



# The First Baptist Church of Dover

301 Walker Rd., Dover, DE 19904

November 2024 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.



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



## Pray and Vote

When we think of November, what comes to mind – Day Lights Savings Time, Veteran’s Day, Thanksgiving, Black Friday? But how many of us think of Election Day. We, as Christians, have a responsibility to pray and vote in all elections. A study from Arizona Christian University’s Cultural Research Center revealed that around 32 million self-identified Christians who attend church may abstain from voting in the 2024 U.S. presidential election. The research asked people who indicated they were not likely to vote to explain the reasons for that choice. The most common reason, offered by two-thirds of the nonvoters (68%) was a lack of interest in politics and elections. More than half of those surveyed (57%) expressed dissatisfaction with both primary contenders. Additionally, 55% stated that neither candidate adequately represented their personal values. And sadly, 48% also expressed the fear that the election results will be manipulated.

Of course, one of the biggest problems with this passivity is that November 5 involves more than the White House. Many would contend that there are much more important decisions than the presidency on the state and local ballot. Control of the House and Senate hangs in the balance. Governors, state legislators, state attorneys general, local offices, etc. are also being decided. Christians could be the deciding factor in a lot of federal and state races – and are choosing not to be.

A study of the 55 founders who met in Philadelphia to come up with the Constitution showed that 52 of them were men in good standing with Trinitarian churches. These were not secular men, but Christians. John Adams is quoted as saying, “Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people.

It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other.”

Throughout scripture, it has always been about picking the lesser of two evils. To vote is a biblically based opportunity provided to us by God. If you read the Parable of the Talents (Matthew 25:14-30), you see what happens when we don’t utilize the opportunities (talents) that we have been given by God. If we choose to bury them, like the unproductive servant, there will be severe consequences for not using the gifts God has provided. So, when you don’t vote, you are burying your opportunity.

As a Christian, we need to stand for Biblical principal when we vote. And above all, we need to pray that God will heal our land and turn hearts across our nation back to Him. The famous theologian Billy Graham stated, “The Bible tells us to pray for ‘all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness’ (1 Timothy 2:2). When we pray regularly for those who are willing to serve as political leaders, it will help us make the best choices when we go to the polls, for God gives us wisdom when we humble ourselves and pray for His guidance.”

“We have a serious responsibility to pray for America, for the election and for wisdom on how we should vote.” (Franklin Graham). When we are not involved in the political process, it leaves the door wide-open for every evil ideology to fill the vacuum. There are 90 million self-identified Christians eligible to vote in the United States of America. Will you be one of the 32 million who are going to sit on the sidelines? Or you be one of the ones who exercises the God given opportunity to vote?

I will end this with some final thoughts –

**“Our lives begin to end the day we become *Silent* about things that matter” ~ Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**

**“If your candidate loses, our Sovereign Lord is in no less control.**

**If your candidate wins, our split nation needs no less prayers.”**

## Pray and Vote

*Margaret Steinhoff*



The ladies' circles will concentrate on the ministries world-wide by celebrating Baptist Women's Day of Prayer on November 4<sup>th</sup>. On Sunday each woman at FBC will receive a packet containing a Bible study, prayer requests from around the world and a teabag. These items are to be used on Monday, November 4<sup>th</sup>, to join all Baptist Women around the world in prayer. At the circle meetings on Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10:00, Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 and Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> at 1:00, Margaret Steinhoff will present a program on this same topic with more

information. If you can't make your regular meeting or would like to hear more about this celebration, just visit one of the circles that is held at a more convenient time. We'll be glad to have you. A special offering will be taken to send to International Women's Ministries to be distributed to those areas of greatest need.



### **Mary Bonar Circle**

**Faye Yarbrough is a missionary  
to South Africa**

**Leader: Beryl Gerhard**

**November 5, 10:00  
Fellowship Hall**

### **Ann Clemmer Circle**

**Ann is a missionary to Eastern  
Congo - Goma**

**Leader: Lois Glading**

**November 7, 1:00  
Cox Parlor**



### **Joyce Reed Circle**

**Joyce is Global Coordinator of  
Spiritual Care**

**Leader: Margaret Steinhoff**

**November 2, 10:00  
Fellowship Hall**





## Men's Shelter Meal Wednesday, November 13, 2024



Thanks for everyone's help with the meals at the Dover Interfaith Men's Shelter! Our next scheduled meal contribution is Wednesday, November 13, 2024. The meal menu includes: chili, coleslaw, cornbread and donuts. Please deliver your contributed food item directly to the shelter, at 1155 Walker Road, Dover, between 4:00 and 5:00 PM on Wednesday, November 13, 2024.

