



The First Baptist Church of Dover

301 Walker Rd., Dover, DE 19904

March 2023 Newsletter



Contact Us

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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.



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



"Why do bad things happen to good people?"

March is a month of many changes. It begins with bitter temperatures and unpredictable weather conditions. But by the end of the month, signs of Spring can be seen. In school, we'd make paper plate puppets. One side was a lion and the other side was a lamb. Each morning we'd check the weather to see if it was a lion or lamb day and graph it. At the end of March, we'd see what our graph told us. The children could see patterns in the graph. They'd see how March was a month of transitions.

We, as a church, are beginning to go through a big transition. As the Search Committee begins its task of finding first a transition pastor and then a permanent pastor, many of your prayers will be needed, as well as, love, patience, and cooperation. We know God has someone in mind for us at FBC. We just have to go through the process set down by ABCOPAD to find that special someone. We will be collecting data and meeting pastors who will give trial sermons. We may ask for surveys to be completed. Please do your part by completing them and returning them to the committee. This whole process may take as long as eighteen months to complete or longer. At our business meetings, the committee will report on its progress.

Currently, the Search Committee is working

on a church profile. Prospective pastoral candidates want to know about the church family. That's why you were asked to fill out the demographic's survey. After that is completed, ABCOPAD will then check who's available as an interim pastor and try to direct them to FBC. Writing this document will take some time. We've already met four times. This committee is actively searching. Please continue to pray for them as they go through this process.

As deacons, we are asked to fill in when a pastor's service is needed. If you need help, you can call your deacon. We will try to do our best to guide you to whatever needs you may have. There are some local ministers who will be available depending on what your needs are. We, of course, cannot do marriages, funerals, or baptisms. We are able to refer you to someone who can provide those services. We can pray and comfort you, visit you, take you to appointments or for groceries or give you communion. We can also preach a sermon if necessary. By this time, you should have gotten a letter from your deacon with phone numbers to contact them. If they don't answer, please leave a brief message and they will return your call ASAP.

Let's pray together:

Dear Father, We thank You for our church family. They are a loving, faithful and understanding congregation. We thank You also for having had a pastor who showed us how to love You and worship You. We thank You in advance for Your guidance in finding the pastor You have in mind for us. We pray also for the continued fellowship we have with one another so that we can continue to be a loving family of Yours. In Jesus name, Amen.

Sue Moore



Dear Circle Sisters,

The ABWM ladies of First Baptist Church in Dover are preparing to make their fabulous Easter Eggs this year. We've decided not to change our price this year. We're hoping our sales will be such that we'll be able to compensate for the rise in prices for the ingredients. The ladies will be taking orders through the beginning of March. The cost remains \$3.00 per egg or 2 eggs for \$5.00. Order forms can be gotten from any ABWM lady or at the Welcome Table. Checks should be made out to "ABWM of FBC". If you do not wish to buy eggs but would like to contribute, you may make out a check to "ABWM of FBC" with Regional Project in the memo section.

Sue Moore



Mary Bonar Circle

Faye Yarbrough is a missionary
to the South Africa

Leader: Beryl Gerhard

March 7, 10:00 ~ Agnes Robinson's Home



Joyce Reed Circle

Joyce is Global Coordinator of
Spiritual Care

Leader: Margaret Steinhoff

March 4, 10:00 ~ Fellowship Hall

Ann Clemmer Circle

Ann is a missionary to Eastern
Congo - Goma

Leader: Thelma Schaller

March 9, 1:00 ~ Fellowship Hall



FRESH START



IN COSTA RICA

2023 REGIONAL PROJECT

Sue Hegarty is a Global Servant with International Ministries (IM) serving in Costa Rica. Her ministry is to come along side Nicaraguan immigrant women & children leaving situations of domestic violence.

Factors against them:

- Low education level (often less than 3rd grade) so job options are limited
- High level of prejudice against them in the general Costa Rican population
- Fathers of the children are not assisting in any way (financial or otherwise)
- No extended family support nearby or dysfunctional family relationships
- Often have 3+ children to provide for
- Come out of situations of domestic violence, often told by society and the church disregard abuse, and make the relationship work. They are coping with layers of trauma

Factors in their favor:

- Committed to providing for their children, not afraid of hard work and sacrifices
- Eager to learn new skills to work or get a better job
- Desperately for a better life and schooling for their children

What American Baptist Women's Ministries of Pennsylvania & Delaware can help provide:

