



# First Baptist Church Bulletins and Order of Worship 1998

Several Missing

# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

101 North Franklin Street

Delaware, Ohio

363-7021

The Reverend Jody Lynn B. Hagans, pastor

January 4, 1998

Epiphany

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## ORDER OF WORSHIP

10:45 a.m.

### PRELUDE

Welcome to First Baptist Church. We are glad to have you worshiping with us this morning. On this Communion Sunday, we invite all who believe in Christ to join us in our celebration at the table.

### PRAYER OF MEDITATION

God of all people and all places, like the magi we journey into the presence of Jesus the Christ. There we offer our gifts; before Christ, we lay the realities of our lives, good and bad. We offer our joy and love and laughter, that they will be made holy; we relinquish our bitterness and hatred and worry, that we will be made whole once more; through the living Spirit of Christ. Amen.

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### INTROIT

### CALL TO WORSHIP

*The magi came from many places, following a star.*

We come to worship, and the star sheds light on our lives.

*The magi brought gifts to offer the Child.*

We too bring gifts-ourselves, our hopes, our dreams.

*Shepherds and magi-the meek and the mighty-all were welcome in Bethlehem.*

We too come to Bethlehem and then return to our homes rejoicing.

### \*HYMN OF PRAISE, #110

"Angels From the Realms of Glory"

### \*INVOCATION

### \*LORD'S PRAYER (Trespases)

### \*GLORIA PATRI #576

### GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory

Response #572

O God, may we who bear your name  
by gentle love your grace proclaim,  
Christ's gift of peace on earth declare  
and your anointing Spirit share. Amen.

### ANTHEM

### CHILDREN'S MOMENT

### \*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING, #106

"Hark the Herald Angels Sing"

### MORNING PRAYERS

SCRIPTURE LESSON Matthew 2:1-12

MORNING MESSAGE "Realistic Visionaries"

### FELLOWSHIP OFFERING

### \*HYMN OF COMMITMENT, #114

"As With Gladness Men of Old"

### HOLY COMMUNION

\*FELLOWSHIP CIRCLE "Blest Be the Tie That Binds" #207

### \*BENEDICTION

### \*POSTLUDE

(\*congregation stands)

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### MINISTERING TODAY

Pastor: Jody Lynn B. Hagans

Lay Leader: Deacon Beth Trigg

Choir Director: Jim Stephenson

Organist: Mary Lou Lovell

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### OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

MONDAY	7:00	Boy Scouts
WEDNESDAY	7:00	Choir
THURSDAY	12:00	Young at Heart
SATURDAY	9:30	DISCIPLE
	1:30	Parish Council Calendar Planning
NEXT SUNDAY	2:00	Peace Camp Meeting
	7:00	Community Forum for the Schools



*Many peoples shall come and say,  
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,  
to the house of the God of Jacob;  
that he may teach us his ways  
and that we may walk in his paths."  
For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,  
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.*

*—Isaiah 2:3*

There is something about the height, majesty, and grandeur of mountains that beckons the human spirit upward. Mountains possess an otherworldly character so that when we "lift our eyes unto the hills" (Psalm 121:1), our hearts are also lifted up to the Lord.

Jesus ascended the mountain to pray in solitude. Mountains are places where character is proven and may also symbolize the place where our spirits are defined, refined, and nourished.

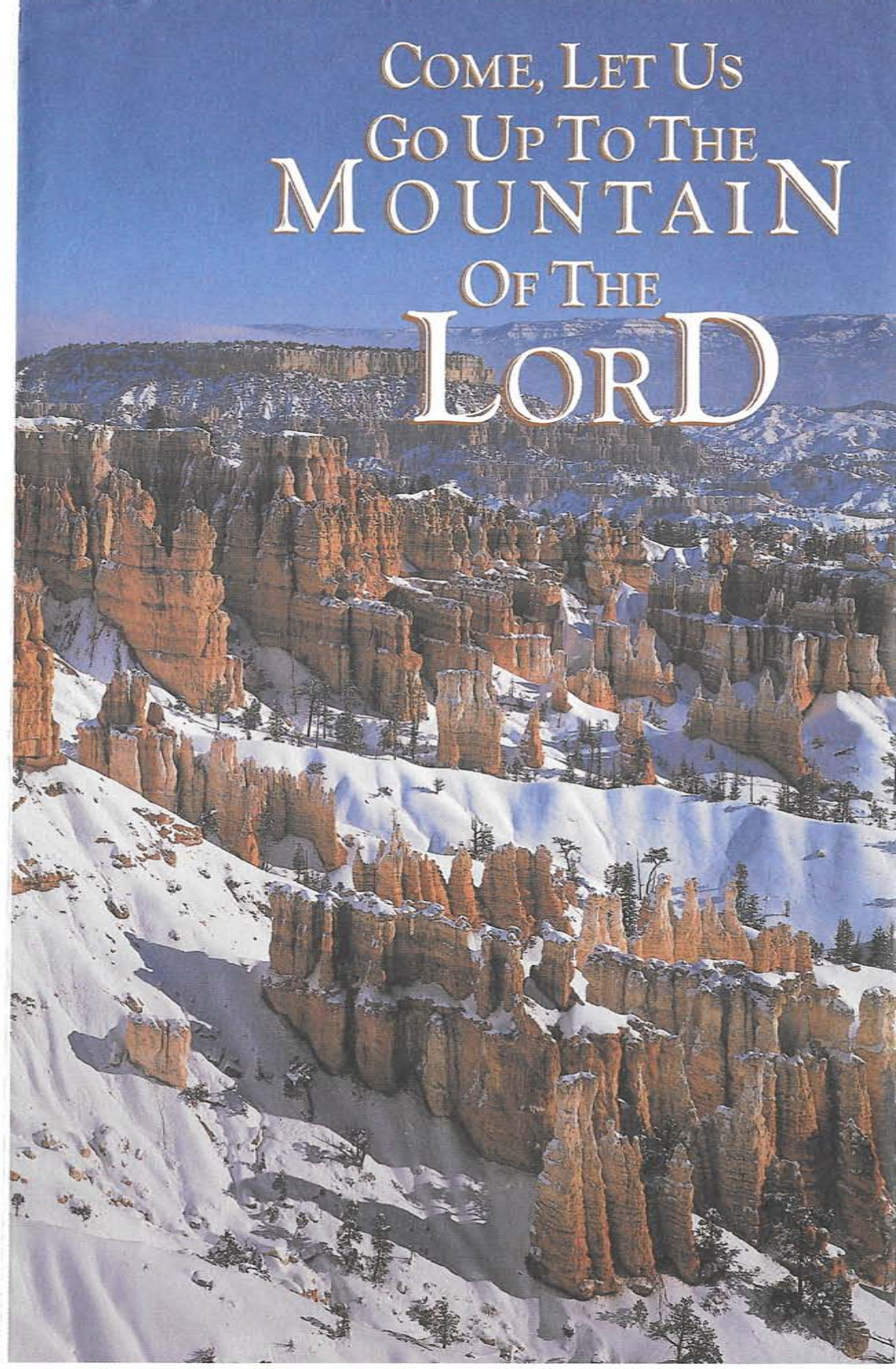
Each day the invitation to come apart, to climb the mountain of God's presence to learn of God's ways, presents itself. God offers us a time and place to rest, reflect, renew, and re-create. But we often rush past this time and place in our pursuit to fulfill our perceived needs and desires. Perhaps we longingly glance at what we feel we have no leisure to enjoy, or more likely, we focus our eyes so sharply on the problems and tasks of the day that we may as well be wearing blinders. No wonder our lives often resemble the tangled ball of yarn the kitten has messed with. Thinking "coming away" to be a luxury, we lose sight of who and whose we are.

When we accept the invitation and set a little time aside each day or a day each month, then order, perspective, faith, hope, and serenity return. "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD."

*The Reverend Joy A. Bergfalk  
Pastor, First Baptist Church  
East Rochester, New York  
Chair, Small Church Ministries Team*

1998

# COME, LET US GO UP TO THE MOUNTAIN OF THE LORD





# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

101 North Franklin Street

Delaware, Ohio

363-7021

The Reverend Jody Lynn B. Hagans, pastor

January 11, 1998

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday After Epiphany

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

10:45 a.m.

### PRELUDE

### PRAYER OF MEDITATION

Holy God, Eternal Spirit, we thank you for baptizing us into one body in Jesus the Christ. Wash over us with your Spirit, that, like Jesus, we may serve you in serving humanity. Baptize us with the fire of your truth, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### INTROIT

### CALL TO WORSHIP

### \*HYMN OF PRAISE, #75

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

### \*INVOCATION

### \*LORD'S PRAYER (Trespases)

### \*GLORIA PATRI #576

### RESPONSIVE SCRIPTURE READING, #616 "Christian Baptism"

### GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory

Response #572

O God, may we who bear your name  
by gentle love your grace proclaim,  
Christ's gift of peace on earth declare  
and your anointing Spirit share. Amen.

### ANTHEM

### CHILDREN'S MOMENT

### \*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING, #190

"We Are Gathered for Thy Blessing"

### MORNING PRAYERS

### SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

### MORNING MESSAGE

"The Priesthood of ALL Believers"

### \*HYMN OF COMMITMENT, #499

"The Master Has Come, & He Calls Us"

### \*BENEDICTION

### \*ALLELUIA

### \*POSTLUDE

(\*congregation stands)

### MINISTERING TODAY

Pastor:

Jody Lynn B. Hagans

Lay Leader:

Deacon Jim Van Brimmer

Choir Director:

Jim Stephenson

Organist:

Mary Lou Lovell

### OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

TODAY

2:00

Peace Camp Meeting

7:00

Community Forum for Schools

MONDAY

7:00

Boy Scouts

WEDNESDAY

7:00

Choir

SATURDAY

8:15

Men's Breakfast

9:30

DISCIPLE Bible Study

*Hear the word of the LORD, O nations,  
and declare it in the coastlands far away;  
say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him,  
and will keep him as a shepherd a flock."  
—Jeremiah 31:10*

**O**ne of the great joys of my life is spreading the gospel of Jesus Christ to and through children here at Neighborhood Ministries. At the Center this year, we've been "inching" through the Bible with Mr. Miles, a giant inchworm that stretches across the top of the program room.

On Mr. Miles's body are the books of the Bible. He serves as a great visual to help the kids learn. Along with Mr. Miles, I use Christian cassette tapes for children. Kids of all ages can grab on to the catchy tune and "inch" through the Bible as they learn many stories in addition to the familiar ones of Adam and Eve, Jesus' birth, and Easter.

The children in my groups attend kindergarten through high school, and I put a lot of time into preparing the devotions for each age group. We have been blessed with a wonderful resource library that is stocked with devotional material with crafts to match.

Please pray that, as we "inch" through the Bible, the right seeds are planted to accomplish Neighborhood Ministries' goal—to help children become healthy, happy, responsible Christian adults.

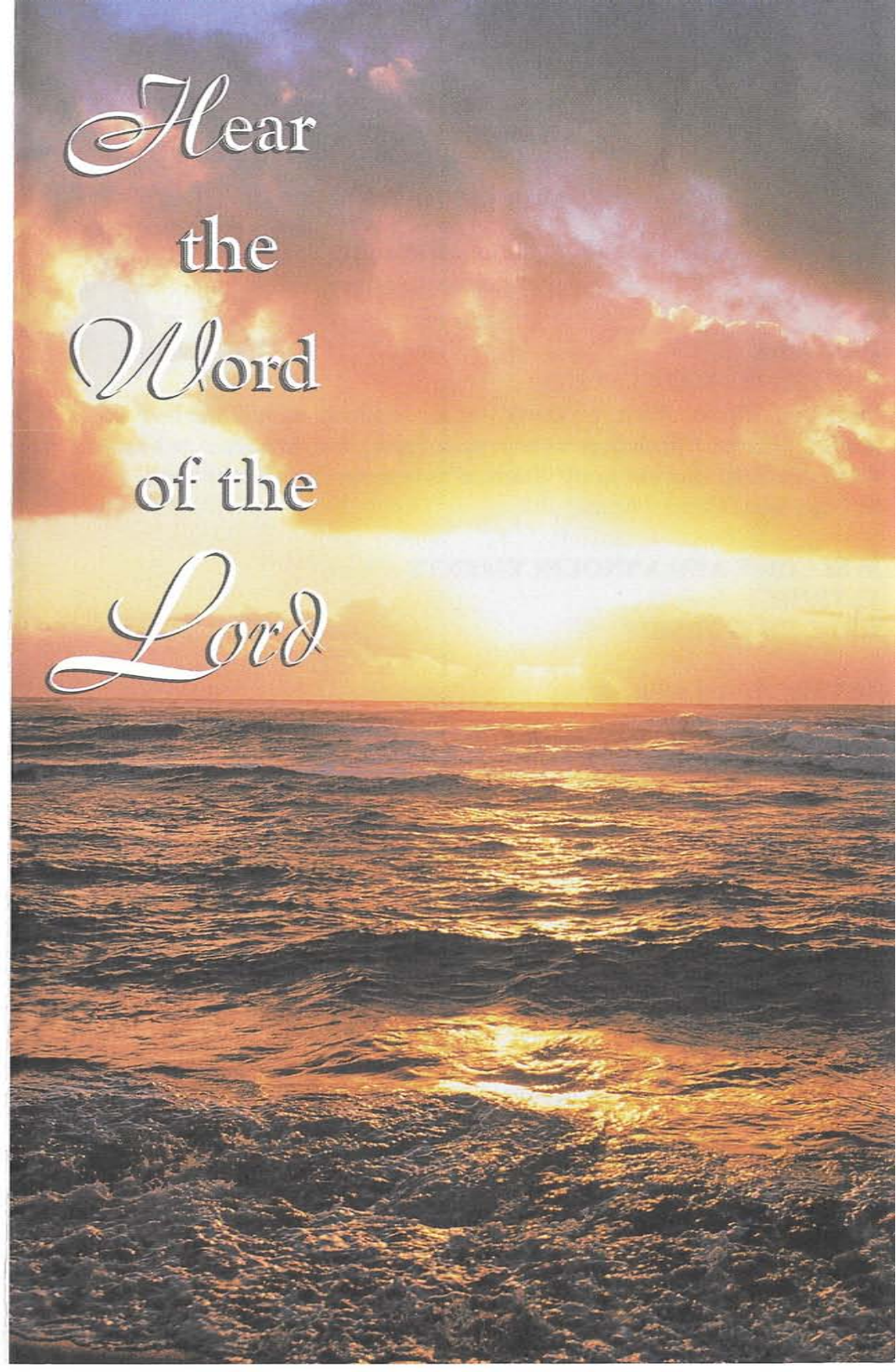
In the words of Diondra Williams, a 4-year-old who stood up tall to recite her Easter speech this year:

*Dear Lord Jesus, let me see  
You want me to be more like thee.  
In my work and in my play,  
Help me to be more like thee each day.*

*Janeen Patton, Neighborhood Ministries Worker  
Neighborhood Ministries  
Campbell, Ohio*

*Neighborhood Ministries is one of twenty-four Christian Centers related to American Baptist Churches in the U.S.A. through National Ministries' Neighborhood Action Program.*

# Hear the Word of the Lord





# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

101 North Franklin Street

Delaware, Ohio

363-7021

The Reverend Jody Lynn B. Hagans, pastor

The Reverend Matthew Morton-Wilson

January 18, 1998

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday After Epiphany

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## ORDER OF WORSHIP

10:45 a.m.

### PRELUDE

"Prelude in G"

*Rimbault*

### PRAYER OF MEDITATION

With different gifts, with a variety of talents, with an array of interests, we come to worship you, our creating God. We are here to unite our spirits, to be made one in Jesus Christ, to be merged in hope as your children. Bless our differences, that the unique gifts and perceptions of each may strengthen our oneness. Drawn into your Spirit, we give you the thanks of our hearts, in the name of the living Christ. Amen.

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### INTROIT

### CALL TO WORSHIP

*We gather together to worship the Lord,  
Whose glory is bright as the dawn.  
May we be forged into a unified people,  
A shining crown of beauty for our Lord.*

### \*HYMN OF PRAISE, #63

"All hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

### \*INVOCATION

### \*LORD'S PRAYER (Trespases)

### \*GLORIA PATRI #576

### SCRIPTURE LESSON

Isaiah 62:1-5

### GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory

"Prayer"

*Weber*

### Response #572

O God, may we who bear your name  
by gentle love your grace proclaim,  
Christ's gift of peace on earth declare  
and your anointing Spirit share. Amen.

### ANTHEM

### CHILDREN'S MOMENT

### \*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING, #233

"There's A Wideness in God's Mercy"

### MORNING PRAYERS

### SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 2:1-11

### MORNING MESSAGE

"Stone Jars & Coffee Spoons"

### \*HYMN OF COMMITMENT, #205

"Renew Thy Church"

### \*BENEDICTION

### \*ALLELUIA

### \*POSTLUDE

"Chorale: Farewell Will I Thee Give"

*Bach*

(\*congregation stands)

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### MINISTERING TODAY

Guest Preacher:

Matthew Morton-Wilson

Lay Leader:

Deacon Jim Van Brimmer

Choir Director:

Jim Stephenson

Organist:

Betty Porter

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### OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

TODAY

12:30 A.B.W. Ministries, sack lunch

2:00 Board of Christian Education

MONDAY

7:00 Boy Scouts

WEDNESDAY

7:00 Choir

SATURDAY

9:30 DISCIPLE Bible Study

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# Be led by the Spirit in Hope

Romans 8:14-27



## **“Be led by the Spirit in Hope”**

(Romans 8:14-27)

Graymoor Ecumenical & Interreligious Institute  
PO Box 300, Graymoor, Garrison, NY 10524-0300

1998 WEEK OF PRAYER  
FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

101 North Franklin Street  
Delaware, Ohio  
363-7021

The Reverend Jody Lynn B. Hagans, pastor

January 25, 1998

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday After Epiphany

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

10:45 a.m.

### PRELUDE

### PRAYER OF MEDITATION

We thank you, O God, for calling us into your church to be your people. We have gathered, God of grace and wisdom, because we have heard your call. You have reached out to us in Jesus Christ, you have touched us with your Spirit; and we have turned toward you, seeking to love as we have been loved. We call upon your holy name: empower us to worship and serve you, walking gently on this earth, through the grace of Jesus Christ. Amen.

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### INTROIT

### CALL TO WORSHIP (In Unison)

God has made this day.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Let us worship the living God!

To God, Fountain of Life, Living Word, and Spirit of Holiness, be praise in all the earth.

### \*HYMN OF PRAISE, #90

"O For A Thousand Tongues to Sing"

### \*INVOCATION

### \*LORD'S PRAYER (Trespases)

### \*GLORIA PATRI #576

### GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory

Response #572

O God, may we who bear your name  
by gentle love your grace proclaim,  
Christ's gift of peace on earth declare  
and your anointing Spirit share. Amen.

### ANTHEM

### CHILDREN'S MOMENT

### \*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING, #466

"God of Grace, and God of Glory"

### MORNING PRAYERS

SCRIPTURE LESSON Luke 4:14-30

MORNING MESSAGE "Play it Again"

### \*HYMN OF COMMITMENT, #476

"O Christian Haste, Your Mission High"

### \*BENEDICTION

### \*ALLELUIA

### \*POSTLUDE

(\*congregation stands)

### MINISTERING TODAY

Pastor: Jody Lynn B. Hagans  
Lay Leader: Deacon Jim Van Brimmer  
Choir Director: Jim Stephenson  
Organist: Mary Lou Lovell

### OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

MONDAY 7:00 Boy Scouts  
WEDNESDAY 6:30 Quarterly Business Meeting  
SATURDAY 9:30 DISCIPLE Bible Study



## PRAYER CONCERNS

Our SHUT-INS and those in NURSING HOMES:

HELEN BAKER, at home; EDITH HALL, at home; ELIZABETH HEIZER, at home with her daughter; LOLA JACKSON, at home; FRANCES JOHNSON, at Wintersong Village Nursing Facility; and CAROLYN SCHNEEBERGER, at the Sarah Moore Home.

Those in need of our PRAYERS include:

PAUL ALLEN; LAURA ANDERSSON; BONNIE ARMSTRONG, Sue Elfiner's cousin; TOBY AUGDON; LYNN BLACKLAND; JOE & JEAN BROWER & daughter DARLENE; KEN BROWN, Carol Grubbs' nephew; LAVERNE CRUMPET; the CUMMINS Family; BOB CURTS; ROBERT CYBEK and Family; DAVID CYRUS; SHANNON DE'LASSANJRO, Jean Wickum's granddaughter; MICHAEL DUFFY; the EDDY Family; RAY GILLETTE; BOBBY GUET; JOHN HASTY, Flo Faulk's nephew; CHRISSY HOPKINS; CHARMAIN & RICK HOWELL; DEWEY HUGHES, Tammy Francis' grandfather; MARY HUNTER; DEBBIE HELD, Bernice Turney's niece; JEANETTE JONES; DARREN KERNS, Alex Bennett's friend; BOB KURTZ; JANET LATHROP; JOYCE LEVERING; JOHN & ANNE LINN; the LUCAS Family; LUCAS MARTIN, 3 year old on dialysis; DENVER & DOROTHY MCGHEE, Shannon Weakland's parents; AMY MCGREW; RAY MORBY, Mary Lou Lovell's father; RANDY MORBY, Mary Lou Lovell's brother; the MURDAY Family; SUSAN MUSSARD; JACKIE NELSON, friend of the Mercers; the NOLIN Family; the PERRY Family; JOHN RILEY & Family; JEANETTE SCHAEFER; MARY SEALY; NINA SELTZER; DIANE SHOAF; DAN SILVEOUS & Family; CHERYL SPANGLER; SHARON STEVENS, friend of the Weakland's; JUDY TARELLTON; BERNICE TURNER; RICK URGHART; BERTHA VAN BRIMMER; TINA WAGNER, friend of Liz Hopkins; GREG WALKER; and THELMA WARD.

Those in COLLEGE or AWAY AT COLLEGE include: ERIN FAULK, at Hope College, Holland Michigan; MATTHEW LOVELL at O.S.U.; NATALIE MOWERY at O.S.U.; MARCI SANDER at O.S.U.; SHANNON & MICAH STONER at DeVry Institute of Technology; KAREN STONER, at Methodist Theological School in Ohio; and JENNA WEAKLAND, at Bowling Green State University.

Those in the MILITARY include:

VICTOR & DEBBIE FOGLE, in the Marines; ED & JENNIFER LINN, in the Air Force.



*Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.*

*—Romans 12:2*

## **Green Lake Sunday A Place for Your Renewal**

**F**or fifty-five years the American Baptist Assembly has provided for American Baptists:

- a family gathering place for our denomination
- a beautiful conference center that hosts many educational and inspirational opportunities
- a place to experience the peace of God.

But, most of all, Green Lake has been for countless people “A Place for Renewal.”

The story is told of a husband and wife who came one summer to the Assembly—the wife to attend a conference and her husband for rest and renewal. There are many deer on the grounds, and the husband had been told by a friend that if he found a quiet place in the woods they would come near.

The man decided to test his friend’s advice and found a large rock in the woods to watch from. After only twenty minutes of waiting, a doe and her two young ones appeared right in front of him. Not wanting to frighten them, the man remained perfectly still. They looked at him, and he at them for what seemed to be several minutes. Then one fawn came closer and closer to the man until it was right next to him. Holding his breath, the man felt the young fawn brush its nose against his shoulder much like a kitten would. A moment later the three were gone; the man remained awhile and reflected on the magnificence of God and God’s creation.

Often it is not until we are still (Psalm 46:10a) that we can receive the blessing God has in store for us.

*Lance Percy  
Assistant Vice President of Program  
American Baptist Assembly*

# A PLACE

# FOR YOUR RENEWAL



# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

101 North Franklin Street  
Delaware, Ohio  
363-7021

The Reverend Jody Lynn B. Hagans, pastor

February 1, 1998

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany

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## ORDER OF WORSHIP

10:45 a.m.

**PRELUDE** "Lord, Lift Me Up & Let Me Stand" *Keeney*

Welcome to First Baptist Church. We are glad to have you worshiping with us this morning. On this Communion Sunday, we invite all who believe in Christ to join us in our celebration at the table.

## PRAYER OF MEDITATION

O God, we are awed by the responsibility you entrust to us as your children, that you ask us to point the way toward you. Help us to be like salt, a small ingredient that gives flavor to the common life of humanity while drawing little attention to itself. Give us courage to live with faith, love and hope through Christ, so that our lives will shine with your light, and all will worship you. Amen.

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## INTROIT

## CALL TO WORSHIP

*Come, gather together like those who sat at Jesus' feet so many years ago.*

*We gather with joy, for we too want to be disciples of Christ.*

*I tell you, Christ is here with us, calling us now to life and love.*

Let us praise God for bringing us together, and coming to us in Jesus Christ. Amen.

## \*HYMN OF PRAISE, #51

"I Will Sing of the Mercies of the Lord"

## \*INVOCATION

## \*LORD'S PRAYER (Trespases)

## \*GLORIA PATRI #576

## GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory "Libestraum"

Response #572

*Liszt*

O God, may we who bear your name  
by gentle love your grace proclaim,  
Christ's gift of peace on earth declare  
and your anointing Spirit share. Amen.

**ANTHEM** "We Place Upon Your Table, Lord"

*Ritter*

## CHILDREN'S MOMENT

## \*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING, #349

"May the Mind of Christ My Savior"

## MORNING PRAYERS

**SCRIPTURE LESSON** 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

**MORNING MESSAGE** "All You Need Is..."

**FELLOWSHIP OFFERING** "I Need Thee"

*Philips*

## \*HYMN OF COMMITMENT, #219

"O Word of God Incarnate"

## HOLY COMMUNION

**\*FELLOWSHIP CIRCLE** "Blest Be the Tie That Binds" #207

## \*BENEDICTION

**\*POSTLUDE** "Lord Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing" *Johnson*

(\*congregation stands)

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## MINISTERING TODAY

Pastor: Jody Lynn B. Hagans  
Lay Leader: Deacon Jim Van Brimmer  
Choir Director: Jim Stephenson  
Organist: Mary Lou Lovell

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## OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

TODAY	2:00	Peace Camp Meeting
MONDAY	7:00	Boy Scouts
	7:00	Delaware Piecemakers
TUESDAY	7:00	Board of Deacons
WEDNESDAY	7:00	Choir
THURSDAY	10:00	Sewing Group
SATURDAY	9:30	DISCIPLE

*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.*

*—1 Peter 1:3-5*

## **Baptist World Alliance Sunday Celebrate Christ: The Lord of the Nations**

**T**he Mekong River in Cambodia was swollen and dangerous. Already its flood waters had devastated many parts of Cambodia, a country that in recent times has suffered greatly from war.

Situated on the Indochinese peninsula, Cambodia has Thailand and Laos on the North and Vietnam on the East and South of its borders.

With more than ten million people, Cambodia is a predominantly Buddhist country; yet, in 1992 the first Baptist church in Cambodia was started, and today there are more than 2,700 Baptist believers in over 73 small congregations.

It was because of that small Baptist community that leaders of the Baptist World Alliance (BWA) made their first visit to Cambodia, and they arrived when the floods were at their worst.

Southern Baptist leader Bill Hogue, who also serves as a vice president of the BWA, went with Tony Cupit of the BWA staff and Edwin Lopez, an Asian Baptist leader.

"Just getting there was a challenge for us," Cupit said. "The actual boundaries of the river were indistinguishable from the flood. We had to discard our shoes, roll up our pants, and walk in oozing mud up to our ankles to meet with a small group of people impoverished and facing hunger because of the loss of their banana trees and rice paddies under water."

Cupit said the Christians and the village held together when the floods were at their worst, and after sharing a meal with them, "we prayed with them and for them," he said.

What a joy to tell our brothers and sisters in Cambodia that though small, they are an important part of the BWA, and Baptists around the world rejoice in the new growth that is taking place in the work of Southern Baptist missionaries and others in Cambodia who declare Jesus Christ is Lord in that country.

The Baptist Convention of Cambodia is one of the member bodies of the BWA, which today has more than 188 member bodies in over 200 countries. This global fellowship of Baptists works together in evangelism, justice, and aid. It brings Baptists together in a great fellowship under the lordship of Jesus Christ.

This is the message Baptists in Cambodia received from the BWA, and this is the message we send out to you on this very special day, Baptist World Alliance Day.

*Wendy Ryan  
Director, Communications Division  
Baptist World Alliance*

# CELEBRATE CHRIST:



## The Lord Of The Nations

# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

101 North Franklin Street

Delaware, Ohio

363-7021

The Reverend Jody Lynn B. Hagans, pastor

February 8, 1998

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Epiphany

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

10:45 a.m.

### PRELUDE

### PRAYER OF MEDITATION

Before you, Holy One, we are people of unclean lips and hearts. Touch us with the fire of your love, that we will praise you worthily. Speak your call to us, and give us courage to respond, "We will!" Show us your way, that we will walk in paths of goodness and truth, through the grace of Jesus Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### INTROIT

### CALL TO WORSHIP (In Unison)

O great God, who are you?

O great God, where are you?

O great God, show yourself to us, in this place, at this time.

We are listening for you.

We are here because we want to know you more fully.

Let us listen and sing and pray together.

### \*HYMN OF PRAISE, #35

"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

### \*INVOCATION

### \*LORD'S PRAYER (Trespases)

### \*GLORIA PATRI #576

### SCRIPTURE LESSON Isaiah 6:1-8

### GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory

Response #572

O God, may we who bear your name

by gentle love your grace proclaim,  
Christ's gift of peace on earth declare  
and your anointing Spirit share. Amen.

### ANTHEM

### CHILDREN'S MOMENT

### \*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING, #288

"Amazing Grace"

### MORNING PRAYERS

SCRIPTURE LESSON Luke 5:1-11

MORNING MESSAGE "Reflections of Truth"

### \*HYMN OF COMMITMENT, #385

"Take My Life & Let It Be"

### \*BENEDICTION

### \*ALLELUIA

### \*POSTLUDE

(\*congregation stands)

### MINISTERING TODAY

Pastor: Jody Lynn B. Hagans

Lay Leader: Deacon David Lovell

Choir Director: Jim Stephenson

Organist: Mary Lou Lovell

### OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

TODAY 3:00 Ordination Service, at Trinity in Marion

MONDAY 7:00 Boy Scouts

TUESDAY 7:30 Marion Association Trustees,  
at Bryn Zion in Mt. Gilead

WEDNESDAY 7:00 Choir

THURSDAY 12:00 Young at Heart

SATURDAY 9:30 DISCIPLE Bible Study

1:00 A.B.W. Min., at Wintersong Village



*The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ.*

*—Ephesians 4:11–13*

## **Church Vocations Sunday Discovering Our Ministries**

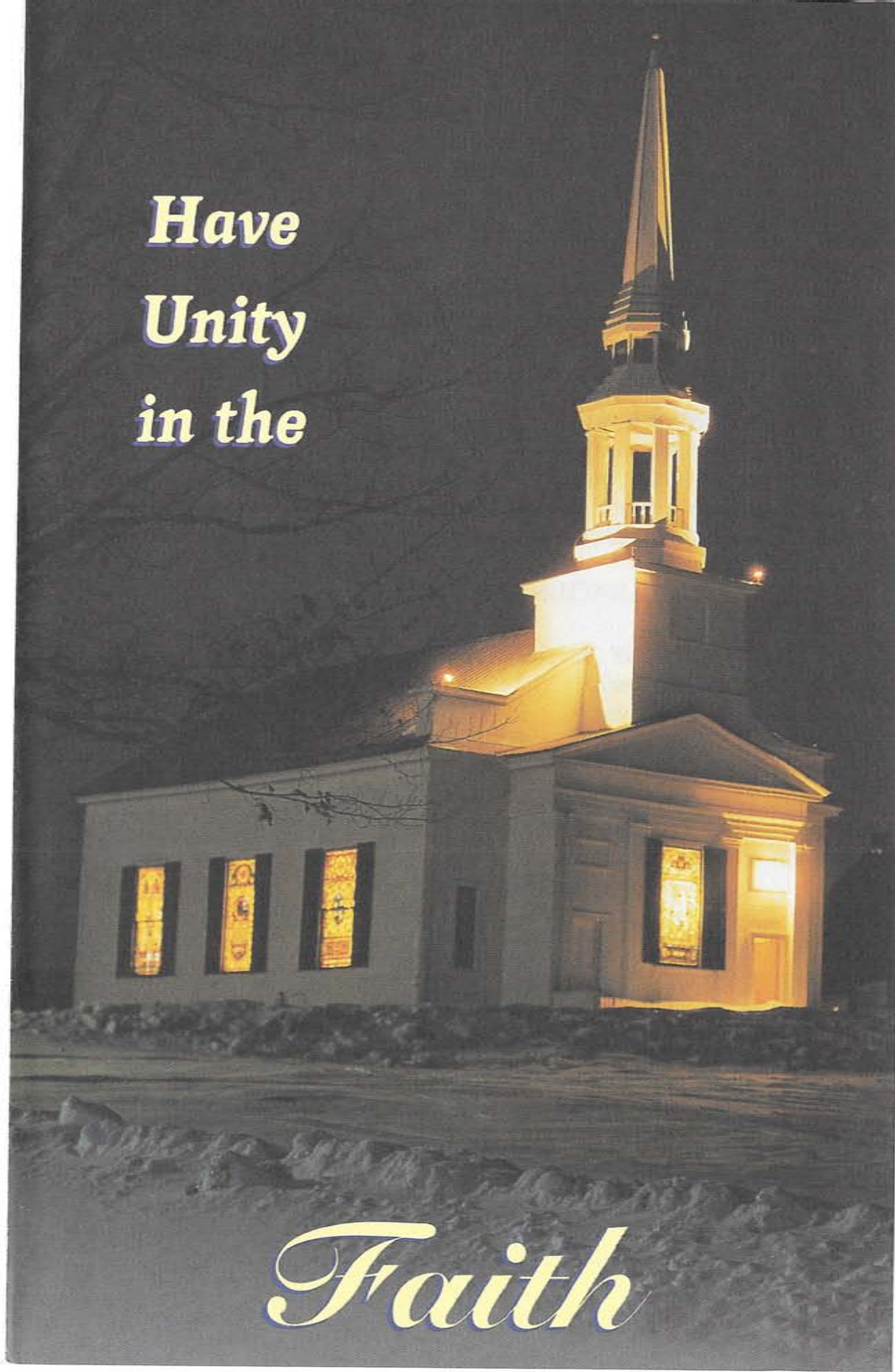
**Q**uality church leaders are an essential ingredient in the continuous renewal of the church. Men and women, both lay and clergy, who have sensed God's call to serve and have prepared themselves for ministry are needed in growing numbers. The local church is continuously called to raise up a new generation of church leaders who will see vocational ministry as their calling. Without the active involvement of local church leaders, there will be a diminishing number of persons entering ministry. The church of the future will be impoverished and so will its ministries.

Annually American Baptists lift up the importance of church vocations and the role of the local congregation as the sending agent. Vocational leaders are the ordained and nonordained who serve as pastors, educational specialists, chaplains, pastoral counselors, and workers in other specialized ministries. This year's Church Vocation focus is *Discovering Our Ministries*. Now is a time for all the saints in the body of Christ to look at where God may be calling them to serve. It is a time to identify and challenge those who have shown signs of the gifts needed for vocational ministries and who are moving toward a maturing commitment to the life of faith.

As you worship this morning, look around you and identify those who might be challenged to consider vocational ministry. Make it a matter of prayer, and become an active agent within your congregation to identify those who may be the next generation of vocational leaders and challenge them to consider the call of Christ. Your efforts may seem small, but it will take a host of unknown saints working in partnership with God to raise the next generation of church leaders.

*David Ludeker  
Director, Church Vocational Leadership  
and Seminary Relations  
Educational Ministries*

**Have  
Unity  
in the**



*Faith*

# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

101 North Franklin Street  
Delaware, Ohio  
363-7021

The Reverend Jody Lynn B. Hagans, pastor  
The Reverend Dan Taylor, guest preacher

February 15, 1998

6<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Epiphany

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

10:45 a.m.

### PRELUDE

### PRAYER OF MEDITATION

Gracious God, who gives and gives and gives to us again, hear our plea for one more gift: a generous spirit, that we will find and use and return to you all that you have given of ordinary and extraordinary, for you are the source and gift of life itself. Amen.

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### INTROIT

### CALL TO WORSHIP

*God has given us this beautiful earth and all that grows and runs upon it.*

Thanks be to God.

*God has given us breath to live and spirit to sing.*

Thanks be to God.

*God has gathered us into a community of care and worship.*

Let us worship God with love, thanksgiving, and praise.

### \*HYMN OF PRAISE, #498

"Come, All Christians, Be Committed"

### \*INVOCATION

\*LORD'S PRAYER (Trespases)

\*GLORIA PATRI #576

### MISSION MOMENT

### GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

Prayer of Dedication

### Offertory

Response #572

O God, may we who bear your name  
by gentle love your grace proclaim,  
Christ's gift of peace on earth declare  
and your anointing Spirit share. Amen.

### ANTHEM

### CHILDREN'S MOMENT

### \*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING, #503

"Jesus Calls us, o'er the Tumult"

### MORNING PRAYERS

SCRIPTURE LESSON Genesis 4:1-5

MORNING MESSAGE "Care Enough to Give the Very Best"

### \*HYMN OF COMMITMENT, #512

"Lord, Whose Love through Humble Service"

### \*BENEDICTION

### \*ALLELUIA

### \*POSTLUDE

(\*congregation stands)

### MINISTERING TODAY

Guest Preacher: The Rev. Dan Taylor  
Lay Leader: Pastor Jody Lynn B. Hagans  
Choir Director: Jim Stephenson  
Organist: Mary Lou Lovell

### OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

TODAY	3:00	Ordination Service, at Richwood
MONDAY	7:00	Boy Scouts
TUESDAY	7:00	Board of Christian Education
WEDNESDAY	7:00	Choir
SATURDAY	8:00	Men's Breakfast, at Buehlers
	9:30	DISCIPLE Bible Study



... the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD  
as the waters cover the sea.

—Isaiah 11:9

## Christian Legacy Sunday

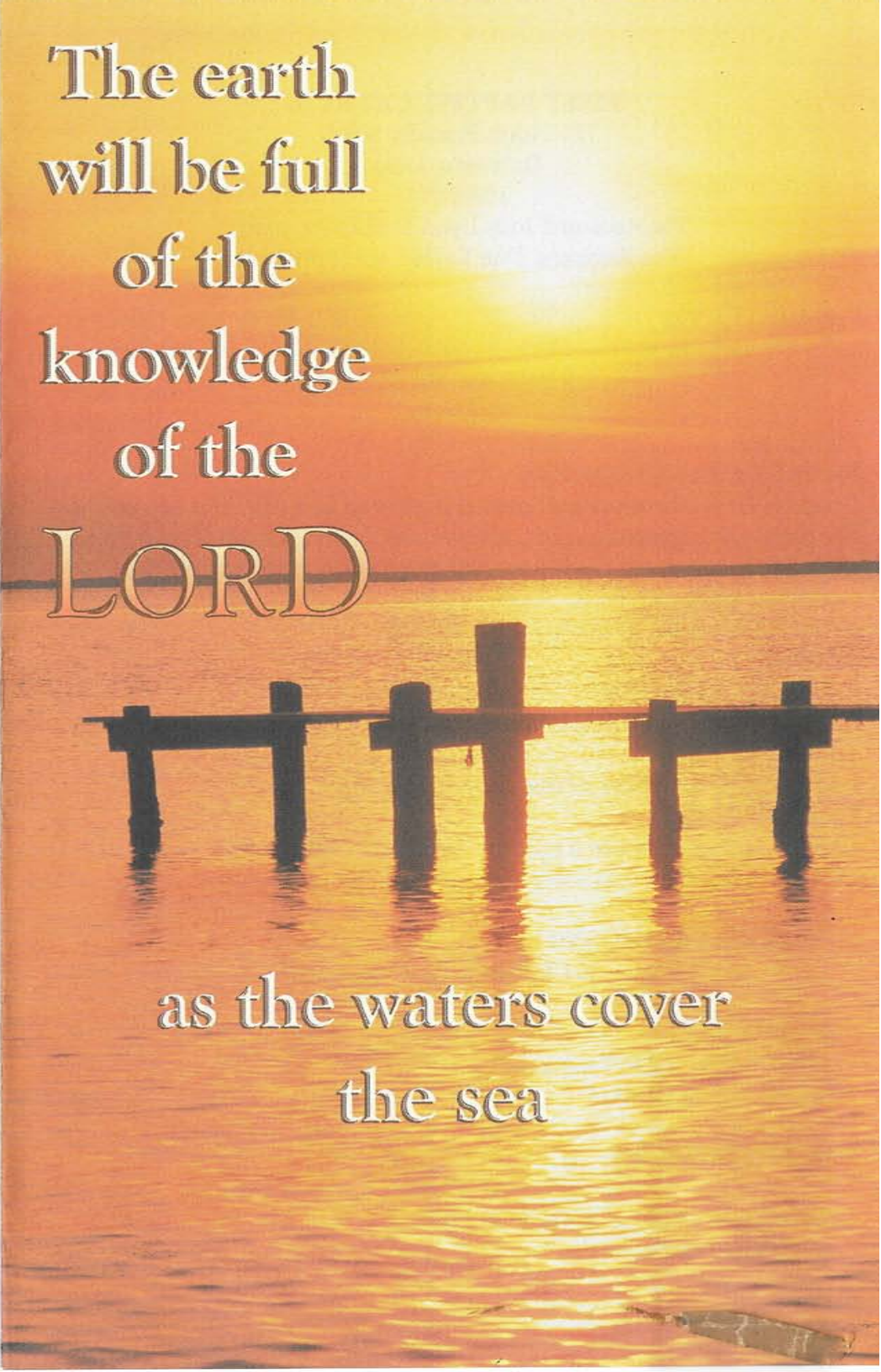
Today's Scripture is the final statement in what is referred to as "The Peaceful Kingdom." Like most of us who grew up attending Sunday school, I remember lovely pictures depicting a wolf peaceably living with a lamb, a calf and a lion together, a cow and a bear grazing side by side, with a little child leading them. It was then, and still is, a wonderful image of a peace-filled world.

I wish it were as easy for me to imagine peace and "the earth full of the knowledge of the Lord" as an adult as it was in childhood. We're told that we live in a time of peace. Yet, this isn't the peace that I envisioned as I innocently listened to the Word of God read to me so many years ago. But, we know in our hearts that God's Word can be trusted, so each of us continues on his or her life's journey as we draw strength and courage from God and one another while seeking to be faithful.

As I read this passage in Isaiah again, I find myself asking, What is my role in spreading God's peace throughout the world today? Am I doing all I can to live peacefully with my own family, my friends, my community, my "world"? Leaving a legacy of peace in the minds and hearts of those whose lives we've touched is something we are able to do.

Today is Christian Legacy Sunday in American Baptist Churches. As members of American Baptist churches, we have an opportunity to reflect on the importance of including our church and its mission in our financial legacies, too. Have you written your will? Is it a testimony of your faith values? As Christians, we all have a responsibility to pass on God's Word to succeeding generations. Each of us can play a part in ensuring that someday, "the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea."

Grace E. Herstine  
Director of Communications  
American Baptist Foundation



The earth  
will be full  
of the  
knowledge  
of the  
LORD

as the waters cover  
the sea



# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

101 North Franklin Street  
Delaware, Ohio  
363-7021

The Reverend Jody Lynn B. Hagans, pastor

February 22, 1998

Transfiguration Sunday

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

10:45 a.m.

**PRELUDE** "Meditation"

*Cohn*

### PRAYER OF MEDITATION

How good, Lord, to be here!  
Yet we may not remain;  
But since you bid us leave the mount,  
Come with us to the plain. --Joseph A. Robinson

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### INTROIT

### CALL TO WORSHIP

### \*HYMN OF PRAISE, #67

"Fairest Lord Jesus"

### \*INVOCATION

\*LORD'S PRAYER (Trespases)

\*GLORIA PATRI #576

SCRIPTURE LESSON 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2

### GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory "Incline Thine Ear"

Response #572

O God, may we who bear your name  
by gentle love your grace proclaim,  
Christ's gift of peace on earth declare  
and your anointing Spirit share. Amen.

*Himmel*

### ANTHEM

"Thee, God, We Praise"

### CHILDREN'S MOMENT

### \*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING, #550

"When Morning Gilds the Sky"

### MORNING PRAYERS

SCRIPTURE LESSON Luke 9:28-36

MORNING MESSAGE "The Mystery of Belief"

### \*HYMN OF COMMITMENT, #473

"Wherever He Leads I'll Go"

### \*BENEDICTION

### \*ALLELUIA

\*POSTLUDE "Echo Fanfare"

*Smith*

(\*congregation stands)

### MINISTERING TODAY

Pastor: Jody Lynn B. Hagans  
Lay Leader: Deacon Alison Linn Mowery  
Choir Director: Jim Stephenson  
Organist: Betty Porter

### OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

TODAY	2:00	Dedication of Handicapped Access Projects
MONDAY	7:00	Boy Scouts
TUESDAY	6:30	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
WEDNESDAY	7:00	Ash Wednesday Service
	7:30	Choir
THURSDAY	7:00	Parish Council
SATURDAY	9:30	DISCIPLE Bible Study

Please join us a 2 p.m. today, as we dedicate our Handicapped Access Projects in a special worship service. Babysitting will be provided in the nursery. A reception will follow.



