

Good News Letter

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Dear FBC family:

On May 4, 2010 all of us who live in the Delaware City Schools district will be asked to vote on a Substitute Emergency Levy. As I have attended meetings of the Education Council of our school district I have received an education about levy language. The emergency language is found in state law. The only emergency we would face would be if the levy is defeated. It provides 24% of the operating revenue for the district. Baptists have traditionally been supporters of public education. Excellent public schools provide an incentive for people to consider moving to a particular community.

When Kathy and I were thinking about coming to Delaware the schools were a strong consideration. At the time we were living in a community in another state that routinely voted down levies. The high school was falling down. The overall educational rate of the county was next to last in the state. It seems that few people in the community understood the relationship between paying for schools and the quality of life in the community. Although there

has been one exception since we arrived in Delaware we were told that Delaware had never voted down a school levy.

We were very pleased with the education that our son received in the Delaware City Schools. I continue to be impressed with how the other children in our church

are doing in the public schools. I want the children who come after my own to have the same opportunities to succeed. I hope you will vote yes on the Substitute Emergency Levy on May 4.

In the aftermath of the historic vote taken by congress on Sunday we have been inundated with wild

statements about the meaning of the healthcare reform act. As you try to process the changes yourself I hope you will look for some objective reporting about the issue. It seems pretty clear to me that we have not entered into Utopia or Armageddon. I trust that you will continue to resist hate speech on either side of this issue. Our nation has proven to be amazingly resilient in the past. Perhaps we should pray to recover the idea of community needs as opposed to only evaluating how any actions affects us personally.



Holy Week will present several opportunities for worship. Our Maundy Thursday Service will be held at 7:00. The community Good Friday service will begin at 11:00 with the Stations of the Cross walk through the community. At 12:00 we will gather at St. Mary's Catholic Church for the community Good Friday Service. Our Easter morning worship service will be at 10:45. Invite a friend or family member to any or all of these worship opportunities.

Your Pastor,

UPCOMING LENTEN SERVICES

Maundy Thursday (April 1)

A candlelight communion service will be held in the Fellowship Hall at 7:00 pm.

Please enter and leave in silence.

Good Friday (April 2)

A community service will begin with the Stations of the Cross at 11:00, followed at 12:00 by the Good Friday service at St. Mary Catholic Church.

Easter Sunday (April 4)

Sunday School at 9:15; Morning Worship at 10:45



Jim Van Brimmer

James R. Van Brimmer, 86, died March 6, 2010 after a two-year battle with a rare cancer.

Jim was a long-time member of First Baptist and he served the church in many ways, including as moderator, Sunday school superintendent, and chairman of the deacons. He served several years as president of the



American Baptist Men of Ohio.

Jim repaired pipe organs whenever asked and ingeniously refurbished several player pianos.

Jim was born in Delaware on Aug. 8, 1923 to Elmer and Mary (Richards) Van Brimmer. He graduated from Willis High School and served with the 1596th Army Air Force Unit, 2nd Ferrying Group, "Crescent Caravan" of the Air Transport Command during WWII. After the war, he had a crop dusting company with two service friends. In 1988, he retired as regional quality control manager for Ranco Controls after 40 years, having been hired the day the plant opened in Delaware.

Though humble, Jim had seemingly unlimited energy for the causes he chose. He served on the organizational committee for the United Way, creating its first budget; he was instrumental in creating the chaplaincy program at Grady Memorial Hospital, and in funding and finding the first chaplain; he kept the records for the Alpha Industries Board; and he helped organize and promote Andrews House services.

Jim's survivors include his wife of 59½ years, Bertha Sparks Van Brimmer; daughters, Karen (Steve) Stoner of Delaware and Susie (Jeff) Leonard of Port Royal, Pa.; son, Rick (Sandy) of Columbus; grandchildren, Stefanie Heizer, Micah Stoner, Casey Leonard, Ryan Leonard and Tonya Claar; three great-grandchildren; two nieces; and one nephew.

