

Good News Letter

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Dear FBC family:

Sometimes in other church newsletters I see a section entitled, "Did You Know?". We don't have such a section, but I would like to have one for this month.

Did you know...

that in addition to his scholarship from METHESCO, Sam Chesser has received scholarship aid from:

- *the First Baptist Church educational endowment*
- *the Marion Baptist Association, and*
- *the Ohio Baptist Educational Society*

We are thankful to the Reverend Jane Gibbons for that last one. She encouraged Sam to apply and shepherded him through the process.

American Baptists have a long history of encouraging seminary trained pastors. We are thankful for the help for one of our own.

As the church year transitions from Thanksgiving to Advent I encourage you to be in worship during this joyful season. As we hear the messages of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love may our hearts be full of the reconciling grace of God. Every Sunday is an opportunity to come together to bear witness to our Lord.

Our December 12 service will be

marked by a Joy that extends beyond the Advent theme of that week. Ed and Angie Burton will bring their daughter, Olivia, to our sanctuary of the Lord for dedication. Check elsewhere in this newsletter for other details about that day.

The young people of the church will be bringing the message on December 19 with their annual Christmas program.

As always we will gather on Christmas Eve for our traditional Candlelight Communion service. This is always one of the high points of our year. Invite

your friends and family early.

As the year draws to a close let us give thanks for the past year. Pray for a spirit of understanding and reconciliation during this Christmas season.

Your Pastor,



Happy Birthday!

On December 19th, during the first part of Sunday School, we will have our birthday party for Jesus

with cake, cupcakes and punch.

The Senior High class will make the presentation of the cake with symbols and meanings.

Please mark your calendar and join us!

– *Board of Education*

Children to Present Musical

This year's musical is "Getting Ready for the Miracle" by Linda Rebeck and music by Tom Fettke, and we are getting ready for you! Come join us on Sunday, December 19 during morning worship to see the youth of the church who have been working hard to give this gift to you!

Thank You

The board of deacons would like to thank everyone who contributed Christmas gifts for the four children that we sponsored through Jobs and Family Services.

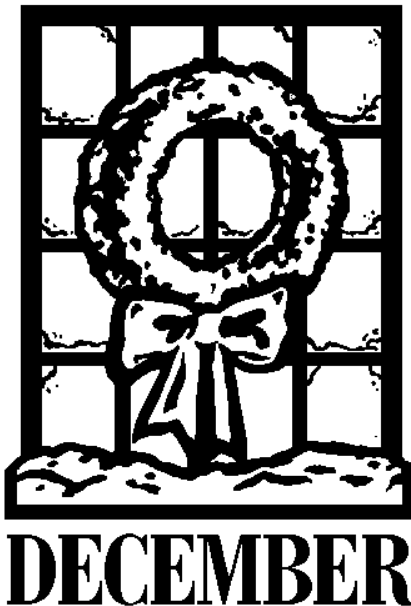
– *Larry Faulk*
Board of Deacons

Next Month's Newsletter

Our January newsletter will publish one week later than our usual schedule (because I don't want to work on it during Christmas week).

Articles will be due on Sunday, Dec. 26, and the newsletter will be available on Sunday, January 2.

– *Jim Stephenson, editor*



Join Us for Christmas Caroling

Everyone is invited to join us for our annual Christmas caroling on Sunday, December 12. We'll meet at the church at 6:30 PM and will visit our shut-ins. We'll be done by around 8:00 and will then head over to the Faulks for refreshments.



We'll be singing carols that everyone knows, and all are welcome to join us regardless of singing ability. We especially encourage our older church members to join us so our shut-ins will see familiar faces.

Hope to see you then.

– Jim Stephenson
Choir Director

Make A Difference During ADVENT

During this season of Advent why don't we try to do something extra to make a difference in our world? Here are some suggestions, in no particular order.

1. As you walk around your neighborhood looking at decorations, silently pray for the people in each house, even if you do not know them.
2. Do daily Advent readings and activities with your family. A calendar of Advent activities and readings will be distributed with this newsletter.
3. "Adopt" a zoo animal or an endangered species.
4. Support the Andrews House Christmas Cupboard
5. Give a larger offering than ever before to the RMMO.
6. Smile at busy salesclerks
7. Pray for all homeless people.
8. "Adopt" a child or family for Christmas.

