



Dover Diary

Newsletter of Dover Baptist Association

"a resource and ally for churches and their leaders"

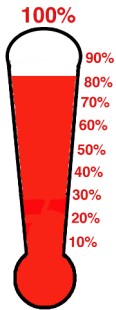
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November 2019

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Leslie and Hazel Watson Association Missions Offering



Goal: \$35,000

Received as of
October 25:
\$27,925.33

Thank You!!

Remember to "Fall Back" on Sunday, November 3

Daylight Savings Time ends November 3.

Monthly Dover Sunday School Director's Meeting

Hosted by: Steve Smith
November 25—6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Dover Office Building, Light supper provided



Operation Christmas Child Collection Schedule

Mount Vernon Baptist Church
11220 Nuckols Road, Glen Allen

Mon, Nov. 18: 12:00 PM - 7:00 PM
Tue, Nov. 19: 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM
4:30 PM - 7:00 PM
Wed, Nov. 20: 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM
4:30 PM - 7:00 PM
Thu, Nov. 21: 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM
4:30 PM - 7:00 PM
Fri, Nov. 22: 12:00 PM - 6:00 PM
Sat, Nov. 23: 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM
Sun, Nov. 24: 12:00 PM - 7:00 PM
Mon, Nov. 25: 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM

New Bethesda Baptist Church
9019 New Bethesda Road, Mechanicsville

Mon, Nov. 18: 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
4:00 PM - 7:00 PM
Tue, Nov. 19: 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Wed, Nov. 20: 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Thu, Nov. 21: 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM
Fri, Nov. 22: 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Sat, Nov. 23: 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Sun, Nov. 24: 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Mon, Nov. 25: 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Ashland, First Baptist Church
800 Thompson Street, Ashland

Mon, Nov. 18: 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Tue, Nov. 19: 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM
Wed, Nov. 20: 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Thu, Nov. 21: 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM
Fri, Nov. 22: 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Sat, Nov. 23: 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Sun, Nov. 24: 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM
Mon, Nov. 25: 7:30 AM - 10:30 AM

Resource Roundtable: Refugees in Central VA

Friday, November 8
11 a.m.—1:00 p.m., lunch provided.
Dover Baptist Association
Please call (804) 550-1980 or email sam.duenckel@doverbaptist.org to RSVP.

Moving Forward in Challenging Times

On Tuesday evening, October 8, the Dover Executive Committee met and heard a report from the Executive Director Search Committee. As a part of their report, the committee recommended a change in staffing that would have changed the leadership structure to include co-directors and eliminate the position of Associate for Missions. Following extensive discussion, the recommendation was not adopted by the Executive Committee.

Following the vote on the recommendation from the Search Committee, the members of the Search Committee stepped down from their positions. At the conclusion of the meeting, our Moderator, Dr. Tim Madison, read a letter stating that our Interim Executive Director, Dr. Bob Dale, was concluding his service with Dover due to health considerations. In the days since, Rev. Rose Mary Stewart has also resigned from her role as Interim Executive Director.

As we move forward, this leaves three important questions to ask as member churches of the Dover Baptist Association: Where are we now? Where do we go from here? and How do we get there?

First, where are we now? Essentially, we are back at the point where we started two years ago following the retirement of Steve Allsbrook as our Executive Director of Missions. At that time, the Moderator of the association was tasked with appointing an Executive Director Search Committee who would then recommend interim leadership and then begin the search process for our next Executive Director. While the situation is similar to what it was two years ago, the challenges are different at this time. Not only do we find ourselves looking to find new executive leadership for the association, we do so this time with a division of opinion among the association churches. There has been spirited debate concerning recommendations about Dover's staff structure. Of those who have participated in the discussion, there has been an almost equal number of voices on each side of the question. At a point where a nearly equal number of people are invested on each side of a debate, the potential for division and a broken spirit of cooperation is a dangerous possibility. This places the Dover Baptist Association at a critical moment in its history.

Where do we go from here? From a procedural perspective, similar steps will be taken as were taken previously. Our incoming Moderator will appoint an Executive Director Search Committee that will be tasked with recommending both interim and ongoing staff leadership to the association. That committee will, in cooperation and consultation with the Executive Committee, take the steps necessary to secure the leadership we sense God has chosen for our association.

