DOVER DIARY Newsletter of Dover Baptist Association Vol. LII, No. 11 - November 2026

Historic 243rd Annual Meeting and Missions & Ministry Fair

What a "Historic" day at the Dover Baptist Association's 243rd Annual Meeting and Missions & Ministry Fair. Tribal Leaders and pastors from Dover's Indian Baptist churches were presented with Dover's formal proclamation and observance of Indigenous People's Day. Dover churches celebrating anniversary milestones were recognized, including those historic Dover churches who are 250 years old or older. Attendees were treated to a wonderful reception, featuring Indian Tacos, and an opportunity to learn more about our Dover missions and ministry partners. A huge thank you to hosts Chief Stephen Adkins, Pastor Jay Hurley, and the wonderful Church family at Samaria Baptist Church!



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Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God.
(Romans 15:7 NIV)

"Cross" Culture

As I was entering high school, singer/songwriter Billy Swan became a one-hit wonder that summer with the Billboard chart topping song, "I Can Help." The song begins,

"If you got a problem, don't care what it is, you need a hand, I can assure you this, I can help.

I got two strong arms, I can help. It would sure do me good to do you good. Let me help."

Speaking of ancient history, I now have a little history of my own, although five years is a drop in the bucket of the Dover Baptist Association's 243 trips around the sun since 1783. I have been traveling this year to our historic churches who are celebrating milestone anniversaries. I have been humbled to learn about the efforts of those churches, leaders and servant saints who have both reached out to, and been part of marginalized people, who responded metaphorically, and literally, "I can help."

In his remarks at the 250th Homecoming Celebration of Dover Baptist Church, Dr. Fred Anderson, Executive Director Emeritus of the Virginia Baptist Historical Society reported, "In 1797, Dover Association (even) recommended, …that Baptists unite with the abolition society for gradual emancipation. If only the Virginia government had listened to the pleas of the 18th century Virginia Baptists, emancipation may have happened 70 years earlier and without a civil war." At the 250th Anniversary Celebration of Antioch Baptist Church, Chickahominy Tribe Chief, Stephen Adkins, touted the role of Antioch in providing space for Indian peoples to come together to worship.

These Native citizens would be the foundation of establishing Samaria Baptist Church, where Chief Adkins and his tribes' ancestors have served for 125 years. Samaria Baptist Church would then be a sending church for missionaries, Pete and Angela Adkins, who would plant Darkness to Light Community Church. This church serves the often-marginalized communities of the Standing Rock Indian Reservation in Cannon Ball, North Dakota.

During the 160th Anniversary Celebration at Second Liberty Baptist Church, Sister Taylor, reported that this predominantly African American Body of Christ, began when black members of Emmaus Baptist Church (another 250-year-old Dover church) met with other black Christians across the county to form what would become Second Liberty, so named because of the congregations' newfound liberty.

Our Dover churches continue to reach out and reflect the cultural diversity of our community and nation. We consist of predominantly Arabic, Asian, African, African American, Hispanic, Native American and white congregations.

It is important to remember that those then, just as we now, were an imperfect people, saved purely by the grace of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. It is my belief that, like now, the decision to do the right thing was prompted and only accomplished through the moving of the Holy Spirit. In this time when incivility, racism, division, and an effort, by many, to keep different races, ethnicities, and cultures, in the margins, perhaps our Lord is calling us Baptists to repeat history. It is my most fervent prayer that we begin, literally and metaphorically, with a Christian "Cross" culture commitment of "I can help!" God bless.

Arnold "Win" Davis,
Executive Director of Missions

DBA Upcoming Events & Deadlines

Visit www.doverbaptist.org or call the Dover office at (804) 550-1980 for more information.

Weekly Pastor/Minister Support Group, Dover Office & Zoom. Mondays, 9:30 a.m. and lunch at Roma's first Wednesday of each month at noon.

November 1: Daylight Savings Time ends
November 2: DWMU Meeting - Nat'l Day of Prayer, 6:30 to 8 p.m.
November 3: Election Day (Learn, Pray, Get Out & Vote!)
November 4: Pastor Support Group Lunch; Noon @ Roma's
November 11: Veteran's Day
November 18: Needle's Eye Luncheon; Noon @ Dover
November 26: Happy Thanksgiving (office closed.)

LOOKING AHEAD:

To access our Dover calendar, please check out our website homepage: www.doverbaptist.org

December 1: CVRM, 9-11 a.m. on Zoom
December 2: Pastor Support Group Lunch; Noon @ Roma's
December 5: Lottie Moon Christmas Tea, 2-4 p.m.





missions trip opportunity

"WE NEED TO SPREAD THE GOSPEL NOW!" - Pastor Joe

Famaden Memorial Institute, a Dover Missions Partner in Liberia, seeks long and short term missionaries!
Contact: j8reev@gmail.com

Condolences

. . . to the family and friends of **Jean A. Stewart**. Ms. Stewart is sister to Chief Stephen Adkins and a proud citizen of the Chickahominy Indian Tribe. Jean devoted her time to serving Samaria Baptist Church as a GA leader and was an active member of the Dover WMU.

