at your September meeting. The ABWM Board has a meeting on Tuesday, August 24th at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

So, until next month, enjoy the rest of your summer. With the opening up of the state, we are able to get together again. Stay safe, be well and God Bless!!

Your sister in Christ,
Margaret



**Mary Bonar/Rita
Chapman Circle**

Rita is a missionary to the
Democratic Republic
of the Congo

Leader: Jo Rolison

No Meeting Until September



Joyce Reed Circle

Joyce is a missionary to
IberoAmerica and the Caribbean

Leader: Sue Moore

No Meeting Until September

Ann Clemmer Circle

Ann is a missionary to Eastern
Congo & South Sudan

Leader: Gaynor Waltz

No Meeting Until September



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!

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.



Wednesday Evening Bible Study & Prayer Time Dinner at 6PM

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

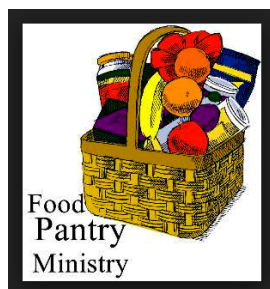
ON HOLD FOR NOW



**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

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 Baptist Women's Ministries.



Get Ready, Get Set, Grow

As we move toward a more open worship and learning environment, there are several learning opportunities that will become available.

1. Adult Sunday School Classes are now available at 9:30 on Sunday mornings. The Berean Class, using David C. Cook/Bible In Life materials, is led by Mike Metzger. That class meets just off the narthex in the first room on the right.

The Seekers Class began meeting again in person on Sunday, July 18. The class uses Lifeway/Bible Studies for Life material and is led by Les Blakeman. They meet in a classroom on the right side of the platform in the fellowship hall.

Additional Sunday School classes will begin on Sunday, September 12. If you would like to be a part of this teaching/growing ministry please contact Veronica Manno, Barbara McCarty, Debbie Metzger or Rebecca Taylor.

2. August 1 – September 5 we will begin “Kids Konnection!” Children three years old up to ten years are invited to sit in the Sunday worship service until they are dismissed. At that time, they will follow a leader to a room just down the hall from the sanctuary for a time of learning at their age-level with crafts, music, and Bible stories. Please bring your children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, and invite others with children to join you in worship. If you are interested in helping in any way with our young learners, please contact Rebecca Taylor through the church office.

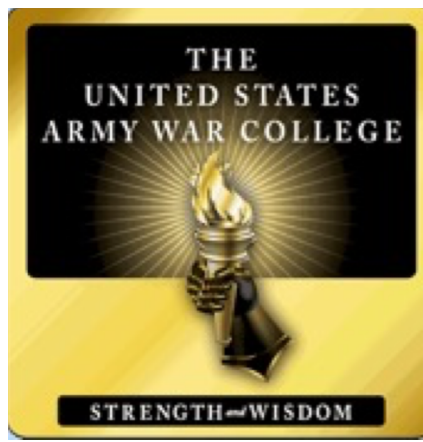
3. August 9-12, 2021 – A Vacation Bible School opportunity is being jointly sponsored by St. Andrew’s Lutheran Church and Christ Episcopal Church and we will join with them. **God’s Wonder Lab** will be held at St. Andrew’s Lutheran Church, 425 North Dupont Highway, starting each evening at 5:00 PM with supper and finishing at 8:30 PM. It will be a time of learning that God does the impossible! If you have children to enroll or would like to volunteer, please contact Rebecca Taylor through the church office.

Board of Christian Education



Larry and Joyce Buckley

On August 26, 2021, Joyce and Larry will celebrate 60 years of marriage. Their love story is quite unique. From childhood friends to high school sweethearts to happily married, they have loved each other for most of their lives. God’s blessings continue to shower Joyce and Larry and their family. What an amazing model of true love and devotion!



Another Adventure for the Rogers'...

**A fantastic honor, privilege and opportunity to learn and develop as a leader;
but also a hardship to endure.**

Jerome Rogers, vice-chair of the Board of Deacons

In July of 2019, my unit began accepting applications for several of the top Professional Military Education (PME) schools. As a new Lieutenant Colonel, I was eligible to apply to the National War College, The Eisenhower Institute (both in Washington DC), Air War College (AL), The Army War College (Carlisle, PA) and National Security Fellowship at Harvard to name a few. Needless to say all are very prestigious year-long schools and are quite competitive to attend in *residence*. It is also important to note that while they each have a different approach, they all meet the important academic requirement for senior military officers to expand their scope of influence. These courses provide advanced instruction on leadership and military strategy across a range of interests, preparing and qualifying officers for higher levels of leadership. With a lot of prayer and discussions with my family I went on to apply to them all. The application process was very rigorous, assembling all of my accolades, procuring letters of recommendation from Colonels and General Officers took a great deal of time and effort, but the idea of continued learning and mastering my craft has always been a very important part of my work ethic and motivation to persist in this endeavor of service.