At the same time, we will also need to confront some important realities. In my opinion, the evaluation and recommendations brought to us through the Futures Report, so ably done by Bob Dale and Rose Mary Stewart, and the

excellent work completed by the outgoing Executive Director Search Committee still needs serious examination and consideration going forward. We live and minister in a time where rapid change is the norm and we face sometimes daunting challenges as a result. Those challenges, however, offer marvelous opportunities if we go forward together, seeking and implementing God's will for us as an association. My prayer is that the time before us can be a time when we not only seek the executive leadership God has chosen for us, but when we also actively seek the kind of future-oriented focus that will have us ready to move ahead in the mission the Lord has for us in Central Virginia and around the world. As a long-time Dover pastor, I am grateful for the role that Bob, Rose Mary and the previous search committee have done in setting the stage for making those prayerful discussions possible.

How do we get there? Ultimately, I believe everyone wants to see the Dover Baptist Association grow, reach people for Jesus Christ, plant new churches, strengthen existing churches and equip believers for effective, faithful service to accomplish God's purposes. At this moment in our history, there are competing visions concerning the framework in which that mission can be accomplished. We can move forward together if we love God first without reservation, love one another without hesitation, and love those around us for whom Christ died.

In 1 Corinthians 3:10-11 we hear the apostle Paul say, "According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is building on it. Each builder must choose with care how to build on it. For no one can lay any foundation other than the one that has been laid; the foundation is Jesus Christ." It is important for the Dover Baptist Association to acknowledge as we go forward that we are building on a foundation that has been laid by those who have led so ably in the past. I am not speaking only of the amazing history of this association, but also of the foundation laid by recent leadership, of our recent Executive Directors, our interim leaders and the most recent Search Committee who have provided us as an association with tools that can help us move forward effectively. Only God has the perfect plan for the future of Dover. If we will follow His direction, we can and will go forward. In the verses which follow the ones quoted above, Paul reminds those who continue the work to be careful how they build. No matter what our feelings may be concerning the most recent decisions made by the association, that is good advice to follow. Let's keep our eyes on the only foundation that ultimately matters. the foundation laid in Jesus Christ.

—Alan Ray, Senior Pastor
Ridge Baptist Church

Pray For These

The leaders of Tipi Wakan Ministries, our Dover Staff, and in Dover's churches:

November 3: **Sharon Baptist Church**

James Sevon, Senior Pastor; Alyce Vinson, Lynn Buker, Luke Fisher, Kristen Fisher

Prayer: Pray for the church leaders and ministries of Sharon Baptist Church.

Praise: We praise God for his blessings and mercy each day.

November 10: **Tabernacle of Praise International**

Joe Reeves, Pastor

Prayer: We ask for prayer for continued children's ministry growth, training materials and workers. Pray for an upcoming mission trip in 2020 in January and June to support new Church plant in Liberia, for supplies for the new school that will open next year September in Liberia. Pray for Pastor Joe Reeves as head leads the TPMI Church!

November 10: **Taylorsville Baptist Church**

Ted Dougherty, Pastor; Debbie Taylor, Melissa Miller, Betsy Hawkins

Prayer: Pray for the church leaders and ministries of Taylorsville Baptist Church.

Praise: We praise God for his blessings and mercy each day.

November 17: **Tree Ridge Baptist Church**

Bradley Harris, Pastor; Craig Suiter

Prayer: Pray for the church leaders and ministries of Tree Ridge Baptist Church.

Praise: We praise God for his blessings and mercy each day.

November 24: **Tsena Commocho Baptist Church**

Ed Preston, Pastor

Prayer: We ask for discernment for our ministry endeavors in the coming year.

Praise: We offer praise for a loving, giving congregation who honor the Lord in their service.

Personnel Changes

Hunton Baptist Church welcomed Tanya Shearin as their Children's Ministry Director on September 1.

Oak Hall Baptist Church welcomed Eric Durden as their Pastor on September 22.

West Point Baptist Church welcomed Francine Adler as their Office Administrator on September 23.

North Run Baptist Church welcomed Erica White as their Ministry Assistant on September 30.

Dee Gray concluded her service as Director of Music for **Black Creek Baptist Church** on October 1.

Brock Goetsch concluded his service as Senior Pastor of **Walnut Grove Baptist Church** on October 6.