... but he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness." So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

—2 Corinthians 12:9–10

## Single Adult Awareness Sunday

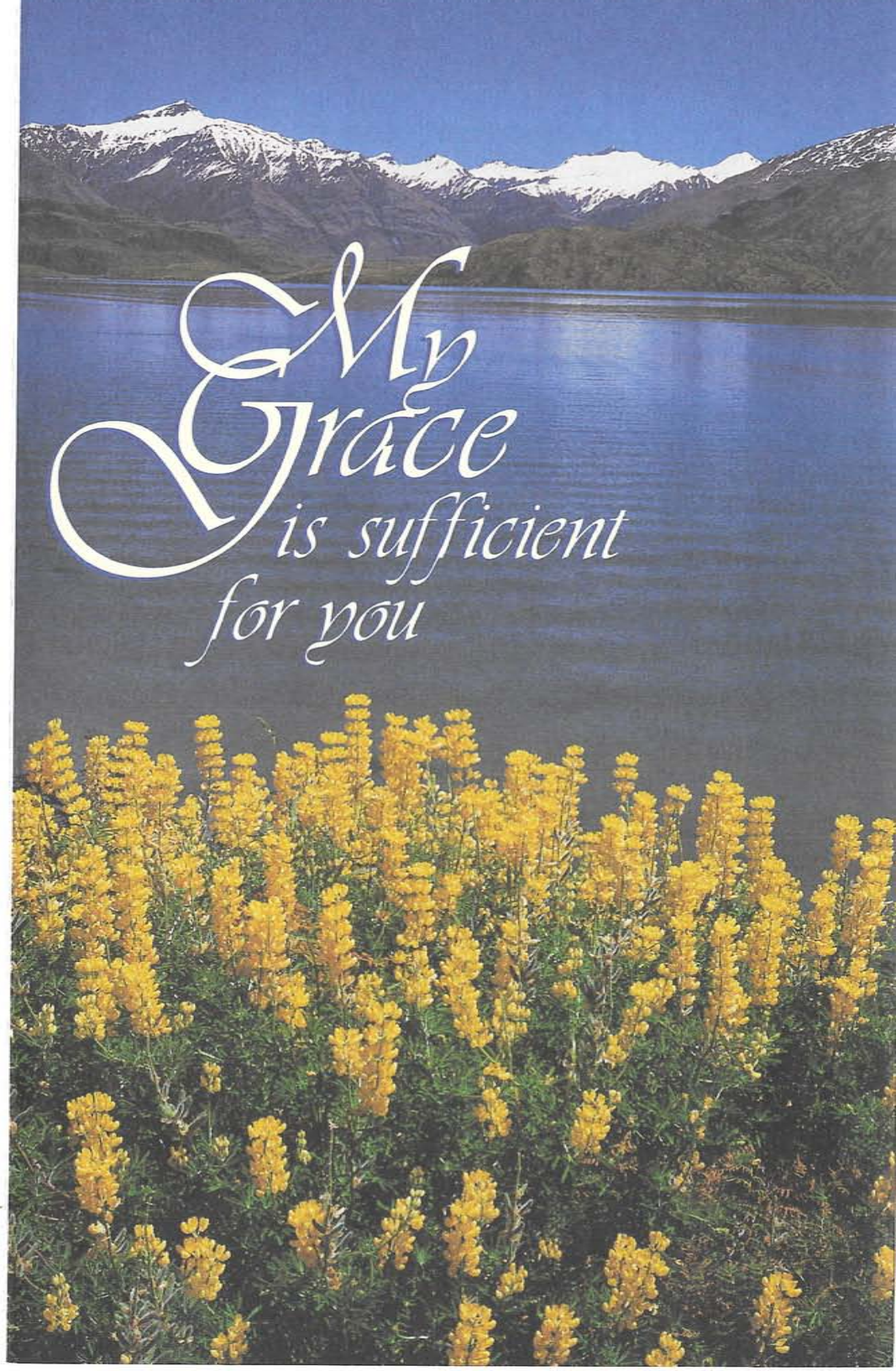
I have a "weakness" for Rice Crispy Treats. I love eating them, and now that they come in individually wrapped, stay-fresh packages, I am in hog heaven! I know that one Treat would be *sufficient*, but several are more satisfying, at least temporarily. Why is it that one is not enough?

Paul had a "weakness"; it was a painful physical ailment. I imagine that Paul felt that this "thorn in the flesh" (2 Corinthians 12:7) limited his ability to do the Lord's work. We tend to believe that weaknesses do that. Paul prayed that God would take his weakness away, and in a way, God did. God did not remove the physical weakness. Rather, God helped Paul to see it differently. Paul's weakness was the Lord's strength; it allowed the Lord's power to be made perfect (v. 9).

Society perpetuates the notion that singleness is a weakness, but singleness doesn't have to be, because it isn't. While talking with me the other day, a friend told me that she had come to understand her forty years of singleness as a freedom different from that which coupled people have. Her singleness allowed her to do the Lord's work without certain encumbrances. Achieving that understanding was not a simple process, nor is daily acceptance of it. Sometimes, whether we are single or coupled, we want more than, and sometimes less than, we have. But, always, what the Lord provides is sufficient.

Scripture tells us that just as God clothes nature with fragrant flowers, with peaceful waters, with majestic mountains, and with glistening snows, God surely and sufficiently provides for us (Matthew 6:30). Yet, while always present, our spiritual clothes are not always visible to us, and we feel insufficient and naked. When we doubt the sufficiency of the Lord's grace, we try to take over; we may fill ourselves with food, work, forced partnerships—with more than we need. Faith requires unbridled trust in the Lord, especially when God's grace seems intangible. The Lord told Paul, and assures each of us, that *one* love is *all that we need*. Coupled with the Lord Jesus Christ, one is strong. One is enough.

Debra Sutton  
Director, Adult Ministries  
Educational Ministries





# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

101 North Franklin Street

Delaware, Ohio

363-7021

The Reverend Jody Lynn B. Hagans, pastor

March 1, 1998

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent

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## ORDER OF WORSHIP

10:45 a.m.

**PRELUDE** "Walking with the Master"

*Stairs*

Welcome to First Baptist Church. We are glad to have you worshipping with us this morning. On this Communion Sunday, we invite all who believe in Christ to join us in our celebration at the table.

## PRAYER OF MEDITATION

Christ, full of the Holy Spirit, you endured your forty days in the wilderness. Then you returned, filled with power, to resume your work among your people. How shall we pass the forty days of this Lenten season? Help us, we pray, to grow and enduring faith. Let us, in remembrance of you, fashion fitting responses to our work and our world. Fill us with a powerful awareness of your Holy Spirit, alive and alert, strong and supportive. In this season may we return our trusting hearts to you. Amen.

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## INTROIT

## CALL TO WORSHIP

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE, #1**

"Holy, Holy, Holy!"

**\*INVOCATION**

**\*LORD'S PRAYER** (Trespases)

**\*GLORIA PATRI #576**

## GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory "Prayer"

Response #572

Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
that were a present far too small;  
love so amazing, so divine  
demands my soul, my life, my all. Amen.

*Arkadieff*

## ANTHEM

## CHILDREN'S MOMENT

**\*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING, #130**

"Tell Me the Story of Jesus"

## MORNING PRAYERS

**SCRIPTURE LESSON** Luke 4:1-13

**MORNING MESSAGE** "The Last Word"

## FELLOWSHIP OFFERING

"Presence Divine"

*Smith*

**\*HYMN OF COMMITMENT, #11**

"A Mighty Fortress"

## HOLY COMMUNION

**\*FELLOWSHIP CIRCLE** "Blest Be the Tie That Binds" #207

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*POSTLUDE** "Chorus of Praise"

*Johnston*

(\*congregation stands)

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## MINISTERING TODAY

Pastor: Jody Lynn B. Hagans  
Lay Leader: Deacon Alison Linn Mowery  
Choir Director: Jim Stephenson  
Organist: Betty Porter

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## OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

TODAY	2:00	Peace Camp Meeting
	6:00	Lenten Study
	6:00	Festival of Praise, Fite Memorial
MONDAY	7:00	Boy Scouts
	7:00	Delaware Piecemakers
TUESDAY	7:00	Board of Deacons
WEDNESDAY	7:00	Choir
THURSDAY	10:00	Sewing Group
SATURDAY	9:30	DISCIPLE

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**BULLETIN INSERT**  
**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 1998**  
**"Who is My Neighbor?"**



**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER** is an international event that unites Protestant, Roman Catholic, Orthodox and other Christian women and men in 170 countries and regions of the world in "***informed prayer and prayerful action***" — the motto of **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER**. Translated into hundreds of languages and dialects, this year's World Day of Prayer will be observed in services around the world on March 6.

This year's observance marks the 111th annual **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER**. Christian women of Madagascar authored this year's service on the theme "***Who is My Neighbor?***" This question is responded to with Biblical passages such as Luke 10 where Jesus answers that very question.

For Malagasy people their traditional concept of "Fihavanana" embodies Christian beliefs--a bond and unity between people, a sharing of sorrow and happiness. It is exemplified in their proverbs and sayings, such as, "Whichever hand is cut, the whole body feels the pain." In this service the writers describe incidents in their country where these beliefs were demonstrated in their caring for each other.

We hope you will join with the Malagasy people and millions of other celebrants around the globe in this year's **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER**. We also hope those who support women's ecumenical ministries will make a generous offering, a portion of which will be granted to projects in Madagascar. **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER** helps support the work of the World Day of Prayer International Committee and the mission of **CHURCH WOMEN UNITED**—the official sponsor of World Day of Prayer in the United States since 1941—in their national and international witness.

For information about times and locations of services to be held in your community, or if you are unable to attend and wish to make a contribution, please contact:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_





**CHURCH WOMEN UNITED** is an ecumenical movement that brings together Protestant, Roman Catholic, Orthodox and other Christian women in the United States and Puerto Rico to:

- *work for a just, caring and peaceful society*
- *develop a visible, ecumenical community*
- *use responsibly and creatively the resources God has entrusted to us—our intelligence, time, energy and money*
- *deepen our understanding of what it means to be Christian women of faith in today's world.*

In 1996, **CHURCH WOMEN UNITED** adopted as its key program priority: "*Making the World Safer for Women and Children.*"

If you are a Christian woman who shares these goals and concerns, we invite you to join your local **CHURCH WOMEN UNITED** unit. For more information, contact the person named on the reverse side, or the national unit at the address and number below.

If you are unable to attend your local **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER** service on Friday, March 6, we invite you to join in prayer for peace and justice that day, remembering especially our Malagasy sisters.

To make a contribution, contact the person named on the reverse side of this insert or mail your check directly to **CHURCH WOMEN UNITED**, the national World Day of Prayer committee for the United States.

**CHURCH WOMEN UNITED**  
**World Day of Prayer Offering**  
**475 Riverside Drive, Room 500**  
**New York, NY 10115**  
**1-212-870-2347**

*But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.*

*—Ephesians 4:15–16*

## **American Baptist Seminary Sunday Growing and Building in Love**

**F**aithful and effective ministry requires leaders who know Christian truth, are equipped for ministry, and promote the growth of the Body of Christ in a loving spirit. Preparing leadership for ministry is a shared responsibility of the local church, regions, denominational agencies, and colleges and seminaries.

This Sunday is our opportunity to lift up the equipping role of the nine American Baptist-related seminaries. Leadership is the key if church ministry is to grow, and preparing leaders plays an important part in fulfilling the church's mission. The discernment of Christian truth and the growing of persons and ministries are important roles our schools fulfill.

If the churches do not send called men and women, the seminaries will be unable to train future leaders. If the churches fail to pray and provide financial support, there will be an absence of quality leaders for our churches. It is our role to prayerfully support our seminaries so that they return to our churches well-equipped leaders for the work of ministry.

American Baptist Seminary of the West  
Andover Newton Theological School  
Central Baptist Theological Seminary  
Colgate Rochester Divinity School  
Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary  
Evangelical Seminary of Puerto Rico  
Morehouse School of Religion  
Northern Baptist Theological Seminary  
Virginia Union University, The Samuel DeWitt Proctor  
School of Theology

*David Ludeker*  
*Director, Church Vocational Leadership*  
*and Seminary Relations*  
*Educational Ministries*

# *Growing and Building in*



# *Love*



# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

101 North Franklin Street

Delaware, Ohio

363-7021

The Reverend Jody Lynn B. Hagans, pastor

Kim Keethler-Ball, guest preacher

March 8, 1998

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

10:45 a.m.

### PRELUDE

### PRAYER OF MEDITATION

Not one of us here has been made to be a copy of anyone else, O God, and your love for each of us is as if we were the only child you have. Your acts of creating are ever unique and undertaken with a care that we can scarcely imagine. Help us to see that as we have been created with such care to guard our individuality, so you have called us to respond with an appreciation of the value of our personal relationship with you. As you have loved us in particular ways, so let us return that love out of our distinct and different being. Amen.

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### INTROIT

### CALL TO WORSHIP

You are the salt of the earth. You are the light of the world. Let us gather to be renewed as the body of Christ that in our life and witness we will give flavor and shed light on the world in which we live.

### \*HYMN OF PRAISE, #63

"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

### \*INVOCATION

### \*LORD'S PRAYER (Trespases)

### \*GLORIA PATRI #576

### MISSION MOMENT

### AMERICA FOR CHRIST LITANY

### GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory

### Response #572

Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
that were a present far too small;  
love so amazing, so divine  
demands my soul, my life, my all. Amen.

### ANTHEM

### CHILDREN'S MOMENT

### \*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING, #435

"What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

### MORNING PRAYERS

SCRIPTURE LESSON Philippians 3:17-4:1

MORNING MESSAGE "Stand Firm"

### \*HYMN OF COMMITMENT, #456

"Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus"

### \*BENEDICTION

### \*AMEN

### \*POSTLUDE

(\*congregation stands)

### MINISTERING TODAY

Guest Preacher: Kim Keethler-Ball  
Lay Leader: Deacon Alison Linn Mowery  
Choir Director: Jim Stephenson  
Organist: Mary Lou Lovell

### OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

TODAY 6:00 Lenten Study "Mysteries of Faith"  
MONDAY 7:00 Boy Scouts  
WEDNESDAY 4:00 Youth Inquirer's Class  
7:00 Choir  
SATURDAY 9:30 DISCIPLE Bible Study



*Then he said to them all, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me."  
—Luke 9:23*

## America for Christ Sunday

In the tenth chapter of Luke, Jesus called seventy persons to follow him. He commissioned them to go to every town and place where he himself intended to go. "The harvest is plentiful," he said, "but the laborers are few" (Luke 10:2). Jesus cautioned them that his call would not be easy; indeed, he told them he was sending them out like lambs into the midst of wolves. And the seventy went out and returned with stories of repentance, healing, and powerful triumphs over evil spirits.

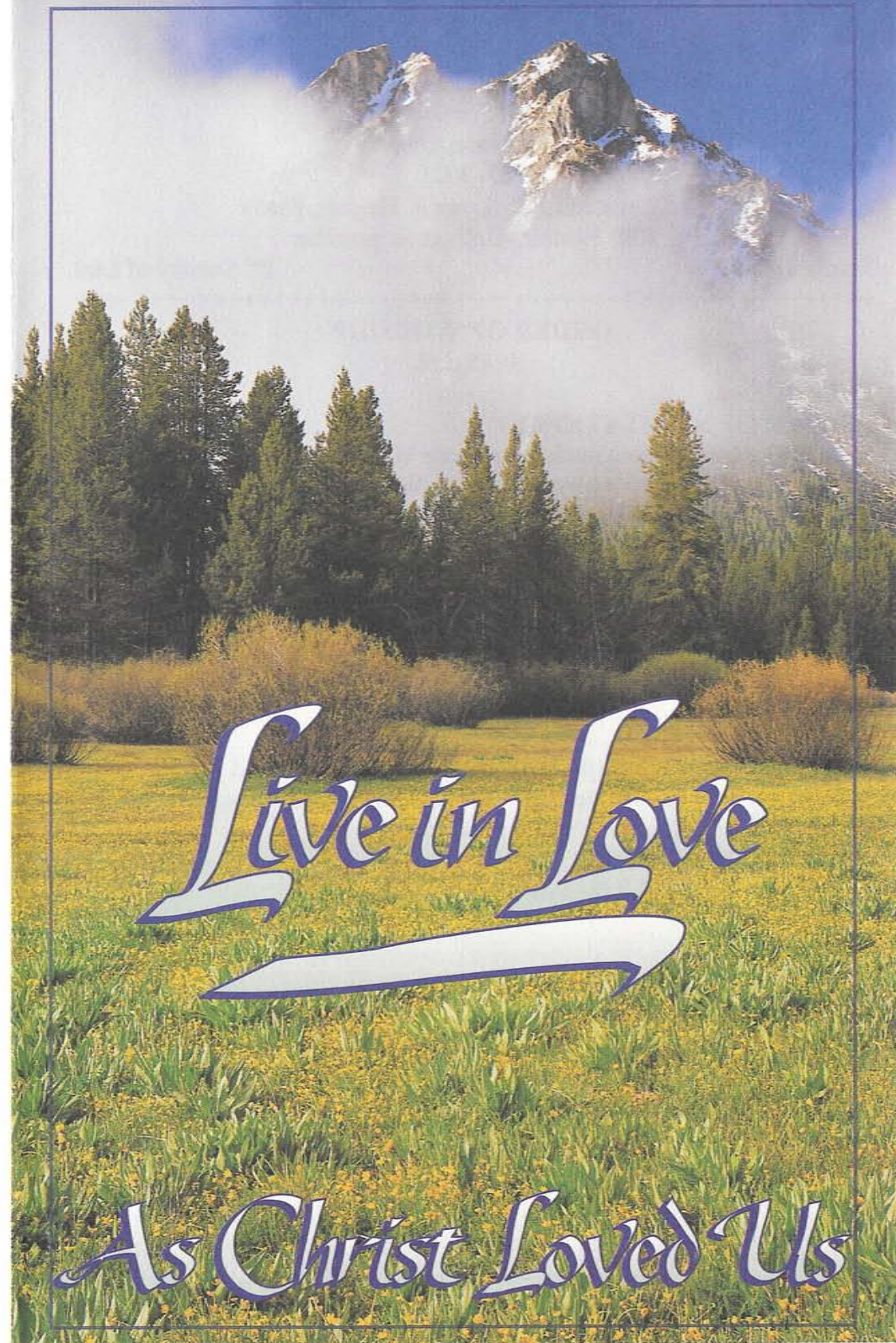
Jesus asks you and me to follow him. He promises to walk with us and empowers us with the Holy Spirit. Jesus invites us to take on his yoke of strength, and he asks us to shoulder with him his heavy cross—a cross representing ultimate love and sacrifice for people of all times. Where is Jesus calling us to walk with him today? Where are we called to carry his cross?

In America we need only look around us to see the people to whom Jesus would go: the lonely and desperate who find a hiding place in the squalor of the city streets; the farming family thrown into financial peril because of a devastating tornado or flood; the refugee who seeks hope and employment but instead faces prejudice and powerlessness; the fourteen-year-old who finds acceptance and identity in gang membership; the church congregation that drifts into despair because it cannot imagine new life in Christ.

We can take up the cross and follow Jesus to bring healing and wholeness to people in this country when we give to the America for Christ Offering. American Baptists receive this annual mission offering to fund ministries that bring Christ to America. The offering supports Christian Centers in the inner city and volunteer programs that enable people to help others rebuild homes and lives. The America for Christ Offering funds camping experiences, where youth respond to Jesus, and provides curriculum and ministry resources to help congregations build solid foundations of faith for mission and evangelism.

Together we can lift high the cross of Jesus Christ as we minister in his name through the America for Christ Offering.

*Virginia R. Holmstrom  
Director of Communications and  
Assistant Executive Director for Board Relations  
Educational Ministries*





# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

101 North Franklin Street

Delaware, Ohio

363-7021

The Reverend Jody Lynn B. Hagans, pastor

Chaplain Paul Hershey, guest preacher

March 15, 1998

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

10:45 a.m.

### PRELUDE

"Seek Ye The Lord"

Moore

### PRAYER OF MEDITATION

Holy God, we come before you thankful that you love us as we are. We are creatures of your hand; we are a community formed by your Spirit. You are the potter; we are the clay. With your sure and loving hands, shape us, through the grace of Jesus Christ. Amen.

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### INTROIT

### CALL TO WORSHIP

*We gather as pilgrims on a journey of faith.*

We come seeking the awareness of God's presence as we travel on.

*We come seeking light for our darkness, strength in our weakness.*

ALL: Shine in our hearts, O God, with the light of your love. Make your presence known through Jesus the Christ. Amen.

### \*HYMN OF PRAISE, #43

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

### \*INVOCATION

\*LORD'S PRAYER (Trespases)

\*GLORIA PATRI #576

### MISSION MOMENT

### GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory "Chapel Meditation"

Hegarty

Response #572

Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
that were a present far too small;  
love so amazing, so divine  
demands my soul, my life, my all. Amen.

### ANTHEM

### CHILDREN'S MOMENT

### \*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING, #325

"My Shepherd Will Supply My Need"

### MORNING PRAYERS

SCRIPTURE LESSON Psalm 23

MORNING MESSAGE "Rod & Staff"

### \*HYMN OF COMMITMENT, #321

"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"

### \*BENEDICTION

### \*AMEN

\*POSTLUDE "Solemn March"

Mendelssohn

(\*congregation stands)

### MINISTERING TODAY

Guest Preacher:

Chaplain Paul Hershey

Assistant:

The Rev. Jody Lynn B. Hagans

Choir Director:

Jim Stephenson

Organist:

Mary Lou Lovell

### OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

TODAY

12:00 Covered-dish Lunch with Paul Hershey

2:00 Eagle Scout Court of Honor at  
Kilbourne U.M.C.

3:00 Board of Christian Education

6:00 Lenten Study "Mysteries of Faith"

MONDAY

7:00 Boy Scouts

WEDNESDAY

4:00 Youth Inquirer's Class

7:00 Choir

SATURDAY

9:30 DISCIPLE Bible Study



*He said, "I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain."*

*—Exodus 3:12*

**R**eaching a mountain peak can be an exhilarating experience. It takes a lot of effort, both mental and physical, to attain the top. You start off with a lot of energy and enthusiasm, enjoy the hike, and take note of all the interesting wildlife or rock formations that surround you. Before too long, however, even the most seasoned hikers begin to feel the quickening pulse and the shallower breathing. Bugs and briars can nick your legs as you make the ascent. In the higher elevations, the shadowy warmth of the valley gives way to clearer skies but stronger winds and lower temperatures. But, oh, the majesty and grandeur of the view when the summit is reached! What a powerful reminder of the God of all creation.

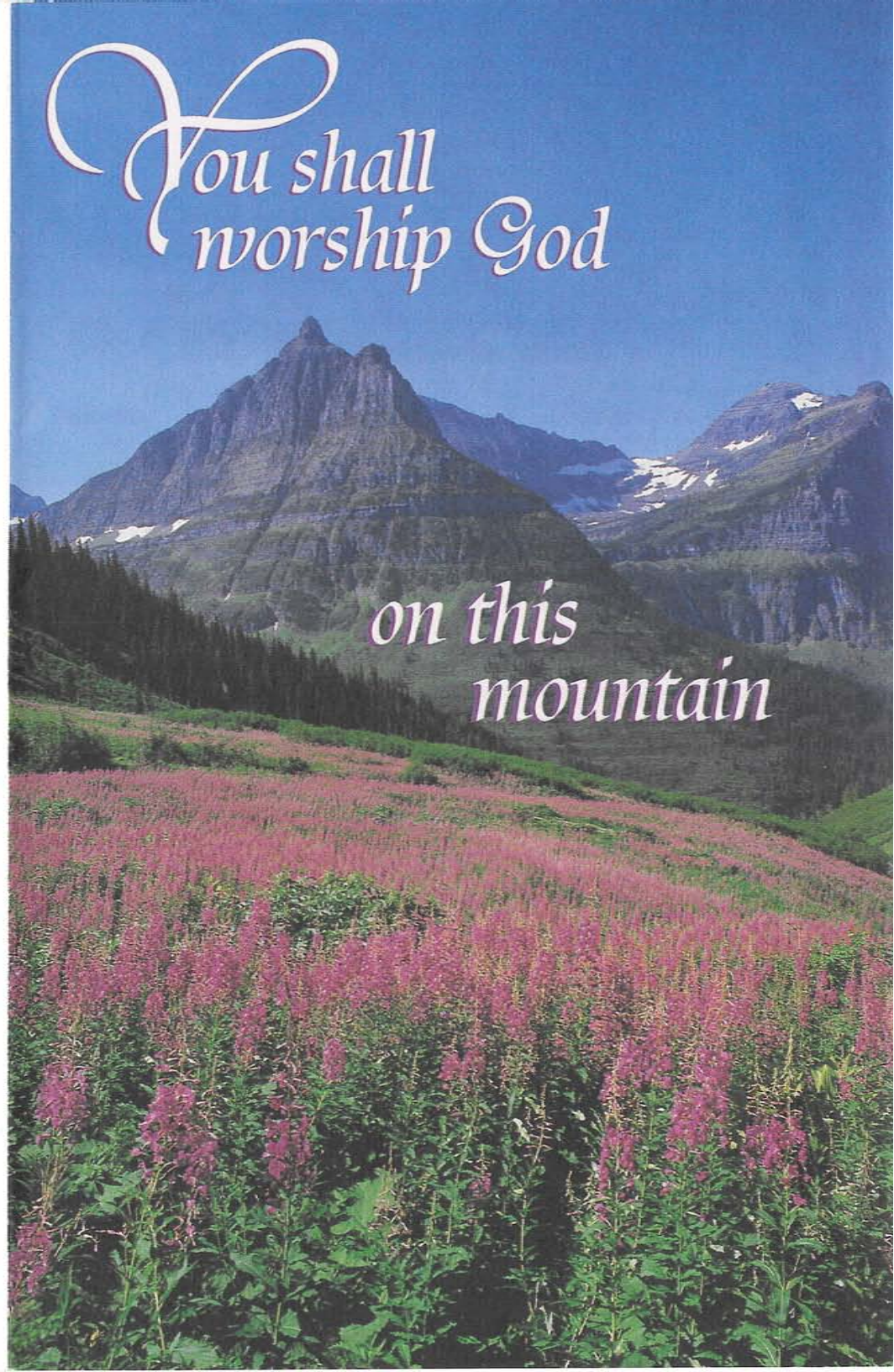
In Exodus, Moses set out on a journey that would lead to a mountain on which he would worship God. The trials he would have to go through as he led the Israelites out of Egypt would have been insurmountable but for the continuing presence of God. It was God's faithfulness to the covenant that allowed Moses to progress through each stage of his journey to its end. Though Moses himself did not enter the Promised Land, he had many mountain-top experiences with God.

Perhaps much of life is lived ascending or descending the mountaintops, rather than standing still upon the peaks. It may be easier to worship God on the top, but God didn't say to worship only at the summit. We are to worship God all along the journey. Let us give thanks for God's faithfulness in being with us each step of the way!

*Laura Carlson, Media Assistant  
Office of Communication, Office of the General Secretary  
and senior at Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary  
Wynnewood, Pennsylvania*

*You shall  
worship God*

*on this  
mountain*





# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

101 North Franklin Street  
Delaware, Ohio  
363-7021

The Reverend Jody Lynn B. Hagans, pastor  
"Invite a Friend Sunday"

March 22, 1998

4th Sunday of Lent

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## ORDER OF WORSHIP

10:45 a.m.

**PRELUDE** "Prelude on an Irish Air" *Simone*

### PRAYER OF MEDITATION

God of grace, Righteous Judge of all people, we thank you that in love you sent Jesus Christ into the world not to condemn, but to save. May your mercy cause us to respond to you in loving commitment, that we may discover the true life you offer us. Amen.

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### INTROIT

### CALL TO WORSHIP

*It is an awesome thing to stand in the presence of God, to call God's holy name.*

*As far as the heavens are above the earth, God's ways are above our ways. But we come with confidence, because in Christ we are called to be God's people.*

Come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before God our Maker!

### \*HYMN OF PRAISE, #37

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

### \*INVOCATION

\*LORD'S PRAYER (Trespases)

\*GLORIA PATRI #576

### MISSION MOMENT

### GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory "Offertoire"

*Moulán*

Response #572

Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
that were a present far too small;  
love so amazing, so divine  
demands my soul, my life, my all. Amen.

### ANTHEM

### CHILDREN'S MOMENT

### \*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING, #429

"Prayer Is the Soul's Sincere Desire"

### MORNING PRAYERS

SCRIPTURE LESSON Luke 15:1-32

MORNING MESSAGE "There's A Time & A Place"

### \*HYMN OF COMMITMENT, #448

"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

### \*BENEDICTION

\*AMEN

\*POSTLUDE "Voluntary in A Minor"

*Purcell*

(\*congregation stands)

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### MINISTERING TODAY

Pastor: The Rev. Jody Lynn B. Hagans  
Lay Leader: Deacon Dave Lovell  
Choir Director: Jim Stephenson  
Organist: Mary Lou Lovell

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### OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

TODAY	6:00	Lenten Study "Mysteries of Faith"
MONDAY	7:00	Boy Scouts
WEDNESDAY	7:00	Choir
THURSDAY	7:00	Parish Council
SATURDAY	9:30	DISCIPLE Bible Study

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## PRAYER CONCERNS:

Our SHUT-INS and those in NURSING HOMES:

HELEN BAKER, at home; EDITH HALL, at home; ELIZABETH HEIZER, at Union Manor Nursing Home in Marysville; FRANCES JOHNSON, at Wintersong Village Nursing Facility; and CAROLYN SCHNEEBERGER, at the Sarah Moore Home.

Those in need of our PRAYERS include:

PAUL ALLEN; LAURA ANDERSSON, daughter of Helen and Bruce Andersson, members of St. Peter's Church; BONNIE ARMSTRONG, Sue Elfner's cousin; CHUCK ARMSTRONG; BOB BIGGAR, Ray Biggar's brother; JOE & JEAN BROWER & daughter DARLENE; JOAN CAHILL, Archie Trigg's sister; WILLA CORDER, Jennifer Turner & Melissa Mercer's grandmother; DAVID CYRUS; VIRGINIA DIEHL, member of Randy Turner's home church; SHANNON DE'LASSANJRO, Jean Wickum's granddaughter; the FETTER Family; MARY FOGLE; DEWEY HUGHES, Tammy Francis' grandfather; TOM HYPES; LOLA JACKSON; JEANETTE JONES; MIKELL HEDLEY, friend of Lynn Elfner; DEBBIE HELD, Bernice Turney's niece; HOLLY KAUF & CHILDREN, Barb Reed's daughter; the LEHR Family, friends of Pastor Hagans; JOHN & ANNE LINN; AMY MCGREW, Marge Smale's daughter; MARY ANN & JOHN MURDAY; SUSAN MUSSARD, Jean Wickum's friend; SHIRLEY PARKER; the RAMEY FAMILY; LUCY RINEHART, Archie Trigg's aunt; JACK SMITH; CHERYL SPANGLER, SHANNON STONER; BERNICE TURNEY; BERTHA VAN BRIMMER; MRS. VAN BROEKHOVEN, Harold Van Broekhoven's mother; GREG WALKER; the WERLING Family; JEAN WICKUM.

Those in COLLEGE or AWAY AT COLLEGE include:

ERIN FAULK at Hope College; NICHELLE HEDGES; LIZ HOPKINS at Bowling Green University; MATTHEW LOVELL at O.S.U.; NATALIE MOWERY at O.S.U.; CHRISTINE REILLY at Ohio Wesleyan University; MARCI SANDER at O.S.U.; SHANNON & MICAH STONER at Devries Institute of Technology; KAREN STONER at METHESCO; JARROD TRIGG at Eastern Michigan University; and JENNA WEAKLAND at Bowling Green university.

Those in the MILITARY include:

VICTOR & DEBBIE FOGLE, in the Marines; ED & JENNIFER LINN, in the Air Force.



*Surely God is my salvation;  
I will trust, and will not be afraid,  
for the LORD GOD is my strength and my might;  
he has become my salvation.*

*—Isaiah 12:2*

**R**ecently several young people living at Murrow Indian Children's Home dedicated their lives to Christ and were baptized. Candace was the first to make her decision. She is 13 years old and had been abused and neglected by her parents. She and her brothers and sisters had not attended school regularly; Candace had not really gone to school since the fourth grade. She is now in seventh grade and struggling to keep up. She desperately wants to pass and continue on with her school friends.

The staff at Murrow is very proud of Candace. We are working to encourage and support her. She works with the tutor every day after school when the other children are playing. We wonder sometimes how it is that children are not attending school and why parents are not held accountable. Too many times, minority children are ignored or overlooked by the authorities, and the children suffer.

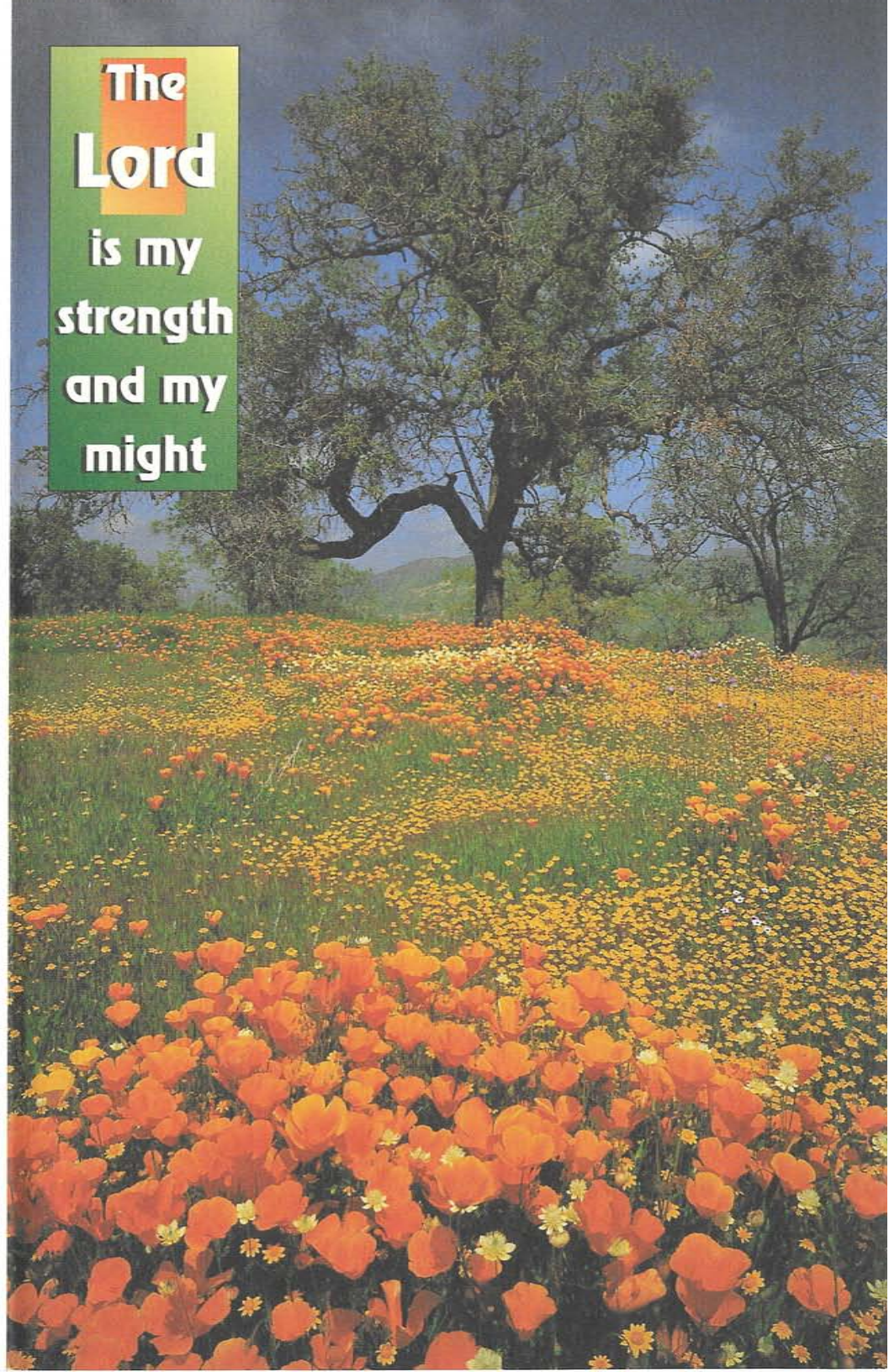
Karaina, age 16, was sexually abused by her stepfather. One of her older sisters has a baby by this man. Their mother worked two jobs to support the family and would not acknowledge the abuse; she herself has a history of abuse. The stepfather is now in prison.

A new Christian and a beautiful young woman, Karaina prays for strength and the ability to help others who have suffered as she has.

*Joan Brown, Director  
Murrow Indian Children's Home  
Muskogee, Oklahoma*

*In 1910 the American Baptist Home Mission Society (now American Baptist National Ministries) began its sponsorship of the Murrow Indian Children's Home, originally for orphaned Native American children. Currently, Murrow provides residential and emergency care for children whose families have been unable to provide adequately for them.*

**The  
Lord  
is my  
strength  
and my  
might**





# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

101 North Franklin Street

Delaware, Ohio

363-7021

The Reverend Jody Lynn B. Hagans, pastor

March 29, 1998

5th Sunday of Lent

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

10:45 a.m.

### PRELUDE

### PRAYER OF MEDITATION

Creative God, from whom new possibility springs, we call your name; for we are the people you have sealed in your name. Make a way for us where there has been no way. Quench the drought of our spirits with living water, that we may sing your praise. Free us to welcome your newness of life; through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### INTROIT

### CALL TO WORSHIP

### \*HYMN OF PRAISE, #13

"Sing Praise to God, Who Reigns Above"

### \*INVOCATION

### \*LORD'S PRAYER (Trespases)

### \*GLORIA PATRI #576

### GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory

Response #572

Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
that were a present far too small;  
love so amazing, so divine  
demands my soul, my life, my all. Amen.

### ANTHEM

### CHILDREN'S MOMENT

### \*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING, #249

"There Shall Be Showers of Blessing"

### MORNING PRAYERS

SCRIPTURE LESSON Isaiah 43:16-21

MORNING MESSAGE "A New Thing"

### \*HYMN OF COMMITMENT, #344

"Be Thou My Vision"

### \*BENEDICTION

### \*AMEN

### \*POSTLUDE

(\*congregation stands)

### MINISTERING TODAY

Pastor: The Rev. Jody Lynn B. Hagans

Lay Leader: Deacon Dave Lovell

Choir Director: Jim Stephenson

Organist: Mary Lou Lovell

### OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

TODAY 6:00 Lenten Study "Mysteries of Faith"

MONDAY 7:00 Boy Scouts

WEDNESDAY 7:00 Choir

THURSDAY 10:00 Sewing Group

SATURDAY 9:30 DISCIPLE Bible Study

*I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death.*

*—Philippians 3:10*

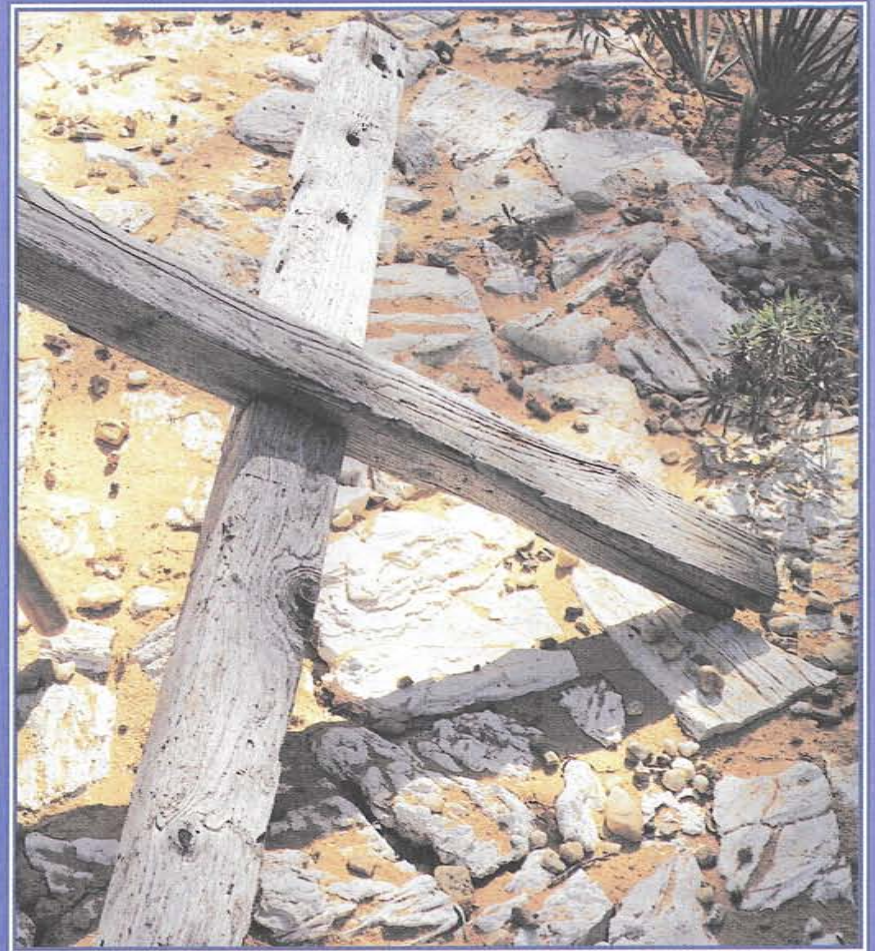
Some truths have the power to shape all of our living, to determine how we experience life and how we respond to its challenges. The truth of the Resurrection has such power for the Christian. Even in the midst of the season of Lent, we live in the power of the Resurrection. Our journey through darkness or suffering or loss is always lit by the light of Easter.

Even before the cross, the power of the Resurrection was seen in Christ in his freedom to give of himself for others and to lay down his life for his friends. It was in his selfless compassion for the hurting. It was in his limitless time for the lost and searching. It was in his humble openness to children. It was in his patient endurance of ridicule. It was in the confidence he had in his disciples. It was in his willingness at last to suffer and die for the sake of the gospel. In all of these things, the power of Easter was manifest in Christ as the courage and freedom to die to oneself, in order to live for God.

To know Christ is to know the power of his resurrection in our own lives, even today, even in the face of death. We may share in Christ's freedom and courage and hope. We may share in Christ's compassion and care and longsuffering. Because in knowing Christ, we share also in his resurrection, and we are free to let go of our lives in order to live them more truly—for "those who lose their life for my sake will save it" (Luke 9:24).

*J. Thomas Son  
Director of Youth Ministries  
Educational Ministries*

# *I want to know* **CHRIST**



## *and the Power of* *His Resurrection*



# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

101 North Franklin Street

Delaware, Ohio

363-7021

The Reverend Jody Lynn B. Hagans, pastor

April 5, 1998

Palm Sunday

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## ORDER OF WORSHIP

10:45 a.m.

**PRELUDE** "Open the Gates of the Temple"

*Knapp*

Welcome to First Baptist Church. We are glad to have you worshipping with us this morning. On this Communion Sunday, we invite all who believe in Christ to join us in our celebration at the table.

### PRAYER OF MEDITATION

Let every tongue confess its praise of you, Lord Jesus. Let every knee bend to pay you homage. Let every knee bend to pay you homage. Let every heart proclaim its faithfulness. Let every hand reach out in service to your people. For you have shown us that power resides in humility and glory in obedience. Amen.

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### INTROIT

### CALL TO WORSHIP

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE, #131**

"All Glory, Laud & Honor"

**\*INVOCATION**

**\*LORD'S PRAYER** (Trespases)

**\*GLORIA PATRI #576**

### SERVICE OF DEDICATION

### GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory "The Palms"

Response #572

Were the whole realm of nature mine,

that were a present far too small;

love so amazing, so divine

demands my soul, my life, my all. Amen.

### ANTHEM

*Faure*

## CHILDREN'S MOMENT

**\*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING, #132**

"Ride On! Ride On in Majesty"

### MORNING PRAYERS

**SCRIPTURE LESSON** Luke 22: 14-23:56

**MORNING MESSAGE** "The Whole Story"

**FELLOWSHIP OFFERING** "Lenten Prayer"

*Warriner*

**\*HYMN OF COMMITMENT, #141**

"Lift High the Cross"

## HOLY COMMUNION

**\*FELLOWSHIP CIRCLE** "Blest Be the Tie That Binds" #207

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*POSTLUDE** "Hosanna"

*Nordman*

(\*congregation stands)

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### MINISTERING TODAY

Pastor: Jody Lynn B. Hagans

Lay Leader: Deacon Dave Lovell

Choir Director: Jim Stephenson

Organist: Betty Porter

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### OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

TODAY 2:00 4-H Meeting

6:00 Lenten Study

MONDAY 7:00 Boy Scouts

7:00 Delaware Piecemakers

TUESDAY 7:00 Board of Deacons

WEDNESDAY 7:00 Choir

THURSDAY 12:00 Young at Heart

7:00 Maundy Thursday Communion Service

FRIDAY 11:00 Stations of the Cross, St. Mary Catholic

12:00 Ecumenical Good Friday Service

NEXT SUNDAY 8:00 Early Easter Service

8:30 Covered-dish breakfast

# ABC/OHIO REGIONAL NEWS April 1998

## NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE MINISTER

The 1998 American Baptist Churches of Ohio annual theme is, "Winning Ohio for Christ." Over 200 people recently attended an Ohio for Christ training seminar at Mountview Baptist Church in Columbus, Ohio. Those who attended were challenged, changed, and charged with an Easter burden for sharing God's good news.

This month, I present more challenging evangelism resources and invite you to share other resources with me.

On March 29, over 120 American Baptist congregations in Ohio will emphasize the region wide "Friend Day." Many other congregations will emphasize Friend Day at some other time throughout the year. Your church might choose to follow up your Friend Day emphasis with the creation of prayer teams aimed at praying for evangelistic results. The easy to follow resource "Prayer Triplets" is available in packets of 50 for \$5.95 per packet. A more involved resource is "Partners with Anna and Andrew (\$3.95 each), an 11-month visitation training resource. Begin now preparing for next year's Friend Day emphasis with this program.

