DOVER DIARY Newsletter of Dover Baptist Association Vol. LII, No. 9 - September 2026

Life Changing

You can read the same Scripture passage a thousand times, and it may come across the same way each time, until you live out its application. This was certainly the case with my recent short-term mission trip. Dover partnered with Corinth Baptist Church and The Hope Project to launch our first collaborative mission trip to Nicaragua. As one Body of Christ, we washed feet and gave out shoes. We fed, taught, and played games with children. We built and delivered bunk beds to families who were sleeping on dirt floors and on benches. We hosted a pastors' conference, and through our interpreter, taught sound doctrine to local ministers. We secured, and helped pastors obtain water filters to fend off the prevalence of waterborne illness. We funded medicine for them and their families. Women were taught to crochet for both their own needs, and to sell to help support their families. Most importantly, we prayed daily (and will continue to do so) for these precious people and leaders in the second poorest country in the Western hemisphere.

> "for I was hungry
> and you gave Me food;
> I was thirsty
> and you gave Me drink;
> ***I was a stranger***

As we served, my heart and mind took me, as it often does, to Matthew's Gospel, chapter 25, verses 31 – 40. This is the proclamation of Jesus, who reminds His faithful followers, that "whatever you did for the least of these, you did for Me." As we were delivering food, serving meals, and pouring drinks, I was stricken by a new revelation that I had not thought of before. Perhaps, I was the stranger who needed to be taken in.

You see, when I was young, I cared little about missions. I was more concerned with self than serving, and the least of these was the most distant thing from my mind. I was estranged from God, self-absorbed, and wandering off the path God wanted me to follow. It wasn't until I hit my lowest of lows, that I cried out, and God took me in. He picked me up, washed off the dirt (and there was a lot of dirt), and restored my soul. He sent a mentor, who had also once been estranged, but who, like me, needed to be taken into the family of God and discipled, so that he might disciple others.

When I was in Nicaragua, I was also a stranger, and yet, the people invited me into their homes. The blessing of serving was far more beneficial for me than it was for them. The two words that describe it best are "life changing." I pray that you might consider a life-changing mission trip, both for the least of these, and for yourself.

Arnold "Win" Davis,
Executive Director of Missions

Note: If you are part of a church that may not currently be able to field a whole mission team or have always wanted to serve in short-term national and/or international missions, consider joining fellow Dover Baptist Association church members to be the hands, heart, feet and voice of Jesus. Mission Scholarships are available. For more info, email us at Dover.Info@doverbaptist.org.

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 Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.

September 1 - CVRM, 9-11 a.m. on Zoom
September 7 - Office Closed (Labor Day)
September 15 - Dover Council, 1-3 p.m.
September 26 - DWMU Spiritual Enrichment, 2-3:30 p.m.
October 5 - DWMU Council, 6:30 p.m.
October 6 - CVRM, 9-11 a.m. on Zoom
October 12 - Prayer Team, 10-11 a.m.

SAVE THE DATES:

October 13 - Dover Exec Committee Meeting, 7 p.m.
October 25 - Dover Annual Meeting, Samaria Baptist, 3 p.m.

LOOKING AHEAD:

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

Dover WMU Spiritual Enrichment

September 26, 2026, 2-3:30 p.m.
at the Dover Baptist Association office at
11006 Lakeridge Parkway
Ashland, VA 23005
Prayer Changes Things!

Questions? Email Darlene Herod at kingherod@earthlink.net

You're Invited by Chief Adkins to
the Chickahominy Pow Wow & Fall Festival
September 25-27th

Traditional dances, music performances, cultural demonstrations, and artisan crafts. Grand Entry scheduled for Saturday at noon and Sunday at 1 p.m.

SAVE THE DATE

HerMission Multicultural Missions Celebration September 12th at Dover Member Church, Grace Chinese Baptist Church of Richmond

243rd

Historic! Annual Meeting

Wear your Red, White & Blue and Join us at **Dover's 243rd Annual Meeting and Missions & Ministry Fair on Sunday, October 25, beginning at 3 p.m. at Samaria Baptist Church.**

Our theme this year is "Historic!" as we celebrate our nation's 250th birthday, and the Dover churches, members and tribes who are part of Dover, and our nation's founding fabric. Special $250 drawing to wish a Happy Birthday to our Historic Dover Churches and Nation!