Bob Dale concluded his service as Co-Intentional Interim Director of Missions at **Dover Baptist Association** on October 11.

Rose Mary Stewart concluded her service as Co-Intentional Interim Director of Missions at **Dover Baptist Association** on October 11.

Parham Road Baptist Church welcomed John Gilliam as their Minister of Youth, and Audrey Fleming-Hawkins as their Associate Minister to Families, Youth, and Children on October 13.

Shalom Baptist Church welcomed Kelly Bittler as their Ministry Assistant on October 16.

Mark Shideler concluded his service as Student Pastor of **Walnut Grove Baptist Church** on October 18.

Aaron Fehlen concluded his service as the Director of Music Ministries at **Walnut Grove Baptist Church** on October 25.

DWMU News

World Day of Prayer

Monday, November 4, 10:30 a.m and 7:00 p.m.

Mechanicsville Baptist Church

Everyone is invited to come and join us for a meaningful time of prayer for people at home and around the world. Both sessions will be the same. Prayer changes the world!

Lottie Moon Christmas Tea

Sponsored by the Dover WMU

Sunday, December 8, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Hosted by Four Mile Creek Baptist Church

2950 New Market Road, Henrico 23231

You won't want to miss it! Come and enjoy a wonderful afternoon of fellowship as we enjoy delicious teas and treats and hear from one of our IMB missionaries supported by the Lottie Moon Offering. There even may be an appearance by Miss Lottie Moon!

There is no cost for this event but pre-registration is requested by calling the church office (804) 795-2044 by Sunday, November 24.



Dover Baptist Association
11006 Lakeridge Parkway
Ashland, VA 23005

"a resource and ally for churches and their leaders"

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

vacant, Executive Director of Missions
Sam Duenckel, Associate for Missions
Sandy Weakley, Executive Assistant
Sue Hall, Ministry Assistant
Steve Smith, Associate for Ministry to Church Leaders
Jacquie Alleva, Office Assistant

Positions Available

Visit www.doverbaptist.org for all of the job openings.

Hebron Campus of Broadus Memorial Baptist Church

seeks a part-time Worship Leader (approx. 10 hr/wk). Candidate must be a dedicated Christian comfortable with planning and leading various styles of music. More information available at www.BroadusChurch.org. Direct resumes or questions to Jeff@BroadusMBC.org, or mail to Broadus Church Personnel Committee (Attn: Jeff), 5351 Pole Green Road, Mechanicsville 23116.

Broadus Memorial Baptist Church seeks a Minister of Youth and Discipleship (full-time). The candidate should be a trained, energetic and deeply committed Christian leader to coordinate the church's ministry to 30+ middle and high school students and their families, as well as overseeing adult Bible study and discipleship initiatives. For more information, visit www.BroadusChurch.org.

Dover Baptists Express Sympathy

...to the family of Hilma Herron who passed away on October 2. Hilma was a member of **Hillcrest Baptist Church**, and she served on the Dover WMU Leadership Team from 2003-2013.

...to the family of Marvin Marshall who passed away on October 16. Marvin's wife, Cindy, served as the Youth Minister at **Hardy Central Baptist Church**, and served on the Student Ministries Council for **Dover Baptist Association**.

Partnership Missions Focus

Collecting Gift Cards for Tribal Elders

Tipi Wakan Baptist Church wishes to collect (40) \$25.00 Wal-Mart gift cards for the Cannon Ball Elder Christmas Dinner. The dinner will be on December 5, and they would like to give each elder a gift card. Please send the gift cards by November 22nd. Email partnership@doverbaptist.org or call (804) 550-1980 for more information.

Christmas Gifts for Cannon Ball Community

As part of Dover's partnership with Tipi Wakan Ministries, we're asking Dover Baptist to sponsor a child/adult for \$25.00 or whatever you feel lead to give. The cost of shipping gifts is expensive and the monies can be better used to purchase gift items. We request sending the funds by November 22nd to:

Tipi Wakan Ministries
PO Box 246
Cannon Ball, ND 58528

Tipi Wakan Ministries will purchase the gifts locally. If gifts have already been purchased, please feel free to send them. For more information, contact: Pete and Angela Adkins, (701) 854-3607

Annual Church Profiles

As soon as the Annual Church Profiles are received from Lifeway, they will be mailed to the churches. Deadline will be February 29, 2020. We apologize for the delay.