Both of these resources are available from Judson Press (1-800-ABC-3USA, ext. 2464). Another resource available from Judson is "Three Dozen Ways to Increase Worship Attendance" (\$2.00). Worship committees, teams, and leaders will find this to be an excellent resource.

If you have come across an outstanding evangelism resource, please share it with me. Watch your mailings, I will compile the resources and make them available to you in the future. Keep on winning Ohio for Christ!

Sincerely, Dr. C. Jeff Woods

## MISSION SUPPORT MEMO

As people of God we celebrate Easter, not only on April 12, but everyday of our lives. We celebrate the fact that Christ is Risen and that each day of our lives is filled with hope because of what God has done for us through Jesus Christ.

There are many other people in our communities, across our country and around our world who cannot celebrate Easter because they do not know the love of God. As American Baptists we have an opportunity through *United Mission* to reach out beyond our local church to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ. *United Mission* forms the financial foundation of the work we do together as partners in mission. Your church is one of nearly 6,000 congregations who have covenanted together as American Baptists. *United Mission* provides for ministry that has permanently changed the lives of countless persons around the world. *United Mission* makes a difference so that Easter becomes a reality for more people each day. On behalf of those whose lives have been changed because of contributions to *United Mission*, thank you for considering, caring, encouraging and giving to *United Mission*.

- Has your church appointed a Mission Advocate? If not, why not do it soon? A Mission Advocate is a partner with your pastor, the ABC/Ohio and ABC/USA in encouraging mission.

- Did you know that persons are needed to serve as American Baptist Volunteers in Mission in the United States and around the world? Contact me for more information.

- How will your congregation encourage young people and adults to participate in our Region's camping ministry this summer?

- Have you thought about sending your pastor and spouse to the World Mission Conference or another conference at Green Lake this summer? There will be lasting benefits for both your congregation and your pastor. Scholarship possibilities are available through the American Baptist Assembly and Educational Ministries.

Rev. Daniel L. Taylor, Minister of Mission Support  
740/587-0804; MMS4OHIO@AOL.COM

## NEW BOOK INVITES REFLECTION AND JOURNALING TOWARD WHOLENESS

American Baptist pastor Mary Tuomi Hammond takes a close look at balancing service and self-care in her new book *The Road toward Wholeness: Biblical Meditations for the Recovery Journey* published by Judson Press. Hammond asks the question "What does a follower of Christ do . . . when all the voices of the church preach servanthood, self-sacrifice, and humility?" Claiming to be a "recovering perfectionist" herself, she invites the reader to take a fresh look at selected Gospel texts and provides a process for journaling personal reflections.

Ten short chapters discuss self-care issues addressed by Scripture and enhanced by the author's honest illustrations from everyday life. Reflection questions and space for writing are provided. The final chapter suggests how the book can be used within a small group. Order *The Road toward Wholeness* for \$9 by calling 1-800-4-JUDSON.

Judson Press has a 174-year track record of publishing Christian literature, and is a part of the mission you support when you give to the America for Christ Offering. Give generously!

## PROFESSIONAL CHURCH LEADERSHIP CHANGES

Rev. J. Howard Timmons, Sr., to Bethany Baptist Church, Elyria (North Central Association) as Interim Minister effective January 1998.

Rev. Paul E. Smith, from First Baptist Church, Attica (North Central Association) as Interim Minister effective January 1998.

Rev. David B. Fowls, to Perry

Chapel Baptist Church, Warsaw (Mohican Association) as Pastor.

Ned E. Reece, from Auburn Baptist Church, Shelby (North Central Association) as Pastor effective April 13, 1998.

E. Merle Brumet, to Cass Road Baptist Church, Maumee (Toledo Association) as Assoc. Pastor effective January 17, 1998.



# NORTH AREA NEWS

American Baptist Churches of Ohio

Rev. Saundra G. Heizer, Area Minister, North  
April 1998

## THOUGHTS FROM SANDIE

As you read this, I hope you have had a wonderful Invite-a-Friend Sunday and are in the excitement of Palm Sunday and Easter celebrations. Singing, *Christ the Lord is Risen today, ALLELUIA!* And, *Shouting, grave, where is your victory? and death, where is your sting?* It is the season where we realize that "our God is an awesome God."

I wonder what it was like to be among the early disciples. What thoughts and emotions were beyond the incredible relief that Jesus was alive? Did they still have plans for the Kingdom they hoped Jesus would create? Did they think governments and rulers would topple? Were they still taking dibs on who would sit at the right hand, for Jesus was obviously coming into His power? Or, did they want to hide away and forget all the public scrutiny? Were they ready to just go off to Galilee and let their little band of believers live and work in contentment? How many were like Thomas, doubting "until I see the nailprints..." or like Mary who was clinging?

It was hard to "Go" to Galilee and even harder to "Go" into all the world. It is hard for us to "Go" to invite our friend, to plan our journey to Jerusalem. Ann Weems captures it this way.

Along the way the pilgrims heard  
that a group of people  
had set out for Jerusalem  
without a map.  
Since each of us owned  
our own map  
and read it daily  
and even then  
had difficulty knowing  
which way to turn,  
we were amazed  
that they would set out  
on their own. . .  
amazed and alarmed.  
Many a day we had  
prayed and consulted  
over choices

in the road.  
This news presented  
a greater dilemma:  
Which of us would go  
in the rescue party?  
Whoever went would  
most certainly  
not get to Jerusalem  
on time.  
Distraught,  
we prayed.  
Then it was we realized  
that the ones who went  
in search of the lost  
would be the first

## NORTH AREA NEWS

Coming up in April--

April 7, 7:00 p.m., *Community Memorial Service for the Rev. Dr. Fred L. Steen*, at the Finney Chapel on the Oberlin College Campus. Let us continue to undergird the Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church and the Steen family in this time of loss.

April 18, 10:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m., *Turn Conflict into Opportunity, Ministry of Reconciliation* at the Granville office with Dr. Edward Peirce. Registration is \$10.00.

April 19, 2:30-4:00 p.m., *Judson Hills Camp Day of Prayer*

3:00 p.m., *Mohican Trustees*, Perrysville

4:00 p.m., *Mohican Association Rally*

April 20, *Church Secretaries Day*, Granville Office

April 25, 6:30 p.m., *TAABA Rally*, First Baptist Church

Coming to North Area May 2 is *VITAMINS for Vital Ministry*. Registration begins at 10:00 a.m. Reservations can be made to First Baptist Church, 451 N. Cable Rd., Lima, OH 45805, 419/224-4921. Cost is \$10. Workshops planned for the day are:

Evangelism into the 21st Century --Robert Cassady

A look at Resources for Evangelism as we move into the 21st century.

I'm in the Ministry! --Chuck Armstrong

Looking at the Biblical view of ministry of the laity; examining resources; sharing ideas of lay ministry.

The Local Church and Campus Ministry --John Gilbert

Presentation/discussion of campus ministry resources for local churches; ideas for planning/programming.

Making Disciples --Sandie Heizer

Ways to fulfill the Great Commission, "teaching them to observe all that I've commanded you."

Spirituality Resources --C. Jeff Woods

Resources for pastors and laity

Stewardship and Mission for 98.6 --Dan Taylor

We are called to be stewards and missionaries by Jesus. Together we will explore the issue of stewardship as a way of life and how that relates to the mission of sharing the Good News. We will also briefly review *stewardship* resources.

Training Christian Leaders --R. Robert Hornyak

How we can use our "God given" abilities to make choices and decisions in developing our own leadership skills and the leadership skills of others who share our Christian beliefs.

When the Community Cries "HELP!" --Chuck Armstrong

Resources and guidelines for developing strong and effective community ministries.



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PRAYER CONCERNS:

Our SHUT-INS and those in NURSING HOMES:

HELEN BAKER, at home; EDITH HALL, at home; ELIZABETH HEIZER, at Union Manor Nursing Home in Marysville; FRANCES JOHNSON, at Wintersong Village Nursing Facility; and CAROLYN SCHNEEBERGER, at the Sarah Moore Home.

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Those in COLLEGE or AWAY AT COLLEGE include:

ERIN FAULK at Hope College; NICHELLE HEDGES; LIZ HOPKINS at Bowling Green University; MATTHEW LOVELL at O.S.U.; NATALIE MOWERY at O.S.U.; CHRISTINE REILLY at Ohio Wesleyan University; MARCI SANDER at O.S.U.; SHANNON & MICAH STONER at Devries Institute of Technology; KAREN STONER at METHESCO; JARROD TRIGG at Eastern Michigan University; and JENNA WEAKLAND at Bowling Green university.

Those in the MILITARY include:

VICTOR & DEBBIE FOGLE, in the Marines; ED & JENNIFER LINN, in the Air Force.



*"Peace in heaven,  
and glory in the highest heaven!"*

*—Luke 19:38*

They sat in the driveway-turned-patio where just weeks before a seven-foot-high snow drift had covered the ground. The sounds of water pumps whirled in the distance. Neighbors methodically hauled water-logged debris from their homes to the curbside.

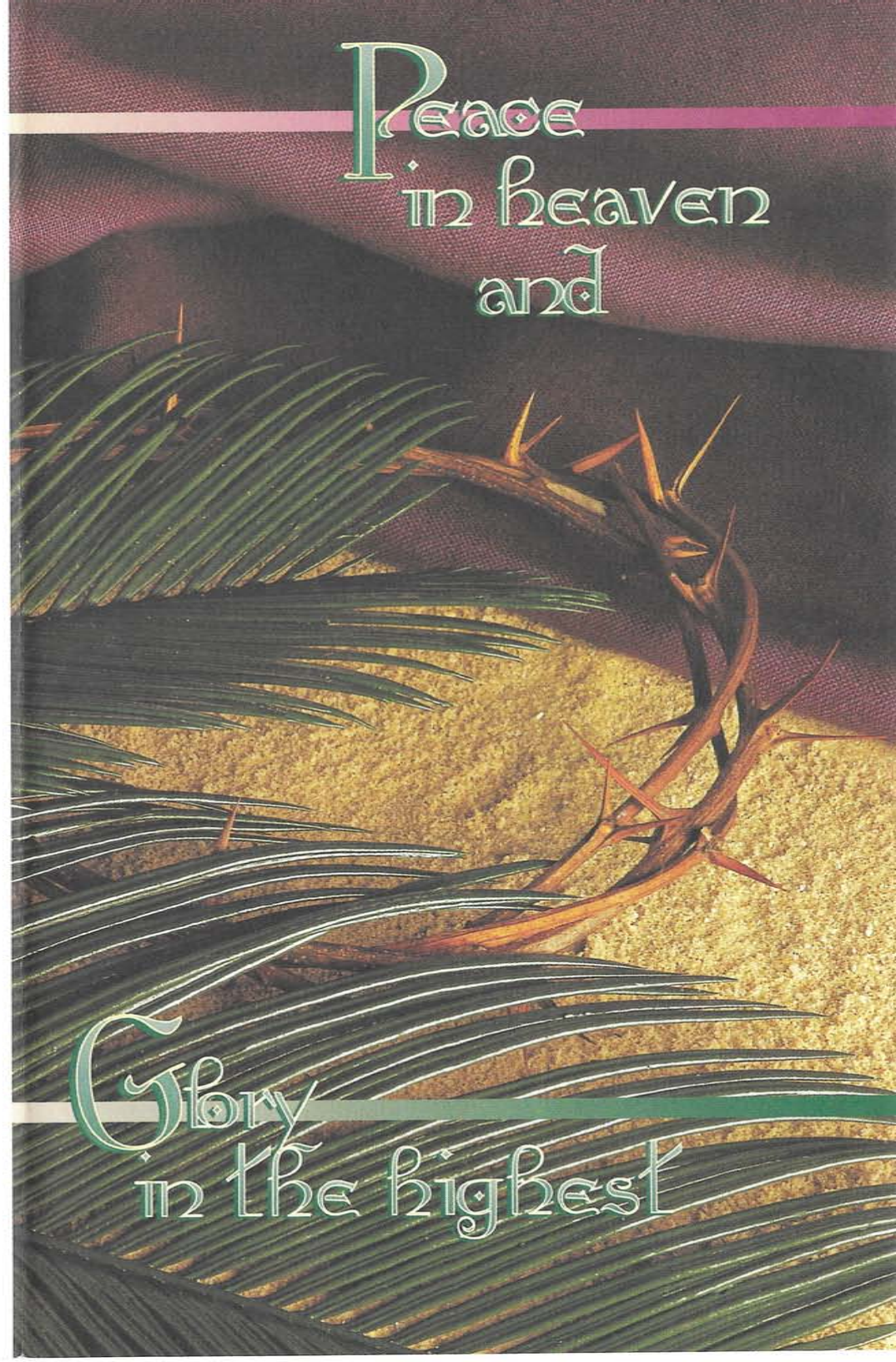
As they prepared to eat a picnic lunch, they paused to ask God's blessing. The Reverend Richard Tosh, pastor of Federated Church in flood-ravaged Grand Forks, North Dakota, suggested they sing the first verse of "For the Beauty of the Earth." As he began, his companions—wife, Beth, and the Reverend Wayne Dvirnak (associate executive minister, ABC of the Dakotas) and Ingrid, his wife—joined in, all four raising their voices in praise.

When they finished, Tosh quietly and confidently said, "God is good." It was a moment of grace.

Here was a man five weeks away from being able to move back into his water-damaged home, a pastor who had witnessed tragedy among his congregation, most of whom had been evacuated from their homes and were scattered from the Dakotas to Utah to Florida. No one could blame him if he had wondered aloud about what he had gotten himself into when he and Beth decided less than a year earlier to leave South Windsor, Connecticut, to live and serve in Grand Forks.

Yet in his anguish he was eager to praise his Maker. By the grace of God, he was able to garner strength—a testament to faith and belief that in Christ all things would be made right.

*Adapted from reflections by Ingrid Dvirnak  
First Baptist Church, Bismarck, North Dakota*





First Baptist Church  
Delaware, Ohio

Jody Lynn B. Hagans, pastor  
April 12, 1998

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## Early Easter Service of Celebration

### Prelude

### Call to Worship

**Voice 1:** Easter begins in despair.

Our life, our love, our hope forever dead,  
crushed by boulder, bottled up in a cave.

**Voice 2:** Who will roll away the stone?

**Voice 1:** Where have you laid him?

When faced with a miracle,  
our first reflex is to run.

**Voice 2:** Be not afraid.

Ye seek Jesus of Nazareth who was crucified.

He is risen; he is not here:

see the place where they laid him.

But go your way.

Tell his disciples and Peter

that he goes before you into Galilee.

There you shall see him.

**Voice 1:** Suddenly the realization dawns. It may rise as quietly as the  
sun creeping over the horizon, or it may explode like  
fireworks, painting the world with dazzle. We recognize the  
One who was dead as he comes to life in us.

**Voice 2:** Christ is risen, Christ is risen indeed!

**ALL:** Alleluia!

**Voice 1:** And all who encounter the Risen One  
whether gently roused by the sunrise  
or surprised by the sudden burst of Joy  
will join the Resurrection Procession

one by one, slipping into step,  
some of us singing,  
some of us silently soaking it in,  
and all of us singing alleluia.

**ALL:** Alleluia! Christ is risen, Christ is risen indeed!

Hymn #168 "The Day of Resurrection"

Responsive Reading #623

Solo

Unison Prayer

Gracious Redeemer, we come to you in the morning of the resurrection. We expect to find you among the tombs and grave clothes of our world, but you are alive. Sin cannot hold you; death cannot bind you; and, just as we have been weeping and mourning that you have been taken from us, you meet us in the garden of the new life and send us running to share the good news of the gospel to the very ends of the earth. You are risen, indeed. We have seen you and so we believe that joy comes from grief. Because we are not left alone, we can join hands with one another and pray your prayer. Our Father . . .

Reflection

Hymn #166 "I Know That My Redeemer Lives"

Benediction

Leader: Because the tomb is empty, your life can be full, so go into every place and every day as people brimming with the love of God.

People: Be graceful in spirit, hopeful in word, faithful in deed.

Leader: Live for the risen Christ as Christ lives in you.

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## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

101 North Franklin Street  
Delaware, Ohio  
363-7021

The Reverend Jody Lynn B. Hagans, pastor

April 12, 1998

Easter

### ORDER OF WORSHIP

10:45 a.m.

**PRELUDE** "Come Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain"

*Broughton*

### PRAYER OF MEDITATION

Gracious God, Power of Life, we praise you that you have not abandoned us to the living death of sin and despair, but that, with Jesus Christ, you have lifted us up from the grave. Grant that we will live in newness of life, that we will ourselves know the power of resurrection, now and in the world to come; for it is in the name of the risen Christ that we pray. Amen.

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### INTROIT

### CALL TO WORSHIP

*Come, all who mourn. Come, all who despair.*

Look, the stone has been rolled away and the tomb is empty.

*See, Christ has triumphed over even the powers of death.*

Shout thanks to the Lord for the steadfast love that endures forever!

### \*HYMN OF PRAISE, #163

"Christ the Lord Is Risen Today"

### \*INVOCATION

\*LORD'S PRAYER (Trespases)

\*GLORIA PATRI #576

### SERVICE OF BAPTISM

Melissa Lee Gillette

### RENEWAL OF BAPTISM

(In Unison) God of life and goodness, we praise you for claiming us through our baptism and for upholding us by your grace. We remember your promises given to us in our baptism. Strengthen us by your Spirit, that we may obey your will and serve you with joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory "Now the Green Blade Riseth"

*Ritter*

Response #572

O Jesus, risen now to bless,  
do thou thyself our hearts possess,  
that we may give you all our days  
the willing tribute of our praise!

### ANTHEM

"Alleluia, Christ Is Risen"

*Loree*

### CHILDREN'S MOMENT

### \*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING, #158

"I Serve A Risen Savior"

### MORNING PRAYERS

SCRIPTURE LESSON Luke 24:1-10

MORNING MESSAGE "The Grand Reversal"

### \*HYMN OF COMMITMENT, #165

"Low in the Grave He Lay"

### \*BENEDICTION

### \*ALELUIA

\*POSTLUDE "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

*Hegarty*

(\*congregation stands)

### MINISTERING TODAY

Pastor: The Rev. Jody Lynn B. Hagans

Lay Leader: Deacon Mary Gillette

Choir Director: Jim Stephenson

Organist: Mary Lou Lovell

### OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

MONDAY 7:00 Boy Scouts

WEDNESDAY 7:00 Choir

THURSDAY 10:00 A.B.W. Ministries at P.I.N.

SATURDAY 9:30 DISCIPLE Bible Study

*The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen."*

*—Luke 24:5*

**I** was privileged to attend an Easter sunrise service on San Juan Hill in Santiago, Cuba. Beneath the gaze of the cannons that shot at Teddy Roosevelt's Rough Riders, Christians gathered as the sun rose and the mists lifted to celebrate Jesus' life-giving resurrection. As we repeated the words "Christ is risen, he is risen indeed," the sun came out in full force as if a sign. We ended our time with the distribution of tiny squares of cloth to the congregation, symbolizing the empty grave clothes.

We ate a simple picnic breakfast and piled into trucks to return to the church for Sunday school. A baptismal service for 18 candidates followed. Each one shared a brief testimony, many thanking God that their family members were in church for the first time that day. God had transformed their lives, and they wanted their loved ones to know this same hope. At the end of the service, some responded to the invitation to accept Christ as Savior. Truly Jesus is not dead: he is a living power that continues to transform our broken lives and world. Because of the Resurrection we have hope and victory. Christ is risen! Hallelujah!

*Sue Hegarty  
Missionary, Cuba  
Board of International Ministries*

**He is not here,  
but has**

**Risen**



# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

101 North Franklin Street

Delaware, Ohio

363-7021

The Reverend Jody Lynn B. Hagans, pastor

April 19, 1998

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday After Easter

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

10:45 a.m.

### PRELUDE

Piano Solo

Yuichi Hoshino

### PRAYER OF MEDITATION

We marvel, our risen Lord, that you give faith to so many, by such different means. Recognition that you conquered death came for some at the sight of your empty tomb, and for others at your spoken word. Still others came to believe when you stood in their presence. For some of your followers, like Thomas, belief came hard and required evidence. Yet to each you graciously provided the means for belief. Let the testimony of those first believers expand our confidence, Christ, and cancel every doubt. Bless us as our belief grows ever stronger. Amen.

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### INTROIT

### CALL TO WORSHIP

*Let all give thanks and sing glad songs.*

Christ, the stone rejected by builders, is our cornerstone.

*On his strength shall our lives find their foundation.*

With his support we have come to believe.

### HYMN OF PRAISE, #190

"We Are Gathered for Thy Blessing"

### \*INVOCATION

### \*LORD'S PRAYER (Trespases)

### \*GLORIA PATRI #576

### SERVICE OF DEDICATION

### GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory

"Siciliano"

Response #572

Blake

O Jesus, risen now to bless,  
do thou thyself our hearts possess,  
that we may give you all our days  
the willing tribute of our praise!

### ANTHEM

### CHILDREN'S MOMENT

### \*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING, #577

"Jesus Stand Among Us"

### MORNING PRAYERS

SCRIPTURE LESSON John 20:19-31

MORNING MESSAGE "Invitation to Trust"

### \*HYMN OF COMMITMENT, #481

"So Send I You"

### SERVICE OF MEMBERSHIP

### \*BENEDICTION

### \*ALLELUIA

\*POSTLUDE "The Trumpet Shall Sound"

Handel

(\*congregation stands)

### MINISTERING TODAY

Pastor:

The Rev. Jody Lynn B. Hagans

Lay Leader:

Deacon Mary Gillette

Choir Director:

Jim Stephenson

Organist:

Mary Lou Lovell

### OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

MONDAY

7:00

Boy Scouts

TUESDAY

7:00

Board of Christian Education

WEDNESDAY

5:00

Inquirer's Class

7:00

Choir

SATURDAY

9:30

DISCIPLE Bible Study

## PRAYER CONCERNS:

Our SHUT-INS and those in NURSING HOMES:

HELEN BAKER, at home; EDITH HALL, at home; ELIZABETH HEIZER, at Union Manor Nursing Home in Marysville; FRANCES JOHNSON, at Wintersong Village Nursing Facility; and CAROLYN SCHNEEBERGER, at the Sarah Moore Home.

Those in need of our PRAYERS include:

PAUL ALLEN; LAURA ANDERSSON; BONNIE ARMSTRONG, Sue Elfner's cousin; CHUCK ARMSTRONG; JOE & JEAN BROWER & daughter DARLENE; DAVID CYRUS; VIRGINIA DIEHL, member of Randy Turner's home church; SHANNON DE'LASSANJRO, Jean Wickum's granddaughter; MICHAEL DUFFY; GLADYS DUNLAP; the EDDY Family; JOHN HASTY, Flo Faulk's nephew; DEWEY HUGHES, Tammy Francis' grandfather; MARY HUNTER; LOLA JACKSON; JEANETTE JONES; MIKELL HEDLEY, friend of Lynn Elfner; DEBBIE HELD, Bernice Turney's niece; DARREN KERNS, Alex Bennett's friend; the LEHR Family, friends of Pastor Hagans; JOHN & ANNE LINN; AMY MCGREW, Marge Smale's daughter; MATT MEYERS; MARY ANN & JOHN MURDAY; SUSAN MUSSARD, Jean Wickum's friend; SHIRLEY PARKER; the RAMEY FAMILY; LUCY RINEHART, MARY SEALY; ALAN SMITH; Archie Trigg's aunt; CHERYL SPANGLER; BETTY TOTTON; BERNICE TURNEY; MRS. VAN BROEKHOVEN, Harold Van Broekhoven's mother; GREG WALKER; the WERLING Family.

Those in COLLEGE or AWAY AT COLLEGE include:

ERIN FAULK at Hope College; NICHELLE HEDGES at Columbus State; LIZ HOPKINS at Bowling Green University; MATTHEW LOVELL at O.S.U.; NATALIE MOWERY at O.S.U.; CHRISTINE REILLY at Ohio Wesleyan University; MARCI SANDER at O.S.U.; SHANNON & MICAH STONER at Devries Institute of Technology; KAREN STONER at METHESCO; JARROD TRIGG at Eastern Michigan University; and JENNA WEAKLAND at Bowling Green university.

Those in the MILITARY include:

VICTOR & DEBBIE FOGLE, in the Marines; ED & JENNIFER LINN, in the Air Force.



*"As the Father has sent me, so I send you."  
—John 20:21*

## Volunteer Sunday

During our flight to Tulsa, Oklahoma, Ted and I talked about our expectations of All Tribes Community Church and the adventure on which we were embarking. Elija (age 11) and Sara (age 9) kept questioning what their roles in the mission might be. We told them we would share the Good News of Jesus Christ. Ted would serve as a musician, and the children and I would do whatever God intended us to do and be.

We arrived in Tulsa and found the Vacation Bible School Camp (VBSC) coordinator and the pastor's two daughters waiting for us. What a great welcome! We began our time of learning about the people of All Tribes. You know you've come "home" when there are warm-hearted, loving people around you. By the time we were to leave, it was hard to say goodbye to all our new friends.

The most rewarding part of our ministry was the music at the Sunday church services and during VBSC. Music is a vital part of people's well-being and is a universal expression given by God. Ted shared his talent during the congregation's favorite hymn time. During VBSC the children enjoyed learning new songs, some with body motions and/or sign language, and I assisted with VBSC teaching. We also did our best to paint a room in the church.

This experience has been so very valuable for us. We are grateful God allowed us this wonderful mission trip. Through God using us, we experienced God's love for us.

*Pat Steinbrecher  
American Baptist Volunteer In Mission*

*The Steinbrechers from Slatington, Pennsylvania, served a two-week Volunteers In Mission appointment with All Tribes Community Church, Tulsa, Oklahoma, where the Reverend Bill Thompson is pastor. For information about the Volunteers in Mission program of American Baptist National Ministries, call 1-800-ABC-3USA, ext. 2449.*



As the Father  
has sent me,

so  
I send  
you

# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

101 North Franklin Street

Delaware, Ohio

363-7021

The Reverend Jody Lynn B. Hagans, pastor

April 26, 1998

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday In Easter

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## ORDER OF WORSHIP

10:45 a.m.

### PRELUDE

"Allemanda"

Corelli

### PRAYER OF MEDITATION

God of Easter and of all our days, we ask that Christ approach us as he did the disciples in resurrection power. Let us not return too easily to busy ourselves with the usual tasks and resume old habits casually taking up things as they were. On this side of new life, help us keep senses and souls open to the call to do what love requires on behalf of Christ and all those who are led to meet Christ through us. Amen.

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### INTROIT

### CALL TO WORSHIP

*Sing praises to God, you faithful,  
give thanks to God's holy name!*

Weeping may linger for a night,  
but joy comes in the morning.

*You turn our weeping to dancing, God;  
you remove the garments of mourning  
and clothe us in gladness.*

May we praise you and not be silent!

We will give thanks to you, O God, forever!

### HYMN OF PRAISE, #19

"Ye Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim"

### \*INVOCATION

\*LORD'S PRAYER (Trespases)

\*GLORIA PATRI #576

### GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory "Sacred Song"

Luciotti

Response #572

O Jesus, risen now to bless,  
do thou thyself our hearts possess,  
that we may give you all our days  
the willing tribute of our praise!

### ANTHEM

"I Stand Amazed in the Presence" Broughton

### CHILDREN'S MOMENT

### \*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING, #503

"Jesus Calls Us; O'er the Tumult"

### MORNING PRAYERS

SCRIPTURE LESSON John 21:1-19

MORNING MESSAGE "An Uneasy Peace"

### \*HYMN OF COMMITMENT, #335

"Jesus, My Lord, My God, My All"

### \*BENEDICTION

### \*ALLELUIA

\*POSTLUDE "I Will Praise Thee"

Price

(\*congregation stands)

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### MINISTERING TODAY

Pastor: The Rev. Jody Lynn B. Hagans

Lay Leader: Deacon Mary Gillette

Choir Director: Jim Stephenson

Organist: Mary Lou Lovell

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### OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

MONDAY	7:00	Boy Scouts
WEDNESDAY	5:00	Inquirer's Class
	7:00	Choir
FRIDAY	11:30	Church Women United, at St. Peter's Covered-dish luncheon
SATURDAY	9:30	DISCIPLE Bible Study
NEXT SUNDAY	5:30	Mother-Daughter Banquet at Radnor Baptist Church (covered-dish)



## PRAYER CONCERNS:

Our SHUT-INS and those in NURSING HOMES:

HELEN BAKER, at home; EDITH HALL, at home; ELIZABETH HEIZER, at Union Manor Nursing Home in Marysville; FRANCES JOHNSON, at Wintersong Village Nursing Facility; and CAROLYN SCHNEEBERGER, at the Sarah Moore Home.

Those in need of our PRAYERS include:

PAUL ALLEN; LAURA ANDERSSON; BONNIE ARMSTRONG, Sue Elfner's cousin; CHUCK ARMSTRONG; PAM BARBOSKY & CHILDREN, friend of Pastor Hagans; JOE & JEAN BROWER & daughter DARLENE; DAVID CYRUS; SHANNON DE'LASSANJRO, Jean Wickum's granddaughter; MICHAEL DUFFY; GLADYS DUNLAP; the EDDY Family; MARK HALE; JOHN HASTY, Flo Faulk's nephew; DEWEY HUGHES, Tammy Francis' grandfather; MARY HUNTER; LOLA JACKSON; JEANETTE JONES; MIKELL HEDLEY, friend of Lynn Elfner; DEBBIE HELD, Bernice Turney's niece; DARREN KERNS, Alex Bennett's friend; the LEHR Family, friends of Pastor Hagans; JOHN & ANNE LINN; AMY MCGREW, Marge Smale's daughter; MATT MEYERS; MARY ANN & JOHN MURDAY; SUSAN MUSSARD, Jean Wickum's friend; SHIRLEY PARKER; the RAMEY FAMILY; LUCY RINEHART, MARY SEALY; ALAN SMITH; Archie Trigg's aunt; CHERYL SPANGLER; SHARON STEVENS, friend of the Weakland's; BETTY TOTTEN; BERNICE TURNEY; MRS. VAN BROEKHOVEN, Harold Van Broekhoven's mother; GREG WALKER; the WERLING Family; BARBARA WOODS, colleague of Alison Mowery.

Those in COLLEGE or AWAY AT COLLEGE include:

ERIN FAULK at Hope College; NICHELLE HEDGES at Columbus State; LIZ HOPKINS at Bowling Green University; MATTHEW LOVELL at O.S.U.; NATALIE MOWERY at O.S.U.; CHRISTINE REILLY at Ohio Wesleyan University; MARCI SANDER at O.S.U.; SHANNON & MICAH STONER at Devries Institute of Technology; KAREN STONER at METHESCO; JARROD TRIGG at Eastern Michigan University; and JENNA WEAKLAND at Bowling Green university.

Those in the MILITARY include:

VICTOR & DEBBIE FOGLE, in the Marines; ED & JENNIFER LINN, in the Air Force.



*Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone.*

*—1 Corinthians 12:4-6*

## **American Baptist Camps and Conferences Sunday Using Our Unique Gifts to Serve the Lord**

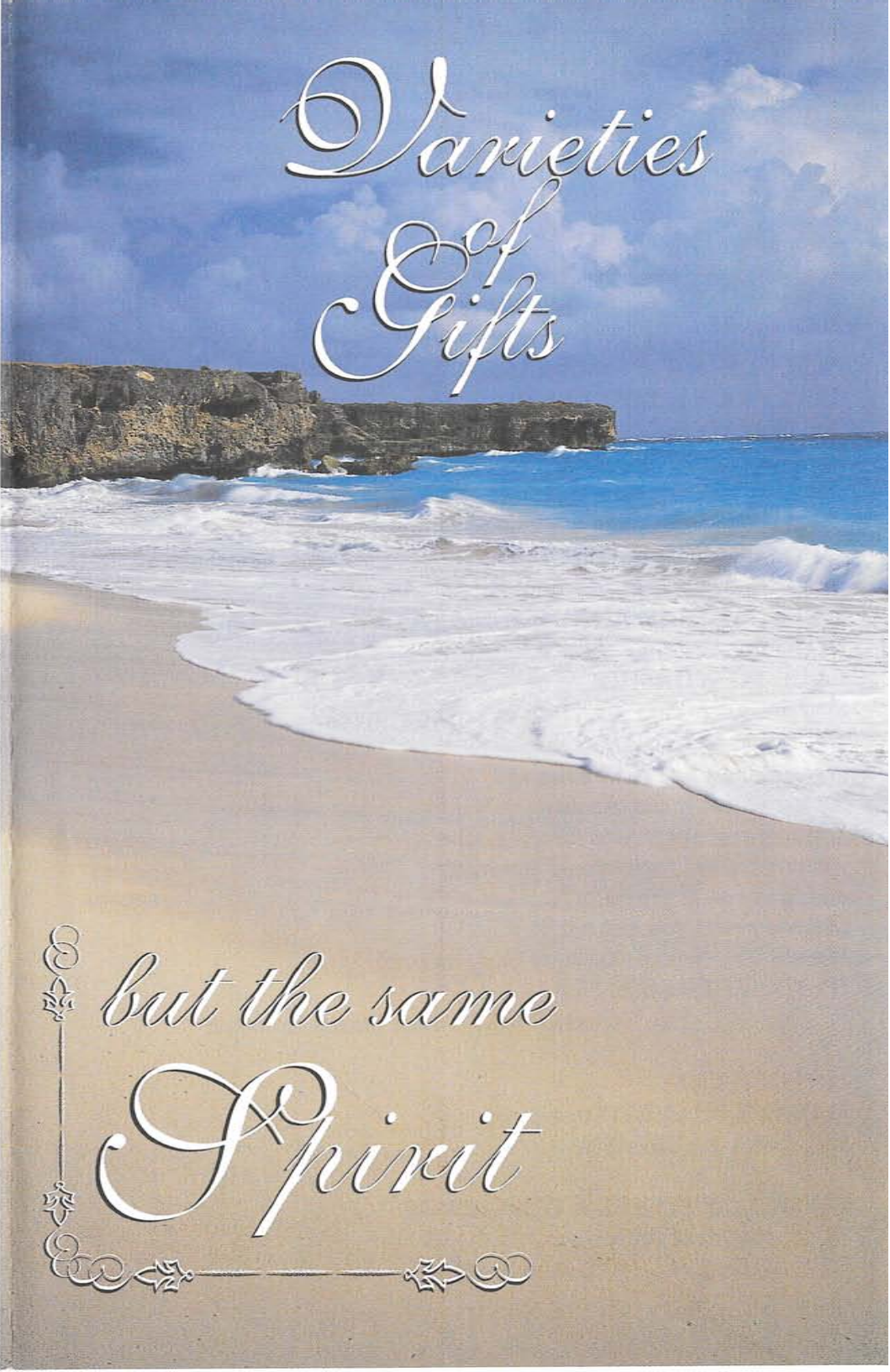
**I**n Paul's first letter to the church of Corinth, we are all reminded of what unique, gifted individuals we are. "There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord," he tells us (1 Corinthians 12:4-5). These words of Paul have special meaning for us in our American Baptist camps and conference centers.

Each year, thousands of people, both youth and adult, will come to our centers looking to find the Lord in new and exciting ways. Thousands of lives will be impacted for Christ. Thousands of first-time commitments will be made, and hundreds will explore God's call in their lives. And yet, this does not just happen! It takes the gifts of countless people to make it possible—gifts of people just like you!

For every child reached in the name of Christ, many individuals have already invested their talents. A counselor has agreed to serve. A carpenter or two have lent a hand preparing the buildings. A staff of kitchen helpers has gotten the dining hall in readiness for the children's arrival. Volunteers have cleaned, raked, built, and removed! Pastors and lay leaders have given of themselves. People have prayed for the ministry.

Where can you add your own personal gifts to the list of needs? What unique combination will you bring to bear as we all serve the same Lord? Through our Camp and Conference Ministries, we are waiting with the programs and facilities. We are ready to challenge people of all ages to strengthen their faith. Now we need you. Pray with us that lives will be changed for Christ. Pray that excellent leadership will be in place and will model Christianity for those we serve. Join us as a volunteer! You have special gifts. Call your American Baptist camp, conference center, or Green Lake today, and ask how you can help. You will touch the lives of thousands with your God-given talents.

*Christine Roush  
Executive Director, Outdoor Ministries  
American Baptist Churches of New York State*



*Varieties  
of  
Gifts*

*but the same  
Spirit*



# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

101 North Franklin Street

Delaware, Ohio

363-7021

The Reverend Jody Lynn B. Hagans, pastor

May 3, 1998

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Easter

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## ORDER OF WORSHIP

10:45 a.m.

### PRELUDE

Welcome to First Baptist Church. We are glad to have you worshiping with us this morning. On this Communion Sunday, we invite all who believe in Christ to join us in our celebration at the table.

### PRAYER OF MEDITATION

Love Divine, whose mercies are fresh with the morning and whose grace amazes us into joy: Grant that, in our worship and in our daily living, we may be deeply aware of the strength of your mercy. Move us to share that strength in the world. Amen.

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### INTROIT

### CALL TO WORSHIP

### \*HYMN OF PRAISE, #63

"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

### \*INVOCATION

### \*LORD'S PRAYER (Trespases)

### \*GLORIA PATRI #576

Glory be to the Spirit!

To Jesus Christ! To the Eternal Source!

From the time of our beginnings,

beyond death's claim upon us:

Life, Light, and Love shall never end. Amen!

### GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory

Response #572

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God above, ye heav'n-ly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

### ANTHEM

### CHILDREN'S MOMENT

### \*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING, #352

"O for a Closer Walk with God"

### MORNING PRAYERS

SCRIPTURE LESSON Revelation 7:9-17

MORNING MESSAGE "A New Wardrobe"

### FELLOWSHIP OFFERING

### \*HYMN OF COMMITMENT, #196

"O Breath of Life"

### HOLY COMMUNION

\*FELLOWSHIP CIRCLE "Blest Be the Tie That Binds" #207

### \*BENEDICTION

### \*POSTLUDE

(\*congregation stands)

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### MINISTERING TODAY

Pastor: Jody Lynn B. Hagans

Lay Leader: Deacon Mary Gillette

Choir Director: Jim Stephenson

Organist: Mary Lou Lovell

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### OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

TODAY 5:30 Mother/Daughter Banquet at Radnor

MONDAY 7:00 Boy Scouts

TUESDAY 7:00 Board of Deacons

WEDNESDAY 5:00 Inquirer's Class

7:00 Choir

THURSDAY 10:00 Sewing Group

SATURDAY 9:30 DISCIPLE Bible Study

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*For there shall be a sowing of peace; the vine shall yield its fruit, the ground shall give its produce, and the skies shall give their dew; and I will cause the remnant of this people to possess all these things.*

*—Zechariah 8:12*

## **Peace Sunday A Sowing of Peace**

**I**t took me several seconds to realize that the “pop-pop-pop” sounds I was hearing were gunshots. I looked out my window and was amazed to see several young men across the street, guns in hand, shooting at each other. As I frantically dialed 911, some drove away. By the time the police arrived, everyone was gone, and the scene was quiet again.

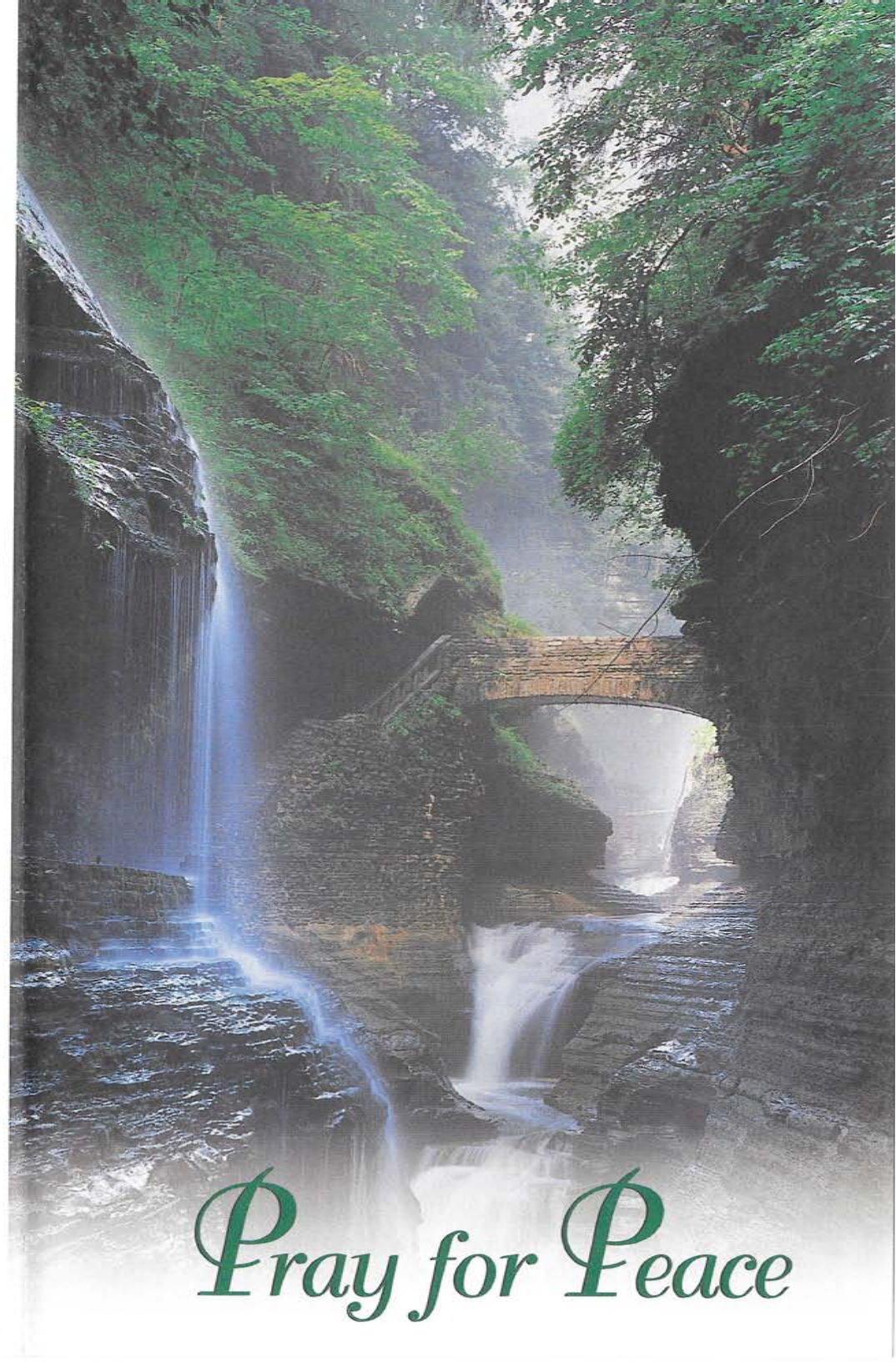
It is one thing to say that we live in an unreasonably violent society. It is quite another to see it right outside the window of the Edna Martin Christian Center. Fortunately, no one had gotten hurt. We did have a bullet hole in one of our windows, with the bullet lodged in a wall. It could easily have killed someone who was unfortunate enough to be standing in its path.

H. Rap Brown said in the 1960s that “violence is as American as cherry pie.” It was true then and is even more so now. As a nation, we are the greatest purveyor of violence the world has ever seen. No other country comes close in sales of weapons to other countries. No other country has more people in jail. For our teenagers, black or white, homicide is the number two cause of death. The violence on our movie screens and TV shows saturates the world.

How can we accept this sin of our society? It is time we as Christian people take a stand. We must be active in opposing violence in all its destructive forms. We must be true to our calling as followers of the One who spoke consistently of love and peace.

*The Reverend Larry Lindley, American Baptist Home Missionary  
Executive Director, Edna Martin Christian Center  
Indianapolis, Indiana*

*The Edna Martin Christian Center is related to American Baptist Churches through National Ministries' Neighborhood Action Program.*



# *Pray for Peace*



**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**

101 North Franklin Street

Delaware, Ohio

363-7021

The Reverend Jody Lynn B. Hagans, pastor

May 10, 1998

Mother's Day

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**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

10:45 a.m.

**PRELUDE**

**PRAYER OF MEDITATION**

God our Mother, for the miracle of continuing creation in the conception and birth of a child, we give you thanks. For the miracle of our own birth and the lessons we have learned about your love from a mother's tenderness, we give you thanks. For the miracle of being human and being alive, of loving, of sharing, of learning and growing and for those who nurture us, we give you thanks. Amen.

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**INTROIT**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE, #28**

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

**\*INVOCATION**

**\*LORD'S PRAYER** (Trespases)

**\*GLORIA PATRI #576**

Glory be to the Spirit!

To Jesus Christ! To the Eternal Source!

From the time of our beginnings,

beyond death's claim upon us:

Life, Light, and Love shall never end. Amen!

**SCRIPTURE LESSON** John 13:31-35

**BLANKET SUNDAY** - Presentation of Gifts

**GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS**

Prayer of Dedication

**Offertory**

Response #572

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God above, ye heav'n-ly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**ANTHEM**

**CHILDREN'S MOMENT**

**\*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING, #339**

"More About Jesus Would I Know"

**MORNING PRAYERS**

**SCRIPTURE LESSON** Acts 11:1-18

**MORNING MESSAGE** "Beyond the Boundaries"

**FELLOWSHIP OFFERING**

**\*HYMN OF COMMITMENT, #233**

"There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"

**HOLY COMMUNION**

**\*FELLOWSHIP CIRCLE** "Blest Be the Tie That Binds" #207

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*POSTLUDE**

(\*congregation stands)

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**MINISTERING TODAY**

Pastor: Jody Lynn B. Hagans

Lay Leader: Adam Mowery

Choir Director: Jim Stephenson

Organist: Mary Lou Lovell

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**OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK**

MONDAY 7:00 Boy Scouts

WEDNESDAY 7:00 Choir

THURSDAY 12:00 Young at Heart

SATURDAY 9:30 DISCIPLE Bible Study

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*A woman who fears the LORD is to be praised.  
—Proverbs 31:30*

## Mother's Day

**O**ne undeniable fact is that we all have mothers. Without their special gifts to bring new life into the world, we would not exist. Mothers come in all different brands. Some may have had more difficulties than others in fulfilling their responsibilities as mothers, but all of them cared enough to nurture and love, to bring about the next generation.

