

Good News Letter

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I seem to be in the habit of using the opportunity of this newsletter to write about the changing of the seasons in their turn. The summer season is upon us. It is a time for accomplishing things for which there is less time and energy at other seasons of the year.

There is more daylight in summer and one looks forward to the solstice in June when hints of the sun are still visible late in the evening, making it seem as if there is more time. The sun's warmth invites us to outdoor activities.

One thinks of gardening and lawn care, long walks and cookouts, of travel and vacations and the opportunity to see new places and try new things. It is a time to set an easy and restorative pace while achieving realistic goals. If you are like me, it means books, summer reading.

It is a good time for spiritual rest and renewal as well, for reflection upon some of the truths about God and life that are true all the year round, yet sometimes forgotten in the rush of things. I am reminded of the Chautauqua movement of the late 19th and early 20th century of going on retreat in the summer.



There were plays and concerts and speaking events and recreation and food, all in the setting of a lake or river or the mountains surrounded by the beauty of creation (the movement is actually named after a lake in western New York where it began).

In its honor, let me suggest some familiar biblical texts on which to focus some attention at some point in the months ahead, perhaps involving a walk or a location in a park surrounded by natural scenery:

“The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul.” Psalm 23:1.

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge God, and he will make straight your paths.” Proverbs 3:5-6.

“Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ, God forgave you.” Ephesians 4:32.

“Whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.” Philippians 4:8.

These are only the tip of the iceberg, so to speak, feel free to select others as well.

May God bless us all in this summer season.

Mark

June Panera Volunteers

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Wed | Thur |
| Jun 3-Brown | Jun 4-Brown |
| Jun 10-Gosser | Jun 11 -volunteer needed |
| Jun 17-Lee | Jun 18-Grubbs |
| Jun 24-Lovell / Remlinger | Jun 25-Brown |

Thank you all for volunteering. Look for a new sign-up sheet for the Summer Quarter in the Gathering Place.

PERSONALS

-Ted Stephenson was hospitalized with a possible TIA

-Connie Roberts had surgery on May 4, was home, and then hospitalized again the following week. She appreciates all your prayers.

-Dave Spear would like to thank everyone for their prayers.

-Jackson Trigg graduated from OSU in May.

-Laura Brown had good results from recent medical testing and would like to thank everyone for their prayers.

-Dr. Lynn Elfner, former member of FBC, passed away Sunday, May 3, 2026.

American Baptist Women

Our next meeting will be Saturday June 20th at 11:30 in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a lunch and join for fellowship and planning the rest of the year.

- Laura Brown

THANK YOU

We recently received the following thank you note:

Thank you all so very much for the wonderful goodie bags you gifted our staff for Teacher Appreciation Week. They have been enjoyed and appreciated. Your thoughtfulness and generosity are a blessing.

All the best,
The Staff of Conger Elementary School

OUR LOVE OFFERING TO THE WORLD

This is the theme of the 2026 One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) offering, based on 2 Corinthians 9:7: "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." Here is the message from Lisa Rothenberger-Winter, our World Relief Officer: "Each year as our donations join with those of other ABC congregations across the U.S., OGHS becomes OUR LOVE OFFERING TO THE WORLD... OGHS has been an offering of love to the world for over 77 years. Each year you are invited to give for the sake of sisters and brothers around the globe. Our collective giving to OGHS shows up around the world in tangible acts of love, compassion, and care:

- Comfort and hands to help rebuild after natural disasters.
- Shelter, nourishment, and safety in places where war rages and poverty prevails.
- Tools and expertise to establish sustainable agriculture, clean water, and livelihoods.

-Advocacy for the dignity of those who are marginalized and most vulnerable.

Simply put, OGHS shows up when immediate and long-term help is needed. We may never personally witness the results of our help, but that's what a love offering is: giving from the heart, believing that our gifts make a difference, trusting that our gifts bear hope and light and love in the lives of those to whom we are connected. We give generously for the sake of others. We give cheerfully because we care. We give enthusiastically because we love. We give to OGHS."

We will be asking for your love gift to the OGHS during the month of June. Please prayerfully consider your gift. The goal of our church is \$1000.

