

Good News Letter

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It has been a wonderful Advent and Christmas season. I was lifted up by all the music and the decorations, and especially the Candlelight Service on Christmas Eve. Though we didn't have a white Christmas, we did enjoy a little snow for New Year's Eve and Day. I look forward to launching into 2026 with the hope of the season fresh in my mind and heart. I pray the same for all of you.

The month of January tends to be slow at church as the winter takes over with less daylight and colder temperatures. Nonetheless, because of God's grace and mercy, warm hearts reign. The winter season is a good time of the year to reflect upon the life of Jesus and his teaching as well, what some in the past have referred to as, "the works and words of Jesus," which guide our thinking and our actions.

I always enjoy the feeling (some may not) of taking down the Christmas decorations because I know that when I am finished, it will make me feel like I am ready for something new, for the year ahead and for the journey of faith we all share.

Several scriptures about newness come to mind. Though they do not necessarily come from Jesus, or even from the New Testament, they are worth the time to read and to listen, and hear them as a blessing of the year, a little bit like an order of the day. Let them be our prayer for the coming year, for ourselves and for the world;



"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!" 2 Corinthians 5:17

"I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh." Ezekiel 36:26

"He put a new song in my mouth,
a hymn of praise to our God.
Many will see and fear the Lord
and put their trust in him." Psalm 40:3

"The days are coming," declares the Lord,
"when I will make a new covenant
with the people of Israel
and with the people of Judah . . .

"I will put my law in their minds
and write it on their hearts.
I will be their God,
and they will be my people.
Jeremiah 31:31, 33

"See, I will create
new heavens and a new earth.
The former things will not be remembered,
nor will they come to mind." Isaiah 65:17

Or near the end of the Bible, "Behold, I make all things new." Revelation 21:5

Happy New Year, Mark

January Panera Volunteers

Wed	Thur
Jan 7 -Grubbs	Jan 8 -Faulk
Jan 14-Grubbs	Jan 15-Volunteer Needed
Jan 21-Faulk	Jan 22-Faulk
Jan 28-Faulk	Jan 29-Faulk

Thanks to all who volunteer. There are still slots available for January and the rest of the winter quarter.

PERSONALS

-Laura Bennington has moved into assisted living in Gahanna.

-Evan, Devin, Lachlan, Samuel, and Grace Allison all came to Delaware to spend Thanksgiving with Pastor Mark.

-Jackson Trigg will be graduating from OSU in electrical engineering in May.

-Ben Trigg has received a scholarship to attend Miami University in the fall to major in education.

-Will Fogle played the violin for the worship service on Dec. 21.
-Claire, Annabell, and Ivy Pierce attended church on Dec. 21.

-Matt Lovell visited from California over the holidays.

-Thanks to all who contributed beautiful music during Advent.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Larry Faulk's family is hosting an "open house" in the Fellowship Hall on January 10th from 2-5 in order to celebrate Larry's 80th birthday. All are invited. No gifts please.

American Baptist Women

Happy New Year 2026 and Blessings to all! Our next meeting will be January 17th. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 11:30 with our sack lunches and share our memories of the season, as well as make plans for the coming year.

- Laura Brown

Mission/Outreach News

As I write this article, I think about our congregation's giving each month to support those in need in our community, our country, and in our world. Your generosity is truly given in love!

Our congregation has:

Given soup to Zion for the Place of Warmth for men (and now women) needing a place to stay on cold nights(below 20 degrees).

Given needed items to Family Promise and Turning Point.

Given school supplies and money for shoes for children; as well as given appreciation to the staff at Conger Elementary

Provided food items to People In Need for distribution

Given underwear to Common Ground Free Store for distribution

Given Christmas gifts to children in foster care

Filled Christmas shoe boxes for children around the world through Samaritan's Purse

Given loose change to support the Andrews House summer lunch program for children

Made and donated cookies to Andrews House for the Christmas Cupboard sale

Given to the America for Christ, One Great Hour of Sharing, World Mission, and Retired Ministers and Missionaries offerings

Given to Blanket Sunday and Tools of Hope offerings

Given monetarily to Family Promise, Common Ground, People In Need, Andrews House, and Helpline

Given to the tower project to repair the steeple.

There are many (behind the scenes) people who give of their time to do yard work, shovel snow, clean the gutters, paint, clean the inside of the church, put flowers on the altar, and run bulletins. At Christmas, all those who decorate the Christmas tree, arrange the poinsettias, and put up the wreaths that make our sanctuary so beautiful!

Birthdays and Anniversaries



January

- 3 Bailey Turner
- Laura Bennington
- 6 Ken & Pam Shears
- 9 Lachlan Allison
- 10 Kip Smith
- 12 Matt Cooper
- Larry Faulk
- 16 Jane Moore Snyder
- 18 Matthew Lovell
- 20 Jennifer Turner
- 24 Lena Putkonen
- 28 John Dalglish
- 30 Calvin Turner
- 31 Jay Roberts

Please report any errors.

Thanks to all who give their time to pick up Panera on Wednesday and Thursday nights and deliver the items to Willis and Andrews House(especially on the cold and snowy nights).

There is a sign up sheet in the Gathering Place if you can help with it.

Our January outreach is to continue to provide soup to Zion Church for their Place of Warmth.

We also will collect items to be given to Family Promise.

Items needed:

Plastic utensils (forks, spoons), toilet paper, paper plates, paper cups, take-out containers, Pine-Sol, new pillows, paper towels, lysol spray, lysol wipes, Dish soap, laundry detergent (pods), chap sticks, lotion, Shower curtain, wash cloths, hand and toe warmers, Baby bath (wash and lotion), multi surface cleaner (for bathrooms and bedrooms.)

