

DOVER DIARY

Newsletter of Dover Baptist Association "A Resource Network for Baptist Churches since 1783"

Vol. XLV, No. 7 July 2023

Make Plans Now to Celebrate The Dover Baptist Association's 240th Anniversary

Save the Date!

THE PERFECT SUMMER BODY

For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

— (Romans 12: 4 – 8 NIV)

I feel like my body is falling apart. As I write this, I am nursing a few wounds and injuries. There's about 8 inches of deep purple bruising on the back of my leg. "It's probably a small tear in the calf or hamstring muscle," my doctor friend tells me. "You might want to hold off on the pickleball," he smiles, as he states the obvious. There's a row of antibiotics and anti-inflammatories lined up across my kitchen counter to fight off infection and discomfort from yesterday's dental surgery. My scalp is smarting (and peeling) from the latest round of blasting those precancerous spots with liquid nitrogen. The irony, of course, is once upon a time, in my youth, things like vigorous exercise while enjoying the warm sun on my face gave me energy and strength. Like many young athletes, I strived for the perfect summer body.

As a youth, fifty years ago, this summer, I was introduced to another body, the Body of Christ known as the local Baptist church. There, I fell in love with Jesus. Like my aging body now, it was far from perfect, but when we strived, as our Savior Jesus admonished to "be perfect like your Heavenly Father is perfect." God gave us the privilege to be His ambassadors and help build His Kingdom on earth.

As I became more involved in the Baptist church, I gained an appreciation for the impact that the greater Body of Christ, i.e., different churches could do collectively. When I served as a pastor, our Baptist church partnered with another Baptist church, each belonging to different state associations. We both knew there were some philosophical differences, including the role of women in servant leadership. We each respected the autonomy of the local Baptist church but, more importantly, we knew that our greatest call was to The Great Commandment, The Great Commission, and the proclamation of God's inerrant Word led first and foremost by the Gospel articulated from the perfect lips of our Savior Jesus Christ.

Together we traveled outside the U.S., and outside our comfort zone as short-term missionaries, and together (with the leading of the Holy Spirit) we led the lost to Jesus Christ. Over a dozen of our youth were baptized together on the same day in the same lake as the Holy Spirit swept through our church camp one summer. Together, we were one body of Christ.

This summer, in many ways, I feel like my other body, my Baptist Body of Christ, is falling apart as leaders on both sides of the doctrinal coin defend their stances, define their doctrine, and/or even defy the position that diverse Southern Baptist Churches can work together to lead the lost to Jesus Christ. I'm not sure how, or even if, this high-profile disagreement, will affect the Body of Christ locally. As the Executive Director of a local Baptist association, I'm still seeing and supporting church collaboration that doesn't fuel the fires of disunity. Pastors are still meeting with each other, even though a few of their churches belong to different state associations. We're still scheduled to receive thousands of Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes from dozens of diverse churches in a unified effort to introduce Jesus to children around the world. Our church folks are still feeding and clothing those in need, going into jails, building houses, and housing the homeless, including those whose homes and churches have been destroyed by war. (I suppose if you're homeless or your church is wiped off the face of the earth, you're less likely to argue about who should be allowed to rebuild it.)

I'm saddened and disappointed, but not surprised. God's will is always perfect, but is often made imperfect when it goes from the hands of God into the hands of man. My perfect (physical and church) body will never be achieved until we are united for eternity with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Until then, I'll keep working on strengthening both.

— A. Win Davis, DBA Executive Director

2023 Watson Association Missions Offering (WAMO)

The Leslie & Hazel Watson Association Missions Offering supports the ministries of local and international organizations. *None* of the funds contributed to this offering go towards the Dover General Operating Budget! The Leslie & Hazel Watson Offering is named in memory of an amazing couple who were strongly dedicated to God and His Missions. The Watsons were long-time Dover Baptists as well as missionaries serving in Japan among other areas across the globe.



For Grant Application Guidelines and the 2023 WAMO Prayer Guide, please visit:

www.doverbaptist.org/resources/wamo



DBA July Events & Deadlines

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

Independence Day, Dover Office Closed July 4

Weekly Minister Support Group, Dover Office Mondays, 9:30 a.m. or Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.

Operation Christmas Child's Donuts with Devon, Dover Office, Thursday, July 13, 10:00 a.m.

Prayer Council, Dover Office Monday, July 17, 10:00 a.m.

Executive Committee Meeting, Dover Office, Thursday, July 18, 7:00 p.m.

Raceway Cookie Dropoff, Dover Office, Monday July 24—Thursday, July 27

Pastor Health Network, Dover Office Wednesday, July 26, 12:00 p.m.

Raceway Ministries Race Days, Richmond Int'l Raceway, Saturday and Sunday, July 29 & 30

LOOKING AHEAD...

Ministry Assistants Luncheon, Dover Office Tuesday, August 8, 11:30 a.m.