-Pam Faulk

Birthdays and Anniversaries



June

- 4 Dwight Davidson
- 8 Pam Faulk
- 10 Aidan Ferguson
- Dave & MaryLou Lovell
- Mike & Cathy Reynolds
- Mike & Emilie Showalter
- 11 Randy & Jennifer Turner
- 12 Jay & Joyce Roberts
- 16 Chad Myford
- Kennedy Turner
- 17 Matt & Marci Cooper
- 21 Dan & Sherry Chambers
- 24 Beth Trigg
- 27 Dwight & Kari Davidson

Please report any errors.

Parsonage Endowment

In 1978, we were able to build a house at 632 Congress Ct. It served as a parsonage for Rev. James B. Stephenson until his retirement in 1987. Since then, Rev. Gene Gillin, Rev. Jody Lynn Brummett (Hagans), and Rev. Tim Chesser have lived in the parsonage. When Rev. Chesser bought a home in Delaware and moved out of the parsonage, we rented the parsonage out and used the rental income to help support a housing allowance for our pastor.

Growing maintenance issues and a desire to get out of the rental business has led us to sell the property. However, we still need funds to pay for the housing allowance.

The funds from the sale of the parsonage will serve as an endowment to be invested. As such, the funds will not be available to be spent unless there is a crisis. The interest from investing the endowment should continue to be used to support the pastor's housing allowance.

- Larry Faulk, treasurer

Mission/Outreach News

Our missionaries, Ann and Dr. Bill Clemmer are in a very unsafe area of Africa. They continue to reach so many children, young people, and adults to demonstrate God's love by helping them to have food, an education, health care and a knowledge of Jesus. They are in the area that has a severe Ebola outbreak. Please pray for them to stay healthy and be able to keep doing their work to help others.

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 |
| Jenni Pedzinski and family | Father's stroke |
| Bill & Ann Clemmer | Safety |
| Tim Lee | Health Issues |
| David Salyer | Health Issues |
| Connie Roberts | Health Issues |
| Ray Serviss | Health Issues |
| Joyce Roberts | Injury Recovery |
| David Spear | 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!

Thank You Bags for Staff at Conger Elementary

Thanks to everyone who generously brought individually wrapped bags of chips, candy, peanut butter and cheese crackers, granola bars, fruit chews, packets of tea and hot chocolate. Also included were packets of flower seeds. I am thinking that they will think of us when their flowers bloom. Thanks to those who brought cans of a variety of beverages. Rolf Remlinger was at Conger on May 8th when the bags were delivered. He said that everyone was so appreciative of the bags.

Blanket Sunday for Mother's Day

On Mother's Day, \$360.00 was given by the congregation to remember a mother or special woman in your life. The names of those honored or in memory are listed in the newsletter. The money is given to Church World Service and blankets and other items are given to mothers in need around the world. Thank you for your support to help mothers.

Tools for Hope Sunday

On Father's Day, we honor your father or a man that has been special to you in your life. A monetary gift is given with a form that you fill out containing the name of the man you wish to honor or remember and pinned on the blanket in the front of the church. The money given is used to buy tools by Church World Service and distributed in areas of the world where there have been floods, hurricanes, and tornados, so that structures can be repaired or new structures can be built.

Panera Pick UP

Panera Pick Up continues because of devoted people who pick up the unsold items at Panera on Wednesday and Thursday nights at Panera in Delaware. Items are rebagged for easier distribution and given to Andrews House and Willis Center. If you would like to sign up to help with this, the form is in the Gathering Place. If you want more information about doing this talk with Pam or Larry Faulk, Carol Grubbs, or Laura and Richard Brown. A huge thanks goes to all who do this ministry.

People In Need Box

When you go shopping this week, pick one or two shelf stable foods that you think someone else would enjoy having. Purchase it and put it in the basket in the Welcome Center. The person that receives it will know that someone has thought of them and helped them to have something to eat.

This box fills quickly thanks to your support for this ministry. Thanks to Peter White for delivering the items.

In a city of over one million people, containment and surveillance are critical.

Nonetheless, the border with Rwanda, the only safe route out of Goma, has been closed since last Friday. I had a planned return ticket that evening but was unable to leave. We have church visits scheduled in June as well as family gatherings and would love to keep those commitments. God knows, and we remain in His hands.

