



The First Baptist Church of Dover

301 Walker Rd., Dover, DE 19904

May 2025 Newsletter



Contact Us

Brian Cunningham - 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

From the Pastor's Desk

Beloved Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As May unfolds in its vibrant beauty, we turn our hearts to the enduring reality of the resurrection. Our preaching theme this month, "Witnessing our Risen Lord," calls us to embrace the transformative power of Christ's victory over death, together.



John 21 offers a compelling image for our witness. The disciples, back to familiar fishing after Easter, encounter the resurrected Jesus. His instruction? Cast the net on the other side of the boat. This simple act of being willing to try something different, done in unity, yields an abundant catch – a powerful symbol of His continued presence and power in their shared lives.

This passage speaks directly to our call as witnesses. Do we, as a church, sometimes default to comfortable routines, even after encountering the risen Christ? Jesus' direction to cast the net on the other side challenges us, as a unified body, to step beyond our familiar approaches. It calls us to be open to new ways of sharing the Good News, serving our community together, and deepening our collective relationship with Him.



Witnessing our Risen Lord isn't merely recounting history; it's actively living in the light of His resurrection, side by side. It demands that we listen to the Spirit's guidance, even when it leads us to unfamiliar territory. Perhaps it means reaching out to our neighbors as a congregation, engaging in new ministries that stretch us collectively, or sharing our faith with those we might not typically connect with, supporting one another in the process.



May this month of May be a season of renewed courage and united action. Let us cast our nets on the "other side," trusting that the Risen Lord precedes us, preparing the way for us to draw others into His Kingdom, together. Let us embrace fresh opportunities to be living testimonies to the power and love of our resurrected Savior, a united light in our community.



Blessings,

Pastor Brian C. Cunningham



“Charge to the Congregation of the First Baptist Church”

Charge to the Congregation refers to a formal statement of expectations and responsibilities given to a group of church members during the installation of a new Pastor or other members. It generally outlines what is expected of the congregation in their relationship with their leaders and with one another.

On March 29, 2025, First Baptist Church of Dover, Delaware celebrated and installed Brian C. Cunningham as its Senior Pastor. During this occasion, retired pastor, Rev Dan Taylor enthusiastically and so eloquently presented the charge to the congregation of FBC. Generally, and for our purposes, the charge emphasized the need for the congregation to connect with each other as a way of motivating us in our respective roles and responsibilities. It is paramount to respect and obey particularly those in church leadership so that each ministry will expand and foster a sense of spiritual community and a deeper relationship with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

The congregation of FBC, is a body of persons assembled for religious worship, charged to assist our new pastor fulfill his pastoral obligations to our church. We are entrusted with a task, as a duty, and as a responsibility. We are to be always ready and be brave to tell the Good News of Jesus Christ. In this view, our purpose as a congregation is to be the body of Jesus Christ, a foretaste of God’s kingdom here on earth. We as a congregation of FBC have to take charge, as proclaimed in 1 Chronicles 28:20-21 in which David charged Solomon his son... “Be strong and of good courage, and do it: fear not, nor be dismayed: for the LORD God, even my God, will be with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee, until thou hast finished all the work for the service of the house of the LORD. And, behold, the courses of the priests and the Levites, even they shall be with thee for all the service of the house of God: and there shall be with thee for all manner of workmanship every willing skillful man, for any manner of service: also, the princes and all the people will be wholly at thy commandment.

Ed Gillman





Hi Ladies:

Thanks to everyone who bought our eggs, made a donation, and/or helped to make the eggs! We don't have a final total at the time of this posting as we still have some money not handed in. We'll also be taking donations until the beginning of May. As soon as we have all the money in, we'll give the total we'll be sending to ABCOPAD for Summer Campers at the racetrack. This year we had many helping hands and were able to get them out early. It is true about many hands making light work. Again, church family, we appreciated all your help.

We are getting ready to wind up our year in June. All the circles will be going out to lunch for their May meetings to celebrate the 2024-25 year. Then on May 31st at noon, we'll all go out to have our installation of officer's service. Our ABWM board will not meet until April 29th to determine where we'll be going. A sign-up sheet will be placed at the Welcome Center after it's decided. If you are not a circle member, you may still come and participate. Everyone will purchase their own meals.

We've had a busy and productive year. In December, we were able to give over \$300.00 to the Milford Christian Academy to help defray the cost of their lunch milk prices. We also collected money for our missionaries. The Bonar circle will also send money to Liberia to the Ricks Institute to help fund their Head, Hearts, and Hands project that feeds and educates about 120 children each day. The Clemmer and Reed Circles will send money to the Congo to help supply medicine and medical supplies to the area where the people only make at most \$1.00/day. These can amount to several thousand dollars but split among several projects. We pray for these areas at our meetings and contact our missionaries monthly. The Prayer Shawl Ministry is also an offshoot of ABWM as well. It has not been as active this year as many of our ladies have been unable to make shawls due to medical conditions in their hands. Hopefully, after a restful summer, we'll be more active.