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



## SEARCH COMMITTEE Update

We have been meeting more frequently because we've been interviewing several prospective candidates for our pastor position. Due to the fact of Rev. Mark Maserjian-Smith's new appointment, we also met our new advocate from ABCOPAD, Rev. Daniel McDowell. He sent us a new applicant that we met via zoom on Oct. 16<sup>th</sup>. Many, many thanks to Phil Steinhoff for his tech help with these meetings. We still request your prayers that the person God has in mind for us will be shown to us soon. Be assured, we are busy trying to find that person God wants us to hire.

## CHRISTMAS IS COMING!



Each Year a Christmas Card is designed by a member of our church and is sent out to everyone. If you would like your name to appear on the card, it is suggested that you take the money you would use to send cards to those in the church and donate it to this project. A check can be made out to First Baptist Church, indicating in the memo "Christmas Card Project" and your envelope # and place it in the offering. The money received is sent to our 5 Special Interest Missionaries, whose names will appear inside the card, as well. There will also be envelopes for this project available at the Welcome Center starting Nov. 17th. Please be sure to indicate how you would like your name to appear on the card when making your donation. The deadline for participating in this project is on December 1st.



## Pointsettias for the Sanctuary

It is already time to be thinking of the upcoming Advent Season and ordering Poinsettias to help decorate the Sanctuary for the holidays. Order forms will be available at the Welcome Center starting November 17th. The last day to place an order for a Poinsettia will be Dec. 15th. The cost this year is \$15.00 per plant. Directions are on the order form. A form is in this newsletter, page 5.



~2024~

# Christmas Poinsettias



If you would like to place poinsettias in the church for Christmas, please complete the information below and place the form in the designated box at the Welcome Center or mail to the church office. **The last day to order is Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>.**

**Cost: \$15.00 for each plant.** *Make checks payable to "First Baptist Church", noting on the check "**for Poinsettias**".*

For further information, please contact Margaret Steinhoff at 302-228-9301 or the church office at 302-674-1980.

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

**Given in memory/honor of** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

**Phone #:** \_\_\_\_\_

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



# Birthdays

Gilbert Hutchins	11/3
Caleb Septer	11/6
Sarah Prescott	11/7
Michelle Septer	11/7
Ramona Scott	11/9
Tyler Myers	11/12
Gene Moore, Jr.	11/15
Angela Allen	11/17
Michael Caban	11/17
Larry Buckley	11/19
Sarah Smart	11/20
Romeo Limson	11/30



# Anniversaries

Chad and Morgan Stiegler	11/6	4 years
Michael and Iris Caban	11/12	20 years
Cody and Lorraine Leavel	11/14	4 years
Willis and Glenda Case	11/1	63 years
Phil and Margaret Steinhoff	11/30	50 years

## Comfort Shawl Ministry



Prayer Shawl Ministries will meet on November 18th at 1:00 P.M. in Fellowship Hall. We could still use more ladies! If you can't knit or crochet, we could still use your help hand sewing labels or machine sewing flannel shawls. We have prayer and a devotional plus lots of laughs and fun together. If you're interested, just come to the meeting and find out what we do.



## Fall Food drive 2024

Annual Food Drive will be held on November 8 and 9<sup>th</sup>. This year we will be collecting food at Redner's at Greentree on November 8<sup>th</sup>. We will be picking up food on the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> at Redner's at Greentree and also on the 9<sup>th</sup> at Redner's North Dover (Cheswold). There are sorting times both days at the church. Please sign up for a two-hour time slot to help out. The sheet is located in the Narthex.

