



# The First Baptist Church of Dover

301 Walker Rd., Dover, DE 19904

March 2026 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**

# From the Pastor's Desk

## Greetings First Baptist Family!

As we step into the month of March, I do so with a heart full of gratitude. This month marks one year since I began serving as your Pastor. What a blessing this year has been! Thank you for the warm welcome you have extended to The Cunninghams, for your prayers, your encouragement, and for embracing the work God has placed before us.

In just one year, we have seen God move in meaningful ways through worshipping together, deepening our fellowship, welcoming new faces, and continuing to build upon the firm foundation that has sustained this church for generations. This season is especially exciting because we now have so many new faces joining boards and committees for the first time. What an opportunity



this presents for collaboration, fresh perspective, and shared leadership. In the early church in Acts and throughout the New

Testament, as new believers were added, leaders emerged, and the work of ministry expanded. God often does His most beautiful work when new voices and willing hearts step forward together. I am grateful not only for what has been accomplished, but for the spirit of unity and shared commitment that continues to grow among us. And I am even more excited about what lies ahead. If the Lord has done this much in one year, imagine what He will do as we continue seeking Him together with one heart and one voice.

On March 7th, we will travel together on our joint bus trip to the Museum of the Bible in Washington, DC.



museum of the Bible

What a fitting opportunity during this Lenten season to immerse ourselves in the story of God's redemptive work through His Word. As we walk through the history,

preservation, and impact of Scripture, we are reminded that the Bible is not merely a historical artifact -- it is the living Word that calls us, shapes us, corrects us, and continually draws us back to the Lord. If you need more information on how to register for the bus trip, please let us know!



This ties beautifully into the sacred season of Lent. Lent is an intentional time of reflection and renewal — a season that invites us to return wholeheartedly to God. The prophet declares in Joel 2:12, “Even now,” declares the Lord, “return to me with all your heart.” That phrase, even now, is powerful. It reminds us that no matter where we find ourselves spiritually, God's invitation remains open. Lent is not about empty ritual; it is about realignment. It is about returning to the Lord with sincerity, humility, and renewed devotion.

As we celebrate one year together in ministry, take this journey to the Museum of the Bible, and walk through this Lenten season, my prayer is that we would continue growing deeper in God's Word and closer to His heart. May we move forward with gratitude for what God has done, faith for what He will do, and hearts continually returning to Him.



**With appreciation and anticipation,  
Pastor Brian C.**





## *“Love Thy Neighbor”*

Mark 12:30-31 (NIV)

30 Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. 31 The second is this: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no commandment greater than these.



Who is my neighbor, one may ask? By definition, our neighbor is “anyone who is in front of us,” regardless of their nationality or religion.

**The Good Samaritan** (Luke 10:25-37 NIV) Jesus told a story about a Samaritan who helped a Jewish man after religious leaders ignored him, demonstrating that a neighbor is someone who acts with mercy, defying social barriers.



Definition of “Neighbor”: “One who is near,” indicating that your neighbor is anyone in our proximity.

Another question to ask, how can I be a good neighbor?  
Some suggestions:

### **Proactive Friendliness**

- \* **Introduce Yourself:** Make the first move to break the ice. Introduce yourself and learn your neighbors’ names.
- \* **Be Accessible:** Spend time in your front yard or on your porch to create spontaneous opportunities for conversation.
- \* **Active listening:** When asking how a neighbor is doing, listen attentively to their answer and ask follow-up questions to show genuine interest.
- \* **Small Gestures:** A simple smile, wave, or handwritten note can brighten someone’s day and build rapport.



