

# Good News Letter

Published in the Cause of the Abundant Life by the First Baptist Church  
101 North Franklin Street, Delaware, OH 43015 • 740-363-7021 • [www.FBCDelaware.org](http://www.FBCDelaware.org)

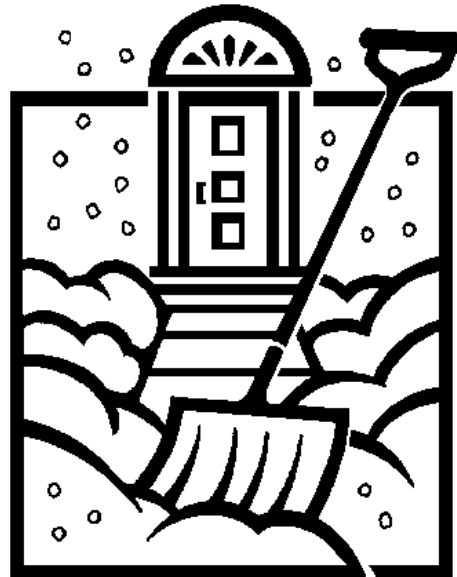
Dear FBC family:

Our Christmas Eve service was a beautiful conclusion to our Advent worship this year. The new communion ware, given by the Van Brimmer family in memory of Jim Van Brimmer, glowed in the candle-light. As evidenced by the attendance our Christmas Eve service is always one of the highlights of the year. Kathy and I thank you for your incredibly generous Christmas gift. We are also thankful for the cards, candy, and other gifts that you have given us this year.

The beauty of the Christmas Eve service was matched by the joy of the children's Christmas program. A program first seen at FBC when our young adults were children was recreated with our current young people. Debbie Fogle and Mary Lou Lovell put in countless hours helping the children get ready for the program. As in Lake Wobegon all of our children are truly above average.

As I look back on 2010 I believe it has been a wonderful year for our church. As many churches have struggled with finances during these difficult days we have had the best giving year in our 157 years of existence. Our Sunday school program continues as strong as ever. Our change in the opening time has been met with enthusiasm and excitement by most who take part. Like every year we have had some sad goodbyes and some joyous welcomes. As we enter a new decade let us be open to movements of the Spirit in our midst.

Life at the parsonage has certainly changed in 2010. We welcomed twin grandchildren, Xander and Jaden, in March. We welcomed a new daughter-in-law, Lindley, into our family in June. Sam recognized a call to the ministry and began studies at the Methodist Theological School in Ohio in August. In all of



## JANUARY

these things the congregation of FBC has been our family. At those times when our biological family couldn't be there for us, you were. We thank you.

As we look to a new decade invite a friend to be part of our family.

Your Pastor,

### Fun Night For All Ages

Everyone is invited to a fun game night at the church on Friday, January 28. Bring your favorite games to play, some snacks to share, and your own beverages. The fun will begin in the Fellowship Hall at 7:00 p.m.

### "Angel Food" Available from Andrews House

The January Angel Food order form is in this newsletter. Please take time to check it out and see if you might use one of the packages. Also think of others who might not have known of the program but could be helped by it. Some freezer space is needed, but the food is good and a real help to those who purchase from it.

Remember that Food Stamps may be used as payment, so think of those who could use some help, including unemployed, senior citizens, and those needing help with adequate meals.

Any questions will gladly be answered by calling Andrews House at 740-369-4520. Pickup is quick and convenient.

Take time to look over the form and think of others who might be helped.

—Evelyn Lee

*Editor's Note: You can also download the order form and place your order at the Andrews House website: [www.andrewshouse.org](http://www.andrewshouse.org)*

## Trustees Notes

- The cost for the annual organ tuning was \$225.00.
- Four pianos were given their annual tuning by Richard Dacks. The cost was \$320.00.
- The boiler at the old parsonage was serviced, along with the pump. The boiler needed a new thermocoupler to keep the pilot light going. Both chimneys were checked for cleanout and draft. The cost by Don Patrick was \$159.06.
- At our December meeting, we elected the following representatives:

Jerry Palmer — chairman

Arch Trigg — assistant chairman

Jerry Palmer — representative to the finance committee

Bud Sykes, representative to the nominating committee

Peter White, reporter to the newsletter

– Peter White  
Reporting for the Trustees

## ABW

When ABW met for sewing in November, we decided the projects we made would be donated to the Christmas Clearing House.

Thanks to volunteers from the choir and others in the church, we donated 10 baby quilts, small quilts and lap robes on December 4th for community giving.

Thank you all and Happy New Year!

– Jeanne Ekelberry

## Young at Heart

At the Young at Heart meeting in November we had some new, pretty things (cards) to send our monthly greetings. Genevieve Peterson has made some clever return-address labels, with hearts on them, and Erin Faulk printed verses on label materials to be put into the cards

Genevieve brings to church. Liz Bowman supplied the pages of labels. Jean Syler and Anne Brown helped get the cards addressed. We like to keep the homebound and the far-away members to know that First Baptist thinks of them.

Here is the last of the poems I found in a drawer...

### *The Weight of Nothing*

*"Tell me the weight of a snowflake," a sparrow asked a wild dove.*

*"Nothing more than nothing," was the answer.*

*"In that case I must tell you a marvelous story," the sparrow said. "I sat on the branch of a fir, close to its trunk, when it began to snow. Since I didn't have anything better to do, I counted the snowflakes settling on the twigs and needles of the branch. Their number was exactly 3,741,952. When the next snowflake—weighing nothing more than nothing, as you said—dropped onto the branch, the branch broke off."*

*Having said that, the sparrow flew away. The dove (since Noah's time an authority on the matter) thought about the story for a while and finally said to herself: "Perhaps there is only one person's voice lacking for peace to come about in the world."*

*(from "A Race to Nowhere")*

– Jean Wikcum

## Letters of Thanks

Thank you Debbie Fogle, Mary Lou Lovell, all the kids, and anyone else who helped with the Christmas program this year. It was wonderful!

