

Good News Letter

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Dear FBC family:

As 2009 limps toward its conclusion we give thanks that we have seen remarkable things happen as a congregation. At a time when many churches had to cut back we committed to several major projects. I would like to extend a special thanks to all who made the renovations possible. I would also like to thank you in advance for your continuing support of the things yet to be taken care of.

On behalf of my family I also want to thank the congregation for your incredibly generous Christmas gift. My expanding waistline also reminds me to thank you for the gifts of pastries and candies that have shown up in the parsonage. As we enter into our ninth year at FBC we continue to be blessed by our church family.

We have seen many changes in our time here. When we started Sam was just beginning the eighth grade. By next Christmas he will have graduated from Ohio Wesleyan and be married. We are thankful for all of the new people God has sent our way.

As the New Year begins perhaps we can put all of our renovations behind us and continue to look for ministry opportunities. In February our men's group has committed to serving at the Second Friday meal offered at Andrews house. Kathy

and I have enjoyed volunteering with our church and filling in when other groups have the duty. Last month I got trusted with the job of making noodles. Many of our folks volunteer as individuals but this is an opportunity

for us to make a community investment. Men, be sure to put February 12, 2010 on your calendars.

Invite a friend to church. We have enough love to share. Happy New Year to one and all.

Your Pastor,



Business Meeting

On Wednesday, January 27 we'll have a covered-dish dinner at 6:30, followed by our annual business meeting at 7:00.

Update from the Sanctuary Carpet and Paint Committee

During December, our carpet installer (Dan's Carpet and Laminates) removed the old sanctuary carpet and installed our new one.

Also during December, our paint contractor (Brian McConnell) painted the assembly room and the two vestibules. (The sanctuary was painted during November.)

The trustees tell me that the painting bill will be approximately \$3,000 higher than originally estimated. This is because the walls were in worse condition than expected and required extensive prep work. We encourage everyone to consider increasing the amount they've pledged for the painting project.

The contractors did a fine job and the committee members are pleased with the results. We've heard many favorable comments from church members, and we hope that the congregation is happy with the sanctuary's new appearance.

– Jim Stephenson, chair
Sanctuary Carpet and Paint
Committee

Trustees Notes

- The pipe organ was tuned and serviced by John Muller and his assistant of Muller Pipe Organ Company. The cost was \$225. Several defects were noted, and John and his assistant will return for repairs.



• The Gable Elevator company did a regular service inspection and found that the reserve battery is bad. (The reserve battery provides power to lower the elevator to the nearest exit in the event of a power failure.) They will have to return to replace it.

• The gas company made two visits to the “old” parsonage after our renters smelled gas. They couldn’t locate a leak, so the gas company shut off the gas to the boiler as a precaution. Following that, Don Patrick made at least five visits, and made minor repairs and adjustments to the boiler at a cost of \$189.17.

• All five pianos were tuned by Richard Dacks, and he made some minor repairs to the piano in the fellowship hall. The cost was \$400. These were the only piano tunings during 2009, since the summer was not too hot, and in the fall we were waiting for the sanctuary painting to be completed as that required moving the sanctuary piano.

• Due to concern over whether compact florescent bulbs would be available in the large size we need, we ordered spare bulbs for the two large lights in the sanctuary and the one large light in the assembly room. We ordered four 750 watt, clear glass, mogul (large) base bulbs from Loeb Electric. The cost was \$145.35. Loeb Electric believes that when incandescent bulbs are phased out, a substitute will not be available. The light over the choir and the light over the gathering place each take a 300 watt clear glass bulb, and no substitute is available at this point.

• Upon the arrival of the paint crew and the subcontractor, Jake Ball (an architect whose crew did all the prep work on the walls), we were informed that the slow but steady water damage to the plaster would soon ruin the new paint job in several areas. We called in Midstate

Contractors of Marion, and they did the following:

- On the sanctuary’s east side, Midstate installed new flashing under the cap stone and on the back side of the parapet wall.
- On the assembly room’s north wall, they installed new flashing under the cap stone and on the back side of the parapet wall over the three windows.
- They found and replaced several broken slates on the roofs of the sanctuary and assembly room behind the steeple.
- They found that the large metal “pans” where these roofs meet the steeple were cracked or split, perhaps from ice dropping from the steeple. These were sealed with a filler-like mat material using asphalt.
- They repaired broken and shifted slate around the rear chimney (used by the gas furnaces) on the west wall of the sanctuary.
- At the “old” parsonage, they replaced a broken and rusted downspout that had leaked water into the basement.

The cost by Midstate was \$3,938.00. Funds for this cost were a gift from the Carolyn White Schneeberger estate. There is no guarantee on a building this old—with all the various roof angles and brick walls that get soaked in the rain—that all leaks were stopped, but it was an all-out effort to at least try to do so.