On Mother's Day we celebrate and honor all the mothers in our midst and in the world. In Proverbs 31:30 we read that when a woman or mother honors or gives reverence to God, she is to be praised. We recognize how important mothers are in sharing Bible stories with their children, in giving moral guidance in hard situations, in providing food for nourishment, and in showering forgiving love in times of hurting and loneliness. The role of being a mother can also be seen in single and older women accepting these responsibilities for the life of the larger community. Sometimes fathers and other men can also serve as nurturers and caregivers for children and others. We celebrate all who have taken the time and responsibility to raise our children—especially our mothers.

My mother became a Christian at the First Baptist Church of Boston when she came to America in 1947. She always said to me in Chinese, "When it is God's will, it will be okay." (Facing tremendous family trials herself, she always would say, "When it is God's will, it will be okay.") When I was considering my call to full-time Christian ministry, she would remind me that it is God's will and whatever God wants us to do, it is for our very best. What trust and faithfulness! I praise God for the honor and trust that my mother had for God's will. I honor my mother for her trust in God.

"A woman who fears the LORD is to be praised. Give her a share in the fruit of her hands, and let her works praise her in the city gates" (Proverbs 31:30-31).

*Donald Ng  
Director, Education for Discipleship  
Educational Ministries*

# A Woman Who Fears The Lord



# Is To Be Praised



# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

101 North Franklin Street

Delaware, Ohio

363-7021

The Reverend Jody Lynn B. Hagans, pastor

May 17, 1998

6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

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## ORDER OF WORSHIP

10:45 a.m.

### PRELUDE

### PRAYER OF MEDITATION

God, you are life for us, Holy be your name, Your new day come,  
Your will be done, On earth as in heaven. Give us this day our bread  
for the morrow; And forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin  
against us. Strengthen us in the time of test, And deliver us from evil.  
For the power and the splendor and the fulfillment are yours,  
Now and forever. Amen.

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### INTROIT

### CALL TO WORSHIP

### \*HYMN OF PRAISE, #40

"To God Be the Glory"

### \*INVOCATION

### \*LORD'S PRAYER (Trespases)

### \*GLORIA PATRI #576

Glory be to the Spirit!  
To Jesus Christ! To the Eternal Source!  
From the time of our beginnings,  
beyond death's claim upon us:  
Life, Light, and Love shall never end.

### GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory

Response #572

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heav'n-ly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

### ANTHEM

### CHILDREN'S MOMENT

### \*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING, #507

"We Give Thee But Thine Own"

### MORNING PRAYERS

### SCRIPTURE LESSON John 5:1-9

### MORNING MESSAGE "Just Deserts"

### \*HYMN OF COMMITMENT, #245

"Wonderful Grace of Jesus"

### \*BENEDICTION

### \*ALLELUIA

### \*POSTLUDE

(\*congregation stands)

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### MINISTERING TODAY

Pastor: Jody Lynn B. Hagans  
Lay Leader: Adam Mowery  
Choir Director: Jim Stephenson  
Organist: Mary Lou Lovell

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### OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

TODAY	2:00	4-H Meeting
	2:00	Peace Camp Meeting
	2:00	Christian Ed. Event at Mt. Gilead
MONDAY	7:00	Boy Scouts
WEDNESDAY	5:00	Inquirer's Class
	7:00	Choir
THURSDAY	12:00	A.B.W. Ministries, at Ponderosa
SATURDAY	9:30	DISCIPLE Bible Study

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*You are a letter of Christ . . . , written not with ink but  
with the Spirit of the living God.*

*—2 Corinthians 3:2-3*

## American Baptist Heritage Sunday

Louise Campbell was the daughter of China missionaries George and Jennie Campbell. She began her service as an American Baptist missionary teacher in 1911 when she arrived at Kaying in southeast China with a definite plan in mind. At that time, women there had no opportunity for education. They were not considered to be equal to it mentally. Men were educated to get good jobs and left the women at home to do farm work. Louise's mother and Annie Giffin had begun teaching informally, but there was no school in the area.

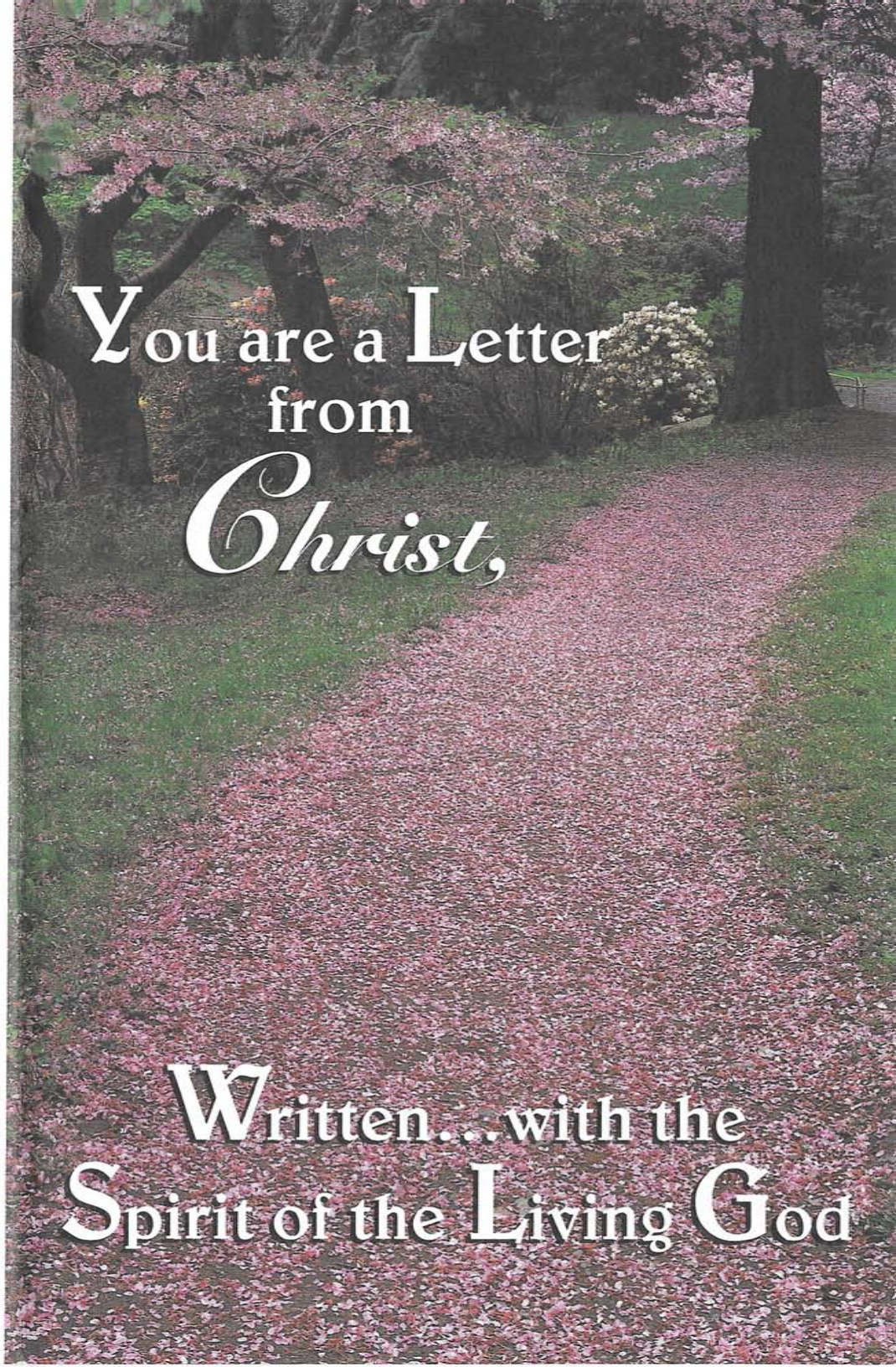
Within a year they organized a small group of girls in the neighborhood by agreeing to pay their reluctant parents for the family's rice if they permitted the girls to come to school for several half days a week. They started around the dining room table. By the end of the year, parents offered to pay to send their girls to the school, and they began charging admission. Men admitted that they would prefer an educated wife to one who stayed home and worked in the fields.

Each year Louise and her staff added another grade until a high school course was completed. Some girls walked miles to the school at first. They built a dormitory, and many girls moved in. All of the first six graduates took college examinations and passed. Five of them went to the University of Shanghai. By the time Louise retired in 1950, there were 200 students, some of them the grandchildren of the original group. Eighteen of the faculty were graduates of the school, and other graduates were hired to teach in a new government school.

When Louise Campbell's vision first began to take shape, it was not proper for women to go out in the streets to shop until they were forty or fifty years old. By the time she turned her school over to Chinese women administrators, two of her former students had their own general shop in the city and others were employed in banks. They were finding their places in society, and attitudes toward women were changing.

Louise died in May of 1968 at the Atherton Home in California. She related her story in the form of diaries, interviews on tape, and correspondence. Like so many dedicated and gifted women missionaries who carried the gospel of hope to women and children on other continents, she was a letter from Christ, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God. That Spirit, that hope, and her memory live on in China after nearly half a century.

*Beverly Clark Carlson  
Executive Director  
American Baptist Historical Society*



You are a Letter  
from  
*Christ,*

Written...with the  
Spirit of the Living God



# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

101 North Franklin Street

Delaware, Ohio

363-7021

The Reverend Jody Lynn B. Hagans, pastor

May 24, 1998

7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

10:45 a.m.

### PRELUDE

"In Sacred Memory"

Moore

### THE TIME OF CENTERING

We use this time to make the transition between "getting here" and "being here." Take these few minutes of quiet time to get in touch with the calm places, the still, deep places in you; the spirit. Relax your body; quiet the inner dialogue of your mind. Focus on feeling, on being. Be receptive to your center—your reservoir of inner peace, strength, love. Be aware of being with others. Feel the spirit of the community.

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### INTROIT

### CALL TO WORSHIP

*It is God our Maker who sets us free to live,*

*Who calls us into a community of freedom and commitment.*

*It is Jesus our Christ who has blazed the trail of new life,*

*Who has gone before us to overcome sin and death.*

*It is the Spirit of peace that binds us as one,*

*Who flows among us like a healing river.*

**ALL:** Glory be to God the Maker, Christ, and Spirit, in all that we say and do here! Amen.

### \*HYMN OF PRAISE, #177

"Rejoice, The Lord Is King"

### \*INVOCATION

\*LORD'S PRAYER (Trespases)

\*GLORIA PATRI #576

### GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory "In Peaceful Rest"

Dubois

Response #583

We give Thee but Thine own,

What-e'er the gift may be:

All that we have is Thine a-lone,

A trust, O Lord, from Thee. Amen.

### SOLO

Jeanne Ekelberry

### CHILDREN'S MOMENT

\*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING, #192

"Joys Are Flowing Like a River"

### MORNING PRAYERS

SCRIPTURE LESSON John 17:20-26

MORNING MESSAGE "Coming or Going"

\*HYMN OF COMMITMENT, #174 "Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!"

### \*BENEDICTION

\*ALLELUIA

\*POSTLUDE

"Faith of Our Fathers"

Hagerty

(\*congregation stands)

### MINISTERING TODAY

Pastor: Jody Lynn B. Hagans

Lay Leader: Jean Wickum

Choir Director: Jim Stephenson

Organist: Mary Lou Lovell

### OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

WEDNESDAY 7:00 Choir

THURSDAY 7:00 Parish Council

SATURDAY 9:30 DISCIPLE Bible Study

Note: Pastor Hagans will be at the Women in Professional Ministry Conference at Green Lake Conference Center from Monday, May 25 through Sunday May 31. If there is any pastoral need or emergency, please call your watchcare deacon or the chair of the Board of Deacons, Alison Mowery at 369-3314. The Rev. Dr. Bill Nirote, Zion U.C.C., will also be on call for pastoral care needs (362-6691).

*"The glory that you have given me I have given them."  
—John 17:22*

Naomi Ross could not walk, talk, see, or hear. But for the nearly six years that she lived on this earth, she touched thousands of lives.

Naomi was the daughter of Richard and Debbi Ross, and her story is an essential part of theirs. With second daughter Hannah, the Rosses are new church planters at Sacramento (California) Asian American Ministries.

Naomi was born with a rare chromosome abnormality that almost always claims the lives of its victims shortly after birth. But she was a miracle child. Not only did she survive, she was a constant source of joy with her ever-present smile and burst of laughter.

Held by Surgeon General C. Everett Koop, written to by Mother Teresa, and a guest of the White House, this little girl's triumphant life ultimately led hundreds of people to know Jesus Christ.

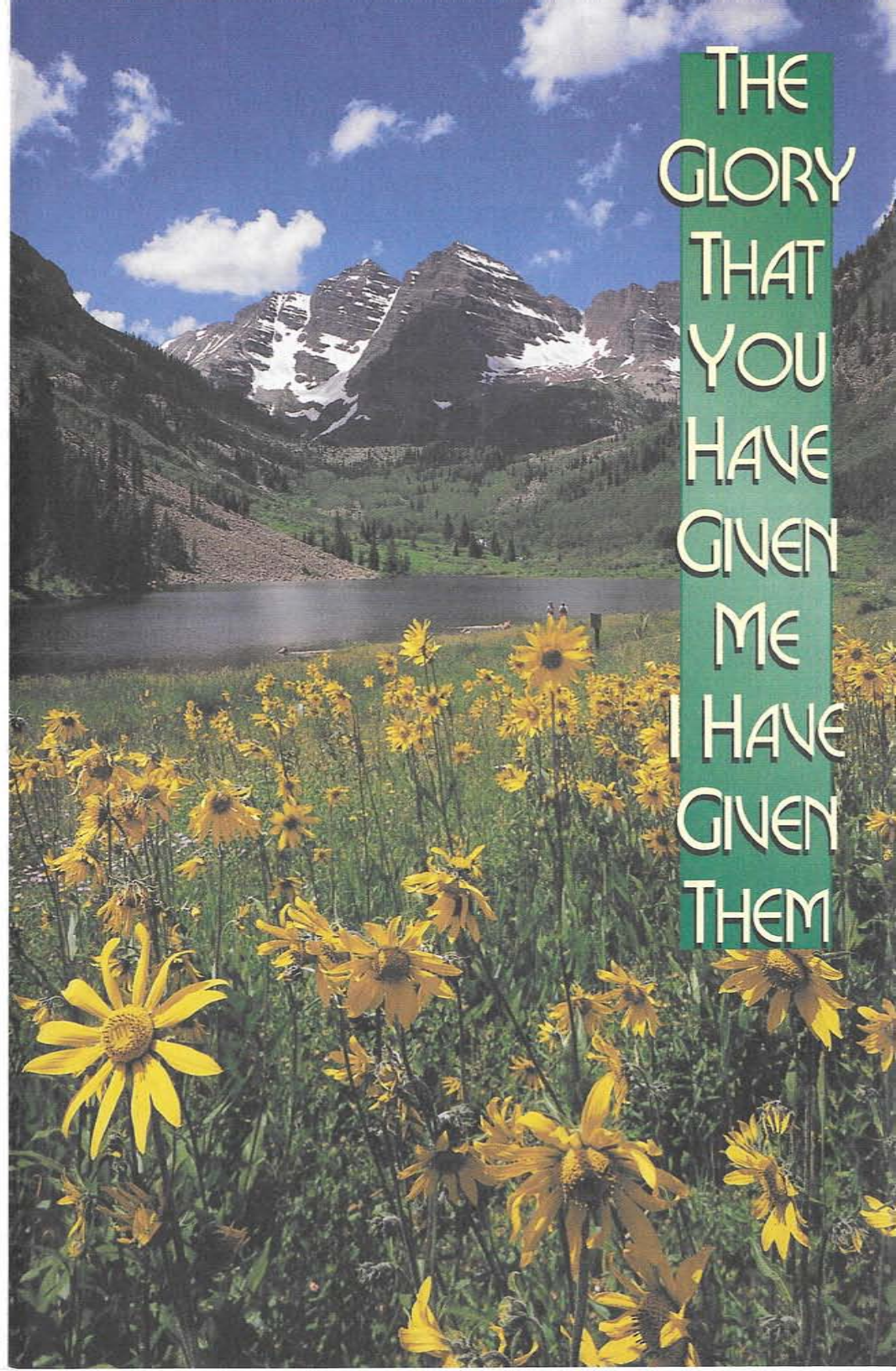
"We became intensely aware of the importance of life and had a growing desire to reach the lost," Richard recalls. For 10 years he had been student services administrator at the University of Hawaii. Now he was feeling a call to ministry—and he responded.

"Naomi was a living testimony," says Debbi. "She taught us to never take life for granted," adds Richard. "As a pastor, I want to bring as many as I can into the kingdom. We long for heaven. It's sweet to us. Naomi dances there."

*From The Planter, Issue 44*

*A newspaper for American Baptist Church Planters and Friends*

THE  
GLORY  
THAT  
YOU  
HAVE  
GIVEN  
ME  
I HAVE  
GIVEN  
THEM





**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**

101 North Franklin Street

Delaware, Ohio

363-7021

The Reverend Jody Lynn B. Hagans, pastor

May 31, 1998

Pentecost

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**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

10:45 a.m.

**PRELUDE**

**PRAYER OF MEDITATION**

Holy Spirit of God, pour upon us your gift of guidance. We live in this day which specializes in confusion. We live in this time where your Spirit sounds suspect to rational minds. Confirm in us your courage for faith in this suspicious age. We are your church! Guide us with your renewing Spirit! Give us the heart to awaken to your wonders and the faith to welcome your signs of hope around us. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**INTROIT**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

*O God, open us to the powerful winds of your Spirit.*

Open our eyes to the wonders of your creation.

*Open our nostrils to the smells of life.*

Open our ears to the words of justice and truth.

*Open our mouths to the taste of freedom and love.*

Open our arms to the touch of our sisters and brothers.

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE, #75**

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

**\*INVOCATION**

**\*LORD'S PRAYER** (Trespases)

**\*GLORIA PATRI #576**

**SCRIPTURE**

Psalm 139

**GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS**

Prayer of Dedication

**Offertory**

Response #583

We give Thee but Thine own,

What-e'er the gift may be:

All that we have is Thine a-lone,

A trust, O Lord, from Thee. Amen.

**ANTHEM**

**CHILDREN'S MOMENT**

**\*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING, #387**

"Search Me, O God"

**MORNING PRAYERS**

**SCRIPTURE LESSON** 1 Corinthians 12:12-27

**MORNING MESSAGE** "You-Sitting in the Pew Next to Me"

**\*HYMN OF COMMITMENT, #209**

"Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken"

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*ALLELUIA**

**\*POSTLUDE**

(\*congregation stands)

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**MINISTERING TODAY**

Pastor: Jody Lynn B. Hagans

Lay Leader: Jean Wickum

Choir Director: Jim Stephenson

Organist: Mary Lou Lovell

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**OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK**

MONDAY 7:00 Boy Scouts

TUESDAY 7:00 Board of Deacons

WEDNESDAY 5:00 Inquirer's Class

7:00 Choir

THURSDAY 10:00 Sewing Group

SATURDAY 9:30 DISCIPLE Bible Study

NEXT SUNDAY 10:00 Summer worship hours begin

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## PRAYER CONCERNS:

Our SHUT-INS and those in NURSING HOMES:

HELEN BAKER, at home; EDITH HALL, at home; ELIZABETH HEIZER, at Union Manor Nursing Home in Marysville; FRANCES JOHNSON, at Wintersong Village Nursing Facility; and CAROLYN SCHNEEBERGER, at the Sarah Moore Home.

Those in need of our PRAYERS include:

PAUL ALLEN; LAURA ANDERSSON; BONNIE ARMSTRONG, Sue Elfner's cousin; CHUCK ARMSTRONG; JOE & JEAN BROWER & daughter DARLENE; KEN BROWN, Carol Grubbs' nephew; CONNIE COTTRILL; LAVERNE CRUMPET; DAVID CYRUS; SHANNON DE'LASSANJRO, Jean Wickum's granddaughter; MICHAEL DUFFY; GLADYS DUNLAP; the EDDY Family; JOHN HASTY, Flo Faulk's nephew; CHRISSY HOPKINS; DEWEY HUGHES, Tammy Francis' grandfather; MARY HUNTER; LOLA JACKSON; JEANETTE JONES; MIKELL HEDLEY, friend of Lynn Elfner; DEBBIE HELD, Bernice Turney's niece; DARREN KERNS, Alex Bennett's friend; BOB KURTZ; the LEHR Family, friends of Pastor Hagans; JOHN & ANNE LINN; AMY MCGREW, Marge Smale's daughter; MATT MEYERS; JANE MILLER & FAMILY; MARY ANN & JOHN MURDAY; SUSAN MUSSARD, Jean Wickum's friend; the NOLIN Family; SHIRLEY PARKER; the RAMEY Family; LUCY RINEHART, Archie Trigg's aunt; MARY SEALY; DIANE SHOAF; DAN SILVEOUS & FAMILY; CHERYL SPANGLER; SHARON STEVENS, friend of the Weakland's; BETTY TOTTEN; BERNICE TURNEY; HAROLD & DEBORAH VAN BROEKHOVEN; TINA WAGNER, friend of Liz Hopkins; GREG WALKER; the WERLING Family; BARBARA WOODS, colleague of Alison Mowery.

Those in COLLEGE or AWAY AT COLLEGE include:

SHANNON & MICAH STONER at DeVry Institute of Technology; and KAREN STONER at METHESCO.

Those in the MILITARY include:

VICTOR & DEBBIE FOGLE, in the Marines; ED & JENNIFER LINN, in the Air Force.



*And I will show portents in the heaven above  
and signs on the earth below,  
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.*

*—Acts 2:19*

Isela, a recent graduate of the Berea Institute in Santiago, Chile, was praying when the name of Colina, a town north of Santiago, was impressed on her mind. She began to pray for Colina. A few days later she received a vision from the Lord, who told her to go to Colina. She asked for the name of a person, not knowing anyone there, and the name Rosa came to her.

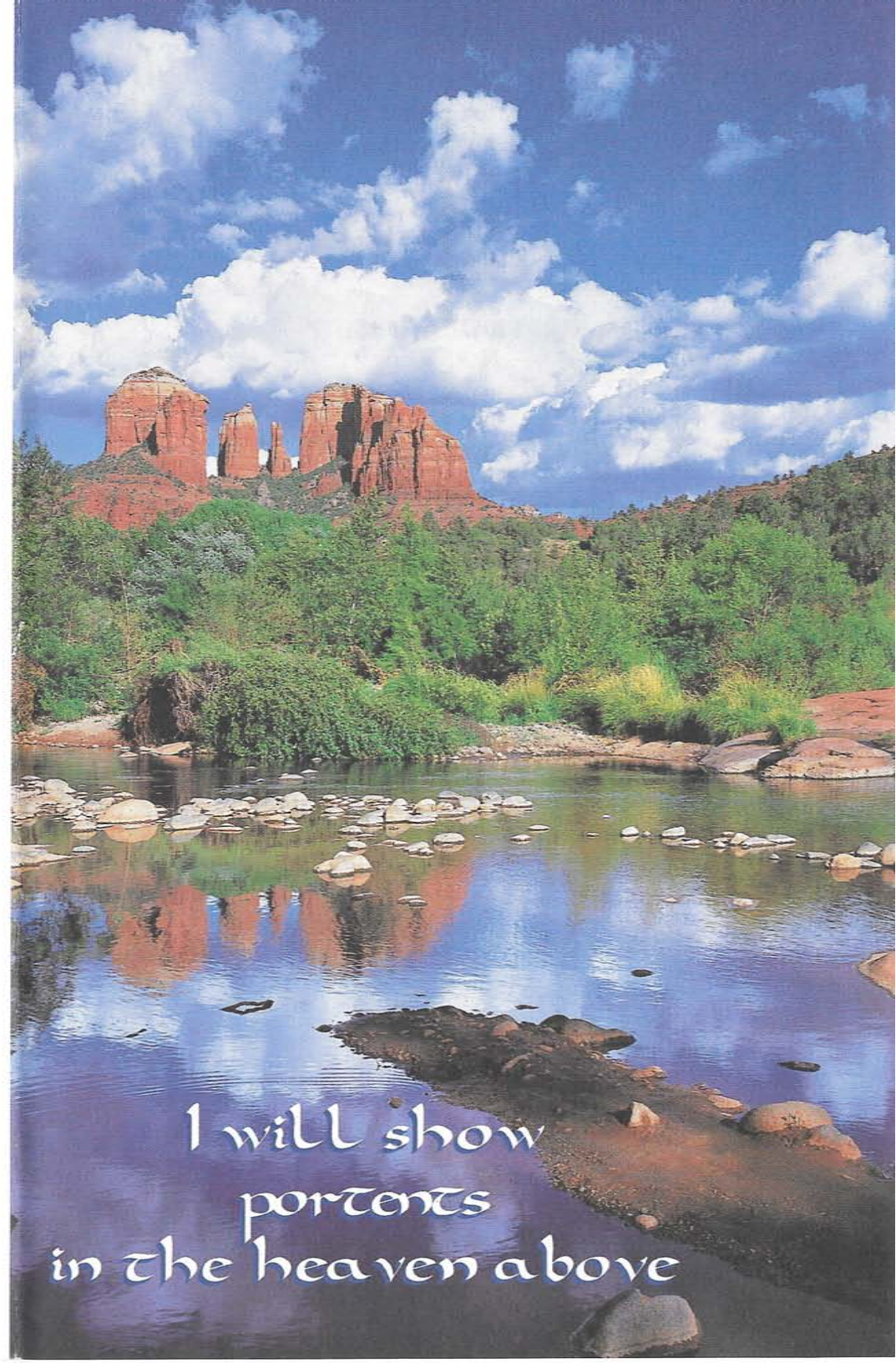
The next morning she took a bus to Colina and got off in the central plaza. Praying for direction, she felt the Lord leading her down a particular street. She asked a passerby if anyone named Rosa lived on that street. He informed her that two Rosas lived on that street and pointed to their homes. At the first house indicated, Isela identified herself as a Christian who had come to speak to Rosa. "I'm Rosa, but it's not me you're looking for. It must be the Rosa across the street," she said.

The second Rosa wasn't home. Isela returned to the first house and explained that she would call Rosa in the morning.

The next morning Rosa was waiting anxiously for the mysterious phone call. When Isela called and said that the Lord had sent her, Rosa began to cry. She was having some personal difficulties and had prayed that God would send someone to help her. The Lord answered her prayer in the most incredible way.

Isela returned to Colina the next day. When Rosa opened the door of her home, all Isela had time to say was, "I am . . ." when Rosa embraced her and wept. Isela told Rosa about Christ, and she immediately accepted him as her Savior. Rosa began opening her home so it could be used for worship services. A church was born. Rosa is a living sign of God's wondrous presence and a testimony to a believer's faith and obedience.

*Sheila Heneise  
Missionary, Chile  
Board of International Ministries*



*I will show  
portents  
in the heaven above*



**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**

101 North Franklin Street  
Delaware, Ohio  
363-7021

The Reverend Jody Lynn B. Hagans, pastor

June 21, 1998

Father's Day

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**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

10:00 a.m.

**PRELUDE** "Poeme"

*Beethoven*

**PRAYER OF MEDITATION**

Spirit of God, move among us and free us to love and serve you and all people. Refresh our spirits, that we may not be weary in seeking your ways. Speak to us in the sound of sheer silence; show us what you have for us to do. Guide us to others with whom we may share the labors of peace and justice; through the grace of Jesus Christ. Amen.

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**INTROIT**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Come, let us worship Almighty God.*

Let us lift up our songs, our prayers, our praises.

*Come, let us honor Christ Jesus.*

Let us love Christ with our hearts, our minds, our spirits.

*Come, let us be filled with the Spirit of the Living God.*

Breathe in us, Breath of God. Alleluia.

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE, #466**

"God of Grace and God of Glory"

**\*INVOCATION**

**\*LORD'S PRAYER** (Trespases)

**\*GLORIA PATRI #576**

**TOOLS OF HOPE**

**GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS**

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory

"Jesus Is My Hope"

*Sawyer*

Response #583

We give Thee but Thine own,

What-e'er the gift may be:

All that we have is Thine a-lone,

A trust, O Lord, from Thee. Amen.

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

**CHILDREN'S MOMENT**

**\*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING, #350**

"Open My Eyes, That I May See"

**MORNING PRAYERS**

**SCRIPTURE LESSON** Galatians 3:23-29

**MORNING MESSAGE** "From the Outside In"

**\*HYMN OF COMMITMENT, #334**

"More Like Jesus Would I Be

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*ALLELUIA**

**\*POSTLUDE** "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

*Burkhardt*

(\*congregation stands)

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**MINISTERING TODAY**

Pastor: Jody Lynn B. Hagans

Lay Leader: Deacon Beth Trigg

Organist: Betty Porter

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**OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK**

MONDAY 7:15 Peace Camp Meeting

7:00 Boy Scouts

THURSDAY 6:00 Retreat Committee

SATURDAY 9:30 DISCIPLE Bible Study

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*You shall put these words of mine in your heart and soul. . . . Teach them to your children, talking about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise.*

*—Deuteronomy 11:18-19*

## Father's Day

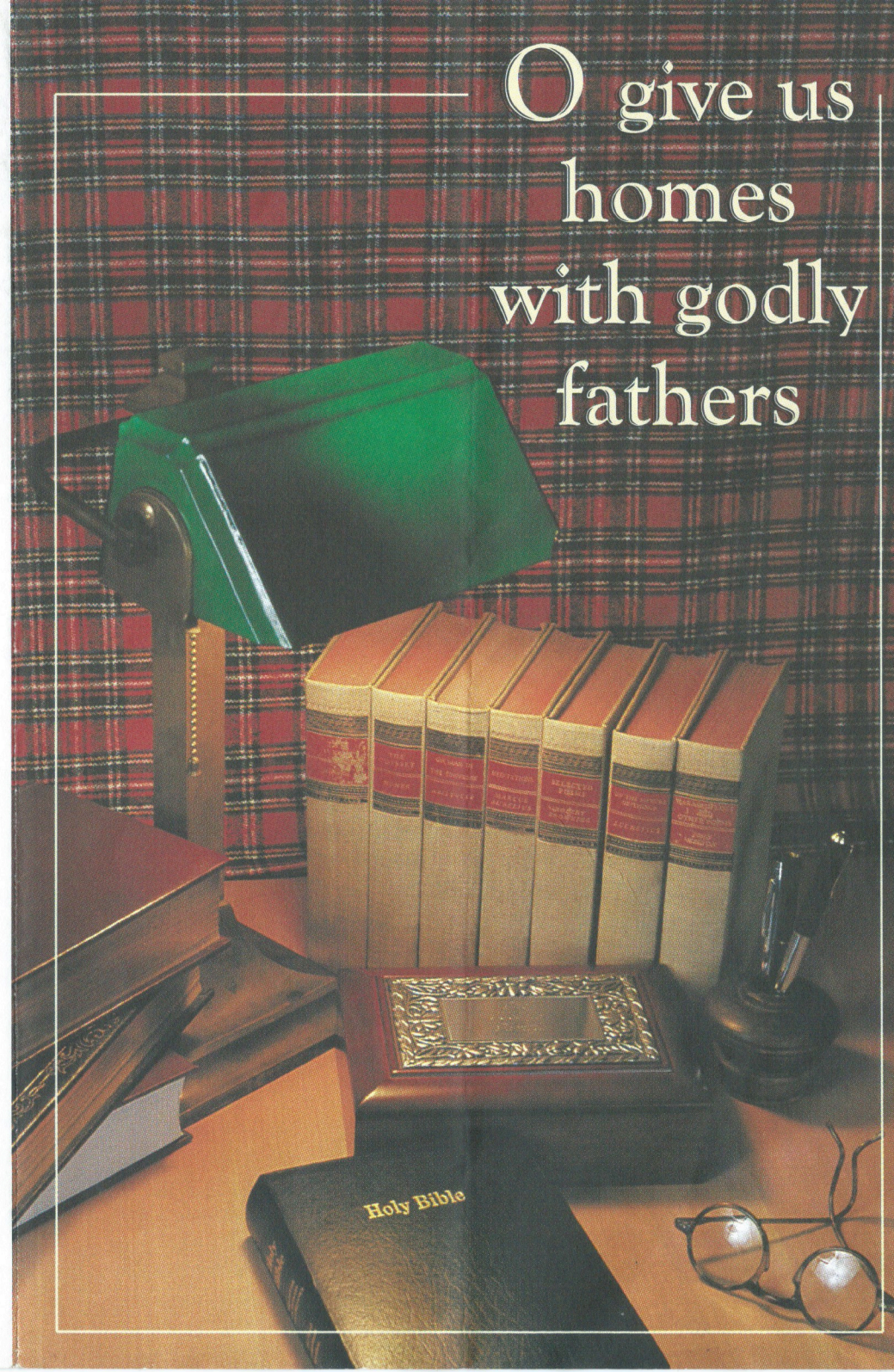
**T**he oldest of biblical images of fatherhood is the sage who is responsible for teaching his children the ways of Yahweh. A quick survey of fathers in the Bible reveals that not all fathers fulfilled this responsibility, and they lived with the consequences. Some didn't back up their guidance with exemplary lives. And in every case, the children decided for themselves whether to follow the fatherly advice or not.

Apparently not much has changed through history. Fathers still face the awesome task of teaching, mentoring, and transferring values to their children, and those offsprings still decide for themselves. TV families—from the Bradys to the Bundys, the Huxtables to the Tim Taylors, the Waltons to the Simpsons—all have fathers who instruct their children and children who test the father's words by his deeds.

But as children mature and make wiser decisions, they often become reflections of what is best in their fathers. Jean Paul Friedrich Richter said, "The words a father speaks to his children in the privacy of the home are not overheard at the time, but as in whispering galleries, they will be heard at the end and by posterity." Though we are God's creation and made in God's own image, it is not until we become a new creation that we are God's child.

*Dr. Z. Allen Abbott  
Executive Director  
American Baptist Men USA*

**O give us  
homes  
with godly  
fathers**





# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

101 North Franklin Street  
Delaware, Ohio  
363-7021

The Reverend Jody Lynn B. Hagans, pastor

June 28, 1998

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## ORDER OF WORSHIP

10:00 a.m.

### PRELUDE

### PRAYER OF MEDITATION

God of the sojourners, we ask your presence with us on our journey through life. Help us to be faithful to your ways of love and grace. Keep us from helpless despair. Give us the power to make your love known, even in this world that seems so bent on war and hate. With your courage in our hearts, we will walk the Jerusalem road together. Amen.

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CALL TO WORSHIP

*We have been called here to face into God's gracious way of living. We are to leave the past behind us and walk into these new days of our ministry.*

Sometimes we'd rather remember how things used to be. Sometimes we are afraid to be disciples.

*But this is a new day, and Christ is sharing freedom with us. It is a day to put aside all fear, to leave doubting behind, and to take courage in God's loving call.*

We will look to the new day, and we will set ourselves on the Jerusalem road. We will strive for faithfulness, even at the cost of popularity, and we will be disciples of Christ, renewing and healing the world around us.

### \*HYMN OF PRAISE, #55

"For the Beauty of the Earth"

### \*INVOCATION

\*LORD'S PRAYER (Trespases)

\*GLORIA PATRI #576

## GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory

Response #583

We give Thee but Thine own,  
What-e'er the gift may be:  
All that we have is Thine a-lone,  
A trust, O Lord, from Thee. Amen.

### SPECIAL MUSIC

Debbie Fogle

### CHILDREN'S MOMENT

### \*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING, #506

"O Jesus, I Have Promised"

### MORNING PRAYERS

SCRIPTURE LESSON Luke 9:56-62

MORNING MESSAGE "Choose the Greater Good"

### \*HYMN OF COMMITMENT, #451

"I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"

### \*BENEDICTION

### \*ALLELUIA

### \*POSTLUDE

(\*congregation stands)

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### MINISTERING TODAY

Pastor: Jody Lynn B. Hagans  
Lay Leader: Deacon Jean Wickum  
Organist: Mary Lou Lovell

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### OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

MONDAY 7:00 Boy Scouts  
WEDNESDAY 7:00 Choir

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*He said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."*

*—Luke 10:2*

In Bolivia the harvest is plentiful. A recent newspaper report stated that children make up one-third of the prison population. There are approximately 4,000 street children. The majority of the rural population (94%) lives well below the poverty level. Record numbers of people are migrating from the countryside to the cities in search of a better life.

International Ministries has responded to these challenges by sending assistance to the *Union Bautista Boliviana* (Bolivian Baptist Union). In addition, we cooperate with the Canadian Baptist Mission and the Bolivian Baptist women in ministering to the children who live in the jails in Cochabamba, Bolivia.

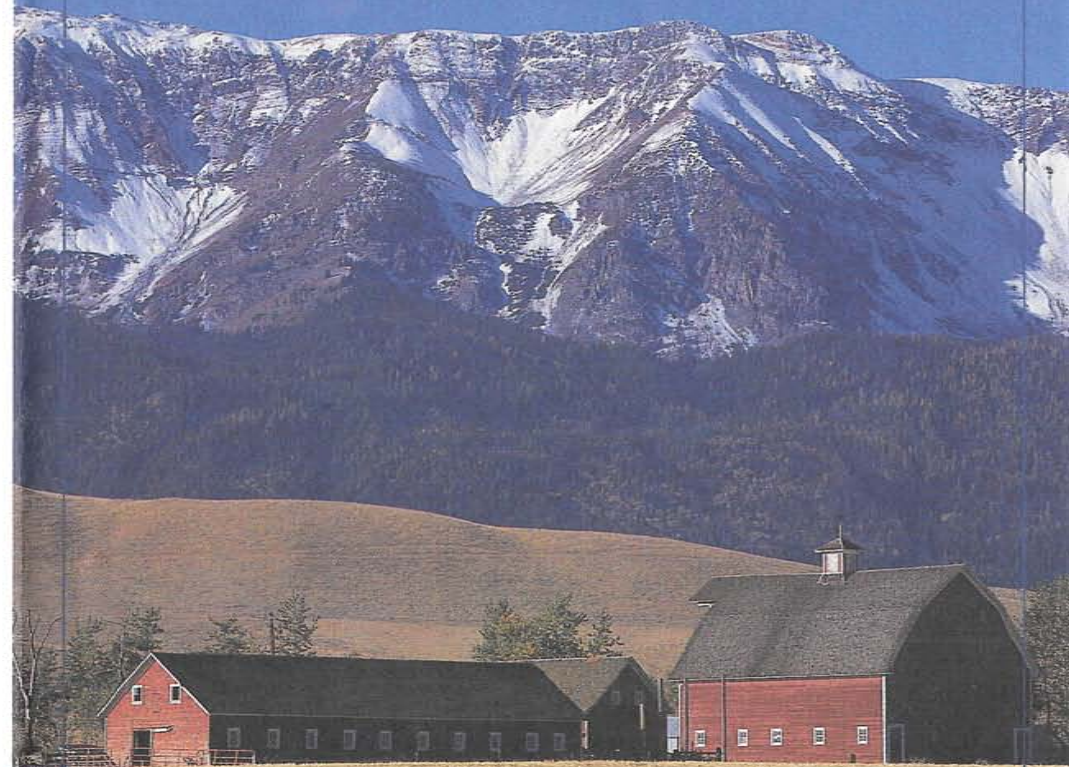
Students come from all over South American to study at the Baptist Theological Seminary, where Juan and I teach. Last year we had so many students that there wasn't enough dormitory space or desks in the classrooms. Two second-year students started new ministries near their homes. One of them, Juan Carlos, is from one of the 2,000 islands in Lake Titicaca, which straddles the border between Bolivia and Peru. His home church raised enough money to buy a boat that carries members to evangelize people living on neighboring islands.

Primo, the other student, spent last summer in Merka'maya, the site of a massacre of eight Baptist leaders in the 1940s. Primo baptized 40 new members among his Quecha congregation in the *altiplano* (a mountainous area in Bolivia).

The fields are ready for harvesting, but who will go?

*Kristina Gutierrez  
Missionary, Bolivia  
Board of International Ministries*

# THE HARVEST IS PLENTIFUL,



*but the  
laborers are few*

# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

101 North Franklin Street  
Delaware, Ohio  
363-7021

The Rev. Jody Lynn B. Hagans, pastor  
The Rev. Dr. Dave Ball, guest preacher

July 5, 1998

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## ORDER OF WORSHIP

10:00 a.m.

### PRELUDE

Welcome to First Baptist Church. We are glad to have you worshipping with us this morning. On this Communion Sunday, we invite all who believe in Christ to join us in our celebration at the table.

### PRAYER OF MEDITATION

Wise and powerful God, give us the courage to acknowledge our weakness; grant us the wisdom to recognize our foolishness and to turn to you. Through Jesus Christ, bring your wisdom and your power into our lives, that we may join you in responsibility for healing the sufferings of the world. May we share in the quest to bring your future into our present, to bring your day of justice and love into this unjust and unloving world. Amen.

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### INTROIT

### CALL TO WORSHIP

*We have encountered the Word, calling us into communion with God and with each other,  
And calling us into discipleship to carry on Christ's work in our world.  
So we come together here, joining hands in the great quest:  
To worship God, to love each other, and to serve the world.*

### \*HYMN OF PRAISE, #48

"O God Our Help in Ages Past"

### \*INVOCATION

\*LORD'S PRAYER (Trespases)

\*GLORIA PATRI #576

## GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory

Response #583

We give Thee but Thine own,  
What-e'er the gift may be:  
All that we have is Thine a-lone,  
A trust, O Lord, from Thee. Amen.

### ANTHEM

### CHILDREN'S MOMENT

### \*HYMN OF PREPARATION, #378

"Lord, Speak to Me, That I May Speak"

### MORNING PRAYERS

SCRIPTURE LESSON Luke 20:20-26

MORNING MESSAGE "Patriotism and Discipleship"

### FELLOWSHIP OFFERING

### \*HYMN OF COMMITMENT, #372

"Have Thine Own Way, Lord"

### HOLY COMMUNION

\*FELLOWSHIP CIRCLE "Blest Be the Tie That Binds" #207

\*BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE

(\*congregation stands)

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### MINISTERING TODAY

Guest Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Dave Ball  
Lay Leader: Deacon Jean Wickum  
Choir Director: Jim Stephenson  
Organist: Mary Lou Lovell

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*Speak out for those who cannot speak,  
for the rights of all the destitute.  
Speak out, judge righteously,  
defend the rights of the poor and needy.  
—Proverbs 31:8-9*

Our relationship to God in Christ, developed and expressed through worship, prayer, and the study and application of the Bible, shapes how we see our world as it is—and as it could be.

Throughout the Bible, we find the call to engage in the ministry of advocacy. Proverbs 31:8-9 is a primary scriptural reference. To be an advocate is to share the concern and to defend the cause of our neighbor. Beginning in prayer, study, and discussion, advocacy results in action on behalf of our neighbors in need.

An important avenue for advocacy is participation in the political process. Such participation begins—but does not end—in the voting booth. From there we must seek to have a voice in decisions made in political arenas at the local, state, and national levels.

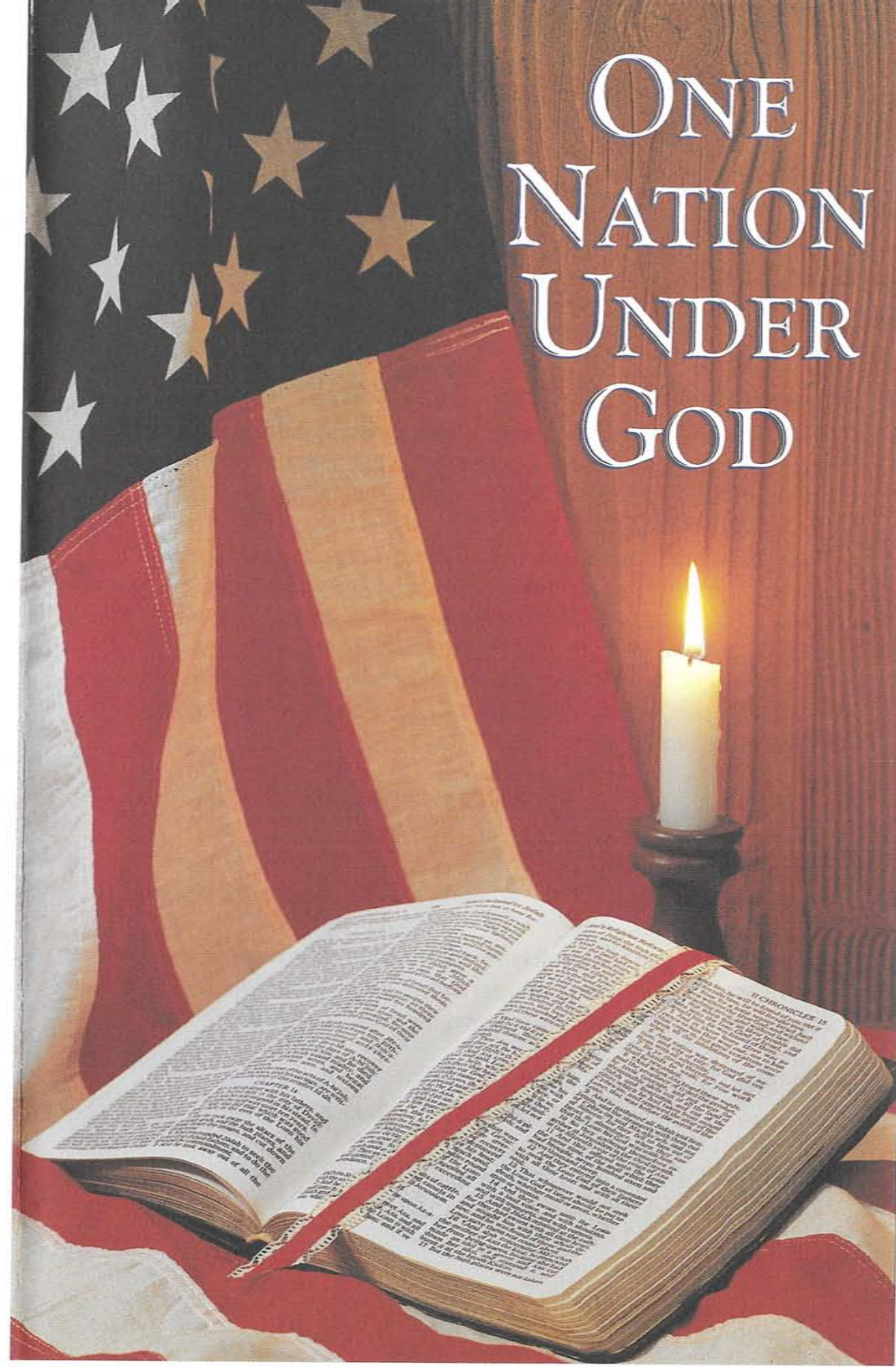
Bringing to bear the insights of our Christian faith, we can offer constructive criticism of injustices and governmental policies that are harmful to the common good. And we can support those values, policies, and practices that seek justice and the common good.