– Pam Faulk

+ + +

Wow! What great youth we have at First Baptist!

It was my pleasure to work with the young people of the church to present "Gettin' Ready for the Miracle" on December 19th. They were very willing to play a character, memorize lines, sing solos or sing in the choir to present the Christmas

Story. It was heart warming to see how the older youth helped the younger children with whatever they needed.

Thank you to Emily Bowman, Adam Davidson, Ian Feruson, Michael Mercer, Ian Ferguson, Ben Turner, Sarah Bowman, Sarah Davidson, Alec Ferguson, Jane Mercer, Claire Turner, Colin Ferguson, Will Fogle, Hunter Green, Isaiah Davidson, Aidan Ferguson, Asa Green, Gabe Fogle, and Hannah McKendrick.

Thank you all for your beautiful singing!

Thank you for all families for providing transportation for rehearsals and your support for the program.

A huge thank you to Deb Lovell for all the work with props, music, and directing it to make it happen!

This was a wonderful Christmas gift for me.

– Mary Lou Lovell

+ + +

Thank you to all those who used their gift of music to present the prelude on Christmas Eve:

Colin Ferguson (violin), Aidan Ferguson (piano and violin), Claire Turner (cello), Jane Mercer (oboe), Will Fogle (violin), and Deb Fogle (violin).

Thank you to Claire Turner for singing "Away in a Manger" accompanied by Jennifer Turner and to Melissa Neill for singing "O Holy Night".

Thank you to Jim Stephenson and the choir for all of the lovely anthems during Advent and "Joy to the World" on Christmas Eve.

– Mary Lou Lovell

+ + +

Many thanks to all of you who contributed cookies, jellies, quilts and other items to the Andrews House Bazaar. This was our biggest cookie sale ever, thanks to many good cooks. I will share the total figures at a later date.

Thanks too for those of you who shopped that day. It was good to see familiar faces.

Proceeds will help Andrews House continue its good work in Delaware.

– Evelyn Lee

### If Many Little People In Many Little Places Do Many Little Deeds, They Can Change The Face Of The Earth.

Here is a list of 10 things to consider doing, in no particular order.

1. Pray for our world leaders.
2. Be more friendly and welcoming to people who are visiting our church.
3. Join the Green Volunteers.
4. Get involved with ONE KID ONE World which provides academic and athletic programs to impoverished areas.
5. Walk 10,000 steps every day.
6. Pray for our church leaders.
7. Get to know your church family better
8. Use less plastic.
9. Volunteer somewhere
10. Celebrate Christmas daily.

– Pam Faulk

### Please Mark Your Calendar...

**Why?** You're invited to attend an old-fashioned afternoon tea!

**Where?** The Palmer home  
654 Governors Street  
Delaware

**When?** Saturday, January 22nd

**Time:** 2:00–3:30 pm

*Come help chase the January "blahs" away as we investigate interest in—and share ideas for—a special New Year opportunity.*

**RSVP:** 740-369-6098

– Lana Palmer

## PRAYER LIST

*This list is prepared by the Deacons.*

Prayer requests will be removed after 2 months unless "renewed".  
*Please send changes to Larry Faulk (Lfaulk01@aol.com)*

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
Evelyn Lee	Fran Cook	Heart Problems
	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

### Common Ground "Wish List"

- Coffee
- Powdered creamer
- Large black trash bags
- 4-roll of toilet paper
- Paper towels

– Beth Trigg

### Personals

- Reagan Riedmiller was on Dempsey's Merit Roll for the first 9 weeks.
- Steve Baker continues to improve and has been able to attend church.
- Evelyn Lee's great-grandson Elijah received second degree burns on 10% of his body from spilled coffee. He is improving.
- Jennifer Cramer was hospitalized briefly with an infection from a

kidney stone. She is improving.

- Genevieve Peterson delivered over 1000 handmade cards to the inmates at the Marion prison. She thanks everyone for their contributions of used cards for her project.

• We extend sympathy to Don and Sally Williams following the death of Don's brother, Roger, in Carthage, NY. Don and Roger's father was Rev. Morgan Williams, pastor of First Baptist from 1938-46.

• Olivia Macyn Burton, daughter of Ed and Angie Burton, was dedicated in our church on December 12. After the church service a reception in the Fellowship Hall was held for Olivia.

• Evelyn Lee recently had cataract surgery.

- Janel Lathrop went with family to Tampa, Florida for her granddaughter's college graduation.
- Jean Osborne attended her granddaughter's college graduation in Michigan.

## *Birthdays and Anniversaries*

- Jan. 4 Fred DeBiasio  
5 Evelyn Lee  
6 Ken & Pam Shears  
10 Kip Smith  
12 Larry Faulk  
Matthew Cooper  
13 Evan and Carrie Trigg  
16 Jane Moore  
18 Matthew Lovell  
20 Jennifer Turner  
21 Tim Fogle  
22 Michael Mercer  
23 Nick Porter  
26 Sophia Stephenson  
27 Steve Baker  
28 Sarah Davidson  
30 Calvin Turner

*Please report any errors or omissions to Jim Stephenson.*