Your prayers mean so much in these tenuous days, as another tragic

outbreak shakes the lives of the those in eastern Congo. Amid suffering and uncertainty, the faithful among whom we live and serve continue to trust in the abiding presence of a loving God. They cling to His promises, and their hope endures.

We rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope.

Romans 5:3-4

In Him,

- Ann

Financial Update

For the last two months, our income for general operations has fallen short of our expenses by an average of \$2,700 per month. While there have been increases in some expenses such as gas, electric, water, and refuse, they do not account for the full shortfall.

While we continue to receive generous contributions to capital improvements, which we appreciate and know that they will be needed for future projects, please consider redirecting some of your giving to the general fund.

-Larry Faulk, treasurer

Message from Ann Clemmer

Here is an update on the situation here in Goma: Bill and I remain well, though we are watching with concern the rapid rise and spread of this uncommon strain of Ebola (Bundibugyo). Unlike the outbreak and site where Bill served for 18 months (2018-2020), this variant is surging far more quickly and has proven resistant to the vaccine and treatments that were effective in curtailing the previous epidemic. In Goma, only one confirmed case has been reported thus far, a woman who accompanied her deceased brother from the outbreak site for burial here, and who became infected herself. Remarkably, she is slowly recovering, and nearly 200 individuals who had contact with her and others being closely monitored.

Blanket Sunday Dedications

5/17/2026

Given by:

Mark Allison
Richard and Laura Brown
Darlene Caulkins

Larry and Pam Faulk

Erin and Larry Faulk

Pat Gosser
Carol Grubbs

Candy Lee, Brennan Howe
and Tim Lee

Dave Lovell

Mary Lou and
Dave Lovell
Deb Lovell and
Rolf Remlinger

Lena Putkonen and
John Dalglish

Beth Trigg

Joyce Jones Roberts
Jay Roberts

In memory/honor of:

In memory: Fern Allison
In honor: Marie Warner
In memory: Pearl Hempy
In honor: Martha Rittenhouse

In memory: Evoleno Cole
Florence Faulk
Mary Anderson
Jean Wickum

In honor: Erin Faulk
Laurie Faulk
Patricia Rose
Donna Mann

In honor: Pam Faulk
Laurie Faulk

In honor: Candy Lee
In memory: Ruth Brown
In honor: Suzanne Haycox
Alison Bradford

In memory: Trudy Laslo
Jean Scott

In honor: Maureen Howe
In memory: Jennie Lovell

In honor: Margaret Morby
Mary Lou Lovell
Deborah Lovell
BarbaraSmith

In honor: Deb Lovell
Barbara Smith
In honor: Mary Lou Lovell
Hermina Remlinger
Raeleen Maynard

In memory: Carole Putkonen
Liisa Putkonen
Darlene DeLand

In honor: Mary Dalglish
In memory: Anne Lin
Mary Catherine Trigg

In memory: Ross and Grace Jones
In memory: Allan and Jauline Roberts

First Baptist Church

101 North Franklin Street
Delaware, Ohio 43015

June

2026

Dr. Mark Allison, Pastor

Office Hours: by appointment

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--------|---------|---------------|----------|---|--|
| <p>May 31</p> <p>10:00 am Worship Service</p> | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | <p>D-Day 6</p>  |
| <p>Religious Liberty Sunday 7</p> <p>10:00 am Worship Service Holy Communion</p> <p>Begin OGHS</p> | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| <p>Baptist Youth Day of Prayer 14</p> <p>10:00 am Worship Service</p> <p>Flay Day </p> <p>OGHS continues</p> | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | <p>Juneteenth 19</p>  | 20 |
| <p>Fathers Day Tools of Hope 21</p> <p>10:00 am Worship Service</p> <p>OGHS continues Summer Begins</p> <p>June newsletter deadline </p> | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| <p>American Baptist Homes and Hospitals Sunday 28</p> <p>10:00 am Worship Service</p> <p>OGHS ends</p> <p>June newsletter available</p> | 29 | 30 | <p>July 1</p> | 2 | <p>June Mission Focus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) • Fathers Day Tools of Hope (CWS) | |