He was preceded in death by his parents; and three sisters, Ellen Treiber, Dorothy Houtman and Elizabeth Tracy.

The family received friends on March 12 at the Rodman Neeper Funeral Home, and a memorial service was held on Saturday, March 13 at First Baptist, led by the Rev. Tim Chesser.

The family suggests that memorial contributions be made to First Baptist.

Maundy Thursday

Please join us for our annual "Upper Room" communion service (in the Fellowship Hall) on Thursday, April 1 at 7pm.

Lenten Study Ends March 28

We hope you will join us at First Baptist Church for the final session of the Lenten Study on Sunday evening, March 28, at 6:30. The study is based on materials from the World Council of Churches. The topic of discussion will be the Church. Rev. Tim Chesser has been leading this exploration of the Nicene Creed and the Christian Church's beliefs over the centuries. Thank you, Tim, for your preparation and for sharing your insights on this important subject.

—Kathy Russell
Adult/Leadership Education

Thank You

I would like to thank all who contributed to the Bernice Turney reception and the Jim VanBrimmer lunch. A special thank you to the members of the board of deacons for your efforts for the memorials, you are appreciated.

—Larry Faulk,
Deacon Chairman

A Note of Appreciation

We would both like to say thank you very much to every person who has shown such love during the time of Kathy's mother's illness and death. We deeply appreciate the cards, phone calls, gifts, kind words, prayers, and generous offers. We are grateful for the help with making airline reservations, rides to and from the airport, taking care of the news letter while we were in California, the time people have taken to talk with us, and the pastoral support through everything. We are so blessed to have such a loving church family—especially at a time like this! We would appreciate your continued prayers as the estate is settled. Again, thank you all for everything!

Sincerely,

—Robert and Kathy Russell

Church Leadership Conference

The annual church leadership conference will be held at Sawmill Baptist Church on May 1 from 9:30 to 3:30. The theme is "Reinventing Worship." The cost is \$35 a person, and you must register by April 22. See Kathy Russell for the details.

A Bridal Shower

All the females in our church fellowship are invited to a bridal shower for Sam Chesser and Lindley Fischer on Sunday, April 11, at 2:00.

The shower will take place in the Fellowship Hall at church, and is being hosted by Erin Faulk, Pam Faulk, Debbie Fogle, and MaryLou Lovell. Please try to R.S.V.P. by April 4 to Pam or Debbie.

America for Christ Offering

“With willing hands—connect, care, celebrate” is the theme for this year’s America for Christ offering. Your gifts support Christ-centered ministries that transform lives in the United States and Puerto Rico. Refugees driven from their homes are helped to relocate in a safe place and children living in poverty are given a more secure life. Evangelism training, developing discipleship resources and leading ministry workshops are also included with your financial help.

**GIVE TO THE
AMERICA
FOR CHRIST
OFFERING
2010**

This offering will begin March 21 and end April 18. To celebrate reaching our goal of \$600, the annual Walk-A-Thon will be held on April 18th at 2:00 at Mingo Park. Wear comfortable shoes and clothing, and enjoy a nice walk in the park. If you want a snack or water, you need to take what you want.

– Carol Serviss
Mission Coordinator

First Baptist to Host Church Women United

We will welcome friends at the Annual Ecumenical Church Women United meeting on Friday, May 7, at 11:30 in our Fellowship Hal.

Prayer List

Please give additions or corrections to a Deacon.

Church Contact	Name	Reason for Prayer
The Deacons	Pam Debiasio	Health Issues
	Jim VanBrimmer Family	Condolences
	Della Dove	Stroke Recovery
	Duane Binkley	Health Issues
	Janet Lathrop	Health issues
Jane Moore	Nancy Snook	Health Issues
	George Corder	Health Issues
	Cathie Corder	Continued Recovery
Jean Wickum	Olivia Langwasser	Leukemia
	Martha Green	–
	Fran Cook	Heart Problems
Evelyn Lee	Mary & Steve Sealey	Health Issues
	Mary Tilson	At Willowbrook
	Bertha VanBrimmer	Health Issues
Barb Reed	Florence Faulk	At Delaware Court
Lana Palmer	Regan Riedmiller	Health Issues
Bob Foor	Judy Overly	Health Issues
Carol Grubbs	Kay Kern	Cancer
	Donald Brown	Health Concerns
	Haycox Family	Children’s Health
	Celesta Crawford	Medical Issues

At 11:30 we will share a potluck lunch, followed by the dedication of the Least Coin Offering. At 12:15, April Nelson will update us on the Andrews House Interfaith Legal Clinic which she helps to present monthly.