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:

September 6: Northside: Dr. Michael Sanders, Judy DeWalt, Greg Etheridge, Amy Hunter, Jennifer Gray, Lauren Modlin, Crys Howk, Stephanie Cervantes, Jo Ann Donithan

September 13: Oak Hall: Judy Pugliese, Clarence Grubbs

September 20: Pamunkey Indian: Ann Wallace, Arlean Wallace, Joyce Krigsvold

September 27: Parham Road: Kevin Branham, Josh Fletcher, Robin Kirkpatrick, Frances Whitlock

Lift a special prayer for these churches in transition:

Berea
HopeWELL
Kentwood Heights
New Highland
Oak Hall
Pamunkey Indian
Pioneer

Our Sincere Sympathies

...To the family, friends, and constituents of **Floyd H. Miles, Sr.** of **Little Elam Baptist Church**, former Dover Moderator, Deacon, VA House of Delegates Representative, and faithful family man and servant leader, who passed away on August 8, 2026.

Protecting His People. Preparing His Church.

The Faith Based Security Network (FBSN) brings together like-minded men and women committed to helping churches become more intentional, prepared, and effective in protecting the people God has entrusted to their care. Want to learn more or get your church connected?

Steve McLane (Parham Road Baptist)
FBSN Region 3 Leader
Ready, Willing & Able
sbmclane.prbc@gmail.com
804-837-3332

HOW CAN THE WOUNDS OF OUR HEARTS BE HEALED?

A Small Group for Bible-based Trauma Healing

This healing group uses the proven and time-tested model of the Trauma Healing Institute at American Bible Society. Using applied Scripture and best mental health principles, we can help you address spiritual and emotional wounds caused by trauma of war, violence, natural disasters, serious accidents, and abuse.

The group will use the book *Healing the Wounds of Trauma: How the Church Can Help*. It is in use in over 100 countries with more than 194 language groups in Africa, Asia, the Pacific and the Americas. To learn more about the model, the Trauma Healing Institute, and its work in equipping and supporting a global community of workers in trauma care, please visit TraumaHealingInstitute.org.

To register, call 804-746-7253 for Mechanicsville Baptist Church by October 17, 2026.

GO, TELL THE WORLD global missions trip partnership opportunities

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

Operations at Famaden include a school from nursery to high school, a clinic for students and senior citizens, Bible school, churches, and church planting with facilities to attract people for the sharing of the true gospel. They are in definite need of short and long term missionaries, and have a guesthouse to host them. “Hit Pastor Joe Reeves up” if God is calling you to help spread the Gospel and for detailed information at his WhatsApp numbers: 804-437-4986/ 0881235721. You can also email him at j8reev@gmail.com or message him on Facebook Messenger. **WE NEED TO SPREAD THE GOSPEL NOW!!!**

WATSON MISSIONS OFFERING

We are SO close to our Watson Mission Offering Goooooooal! Please send your church and personal contributions (note: WAMO on check) before Oct. 31st.

Current 2026 Giving:

$39,089

towards

$40,000

Q: How do I apply for a Watson Missions Grant?

A: Applications are due prior to October 31st. The 2026 application form and requirements have been **updated** on our website:

doverbaptist.org/watson-missions-grant

Returning applicants, thanks for your patience in the necessary changes to the application made to steward accountability and clarity in our grant process. If you are a 2025 recipient applying for 2026, please do not forget to submit your required 2025 report to our office outlining how the awarded grant was used in order to maintain your eligibility.

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

Non-Profit Organization
US Postage Paid
Permit No. 3022
Richmond, VA

Positions Available

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

Cool Spring Baptist Church seeks a Children's Associate (part time) to support elementary-aged children. To apply, submit your resume and a brief statement of interest to: hr@coolspring.org

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

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

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

Ridge Baptist Church seeks an Administrative Assistant (part-time) Please send an email to personnel@ridgechurch.org for the full job description or to submit your resume.

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

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