- Emergency assistance (medical care, food, housing, etc.)
- Legalization of immigration status (obtaining documentation, paperwork, fees, transportation, or a lawyer)
- Formal education assistance (Tutoring of children and adults, supplying basic school supplies)
- Job skill training assistance (Registration and tuition assistance, supplies)
- Counseling for trauma (Some is free through the justice system; others need to draw on private counseling.)
- Group care/Pastoral care (Celebrations of special events and Bible studies with supplies and transportation)
- Publication of Bible studies (studies written for women and girls at risk, based on biblical women)



Sue Hegarty

PROJECT GOAL \$15,000.00

PROJECT BEGINS August 1, 2022 and ENDS July 31, 2023

Questions? Contact Sally Perry, Mission & Service Coordinator rasperryjelly@gmail.com

Donations can be made online <https://give.ministrylink.com/app/giving/abwmopad>
Or by check written to 'ABWMOPAD' with '2023 REGIONAL PROJECT' in the memo line.

Mail to ABWMOPAD Treasurer: Sally Breski, 1381 Butler Road, Worthington, PA 16262



YOUR SUPPORT CAN HELP WOMEN GET THEIR FRESH START IN COSTA RICA



America for Christ Offering 2023

Dear Members and Friends of First Baptist,

Jesus teaches us to “Love your neighbor as you love yourself” (Matthew 22:39). Our church follows the teaching of Jesus by reaching out to the community and providing for our neighbors’ needs, physical and spiritual alike.

American Baptist Home Mission Societies is promoting the 2023 America for Christ offering which seeks to raise \$1,500,000 to support American Baptist mission and ministries through our churches and community partners across the United States and Puerto Rico. The theme for this year’s America for Christ offering is “Grace Upon Grace”: “From his fullness we have received, grace upon grace. The law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.” (John 1:16-17, NRSVue) Our church will receive your gifts to the America for Christ offering throughout the month of March.

Our gifts to AFC support regions, including ABCOPAD, churches, and community organizations across the US and Puerto Rico with grants for a variety of purposes, including

- + Chaplaincy and spiritual caregivers support
- + Aid for children living in poverty
- + New, innovative ministries
- + Developing church leaders
- + Promoting discipleship

AFC dollars also fund scholarships for which our own members may apply, and our church is eligible to apply for ABHMS grants as well. ABHMS does not retain any AFC funds for operations or overhead. One hundred percent of our AFC dollars support vital ministries. AFC gifts also benefit Alaska Ministries, Asian Ministries, Latino Ministries, and Native American Ministries.

AFC 2023 empowers us to provide “Grace Upon Grace”. Please join me in giving generously to this year’s AFC offering to provide support and to share the Good News! Offering envelopes are available at the Welcome Table.

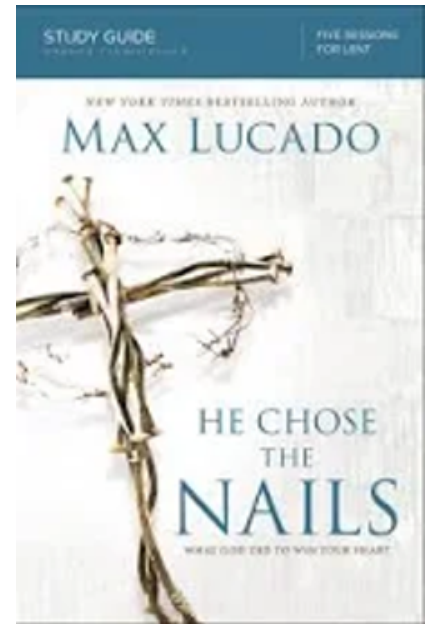
Lois Glading, for the Board of Missions

Lenten 2023

On Wednesday's starting February 22 at 5:30pm, we will be starting a Lenten Study called, He Chose The Nails (What God did to win your heart) by Max Lucado. This will be a six Wednesday study ending on April 5th. On Wednesdays we will start at 5:30pm with a light dinner and the study will begin at 6:30 and stop at 7:30. The sessions will have video along with group discussion.

Sessions Topics to include:

- He Chose to Be One of us.
- He Chose to Forgive Us
- He Chose to Invite Us into His Presence
- He Chose to Love Us forever
- He Chose to Give Us Victory
- He Chose to Give Us Confidence



Come join us for this time before Easter. Get in touch with the one who chose you.

Mike Metzger

Mission Display Case

Check out the Mission Display Case in Davis Fellowship Hall. It now showcases various Easter symbols. Of course, we know about the cross, Easter eggs, and bunnies. But did you know that the sand dollar is also a symbol of Easter? Take a look and read the Legend of the Sand Dollar.