GOOOOOOOAL!

Thank you, Dover churches and individuals who helped "BREAK" this year's Watson Mission Offering goal!

2026 GOAL: **$40,000**

Current 2026 Giving: **$42,615**

PRAYER CHANGES THINGS

Send your prayer requests to our Prayer Team at prayers@doverbaptist.org

We humbly request that you PRAY FOR THESE

Dover Staff and all Dover churches, with emphasis for:

November 1: Samaria: Chief Stephen Adkins, Rev. Jay Hurley, Donna Turner;

November 8: Second Liberty: Rev. Sean T. Young, Audrey P. Christian, Eugene Williams, Pattie Christian, Yvonne Jones, Bernard Williams, Clarice Williams, Earl Roberts, Larry O. Christian, Larry D. Christian, Spotswood Johnson, Morvitz Johnson, Patricia Paige-Robinson, Barbara Manuel, Lisa Williams-Nash

November 15: Shalom: Rev. Mark Miller, Jean Dart, Kathy Seay, Jeff Farrier, Kelly Bittler

November 22: Sharon: Rev. Chad Brannan, Lisa Nault, Melissa Barber, Kristen Fisher, Lynn Uzel

November 29: Taylorsville: Rev. Kyle Dobyns, Betsy Hawkins, Debbie Taylor

Lift a special prayer for these churches in transition:

Hopeful
HopeWELL
Kentwood Heights
New Highland
Oak Hall
Pamunkey Indian
Pioneer

Dover Baptist Association
PO Box 6128
Ashland, VA 23005
"A Resource Network for Baptist Churches since 1783"

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Positions Available

Berea Baptist Church seeks a Senior Pastor (full-time), a Praise and Worship Leader - 8 a.m. Contemporary Service and an Organist (Part-Time). For info or to email résumé: personnel@bereabaptistva.com

Deep Run Child Development Center seeks Teachers/Assistant Teachers (full- and part-time). Send résumé to dmdrbc@gmail.com

Faith Community Academy Elementary (Berea) seeks a 2nd-Grade Elementary School Teacher and Substitute Teachers for the current 2025-2026 school year. For info and employment application, use this link or email the Academy Director at fca.elementary@bereabaptistva.com

Child Care Development Center, a ministry of First Baptist Church, Ashland, seeks a Director, Lead Teachers, and Assistant Teachers. Interested? Please send your resume to resumes@ashlandccdc.org

HopeWELL Baptist Church seeks a Senior Pastor (full-time). For more info, email the Pastor Search Committee at hbcnk.pastorsearch@gmail.com

Mount Vernon Baptist Church seeks Child Care Workers (part-time), an Audio/Visual Technician, and an Associate Pastor for Adult Discipleship. For more info and/or apply: https://mountvernon.church/careers/

New Highland Baptist Church seeks a Senior Pastor (full-time). For info, or to email résumé: seniorpastorsearchnhbc@gmail.com

Northside Baptist Church is seeking an Associate Pastor of Youth and Next Generation. Interested parties may send resumes to: jobs@northsidenext.org

Pioneer Baptist Church seeks a Pastor (full-time). Interested? Please email: office@pioneerbaptist.comcastbiz.net

Sharon Baptist Church seeks a Music Director (part-time). For info or to send résumé: sharonbc@verizon.net or call 804-769-2320

Taylorsville Baptist Church seeks a Youth Minister (part-time) responsible for teaching, nurturing, and encouraging the faith formation of youth in grades 6th - 12th. To apply, submit a brief cover letter, resume & three references to youth.taylorsvillebaptistchurch@gmail.com

Non-Dover Baptist Association Opportunities

Camp Alkulana seeks Camp Counselors (seasonal). Please see https://alkulana.org/

Ferry Farm Baptist Church in Fredericksburg seeks a Youth Ministry Coordinator. For more information, visit https://ferryfarmbc.org/ Interested? Email resume and cover letter by September 20, 2026: ymc-search@ferryfarmbc.org

Gayton Baptist Church seeks a Piano Accompanist (part-time) for the worship band and choir. To apply, please send your resume and a brief cover letter to Office@Gayton.Church

Goshen Baptist Association seeks a Director of Missions (part-time). Interested candidates should submit a resume to gba587m@gmail.com

Mineral Baptist Church seeks an Associate Pastor/Youth Pastor (part-time). Interested candidates should submit a cover letter and resume to searchteam@mineralbaptistchurch.org

Oakland Baptist Church seeks a Pianist. Interested? please call Lesley Alford at 804-512-3854 or Rev. Mark Davis at 540-292-4668.

Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church (Clarksburg, WV) seeks a Pastor (full- or part-time). Please submit résumé to hmbcpastsearch@gmail.com