



Dover Diary

Newsletter of Dover Baptist Association

"a resource and ally for churches and their leaders"

Vol. XLII, No. 1 January 2020

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Office Closed for Holiday

The Dover Association Office will be closed on Monday, January 20, in observance of Martin Luther King Day. We will reopen on Tuesday, January 21.

Operation Inasmuch Training

Saturday, January 25 – 9:30 a.m. to Noon
Dover Conference Center

Please RSVP by Wednesday, January 22 by calling the Dover office at (804) 550-1980, or e-mail steve.smith@doverbaptist.org for more information.

Inclement Weather Policy

Whenever Hanover County Public Schools close due to weather conditions, the Dover Association Office may also close or change office hours.

2020 VBS Curriculum Fair

February 6-8, 2020
4th floor Kingsley Hall, 1500 N. Lombardy Street
The Resource Center (Thursday preview 1-4 p.m.,
Friday 1-5 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. –2 p.m.).
For more information, call (804) 358-8306 or
visit www.resourcingchurches.com

Save the Date!

Benevolence Safety & Tips Workshops

The Hanover County Sheriff's Office will present a "Benevolence Safety and Tips Workshop" on Tuesday, February 4, 2020 at the Dover Conference Center.

11006 Lakeridge Pkwy, Ashland 23005

The workshops will be approximately one hour beginning at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. For more information, contact Sam Duenckel by phone (804) 550-1980 or email sam.duenckel@doverbaptist.org

2020 Hepler Scholarship Applications Due by March 13

Paul Hepler served as Dover Baptist Association's second Director of Missions. Dover awards an annual scholarship in his name, to a Dover Baptist student pursuing a college or graduate degree. Applications for the 2020 W. Paul Hepler Scholarship must be received in the Dover Office no later than Friday, March 13.

Download an application at www.doverbaptist.org or contact the Dover Office for an application or more information.

Who Can Apply for the Hepler Scholarship?

I'm glad you asked.....

This scholarship fund is available to any person who is a member of a Dover Association Baptist Church for at least one year prior to his/her application being submitted.

The application must be approved by the church.

The applicant must be planning to pursue a baccalaureate or graduate degree in an accredited college, university or seminary. Seminary students must attend a college accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. The school may be denominational or non-denominational in Virginia or a Baptist institution out of state.

Applications are due in the Dover Office by Friday, March 13, 2020.

For more information, visit: www.doverbaptist.org/resources/grants-and-scholarships/hepler-scholarship

Lessons in Grief

Grief teaches us many things. The first and most important lesson of grief is: You Are Not Immune from Loss... But You're Not Alone.

After many family tragedies over three decades I decided to write a book *Lost But Not Forgotten*. It is about how God and those he inspired helped us endure and transform those losses.

Let me take you back to the beginning of our story. We lost our 16 year old daughter Shantel in late June of 1987. It was now October in the mountains of Marion, Virginia. As the seasons changed from summer to fall, the numbness from losing our daughter began to wear off and the pain of having to move on without her began to set in. We watched others go on with their lives. But ours was frozen in time...for me it was the moment the recovery divers removed her lifeless body from that mountain lake. For Patsi it was a short time later when I had to tell her: They found her...she's dead.

This loss disturbed us in every way you can possibly imagine: spirituality, physically, emotionally...but we had to go on. We had 4 other children. We struggled to understand Why?...Why her?...Why us?...Why now?

Both of us were sinking deep into disturbing sadness and despair. We felt so alone and isolated from others...so stripped and vulnerable.

But that fall God began to speak to us quietly...dimly... through our overwhelming grief.

As I stood in front of the Vietnam Memorial my question "Why Us" was answered, "Why Not You? You are not immune from suffering. Look at all those who are dying senseless, tragic deaths every day."

Later as we heard a couple from our church describe the loss of their son, God seemed to be saying "You are not immune, but you are also not alone. Many others have walked the road you must now travel. You can learn from them. "

So I went to our pastor Fred Austin and asked him to start a support group for us. He responded quickly and a few weeks later we were face to face with a room full of people who had lost their children.

We learned that the disturbing thoughts and feelings we were having were not at all unusual. Others had experienced those same thoughts and feelings. Our sense of isolation

gradually subsided. We learned many other lessons of grief from these parents. Over the months and years that followed we gradually reconciled our loss. We learned that the word "reconcile" means to do the work of grief and reconstruct our life around our new reality; a reality without our loved one.

Years later when Cool Spring Baptist suffered the loss of Pastor Doug Grote's daughter Kristen, we joined with another couple to give back to others what had been given to us. Over the past 15 years many people have been helped by the Cool Spring Grief Support Ministry.

Why do we keep offering this group after all this time?

I recently came upon a saying that sums up the value of grief support. "If you don't heal what hurt you, you will bleed on others who didn't cut you."

Grief is a pay me now or pay me later experience. We learned early on in our loss that most marriages don't survive the loss of a child. Grief is much more difficult than we imagine and lasts much longer than we expect.

If we do the work that grief requires of us, we will emerge with a deeper relationship with God and become much more sensitive to the suffering of those around us. God never wastes anything. Every tear... every sleepless night... every heartache can be used to do His Kingdom work.

Jesus said that we are blessed when we are poor in spirit and when we mourn. Paul wrote that God's strength was perfected in his weakness.

So, will we allow our grief to soften us and make us more sensitive to the suffering that is all around us? Or will we box up our pain and put it away in the basement of our lives where it will resurface again and again in destructive ways? We have a choice.