In December of 2019 I learned that I was *NOT* selected for either school. Friends and mentors of mine explained that I was a very good candidate but they weren't surprised by the Air Force's decision because of how recent it was that I was promoted. I was technically still a Major when I started my application and quite young as a 37 year old Lieutenant Colonel. I was very disappointed as my ambitious plans were thoroughly disrupted, but I remembered in that moment; my wife's favorite Bible verse from the book Jeremiah [29:11-12] "For I know the plans I have for you...plans to prosper you and not harm you, plans to give you hope and a future...". This verse came clearly into focus not long after the disappointing news, when I learned that I had been by-name recommended for 2020 Fellowship of Leadership Delaware Inc. (LDI), a local non-profit organization that sets out to affect positive change in the Delaware Community by attracting young leaders; developing, informing and connecting them; and then also challenging them with being the engines of positive change and support for our state. This opportunity would not have been possible if I had gone off for the PME. Applying and competing for a fellowship with LDI was certainly among the most difficult processes I'd ever experienced; but I was accepted and was then able to deeply invest my focus and attention into this fantastic organization. I learned so much about leadership, cooperation, and how our state functions. That year long experience with LDI had prepared me for more than I could have expected. I was especially blessed that it allowed me to remain here at home during the year of COVID19, when my family, my community and my unit/organization needed me the most. God's plan proved to be way better than mine; as it says in Proverbs 16:9 "In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps". As my year with LDI came to a close I decided to submit an application again to my military leadership to attend a PME a course. Surprisingly, on the same December day we graduated from LDI, I was presented an acceptance letter to the US Army War College Class of 2022! I was in a state of shock, as mentioned it is very competitive and prestigious to attend a service's senior school in residence; what makes it even more amazing is that rather than going to the Air Force's War College, I'll be representing the Air Force and Air National Guard at the school of a sister service.

I will begin this year-long endeavor in August 2021, and it will require me to live in Carlisle, PA – about 3 hours from Dover DE. My wife Michelle, who is the Commander of the 512th Force Support Squadron at Dover Air Force Base, will not be able to make the trip with me as her duty to her unit and our family require her to remain full-time serving the men and women of 512th Airlift Wing. We have endured family hardships before during times when one of us were called to serve or train elsewhere. Though this time will surely be different as our girls Ava and Zoe will be starting kindergarten in the fall and I will unfortunately yet certainly miss some of that action. There is never a good time to be separated but I'm thankful for being accepted when I did, I feel so much

more prepared for the endeavor and so is our family. I am also thankful that unlike many other hardships of separation we've endured, we'll be able to spend most weekends and holidays together. Finally, we always appreciate the prayers and support from our family, friends and Church congregation, that have always been there time and again supporting us as we navigate the paths our military service has put us on. We are forever grateful.

A bit more about the school:

The US Army War College educates and develops leaders for service at the strategic level while advancing knowledge in the global application of Landpower.



The purpose of US Army War College at this time in our Nation's history is to produce graduates from all our courses who are skilled critical thinkers and complex problem solvers in the global application of Landpower. Concurrently, it is our duty to the Army to also act as a "Think Factory" for Commanders and Civilian Leaders at the strategic level worldwide and routinely engage in discourse and debate on ground forces' role in achieving national security objectives. This is graduate level (Master's Degree) program that will expose students to a learning environment consisting of members of sister services and coalition partners.

Jerome Rogers

Vice Chairman Board of Deacons




**Masks are now optional at
First Baptist Church
Services & Activities**



for
Anna McKinney
August 8, 2021, 2:00 PM
in the Sanctuary

Here's what's happening in August

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Kids Konnection	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Kids Konnection 2:00 Anna McKinney Memorial Service (Sanctuary)	9 Vacation Bible School, August 9-12, 5:00-8:30 pm, at St. Andrews Lutheran Church	10 6:00 Christian Education Meeting	11	12	13	14 9:00 Landscaping Workday
15 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Kids Konnection	16 September Newsletter Articles Due 	17	18	19	20	21 9:00 Coordinating Committee
22 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Kids Konnection	23	24 9:30 ABWM (Fellowship Hall)	25	26	27	28
29 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Kids Konnection	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.