

# Good News Letter

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101 North Franklin Street, Delaware, OH 43015•740-363-7021•www.FBCDelaware.org

April is the month of Easter, accompanied as usual by the arrival of spring. The new life around in nature speaks of resurrection, reminding us each day of the precious heritage of eternal life. Easter Sunday is the 5th. I look forward to the glorious music of the season, the smell of the lilies in the sanctuary, and the various stories about Jesus and the empty tomb.

In the Gospel of Mark, we find the women at the empty tomb at daybreak and the message of the angel,

“You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has Risen! He is not here. See the place where they have laid him.”

In Matthew Jesus meets his followers in Galilee and gives the Great Commission, including the only place in the New Testament where is found the Trinitarian formula, “. . . in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.”  
In Luke the Emmaus Road story is told, in which two



*April*

unnamed disciples spend the day with Jesus without recognizing him, at least not until dinnertime when he broke bread with them and then disappeared.

And in John there is the account of Mary Magdalene mistaking Jesus for the gardener; the meetings in the locked upper room with doubting Thomas, and the restoration of Peter after the notorious failure of his denials. Take time in the season to read them all as a part of your Easter celebration, along with presence in the worship services, family get togethers, and anything else that comprise the festivities.

I look forward to seeing you all on the days we meet for worship. Don't forget the conclusion of the Corinthian Bible Study on March 29th; the Maundy Thursday Service, which is April 3rd at 7 p.m.; and the Good Friday services at St. Mary Catholic Church on the 4th (11 a.m. for the Cross Walk, and 12 noon for the Community Service), and of course, Easter Sunday itself.

## Blessings, Mark

### Holy Week

#### **Palm Sunday**

Sunday, Mar 29  
9:30 am Sunday School  
10:45 am Worship

#### **Maundy Thursday**

Thursday, April 2  
7:00 pm Communion  
Blue Room

#### **Good Friday**

Friday, April 3  
11:00 Stations of the Cross  
Noon Service at St. Mary

#### **Easter Sunday**

Sunday, April 5  
9:30 am Sunday School  
10:45 am Worship

## April Panera Volunteers

<b>Wed</b>	<b>Thur</b>
Apr 1-Brown	Apr 2-Brown
Apr 8-Lee	Apr 9 -Faulk
Apr 15-Faulk	Apr 16-Faulk
Apr 22-Faulk	Apr 23-Lovell / Remlinger
Apr 29-Volunteer Needed	Apr 30-Lovell / Remlinger

Thanks to all who volunteer.

### PERSONALS

-The Fergusons would like to thank everyone for their cards and prayers at the death of Tammy's father.

-Four ladies from our church attended a mental health workshop at Second Baptist Church last month.

-Mary Sealey would like to thank everyone for their cards and prayers when she fell and hurt her leg.

-Jim Snyder recently had surgery to place a complex stent in his heart. He is recovering and thanks everyone for their prayers.

-Pastor Mark Allison had an article printed in the Feb. 28 issue of the Gazette.

-The brother of Laura Brown recently passed away.

-Pastor Allison recently announced that Evan and Devin Allison are expecting a baby girl in August. This will be Mark's second grandchild.

### Change for Change

Thanks to all those who brought their change to church when the clocks changed. We donated \$313.00 to Andrews House for the Summer Lunch Program for Delaware children.



### Ken Shears

Kenneth "Ken" R. Shears, age 76, of Delaware, Ohio passed away Saturday, March 7, 2026, at home surrounded by his loving family following an extended illness. He was born on August 24, 1949, in Marietta, Ohio to the late William Shears and Frances (Wickham) Shears.

On January 6, 1996, he married Pamela Lathrop Shears at their home. Together they shared 30 wonderful years of marriage.

Ken was proud to serve his country in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War. He completed a tour in Vietnam as a medic and was awarded a Purple Heart and a Bronze Star with Valor Medal.

Ken was also inducted into the Ohio Military Hall of Fame in 2017. He was a member of Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 1095, and served on the Board and the Honor Guard.

Ken was a member of the First Baptist Church in Delaware and served as a trustee. He was generous with his time and resources to help others in need.

Ken enjoyed fishing, bowling, slot machines, camping, and telling jokes. He could make anyone laugh and never met a stranger.

Ken was a warm, kind person who will be forever loved and deeply missed by all who were blessed to know him.