**Don't Forget To Set Your
Clocks Forward**



**So Your Not Late For
Church!**



Sanctuary Flowers



Flower orders for the morning Worship Services in 2023 - are being received on a first come, first served basis. Order forms are available at the Welcome Table and a separate form should be used for each Sunday requested. The completed form may be placed in the Offering Boxes or given to Margaret Steinhoff. The open dates are as follows:

3/5, 3/19, 5/14, 6/4, 6/11, 6/18, 6/25, 8/13, 9/3, 9/17, 10/8, 10/29, 11/5, 12/10

Anyone wishing to give flowers for the church worship services for the year 2022 may complete this form and mail it to 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 \$50.00

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!**



Birthdays

John Kelley, Jr.	3/03
Rose Tumey	3/03
Daniel Macklin	3/04
Theresa Thornburg	3/05
Brian Jones	3/08
Marsha Kemp	3/10
Chris Cottrell	3/12
Lisa Clark	3/13
Karen Blakeman	3/14
Yassah Dennis	3/16
Scott Septer	3/20
Sue Moore	3/26
Richard Waltz	3/27
Brian Cunningham	3/31

Anniversary

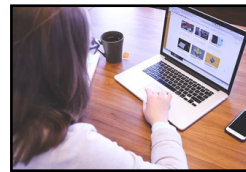
Ernie and Adelle Aloï	3/5	2 years
Aaron and Charity King	3/11	16 years
Donald and Ramona Scott	3/16	37 years
Norman and Lisa Clendaniel	3/17	44 years

Comfort Shawl Ministry



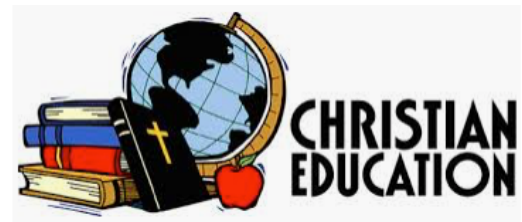
The next meeting will be March 20 and we will be meeting in the Fellowship Hall at 1:00.

These faithful ladies continue to knit, crochet, and sew prayer shawls to give our infirmed members and friends some warmth with prayer. If you're free the third Monday of each month at 1:00, please join us as we share fellowship and stitches for those who need a bit of comfort.



**Join our Church
Services
Online**

YouTube.com at
First Baptist Church of Dover DE



Board of Christian Education Meeting
March 15, 2023, 2:30 AM

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@fbcdoover.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, fbcdoover.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.

Legend of the Sand Dollar


One of nature's most unusual shells.
The five slits in the shell represent
the five wounds in the body of Christ.
The Easter lily design has, in its center,
a five pointed star, the Star of Bethlehem.
On the back is the outline of the
poinsettia, the Christmas flower.
When the shell is broken open,
five perfect replicas of a dove are found.
These are the Doves of Peace.



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 March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 08:30 Community Bible Study (CBS) 7:15 Prayer Call	2 7:00 Sanctuary Choir	3	4 10:00 Reed Circle (Fellowship Hall)
5 9:30 Sunday School (Berean Classroom) 11:00 Worship Kids Konnection	6	7 10:00 Bonar Circle (Agnes Robinson's Home)	8 08:30 Community Bible Study (CBS) 11:30 XYZ (Grotto's Dover) 7:15 Prayer Call	9 1:00 Clemmer Circle (Fellowship Hall) 7:00 Sanctuary Choir	10	11 10:00 Mission (Library)
12 Daylight Savings Time Begins 9:30 Sunday School (Berean Classroom) 11:00 Worship Kids Konnection DST	13	14 4:00 Deacons (Library)	15 08:30 Community Bible Study (CBS) 2:30 Christian Ed (Library) 7:15 Prayer Call	16 April Newslett Articles Due  7:00 Sanctary Choir	17	18 9:00 Coordinating Committee
19 9:30 Sunday School (Berean Classroom) 11:00 Worship Kids Konnection	20 1:00 Prayer Shawl Meeting (Fellowship Hall)	21	22 08:30 Community Bible (CBS) 7:15 Prayer Call	23 7:00 Sanctuary Choir	24	25
26 9:30 Sunday School (Berean Classroom) 11:00 Worship Kids Konnection	27	28	39 08:30 Community Bible Study (CBS) 7:15 Prayer Call	30 7:00 Sanctuary Choir	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.