All women are invited and urged to join this gathering. For further details, please contact Sharon Baker, Barbara Reed or Evelyn Lee.

– Evelyn Lee

“Reinventing Worship”

The ABC/Ohio Church Leadership Conference on Saturday, May 1, 2010, will offer ideas for transforming worship. The conference leader, Rev. Brad Berglund, has been a pastor, church musician, and worship leader for more

than twenty-five years. He is also a spiritual director and a retreat director, and he has a degree in classical guitar! Check out his book *Reinventing Worship: Prayers, Readings, Special Services and More* (Judson Press, 2006).

Learn new ways to enhance worship that apply to many ages and interests. Registration is due by April 22 and only costs \$35.00 per person. See Rev. Tim Chesser for forms and financial assistance for this event. Plan now to attend the conference from 9:30 A.M. – 3:30 P.M. on May 1 at Sawmill Baptist Church, 10635 Sawmill Road, Powell, Ohio. Participants may check in on Saturday morning beginning at 9:00 A.M.

– Kathy Russell
Adult/Leadership Education

Trustees Notes

- A thank you goes to Jimmie Moore and Jerry Palmer for hanging new wooden wall cabinets in the kitchen. Things are better organized now and easier to find. The old steel cabinets went to Goodwill.
- The lock on the front door was repaired by Brads Lock & Key. The cost was \$75.
- John Muller of the Muller Pipe Organ Company came on March 9 and did many small repairs and some spot tuning on the organ. He returned four pipes that had been taken to the shop for repairs. The cost was \$299.75.

– Peter White
Reporting for the Trustees

Do One Thing

Can you make a difference? If each person did just one thing, think of the changes we could make. Here is a list for this month. Try to do something over and above what you already do.

1. Walk around your neighborhood and silently pray for the people in each house, even if you don't know them.
2. Get to know better different people in our church family.

Birthdays & Anniversaries



- April 10 Jane Mercer
Connor Trigg
15 Ray Serviss
Tyler Wayne Fogle
20 Fred & Pam DeBiasio
Tammy Ferguson
21 Jimmie Moore
27 Colin Ferguson
29 Deborah Fogle
Benjamin Trigg

Please report any errors or omissions
to Jim Stephenson.

3. Celebrate Earth Day by doing a special project.
4. Take old towels or animal treats to an animal shelter.
5. Listen respectfully to someone who disagrees with you.
6. Go fly a kite.
7. Pray for Christians all over the world.
8. Form a group to make prayer shawls or prayer quilts.
9. Cook "from scratch" more.
10. Get involved with Church World Service.

Personals

- Ken and Genevieve Peterson have returned from a trip to Florida to the M&M Conference. While they were there, they visited with Pat and Bob Foor.
- Ian Ferguson participated in the In The Know team for Delaware Hayes this year. The team took second place over all in the tournament among 62 area teams this year.
- Betty Porter is now going to outpatient physical therapy and is finally able to get out and about and to drive herself around.
- Claire Turner played the part of Cinderella in Willis's production of CINDERELLA.
- Sam Chesser received a full tuition scholarship to Methesco Theological Seminary and will be attending there in the fall.
- The Delaware Public Library has had a quilt display this month from the Delaware Piecemakers who meet at our church. The display included our own stained glass window quilt.
- Janet Lathrop is undergoing treatment for severe back pain.

- Four of our young people recently performed in the area string concert. They were Will Fogle, Alec Ferguson, Claire Turner, and Sarah Bowman.