



The First Baptist Church of Dover

301 Walker Rd., Dover, DE 19904

December 2021 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.

**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

From the Pastor's Desk

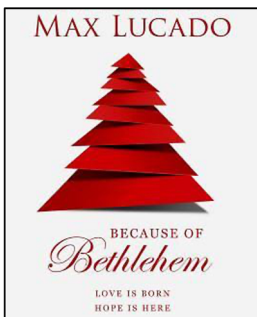


The year on the calendar is coming to an end this month, but on the church calendar our year is just beginning. The time of Advent as we wait and prepare for Christmas is always a new beginning. The stories that we will share in worship are familiar and they lead us to Jesus, but they are fresh with every re-telling. This year we will share

a theme during Advent that leads us to **Wait Upon the Lord**. We will wait with Abraham and Sarah. Isaiah declared the coming of the Lord and the people waited. Both Elizabeth and Mary waited from the birth of very special children. Even Zechariah's days of waiting for John's birth were filled with gratitude. Together as we wait for our Savior's birth, we too are filled with gratitude. I hope that you will join us throughout December as we worship and share together.



WAIT UPON
THE LORD



Each Wednesday during Advent Rebecca and I will be facilitating a study by Max Lucado titled, **Because of Bethlehem ... Love is Born, Hope is Here**. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 3:30 PM each week. We hope to have books for each person who attends so please call the office (302-674-1980) to register. We look forward to sharing this study with you.

Last year it was difficult for us as a church family to get together during December for any traditional holiday events. On Sunday, December 12 at 4:00 PM we will have a Christmas Tea in the Fellowship Hall. This has been a church tradition for many years until last year. We will gather again to sing carols, enjoy special foods, and a Christmas themed program. Put it on your calendar and plan to attend.



On Christmas Eve, Friday, December 24, plan to invite your family and friends and join with the church family at 7:00PM for a Christmas Eve Service. A candlelight service, beautiful music and a message about the One we've prepared for and waited for.

December is a most wonderful time of celebration, the Chrismon trees are up in the sanctuary, wreaths adorn the sconces around the room, the Advent wreath is prepared, and we wait and prepare in anticipation. Together, let us celebrate Jesus.

In the Hope and Peace of Christ,
Rev. Taylor



“O Come Little Children”

Did you notice how little time we have to prepare for Christmas? Getting gifts, cleaning house, baking, decorating, practicing for programs never seem to all get done. However, the time between Thanksgiving and Christmas is the longest time of the year to a child who celebrates all the festivities surrounding the Holidays. Very little learning went on in my classroom, unless, it was me learning about the latest toys. That's when I'd get out the Christmas Around the World box or Customs in Different Countries box. A selection of various "Holiday" books appeared. For many years parts were given out to learn for a simple Christmas program after which we'd give the parents the gifts the children had made in school. And, of course, we sang our hearts out and learned Christmas Carols. That last school day we went caroling in the halls of school. It was amazing how much the children learned about geography, customs, and culture, once you could find a way to make that teaching fun.

**O come, little children, O come one and all,
To Bethlehem haste, to the manger so small.
God's son for a gift has been sent you this night
To be your redeemer, your joy and delight.**

**He's born in a stable for you and for me.
Draw near by the bright gleaming starlight to see.
In swaddling clothes lying so meek and so mild.
And purer than angels the heavenly Child.**

**See Mary and Joseph, with love beaming eyes,
Are gazing upon the rude bed where He lies,
The shepherds are kneeling, with hearts full of love
While angels sing loud hallelujahs above.**

**Kneel down and adore Him with shepherds today,
Lift up little hands now and praise Him as they
Rejoice that a Saviour from sin you can boast,
And join in the song of the heavenly host.**

How many of you remember these lyrics of the old German carol penned by Christoph Von Schmid around 1850? It was set to music by Johann Abraham Peter Schultz. Von Schmid was a priest and schoolmaster. Seeing through the eyes of a schoolteacher (and Sunday School teacher), I can picture what the author was describing in this precious song. Children can also see the humble beginnings of our Lord and Savior. Even though he was to be a King among men, he wasn't rich with jewels and fancy clothing. They can relate as most are not born with lots of tangible wealth. Jesus was a regular child who led an average childhood. From what we know, He got excited about family gatherings, just as they do. Show them our Christmas when they get over excited. Be patient, be loving and kind. Take a time out together to talk about Jesus Christ and why God gave Him to us. Maybe even talk about why God gave them to us. Let them know how special they are to you and to God.

Enjoy all the trappings and festivities of Christmas!

Sue Moore

God Bless all of you at First Baptist!





Dear Circle Sisters:

It's the most wonderful time of the year – the time we celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. During this Advent Season, may we focus on the real reason for the season. With so much that has been going on in our world, it is easy to be distracted by all around us. If we place all our thoughts on this marvelous gift from God, we will have peace in our hearts and our lives.

Each of the Circles will be meeting in December to Celebrate together. Two of the groups will be meeting in a restaurant to share a meal and one circle will be meeting in the home of one of their members. We are so blessed to have our Circle Sisters and to share the closeness that we have for each other.