-Mary Lou Lovell

Soup and Sing

Thanks to all who came to sing Christmas carols on December 6th at 4:00 pm.

Thanks for **In a Jam** trio (Rolf Remlinger, Annette and Ken Schwartz) for leading some carols and singing "Let It Be Done"by Chris Muglia. Thanks to Randy Turner for leading some carols and singing "The Holly and the Ivy" in honor of his grand-daughter, Ivy's birth.

Thanks to Jennifer Turner and Candy Lee for playing piano.

Thanks to Larry Faulk for setting up the TV monitor for the words of the carols. Thanks to Randy for leading because Dr. Allison could not attend.

Prayer List

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

Name	Reason for Prayer
Dr. Allison's sister	Health Issues
Ken Shears	Health Issues
Jenni Pedzinski and family	Father's stroke
Bill & Ann Clemmer	Safety
Tim Lee	Health Issues
David Salyer	Health Issues
Connie Roberts	Health Issues

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

What a wonderful sound for our Advent Season to celebrate Jesus' birth. Thanks to all who made and brought soup. There were so many different kinds to taste! So delicious! And plenty to give to Zion Church to the Place of Warmth. Thanks also to those who brought crackers, corn bread and cookies.

It was a wonderful time of fellowship while sharing a meal.

Advent and Christmas Music

Thank you to Pam Shears, Deb Lovell, Candy Lee, Jennifer Turner, Claire Pierce, Randy Turner, Dave Lovell, and Rolf Remlinger for singing during Advent.

Thanks to Candy Lee for playing "Mary Had a Baby" on the organ and Jennifer Turner for playing "Some Children See Him".

Thanks to Will Fogle for playing the Czechoslovakian Carol, Mary Had a Baby, and Born is He on the violin for Dec. 21st; and Christmas Hallelujah on Christmas Eve.

Thanks to Barbara Smith, Deb Lovell, and Will Fogle for playing O Come, All Ye Faithful, Hark !the Herald Angels Sing and the Hallelujah Chorus on Christmas Eve.

Thank you to Randy Turner for singing "The Birthday of a King" on Christmas Eve.

Thanks to all for beautiful music for the Christmas season!

Pastor Vacation

Dr. Allison will be on vacation January 12th thru 19th. Mike Reynolds will be the guest pastor on January 18th.

MLK Celebration

FBC is sponsoring a table at the annual MLK Celebration at Ohio Wesleyan University on Monday, January 19th. The celebration will begin with a brunch at 10am, followed with the program beginning at 10:30am. Please let Larry Faulk know if you would like to attend.,

Annual Business Meeting

The annual FBC business meeting will be on January 28th, beginning with a potluck supper at 6:30pm and a brief business meeting at 7pm.



Poinsettias In Honor/Memory

Richard & Laura Brown – In Honor of Rachel & Brian Nicholson, In Memory of David, Charles and Marie

Pam Shears – In Honor of Janet and Gene Lathrop

Larry & Pam Faulk – In Honor of our Children and Grandchildren, In Memory of our Parents

Candy Lee & Brennan Howe – In Honor of Maureen Howe
In Memory of Trudy Laslo and Jean Scott

Mary Lou & Dave Lovell – In Memory of Ray & Margaret Morby, Jennie & Robert J. Lovell, Jay and Richard Lovell

Darlene Caulkins – In Memory of Dr. Robert Caulkins

Mark Allison – In Honor of Evan & Devin, Samuel & Grace and Jonathan Allison and Lachlan Allison

Randy & Jennifer Turner – In Memory of Jimmie Ray Moore

Carol Grubbs – In Memory of Jeannie Stephenson and Donald Brown
In Honor of Donna Brown and Jim Brown

Jane Snyder – In Memory of Jimmie Moore
In Honor of Jim Snyder

Directory Update

Laura Bennington
Monarch Manor, Apt. 108
4373 Ruston Avenue
Gahanna, OH 43230

First Baptist Church

101 North Franklin Street
Delaware, Ohio 43015

January

2026

Dr. Mark Allison, Pastor

Office Hours: by appointment

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
January Mission Focus: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family Promise • Place of Warmth 		December 30	 31 New Year's Eve	January 1 Happy New Year	2	3
4 9:30 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship Service Holy Communion Dedication of Church Officers January newsletter available	5	Epiphany 6	7 8:45 Panera Pickup - Grubbs	8 8:45 Panera Pickup - Faulk	9	10 2-5 pm Larry Faulk's Party Fellowship Hall
11 9:30 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship Service	12 5:30 Deacons	13 Dr Allison on Vacation	14 8:45 Panera Pickup - Grubbs	15 8:45 Panera Pickup - Volunteer Needed	16	17 8 am Men's Breakfast-Bob Evans 11:30 am Women's Lunch Fellowship Hall
Christian Unity Sunday 18 9:30 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship Service Mike Reynolds, Guest Pastor February newsletter deadline	19 10 am MLK Celebration OWU Martin Luther King Birthday	20	21 8:45 Panera Pickup - Faulk	22 8:45 Panera Pickup - Faulk	23	24
25 9:30 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship Service February newsletter available	26	27	28 6:30 Potluck Supper 7:00 Annual Business Meeting 8:45 Panera Pickup - Faulk	29 8:45 Panera Pickup - Faulk	30	31