### **Acts of Service**

**Share Food:** Bringing over baked goods, garden produce

- \* **Lend a Hand:** Offer to help with visible tasks like carrying heavy groceries, shoveling snow, or raking leaves
- \* **Share Resources:** Offer to loan tools (like a mower or ladder)



**Pet Responsibility:** Always clean up after your pets and ensure they are well behaved in common areas

### **Community Building**

- \* **Organize Events:** Host a neighborhood potluck, block party, or gatherings to help neighbors meet one another
- \* **Watch Out for Others:** Keep an eye on neighbors’ homes when they are away and report any suspicious activity



## Again, who are our neighbors?

They are the recipients of warm clothing distributed by Code Purple, the residents at the Dover Interfaith Shelters partaking of a hot meal, families picking up groceries from our food pantry, to name a few.



Also our neighbors are hard working people, raising their kids and just living their lives. Our neighbors are precious souls seen being drug out of their cars, being wrestled to the ground, abused, unlawfully arrested, deported and even a worst fate, death. These are our neighbors!

Our neighbors may look and sound different, practice diverse cultures and live in other places, however we are all children of God and are made in His Image. Everyone is our neighbor and is to be treated with compassion, kindness and respect.



We as Christians are to be examples of God's eyes, hands and feet and are tasked to do the right thing. Bless Be the Tie That Binds and it is our responsibility to protect, provide and to actively:

**LOVE THY NEIGHBORS EVERYWHERE!**

*Prayerfully Submitted By Gerri Lee*

## Easter Garden



Each year we have a beautiful Easter Garden in the front of the Sanctuary on Easter Morning. There are tulips and Easter lilies across the front. We invite you to be part of that garden. An order form can be found in the newsletter. The cost of each plant is \$17.50. Checks are made out to First Baptist Church and please put "Easter Garden" in the memo section. We ask that you take your plants home with you following the morning worship on Easter Sunday. There is a place on the form to indicate if your plant(s) is/are in honor or memory of someone. An insert will be placed in the Easter Sunday bulletin with those names. Please prayerfully consider being part of this beautiful Easter Garden. Order forms can be placed in the marked box at the Welcome Center, placed in the offering plate, or mailed to the church office. **If you have any questions, please see Margaret Steinhoff or contact the church office (302-674-1980). The last day to place an order will be Sunday, March 29th.**



~2026~  
**Sanctuary  
Easter  
Flowers**





~2026~  
**Sanctuary  
 Easter  
 Flowers**



If you would like to place flowers in the church for Easter Sunday, 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, March 29th.**

**Cost: \$17.50 for each plant.** *Make checks payable to "First Baptist Church", noting on the check "for Easter Flowers".*

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

**Total No. of Plants:** \_\_\_\_\_      **Lilies:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Tulips:** \_\_\_\_\_ [5 bulbs]

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

**Plant(s) are to be picked up by the donor after the 11:00 service on Easter Sunday, April 5th.**

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

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

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



Dear Ladies:

My heartfelt thanks to those ladies who have signed up to help make eggs this year. Without you, we could not support our Regional Mission Projects. It takes the whole church to support our fund raiser to help those in foreign lands develop programs that are meaningful for those in need around the world. Again, many thanks and gratitude to those who not only purchased our eggs but also those who helped make them as well.



The Bonar, Clemmer and Reed Circles will be meeting this month during the first week of March. If you can, please note the times and places for each meeting. Another date for some of you to remember is our **Board Meeting on April 21st, 10:00 AM** to discuss our annual installation of officers.

Keep **APRIL 25 open from 9:00 to 1:00**. We have rescheduled our Day of Renewal for that day and time. Hopefully, no rain, snow, hurricanes, floods, or tornadoes will interrupt our retreat on that day. PLEASE bring a friend along with you that morning to find out about "Angels Love Donuts." A signup sheet will be available beginning in April.

We wish ALL our ladies and their families of FBC a blessed and love filled Easter this year!