Sue Moore



Mary Bonar Circle

**Faye Yarbrough is a missionary
to the South Africa
Leader: Beryl Gerhard
May 6, 11:30 ~ Olive Garden**



Joyce Reed Circle

**Joyce is Global Coordinator of
Spiritual Care
Leader: Margaret Steinhoff
May 3, 11:30 ~ Hollywood Diner**

Ann Clemmer Circle

**Ann is a missionary to Eastern
Congo - Goma
Leader: Lois Glading
May 1, 1:00 ~ Olive Garden**





DOVER INTERFAITH

MISSION FOR HOUSING



Women & Children's Shelter

Interfaith Pathway, the shelter for homeless women and their children, located at 1156 Walker Road opened on February 3 with a housing census of 10-12 persons. They hope to be fully opened and operating within the next month or so.

An Amazon Wish List was created for the Shelter. It includes such things as: quick drying shower slippers (men/women), shower caddies, rechargeable book lights, wastebaskets, lotion, dish detergent, soap, paper towels, napkins, Lysol, Windex, Swiffer, toothbrushes (adult/child), toothpaste, towels, etc. To see the complete Wish List, go to www.doverinterfaith.org At the top of the page, click on "Goods and Items"; then click on "Amazon Wish List". The list gives the price of each item, the quantity needed, and the number they have.

Please look over the list and see if there is something you could purchase for the Shelter and deliver to them. They will be most appreciative!

Lois Glading for the Board of Missions

Next Meeting: June 14th. See you then.





Birthdays

Clifton Cannon	5/3
Wasana Sudler	5/3
Gloria Smith	5/4
Salvatore Manno	5/8
Paul Smart	5/15
Terry Lentz	5/16
Gene Schaller	5/20
Geneva Clark	5/21
Mable Morrison	5/21
Joyce Buckley	5/22

Anniversary

Romeo and Milda Limson	57 Yrs.	5/1
Mark and Beth Moore	15 Yrs.	5/1
Jim and Dorothy Kerr	66 Yrs.	5/23
Walt and Kathy Becker	40 Yrs.	5/25
Brian and CeCe Cunningham	9 Yrs.	5/27



Men's Shelter Meal Wednesday, May 14, 2025



The May meal contribution for the Dover Interfaith Mission Shelter at Bagley Hall is scheduled for Wednesday, May 14, 2025. Your help provides a meal for the approximately 40 men in need at the shelter.

Please look for a meal contribution sign-up sheet at the Welcome Center the end of April/beginning of May. Please deliver your contributed food item directly to the shelter at 1155 Walker Road, between 4:00pm and 5:00pm on Wednesday, May 14, 2025.

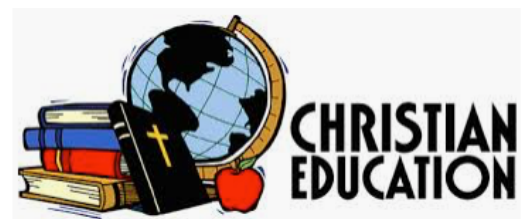
Everyone's help for this needed service is greatly appreciated!

Next Board of Missions meeting June 14th.



**Join our Church
Services
Online**

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



**Board of Christian Education Meeting
May 8th, 3:00 PM**

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

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.



We still have a number of open dates for Sanctuary Flowers. Below are the present open dates. If you are interested in one of these, the forms are available at the Welcome Center. Your gift of flowers is greatly appreciated.

May 11	June 1	June 8	June 22	June 29
Aug. 3	Sept. 14	Sept. 28	Oct. 5	Oct. 19
Oct. 25	Nov. 2	Nov. 9		



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.

Kid's Khoir Update



In May, the Khoir will meet on Wednesday evenings after dinner in Fellowship Hall instead of on Sunday mornings during Kid's Koneksi. They need more time to do their lesson on Sundays and we need more time to teach new songs. This way the children will also be occupied so their parents can participate in Bible Study and Prayer. Dinner is at 6:00 and Khoir is from 6:45 till 7:30. Miss Margaret and Miss Sue will be there to teach them new and interesting songs. We'll also be able to do some bells to go with the songs for the older children.

Here's what's happening in May

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 1:00 Clemmer Circle (Olive Garden) 7:00 Sanctuary Choir	2	3 11:30 Reed Circle (Hollywood Diner)
4 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Kids Konnection	5	6 11:30 Bonar Circle (Olive Garden)	7 12:00 Bible Study 6:00 Fellowship Meal & Bible Study 6:45 Kid's Choir - Paul's Place 7:15 Prayer Call	8 3:00 Christian Ed (Library) 7:00 Sanctuary Choir	9	10
11 Mother's Day  9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Kids Konnection	12	13	14. 11:30 XYZ (Smyrna Diner) 12:00 Bible Study 4:00 DIMH Shelter Meal 6:00 Fellowship Meal & Bible Study 6:45 Kid's Choir - Paul's Place 7:15 Prayer Call	15  June Newslette Articles Due 4:30 Deacon's (Library) 7:00 Sanctuary Choir	16	17 9:00 Coordinating Committee (Library)
18 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Kids Konnection	19	20	21 12:00 Bible Study 6:00 Fellowship Meal & Bible Study 6:45 Kid's Choir - Paul's Place 7:15 Prayer Call	22 7:00 Sanctuary Choir	23	24
25 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Kids Konnection	26 Memorial Day  Church Office Closed	27	28 12:00 Bible Study 6:00 Fellowship Meal & Bible Study 6:45 Kid's Choir- Paul's Place 7:15 Prayer Call	29 7:00 Sanctuary Choir	30	31 12:00 ABWM Annual Luncheon

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.