Spiritual Enrichment Study, Dover Office Thursday, August 17, 6 p.m. Dinner, 7 p.m. Meeting

Financial Accounting Class, Dover Office Thursday, August 24, 10:00 a.m.

Leadership Development Conference, Shalom BC Monday, September 18, 5:15 p.m. — 8:30 p.m.

2023 WAMO Grant Application Info

Purpose: fund missions and charitable work outside of Dover's budgeted expenses, calling attention to missions and charitable work in and beyond the communities served by Dover churches, intended to benefit work that complements, rather than duplicates, the work of Dover and its churches in keeping with our biblical values.

Who May Apply: A Dover church that contributes to the association's General Budget may apply on behalf of a tax-exempt ministry or organization that provides services in keeping with our biblical values to a people group in the community that church serves.

For further Application Requirements and Process, please see details in our Dover Weekly New Blast or at the clickable link to the left..

Leadership Development Conference



"...and love your neighbor as yourself." Mark 12:31

Monday, September 18, 2023 www.baptistleaders.org

Shalom Baptist Church 8116 Walnut Grove Rd Mechanicsville, VA

Tentative Schedule:

5:15—6:15 p.m. Dinner

6:30—7:30 p.m. 1st Breakout Session 7:30—8:30 p.m. 2nd Breakout Session

Early Bird Rate until Sep. 4

TEN featured speakers and leaders!

Pastor Health Network: July and August



Our next meeting is Wednesday July 26, 2023, noon to 2:00 p.m. at the Dover Office. We usually brown bag it for lunch. This will follow the Pastor Support Group Meeting which begins at 10:30 a.m. We will be looking at the book is *Letter to the American Church* by Eric Metaxas.

Our August Meeting will be Wednesday 16th, brown bag it for lunch. This will follow the Pastor Support Group Meeting which begins at 10:30 a.m. Our August Book *On Living Well: Brief Reflections on Wisdom for Walking in the Way of Jesus* by Eugene H. Peterson.

Please get your own books and turn in the receipt to Dover for a partial reimbursement.

Hope to see you there, Greg Soult bowtiepastor@gmail.com

Pray For These

The leaders of Famaden Memorial Institute, our Dover Staff and all Dover's churches:

July 2: Mount Pleasant

Earl Kirby (Senior Pastor)

July 9: Mount Vernon

Dr. Josh Franklin (Senior Pastor),

Clayton Carnall, Jerry Parker, John Sullivan, Michelle Ives, Gary Robertson, Jeff Randolph, Kim Roll, Jessica Benson, Cathy Dayton, Kim Gilbert, Susan Sharon, Julia Mullens, Annette Miller, Anne Winston, Ted Milby, Dee Yarbrough, Karen Willoughby,

Brian Mahne, Ken Sledd, Lynn Madden,

Ashley Jones, Dianne Piciocco

July 16: New Bethesda

Caleb Bittler (Senior Pastor), Tiffany Talley,

Steve LaCombe, Shirley Mitchell

July 23: New Highland

Derek Nicksich (Senior Pastor), Matt White,

Marianne Dalton, Jennifer Perego

July 30: New Life

Lee Mitchell (Senior Pastor) Cathy Rodwell, Willie McKind, Ron Baylor, Kyle Eaddy,

Asher Purvis

A special prayer for the following churches that are in transition (either currently without a pastor or have an interim/intentional pastor):

Arabic Indian View Sharon

Corinth Mechanicsville Taylorsville

Four Mile Creek Pamunkey Indian

Hopewell Poplar Springs

Dover Expresses Our Sympathy

...to Bob Mills and family in the death of his beloved wife, **Karen Mills** on June 2. Karen was a member of **Northside Baptist** for 66 years and served as Director of Children and Youth for several years. Karen also served Dover as our Clerk from 2014 to 2022.

...to Pastor Rick Allison of **Deep Run Baptist**, whose brother **Rodney Allison** passed away on June 9.

...to the family of **Mechanicsville Baptist** Former Pastor Don Stewart (deceased) and wife Ruth Stewart in the loss of their granddaughter, **Grace Knabenshue** of Mechanicsville Christian Center, on May 31.

...to Pastor Jeff Mills of Colosse Baptist Church and family on the passing of his brother Del West.

Personnel Changes

Welcome...

Noah Herritt, new Youth Minister at **North Run Baptist Church** as installed May 10.

Congratulations...

to Rev. Ross Wright, who has accepted the calling to serve as the **First Baptist Church Ashland** full-time Pastor of Worship!



Central Virginia Raceway Ministries Needs YOU!

Richmond Raceway 800 East Laburnum Avenue

EVENT SERVICE MINISTRY: SHIFTS/CAMPING

Ministry service opportunities are available during NAS-CAR Race Weekend Friday, July 28 through Sunday, July 30, with mandatory Worker Training Session taking place on TBD. Volunteers will work 5-6 hour shifts. Campers/RVs are also needed!

