



The First Baptist Church of Dover

301 Walker Rd., Dover, DE 19904

March 2024 Newsletter



Contact Us

Rev. William Guy - Interim 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.



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



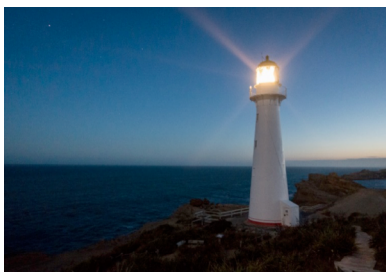
"The Beacon"

I am overcome with the feeling of a joyful responsibility as I take on this new role as Chair of the Board of Deacons. I'd like to first thank Mike Metzger for his many years of service as a Deacon (as well as board Chair) and all the good works he has done throughout his time with us. I have learned a lot from his example and hope to meet the expectations that his service to this ministry has set before me. As I reflect on the purpose of this ministry, I've discovered some interesting back story to the calling. "The Greek word "diakonos" literally means 'one who waits at tables.' It is often translated as 'servant' or 'minister.' It is also transliterated as "deacon" in the English Bible when referring to the church office of deacon". The Bible uses the word "diakonos" to describe the role of deacons in the early church in serving others; and in the same way describes the role of Christ's followers and the work of the apostles like Paul, and other leaders who were spreading the gospel.

While they are quite different from overseers or teachers, Deacons serve the Church and the community in some similar ways. The primary role perhaps is being a *Guide* for those needing to connect with Jesus, the Church family, or find comfort during dark times.

I've spent most of my life around airplanes. The earliest things you learn have to do with the different aspects of safety.

One device to ensure safety is called the anti-collision lights. There are red and green lights on the wing tips to let you know whether the plane is coming or going. Then you also have the flashing lights on the top and bottom of the fuselage that are referred to specifically as the **beacon** lights. They must be turned on whenever the aircraft is powered up to provide warning and guidance during darkness either on the ground or in the air. Similarly, for sea going vessels light houses have historically been a very important **beacon** to help avoid danger and guide ships in the



darkness. In the same way, the role of the *Deacon* is to be a *Beacon*. A clear signal despite whatever the darkness someone may be going through, deacons are here to guide all those seeking the Holy Spirit. Our First Baptist Deacon Team is committed to serving the congregation helping each with their spiritual needs; while also guiding new members along the path to a deeper resilient relationship with Christ. I'm so excited to embark upon this ministry of service in this new role and look forward to serving each and everyone one of you. Thank you!

Jerome Rogers
Deacon, Board Chair



Men's Shelter Meal **Wednesday,** **March 13, 2024**

Thanks for everyone's help with meals at the Dover Interfaith Men's Shelter last month! Our next scheduled meal contribution is Wednesday, March 13, 2024. The meal contribution sign-up sheet is located at the Welcome Center. March's menu includes: Stuffed Shells, Steamed Broccoli, Texas Toast, and Assorted Sheet Cakes. Please deliver your contributed food item directly to the shelter at 1155 Walker Road, Dover, between 4:00pm and 5:00pm on Wednesday, March 13, 2024.

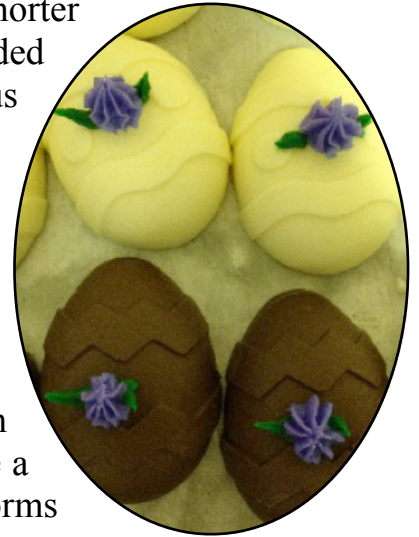
Everyone's help for this needed service is greatly appreciated!



Many, many thanks to Mary Emma Tisinger, Lorraine Leavel, Beryl Gerhard, the great soup makers, and all the attendees of our Strong and Courageous Retreat on February 3rd. We had 25 ladies present that morning to learn about Women in the Bible who were strong and courageous. Lorraine did a marvelous job on the ladies from the New Testament and Mary Emma tackled the ladies from the Old Testament. Beryl did a terrific job on an easy craft that can be given as a gift any time of the year. We could have had more time at each station but had to keep them shorter to be finished by 1:00. We concluded

our time with a brief kick-off to our annual fund-raiser, our delicious Easter Eggs.

Our eggs are on sale now through March 4th. They will be ready for pickup on Palm Sunday, March 24th. The helpers' signup sign is up and ready to be filled out. All proceeds go to the Clemmers in Goma for the street children for clothes and food. We hope to top the \$1700 we sent to the regional project from last year. Checks can be made out to ABWM of FBC Dover. We are keeping the price the same even though costs have gone up, \$2.75/one or 2 for \$5.00. If you prefer, you can give a monetary gift. Please see Sue Moore at the Welcome Center for order forms or to answer questions.



We thank you in advance for your support in this project.