Please keep in prayer Twyla Hinzman, who has been placed on hospice, Jo Rolison, who is healing from a fall resulting in surgery, any of our other Circle sisters who have been ill or are recovering from surgery and our Special Circle Sisters. The power of prayer is a wonderful blessing.

There will be a Board meeting on Tuesday, Dec. 21st at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We will be making plans for our Day of Renewal on Saturday, Feb. 12th from 9-1 in the Fellowship Hall. Mark your calendars and plan to attend.

Wishing you a Blessed Christmas and a Joyous New Year!

Your sister in Christ,

Margaret



Mary Bonar/Rita Chapman Circle

Rita is a missionary to the
Democratic Republic
of the Congo
Leader: Jo Rolison

December 7th, 11:30,
Meeting at Joyce Buckley's



Joyce Reed Circle

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

December 4th, 11:30,
Meeting at Piazza Mia

Ann Clemmer Circle

Ann is a missionary to Eastern
Congo & South Sudan
Leader: Gaynor Waltz

December 2nd, 1:00,
Meeting at Vincenzo's





Birthdays

Suzanne Murr	12/8
Vicky Smith	12/9
Rennie Quible	12/14
Norman Clendaniel	12/14
Thomas Ward	12/15
Myra McDermott	12/20
Jerome Rogers	12/22
Amber Kelley	12/24
Jacob Septer	12/27
Jim Kerr	12/28
Emily Saunderson	12/31

Anniversaries

Ray and Alice Murphy 12/19 35 years

Dear Friends at First Baptist Church:

I really appreciate the many cards and expressions of concern you sent when I was in the hospital and rehab as a result of my fall. You certainly demonstrated your Christian love which was a witness to others.

Please continue to keep me in your prayers as I continue with physical therapy at home.

Mary Stewart



Comfort Shawl
Ministry



The next meeting will be December 20th and we will be meeting at Vincenzo's Restaurant at 11:30. 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



Thursday, 7:15pm
Telephone Prayer
Meeting



Masks are now optional if you are vaccinated.



Time, Talents, Treasure

The Stewardship Committee has just about finished their task for this year. Hopefully, those who attended our dinner on November 6 have decided what talents, how much time and how much treasure they want to share with our First Baptist Church members and friends. It has been the committee's delight to share our thoughts on Stewardship. We still have a lot to learn about caring for this big world He's entrusted to our care. Already, many of you have told us where you feel you can help. If you haven't and find you may still have a little to give, just contact Dick Smith, Agnes Robinson, Gerri Lee, or Sue Moore and we'll connect you with the right people to utilize your talent or time to its best. Just remember how much God loves you in this Advent Season.



XYZ
(extra years of zest)



If you are available during the day, XYZ will be meeting on Wednesday, December 8th at 11:30am at Grotto Pizza in Dover. Please sign up on the sign up sheet or call the church office to let us know you will be attending.



SANCTUARY FLOWERS



Anyone wishing to give flowers for the church worship services for the year **2022** 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!



As you prepare for Christmas, please remember our Special Interest Missionaries. You are invited to share in our **Christmas Card project**. In lieu of purchasing individual cards and stamps to mail to your friends at First Baptist Church, we ask that you make a monetary donation to the Christmas Card project by December 5th. The name of each contributor will be included in our 2021 Christmas Card. The card will be mailed to everyone on our church mailing list. The donations will be divided equally and sent to our six (6) special interest missionaries as a personal Christmas remembrance from our church. Envelopes are available at the Welcome Center.



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



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

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!



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.



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.

Here's what's happening in December

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 8:30 Community Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)	2 1:00 Ann Clemmer Circle (Vincenzo's) 7:15 Telephone Prayer Meeting	3	4 11:30 Joyce Reed Circle (Piazza Mia)
5 9:30 Advent Sunday School 11:00 Worship Kids Konnection	6	7 11:30 Bonar/ Chapman Circle (Joyce Buckley's) 3:30 Deacon's Mtg (Library)	8 8:30 Community Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)	9 7:15 Telephone Prayer Meeting	10	11
12 9:30 Advent Sunday School 11:00 Worship Kids Konnection 4:00 Christmas Tea	13	14 January Newsletter Articles Due  6:00 Christian Education Meeting	15 8:30 Community Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)	16 7:15 Telephone Prayer Meeting	17	18 9:00 Coordinating Committee (Library) 3:00 Milford Community Band Christmas Concert
19 9:30 Advent Sunday School 11:00 Worship Kids Konnection	20 11:30 Comfort Shawl Ministry (Vincenzo's)	21 9:30 ABWM Board Meeting (Fellowship Hall)	22	23 7:15 Telephone Prayer Meeting	24 Church Office Closed 7:00 Christmas Eve Service	25 Marry Christmas 
26 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Kids Konnection	27	28	29	30 7:15 Telephone Prayer Meeting	31 Church Office Closes at 12:00 PM	

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.