Many American Baptists have joined the Faith in Action network, coordinated by National Ministries, through which they receive Faith in Action Alerts on issues of concern to Christians. With background information, they can decide to write, call, or visit state and national legislators.

As Christians, let us respond to God's call and work to shape a nation under God.

*Curtis Ramsey-Lucas  
Director of Legislative Advocacy  
American Baptist Office of Governmental Relations  
Washington, D.C.*

Adapted from an article in *On the Way with American Baptist Women*, Winter 1998.



# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

101 North Franklin Street  
Delaware, Ohio  
363-7021

The Reverend Jody Lynn B. Hagans, pastor

July 12, 1998

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

10:00 a.m.

### PRELUDE

### PRAYER OF MEDITATION

Vulnerable god, whose strength is made perfect in our weakness, we thank you that you receive us as we are. We thank you that you desire our love and gratitude more than our perfection and that the sacrifice you accept is a humble spirit. Help us to trust always in your grace which reaches out to us in Jesus Christ. Amen.

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CALL TO WORSHIP

*Praise be to God who reigns above the heavens.*

*Praise be to God who dwells within our hearts.*

*Let the majesty of creation worship in reverence.*

*Let each man, woman and child pray in faith.*

ALL: Praise be to God.

### \*HYMN OF PRAISE, #21

"W Worship the King, All Glorious Above"

### \*INVOCATION

\*LORD'S PRAYER (Trespases)

\*GLORIA PATRI #576

### GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory

Response #583

We give Thee but Thine own,

What-e'er the gift may be:

All that we have is Thine a-lone,

A trust, O Lord, from Thee. Amen.

## SPECIAL MUSIC

### CHILDREN'S MOMENT

### \*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING, #360

"Speak, Lord, in the Stillness"

### MORNING PRAYERS

SCRIPTURE LESSON Amos 7:1-17

MORNING MESSAGE "Back to Start"

### \*HYMN OF COMMITMENT, #374

"Take Thou Our Minds, Dear Lord"

### \*BENEDICTION

### \*ALLELUIA

### \*POSTLUDE

(\*congregation stands)

### MINISTERING TODAY

Pastor: Jody Lynn B. Hagans

Lay Leader: Deacon Jim Van Brimmer

Organist: Mary Lou Lovell

### OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

MONDAY	7:00	Boy Scouts
	7:15	Peace Camp Meeting
WEDNESDAY	7:00	Teacher Training for Peace Camp
THURSDAY	7:00	Pastoral Relations
		Retreat Committee
SATURDAY	9:30	DISCIPLE Bible Study (final meeting)



*... so that you may lead lives worthy of the Lord, fully  
pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work  
and as you grow in the knowledge of God.*

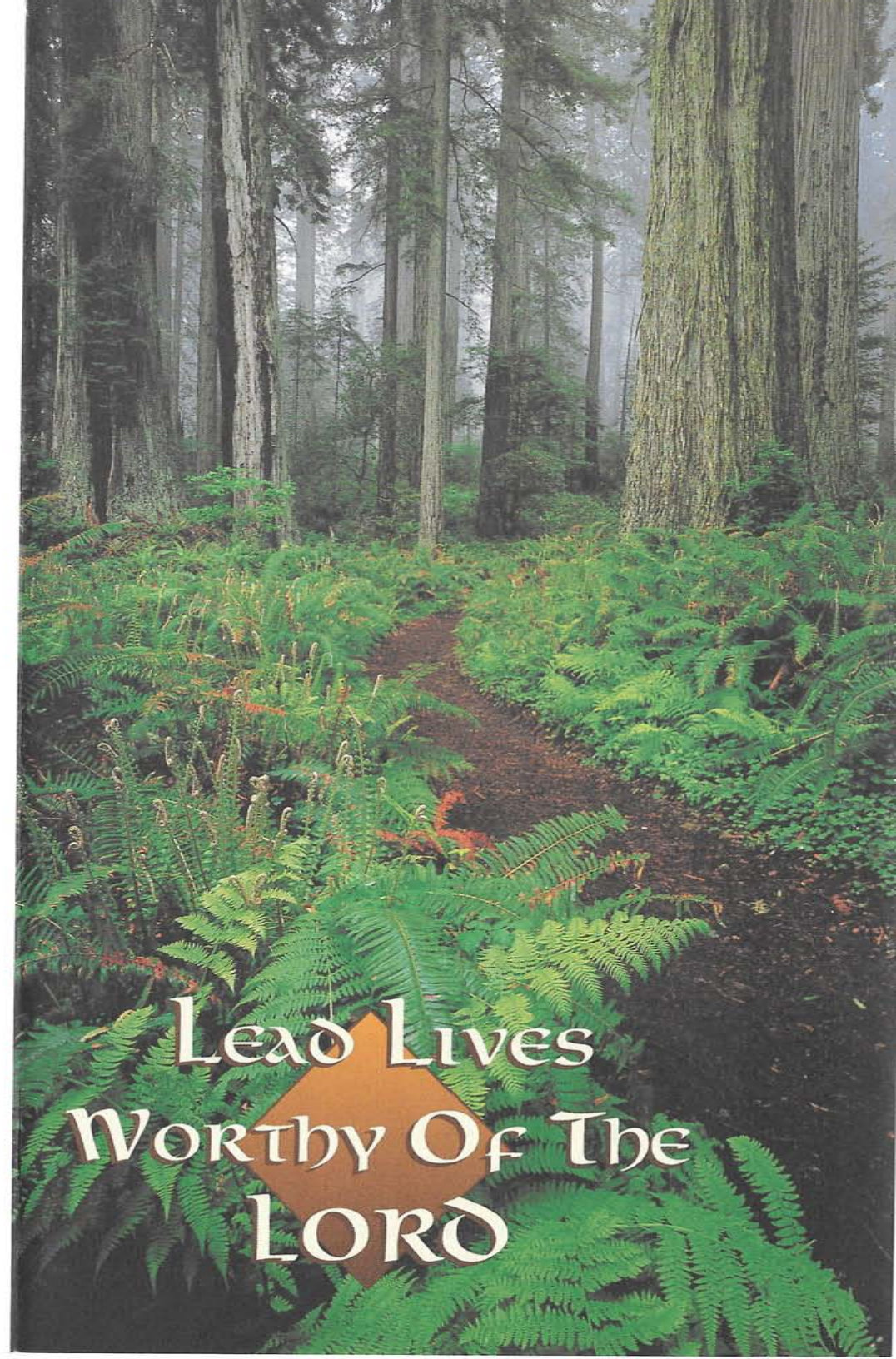
*—Colossians 1:10*

**L**Leading a life worthy of the Lord does not always take us down the path we thought it would. I was surprised when God called my wife and me as missionaries to Thailand. We were happy and settled in our ministries when God called us at the World Mission Conference to pursue another path. This was not a journey we would have chosen for ourselves. But it was the path God had for us all the same.

I have a dear friend who served as a church custodian for 35 years. She worked well into her eighties before her doctors told her that she needed to quit. I tell you about her because she is a wonderful example of someone who lived her life to bear fruit in every good work. No matter the event or the weather, she walked to the church and ensured that everything was in order. She worked not for the money, but because of her love for the Lord. Even now, she spends much of her time helping others. The path God had for her was not a glamorous one, but it was one filled with fruit-bearing.

Increasing one's knowledge of God is best accomplished through regular prayer and Bible study. We are never too old to learn something new. But we should not rely on knowledge alone, we should also practice obedience—walking the path God has for us—bearing fruit in every good work.

*John Simmons  
Missionary, Thailand  
International Ministries*





# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

101 North Franklin Street  
Delaware, Ohio  
363-7021

The Reverend Jody Lynn B. Hagans, pastor

July 19, 1998

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## ORDER OF WORSHIP

10:00 a.m.

### PRELUDE

"Fill Me Now"

Sweeney

### PRAYER OF MEDITATION

O God, in mystery and silence you are present in our lives, bringing new life out of destruction, hope out of despair, growth out of difficulty. We thank you that you do not leave us alone but labor to make us whole. Help us to perceive your unseen hand in the unfolding of our lives, and to attend to the gentle guidance of your Spirit, that we may know the joy you give your people. Amen.

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CALL TO WORSHIP

*Paul the Apostle commends to us whatever is true and honorable and just.*

Let us hear these words that we may be challenged.

*Paul also offers us whatever is pure and lovely and gracious.*

Let us seek these ways that we may be blessed.

*We are to set before ourselves whatever is excellent and worthy of praise.*

Let us think upon these deeds in our time of worship together.

ALL: And the peace of God which passes all understanding will keep our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

### \*HYMN OF PRAISE, #522

"Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory"

### \*INVOCATION

\*LORD'S PRAYER (Trespases)

\*GLORIA PATRI #576

### GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory "Berceuse"

Schuman

Response #583

We give Thee but Thine own,  
What-e'er the gift may be:  
All that we have is Thine a-lone,  
A trust, O Lord, from Thee. Amen.

### SPECIAL MUSIC

### CHILDREN'S MOMENT

### \*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING, #293

"Naught Have I Gotten"

### MORNING PRAYERS

SCRIPTURE LESSON Amos 8:1-12

MORNING MESSAGE "Judgmental Grace"

### \*HYMN OF COMMITMENT, #496

"A Charge to Keep I Have"

### \*BENEDICTION

### \*ALLELUIA

\*POSTLUDE "Glorious Faith in God"

Sawyer

(\*congregation stands)

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### MINISTERING TODAY

Pastor: Jody Lynn B. Hagans

Lay Leader: Deacon Jim Van Brimmer

Organist: Betty Porter

+++++

### OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

NEXT SUNDAY 11:00 Quarterly Business Meeting

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Pastor Hagans will be out of town from Monday, July 20 through Saturday, July 25. If you have an pastoral need or emergency, please call the chair of the Board of Deacons, Alison Mowery (369-3314) or your watchcare deacon.



*To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.*

—Colossians 1:27

**I**n the song *How Can I Keep from Singing?*, the musician Enya expresses how her life is an endless song of praise to God. The fact that God is God of heaven and earth compels her to sing.

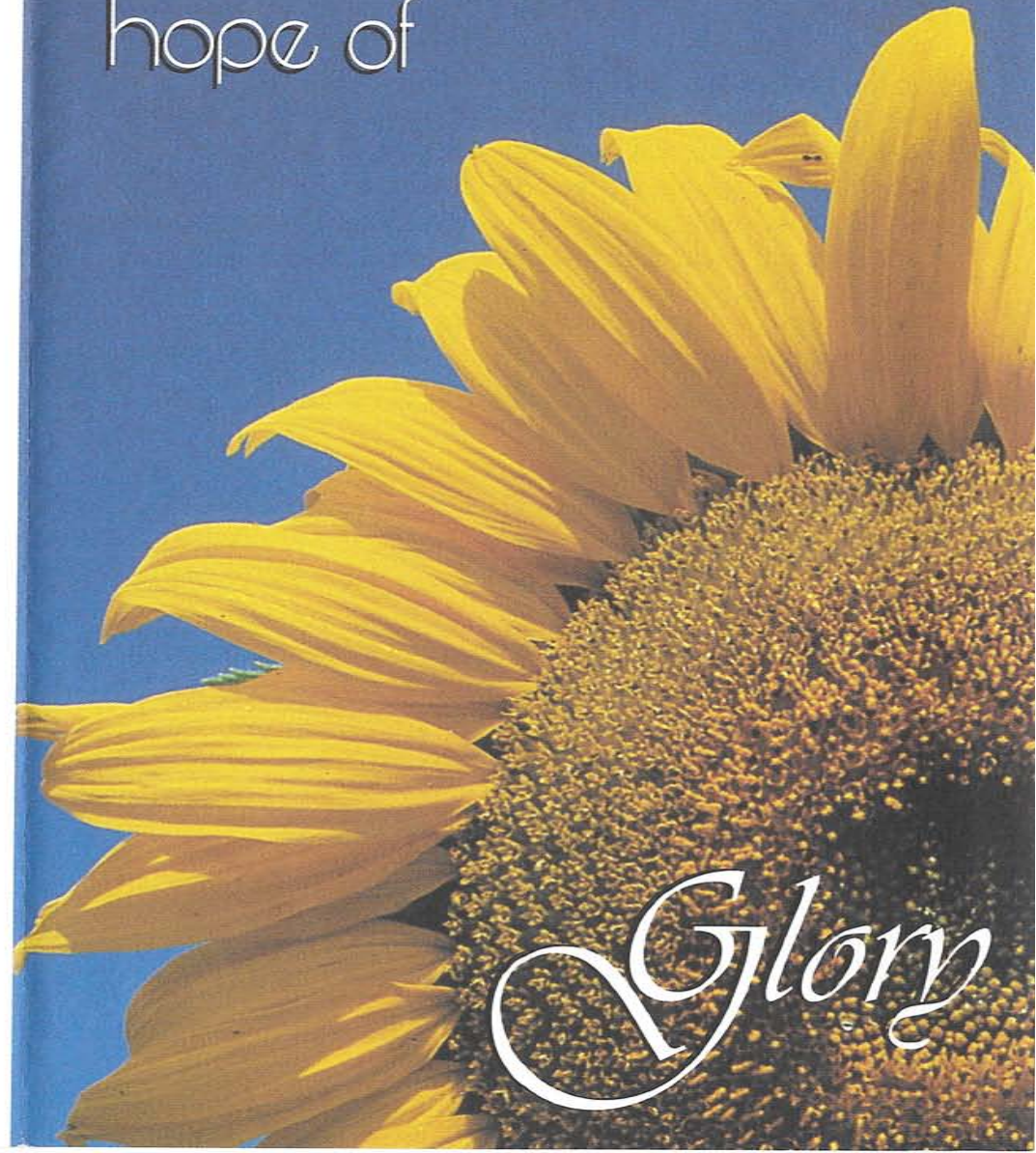
Some truths are so powerful that words alone are not sufficient to express them; they cry out to be sung so that the music can convey their extraordinary depth of meaning. So when Paul launches into such eloquence as he describes to the Colossian church the glorious riches of the mystery God has made known among us, it seems that all these centuries later we feel like singing as we read his words: Christ is in us, the hope of glory come right where we are and living within us always!

In the midst of a world alternating between sinking into despair and seeking hope in the empty promise of the so-called glory found in position, power, and prestige, let us hold on to and be held by the incomparable truth that God is with us working to bring us to our ultimate destiny of being like Christ. No matter what, love is Lord of heaven and earth and each of our lives. God has promised that there shall be a new creation and has sent the Son to summon us to it by drawing us near one another in love and compassion.

As you gather for worship and read these words today, it is my privilege to be leading worship at the American Baptist Assembly for the annual conference of the Fellowship of American Baptist Musicians. Music is the very breath of the Spirit as we sing both our praise and our lamentation to God. Today as you worship, let the Spirit sing through your music in celebration of the glorious hope God has given to us.

*Kate Harvey  
Executive Director  
Ministers Council*

Christ  
in you,  
the  
hope of



*Glory*

# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

101 North Franklin Street

Delaware, Ohio

363-7021

The Rev. Jody Lynn B. Hagans, pastor

The Rev. Dr. William R. Nirote, guest preacher

July 26, 1998

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## ORDER OF WORSHIP

10:00 a.m.

### PRELUDE

#### PRAYER OF MEDITATION

Your disciples asked for instruction on prayer, Christ, and you taught them how to pray together. Centuries of Christians are linked to you and to one another by the diligent repetition of your words that day. Our common prayer forges a bond among us and works to make of us a unified, worshiping people. As we join our hearts and minds together in prayer today, unite us and transform us into an ever more faithful people. Respond to our earnest, persistent prayer, for we know you answer those who ask. Amen.

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### INTROIT

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

*May the peace of God rest upon our busy lives so that we will be quieted into prayer.*

*May the love of God flow through our worship words that they will be alive with opportunities for service.*

*May the grace of God seek out our every need and may the restless gospel set our hearts afire.*

Amen and Amen.

#### \*HYMN OF PRAISE, #564

"Now Thank We All Our God"

#### \*INVOCATION

#### \*LORD'S PRAYER (Trespases)

#### \*GLORIA PATRI #576

#### GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

Prayer of Dedication

#### Offertory

#### Response #583

We give Thee but Thine own,

What-e'er the gift may be:

All that we have is Thine a-lone,

A trust, O Lord, from Thee. Amen.

#### ANTHEM

#### CHILDREN'S MOMENT

#### \*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING, #429

"Prayer Is the Soul's Sincere Desire"

#### MORNING PRAYERS

#### SCRIPTURE LESSON Luke 11:1-13

#### MORNING MESSAGE "You Want to Know How to Pray?"

#### \*HYMN OF COMMITMENT, #205

"Renew Thy Church, Her Ministries"

#### \*BENEDICTION

#### \*ALLELUIA

#### \*POSTLUDE

(\*congregation stands)

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#### MINISTERING TODAY

Pastor: Jody Lynn B. Hagans  
Lay Leader: Deacon Jim Van Brimmer  
Organist: Mary Lou Lovell  
Choir Director: Jim Stephenson

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#### OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

TODAY	11:00	Business Meeting
MONDAY	7:15	Peace Camp Meeting
TUESDAY	11:00	Inquirer's Class

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PLEASE NOTE: Next Sunday, August 2, we will be worshipping with the Zion United Church of Christ at their church beginning at 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion will be celebrated.



*He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples."*

*—Luke 11:1*

One of the foundation blocks upon which the church is built is knowing the difference between *principles* and *practices* of faith. However, many of us are more concerned about being right than being righteous. We tend to place more value on the method than the motive.

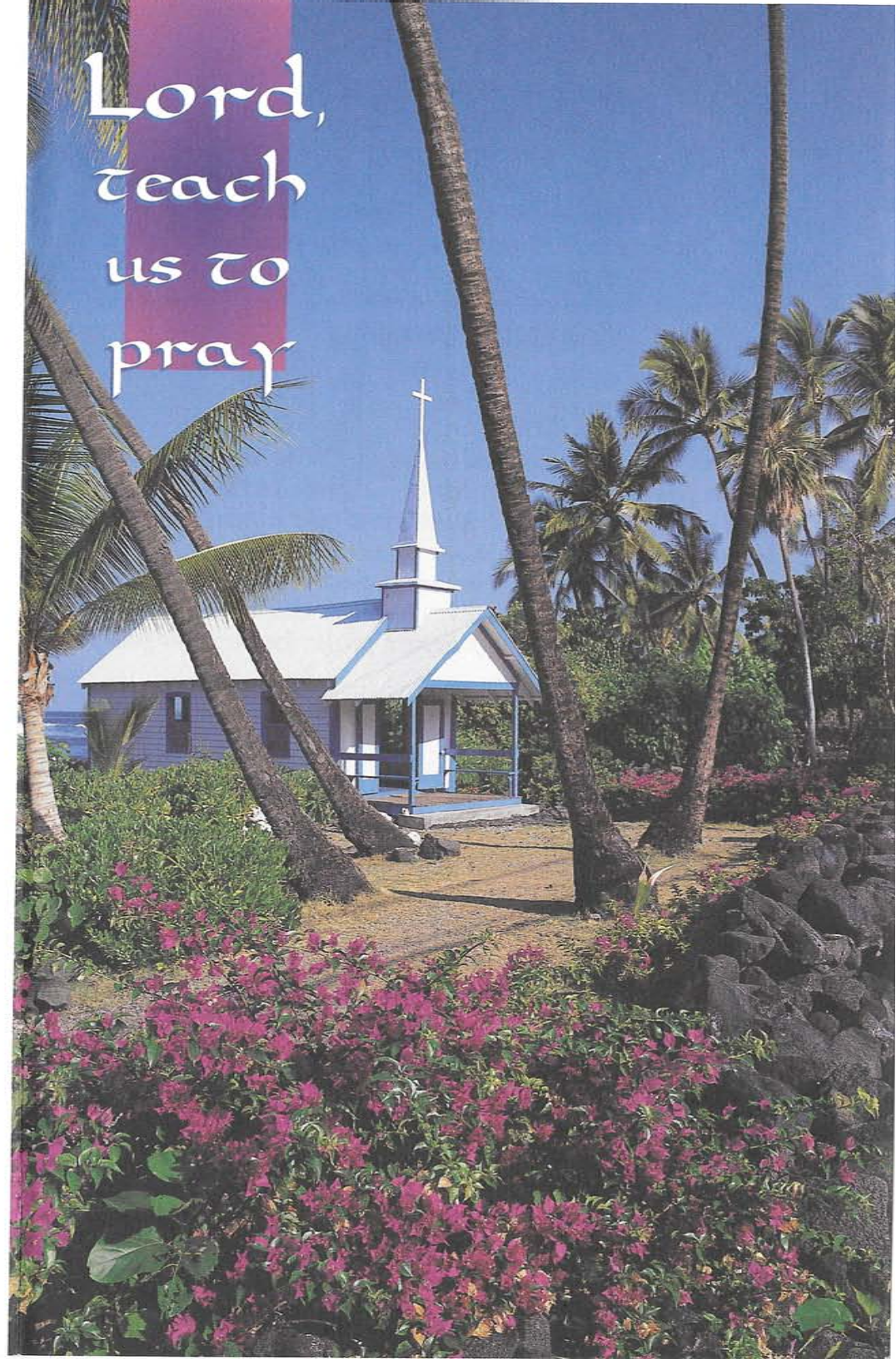
A good example is prayer. Should we stand when we pray? Fold our hands? Be on our knees? Should our prayers be out loud or silent? Are the prayers that are prayed aloud delivered to God or the audience? When our focus is on the method, that is, how we practice the principle of prayer, we become confused and unsure, and often the church is left divided about the very things that God gave us to hold us together.

Practices of the faith are ways in which we are able to use the principles of the faith.

In South Africa as in other African countries, people in the church sing a chorus over and over again until they burst out together praying aloud, shouting, beating their hands together, and chanting the same phrases over and over again. And yet these same people spend thirty days in isolation praying in silence and fasting before God. Just what is prayer, and how can we learn how to do it?

If prayer is to be meaningful and powerful in our lives, perhaps we need to capture the principle of prayer and let God work within us to find expressions that reflect who we are as God's children. Maybe it is time for you and I to ask the question the disciples asked, "Lord teach us to pray...."

*Dan Cole  
Missionary, South Africa  
International Ministries*





**WELCOME TO  
ZION UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

August 2, 1998

Building community with Christ's love!

Proper Thirteen

We welcome guests and visitors and invite you to sign the guest register at the rear of the Sanctuary. If you are searching for a church home we hope you will find that church home at the Zion United Church of Christ.

**WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD**

Prelude *Dearest Jesus, At Thy Word* Bach  
*Now is the time to turn our thoughts and consciousness to God.*  
Lighting of the Candles Dan Richardson, acolyte

**CALL TO WORSHIP AND PRAISE**

**GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

\*Pastor: Set your minds on things that are above.

\*People: **We want to worship God.**

\*Pastor: Your life is hidden with Christ in God.

\*People: **We want to serve Christ.**

\*Hymn *Lord, Speak to Me* No. 625

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

\*Pastor: **CALL TO CONFESSION**

\*People: **God of grace, we need your forgiveness. All too often we live as if Christ had not been raised. Please forgive us. We have embraced the very character traits that you commanded us to remove from our lives – anger, malice, greed, slander, and the like. Please forgive us. We have been more contented with bigger storehouses for our possessions than with practicing a stewardship through which we share with others. Please forgive us. God, we seek the renewal that only you can provide in order that we may live more faithfully as your people. Amen.**

\*Pastor: **DECLARATION OF PARDON**

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *Gloria Patri* No. 142

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

We especially welcome members of the First Baptist Church in this sanctuary.

Flowers on the altar are given by the Women's Fellowship. Thanks to our church helpers today, Greeters Pat and Sharon Upp, Ushers Larry and Jeanne Colflesh, Nursery Workers Melissa Peterson and Teri Miller and Childcare Aides Nick Hauff and Jon Nirote.

The Rev. Dr. William R. Nirote will be on vacation from August 3-6 (Monday through Thursday). The Rev. Jody Lynn Hagans can be called in emergency at 363-4785.

Peace Camp '98, "Caring for God's World", begins next Sunday, August 9 at 6:00 at the First Baptist Church. It is an ecumenical, intergenerational free event and EVERYONE is invited. Registration forms are on the table at the rear of the sanctuary.

The Membership and Mission Committee of Zion United Church of Christ has arranged a coffee hour immediately following worship. Everyone is invited.

**This week at Zion United Church of Christ:**

Monday Peace Camp Planning Meeting 7:00 pm  
Sweet Adelines 7:00 pm

NEXT Sunday PEACE CAMP BEGINS 6:00 pm

**This week at First Baptist Church:**

Monday Peace Camp Planning Meeting 7:00 pm  
Tuesday Board of Deacons 7:00 pm  
Friday Wedding Rehearsal 5:00 pm  
Saturday Wedding 1:30 pm *9am*

NEXT Sunday Retreat Committee 11:00 am  
PEACE CAMP BEGINS 6:00 pm

*Father Savaris*  
*Annunciation Greek Orthodox*  
*Cathedral*  
*Cathedral*



## SHARING THE ELEMENTS

Pastor: Take and eat, this is the body of Christ, broken for you.  
**ALL:** Amen!  
Pastor: Take and drink, this is the cup of the new covenant, poured out for you.  
**ALL:** Amen!

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: Let us pray.  
**ALL:** Almighty God, we give you thanks for the gift of savior's presence in the simplicity and splendor of this holy meal. Unite us with all who are fed by Christ's body and blood that we may faithfully proclaim the good news of your love and that your universal church may be a rainbow of hope in an uncertain world; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.

## PASTORAL PRAYER

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Office for Church Life and Leadership

\*Hymn *What a Friend We Have in Jesus* No. 466

\*PASTORAL BENEDICTION  
(Please be seated)

ORGAN POSTLUDE *Ye Servants of God* Quince

WORSHIP IS OVER. LET THE SERVICE BEGIN

## WE PROCLAIM THE WORD OF GOD

### READING OF THE FIRST LESSON

Hosea 1:1-11  
William R. Nirote, liturgist  
Webb

ANTHEM *I Come With Joy*

### READING OF THE SECOND LESSON

Colossians 3:1-11

### CHILDREN'S MOMENT

### READING OF THE GOSPEL

\*Leader: Listen for the Gospel of Jesus Christ according to Luke 12:13-21.

\*People: **Glory to you, O Christ.**

\*Leader: THE READING OF THE GOSPEL

This is the good news.

\*People: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

### MESSAGE

The Rev. Jody Lynn Hagans  
*Making A Decent Life*

\*Hymn *Take My Life and Let It Be Consecrated* No. 458

### OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*Alleluia*  
Combined Choirs

Sinclair

### \*DOXOLOGY

No. 382

### \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

## SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

### INVITATION

Leader: Beloved in Christ, the Gospel tells us that on the first day of the week Jesus Christ was raised from death, appeared to Mary Magdalene, on that same day sat at the table with two disciples, and was made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

**ALL:** This is the joyful feast of the people of God. Men and women, youth and children, come from the east and the west, from the north and the south, and gather about Christ's table.

Leader: This table is for all Christians who wish to know the presence of Christ and to share in the community of God's people.

### COMMUNION PRAYER

Pastor: God be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to God.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to God Most High.

People: **It is right to give God praise.**

Bride Natalie Koukis

Groom John Derr

Pastor: We give you thanks, God of majesty and mercy, for calling forth the creation and raising us from dust by the breath of your being.

We bless you for the beauty and bounty of the earth and for the vision of the day when sharing by all will mean scarcity for none.

We remember the covenant you made with your people Israel, and we give you thanks for all our ancestors in faith. We rejoice that you call us to reconciliation with you and all people everywhere and that you remain faithful to your covenant even when we are faithless.

We rejoice that you call the entire human family to this table of sacrifice and victory. We come in remembrance and celebration of the gift of Jesus Christ, whom you sent, in the fullness of time, to be the good news. Born of Mary, our sister in faith, Christ lived among us to reveal the mystery of your Word, to suffer and die on the cross for us, to be raised from death on the third day, and then to live in glory.

We bless you, gracious God, for the presence of your Holy Spirit in the church you have gathered. With your sons and daughters of faith in all places and times, we praise you with joy.

**ALL: Holy, holy, holy God of love and majesty, the whole universe speaks of your glory, O God Most High.**

**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our God!  
Hosanna in the highest!**

Pastor: We remember that on the night of betrayal and desertion, and on the eve of death, Jesus gathered the disciples for the feast of Passover. Jesus took bread, and after giving thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to the disciples, saying: "This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way also the cup, after supper, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of our faith.

**ALL: Christ's death, O God, we proclaim.  
Christ's resurrection we declare.  
Christ's coming we await.  
Glory be to you, O God.**

Pastor: Eternal God, we unite in this covenant of faith, recalling Christ's suffering and death, rejoicing in Christ's resurrection, and awaiting Christ's return in victory.

We spread your table with these gifts of the earth and of our labor. We present to you our very lives, committed to your service in behalf of all people.

We ask you to send your Holy Spirit on this bread and wine, on our gifts, and on us. Strengthen your universal church that it may be the champion of peace and justice in all the world. Restore the earth with your grace that is able to make all things new.

**ALL: Be present with us as we share this meal, and throughout all our lives, that we may know you as the Holy One, who with Christ and the Holy Spirit lives forever. Amen.**

#### PRAYER OF OUR SAVIOR

Leader: Let us pray as Christ our Savior has taught us.

**ALL: THE LORD'S PRAYER (depts)**

#### BREAKING BREAD AND POURING WINE

Pastor: The bread which we break is the communion of the body of Christ.

Pastor: The cup of blessing which we bless is the communion of the blood of Christ.

#### LAMB OF GOD

**ALL: Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.  
Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.  
Jesus, redeemer of the world: give us your peace.**

#### CALL TO THE SUPPER

Pastor: The gifts of God for the people of God.  
Come, for all things are ready.



SUNDAY, AUGUST 2, 1998 (C) PROPER 13/NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

**FIRST LESSON. Hosea 11:1-11**

When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called my son. The more I called them, the more they went from me; they kept sacrificing to the Baals, and offering incense to idols. Yet it was I who taught Ephraim to walk, I took them up in my arms; but they did not know that I healed them. I led them with cords of human kindness, with bands of love. I was to them like those who lift infants to their cheeks. I bent down to them and fed them. They shall return to the land of Egypt, and Assyria shall be their king, because they have refused to return to me. The sword rages in their cities, it consumes their oracle-priests, and devours because of their schemes. My people are bent on turning away from me. To the Most High they call, but he does not raise them up at all. How can I give you up, Ephraim? How can I hand you over, O Israel? How can I make you like Admah? How can I treat you like Zeboiim? My heart recoils within me; my compassion grows warm and tender. I will not execute my fierce anger; I will not again destroy Ephraim; for I am God and no mortal, the Holy One in your midst, and I will not come in wrath. They shall go after the LORD, who roars like a lion; when he roars, his children shall come trembling from the west. They shall come trembling like birds from Egypt, and like doves from the land of Assyria; and I will return them to their homes, says the LORD.

**SECOND LESSON. Colossians 3:1-11**

So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory. Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. But now you must get rid of all such things-- anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all!

**GOSPEL. Luke 12:13-21**

Someone in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?" And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

From the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible Copyright 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A.



Set your  
minds on  
**THINGS**  
that are  
above





**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**

101 North Franklin Street

Delaware, Ohio

363-7021

The Rev. Jody Lynn B. Hagans, pastor

August 9, 1998

19<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

10:00 a.m.

**PRELUDE**

**PRAYER OF MEDITATION**

Thank you, God, for leaving so much evidence of your involvement in our world. You help us to do what you call us to do. We praise you for the gift of your word, for assurance regarding the importance of that which we can't see, for the witness of people you enabled to live by faith, for the presence of ongoing communities of faith, and for your confidence that we can be part of such a fellowship. Amen.

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**INTROIT**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Faith is the assurance of things hoped for,  
the conviction of things not seen.*

*By faith, our mothers and fathers went out to claim their inheritance.*

By faith, what was barren blossomed and bore fruit.

ALL: By faith, we live in assurance and walk in hope.

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE, #32**

"How Great Thou Art"

**\*INVOCATION**

**\*LORD'S PRAYER (Trespases)**

**\*GLORIA PATRI #576**

**SCRIPTURE LESSON** Luke 12:32-40

**GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS**

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory

Response #583

We give Thee but Thine own,

What-e'er the gift may be:

All that we have is Thine a-lone,

A trust, O Lord, from Thee. Amen.

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

**CHILDREN'S MOMENT**

**\*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING, #344**

"Be Thou My Vision"

**MORNING PRAYERS**

**SCRIPTURE LESSON** Hebrews 11:1-3,8-16

**MORNING MESSAGE** "In it for the Long Haul"

**FELLOWSHIP OFFERING**

**\*HYMN OF COMMITMENT, #11**

"A Mighty Fortress"

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*ALLELUIA**

**\*POSTLUDE**

(\*congregation stands)

**MINISTERING TODAY**

Pastor: Jody Lynn B. Hagans

Lay Leader: Deacon Dave Lovell

Organist: Mary Lou Lovell

**OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK**

TODAY	11:00	Retreat Committee
	6:00	Peace Camp '98
MONDAY	6:00	Peace Camp '98
TUESDAY	6:00	Peace Camp '98
WEDNESDAY	6:00	Peace Camp '98
THURSDAY	12:00	Young at Heart
	6:00	Peace Camp '98
FRIDAY	6:00	2 <sup>nd</sup> Friday's at Andrew's House



*"Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."*

*—Luke 12:34*

If you have ever wondered whether your contribution to home mission makes a difference in the lives of people, wonder no more. I can assure you that here in Sacramento, your gifts will help us assist 8,000 people during the next twelve months.

Without the support of American Baptist congregations, we would have had to close the West Sacramento Resource Center, which provides housing, transportation, bagged groceries, and prepared meals, plus educational opportunities.

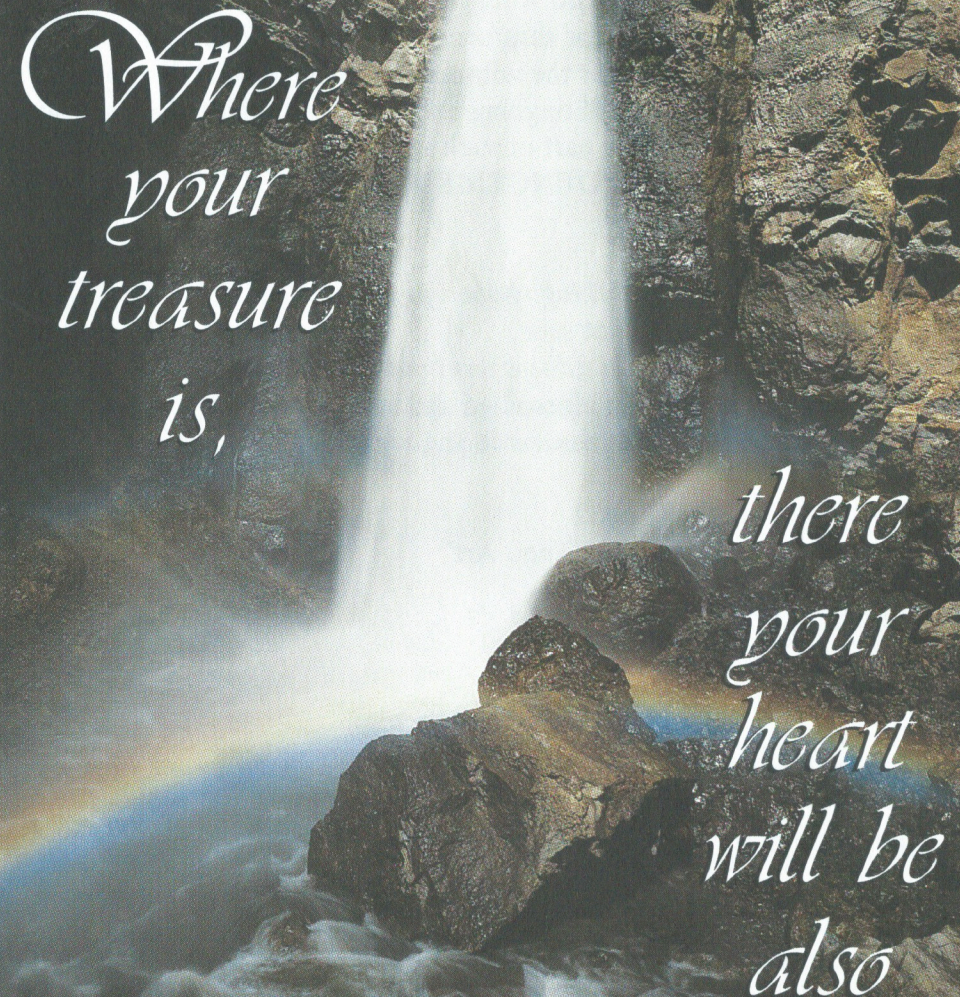
More than 85% of the adult students at our Lincoln Training Center not only graduate, but are placed in full-time, unsubsidized employment with an average starting wage of \$7.50 an hour. Excellence in training our students and finding them the very best jobs to provide a sustainable wage is a testament to the strength and dedication of our staff.

Many times we are asked, "What's so special about United Christian Centers?" My response is always the same: "We're special because our staff members do more than what's required by the city, county, or state. We do more because we are held accountable to God's sense of justice."

Please continue to pray for all of the United Christian Centers' staff and our board of directors, as we strive to serve people in a manner consistent with the teaching of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

*Alvin Lewis, Executive Director  
United Christian Centers of Greater Sacramento Area, Inc.  
Sacramento, California*

The United Christian Centers are related to American Baptist National Ministries through the Neighborhood Action Program.



*Where  
your  
treasure  
is,  
there  
your  
heart  
will be  
also*



# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

101 North Franklin Street  
Delaware, Ohio  
363-7021

The Rev. Jody Lynn B. Hagans, pastor

August 16, 1998

20<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

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## ORDER OF WORSHIP

10:00 a.m.

### PRELUDE

### PRAYER OF MEDITATION

God, we come to worship in need of an accurate perspective on our lives. We get all mixed up about what is going on around us and within us. Sometimes we feel confused about what is important and what is not. Other times we sense we have lost our way. Please help us clarify the meaning of life in a manner that brings meaning to our lives specifically. Show us those values around which we are wise to build our days. Set before us agendas that give us purpose. In the quiet, as well as in the sounds of this service, give us direction. Enable us to see ourselves honestly, to open ourselves to you vulnerably, and to find a commitment that daily leads us into abundant life. Amen.

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### INTROIT

### CALL TO WORSHIP

*Why are you here?*

We have come to worship God.

*What do you want from worship?*

We desire a better understanding of our lives, more knowledge of God's will, and a commitment that enables us to do God's will.

### \*HYMN OF PRAISE, #28

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

### \*INVOCATION

### \*LORD'S PRAYER (Trespases)

### \*GLORIA PATRI #576

### GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory

### Response #583

We give Thee but Thine own,  
What-e'er the gift may be:  
All that we have is Thine a-lone,  
A trust, O Lord, from Thee. Amen.

### SPECIAL MUSIC

Matthew Lovell

### CHILDREN'S MOMENT

### \*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING, #503

"Jesus Calls Us; o'er the Tumult"

### MORNING PRAYERS

SCRIPTURE LESSON Luke 12:49-56

MORNING MESSAGE "Family Ties"

### FELLOWSHIP OFFERING

### \*HYMN OF COMMITMENT, #519

"Peace in Our Time, O Lord"

### \*BENEDICTION

### \*ALLELUIA

### \*POSTLUDE

(\*congregation stands)

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### MINISTERING TODAY

Pastor: Jody Lynn B. Hagans  
Lay Leader: Deacon Dave Lovell  
Organist: Mary Lou Lovell

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### OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

TODAY	11:00	Retreat Committee
THURSDAY	12:00	A.B.W. Min. Executive Committee, at the parsonage
FRIDAY-SUNDAY		Church Family Retreat
NEXT SUNDAY	11:00	Worship at Judson Hills
	7:30	Educator's Worship, At William Street U.M.C.



## PRAYER CONCERNS:

Our SHUT-INS and those in NURSING HOMES:

HELEN BAKER, at home; EDITH HALL, at home; ELIZABETH HEIZER, at Union Manor Nursing Home in Marysville; FRANCES JOHNSON, at Wintersong Village Nursing Facility; and CAROLYN SCHNEEBERGER, at the Sarah Moore Home.

Those in need of our PRAYERS include:

PAUL ALLEN; LAURA ANDERSSON; BONNIE ARMSTRONG, Sue Elfner's cousin; CHUCK ARMSTRONG; JOE & JEAN BROWER & daughter DARLENE; KEN BROWN, Carol Grubbs' nephew; CONNIE COTTRILL; LAVERNE CRUMPET; the CUMMINS Family; DAVID CYRUS; SHANNON DE'LASSANJRO, Jean Wickum's granddaughter; MICHAEL DUFFY; GLADYS DUNLAP; the EDDY Family; BOBBY GUET; JOHN HASTY, Flo Faulk's nephew; CHRISSY HOPKINS; DEWEY HUGHES, Tammy Francis' grandfather; MARY HUNTER; LOLA JACKSON; JEANETTE JONES; MIKELL HEDLEY, friend of Lynn Elfner; DEBBIE HELD, Bernice Turney's niece; DARREN KERNS, Alex Bennett's friend; BOB KURTZ; the LEHR Family, friends of Pastor Hagans; JOHN & ANNE LINN; the LUCAS Family; AMY MCGREW, Marge Smale's daughter; MATT MEYERS; JANE MILLER & FAMILY; the MOWERY Family; MARY ANN & JOHN MURDAY; SUSAN MUSSARD, Jean Wickum's friend; the NOLIN Family; OHIO FLOOD VICTIMS; JERRY & LANA PALMER; GEORGE PARKER; SHIRLEY PARKER; the RAMEY Family; LUCY RINEHART, Archie Trigg's aunt; MARY SEALY; DIANE SHOAF; DAN SILVEOUS & FAMILY; CHERYL SPANGLER; SHARON STEVENS, friend of the Weakland's; BETTY TOTTEN; BERNICE TURNEY; RICK URGHART; HAROLD & DEBORAH VAN BROEKHOVEN; TINA WAGNER, friend of Liz Hopkins; GREG WALKER; BARBARA WOODS, colleague of Alison Mowery.

Those in COLLEGE or AWAY AT COLLEGE include:

SHANNON & MICAH STONER at DeVry Institute of Technology.

Those in the MILITARY include:

VICTOR & DEBBIE FOGLE, in the Marines; ED & JENNIFER LINN, in the Air Force.