9. Go Christmas caroling.

10. Leave your change in the vending machines

Youth Spend Night at "Shack City"

On a bitterly cold November night, three FBC Youth (Adam Davidson, Ben Turner and Emily Bowman) and I attended "Shack City" held downtown Delaware on the corner of William Street and Sandusky.

Sponsored by Youth United and Habitat for Humanity, the event had more than 100 participants. We all stayed outside for 12 hours sleeping in nothing more than their sleeping bags and a cardboard box. The purpose of this year's event was to raise awareness of the amount of homeless in Central Ohio, as well as to raise funds to build the first "Habitat for Humanity Youth Sponsored home". Below is an hour by hour account (and some thoughts) of what took place that evening.

7:00 – arrival and set up of our new homes for the night.

8:00 – hot drinks and dinner arrive but not to stay hot for long as the brutal 24 degree temp chilled our food and fast!

During this cold we discussed how this is what most homeless people experience each night and that they do not even get a hot meal, never the less a cold one

9:00 – we were instructed on how to make a sleeping bag with a local quilting group, sleeping bags made will go to homeless people all around Central Ohio to help in the cold months ahead.

10:00 – we made our way to our boxes and did what we could to keep warm, the temperature at this time was well in the 20's and it was

hard to focus on staying warm

11:00 – we could smell the smoke of a nearby fire, wishing we could get warm, too cold to want to get out of our sleeping bags.

From midnight to about 3:00 sleep was something that was hard to get. Five minutes here or there was about it. The sleeping bag was finally getting warmer, sometimes too hot. Too cold though to poke your head out, no middle ground at all, by this time, it was miserable. We



Emily Bowman in her house for a night in "Shack City 2010"

could not imagine doing this every night

4:00 – a few homeless people walked through downtown looking for a meal, given what we had, they were thankful for the support generosity, moved on to their next find.

5:00 – so many stars to see in the early morning sky...lots of time to think about how fortunate we truly are.

6:00 – time to get up and about, it hurt to put shoes on as our feet were so cold, some people don't even have shoes...

7:00 – time to go home, time to reflect just how lucky we are to have family, friends, a roof over our heads and warm food for each meal.

The young adults and I talked for hours about so many things; we really got to know each other a little better and were all glad we

did what we did. I think I can speak for us all when I say going in to this night we were a little nervous and did not know what to expect. But afterwards were humbled by the experience and so proud of each other! We want to thank you for your donations, kind words and prayers for not only us but for the ones who do this each and every day.

- Vic Fogle

Baby Dedication

Meet Olivia Macyn Burton and help celebrate her dedication on Sunday, December 12 in the Fellowship Hall after the service.

- Lisa Lawrence

Personals

- Marci Cooper's grandfather Wendell Diehl fell. He was scheduled for hip replacement surgery on Nov. 6.
- Members of our youth group spent the cold night of Nov. 6 sleeping in boxes in the "Shack City" at the corner of Sandusky and William Streets. Those who participated were Emily Bowman, Adam Davidson, Ben Turner, and advisor Vic Fogle. They collected about \$300 for Habitat for Humanity.

PRAYER LIST		
<i>This list is prepared by the Deacons.</i>		
Prayer Requests will be removed after 2 months unless "renewed".		
<i>Please send changes to Larry Faulk (Lfaulk01@aol.com)</i>		
Church Contact	Name	Reason for Prayer
The Deacons	Pam Debiasio	Health Issues
	Bill & Karen Hedges, Nichelle & Jarrod Trigg, Jack & Ben	Condolences on the death of Vera Hedges
	Martha Rhodes (daughter of the Petersons)	Heart problems
	Harry Rittenhouse	Recovering from surgery and complications
	Sophia Stephenson	Health Issues
	Dave Lovell's brother, Richard	Recovering from emergency surgery
Jean Wickum	Nancy Snook	Health Issues
	Fran Cook	Heart Problems
Evelyn Lee	Bertha VanBrimmer	Health Issues
	Florence Faulk	At Delaware Court
Barb Reed	Regan Riedmiller	Health Issues
Lana Palmer	Wayne's wife, Harper	Cancer Surgery
Robert Russell	His mother in West Virginia	Dementia
Beth Trigg	Christopher Frentsos	Car accident & health problems

- Colin Ferguson is recovering from pneumonia.
- Robert and Kathy Russell were honored during fellowship time

on Nov. 7, as they prepare to move to West Virginia sometime soon. They were presented with a framed picture of our church. They thanked the church and shared how much they appreciate the time they have shared with us.