*Sue Moore, President ABWM of FBC Dover*

*Thank You*

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



**Mary Bonar Circle**  
Faye Yarbrough is a missionary  
to South Africa  
Leader: Beryl Gerhard

**March 3, 10:30 ~ Agnes Robinson's Home**



**Joyce Reed Circle**  
Joyce is Global Coordinator of  
Spiritual Care  
Leader: Margaret Steinhoff  
**March 7, 10:00 ~ Fellowship Hall**

**Ann Clemmer Circle**

Ann is a missionary to Eastern  
Congo - Goma  
Leader: Lois Glading

**March 5, 1:00 ~ Cox Parlor**





# Easter Egg Order Form



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Sales Person \_\_\_\_\_

Flavor	White Chocolate	Milk Chocolate	Dark Chocolate	Total
Butter Cream				
Coconut Cream				
Chocolate Coconut				
Orange Cream				
Strawberry				
Chocolate Cream				
Peanut Butter				

Cost - \$3.50 each or 2 for \$6.00. Please put payment with your order.

**Make checks payable to "ABWM of FBC".**

Total # of eggs \_\_\_\_\_ Total cost \_\_\_\_\_

**Orders are due by March 1st**

**Don't forget to ORDER your Chocolate Easter Eggs.  
(Pick up of eggs will be March 29.)**



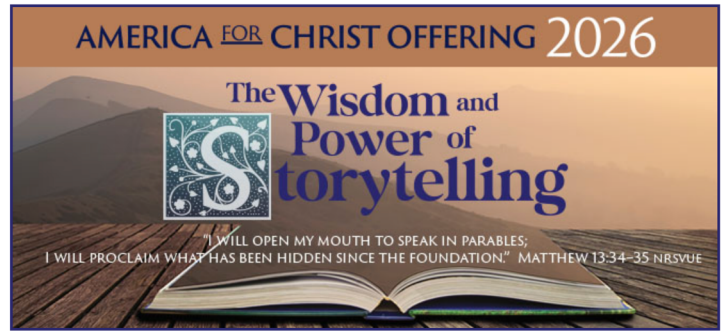
# Birthdays

John Kelley, Jr.	3/03
Theresa Thornburg	3/05
Brian Jones	3/08
Marsha Kemp	3/10
Chris Cottrell	3/12
Lisa Clark	3/13
Yassah Dennis	3/16
Nana Gambo	3/17
Denise Engelsen	3/18
Sue Moore	3/26
Kaymah Gilman	3/27
Bill Williams	3/29
Brian Cunningham	3/31



# Anniversaries

Ernie and Adelle Aloï	3/5	5 years
Aaron and Charity King	3/11	20 years
Donald and Ramona Scott	3/16	41 years
Norman and Lisa Clendaniel	3/17	48 years



**Join our Church  
Services  
Online**

YouTube.com at  
First Baptist Church of Dover DE  
Sunday, 11:00 AM



Wednesday, 7:15pm  
Telephone Prayer  
Meeting - To join

**Call - 978-990-5083  
access code -  
676527**

# March 8th Don't Forget To Set Your Clocks Forward



**So You're Not Late For Church!**



## Men's Shelter Meal Wednesday, March 11, 2026

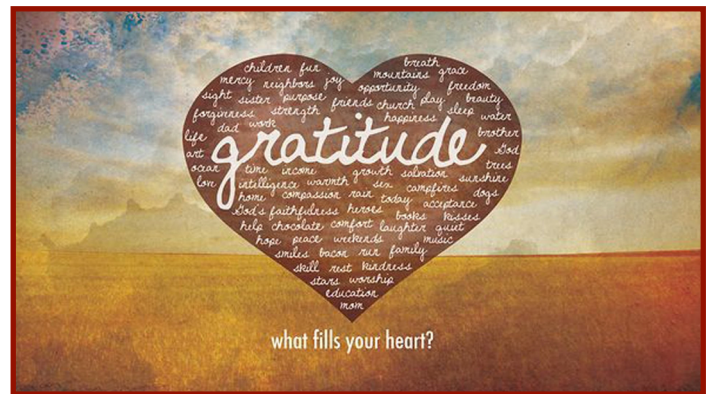
**Shelter Meal-March 11<sup>th</sup>.** Thanks for everyone's help with meals at the Dover Interfaith Shelters in February! Our next scheduled meal contribution is Wednesday, March 11, 2026. March's menu includes: Sloppy Joe's, Hamburger Rolls, Potatoe Salad, and Fruit Cocktail. The meal contribution sign-up sheet is located at the Welcome Center. Please notice whether you are contributing for the Men's or Women's/Children's Shelter. Deliver your contributed food item directly to the shelter between 4:00pm and 5:00pm on Wednesday, March 11, 2026. Everyone's help for this needed service is greatly appreciated!