**All Are Welcome!**



Please Join

**ANDREWS HOUSE**

for an

**OLD FASHIONED  
ICE CREAM SOCIAL**

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 14 • 6:30 PM**

**ANDREWS HOUSE**

39 W. WINTER STREET, DELAWARE, OH

**FREE!**



**FREE!**

Sponsored By:

The Delaware County Bank & Trust Company



*By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared  
by the word of God, so that what is seen was made  
from things that are not visible.*

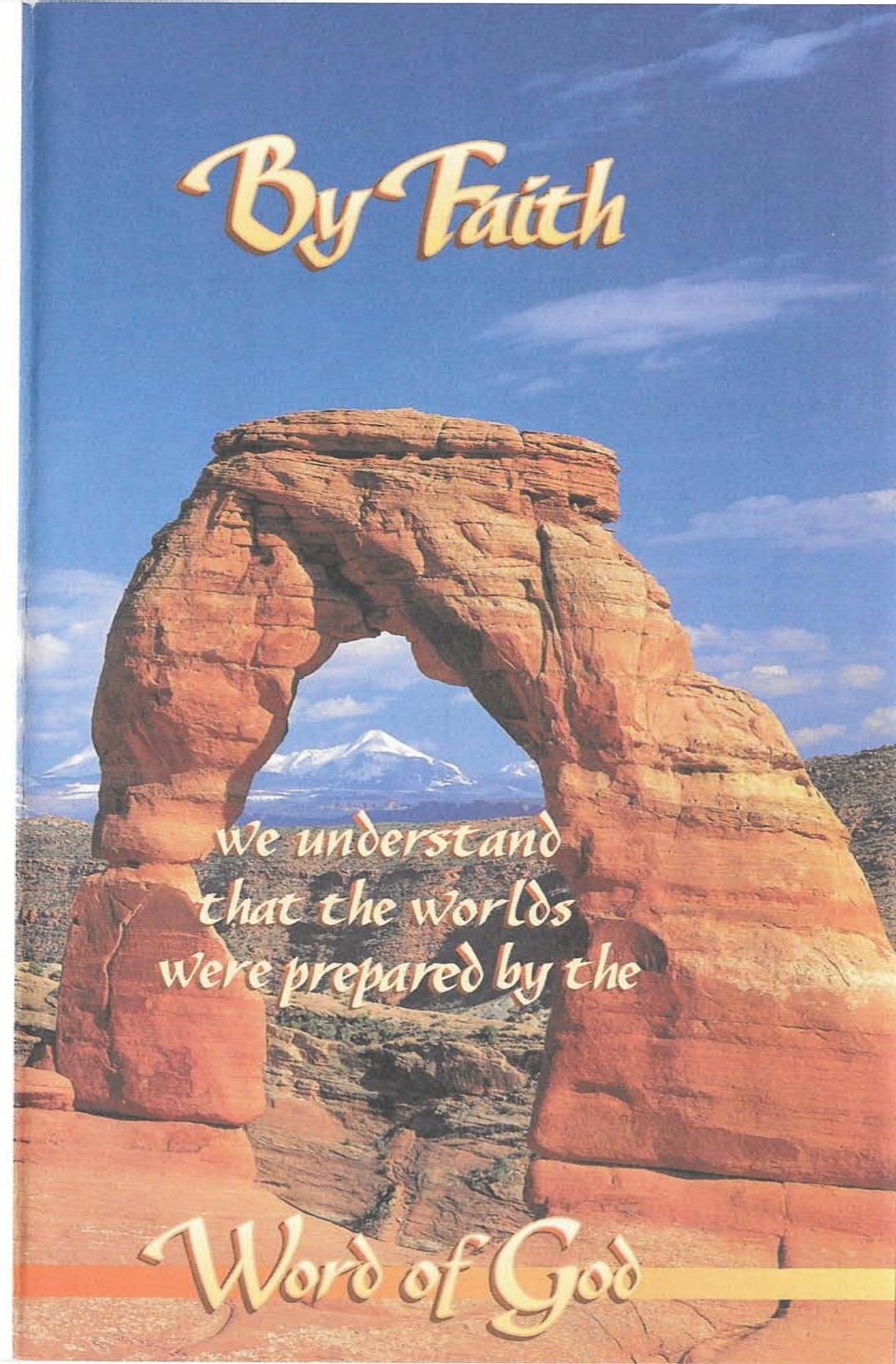
*—Hebrews 11:3*

**I** have always found it interesting that we spend so much time trying to prove to the people around us that Christ is real. It is by faith that we believe, and when we try to prove something that we believe by faith, we are defeating what faith is all about.

At Rancho San Juan Bosco, an orphanage in Tecate, Mexico, the boys come from a life of rejection. Normally their parents cross the border to find work and leave their children with a grandparent. After a while the grandparent can no longer afford to care for the children, so they are moved from relative to relative, and eventually many of them end up in orphanages.

The boys arrive very sad and lonely, but the director of Rancho San Juan Bosco is committed to sharing Jesus Christ with them. He wants the boys to come to know a Father who will never reject them. They often have a hard time accepting God's never-ending love. They know rejection well, but what Christ offers is unconditional acceptance. They can only accept God's love by faith, because it is something outside of their experience. If they let their actual, visible experience determine their decision to accept Christ, that decision would seldom happen. Yet, by faith in what they cannot see, they discover a relationship with God that cannot be taken away from them.

*Stan Crews  
Missionary, Mexico  
International Ministries*



# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

101 North Franklin Street

Delaware, Ohio

363-7021

The Rev. Jody Lynn B. Hagans, pastor

Rally Day

August 30, 1998

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## ORDER OF WORSHIP

10:45 a.m.

PRELUDE "Fantasia on Praise Him, Praise Him"

Clark

### PRAYER OF MEDITATION

Love Divine, whose mercies are fresh with the morning and whose grace amazes us into joy: Grant that, in our worship and in our daily living, we may be deeply aware of the strength of your mercy. Move us to share that strength in the world. Amen.

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### INTROIT

### CALL TO WORSHIP

*We worship the God who inhabits our world and indwells our lives.*

We need not look up to find God, we need only look around:

within ourselves, beyond ourselves, into the eyes of another,

*We need not listen for distant thunder to find God, we need only listen to the music of life, the words of children, the questions of the curious, the rhythm of a heartbeat.*

We worship the God who inhabits our world and who indwells our lives.

\*HYMN OF PRAISE, #43

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

### \*INVOCATION

\*LORD'S PRAYER (Trespases)

\*GLORIA PATRI #576

SCRIPTURE LESSON Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

### DEDICATION OF OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL

### GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory "My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

Larson

Response #583

We give Thee but Thine own,

What-e'er the gift may be:

All that we have is Thine a-lone,

A trust, O Lord, from Thee. Amen.

### ANTHEM

### CHILDREN'S MOMENT

\*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING, #370

"Teach Me Thy Will, O Lord"

### MORNING PRAYERS

SCRIPTURE LESSON Luke 14:1, 7-14

MORNING MESSAGE "Mind Your Manners"

\*HYMN OF COMMITMENT, #512

"Lord, Whose Love through Humble Service"

### \*BENEDICTION

### \*ALLELUIA

\*POSTLUDE "Ye are the Light of the World"

Broughton

(\*congregation stands)

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### MINISTERING TODAY

Pastor: Jody Lynn B. Hagans

Lay Leader: Deacon Dave Lovell

Organist: Mary Lou Lovell

Choir Director: Jim Stephenson

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### OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

TODAY 6:00 Delaware Baptist Church,  
Service of Baptism

TUESDAY 7:00 Deacons

THURSDAY 10:00 Sewing Group

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SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT: After worship today, our church has been invited to a reception for Bill Nirote at Zion U.C.C.



# ABC/OHIO REGIONAL NEWS August 1998

## NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE MINISTER

During the recent proceedings in June at the American Baptist Assembly Conference Center, the General Board adopted New Church Planting Goals that will carry us into the next millennium. American Baptists have made a commitment to plant 1010 new churches and baptize 1,000,010 new believers by the year 2010. What exciting news! There is no way to reach our goal, however, unless we all prioritize evangelism among our ministry opportunities in the years to come.

Each one of us can do something significant towards reaching this goal. Each one of us can pray. I believe that our personal prayers for this goal should have at least three components. The first component should be to thank God for what already is being done to reach others for Christ. Let's begin by praising God for evangelistic efforts throughout the world. Advancements of the gospel are exploding in places like South Africa, Brazil, China, Thailand, and the Congo. Within America, we also have much for which to be thankful. Just a decade ago, there were those who were wondering if the Christian churches in America would make it into the next millennium. Many churches today are thriving in their witnessing. While not every congregation has discovered successful ways to reach those around them, most are at least asking the right questions and petitioning God for help in their outreach efforts.

Secondly, in our prayers to reach this goal, let's repent for lost opportunities. Sins of omission are still sins. Let us seek God's forgiveness for failings to respond to the proddings of God to give an invitation to a neighbor, comfort a co-worker, or preach an evangelistic sermon for the cause of Christ.

Thirdly, let us ask for God to lead us in the path that God would have for us in the fulfillment of this goal. No doubt, God will call some of us to plant a church. God will prompt others to receive training to be a pastor. Others may be called upon to witness mightier than ever before through their actions, words, or examples. Others may feel compelled to launch a ministry of intercessory prayer for the lost. I am calling upon you as American Baptists in Ohio to take this goal seriously as well as your commitment to it. Commission your evangelists. Volunteer to plant a church. Give a gift for a new building. Respond to God's call.

Throughout 1998, the American Baptist Churches of Ohio have been seeking to "Win Ohio for Christ." That has been our year long emphasis. Our role in evangelism will not cease when the year comes to a close. By votes of the General Board and the Evangelism Team, we actually have been called upon to expand our efforts in evangelism rather than diminish them. The launching or expanding of any ministry requires prayer. Pray with me as we continue to "Win Ohio for Christ" and "reach 1,000,010 by 2010!"

In other news, several ABC/OHIO communities were affected by the recent flooding. FBC Byesville had a flooded basement and 1" of water in their sanctuary. Old Cambridge Baptist Church lost two furnaces due to water damage and

the basement of Clear Fork Baptist Church also flooded. Several churches continue to minister to local families displaced by flood waters, including FBC Cambridge, New Lexington Baptist Church, and FBC Marietta. Please add these churches to your prayer list and send me names of others that need to be added. As always, you may send funds to help meet these needs through ABC/OHIO specifics or through the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering. Just remember to clearly define the intended recipient and 100% will go to that cause.

Sincerely, Dr. C. Jeff Woods

\* \* \* \* \*

## Mission Support Memo

As I travel among the churches of the ABC/OHIO, I hear many good comments about the ministry of our Region and the ministry of our denomination. People are pleased to be partners in the ministry of Jesus Christ with so many others (292 churches in Ohio and nearly 6000 across the U.S.). The one question that I hear more than any other is, *What is United Mission?* Let me try to answer that with the following list.

- United Mission supports all American Baptist ministries.
- United Mission is holistic, family mission giving.
- United Mission models "budget" giving.
- United Mission is good stewardship of the time of pastors, churches, and regional, national, and general staff.
- United Mission acknowledges the ministry of administration.
- United Mission allows churches to do together what no single church could do alone.
- United Mission enables churches to support all American Baptist ministries with a single gift.
- United Mission designations offer personalized giving.
- United Mission demonstrates biblical teaching about giving.
- United Mission increases have a direct impact on every area of American Baptist ministry.
- United Mission dollars go to more places and support a wider variety of ministries than dollars given in any other way.

Thanks be to God for American Baptists who join together to support the mission of Jesus Christ to communities, the state, the nation and the world.

Rev. Daniel L. Taylor, Minister of Mission Support  
740/587-0804; MMS4OHIO@AOL.COM

The 1999 Biennial of American Baptists will be held June 22 - 25 in Des Moines, Iowa. Groups and Individuals are being sought for the musical portion of the Biennial. Music audition tapes are to be sent to Paul Baker, Music Consultant, 3244 Weldon Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90065, by September 15, 1998.



# NORTH AREA NEWS

American Baptist Churches of Ohio

Rev. Sandra G. Heizer, Area Minister, North  
August 1998

Greetings from your Executive Minister

It is my pleasure to address you this month. Your Area Minister, Rev. Sandie Heizer, will conclude a one month sabbatical on August 3rd.

Prior to my tenure as your executive minister, some of the staff had been told that they would be eligible for a sabbatical study leave, but the personnel guidelines contained no detail for such a policy. Your region board recently adopted guidelines for sabbatic study leave. Since Sandie has been on staff for ten years, she was overdue and will be the first to benefit the region by her choice of study.

A sabbatic leave has three purposes: reflection, growth, and insight. A part of the sabbatic leave is to provide time away to ponder the past. It is difficult to obtain a balcony viewpoint while you are a part of the play. When the constant demands of one's role are put on hold, however, one can see the past more clearly. Another major piece of the sabbatical is tied to personal growth. The individual chooses an area of ministry that is expanding as well as one for which she or he does not currently possess the knowledge and skills necessary to meet the expanding needs. The combination of contemplation and personal growth inevitably leads to new perspectives and insights.

I realize that one month is not enough time to accomplish all of these goals. Universities offer sabbatic leaves from 3 to 12 months. Many churches offer two to four month sabbatic leaves. Several other American Baptist regions offer three month leaves. But, life involves a series of trade-offs. With the present level of ABC/OHIO staffing, the personnel committee determined that if the study leave were much longer than a month, the burden on the other staff would become unmanageable during the sabbatic leave. Thus, this is at least a step in the right direction.

I hope that your church will consider giving your pastor a sabbatic study leave. It is always helpful to establish guidelines for criteria of eligibility, financing, reporting, length, etc. I would be happy to send you a paper about sabbatic study leave if you need one. The Minister's Council recently published an excellent resource on the subject.

Every time that an organization sends one of its leaders on a sabbatical, the organization benefits more from the study leave than the leader. The leader always returns with new vision, new insight, and new energy for ministry. Thus, although this can be viewed as a benefit to the worker, like most benefits, both the organization and leader will ultimately profit. I encourage you to consider this important aspect of ministry renewal.

Need help in teaching ministry?

Call the ServiceCenter at 1-800-ABC-3USA, ext. 2222

Our region is pleased to announce its participation in ABC Educational Ministries' ServiceCenter. Church leaders and teachers are invited to call ServiceCenter Consultant Jeff Jones, toll free (1-800-ABC-3USA, ext. 2222), or e-mail ([jeff.jones@abc-usa.org](mailto:jeff.jones@abc-usa.org)) to discuss questions and issues around basic ministry areas: children, youth, young adults, adults, and Bible study.

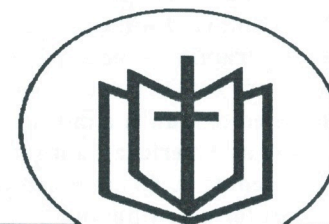
The ServiceCenter hours of operation even include some evening and weekend hours:

Tuesdays 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Thursdays 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Fridays 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Saturdays 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.



**Educational Ministries**



## PRAYER CONCERNS:

Our SHUT-INS and those in NURSING HOMES:

HELEN BAKER, at home; EDITH HALL, at home; ELIZABETH HEIZER, at Union Manor Nursing Home in Marysville; FRANCES JOHNSON, at Wintersong Village Nursing Facility; and CAROLYN SCHNEEBERGER, at the Sarah Moore Home.

Those in need of our PRAYERS include:

PAUL ALLEN; LAURA ANDERSSON; BONNIE ARMSTRONG, Sue Elfner's cousin; CHUCK ARMSTRONG; JOE & JEAN BROWER & daughter DARLENE; KEN BROWN, Carol Grubbs' nephew; CONNIE COTTRILL; LAVERNE CRUMPET; the CUMMINS Family; DAVID CYRUS; SHANNON DE'LASSANJRO, Jean Wickum's granddaughter; MICHAEL DUFFY; GLADYS DUNLAP; the EDDY Family; BOBBY GUET; JOHN HASTY, Flo Faulk's nephew; CHRISSY HOPKINS; DEWEY HUGHES, Tammy Francis' grandfather; MARY HUNTER; LOLA JACKSON; JEANETTE JONES; MIKELL HEDLEY, friend of Lynn Elfner; DEBBIE HELD, Bernice Turney's niece; DARREN KERNS, Alex Bennett's friend; BOB KURTZ; JOHN & ANNE LINN; the LUCAS Family; DENVER & DOROTHY MCGHEE, Shannon Weakland's parents; AMY MCGREW, Marge Smale's daughter; MATT MEYERS; the MOWERY Family; MARY ANN & JOHN MURDAY; SUSAN MUSSARD, Jean Wickum's friend; the NOLIN Family; JERRY & LANA PALMER; SHIRLEY PARKER; the RAMEY Family; LUCY RINEHART, Archie Trigg's aunt; MARY SEALY; JEANETTE SCHAEFER; DIANE SHOAF; DAN SILVEOUS & FAMILY; CHERYL SPANGLER; SHARON STEVENS, friend of the Weakland's; BETTY TOTTEN; BERNICE TURNEY; RICK URGHART; HAROLD & DEBORAH VAN BROEKHOVEN; TINA WAGNER, friend of Liz Hopkins; GREG WALKER; BARBARA WOODS, colleague of Alison Mowery.

Those in COLLEGE or AWAY AT COLLEGE include: ERIN FAULK, at Hope College, Holland Michigan; MATTHEW LOVELL at O.S.U.; NATALIE MOWERY at O.S.U.; MARCI SANDER at O.S.U.; SHANNON & MICAH STONER at DeVry Institute of Technology; KAREN STONER, at Methodist Theological School in Ohio; and JENNA WEAKLAND, at Bowling Green State University.

Those in the MILITARY include:

VICTOR & DEBBIE FOGLE, in the Marines; ED & JENNIFER LINN, in the Air Force.

*So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.*

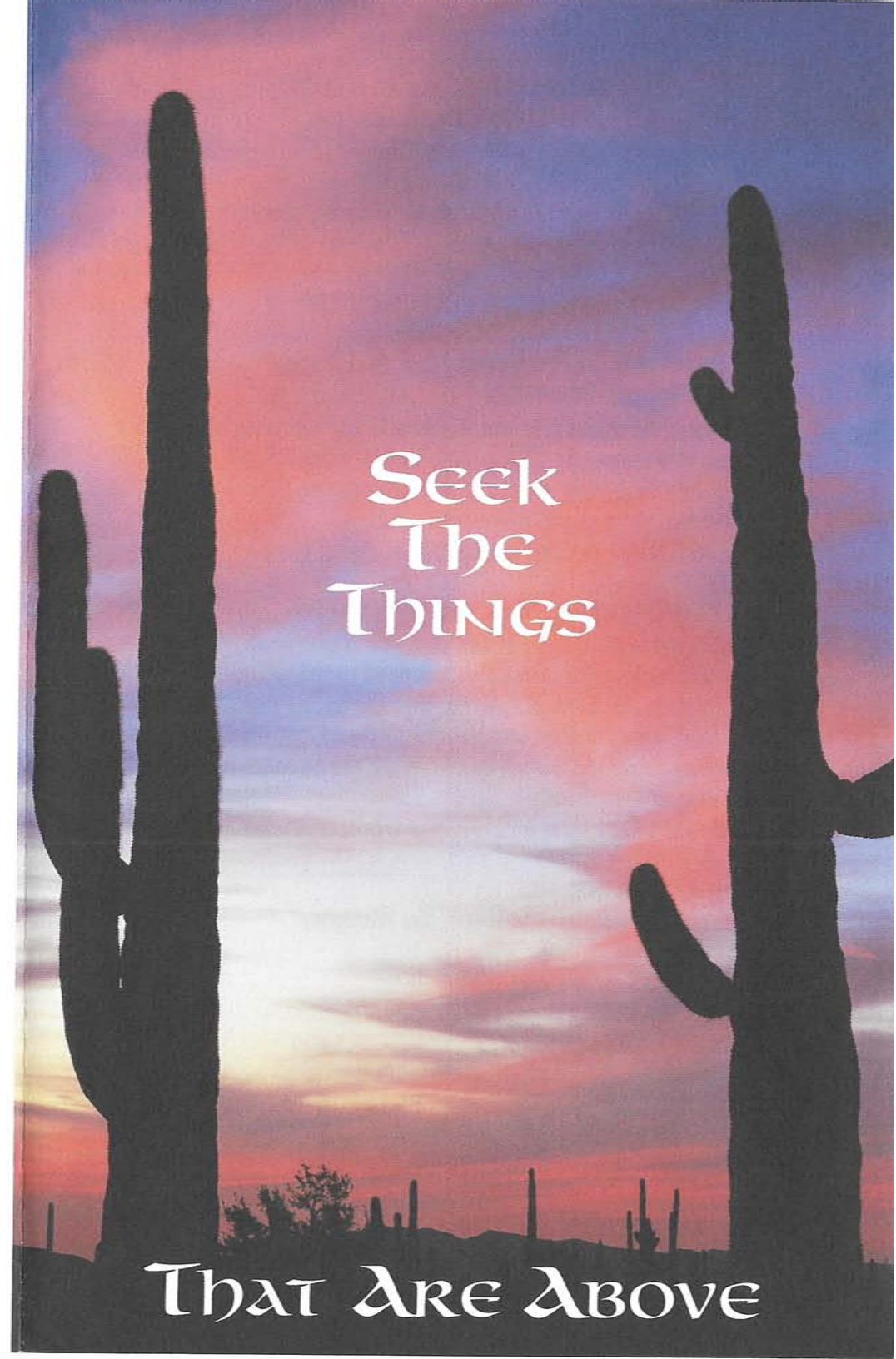
*—Colossians 3:1*

**I**n my copy of the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible, the introductory material to Colossians includes the statement, “the letter presents a strong and poetic image of the sole lordship of Christ, both throughout the whole cosmos and in the church.” The second chapter encourages Christians to live our lives in Christ “rooted and built up in him” (v. 7) and then claims Christ as “the head of every ruler and authority” (v. 10).

To these images of Christ as the ground in which we are rooted and as the head of the church is added the third chapter’s depiction of Christ seated above “at the right hand of God” (v. 1). For me, there are two challenges (at least) in the third chapter of Colossians. One is to grasp, in whatever small way I can, the majesty, power, and authority of Christ. The second, equally stretching, is to realize that seeking “the things that are above” (v. 1) means, in this context, to live a life of “compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience” (v. 12).

So seeking the things that are above means some clearly observable attitudes and behaviors in my daily walk, right here, right now. May the spirit of Christ, who laid aside his majesty and power in order to show the way, enable me so to walk.

*Dr. Jean B. Kim  
Executive Director  
Educational Ministries*



**THAT ARE ABOVE**



# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

101 North Franklin Street

Delaware, Ohio

363-7021

The Reverend Jody Lynn B. Hagans, pastor

September 6, 1998

Holy Communion

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## ORDER OF WORSHIP

10:45 a.m.

### PRELUDE "Andante Pastorale"

*Adams*

Welcome to First Baptist Church. We are glad to have you worshipping with us this morning. On this Communion Sunday, we invite all who believe in Christ to join us in our celebration at the table.

### PRAYER OF MEDITATION

Loving God, whose love is boundless and unending, we thank you for your presence. We have gathered to bring you praise, and to listen for those hushed whispers your Spirit conveys as a guide to our worship. Help us to center our thoughts on you and to close out thoughts that keep us from fully participating in this redemptive fellowship that you have provided for us. May our worship be worthy of you, O God. Amen.

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### INTROIT

### CALL TO WORSHIP (Insert)

### \*HYMN OF PRAISE, #37

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

### \*INVOCATION

### \*LORD'S PRAYER (Trespases)

### \*GLORIA PATRI #576

### GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory "Christ is the World's Redeemer"

*Beck*

Response #583

We give Thee but Thine own,

What-e'er the gift may be:

All that we have is Thine a-lone,

A trust, O Lord, from Thee. Amen.

### ANTHEM

### CHILDREN'S MOMENT

### \*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING, #384

"All for Jesus! All for Jesus!"

MORNING PRAYERS Response: Lord Have Mercy.

### A SCRIPTURE READING

### MEDITATION

FELLOWSHIP OFFERING "Communion"

*Batiste*

### \*HYMN OF COMMITMENT, #515

"Hope of the World"

### HOLY COMMUNION

\*FELLOWSHIP CIRCLE "Blest Be the Tie That Binds" #207

### \*BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE "Praise Ye the Lord"

*Hughes*

(\*congregation stands)

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### MINISTERING TODAY

Pastor: Jody Lynn B. Hagans

Lay Leader: Deacon Mary Gillette

Choir Director: Jim Stephenson

Organist: Mary Lou Lovell

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### OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

TODAY 12:00 Inquirer's Class

MONDAY 7:00 Boy Scouts

TUESDAY 7:30 Marion Association Trustees

WEDNESDAY 7:00 Choir

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SPECIAL NOTE: The workbench used in this worship service was used by Will Fogle in his workshop. Thanks to Carol Fogle for lending it to us.

*"Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, 'Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'"*

*—Matthew 13:30*

When one lives in a place where only one to three percent of the population are Christian, one finds many "weeds growing among the wheat"! While we have come to Okinawa to reach the 97 percent who do not know Christ, we spend a great deal of time "tending the wheat" as well.

When you make a commitment to Christ in Japan, it is very likely that your family and friends will not support your decision. Rather, you may be blamed for all manner of problems in your family, or you may simply be ignored. New Christians are often overwhelmed by the negative influence of the "weeds"!

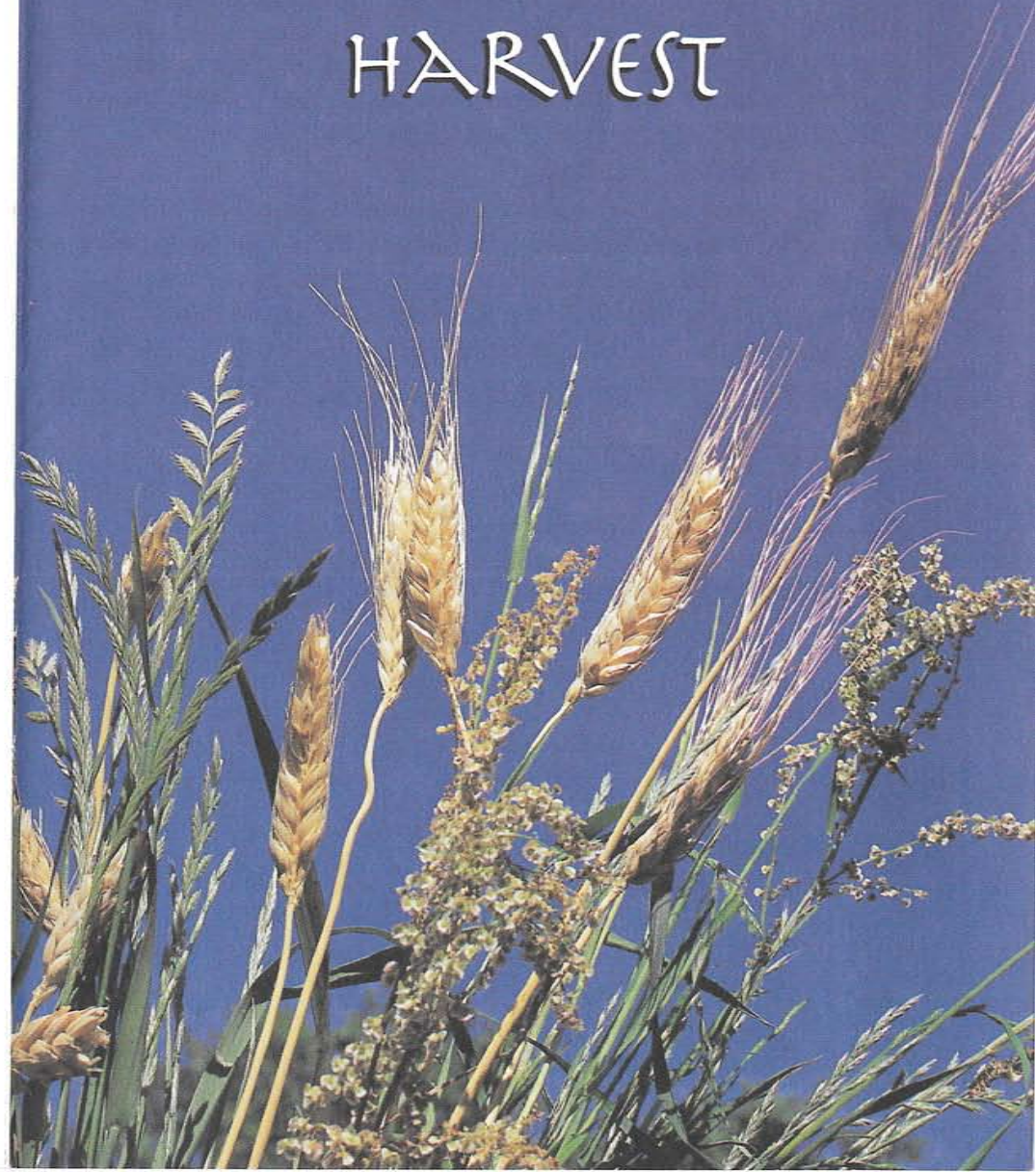
God's grace has allowed us to step in and help some of these people see their full potential in Christ:

- Moriyoshi has a deep burden for sending Bibles to China.
- Ai felt God's call while attending a Mission Seminar in Thailand with us. She will enter seminary in the Philippines in June.
- We have had close contact with Iwao and Michiko, currently studying at Eastern Baptist Seminary, who hope in the year 2000 to become the first missionaries ever to be sent out by the Okinawa Baptist Convention!

Let us work together to preach the Good News of salvation wherever we are. As individuals become planted in Christ, let us "water" their new-found faith.

*Stan Murray  
Missionary, Japan  
International Ministries*

# LET BOTH GROW TOGETHER UNTIL THE HARVEST





# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

101 North Franklin Street

Delaware, Ohio

363-7021

The Rev. Jody Lynn B. Hagans, pastor

September 20, 1998

16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

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## ORDER OF WORSHIP

10:45 a.m.

PRELUDE "My Jesus, I Love Thee"

Gordon

### PRAYER OF MEDITATION

Receive our offerings, Lord, as signs of our self. Receive our minds that we will think great thoughts of you. Receive our souls that we will be reservoirs of your love. Receive our bodies that we will be temples fit for your dwelling. Receive all that we dare give and embolden us to give you our all. Amen.

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### INTROIT

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

*Jesus said, "Blessed are the poor."*

Let us listen to Jesus, our teacher.

*Jesus said, "You shall love the Lord your God and you neighbor as yourself."*

Let us listen to Jesus, our teacher.

*Jesus said, "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do."*

Let us listen to Jesus, our teacher.

*Jesus said, "For the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light."*

What did he mean?

ALL: Let us listen to Jesus, our teacher.

#### \*HYMN OF PRAISE, #43

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

#### \*INVOCATION

\*LORD'S PRAYER (Trespases)

\*GLORIA PATRI #576

## GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" Wyeth

Response #583

We give Thee but Thine own,

What-e'er the gift may be:

All that we have is Thine a-lone,

A trust, O Lord, from Thee. Amen.

## ANTHEM

## CHILDREN'S MOMENT

### \*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING, #378

"Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak"

### MORNING PRAYERS

SCRIPTURE LESSON Luke 16:1-13

MORNING MESSAGE "The Model Disciple"

### \*HYMN OF COMMITMENT, #385

"Take My Life and Let it Be"

### \*BENEDICTION

#### \*ALLELUIA

\*POSTLUDE "O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing" Glaser

(\*congregation stands)

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## MINISTERING TODAY

Pastor: Jody Lynn B. Hagans

Lay Leader: Deacon Mary Gillette

Organist: Betty Porter

Choir Director: Jim Stephenson

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## OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

TODAY	2:00	Board of Christian Education
	3:30	Shower for Nichelle and Jarrod
WEDNESDAY	7:00	Choir
THURSDAY	7:00	Parish Council

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## PRAYER CONCERNS:

Our SHUT-INS and those in NURSING HOMES:

HELEN BAKER, at home; EDITH HALL, at home; ELIZABETH HEIZER, at Union Manor Nursing Home in Marysville; LOLA JACKSON, at home; FRANCES JOHNSON, at Wintersong Village Nursing Facility; and CAROLYN SCHNEEBERGER, at the Sarah Moore Home.

Those in need of our PRAYERS include:

PAUL ALLEN; LAURA ANDERSSON; BONNIE ARMSTRONG, Sue Elfner's cousin; JOE & JEAN BROWER & daughter DARLENE; KEN BROWN, Carol Grubbs' nephew; LORI BRUMMETT; JOANN BRUMMETT; LAVERNE CRUMPET; the CUMMINS Family; DAVID CYRUS; SHANNON DE'LASSANJRO, Jean Wickum's granddaughter; MICHAEL DUFFY; the EDDY Family; BOBBY GUET; JOHN HASTY, Flo Faulk's nephew; LEE HOLT; CHRISSY HOPKINS; DEWEY HUGHES, Tammy Francis' grandfather; MARY HUNTER; JEANETTE JONES; MIKELL HEDLEY, friend of Lynn Elfner; DEBBIE HELD, Bernice Turney's niece; CHARMAIN & RICK HOWELL; DARREN KERNS, Alex Bennett's friend; BOB KURTZ; JANET LATHROP; JOHN & ANNE LINN; the LUCAS Family; DENVER & DOROTHY MCGHEE, Shannon Weakland's parents; AMY MCGREW, Marge Smale's daughter; MATT MEYERS; MARY ANN & JOHN MURDAY; SUSAN MUSSARD, Jean Wickum's friend; the NOLIN Family; JERRY & LANA PALMER; SHIRLEY PARKER; LUCY RINEHART, Archie Trigg's aunt; MARY SEALY; JEANETTE SCHAEFER; DIANE SHOAF; DAN SILVEOUS & FAMILY; CHERYL SPANGLER; SHARON STEVENS, friend of the Weakland's; BETTY TOTTEN; BERNICE TURNEY; RICK URGHART; HAROLD & DEBORAH VAN BROEKHOVEN; TINA WAGNER, friend of Liz Hopkins; GREG WALKER; BARBARA WOODS, colleague of Alison Mowery.

Those in COLLEGE or AWAY AT COLLEGE include: ERIN FAULK, at Hope College, Holland Michigan; MATTHEW LOVELL at O.S.U.; NATALIE MOWERY at O.S.U.; MARCI SANDER at O.S.U.; SHANNON & MICAH STONER at DeVry Institute of Technology; KAREN STONER, at Methodist Theological School in Ohio; and JENNA WEAKLAND, at Bowling Green State University.

Those in the MILITARY include:

VICTOR & DEBBIE FOGLE, in the Marines; ED & JENNIFER LINN, in the Air Force.



## Is That My Church Burning?

On coming home from work one night,  
A hapless scene burst on my sight.  
Smoke and cinders, flickering lights,  
Visions of helmets and hoses inside.

Holes in the roof top, chop, chop, chop!  
Blown out windows, when will it stop?

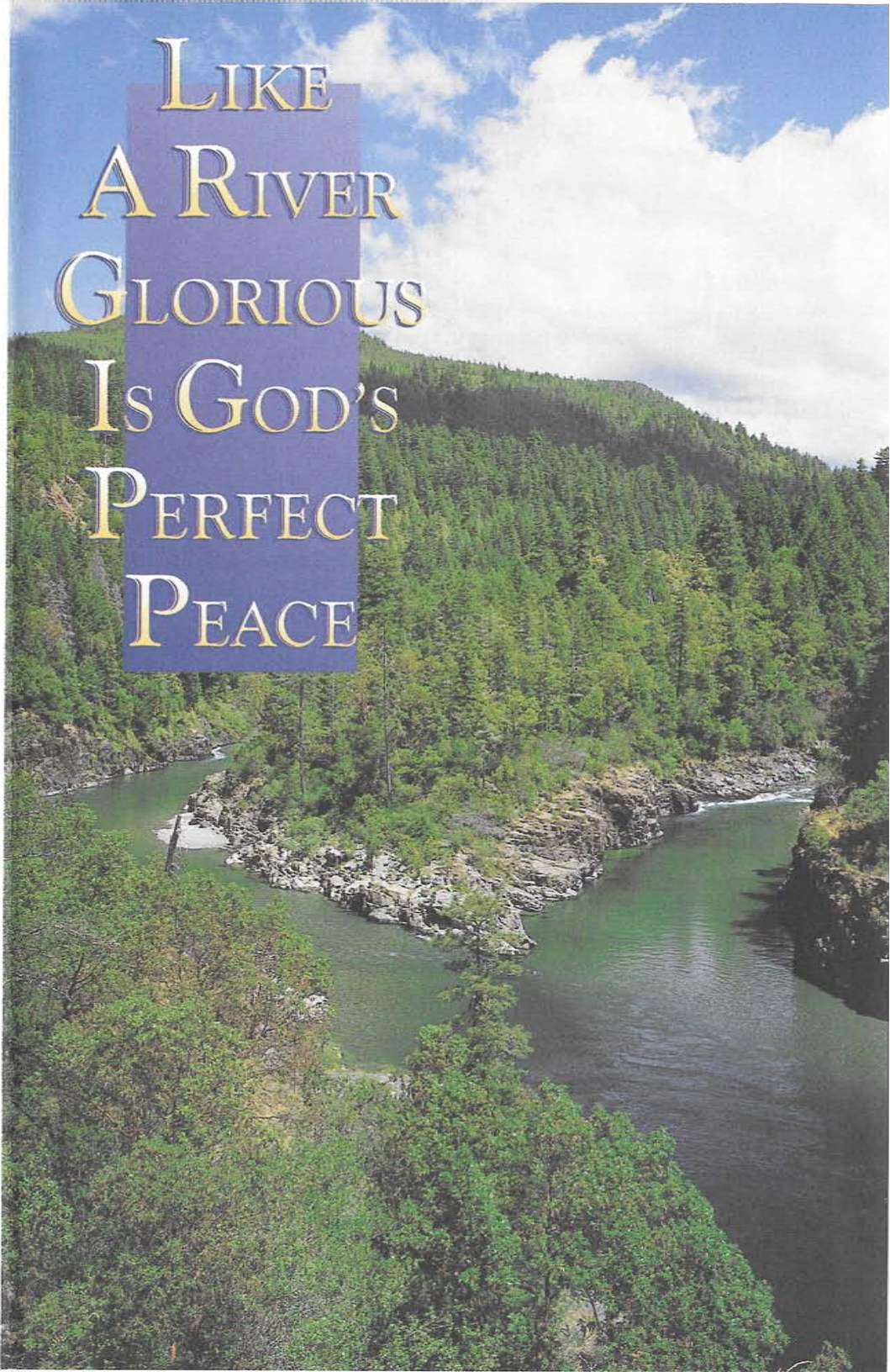
We gathered together outside the next day,  
To assess the damage and salvage what may.  
A proud congregation, humbled overnight.  
Even though housed, homelessness is our plight.

Gifts have poured in, and victory we'll win,  
In spite of outrageously wicked, cruel sin.  
Some things will always remain the same.  
Friendships and kinships and love-filled days.

These help in the process of healing the wounds,  
Inflicted that night by prophets of doom.  
We know and believe with all our might,  
That we are acceptable in God's Holy Sight!

*Joyce Lee Williams  
Member, First Baptist Church  
Glassboro, New Jersey*

On May 28, 1997, the First Baptist Church building was destroyed by arson. Through One Great Hour of Sharing donations and mission teams coordinated by the Volunteers In Mission Office of National Ministries, American Baptists have helped rebuild houses of worship that have been burned.



LIKE  
A RIVER  
GLORIOUS  
IS GOD'S  
PERFECT  
PEACE

# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

101 North Franklin Street

Delaware, Ohio

363-7021

The Rev. Jody Lynn B. Hagans, pastor

September 27, 1998

Christian Education Sunday

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## ORDER OF WORSHIP

10:45 a.m.

### PRELUDE

### PRAYER OF MEDITATION

Here we are, wondrous Lord, in the house of your people. Sometimes we feel out of place here, all dressed up and looking like we're altogether. You know the many times we don't feel altogether. We acknowledge our broken-ness, our separation from you, our doubts and our worries, our failure to love one another. Only because we know you to be loving and gracious do we even dare admit this to you. Touch us, O God, with your mercy. Continue to love us and lead us in how you would have us live. In Jesus' name. Amen.

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### INTROIT

### CALL TO WORSHIP

*This is the day that the Lord has made.*

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

*This is the world that God has made.*

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

*We are all children whom God has made.*

Let us rejoice and be glad in that.

*Sisters and brothers, centered in Christ Jesus.*

Let us rejoice and be glad. Amen.

### \*HYMN OF PRAISE, #22

"Stand Up and Bless the Lord"

### \*INVOCATION

### \*LORD'S PRAYER (Trespases)

### \*GLORIA PATRI #576

### LITANY FOR CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (Insert)

## MISSION MOMENT

## GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory

Response #583

We give Thee but Thine own,

What-e'er the gift may be:

All that we have is Thine a-lone,

A trust, O Lord, from Thee. Amen.

## ANTHEM

## CHILDREN'S MOMENT

### \*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING, #351

"O Love that Will Not Let Me Go"

## MORNING PRAYERS

## SCRIPTURE LESSON

## MORNING MESSAGE

### \*HYMN OF COMMITMENT, #498

"Come, All Christians, Be Committed"

### \*BENEDICTION

### \*ALLELUIA

### \*POSTLUDE

(\*congregation stands)

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## MINISTERING TODAY

Guest Preacher: Randy Turner

Lay Leader: Deacon Mary Gillette

Organist: MaryLou Lovell

Choir Director: Jim Stephenson

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## OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

TODAY	4:00	Marion Association Fall Rally, at Radnor Baptist Church
WEDNESDAY	7:00	Choir
FRIDAY		Hedges/Trigg rehearsal
SATURDAY	2:30	Hedges/Trigg wedding



*You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise.*

*—Deuteronomy 6:5-7*

## Christian Education Sunday

**T**hese words are found in Deuteronomy 6:5: “You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might.” They are repeated in Luke 10:27 with the addition of “and your neighbor as yourself.”

We, like Israel, are encouraged to keep the story in our hearts, to recite it and talk about it often with our children—so much so that it becomes a habit, a way of life. We are to make the meaning of the story in our lives clear to all those we live and work and play with. We are called to keep the story alive by the example we set, by the faith stories we tell, by our instruction in the faith, and by having faith apprentices.

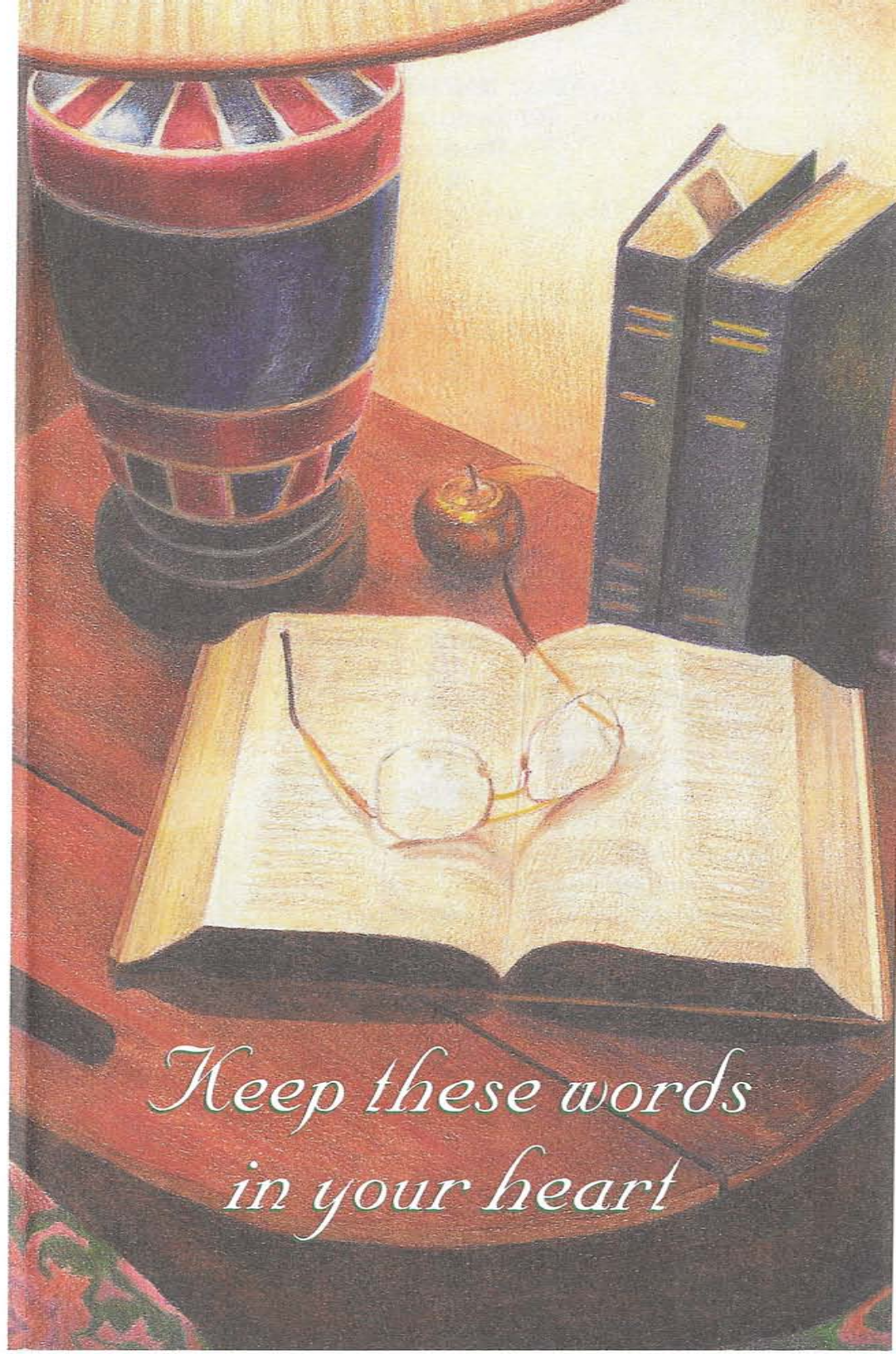
In whatever ways we keep the story alive, we do so in Jesus’ name and with gratitude in our hearts.

How do you keep the story alive?

How does your congregation keep the story alive?

*Linda R. Isham*

*Director of Planning for Congregational Education  
Educational Ministries*



*Keep these words  
in your heart*

# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

101 North Franklin Street  
Delaware, Ohio  
363-7021

The Reverend Jody Lynn B. Hagans, pastor

October 4, 1998

World Communion Sunday

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## ORDER OF WORSHIP

10:45 a.m.

### PRELUDE

Welcome to First Baptist Church. We are glad to have you worshipping with us this morning. On this Communion Sunday, we invite all who believe in Christ to join us in our celebration at the table.

### PRAYER OF MEDITATION

Spirit of the living God, though we are many, we have come together with one purpose—to worship you with scripture and song, with silence and sacrament. We witness that we are members of one another and wait for your word spoken clearly in our midst. May your presence be among us in this hour: touch us with tenderness, brush us with ecstasy, strengthen us into commitment, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### INTROIT

### CALL TO WORSHIP

*Let us celebrate God's gift of Christ.*

We give thanks for Christ.

*Let us celebrate God's gift of faith in Christ.*

We give thanks for faith.

ALL: With thanksgiving and celebration, we worship God.

### \*HYMN OF PRAISE, #515

"Hope of the World"

### \*INVOCATION

\*LORD'S PRAYER (Trespases)

\*GLORIA PATRI #576

### MISSION MOMENT

### GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

Prayer of Dedication

### Offertory

Response #583

We give Thee but Thine own,

What-e'er the gift may be:

All that we have is Thine a-lone,

A trust, O Lord, from Thee. Amen.