- Steve Baker was taken to Riverside Hospital with an irregular heart-beat and stayed for further testing. He is home now.
- Carol Grubbs's grandson, Nicholas Haycox, had surgery on his adenoids. Everything went well.
- Liz Bowman has started a new job with Habitat for Humanity here in Delaware.
- Don Williams was in the hospital for a few days recently.
- Melissa Neill traveled to North Carolina.
- Jean Wickum recently took a 2-week balance class at the

Our Church Directory is Being Updated

If you would like to be included in the 2011 church directory, please update your info with Larry Faulk or fill out the form below and return it to Larry by December 31. If you would like a new picture, see Dave Lovell to have one taken.

Name	Birth Date	Anniversary
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Birthdays & Anniversaries



- Dec. 3 Kari Davidson
- 4 Erin Faulk
- 8 Tim & Lisa Fogle
- 9 Bill & Karen Hedges
- 11 Holly Kauf
- 13 Geneva Evans
- 15 Bud Sykes
- 23 Dominique DeBiasio
- 24 Frances Cook
- 25 Carol Grubbs
- 27 Cory Lawrence
- 28 Sharon Baker
- 29 Harold & Deborah Van Broekhoven
- Jan. 4 Fred DeBiasio
- 5 Evelyn Lee
- 6 Ken & Pam Shears
- 10 Kip Smith

Please report any errors or omissions to Jim Stephenson.

Delaware County Senior Citizens Center. She found this very beneficial. It is offered several times throughout the year through the county. Jean would recommend this to all of our adult fellowship as a worthwhile class to take. You do not have to be a member of the center to sign up.

- Congratulations to those of our youth who were involved with the wonderful production of THE SOUND OF MUSIC from Demsey.
- Sam Chesser was recently awarded a \$1000 scholarship from our Marion Association and a \$3000 scholarship from the OBC. Congratulations Sam!

*– Pam Faulk
Personals Editor*

Kitchen Reorganization

Pastor Tim has urged us recently to identify our gifts and use them for the glory of God. To that end, and with the approval of the Board of Trustees, a self-appointed, ad hoc Kitchen Committee recently purged the church kitchen of some items

that are no longer used. There were 180 glass snack plates and 114 cups. These and other things are on display in the back hall; they will be there for 30 days. Help yourself to whatever you need or want. Whatever is left will be donated to the Free Store or Goodwill.

The roasters and punch bowls have found new homes in the lower cupboards. Carry-out containers have been consolidated in one place.

– Jane Moore and Lana Palmer

Trustees Notes

• A new rear storm door was purchased for the parsonage. The total cost installed was \$140. The old one did not fit well and several of the brackets that held the screen and glass were broken. The new one is a big improvement. Thank you to Jerry Palmer for arranging this project.

• After several rains we think the leak in the northeast corner of the sanctuary has been stopped. The cost by "Roof Wise" roofing was \$150.

• All gutters were cleaned out at the church, parsonage, and

old parsonage.

- The pipe organ was tuned and serviced by John Muller.

*– Peter White
Reporting for the Trustees*

Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering

I am asking everyone to remember the retired ministers and missionaries, and widows by giving to this special offering during the month of December. Your gifts mean so much to those who have spent their lives giving spiritual guidance and personal support. A thank you check every year is very much appreciated by many.

*– Carol Serviss
Mission Coordinator*

The Ripple Goes On

The May 2010 Church Women United meeting which we hosted continues to help. April Nelson shared information concerning the Legal Clinic at Andrews House. She mentioned a need for books,

continued on back of calendar

Support Group for Irritable Bowel Disease

Maybe someone in our church would like to be part of this support group.

– Beth Trigg

IRRITABLE BOWEL SUPPORT GROUP

Monthly meetings for people with Inflammatory Bowel Disease (Crohn's, Colitis) or those that have an Ostomy of any kind.