Our group at Cool Spring is open to everyone in our community regardless of the type of loss. We have also helped other churches start their own groups, and we are available to assist if someone has that interest.

Thank you for the opportunity to share this message with the Dover churches.

—Jerry Deans
jerry.deans@comcast.net
(804) 402-2031

Church & Clergy Tax Seminar

February 20, 2020 - 9:30 a.m. until Noon

Location:

Virginia Baptist Resource Center

2828 Emerywood Parkway, Henrico 23294

Register:

<https://bgav.org/events/church-clergy-tax-seminar-2020/>

Seminar runs from 9:30 a.m. until noon. All aspects of

compensation will be covered to help minimize your risk and potential for substantial penalties resulting from non-compliance with State and Federal Tax Laws.

Cost for BGAV-member church: \$15, Cost for non-BGAV-member church: \$30



Positions Available

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

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.

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.

New Bethesda Baptist Church has an exciting vacancy for a Minister of Music (part-time). This position will average 15-20 hours per week. Primary duties include planning, coordinating, promoting and evaluating the Music Program of New Bethesda. This position is an integral part of our music program including leading the congregation in effective worship experiences through music. Interested applicants will email their cover letter and resume to personnel@newbethesda.org or contact the church office at 804-779-2101.

Virginia Church Library Association Coffee & Chat

North Run Baptist Church
2100 Lydell Drive, Henrico
February 8, 2020 — 10:00 am to 12:00 pm
Sponsored by: The Library Team of North Run Baptist Church
RSVP by February 7
Contact: Susan Swisher by email: nrbclibrary@gmail.com or
by calling (804) 822-5885

The Coffee & Chat is open to all librarians and library workers. We will have round-table discussions on various topics. Those interested in beginning a church library ministry are urged to attend! Come get acquainted with other librarians in our area, ask questions, and share what's happening in your library! You may bring duplicate books from your library for the Sharing Table. Please make sure the copyright is not more than 10 years of publication. If you wouldn't put it in your library, please don't bring it.

Pray For These

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

January 5: **Arabic Baptist Church**

Reda Gergis, Pastor; William Khalil

January 12: **Ashland, First Baptist Church**

Josh Hayden, Pastor; Rachel Pierce, Tom Lynch, Jimmie Miles, Daniel Peyton, Laura Ross, Lisa Reckley, Joanie Tompkins

January 12: **Atlee Church**

Jeff Boggess, Lead Pastor; Sandy Batten, Jason Mallory, Evelyn Boggess, Trey Critzer, Tonya Carey, Chatham Dorton, Ras Peel, Sarah Harper, Jonathan Harper, Rhonda Kelley, Bruce McKay, Wendy Scheller, Daniel Kenny, Bill Oyler, Stephanie Johnson, Nellie Waring, Grace Young, Josh Henry, Charles Fitzgerald, Michael Lawhorne

January 19: **Berea Baptist Church**

John Baldwin, Pastor; Peggy Peck, Andrea Hollins, Kat Raborn, Chris Thomas, Josh Condrey

January 19: **Beulah Baptist Church**

Ed Shepard, Pastor; Judy Shepard

January 26: **Biltmore Baptist Church**

Ken Wright, Pastor; Marsha Ann Worsham

January 26: **Black Creek Baptist Church**

Randy Rains, Pastor; Travis Tyler, Dawn Parker

Personnel Changes

Rev. Matt Boschen concluded his service as Director of Youth & Young Adults at **Shalom Baptist Church** on November 3.

Mount Vernon Baptist Church welcomed Rev. Matt Boschen as their Associate Pastor for Students on November 17, and Dr. John Sullivan as their Associate Pastor for Worship Arts & Missions on December 2.

Annual Church Profiles

Annual Church Profiles have been mailed to the churches. The deadline is February 28, 2020. Thank You!



Dover Baptist Association
11006 Lakeridge Parkway
Ashland, VA 23005

***"a resource and ally for
churches and their leaders"***

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

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Richmond, VA

Partnership Missions

Saturday, June 6, 2020

Cannon Ball, North Dakota

Tipi Wakan Ministries Community Day Event

Tipi Wakan Ministries needs up to 25 people to help with this exciting opportunity. Volunteers are needed to help with games, preparing and serving meals, and whatever else needs to be done. There will be plenty of opportunities to love and connect with the families living in the Cannon Ball Community.

For more information, please contact Alan Ray by calling (804) 288-5805 or email partnership@doverbaptist.org

Always Something to Encourage YOU

Dover Women's Event

Thursday, January 23, 2020 — 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Dover Office:

11006 Lakeridge Parkway, Ashland 23005

We'll be making scripture cards to put in a business card size box. All supplies furnished.
RSVP by email: sandy.weakley@doverbaptist.org
by Thursday, January 16

Save the Date! Dover Youth Game Night - Family Feud

Dover Youth Groups are invited to a friendly family feud game night and fellowship on Saturday, March 28, 2020 - 7 pm at the Dover Baptist Association Conference Center.

11006 Lakeridge Pkwy, Ashland 23005

Each participant is asked to bring a \$1 - the winning team chooses the ministry/organization that the collection of money will benefit.

Please contact Sam Duenckel at sam.duenckel@doverbaptist.org or (804) 550-1980 for any questions.



Carolyn Hollins Memorial Scholarship

Application deadline is Monday, March 30.

Visit www.doverbaptist.org/wmu or contact Michelle Brown at (804) 928-2927 for information and/or apply.