Sue Moore

Mary Bonar Circle

Faye Yarbrough is a missionary to the South Africa
Leader: Beryl Gerhard



March 5, 10:30 ~ Agnes Robinson's Home

Ann Clemmer Circle

Ann is a missionary to Eastern Congo - Goma
Leader: Thelma Schaller
March 7, 1:00 ~ Cox Parlor



Joyce Reed Circle

Joyce is Global Coordinator of Spiritual Care
Leader: Margaret Steinhoff



March 2, 10:00 ~ Fellowship Hall





Giving Tree

(January – February 2024)



The Giving Tree Donations

Blazers:	1	Scarves:	3
Coats:	2	Shirts:	23
Gloves:	4	Shoes:	4
Hats:	3	Socks:	65
Hoodies:	6	Sweaters:	13
Jackets:	8	Sweat Shirts:	19
Long Sleeve	1	Sweat Pants:	8
Pants:	4	Throw Blankets:	7
Polo Shirts	1	Towels:	3

Above were given to Code Purple in Dover, Delaware for our homeless.

Thank you for your caring and generous hearts.
Percy Navarro and the Board of Missions

March 10th
Don't Forget To Set Your
Clocks Forward



So You're Not Late For
Church!



SEARCH
COMMITTEE
Meeting
March 10th



Dear Members and Friends of First Baptist,

The 2024 America For Christ biblical theme is based on Lamentations 3:22-23: “Because of God’s great love, we are not consumed, for God’s compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.” God’s love for us, even in times of despair, never wavers. The American Baptist Home Mission Societies (ABHMS) is promoting the 2024 America For Christ Offering (AFC) 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.

Each year the American Baptist Home Mission Societies awards grants from the donations that they receive from AFC. Here are some of the areas that are funded by AFC:

- *Grants to churches to fund ministries such as camps, daycare, and youth and young adult initiatives
- *Grants to American Baptist seminaries and colleges
- *Grants to American Baptist Partners training opportunities, funding of learning opportunities that involve travel and housing, repairs and upgrade to preserve our critical American Baptist spaces
- *American Baptist Regional Offices

AFC dollars also fund scholarships for which our members may apply. Our churches are eligible to apply for ABHMS grants as well! ABHMS does not retain any AFC funds for operations or overhead. One hundred per cent of AFC dollars support vital ministries.

AFC 2024 empowers us to provide “Grace upon Grace.” I am asking you to join with me in giving to this year’s AFC offering as we partner with ABHMS to provide support and share the Good News! We will receive the America For Christ offering each Sunday in March. Checks should be payable to First Baptist Church and marked “AFC”.

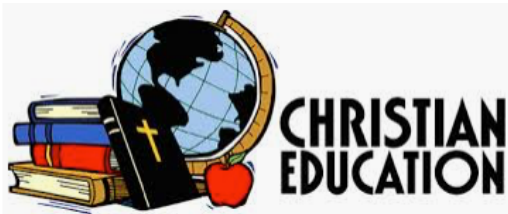
Thank you for your generous giving to the 2024 America For Christ offering!

Lois Glading, for the Board of Missions



Birthdays

John Kelley, Jr.	3/03
Rose Tumey	3/03
Daniel Macklin	3/04
Theresa Thornburg	3/05
Brian Jones	3/08
Joel Guy	3/10
Marsha Kemp	3/10
Chris Cottrell	3/12
Lisa Clark	3/13
Yassah Dennis	3/16
Scott Septer	3/20
Harrison Peoples	3/21
Sue Moore	3/26
Kaymah Gilman	3/27
Richard Waltz	3/27
Bill Williams	3/29
Brian Cunningham	3/31



Board of Christian Education Meeting
March 15, 2024, 2:30 PM

Comfort Shawl Ministry



The next meeting will be March 18 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

Anniversaries

Ernie and Adelle Aloi	3/5	3 years
Aaron and Charity King	3/11	18 years
Donald and Ramona Scott	3/16	39 years
Norman and Lisa Clendaniel	3/17	46 years

*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



*Don't forget to pick up your
Chocolate Easter Eggs!!*



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.



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	2 10:00 Reed Circle (Fellowship Hall)
3 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Kids Konnection	4	5 10:00 Bonar Circle (Agnes Robinson's Home)	6 08:30 Community Bible Study (CBS) 4:00 Deacons (Library) 7:15 Prayer Call	7 1:00 Clemmer Circle (Fellowship Hall) 7:00 Sanctuary Choir	8 10:00 Egg Making (Kitchen) 	9 10:00 Missions (Conference Rm)
10 Daylight Savings Time Begins 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Kids Konnection	11	12 10:00 Egg Making (Kitchen) 	13 08:30 Community Bible Study (CBS) 11:30 XYZ (Pizza Delight) 4:00 DIMH Dinner 7:15 Prayer Call	14 8:30 Children's Choice (Fellowship Hall) 10:00 Egg Making (Kitchen)  7:00 Sanctuary Choir	15 April Newsletter Articles Due  2:30 Christian Education	16 9:00 Coordinating Committee
17 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Kids Konnection	18 1:00 Prayer Shawl Meeting (Fellowship Hall)	19 10:00 Egg Making (Kitchen) 	20 08:30 Community Bible (CBS) 7:15 Prayer Call	21 10:00 Egg Making (Kitchen)  7:00 Sanctuary Choir	22	23 10:00 Egg Making (Kitchen) 
24 Palm Sunday  9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Kids Konnection	25	26	27 08:30 Community Bible Study (CBS) 5:30-7:30 Bible Study & Soup Dinner Event 7:30 Prayer Call	28 7:00 Maundy Thursday Service  8:00 Sanctuary Choir	29 7:00 Good Friday Service Faith Community Church Church Office Closed 	30 10:00 Easter Children's Festivities 

31

Easter Sunday Events

8:00 Son-rise Service



9:00 Continental Breakfast



9:30 Sunday School



11:00 Easter Worship



Kids Konnection