Left to cherish his memory are his beloved wife, Pam; daughters, Kimberly Miller, Kara Shears, and Amy Miller; son, K. Aaron Shears;

grandchildren, Tanner Flowers, Cody Flowers, Kennedy Flack, Haley Flack, Wyatt Spriggs, Levi Shears, Gavin Shears, Jacob Thatcher and Adyson Thatcher; great-grandchildren, Silas and Maverick; sisters, Velvet Benson of Marietta, Ohio and Shirley (Bruce) Fletcher of Apopka, Florida; sister-in-law, Susan Beard and several nieces, nephews, and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Bill and Frances Shears; brothers, Bill Shears and Ronnie Shears; brother-in-law, Dan Benson.

### Easter Offering

On Easter Sunday, a special offering will be for Helpline. Helpline is an agency that assists people in crisis to find what they need such as food through People In Need, counseling at Andrews House, or a place to stay- Family Promise, Turning Point, Zion Church.

### Birthdays and Anniversaries



#### April

- 2 Cathy Reynolds
- 4 Taylor Turner
- 5 Evan Allison
- 10 Lauren Reynolds  
Connor Trigg
- 15 Ray Serviss
- 20 Tammy Ferguson
- 27 Colin Ferguson  
Devin Allison
- 29 Deb Lovell  
Benjamin Trigg

*Please report any errors.*



**Jim Brown**

James Allen Brown, 89 of Powell, passed away peacefully Thursday March 12, 2026, at his residence surrounded by his loving family.

He was born October 20, 1936, in Columbus, Ohio, to the late Charles & Ruth (Priest) Brown. He graduated from Linden McKinley High School in 1955 and served 7 years in the National Guard. Jim was a Cartographer for the State of Ohio for over 30 years.

He married the love of his life, Anna Louise Grubbs in 1957 at the First Baptist church in Delaware, Ohio, where they met and were members for over 70 years. A man of strong faith, he was active in the church teaching Sunday School, VBS and leading a healing prayer group.

Left to cherish his memory are his loving wife of 68 years, Anna; son Chuck (Ying-Hsuan Lee) Brown; daughters Liz (Bruce) Bowman and Krissy Brown (Jay Murphy); grandchildren Emily Bowman, Sarah (Tyler) Levings, Austin Davis (Faith Dakin) and Samantha (Gavin) Livingstone; great-grandchildren Harper, Mia, Gatlin, Odin, Kaylin, Koltin and Stella; sisters Carol Grubbs and Donna Brown and many nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother Donald Brown, sister Jeannie Stephenson, niece Teresa Griffith and great nephew Nicholas Haycox.

**Prayer List**

This list is prepared by the Deacons.  
Please send changes to Larry Faulk ([lfaulk01@aol.com](mailto:lfaulk01@aol.com)).

<b>Name</b>	<b>Reason for Prayer</b>
Dr. Allison's sister	Health Issues
Jenni Pedzinski and family	Father's stroke
Bill & Ann Clemmer	Safety
Tim Lee	Health Issues
David Salyer	Health Issues
Connie Roberts	Health Issues
Ray Serviss	Health Issues
Mark & Cindy Faulk	Health Issues
Condolences to the Brown family on the death of Jim Brown	
Condolences to the Shears family on the death of Ken Shears	
Condolences to the Chesser family on the death of Tim Chesser	
Condolences to Richard & Laura Brown on the death of Laura's brother	

Remember daily all the men and women in the military — Those stationed in the USA and those deployed throughout the world. GOD BLESS AMERICA!

**Old Parsonage Sale**

The church has owned a single family house at 632 Congress Ct since the early 1970's. It has served both as a parsonage and most recently as a rental property.

At a called business meeting on March 15th, the congregation voted to sell the property. We have entered into a contract with the current tenant to purchase it and expect to close the sale by the end of March.

**American Baptist Women**

Happy Spring! On March 20th the ladies gathered at Willowbrook to have fellowship with long time member Genevieve Peterson. Our next meeting will be April 18th. Bring a lunch and join us in the Fellowship Hall at 11:30.

- Laura Brown



### **Rev. Tim Chesser**

The Reverend Lewis Timothy Chesser, 76, of Cranston, passed away on Monday, March 16, 2026. He was the loving husband of the late Kathy (Hope) Chesser for 54 years. Born in Doraville, Ga, he was the son of the late Arnold and Hazel (Bailey) Chesser.

Tim was a graduate of Mercer University, and the South Baptist Theological Seminary. He retired from the First Baptist Church in Delaware, Ohio, after serving churches in Indiana, Wisconsin, Oklahoma, and Ohio.

In retirement he served as the interim Pastor of several local Congregations, where he was much beloved. He was an avid golfer and pickleball player, a voracious reader, and a lover of cars. But nothing gave him more pleasure than spending time with his family. He also never knew a stranger and treated everyone with kindness and respect.