A message from Birdie: spring is just around the corner and along with it comes our annual "America for Christ" offering. This will be starting and continuing through March. Please be in prayer for this year's mission outreach project.



We are now meeting every three months. The next meeting will be April 20th and we will be meeting in the Conference Room at 1:00pm. These faithful ladies continue to knit, crochet, and sew prayer shawls to give our infirmed members and friends some warmth with prayer. Also, many of them are taken to Cancer patients at Bayhealth Kent General. If you are free on April 20th at 1:00 please join us as we share fellowship and stitches for those who need a bit of comfort.



## I'm thankful for First Baptist Church!



**“He owns the cattle on  
a thousand hills...”**



**“March is Change Month!”**



**In the Narthex we will be collecting change  
to go toward our project for the Davis  
Fellowship Hall Flooring Project-Cattle on a  
Thousand Hills, the whole month of March.  
Please save your change to contribute to this  
project. We are so close to our goal of  
\$30,000. We are 90% there! Help us push  
past the Goal Line!**



*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](mailto:secretary@fbcdover.org)



*Don't forget to order 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, [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 March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Kids Konnection	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 10:00 Bonar Circle (Agnes Robinson's Home)	<b>4</b> 12:00 Bible Study 6:00 Fellowship Meal 6:45 Bible Study 7:15 Prayer Call	<b>5</b> 1:00 Clemmer Circle (Cox Parlor)	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 6:15 Museum of the Bible Bus Trip  10:00 Reed Circle (Fellowship Hall)
<b>8</b> Daylight Savings Time Begins 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Kids Konnection	<b>9</b> 11:30 XYZ (Pat's Select Smyrna)	<b>10</b> 10:00 Egg Making 	<b>11</b> 12:00 Bible Study 4:00 DIMH Dinner 6:00 Fellowship Meal 6:45 Bible Study 7:15 Prayer Call	<b>12</b> 5:00 Worship Committee (Zoom) 6:00 Praise Team 7:15 Sanctuary Choir	<b>13</b> April Newsletter Articles Due 10:00 Egg Making 	<b>14</b> 10:00 Missions (Conference Rm) 10:00 Egg Making 
<b>15</b> 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Kids Konnection	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 10:00 Egg Making 	<b>18</b> 12:00 Bible Study 6:00 Fellowship Meal 6:45 Bible study 7:15 Prayer Call	<b>19</b> 4:30 Deacon's ((Library) 6:00 Praise Team 7:15 Sanctary Choir	<b>20</b> 10:00 Egg Making  1:30 Constitution Committee (Library)	<b>21</b> 9:00 Coordinating Committee 10:00 Egg Making 
<b>22</b> 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Kids Konnection	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 10:00 Egg Making 	<b>25</b> 12:00 Bible Study 6:00 Fellowship Meal 6:45 Bible Study 7:15 Prayer Call	<b>26</b> 6:00 Praise Team 7:15 Sanctuary Choir	<b>27</b> 10:10:00 Egg Making 	<b>28</b> 10:00 Egg Making 
<b>29</b> Palm Sunday  9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Kids Konnection	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>				

**Pick Up Easter Eggs  
Sunday, March 29th**



## 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.