# FBC Dover Family and Friends, Are You Ready for Stewardship Month?

In Luke 12:42-48, Jesus talks with His disciples about the Parable of the Faithful Steward. This entire section of Luke 12 is focused on being ready to act according to God's will. The latter part of verse 48 of this chapter is where we read the famous text, "When someone has been given much, much will be required in return; and when someone has been entrusted with much, even more will be required."

God expects us to use what He has given us to serve Him and others. In this parable, the master put the servant in charge of his household, expecting the servant to "act" at the proper time. So, two things are important, what action to take and when.

As you plan to give, seek God on what He wants you to give and when. Remember the phrase from our Stewardship Committee: Talents, Treasures, Time.

What action does God want you to take with your talents, treasures, and time? After that has been made clear, seek God on when He wants you to give in these areas. Remember to trust God as the source of everything you are believing Him for!

*Grace and blessings,  
Rev. William A. Guy*



## Stewardship Committee

Your FBC Stewardship Committee has been meeting during the summer and into fall the planning activities for our congregation. We have chosen the theme – "God, Gifts, and Gratitude – Sharing, Serving, and Giving Outside the Box." As individuals and as a church family, all are recovering and adjusting after Covid 19, facing life with the fond memories of lost loved-ones and re-calculating financial changes. We are mindful that we must be creative in our giving and serving.

The dates November 3 – Sunday – after church service will start our season of gratitude with a catered luncheon to which you will receive an invitation and a sign-up sheet in the Narthex to get a head count. There will be a donation asked to help cover the cost. However, do let us know if your personal budget is too stretched at this time. Your presence to attend this family gathering is an honor and we will work in God's grace to have you here.

Next, is Commitment Sunday which is scheduled for November 17<sup>th</sup>. Commitment cards will be picked up at the church or mailed to your home.

The Stewardship Committee continues in their planning, so feel free to offer ideas/suggestions, even if they may seem "Outside the Box!"

Gerri Lee, Chairperson



# Heartfelt Thanks to First Baptist Church's Board of Missions Dover Interfaith Mission for Housing

A special thank you to Lois Glading and the First Baptist Church's Board of Missions for their generous donation of brand-new household items and \$200.00 toward highchairs for our facilities. These contributions significantly enhance the daily lives of our residents.



It's not too late to give to the World Mission Offering which benefits our American Baptist missionaries and witness around the world. We were privileged to hear first-hand from three of these missionaries, Ray Schellinger and Brian and Lynette Smith. As of October 20, we have received \$2404.00. Checks should be payable to FBC and marked "WMO" in the memo line. Place in the offering or mail to the church.

**Thank You!!**



**Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes will be dedicated during worship on November 10. Thank you to each person who filled a shoebox and to Abby and Geoff Eaton for their leadership on this project!**



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



**About the church or one of our  
programs? Stop by the Welcome  
Center, Sunday AM 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](mailto:secretary@fbcdover.org)



***Join our Church  
Services  
Online***

**YouTube.com at  
First Baptist Church of Dover DE**



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](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.



## **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 November

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 10:00 Joyce Reed Circle (Fellowship Hall)
3 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Kids Konnection 12:30 Stewardship Luncheon	4 Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer	5 10:00 Bonar Circle (Fellowship Hall)	6 7:15 Prayer Call	7 1:00 Clemmer Circle (Cox Parlor) 7:00 Sanctuary Choir	8 Food Drive at Redner's 5:00 Children's Baptism Class	9 Food Drive at Redner's 10:00 Missions (Conference Rm)
10 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Kids Konnection Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes Dedication	11 Church Office Closed 	12	13 11:30 XYZ Franko's 4:00 Dinner at DIMH Shelter 7:15 Prayer Call	14 7:00 Sanctuary Choir	15 December Newsletter Articles Due 5:00 Children's Baptism Class 	16 9:00 Coordinating Committee (Library)
17 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Kids Konnection Commitment Sunday	18 1:00 Prayer Shawl (Fellowship Hall)	19	20 4:00 Deacon's (Library) 7:15 Prayer Call	21 7:00 Sanctuary Choir	22 5:00 Children's Baptism Class	23
24 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Kids Konnection	25	26 10:00 Decorate Chrismon Trees & Sanctuary	27 7:15 Prayer Call	28 Thanksgiving Holiday Church Office Closed 	29	30

## 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.