Tim is survived by his beloved sons Donald R Chesser (Cheyenne) of Delaware, Ohio and the Rev. Sam E. Chesser (Lindley) of West Warwick, his grandchildren Taylor, Xander, Jayden, Spencer, Eliza and Milo, one great-grandchild Roman, his brother Wayne Chesser (Gail) of Doraville, Ga.

His Funeral Service will be held on Saturday, March 28, 2026, at 11:00AM at the Warwick Central

Baptist Church, 3270 Post Road, Warwick RI 02886.

Visitation will be held on Friday, March 27, 2026, from 4:00PM-6:00PM at THE URQUHART-MURPHY FUNERAL HOME, 800 Greenwich Avenue, Warwick.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Warwick Central Baptist Church, 3270 Post Road, Warwick, RI, 02886.

### **Mission/Outreach News**

We continue our prayers for Ann and Bill Clemmer, the missionaries we support. They continue to work with children and youth providing food, medical care, education, and learning about Christ through their dedication to others.

### **Thank You Bags for Conger Elementary Staff**

In May, we remember the school staff for their work with students. We deliver bags filled with candy, pencils, and individually wrapped bags of potato chips, cheese and peanut butter crackers, cookies, dried fruit, pretzels, granola bars, tea bags, and hot chocolate. In the past, flower seeds to plant have been put in the bags. In April, we begin to collect these items and put them in the marked basket in the Welcome Center of the church. Thanks to all who think of teachers and bring something for these thank you bags. Please bring items by April 26th.

### **Turning Point**

In March, our mission outreach was to Turning Point. Turning Point is a center that women and children can enter when they have experienced domestic

abuse. They are provided a place to sleep, food, clothing, and counseling so that they can become independent and safe. Thanks to Peter White for delivering the large amount of items to the center!

### **Panera Pick Up Continues**

We have volunteers who dedicate a Wednesday or Thursday evening, or both to picking up unsold items from Panera. They repackage them for easy distribution at Willis School and Andrews House.

Please look at the sign up sheet in the Gathering Place to sign up for a time you can help with this mission. If you would like more information about it, ask Larry Faulk, Pam Faulk, Carol Grubbs, or Deb Lovell.

### **America for Christ Offering**

Thanks to all who gave to the America for Christ offering. Each week in the bulletin there was a handout that explained how your money is used.

### **People In Need**

People In Need provides food to those in our community who need assistance. Your donations each week are a blessing to those who live in Delaware. Thank you for remembering others as you shop for groceries each week.

# First Baptist Church









101 North Franklin Street  
Delaware, Ohio 43015

# April

2026

Dr. Mark Allison, Pastor

Office Hours: by appointment

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><b>Palm Sunday</b> 29 <b>Sixth Sunday of Lent</b> 9:30 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship Service 5:00 pm Lenten Bible Study America for Christ Offering ends </p>	30	31	<p>April 1 <b>April Fool's Day</b>  8:45 Panera Pickup - Brown</p>	<p><b>Maundy Thursday</b> 2 7 pm Candlelight Communion Service  8:45 Panera Pickup - Brown</p>	<p><b>Good Friday</b> 3  11:00 am Crosswalk noon - Worship Service at St. Mary</p>	4
<p><b>Easter</b> 5  9:30 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship Service Holy Communion <b>Easter Offering</b></p>	6	<p><b>World Health Day</b> 7 </p>	8 8:45 Panera Pickup - Lee	9 8:45 Panera Pickup - Faulk	10	11
<p>9:30 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship Service</p>	13 5:30 Deacons	14	<p><b>Taxes Due</b> 15 8:45 Panera Pickup - Faulk</p>	16 8:45 Panera Pickup - Faulk	17	<p>18 8 am Men's Breakfast-Bob Evans 11:30 am Women's Luncheon</p>
<p>9:30 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship Service noon - Board of Christian Education May newsletter deadline</p>	20	21	<p><b>Earth Day</b>  22 6:30pm Potluck Supper 7:00pm Quarterly business meeting 8:45 Panera Pickup - Faulk</p>	23 8:45 Panera Pickup - Lovell / Remlinger	<p><b>Arbor Day</b> 24 </p>	25
<p>9:30 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship Service <b>Items for teacher bags due</b> May newsletter available</p>	27	28	29 8:45 Panera Pickup - Volunteer Needed	30 8:45 Panera Pickup - Lovell / Remlinger	<p><b>April Mission Focus:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Items for Conger Teacher Appreciation</li> </ul>	