### ANTHEM

### CHILDREN'S MOMENT

### \*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING, #193

"Gracious Spirit, Dwell with Me"

### MORNING PRAYERS

SCRIPTURE LESSON Luke 17:5-10

MORNING MESSAGE "The Meaning of Faith"

### FELLOWSHIP OFFERING

### \*HYMN OF COMMITMENT, #505

"Make Me a Blessing"

### HOLY COMMUNION

\*FELLOWSHIP CIRCLE "Blest Be the Tie That Binds" #207

### \*BENEDICTION

### \*POSTLUDE

(\*congregation stands)

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### MINISTERING TODAY

Pastor: Jody Lynn B. Hagans

Lay Leader: Deacon Mary Gillette

Choir Director: Jim Stephenson

Organist: Mary Lou Lovell

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### OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

TODAY 1:30 CROP Walk registration

MONDAY 7:00 Boy Scouts

7:00 Delaware Piecemakers

TUESDAY 7:00 Board of Deacons

WEDNESDAY 7:00 Choir

7:00 Finance Committee



*Then he took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."*

*—Luke 22:19*

## World Communion Sunday

**I**t was the end of a difficult and disagreeable semester at the International Baptist Theological Seminary in Prague, Czech Republic. We had dealt with tensions surrounding a fragile financial situation, engaged in a series of contentious meetings, endured the resignation of our president for health reasons, and faced continued disruptions related to relocating the seminary from Rüschlikon, Switzerland.

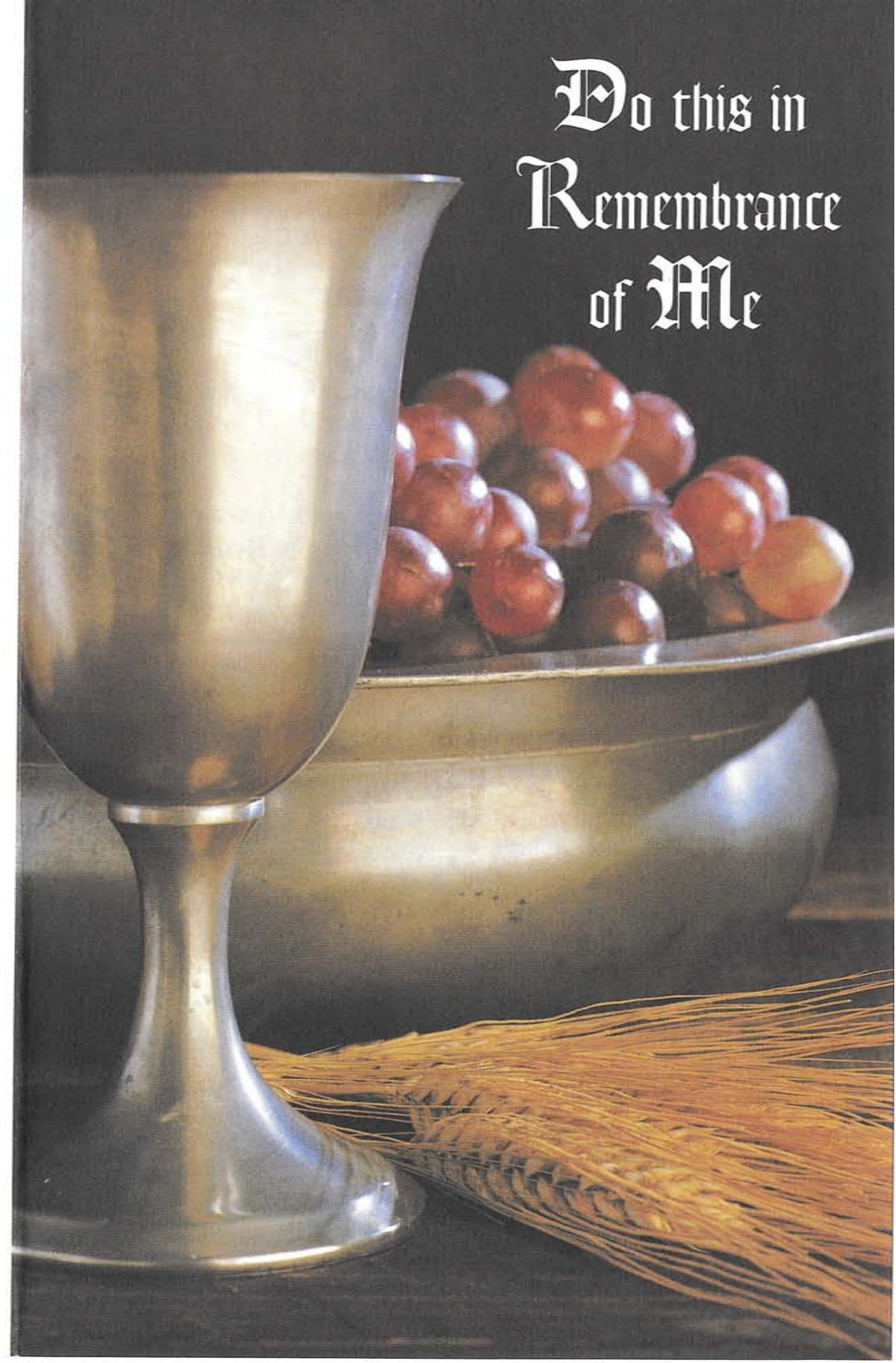
Then we gathered for our end-of-semester Communion celebration. We sat in a large circle—students, staff, faculty, and administrators. In our midst was a pile of rocks gathered from campus, a visible reminder that God is our “Rock of Ages” that we who are part of the faith community are living stones. We sang and prayed and read Scripture.

Before us was our Lord’s table. As the bread and cup were distributed, each person addressed the next by name, saying, “The body of Christ was broken for you. The blood of Christ was shed for you.” The elements were passed from hand to hand, from Ghanian to Czech, Korean to German, Russian to Rwandan, American to Netherlander. In spite of our theological differences and the tensions that come when diverse people live in community, we were united in Christ’s presence as living stones, never perfect but always forgiven.

Experiences like this happen all over the world as American Baptists bring people together in the name of and in the spirit of Jesus Christ. It doesn’t mean we will always agree with others or find others compatible. But it is always in Jesus and his love that we find a singular purpose, and it is at his table that we find hope for the world—and the power to change the way things are for the sake of God’s kingdom.

*David Brown  
Missionary, Czech Republic  
International Ministries*

Do this in  
Remembrance  
of Me





# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

101 North Franklin Street

Delaware, Ohio

363-7021

The Rev. Jody Lynn B. Hagans, pastor

October 11, 1998

28<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

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## ORDER OF WORSHIP

10:45 a.m.

### PRELUDE

### PRAYER OF MEDITATION

Blessed God, who calls us to be a blessing to the world, guide us in our search for justice. Save us, we pray, from the fear of powerful people. Inspire us to speak up for those who have been silenced by a loud voice. Grant us such persistence in prayer that we may perceive the reign of Christ, even as we await its coming. Amen.

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### INTROIT

### CALL TO WORSHIP

*We have encountered the Word, calling us into communion with God and with each other,*

*And calling us into discipleship to carry on Christ's work in our world.*

*So we come together here, joining hands in that great quest:*

*To worship God, to love each other, and to serve the world.*

### \*HYMN OF PRAISE, #550

"When Morning Gilds the Sky"

### \*INVOCATION

\*LORD'S PRAYER (Trespases)

\*GLORIA PATRI #576

### LITANY OF DEDICATION AND CELEBRATION (Insert)

### GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory

Response #583

We give Thee but Thine own,

What-e'er the gift may be:

All that we have is Thine a-lone,

A trust, O Lord, from Thee. Amen.

### ANTHEM

### CHILDREN'S MOMENT

### \*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING, #435

"What A Friend We Have in Jesus"

### MORNING PRAYERS

### SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 18:1-8

### MORNING MESSAGE

"The Gum-ball Theory"

### \*HYMN OF COMMITMENT, Insert

"Thy Kingdom Come"

### \*BENEDICTION

### \*ALLELUIA

### \*POSTLUDE

(\*congregation stands)

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### MINISTERING TODAY

Pastor: Jody Lynn B. Hagans  
Lay Leader: Deacon Alison Mowery  
Organist: MaryLou Lovell  
Choir Director: Jim Stephenson

+++++

### OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

TODAY	12:00	Inquirer's Class
TUESDAY	7:00	Youth Commission
WEDNESDAY	7:00	Choir
SATURDAY	8:30	Men's Breakfast

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NOTE: From Friday, October 16 through Sunday, October 18, Pastor Hagans will be attending the ABC of Ohio Annual Meeting in Ashtabula.



*For I am not ashamed of the gospel; it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who has faith, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.*

*—Romans 1:16*

## American Baptist Men's Sunday

**R**omans 1:16 expresses an apostolic boldness in proclaiming the gospel. In spite of legal opposition and persecution, the early Christians stood up for their allegiance to Christ. What an honor it is to be identified with him and bear his name! Though scorned and ostracized, they counted this a small price to pay for eternal salvation.

Reaching men and boys for Christ is at the heart of American Baptist Men. Everything we do is designed "to encourage men and boys to develop a vital relationship with Christ and fulfill their mission." We do this through ministries of Missions, Evangelism, and Nurturing.

**Missions:** ABMen Disaster Relief provides opportunities for ABMen and ABBoys to put their hands to work, showing God's love to those whose lives have been devastated by disasters.

**Evangelism:** ABMen USA produces gender-specific resources to help men and boys share the gospel in male terminology.

**Nurturing:** Through ABBoys and ABYoungMen, boys and teens are not only brought to faith in Christ, but are also mentored to full spiritual maturity.

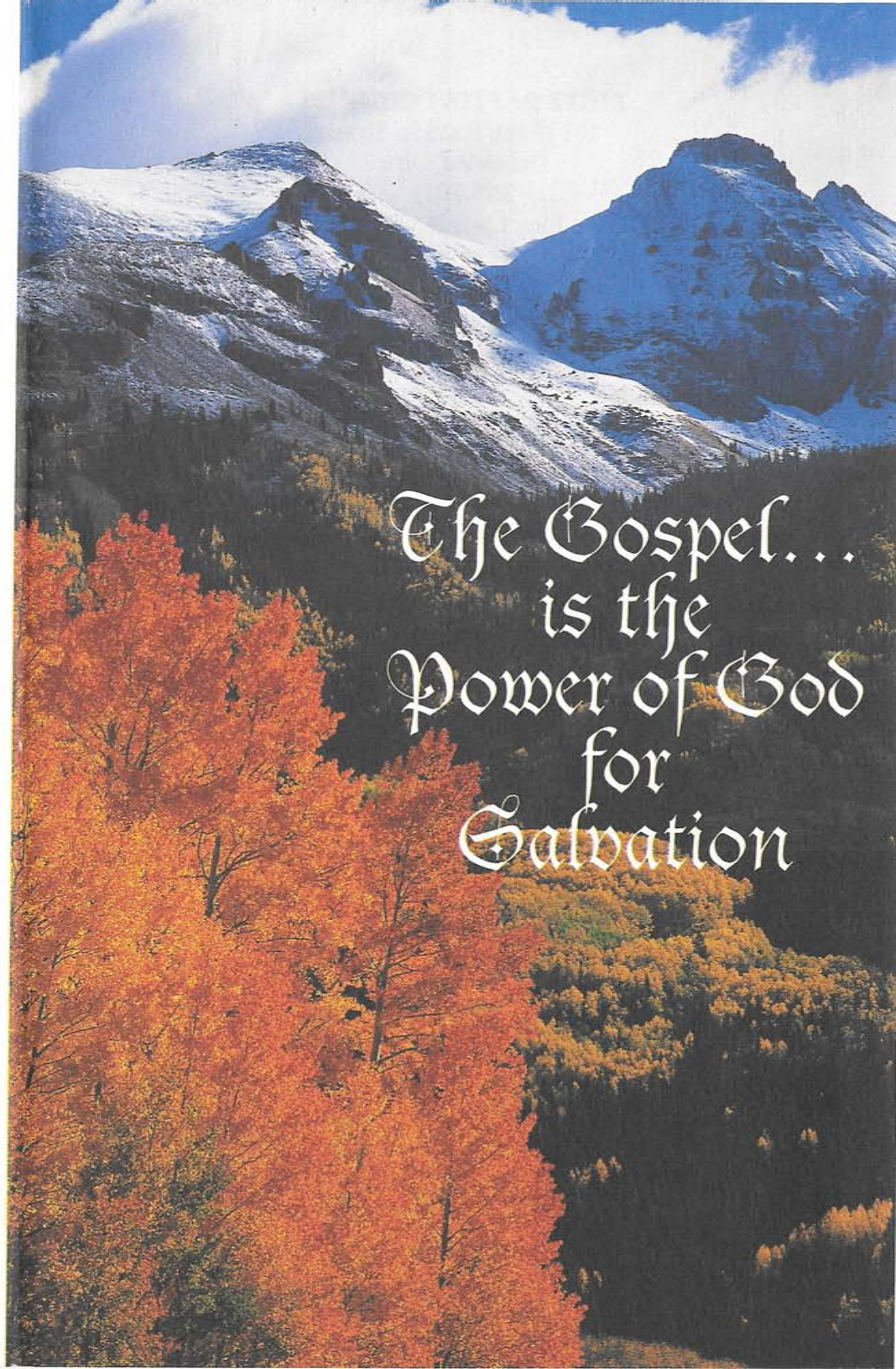
Like the early Christians, we often face ridicule or even discrimination when we openly express our faith. Though laws protect our liberty and freedom of religion, we are tempted to hesitate sharing Christ when opportunities arise. God is waiting for us to share the Good News with those within our reach.

American Baptist Men are not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God for salvation! If your church could benefit from strengthened ministries for men and boys, contact ABMen USA at 1-800-ABC-3USA.

*Z. Allen Abbott*

*Executive Director*

*American Baptist Men USA*



The Gospel...  
is the  
Power of God  
for  
Salvation



# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

101 North Franklin Street

Delaware, Ohio

363-7021

The Rev. Jody Lynn B. Hagans, pastor

October 18, 1998

29<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

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## ORDER OF WORSHIP

10:45 a.m.

**PRELUDE** "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

*Ritter*

### PRAYER OF MEDITATION

God of the sojourners, we ask your presence with us on our journey through life. Help us to be faithful to your ways of love and grace. Keep us from helpless despair. Give us the power to make your love known, even in this world that seems so bent on war and hate. With your courage in our hearts, we will walk the Jerusalem road together. Amen.

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### INTROIT

### CALL TO WORSHIP

*Deep inside us all—old and young alike—*

There is a place of faith.

*A place of trust and hope and love,*

Without which there can be no peace.

*Jesus said, "Let the children come unto me, and do not hinder them,*

*For to such belongs the kingdom of heaven."*

*Hear, then O people of God:*

*approach this hour as children of the Almighty,*

With innocence of heart and unlimited hope,

*With a trust that makes you vulnerable,*

And with love that is easy and quick. Amen.

### \*HYMN OF PRAISE, #23

"Come We That Love the Lord"

### \*INVOCATION

\*LORD'S PRAYER (Trespases)

\*GLORIA PATRI #576

## GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory "Balm in Gilead"

*Wilson*

Response #583

We give Thee but Thine own,

What-e'er the gift may be:

All that we have is Thine a-lone,

A trust, O Lord, from Thee. Amen.

### ANTHEM

"God of the Living"

*Smith*

### CHILDREN'S MOMENT

### \*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING, #343

"Earthly Pleasures Vainly Call Me"

### MORNING PRAYERS

### SCRIPTURE LESSON

### MORNING MESSAGE

"Seamlessness"

### \*HYMN OF COMMITMENT, #275

"We're Marching to Zion"

### \*BENEDICTION

### \*ALLELUIA

### \*POSTLUDE

"With Grateful Hearts"

*Barnett*

(\*congregation stands)

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## MINISTERING TODAY

Guest Preacher:

Deacon Jean Wickum

Lay Leader:

Deacon Alison Mowery

Organist:

Betty Porter

Choir Director:

Jim Stephenson

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## OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

TODAY

2:00

Delaware Organ Tour

TUESDAY

6:00

Board of Christian Education

7:00

Board of Deacons

WEDNESDAY

7:00

Choir

THURSDAY

10:00

Marion Association,

A.B.W. Min. Brunch at Sunbury



*Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good ...*

*—Romans 12:9*

## **American Baptist Women's Ministries Sunday**

**I**n a world of computer imaging, virtual reality, cloning, and other high-tech achievements, it is often difficult to tell the real thing from imitations. On the surface we cannot tell them apart. Only when we go deeper can we know the genuine from the fake. Paul wrote to the church at Rome, "Let love be genuine." He beseeched the Christians to be sure they were sincere in their love for one another, in their actions, and in their loving witness.

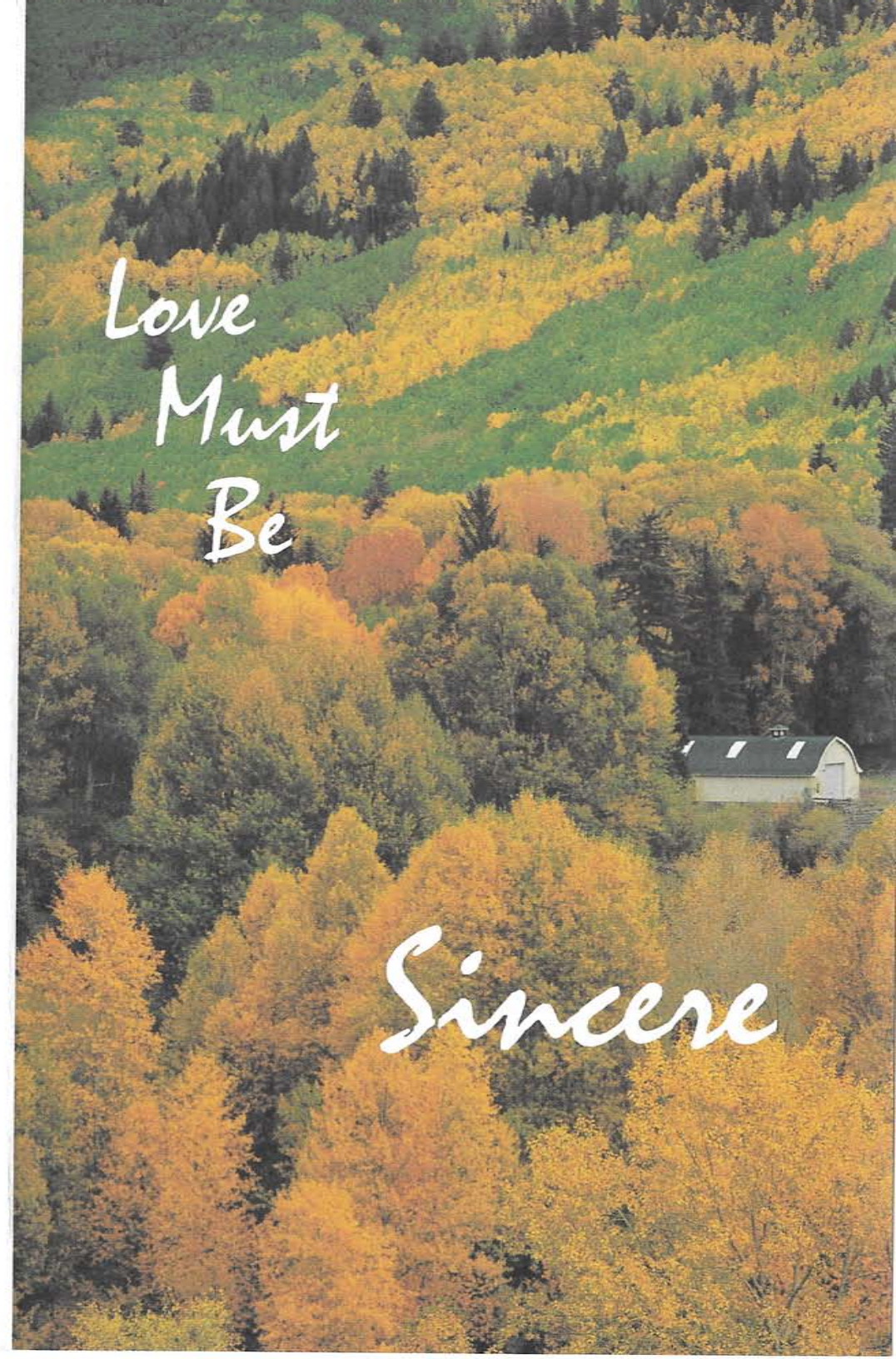
We, like the early church, are not to substitute false love for the real thing. In the paraphrase *The Message*, it says, "Love from the center of who you are; don't fake it."

In another letter, Paul listed the attributes of genuine love. Once, during a sermon on love, our pastor had us read in unison 1 Corinthians 13:4-8. Then he had us read it again, replacing the word *love* with Christ. And, indeed, they are interchangeable. Then he had us read it a third time, replacing *love* with our own name. My name was not so easily substituted! I have never forgotten this powerful lesson.

Only as we practice Christian love in our daily lives and demonstrate patience, kindness, gentleness, humility, loyalty, and justice and do away with jealousy, selfishness, and irritability can we show genuine love. With Christ as our model, we can do it!

*Thelma Schaller  
President*

*American Baptist Women's Ministries*





# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

101 North Franklin Street

Delaware, Ohio

363-7021

The Rev. Jody Lynn B. Hagans, pastor

October 25, 1998

21<sup>st</sup> Sunday After Pentecost

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## ORDER OF WORSHIP

10:45 a.m.

### PRELUDE

### MEDITATION

We gather today not because it is necessarily the best time, or because we feel more spiritual, or more at peace. We gather because our God bids us to do so, Sunday after Sunday, in good times and bad, to witness to the divine strength and power that sustains our lives through all its seasons.

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### INTROIT

### CALL TO WORSHIP

### \*HYMN OF PRAISE, #60

"Come, Christians, Join to Sing"

### \*INVOCATION

### \*LORD'S PRAYER (Trespases)

### \*GLORIA PATRI #576

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen, Amen.

### GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory

Response #572

Praise God the Source of life and birth.

Praise God the Word, who came to earth.

Praise God the Spirit, holy flame.

All glory, honor to God's name.

### ANTHEM

### CHILDREN'S MOMENT

### \*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING, #266 (verses 1,2&4)

"Softly and Tenderly"

### MORNING PRAYERS

### SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 18:9-14

### MORNING MESSAGE

"What is the Meaning of This?"

### \*HYMN OF COMMITMENT, #11

"A Mighty Fortress"

### \*BENEDICTION

### \*ALLELUIA

### \*POSTLUDE

(\*congregation stands)

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### MINISTERING TODAY

Pastor: Jody Lynn B. Hagans

Lay Leader: DeeDee Weakland

Organist: Mary Lou Lovell

Choir Director: Jim Stephenson

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### OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

TODAY	12:00	Inquirer's Class
	1:30	Pastoral Relations Committee
MONDAY	7:00	Boy Scouts
WEDNESDAY	6:30	Quarterly Business Meeting, Babysitting provided

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*"Be still, and know that I am God!  
I am exalted among the nations,  
I am exalted in the earth."*

*—Psalm 46:10*

## Campus Ministry Sunday

Nearly 15 million students pursue higher education in the United States every year. Why? To search for truth or meaning? To move up the economic ladder? To please mom, dad, or spouse? To find a career that fits?

Whether pursuing worthy or selfish goals, today's generation enters college with less psychological strength at a time when costs have risen, scholarships have declined, and part-time employment pays less. Many frenetically seek release from stress through compromising alternatives that undermine their basic academic goals.

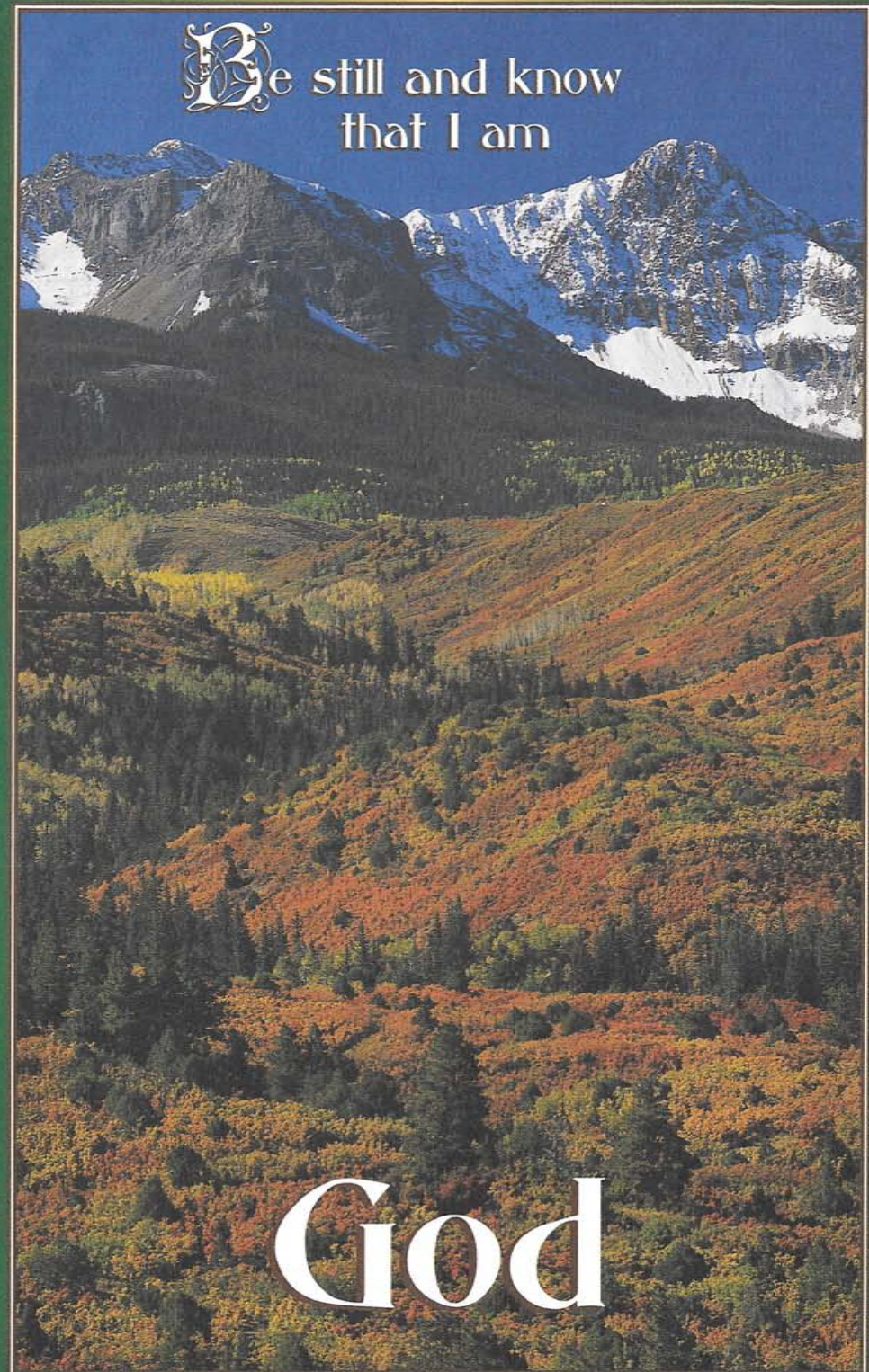
Enter the voice of God through the psalmist, campus minister, or Christian leader at the campus, declaring, "Be still and know that I am God," or as the Contemporary English Version says, "Calm down and learn that I am God." An awesome pause before our Creator-Redeemer, indeed, transforms and realigns our priorities.

Collegians and non-collegians, pressed into the fast-paced life speeding into the new millennium, often postpone important decisions and events. Young adults, for example, continue to delay marriage and childbearing to "later." Similarly, questions of meaning are not dismissed out of hand by most people; they are simply delayed. Most people do not declare themselves atheists. They hope voting for God's existence will suffice until they have time to examine the ramifications of such a reality.

Every once in a while a minister, friend, or spouse gently and dramatically breaks through to them—and us—with the psalmist's words, "Calm down." Then before our Gracious Lord and Redeemer, we bow and know our God. Pray for our campus ministers and Christian students as they seek the right moment to present our Sovereign Lord to persons at the campus.

*John Peterson*

*National Volunteer Director of ABC Campus Ministry  
Educational Ministries*





# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

101 North Franklin Street

Delaware, Ohio

363-7021

The Rev. Jody Lynn B. Hagans, pastor

November 8, 1998

23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday After Pentecost

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## ORDER OF WORSHIP

10:45 a.m.

### PRELUDE

### MEDITATION

God of all our days, we dedicate the present moment to you and pledge to give ourselves to you so completely that no thoughts of coping with the future will cloud our vision. Amen.

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### INTROIT

### CALL TO WORSHIP

*O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.*

God's steadfast love endures forever.

*Praise the name of God our Redeemer;*

Whose freedom from death is forever told.

*Let us sing and proclaim a song of victory.*

Glory and honor be to God now and forever. Amen.

### \*HYMN OF PRAISE, #171

"Thine Is the Glory"

### \*INVOCATION

### \*LORD'S PRAYER (Trespases)

### \*GLORIA PATRI #576

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning,

is now, and ever shall be,

world without end. Amen, Amen.

### STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

### GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory

Response #572

Praise God the Source of life and birth.

Praise God the Word, who came to earth.

Praise God the Spirit, holy flame.

All glory, honor to God's name.

### ANTHEM

### CHILDREN'S MOMENT

### \*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING, #37

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

### MORNING PRAYERS

### SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 20:27-38

### MORNING MESSAGE

"Not An Intellectual Matter"

### \*HYMN OF COMMITMENT, #515

"Hope of the World"

### \*BENEDICTION

### \*ALLELUIA

### \*POSTLUDE

(\*congregation stands)

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### MINISTERING TODAY

Pastor: Jody Lynn B. Hagans

Lay Leader: Deacon Jean Wickum

Organist: Mary Lou Lovell

Choir Director: Jim Stephenson

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### OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

MONDAY 7:00 Boy Scouts

WEDNESDAY 7:00 Choir

THURSDAY 12:00 Young at Heart

NEXT SUNDAY 12:00 Stewardship Luncheon

2:00 Board of Christian Education

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*On the glorious splendor of your majesty,  
and on your wondrous works, I will meditate.  
—Psalm 145:5*

**C**reation and life. New creation and new life. All are works of God that are wonderful to see.

Ivan Zachariev grew up in the Romany (Gypsy) suburb of Berkovica, Bulgaria. The city police knew him well, as his alcoholism led him from crime to crime. Then Ivan came to faith in Christ, and God made him a new creation. His family, his neighbors, and even the police saw the radical change in Ivan's life. Because of his testimony, others became Christians, and a Romany church began to develop. Ivan is pastor of that congregation, now the largest Baptist church in Bulgaria.

When the Orthodox mayor of Berkovica saw the dramatic changes taking place among the Romanies, he gave them permission to erect a church building and land on which to build it! His only condition was that they also erect a community bath. (Hygiene is difficult in this suburb of 4,000 residents where only 10 homes have bathrooms!) Ivan's church agreed to build the public bath with 12 showers and also got permission for a third building containing a kindergarten and a small medical and dental clinic for their community.

New creation and new life among the Romany in Europe!  
What wonderful works from the Lord!

*Reid Trulson  
Missionary, Europe  
International Ministries*



*I will meditate  
on your*

*wonderful  
works...*

# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

101 North Franklin Street  
Delaware, Ohio  
363-7021

The Rev. Jody Lynn B. Hagans, pastor

November 15, 1998

24<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost

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## ORDER OF WORSHIP

10:45 a.m.

### MEDITATION

"Sonata in C"

Adam Mowery

Mozart

"Prelude"

Bach

### ORGAN PRELUDE

"Trusting Jesus"

Kirkpatrick

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Laura Mowery

### INTROIT

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Adam Mowery

*O Give thanks to the Lord for He pours out His grace!*

The generations of saints have left their mark of love.

*Praise to God for creating their enduring faith,*

May we be filled today with a spiritual power which is linked to the ancestry of this church and God's ever-present love.

*We will sing and be thankful unto the Lord!*

We will be appreciative in our hearts and remember our God-given history.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

### \*HYMN OF PRAISE, #200

"The Church's One Foundation"

### \*INVOCATION

Barbara Lovell

### \*LORD'S PRAYER (Trespases)

### \*GLORIA PATRI #576

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen, Amen.

### STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

Randy Turner

## GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

Michael Maher

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory "Fairest of All"

Lewis

Response #572

Praise God the Source of life and birth.

Praise God the Word, who came to earth.

Praise God the Spirit, holy flame.

All glory, honor to God's name.

ANTHEM "Praise, O Praise Our God and King"

Smith

### CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Emilie Trigg

### \*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING, #326

"God of Our Life, through All the Circling Years"

### MORNING PRAYERS

Chrissy Hopkins

### SCRIPTURE LESSON

Hebrews 12:1-2

Dee-Dee Weakland

### MORNING MESSAGE

"A Journey Through Our Past:

The Faith History of our Sanctuary"

### \*HYMN OF COMMITMENT, #206

"Faith of Our Fathers"

### \*BENEDICTION

### \*ALLELUIA

### \*POSTLUDE

"The Joyful Trumpet"

Harris

(\*congregation stands)

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## MINISTERING TODAY

Pastor:

Jody Lynn B. Hagans

Lay Leader:

Deacon Jean Wickum

Organist:

Betty Porter

Choir Director:

Jim Stephenson

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## OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

TODAY

12:00

Stewardship Lunch

2:00

Board of Christian Education

MONDAY

7:00

Boy Scouts

WEDNESDAY

7:00

Choir

THURSDAY

7:00

A.B.W. Ministries

SATURDAY

8:30

Men's Breakfast

10:00

All-Church Work Day



*Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing  
what is right.*

*—2 Thessalonians 3:13*

**I**n the much-heralded final episode of the *Seinfeld* TV series, the four main characters are arrested under a new Good Samaritan law after they stand by and laugh while a man's car is stolen. Self-absorbed and insensitive, they land in jail for a year—and those of us who “get it” realize that the show is really a snickering commentary on this empty-headed quartet and their shallow lives.

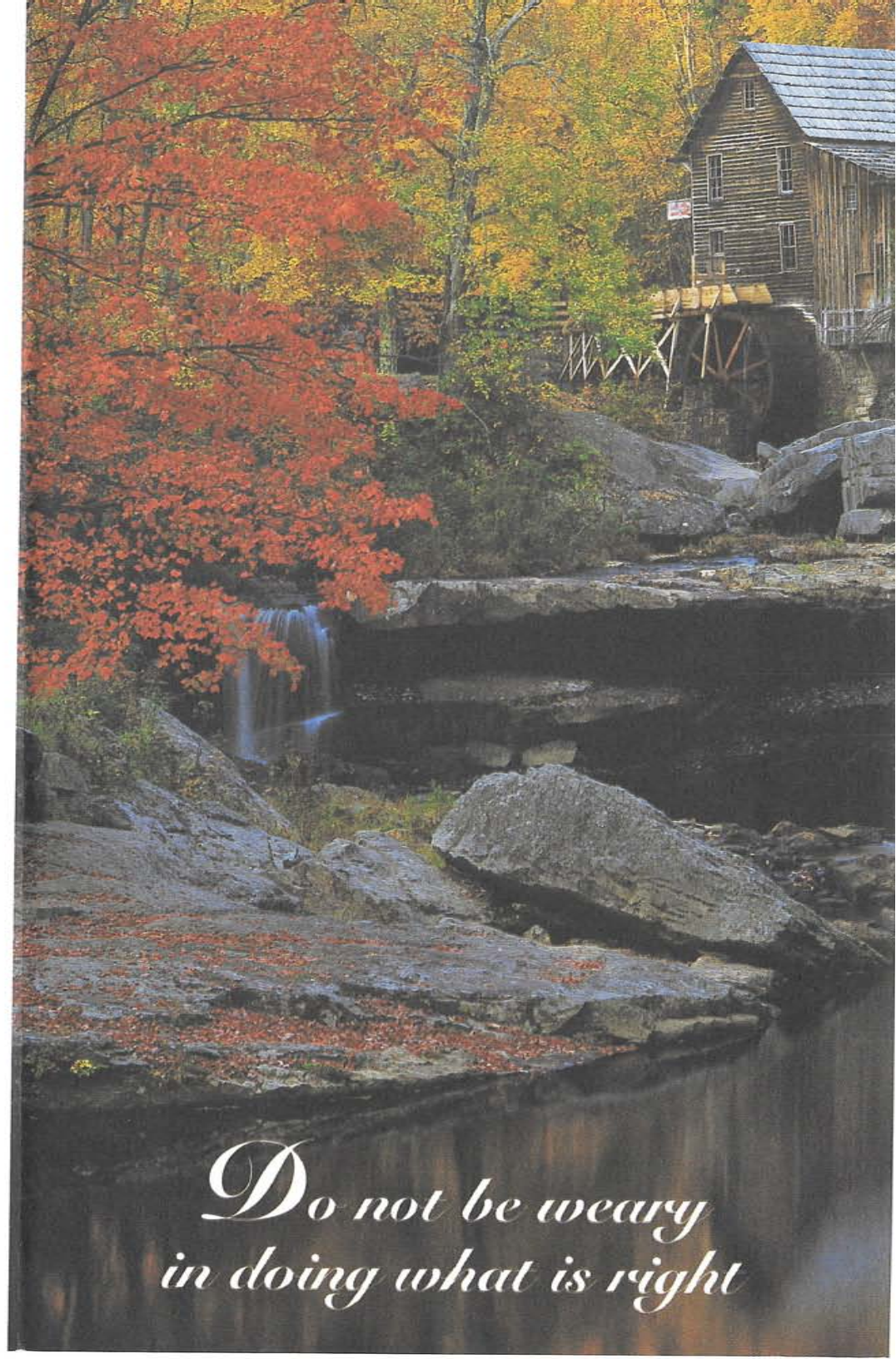
In contrast, in Los Angeles, John Hopkins runs a ministry that helps homeless men rebuild their lives, find jobs, and repair broken relationships. In Nebraska, “eighty-something” Vicki Sprock celebrates over sixty years of teaching Sunday school. In Wyoming, Does Mitchell stays up all night, riding with police to minister with domestic violence victims and their families.

Surely these dedicated American Baptists grow weary in such demanding ministries! In our own daily lives, we too grow weary, especially in a culture that often snickers at the notion of “doing what is right.” But, as always, God's Word has the answers. In Isaiah 40:31, we learn that we can depend on God for renewed strength and perseverance. In Jeremiah 31:25, God promises to satisfy the weary and replenish us when we grow faint. And in 1 Timothy 6, we are again reminded of God's strengthening power.

The radical truth of the gospel of Jesus Christ is that even in an immoral culture, God will give us what we need to “not be weary” in promoting his kingdom.

*Eleanor P. Lundy  
Associate Director of Communications  
Educational Ministries*

*The Board of Educational Ministries, ABC/USA, affirms and encourages those who serve faithfully in ministries of Christian education and discipleship. Educational Ministries supports Christian education in local churches with books, curriculum, devotional materials, national conferences, and other resources.*



*Do not be weary  
in doing what is right*



# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

101 North Franklin Street

Delaware, Ohio

363-7021

The Rev. Jody Lynn B. Hagans, pastor

November 22, 1998

Thanksgiving Sunday

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## ORDER OF WORSHIP

10:45 a.m.

### PRAYER OF MEDITATION

Great and good God, we want to give thanks to you meaningfully, substantively. When all is going well, words of thanks roll off our lips almost effortlessly—indeed, almost thoughtlessly. Help us in thinking about our reasons for thanksgiving, so gratitude to you may become an integral part of our lives. We desire to give thanks to you when life is difficult and demanding as well as when it is easy and rewarding. Help us with our gratitude, God, that we may thank you more. Amen.

**PRELUDE** "Harvest Fanfare"

*Martin*

"America the Beautiful"

*Smith*

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### INTROIT

### CALL TO WORSHIP

*Let us give thanks to God.*

We thank God, the source of all good.

*Let us praise God.*

We praise God, the source of bread—bread for the table and the bread of life.

### \*HYMN OF PRAISE, #20

"All People That on Earth Do Dwell"

### \*INVOCATION

\*LORD'S PRAYER (Trespases)

\*GLORIA PATRI #576

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen, Amen.

## LITANY OF DEDICATION (insert)

### GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory "It is Good to Give Thanks to the Lord" *Howell*

Response #572

Praise God the Source of life and birth.

Praise God the Word, who came to earth.

Praise God the Spirit, holy flame.

All glory, honor to God's name.

### ANTHEM

"We Gather Together"

*Kremser*

### CHILDREN'S MOMENT

### \*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING, #571

"Thanks to God for My Redeemer"

### MORNING PRAYERS

SCRIPTURE LESSON John 6:25-35

MORNING MESSAGE "Living Graciously in a Graceless World"

### \*HYMN OF COMMITMENT, #564

"Now Thank We All Our God"

### \*BENEDICTION

### \*ALLELUIA

\*POSTLUDE "Harvest Thanksgiving March"

*Calkin*

(\*congregation stands)

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### MINISTERING TODAY

Pastor: Jody Lynn B. Hagans

Lay Leader: Deacon Jean Wickum

Organist: Mary Lou Lovell

Choir Director: Jim Stephenson

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### OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

MONDAY 7:00 Boy Scouts

WEDNESDAY 7:00 Choir



## Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

*On April 9, 1997, Edin Balic, the 80,000th refugee to be resettled by American Baptists since 1948, arrived in the United States with his mother, Radmila, to be reunited with his father, Esad. Here, Esad Balic talks about the family's journey from war-torn Yugoslavia to life in a new country:*

People usually have one home country throughout their lives. That is where they grow up, learn, and meet happiness and sadness. Hopes are born and goals are achieved as time passes. Then something happens, and time stops and fades away. One tries to reach that unknown and hidden place that will bring back a normal life.

One of those disastrous eruptions ejected my family from normal life. I am Bosnian and my wife is Serbo-Croatian. The war determined our life path. We had to leave the already burning Yugoslavia because our nations were fighting each other. In the new-born countries, our multinational family was not welcome.

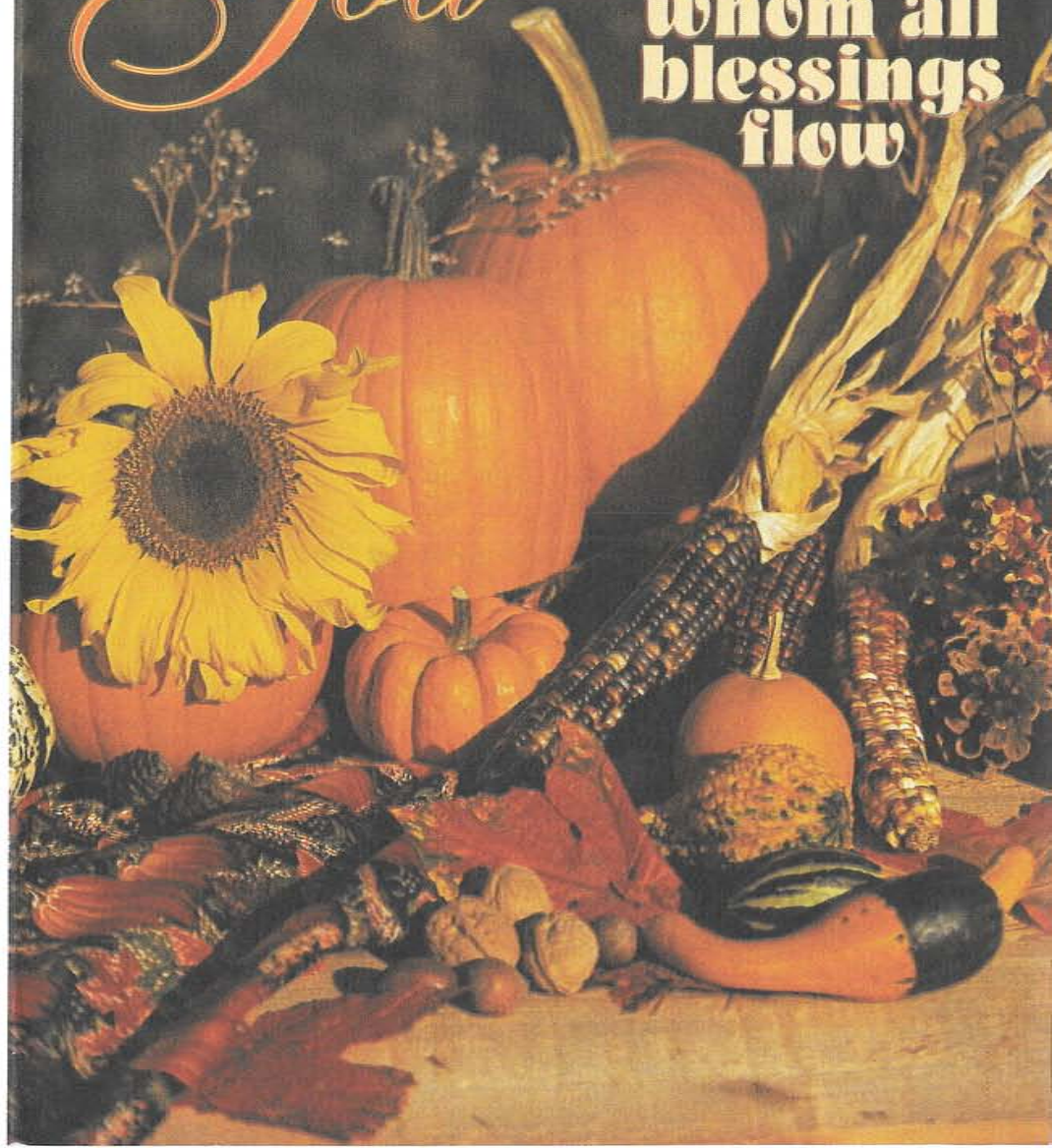
The United States became our new home. We knew that it is the home of many families like ours and a place where people are not judged by nationality and heritage.