Dates: Wed. December 1; Wed. January 5

Time: 6:00–8:00 pm

Location: Delaware Library Community Room

Facilitator: Julie McDonough

Upcoming topics will include coping with IBD in your relationships, and enjoying holiday foods with IBD.

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puzzles, and toys to occupy the children while their parents were being helped. Genevieve Peterson took the message to Willow Brook residents. As a result, a large box of stuffed toys were gathered for Andrews House for the children to enjoy. Many thanks to those who gave.

Several friends have stopped me at Buehlers to say how much they enjoyed the gathering and how glad they were to hear Jeanne Ekelberry tell of the Piecemakers ministry and Genevieve Peterson's card ministry. Ernestine Peebles gathered her cards and was delighted to join one of the card making sessions.

We are reminded once again how our actions may help others. May the ripple continue.

– Evelyn Lee

ABW

The November ABW gathering found six enjoying lunch and fellowship at Buehlers. Our Love Gift offering was \$16.88 to add to the Mission needs. We will meet again on December 16th at 11:30. We welcome any of you to join us.

Second Fridays

From the winter issue of the Andrews House newsletter:

REMEMBERING SUSAN

Susan (not her real name) came to every Second Fridays meal. She always arrived by cab and, hobbled by weight and tethered to an oxygen tank, struggled to make her way to the seat she always chose. Her place was at a table in the middle of the room and she always sat with her back to the wall so she could observe what was going on in the dining room. Leaving each meal was just as hard — another labored walk to a cab, or if she was lucky, to the car of another guest who would take her home.

Not long ago, we found out that Susan passed away and that she was so alone in life that she was not found for some time. We now know that Susan was not coming for the meal. She could have had food delivered to her home with the money she spent on cab fare. Susan was looking for what we all want — the chance to be with people, to connect, to receive some short-lived sustenance for the human spirit. It is so little to ask in life, just a place at the table and an opportunity to engage. Susan has reminded us that we need to feed the soul as well as the body.

Thank you to all our donors, supporters, and volunteers that allow us to have a place at the table for the Susans of this world.

Don Chenoweth's message reinforces one of missions of Andrews House and our Second Friday meals. Again our thanks to all who have worked there and for your financial support.

Angel Food Ministries

Please take time to look over the Angel Food Ministries insert sheet accompanying this newsletter. These meals are being enjoyed by many in Delaware, thanks to Andrews House. Perhaps one plan might be a special Christmas gift to someone on your list, or you might want to try it for your family. Bertha Van Brimmer has enjoyed meals for two months and is very enthusiastic about the variety and quality of the meals. Her family found pickup easy and speedy. She would welcome your calls to hear her comments. You will find a wide variety of food available. Andrews House will gladly answer any questions; call 740-369-4520.

Andrews House Kitchen Cupboard

This annual event will find many joining together to assure another successful fundraiser for Andrews House on December 4 from 9:00 to 3:00. We appreciate the contribu-

tions First Baptist makes. Remember your raffle tickets from Tim Chesser, the giant cookie sale, and the bake sale. I know there are many good cooks in our church and we look forward to you sharing some of those goodies for the Kitchen Cupboard. Many thanks.

– Evelyn Lee

Poinsettia Dedications

Our thanks to everyone who ordered poinsettias to decorate our sanctuary during Advent.

From Randy and Jennifer Turner and family, in memory of Willa Corder

From Dave & Mary Lou Lovell and family, two poinsettias in memory of Ray and Margaret Morby, Ida Morby, and Dr. and Mrs. Robert J. Lovell

From Pam and Ken Shears, in memory of Gene Lathrop and Cap and Myrtle Gabriel

From Jean Wickum, two poinsettias in memory of Wilbur Wickum and in honor of her brother David Mead

From Peter and Linda White, in memory of Charles Seckman

From Jim and Sophia Stephenson, in memory of Rev. James B. Stephenson

From Ken and Genevieve Peterson, two poinsettias in memory of their parents, Ebert & Jessie Peterson, and Vernon & Amanda MacNeill

From the Brown and Grubbs families, 3 poinsettias in memory of Teresa Griffith, Ruth & Charles Brown, Fred Grubbs and Edith Hall

From the Porter family, in memory of Jim "Billy" Porter

December Fellowship Time

Please join us for our fellowship time on Sunday, December 5 which will feature a light lunch of soup and muffins.