PRE-EVENT SERVICE MINISTRY: COOKIES

Hundreds of small, clear zipped plastic bags with 2-3 medium-sized "homemade" cookies are needed! A label saying "compliments of [your] Church" may be put on the outside of the bag. NO tracts please! These will be available by Central Virginia Raceway Ministries. Please drop off at the Dover Office, 11006 Lakeridge Parkway, July 24-27.

For more info or to signup for volunteer shift(s):

PHONE: (804) 601-4463

EMAIL: info@varacewayministries.org



MECHANICS OF FAITH ANNUAL BBQ FUNDRAISER

3 PM on Saturday, July 29th at New Life Baptist Church, 6229 Osborne Turnpike.

Register using the QR Code or phone the Mechanics of Faith office: 804.277.3205





Dover Baptist Association PO Box 6128 Ashland, VA 23005

"A Resource Network for Baptist Churches since 1783"

Win Davis, Executive Director of Missions Sandy Weakley, Executive Assistant Sue Hall, Ministry Assistant Steve Smith, Associate for Ministry to Church Leaders Non-Profit Organization US Postage Paid Permit No. 3022 Richmond, VA

Positions Available

Visit www.doverbaptist.org /jobs for all openings or click hyperlinks below in electronic newsletter.

Berea Baptist Church seeks a <u>Head of Elementary School</u> and a <u>Church Assistant Treasurer (Part-time)</u>. Send résumés to seniorpastor.berea@gmail.com.

Dover Baptist Church seeks a <u>Youth & Children's Director (parttime)</u> for ages 10-18.

Ferry Farm Baptist (Fredericksburg) seeks a <u>Children & Youth Pastor</u>. Interests may send cover letters and résumés to: cyfpastor-search@ferryfarmbc.org

First Baptist Church, Richmond seeks a <u>Payroll/Accounts</u> <u>Payable Coordinator (full-time)</u>. For more details, visit www.fbcrichmond.org/about/careers

First Baptist Church, West Point seeks an Office Manager (parttime). Hours are 8:30 am to 3:00 pm. Must possess computer skills to include Publisher, Word, etc. Interested applicants should contact office@fbcwestpoint.org.

Four Mile Creek Baptist Church seeks a <u>Music Coordinator</u> (part-time).

Gravel Hill Baptist Church of Richmond seeks a <u>Church Pianist/Keyboardist (part-time)</u>. Interests may send résumés to: kcj.gravelhill@gmail.com.

Hillcrest Baptist Church seeks a <u>Director of Music Ministry (part</u>-time). Interests may send résumés to:

hbcmusicsearch@gmail.com.

Hopeful Baptist Church seeks an Assistant Pastor (full-time). Interests may inquire

at HBC.assistantpastorsearch@gmail.com

Mount Olivet Baptist Church seeks a Youth Minister (part-time), and a Music Minister (part-time). Visit www.mtolivetbaptist.org
Mount Vernon Baptist Church is seeking Child Care Workers.
For more information and/or apply, visit www.mvbcnow.org/jobs
New Highland Baptist Church seeks a Children's Ministry
Director (part-time). Interests may send résumés to
rjparrett@gmail.com with subject "Children's Ministry Director."
NHBC is also seeking a Preschool Director (part-time) for their
Day School. Interests may send résumés and references to
dayschoolathbc@gmail.com.

Northside Baptist Church seeks an Associate Pastor of Family Ministries (full-time). Interests may send résumés with conversion or call to ministry statement to Lauren7600@comcast.net.

Samaria Baptist Church seeks a Sunday and event A/V
Technician (part-time). Call 804-829-2280 for more info.

Taylorsville Baptist Church is prayerfully seeking a <u>Pastor (full-time)</u>. For more details, visit www.taylorsvillebaptist.org/careers

Operation Christmas Child

Donuts with Devon

Thursday, July 13 | 10:00 a.m. | Dover Office Conference Room

Come hear how the Lord is opening doors for the Gospel to reach the ends of the earth! Our keynote speak-

er is Devon Rachae, OCC Regional Coordinator for the Caribbean, Pacific, and Islands. Our time will focus on how the local church here is equipping the worldwide church for evangelism, discipleship, and multiplication through a cutting-edge tool for ministry: a simple shoebox gift. Refreshments will be provided.

Learn about Devon: https://video.samaritanspurse.org/from-poverty-to-parliament-and-the-pulpit/

RSVP: https://forms.gle/T2KhWjEyvBDu3srW6

WMU News

The **Woman's Missionary Union** (WMU), founded in 1888 as an auxiliary of the Southern Baptist Convention, is the world's largest Protestant women's missions organization.

WMU Missions Awareness Day Report

National and International missionaries shared their powerful experiences in Northern Virginia (where 194 of the world's 195 countries are represented) and in the Pacific Rim (where Asian pastors are often sentenced to years in prison for their Christian faith). Dover WMU President Beth Ward welcomed our Dover WMU members and guests for a time of prayer, inspiration, learning and fellowship at Saturday June 24th's Dover Baptist Association's WMU Missions Awareness Day hosted by Oak Hall Baptist Church.