– *Peter White*
Reporting for the Trustees

Thank You

To my First Baptist Church family,

After a medical problem of four and a half months, three of these months spent at the Sarah Moore Home, I am happy to report that I am now back home and am getting

a little better each day. Although the stay at Sarah Moore was a positive experience, there is “no place like home”. It will be awhile before I can drive my car but I hope I can be in worship with you and see you more often now.

Thanks so much for all the calls, cards, visits, flowers, transportation to medical appointments, and especially, for your prayers. My family and church family keeps me thinking “positive” and this helps me get through this difficult time. It is a comfort to know we can count on each other through whatever life brings. I pray that God will bless each and everyone of you.

Sincerely,

– *Betty Porter*

Don and Sally Williams Join First Baptist

Don and Sally Williams were welcomed into our fellowship on Sunday, December 6. Don is the son of Rev. Morgan Williams, who was our pastor from 1938 to 1946, and Don and Sally were married in our church in 1948.



Our Thanks To...

- Thanks to Matt Yoder and our youth for helping at the Holiday Clearinghouse.
- Thanks to Matt Yoder and Liz Bowman for working with our youth on the fine Christmas program.
- Thanks to our youth for performing a wonderful Christmas

program during morning worship on December 13.

Each One Do One

We often start the new year with some resolutions. Why not make a few that will show God's love and our faith to others? Decide on one thing you want to do better this year or one thing you want to stop doing this year, and make a plan. Try to do something over and above what you already do.

1. Save your Christmas cards from this year. Pull one out each day and pray for that person or family.
2. Read the Bible more.
3. Use cloth grocery bags.
4. Find a cause to be passionate about.
5. Eat less, move more.
6. Set a goal for a certain number of hours to serve in our community.
7. Spend time together without TV or electronics.
8. Support PIN more.
9. Pray for our church leaders.
10. Do something with a friend that you know he or she will love doing even if it's not your favorite thing to do.

Personals

I'm pleased to announce that Pam Faulk is now the editor of the Personals column. Thanks Pam! – Jim

- Jim Brown was a patient at Riverside Hospital after experiencing a lot of pain after a fall. He has returned home.
- Mary Ann Mead (Jean Wickum's daughter) of Texarkana, Oklahoma is seriously ill.
- Kathy Russell's mother is seriously ill.

Prayer List

Please give additions or corrections to a Deacon.

Church Contact	Name	Reason for Prayer
Jane Moore	George Corder	Health issues
	Cathie Corder	Continued recovery
	Olivia Langwasser	Leukemia
The Deacons	Pam Debiasio	Health issues
	Jim VanBrimmer	Health issues
	Della Dove	Stroke Recovery
	Betty Porter	Health Issues
	Duane Binkley	Health Issues
	Janet Lathrop	Recovery
Jean Wickum	Mary Ann (Jean's daughter)	Health concerns
	Jim Brown	Health concerns
	Martha Green	-
	Fran Cook	Heart problems
The Chessers	Mary & Steve Sealey	Health issues
	Toosie Eggers	Health issues & auto accident injuries
Evelyn Lee	Mary Tilson	at Willowbrook
	Bertha VanBrimmer	Health issues
	Florence Faulk	at Delaware Court
Barb Reed	Regan Riedmiller	-
The Faulks	Bill Faulk	Stroke recovery
Bob Foor	Kay Kern	Cancer
	Donald Brown	Health concerns
Carol Grubbs	Haycox Family	Children's health
	Celesta Crawford	Medical issues

- Dave Lovell had emergency-room treatment twice for nose bleeds.
- Bernice Turney is seriously ill and was moved to the care center at the retirement community where she resides.
- After some weather-related delays, Rick Lee (Evelyn's son) has reached Antarctica on a scientific research trip.

- Betty Porter has returned home from her stay at the Sarah Moore home.

WEB LINKS

American Baptist Churches USA
ABC-USA.org

American Baptist Churches of Ohio
ABC-Ohio.org

First Baptist Church
FBCDelaware.org



Community Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebrations

At 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, Jan 17, the 25th annual MLK worship service will take place at St. Mark's Lutheran Church. The Rev. Sheri Smith Clayborn of Columbus will serve as keynote speaker.



At 8:15 a.m. on Monday, January 18, the 17th annual MLK breakfast celebration will take place in the Benes Rooms of Ohio Wesleyan's Hamilton-Williams Campus Center. The Rev. Dr. Patrick H. Clayborn of Methodist Theological School in Ohio will serve as keynote speaker. Individual breakfast tickets are \$20, with eight-person table sponsorships available for \$160. Reservations are required. For reservations, contact Rosalind Scott at (740) 368-3386 or rdscott@owu.edu.

Birthdays & Anniversaries



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