I came first as a refugee. At my arrival, my strongest hopes were that I would finally reunite with my family. People at Emmanuel Baptist Church in Schenectady, N.Y., took over the sponsorship of my wife and son.

Now, everything is new, as we have been reborn. We deal with many difficulties. But we think that, in an inspiring environment, our hard work will help us to succeed in reaching a more normal way of living, making us useful members of American society. Many thanks to all those who have helped us and who are there for us.

*In 1998, American Baptists celebrate 50 years of refugee resettlement. Since the end of World War II, American Baptist congregations have offered a new home and hope for more than 81,400 refugees, fleeing war, famine, epidemics, and ethnic and religious persecution. For information about refugee sponsorship, call National Ministries' Office of Immigration and Refugee Services at 1-800-ABC-3USA, ext. 2450.*

*Praise  
God*  
**from  
whom all  
blessings  
flow**



# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

101 North Franklin Street

Delaware, Ohio

363-7021

The Rev. Jody Lynn B. Hagans, pastor

November 29, 1998

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent

## "HANGING OF THE GREENS"

### ORDER OF WORSHIP

10:45 a.m.

#### PRAYER OF MEDITATION

The Hanging of the Greens is a worship service. Coming at the beginning of Advent, it is meant to focus our eyes on the real meaning of Christmas. We hope to show that the decorations we use and the beautiful traditions we have are all meant to show us that "Jesus is the light of the world. Whoever follows Him will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life."

#### PRELUDE

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### INTROIT

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

#### \*HYMN OF PRAISE, #102

"Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"

#### ADVENT WREATH

Musical Blessing    Choir Anthem    "Come, O Come"    *Hughes*

#### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

#### GREENS & WREATHS

Musical Blessing    "The Holy and the Ivy"    *Peter White*

#### \*INVOCATION

\*LORD'S PRAYER (Trespases)

\*GLORIA PATRI #576

#### POINSETTIAS

Musical Blessing    "Lo How a Rose is Growing"

*Melissa Neill*

#### GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory

Response #572

Praise God the Source of life and birth.

Praise God the Word, who came to earth.

Praise God the Spirit, holy flame.

All glory, honor to God's name.

#### CHILDREN'S MOMENT

#### CHRISTMAS TREE

Musical Blessing    "O Christmas Tree"

*Randy Turner*

#### CANDLES & LIGHTS

Musical Blessing    "Bring A Torch"

*Tom Weakland*

#### \*HYMN OF COMMITMENT, #75

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

#### \*BENEDICTION

#### \*ALLELUIA

#### \*POSTLUDE

(\*congregation stands)

#### MINISTERING TODAY

Pastor:    Jody Lynn B. Hagans

Narrator:    Natalie Griffith

Organist:    Mary Lou Lovell

Choir Director:    Jim Stephenson

Decorating Team:    Alison & Joe Mowery

Mary Gillette & Chrissy Hopkins

#### OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

MONDAY    7:00    Boy Scouts

TUESDAY    7:00    Board of Deacons

WEDNESDAY    7:00    Choir

THURSDAY    10:00    Sewing Group



*"Take good care to observe the commandment and instruction that Moses the servant of the LORD commanded you, to love the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, to keep his commandments, and to hold fast to him, and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul."*

*—Joshua 22:5*

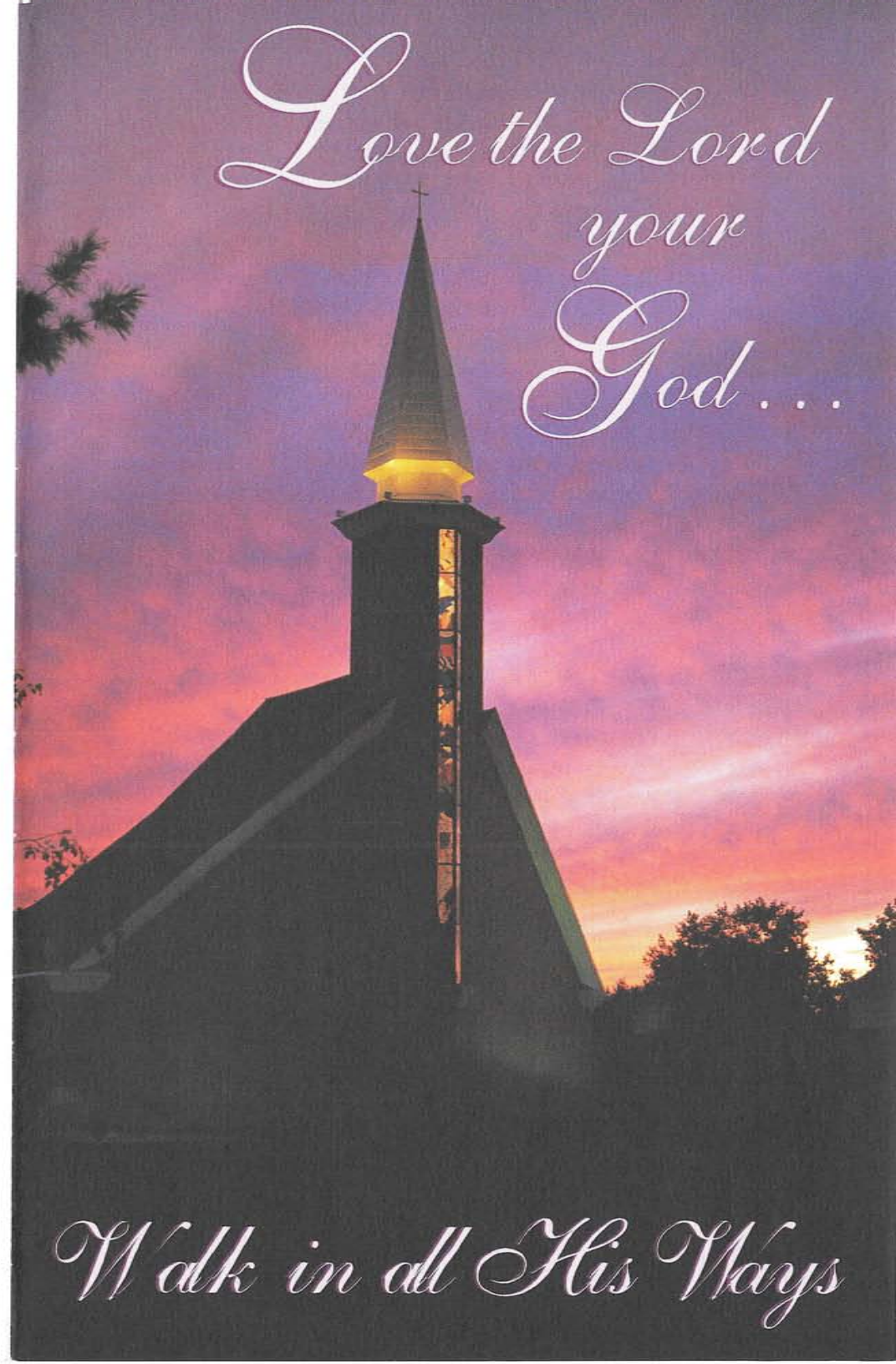
**I** am the American Baptist campus minister at the United Ministries Center in Terre Haute, Indiana. I like to imagine myself as an American Baptist missionary sent to the missionary post of Indiana State University, Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, and St. Mary-of-the-Woods College.

I was taught as a child that a Christian missionary is a person sent by a church or denomination to spread the Good News of the gospel of Jesus Christ. I always imagined missionaries going far away to exotic and strange lands. I have been on a number of college campuses lately, and there are times when I feel like I have gone far away to an exotic and strange land.

Institutions of higher education are a prime mission field. Students are involved in an intense time of learning and growing. They are exploring who they are and experimenting to find out who they want to become. They are learning how to make sense of the world around them and understand their own place in that world. Issues of faith and spirituality are vital, and students need guidance as they search for ways to integrate their faith with all they are learning and discovering. Students, faculty, and administrators need tangible reminders that God is indeed present on the campus working with and through them. Like all mission fields, college campuses are filled with people who desperately need to discover that the gospel of Jesus Christ is in fact good news.

As American Baptists, we have a long history of supporting our missionaries. I hope you will surround me and all the campus ministries with your prayers and support. After all, we are all on a mission together.

*Laurie Hearn McCall  
American Baptist Campus Minister  
Terre Haute, Indiana*





# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

101 North Franklin Street

Delaware, Ohio

363-7021

The Reverend Jody Lynn B. Hagans, pastor

December 6, 1998

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent

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## ORDER OF WORSHIP

10:45 a.m.

### PRELUDE

Welcome to First Baptist Church. We are glad to have you worshiping with us this morning. On this Communion Sunday, we invite all who believe in Christ to join us in our celebration at the table.

### PRAYER OF MEDITATION

God of Advent, we live in the promise that you will fulfill your will for earth. Yet nations are in chaos and our lives in turmoil. Gather us together to begin our watch for the coming of your Promised One. Lead us through the chaos by a watchful heeding spirit. In the name of the One who is to come, we pray. Amen.

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### INTROIT

### CALL TO WORSHIP

*The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.*

*The light shines even in the places where shadows touch our lives.*

*Rejoice, then, you people, for Christ's presence lives among us.*

*And brings light to our world.*

### \*HYMN OF PRAISE, #488

"Herald's of Christ"

### \*INVOCATION

### \*LORD'S PRAYER (Trespases)

### \*GLORIA PATRI #576

### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

### GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory

Response #572

Praise God the Source of life and birth.

Praise God the Word, who came to earth.

Praise God the Spirit, holy flame.

All glory, honor to God's name.

**ANTHEM** "Now Is Come Salvation & Strength"

### CHILDREN'S MOMENT

### \*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING, #16

"O Splendor of God's Glory Bright"

### MORNING PRAYERS

**SCRIPTURE LESSON** Isaiah 11:1-10

**MORNING MESSAGE** "The Sky Is Falling"

### FELLOWSHIP OFFERING

### \*HYMN OF COMMITMENT, #101

"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"

### HOLY COMMUNION

**\*FELLOWSHIP CIRCLE** "Blest Be the Tie That Binds" #207

### \*BENEDICTION

### \*POSTLUDE

(\*congregation stands)

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### MINISTERING TODAY

Pastor: Jody Lynn B. Hagans

Lay Leader: Deacon Jean Wickum

Choir Director: Jim Stephenson

Organist: Mary Lou Lovell

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### OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

MONDAY	7:00	Boy Scouts
	7:00	Delaware Piecemakers Christmas Party
WEDNESDAY	6:00	Christmas Program Rehearsal
	7:00	Choir
THURSDAY	12:00	Young at Heart



## POINSETTIA DEDICATIONS

The following persons purchased poinsettias to decorate our church during Advent:

Florence Faulk, in memory of Don Faulk

Geneva Evans, in memory of Ernestine Frost

Betty Porter, in memory of Jim (Bill) Porter

Carol Fogle, in memory of Willard Fogle, and Merry Christmas to Vic and Debbie

Cynthia Bland, in memory of Mr. and Mrs. W.J. Cheek (her maternal grandparents), and Rena Cheek Bland (her mother)

Ray Biggar, in memory of Robert & Grace Biggar (his parents)

Jean Wickum, in memory of Wilbur Wickum & Martha Moffett

Shirley Parker, in memory of Dr. George Parker

Archie and Beth Trigg, in memory of Archie and Mary Catherine Trigg

Lynn and Sue Elfner, in memory of Mary Elfner

Jack Smith, in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Alden Smith

The Stephenson family, in memory of Rev. James B. Stephenson

In memory of Dick Lee, from Evelyn Lee and the Lee family

In memory of Charles and Ruth Brown and Fred Grubbs Sr., by their children and grandchildren

\*If this list contains any errors or omissions, please tell the pastor so it can be corrected\*

## BIBLE STUDY SURVEY

Please assist the pastor and the board of Deacons by filling out this brief survey:

I am currently interested in participating in some type of Bible Study? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

If yes, please fill out the rest of this survey.

What type of Bible study would best fit your needs?

[Please check your choice(s)]

\_\_\_\_\_ An extensive Bible study  
Disciple I: Becoming Disciples Through Bible Study  
or Disciple II: Into the Word, Into the World (only for those who have completed Disciple I)  
\*These studies involve extensive preparation time each day and last for 32-24 weeks.  
\*The cost is approximately \$2/person each week.

\_\_\_\_\_ A study book  
On specific topics such as Living Prayer, Fruits of the Spirit, etc..  
\*These studies last for 6-8 weeks.  
\*Each of these study books cost about \$10.00.

The best time for a Bible Study is:

\_\_\_\_\_ Daytime; which day \_\_\_\_\_  
Time \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Evenings; which day \_\_\_\_\_  
Time \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Weekends; which day \_\_\_\_\_  
Time \_\_\_\_\_



## PRAYER CONCERNS

Our SHUT-INS and those in NURSING HOMES:

HELEN BAKER, at home; EDITH HALL, at home; ELIZABETH HEIZER, at home with her daughter; LOLA JACKSON, at home; FRANCES JOHNSON, at Wintersong Village Nursing Facility; and CAROLYN SCHNEEBERGER, at the Sarah Moore Home.

Those in need of our PRAYERS include:

PAUL ALLEN; LAURA ANDERSSON; BONNIE ARMSTRONG, Sue Elfner's cousin; TOBY AUGDON; LYNN BLACKLAND; JOE & JEAN BROWER & daughter DARLENE; KEN BROWN, Carol Grubbs' nephew; LAVERNE CRUMPET; the CUMMINS Family; BOB CURTS; DAVID CYRUS; SHANNON DE'LASSANJRO, Jean Wickum's granddaughter; MICHAEL DUFFY; the EDDY Family; RAY GILLETTE; BOBBY GUET; JOHN HASTY, Flo Faulk's nephew; the HOLT Family; CHRISSY HOPKINS; CHARMAIN & RICK HOWELL; DEWEY HUGHES, Tammy Francis' grandfather; MARY HUNTER; DEBBIE HELD, Bernice Turney's niece; JEANETTE JONES; DARREN KERNS, Alex Bennett's friend; BOB KURTZ; JANET LATHROP; JOYCE LEVERING; JOHN & ANNE LINN; the LUCAS Family; LUCAS MARTIN, 3 year old on dialysis; DENVER & DOROTHY MCGHEE, Shannon Weakland's parents; AMY MCGREW; RAY MORBY, Mary Lou Lovell's father; RANDY MORBY, Mary Lou Lovell's brother; the MURDAY Family; SUSAN MUSSARD; the NOLIN Family; the PERRY Family; JOHN RILEY & Family; LUCY RINEHART, Archie Trigg's aunt; JEANETTE SCHAEFER; MARY SEALY; NINA SELTZER; DIANE SHOAF; DAN SILVEOUS & Family; CHERYL SPANGLER; SHARON STEVENS, friend of the Weakland's; JUDY TARELLTON; BETTY TOTTEN; BERNICE TURNEY; RICK URGHART; BERTHA VAN BRIMMER; TINA WAGNER, friend of Liz Hopkins; GREG WALKER; LINDA & PETER WHITE.

Those in COLLEGE or AWAY AT COLLEGE include: ERIN FAULK, at Hope College, Holland Michigan; MATTHEW LOVELL at O.S.U.; NATALIE MOWERY at O.S.U.; MARCI SANDER at O.S.U.; SHANNON & MICAH STONER at DeVry Institute of Technology; KAREN STONER, at Methodist Theological School in Ohio; and JENNA WEAKLAND, at Bowling Green State University.

Those in the MILITARY include:

VICTOR & DEBBIE FOGLE, in the Marines; ED & JENNIFER LINN, in the Air Force.



*"I will get up and go to my father. . ."*  
—Luke 15:18

**My strength renew, my hope restore,  
Lord I'm coming home.**

**T**he setting for this passage is Jesus fellowshiping with tax collectors and sinners. The ever-present pharisees were complaining about Jesus welcoming and eating with persons whom the pharisees considered hopelessly outside the circle of the faithful. In answer, Jesus tells the parable we call the story of the prodigal son.

It may be difficult for most of us to relate properly to this story. We see it as a story about others, who we classify as "prodigals," and about us, who we see in the role of the righteous elder brother (although we probably would never picture ourselves acting as insensitively as he did). We often fall into the same trap as the elder brother and the pharisees—thinking that we have somehow earned God's love through our actions.

The other way to look at this story is to see ourselves in the role of the prodigal son, completely at the mercy of God's grace. Most of us do not see ourselves as sinners on the same scale as the prodigal son. Yet, in God's eyes we are all sinners in need of grace. It is easy for us to see the speck in someone else's eye but miss the log in our own eye (Matthew 7:4). We are all prodigals. We are all sinners. We are all dependent on the grace of God.

As Christmas fast approaches, let us be thankful that Jesus came to this world to save sinners, and let us remember that we are all among those needing his grace. The Christmas story is not only a birth story; more importantly, it is a story that holds the possibility of rebirth.

*Arthur Munson  
Associate Director of Human Resource Development  
Educational Ministries  
International Ministries  
Office of the General Secretary*

*My strength renew,  
my hope restore,  
**LORD**  
I'm coming home*





# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

101 North Franklin Street

Delaware, Ohio

363-7021

The Rev. Jody Lynn B. Hagans, pastor

December 13, 1998

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

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## ORDER OF WORSHIP

10:45 a.m.

### PRAYER OF MEDITATION

Gracious God, we hear the promise of the coming of Jesus into a manger and into our hearts and homes. Bless our Advent waiting; fill our worship with anticipation of your love; and dedicate us to prepare your way by lifting up the valleys in our lives and making smooth the rough places of others. For we pray in the name of Emmanuel—God with us. Amen.

### PRELUDE

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### INTROIT

### CALL TO WORSHIP

*The advent of Christ is near.*

Let us be patient.

*Christ is coming soon.*

God, strengthen our hearts for the arrival of Christ.

### \*HYMN OF PRAISE, #100

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

### \*INVOCATION

### \*LORD'S PRAYER (Trespases)

### \*GLORIA PATRI #576

### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

### GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory

Response #572

Praise God the Source of life and birth.  
Praise God the Word, who came to earth.  
Praise God the Spirit, holy flame.  
All glory, honor to God's name.

### ANTHEM

"Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers!"

Smith

### CHILDREN'S MOMENT

### \*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING (Insert)

"O Promised One of Israel"

### MORNING PRAYERS

SCRIPTURE LESSON James 5:7-10

MORNING MESSAGE "Patience IS a Virtue"

### \*HYMN OF COMMITMENT, #405

"Come, Come, Ye Saints"

### \*BENEDICTION

### \*ALLELUIA

### \* POSTLUDE

(\*congregation stands)

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### MINISTERING TODAY

Pastor: Jody Lynn B. Hagans

Lay Leader: Deacon Beth Trigg

Organist: Mary Lou Lovell

Choir Director: Jim Stephenson

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### OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

MONDAY	7:00	Boy Scouts
TUESDAY	7:00	Board of Christian Education
WEDNESDAY	6:00	Christmas Program Rehearsal
	7:00	Choir
THURSDAY	2:00	A.B.W. Ministries
SATURDAY	8:30	Men's Breakfast

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*Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near.*

*—James 5:8*

Years ago a youth group from Trinity Baptist Church in Marion, Ohio, worked hard with many fund-raising projects to pay their expenses on a mission trip to Neighborhood Ministries. Their goal was to live out their faith in relationship with the children at our Kirwan Center, using a vacation Bible school (VBS) program as their tool. These young people exhibited a strong sense of mission. At the VBS closing program, the youth group shared hugs, smiles, and tears.

Thom Shumate, then serving as youth pastor of Trinity Baptist, has spoken of his first contact with public housing children when he and the mission group visited Neighborhood Ministries. His ability to relate to teenagers, his song writing, and his guitar playing and singing made him popular with the youngsters.

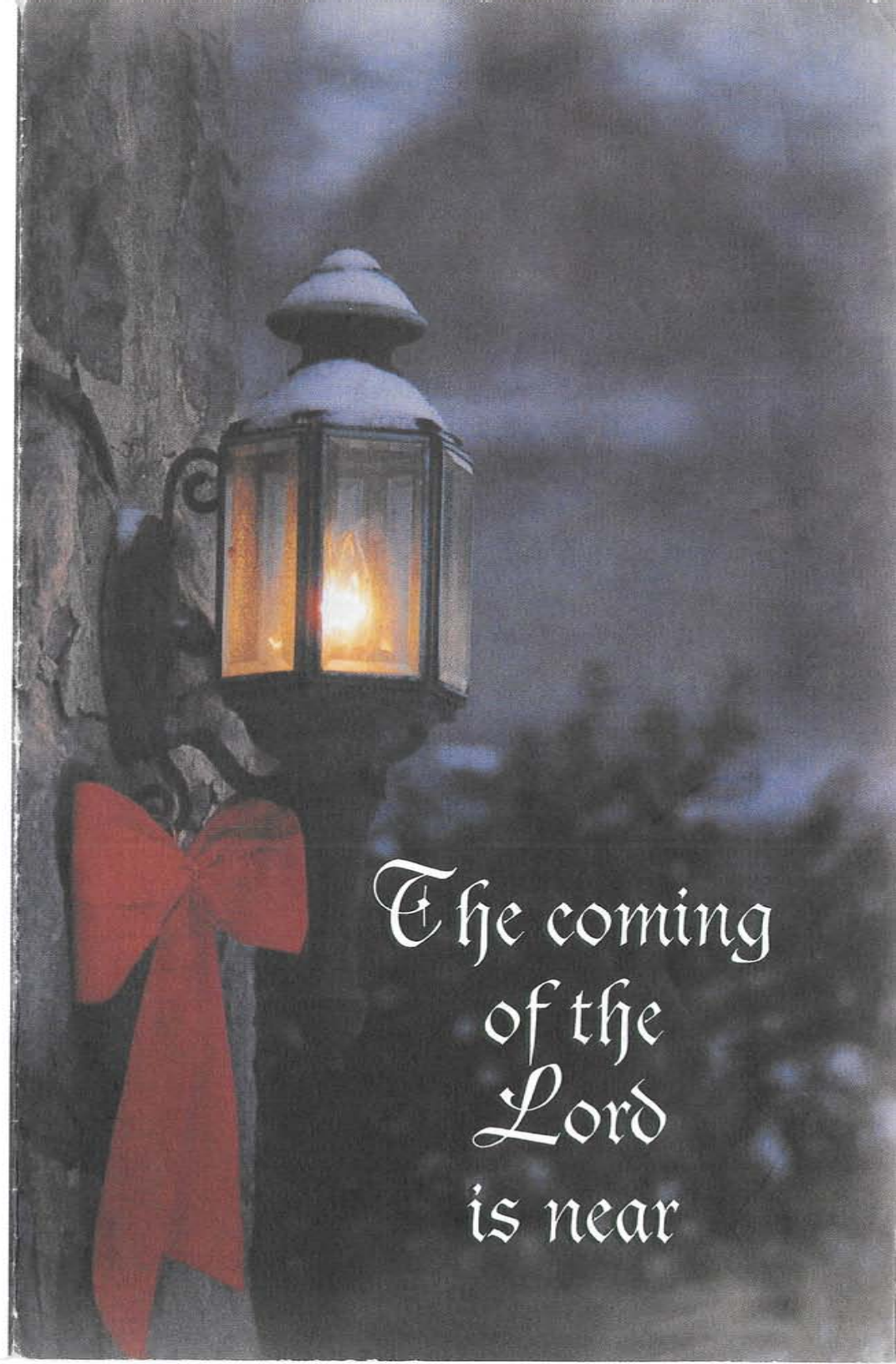
Last year I had the opportunity to catch up with Thom when he performed in concert. During the evening program, Thom shared some of his faith walk in recent years. Even when finances were tight, God led Thom and his wife to prayerfully consider a ministry with children living in a federally funded housing development.

What a blessing it was to hear Thom, to sense his passion for the children, and to realize that the impact of a youth mission trip is still unfolding.

Praise God for the wonderful way he does things: Entering human history as a baby and growing in obscurity for 30 years. Teaching, healing, and building relationships with others. Enduring attacks, plots, a trial, and execution on a cross. Fulfilling the prophecy of Isaiah 53. Appearing in triumph over sin and death. Promising an eternal home to the faithful, and empowering persons of faith with the indwelling Holy Spirit. Praise God!

*The Reverend David Stone  
American Baptist Home Missionary and  
Executive Director of Neighborhood Ministries  
Campbell, Ohio*

*Neighborhood Ministries is related to the Neighborhood Action Program of National Ministries and is supported by American Baptists through United Mission and America for Christ gifts.*



*The coming  
of the  
Lord  
is near*

# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

December 20, 1998

7:00 p.m.

## MARY REMEMBERS

Mary, the mother of Jesus, had many memories that "she treasured in her heart" (Luke 2:51). In this drama, we meet both the young Mary and the older Mary, who remembers and tells once more the wondrous story of how Jesus was born.

**CONGREGATION SINGS, #103** "O Come all Ye Faithful"

### PROLOGUE

Older Mary talking with children

Older Mary: Pam Faulk

Children: Melissa Gillette, Ashley Francis, Ned Weakland  
and Jami Riedmiller

**CHOIR:** "Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord"

*Shovic*

### SCENE 1

Mary and the Angel

Mary: Chrissy Hopkins

Angel: Barbara Lovell

**CONGREGATION SINGS, #102** "Come Thou Long Expected Jesus"

Older Mary and Children

### SCENE 2

Joseph and the Angel

Joseph: Michael Maher

**CONGREGATION SINGS, #104** "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear"

### SCENE 3

Mary and Joseph on the road to Bethlehem

Choir: "Once to us a Child Was Born"

Older Mary

Primary Choir: "Good News to Tell"

### SCENE 4

Mary and Joseph with baby Jesus

Laura Mowery & Emilie Trigg

"Silent Night"

Reader 1: Laura Mowery

Primary & Preschool Choir: "Away in the Manger"

Solo: Calvin Turner

Ashley Francis

### SCENE 5

Shepherds and Angels

Choir: "While Shepherds Watched"

Shepherds: Calvin Turner and Britt Yant

Reader 2: Natalie Griffith and the Angel

Reader 3: Dee Dee Weakland

Angels: Katie Griffith, Jenny Beth Grubbs and Arianna Yant

Choir: "Angels We Have Heard on High"

Solo: Ashley Francis

Dee Dee Weakland

Katie Riedmiller

Chrissy Hopkins

Choir: "Go Tell it On the Mountain"

Solo: Calvin Turner

Katie Riedmiller

Michael Maher, Adam Mowery

Older Mary

Choir: "Now the Kings are Coming"

Kings: Adam Mowery, Kit Weakland

Reader 4: Katie Riedmiller

**CONGREGATION SINGS, #114** "As With Gladness Men of Old"  
(Verse 1 & 2)

Older Mary and Children

**CONGREGATION, #120** "Joy to the World"



## THE CAST

**Older Mary:** Pam Faulk

**Younger Mary:** Chrissy Hopkins

**Joseph:** Michael Maher

**Angel:** Barbara Lovell

**Children:** Ashley Francis, Melissa Gillette, Jami Riedmiller  
and Ned Weakland

**Readers:** Laura Mowery, Natalie Griffith, Dee Dee Weakland  
and Katie Riedmiller

**Angels:** Katie Griffith, Jenny Beth Grubbs and Arianna Yant

**Shepherds:** Calvin Turner & Britt Yant

**Kings:** Adam Mowery, Kit Weakland

**Choir Members:** Holly

**Primary & Preschool Choir:** Michael Mercer, Ben Turner,  
Mariah Bennett, Yonica Bennett, Arianna Yant, Calvin Turner,  
Jenny Beth Grubbs, & Katie Griffith

## BEHIND THE SCENES:

**Director & Pianist:** Mary Lou Lovell

**Costumes, Lights & Program:** Jody Lynn B. Hagans

**Assistant:** Carol Grubbs

\*\*\*A special thank you to all the parents for bringing the children youth  
to the rehearsals and for all your support\*\*\*



For to us  
a child  
is born....

Isaiah 9:6

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**

101 North Franklin Street

Delaware, Ohio

363-7021

The Rev. Jody Lynn B. Hagans, pastor

December 20, 1998

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

10:45 a.m.

**PRAYER OF MEDITATION**

O God, at this time each year, we remind ourselves that you have come and continue coming into our lives. You shatter reasoned expectations, give wonder and awe, and fulfill promises little understood. Watching and waiting, we pray, hasten the day! Amen.

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**INTROIT**

**CALL TO WORSHIP** (in unison)

Let us rejoice in God our Savior,  
who has done great things for us,  
who fills the hungry with good things!  
Let us open ourselves to the Spirit of life and new birth!  
Let us worship God!

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE, #121**

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

**\*INVOCATION**

**\*LORD'S PRAYER** (Trespases)

**\*GLORIA PATRI #576**

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE**

**GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS**

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory

Response #572

Praise God the Source of life and birth.

Praise God the Word, who came to earth.

Praise God the Spirit, holy flame.

All glory, honor to God's name.

**ANTHEM** "Sing Glory Hallelujah"

*Long*

**CHILDREN'S MOMENT**

**\*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING** (Insert)

"Is Every Time a Threshold Time?"

**MORNING PRAYERS**

**SCRIPTURE LESSON** Matthew 1:18-25

**MORNING MESSAGE** "Its a Baby!"

**\*HYMN OF COMMITMENT, #109**

"Once In David's Royal City"

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*ALLELUIA**

**\* POSTLUDE**

(\*congregation stands)

**MINISTERING TODAY**

Pastor: Jody Lynn B. Hagans  
Lay Leader: Deacon Beth Trigg  
Organist: Mary Lou Lovell  
Choir Director: Jim Stephenson

**OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK**

TODAY	7:00	Christmas Program
		Reception, SAF Revealing
MONDAY	7:00	Boy Scouts
WEDNESDAY	7:00	Choir
THURSDAY	6:45	Instrumental Preludes
	7:00	Christmas Eve Candlelight
		Communion Service



# Is Every Time a Threshold Time?

1 Is ev - ery time a thresh - old time? A time of ea - ger yearn - ing?  
2 Can all this dark, by can - dle spark, Be bright as noon - time glad - ness?  
3 Ah yes! the prom - ised Sav - ior comes All fear and death to ban - ish,  
4 So wait and pray this ho - ly day. God gives us hope to cheer us,

When One fore - told by seers of old Is com - ing or re - turn - ing?  
Can shad - owed night be turned to light Dis - pel - ling earth - bound sad - ness?  
And to the heart, truth to im - part, Till all de - ceit shall van - ish.  
For in the Christ God's love suf - ficed; The Sav - ior's al - ways near us.

Jane Parker Huber, 1985

Words © 1986 Jane Parker Huber

LAMBETH CM  
Wilhelm A. F. Schulthes, 1871

## PRAYER CONCERNS

Our SHUT-INS and those in NURSING HOMES:

HELEN BAKER, at home; EDITH HALL, at home; ELIZABETH HEIZER, at home with her daughter; LOLA JACKSON, at home; FRANCES JOHNSON, at Wintersong Village Nursing Facility; and CAROLYN SCHNEEBERGER, at the Sarah Moore Home.

Those in need of our PRAYERS include:

PAUL ALLEN; LAURA ANDERSSON; BONNIE ARMSTRONG, Sue Elfner's cousin; TOBY AUGDON; LYNN BLACKLAND; JOE & JEAN BROWER & daughter DARLENE; KEN BROWN, Carol Grubbs' nephew; LAVERNE CRUMPET; the CUMMINS Family; BOB CURTS; DAVID CYRUS; SHANNON DE'LISSANJRO, Jean Wickum's granddaughter; MICHAEL DUFFY; the EDDY Family; RAY GILLETTE; BOBBY GUET; JOHN HASTY, Flo Faulk's nephew; the HOLT Family; CHRISSY HOPKINS; CHARMAIN & RICK HOWELL; DEWEY HUGHES, Tammy Francis' grandfather; MARY HUNTER; DEBBIE HELD, Bernice Turney's niece; JEANETTE JONES; DARREN KERNS, Alex Bennett's friend; BOB KURTZ; JANET LATHROP; JOYCE LEVERING; JOHN & ANNE LINN; the LUCAS Family; LUCAS MARTIN, 3 year old on dialysis; DENVER & DOROTHY MCGHEE, Shannon Weakland's parents; AMY MCGREW; RAY MORBY, Mary Lou Lovell's father; RANDY MORBY, Mary Lou Lovell's brother; the MURDAY Family; SUSAN MUSSARD; JACKIE NELSON, friend of the Mercers; the NOLIN Family; the PERRY Family; JOHN RILEY & Family; JEANETTE SCHAEFER; MARY SEALY; NINA SELTZER; DIANE SHOAF; DAN SILVEOUS & Family; CHERYL SPANGLER; SHARON STEVENS, friend of the Weakland's; JUDY TARELLTON; BERNICE TURNEY; RICK URGHART; BERTHA VAN BRIMMER; TINA WAGNER, friend of Liz Hopkins; GREG WALKER and THELMA WARD.

Those in COLLEGE or AWAY AT COLLEGE include: ERIN FAULK, at Hope College, Holland Michigan; MATTHEW LOVELL at O.S.U.; NATALIE MOWERY at O.S.U.; MARCI SANDER at O.S.U.; SHANNON & MICAH STONER at DeVry Institute of Technology; KAREN STONER, at Methodist Theological School in Ohio; and JENNA WEAKLAND, at Bowling Green State University.

Those in the MILITARY include:

VICTOR & DEBBIE FOGLE, in the Marines; ED & JENNIFER LINN, in the Air Force.



*But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,  
who are one of the little clans of Judah,  
from you shall come forth for me  
one who is to rule in Israel,  
whose origin is from of old,  
from ancient days.*

*—Micah 5:2*

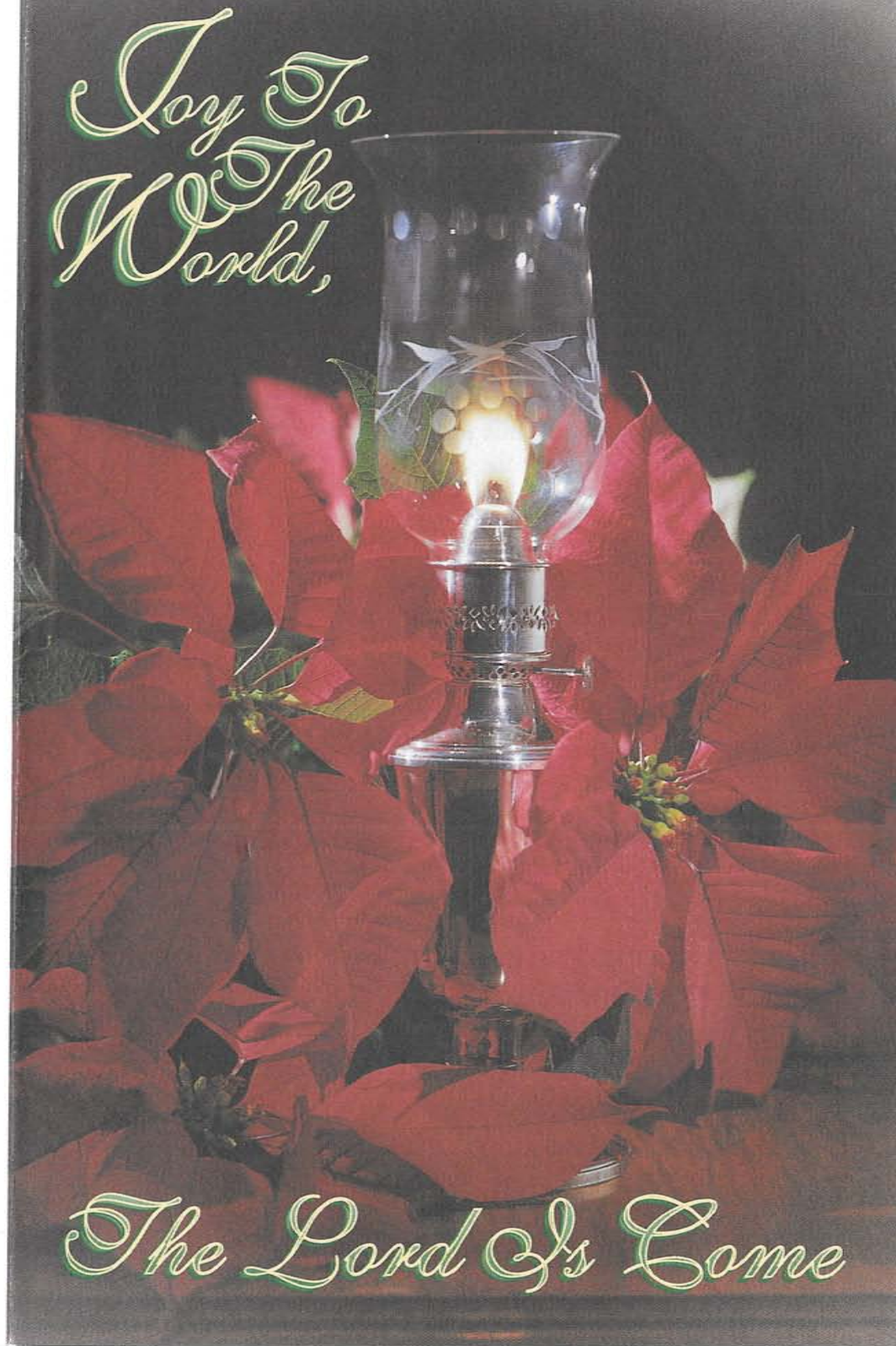
**B**ethlehem and Ephrathah. Small town. Little clan. Yet God worked through them to bless the whole world with the birth of Jesus, our Savior and Lord.

God often works through those who seem small and isolated from power. Consider the little island of Malta (Acts 27, 28) where today four small Baptist churches share Christ with their neighbors and strangers.

One such stranger was Ali (not his real name) from North Africa. Although he grew up a devout Muslim, Ali found no peace in that faith. "When I lived by my heart," he said, "I had many problems. So I thought I would have to take out my heart and throw it away. But after coming to Malta, I met some people who were different than any I had ever known. They loved me and were interested in me, even though I was a stranger to them. I wondered why they were so different. Then I found they had one thing in common. They all loved Jesus. I had heard of Jesus from the Koran, but since coming to worship at the Baptist church, I have learned much more about him. Now I can say that I also like Jesus."

Small island. Little church. One person. Yet God is at work to bless North Africa and the world!

*Reid Trulson  
Missionary, Europe  
International Ministries*





**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**

101 North Franklin Street

Delaware, Ohio

363-7021

The Rev. Jody Lynn B. Hagans, pastor

December 27, 1998

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Christmas

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**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

10:45 a.m.

**PRAYER OF MEDITATION**

Giver of gifts, amid the tall tinselled trees your light breaks through to the world. We hear that you have come to us in love and in flesh. Speak to us anew of that eternal love which reaches out to us in the birth of Jesus. Amen.

**PRELUDE** "Christmas Carol Medley"

*Hughes*

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**INTROIT**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Let us sing praise to the God of all creation.*

Let us sing praise to the Spirit who gives life to all.

*Let us sing praise to Jesus Christ, in whom the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,*

That everything and everyone in all creation might be reunited with God through Christ.

ALL: We sing with the faithful through the world!

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE, #103**

"O Come All Ye Faithful"

**\*INVOCATION**

**\*LORD'S PRAYER** (Trespases)

**\*GLORIA PATRI #576**

**GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS**

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory "Coventry Carol" *Traditional English Melody*

Response #572

Praise God the Source of life and birth.

Praise God the Word, who came to earth.

Praise God the Spirit, holy flame.

All glory, honor to God's name.

**ANTHEM** "Shepherds in the Field"

**CHILDREN'S MOMENT**

**\*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING, #113**

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

**MORNING PRAYERS**

**SCRIPTURE LESSON** Psalm 139:1-12

**MORNING MESSAGE** "A Waiting God for a Weary World"

**\*HYMN OF COMMITMENT, #122**

"Of the Father's Love Begotten"

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*ALLELUIA**

**\* POSTLUDE** "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" *Mendelssohn*

(\*congregation stands)

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**MINISTERING TODAY**

Guest Preacher: The Rev. Kenneth Peterson

Lay Leader: Deacon Beth Trigg

Organist: Mary Lou Lovell

Choir Director: Jim Stephenson

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**OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK**

MONDAY 7:00 Boy Scouts

WEDNESDAY 7:00 Choir

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Pastor Hagans will be on vacation through January 1. If you have any pastoral need or emergency, please call your watchcare deacon.



*From there you will seek the LORD your God, and you will find him if you search after him with all your heart and soul.*

*—Deuteronomy 4:29*

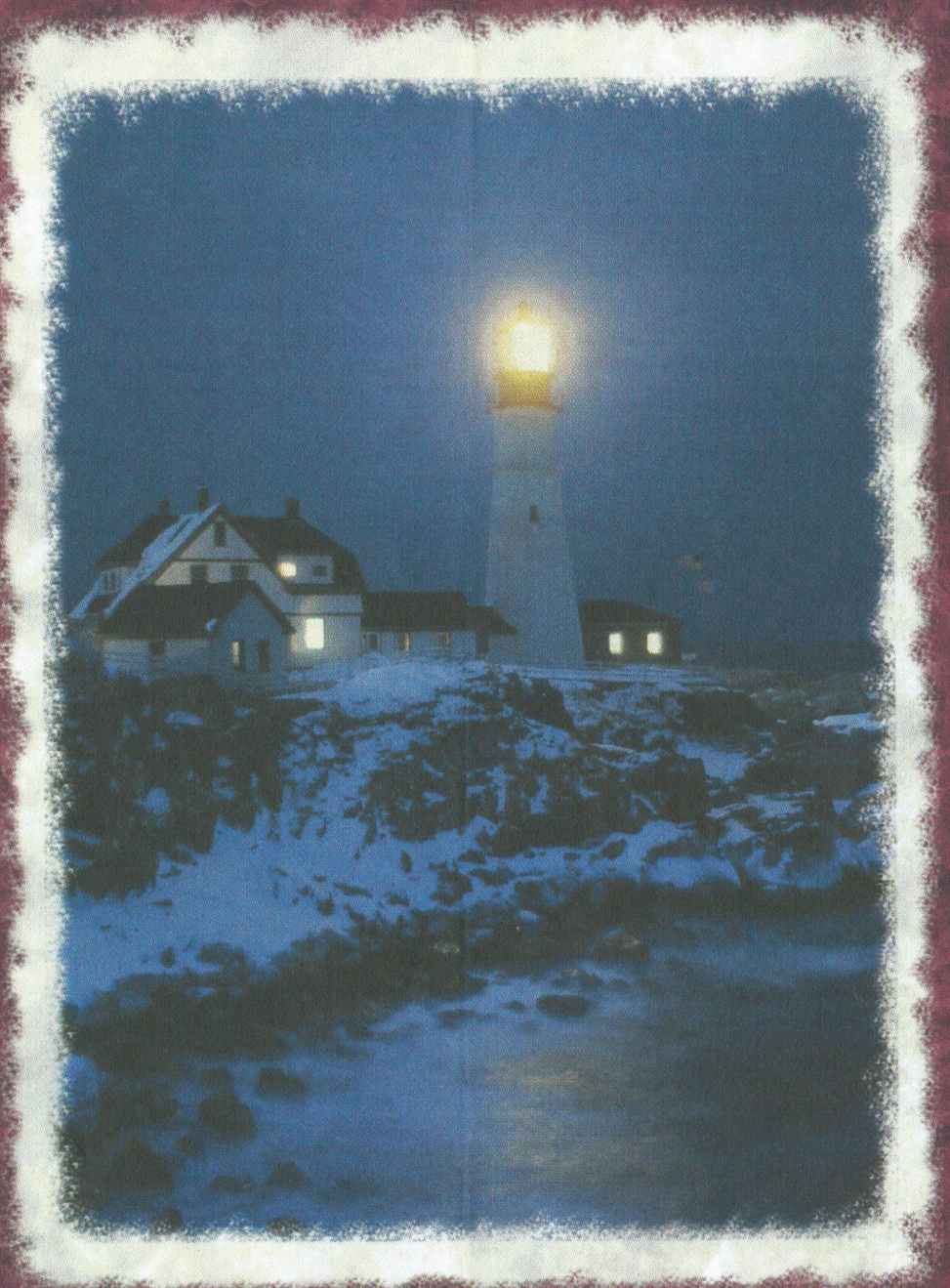
## Student Recognition Sunday

American Baptist congregations nationwide identify this Sunday as a time to celebrate the presence of students who are home for the holidays. As you look around your congregation this morning, you may recognize persons who have been away at colleges, universities, graduate schools, and seminaries. Other students, who live at home and never left town to “go away to school,” are also enjoying the hiatus from classes and exams and papers. It is good to recognize our students and to renew friendships with them.

In one sense we are *all* students. Throughout our lives, we are constantly learning. My church community has been an important place where learning happens. My earliest awareness of God sprang from stories and songs of the Bible and Jesus’ love. The care modeled by teachers and pastors gave me a glimpse of God’s care for me. My understanding about being a disciple of Christ expanded as I watched persons talk about and live their faith outside of the church walls—in their work places, their relationships, and their neighborhoods and communities. Church congregations nurture and challenge me, and will continue to help me to grow in my relationship with Christ all the days of my life.

Look around you once again. Every person is a learner, a student on a lifelong journey toward God. The writer of Deuteronomy assures those who seek the Lord God, “you will find him if you search after him with all your heart and soul” (Deuteronomy 5:29). Today celebrate those who have taught and encouraged you—a student of faith—in your spiritual growth. Consider the ways in which you can be a beacon to others by word and deed. Prayerfully commit yourself to a lifetime of growing in the Lord.

*Virginia R. Holmstrom  
Director of Communications  
Educational Ministries*



# SEEK THE LORD YOUR GOD