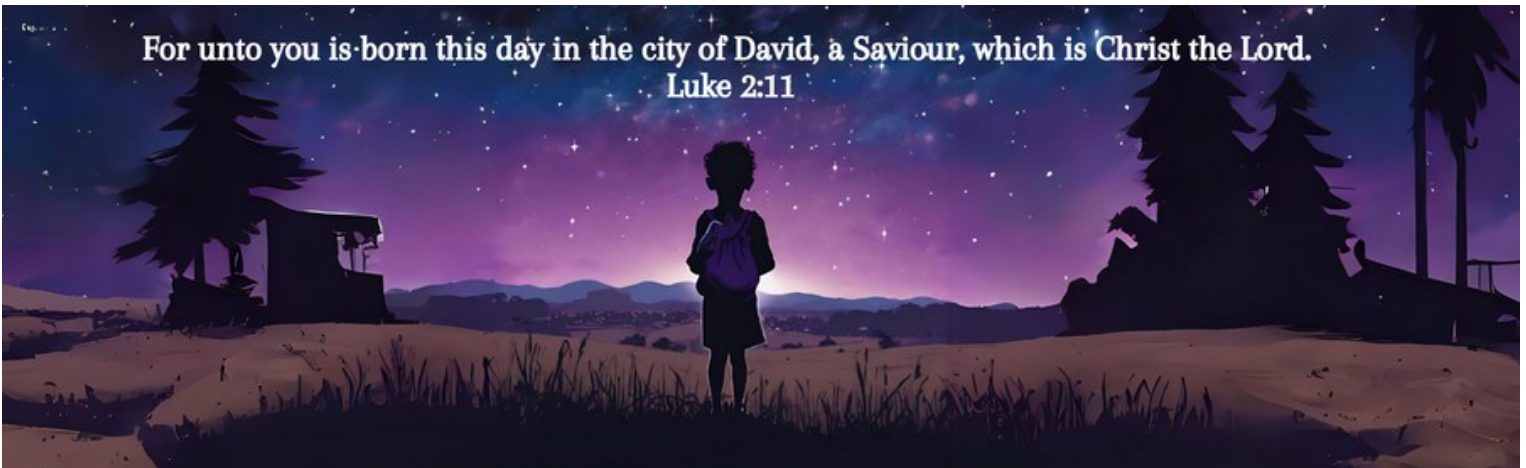




DOVER DIARY

Newsletter of Dover Baptist Association

Vol. XLV, No. 12 December 2023



SAVE THE CHILDREN

As I'm writing this Christmas blog, I'm thinking a lot about children. Sure, I'm thankful for all the adorable children adorning bathrobes and angel wings made from coat hangers as little ones participate in Christmas pageants and church plays. (Do churches still do that, or is that long past from more than the half-century ago when I played the third wiseman?)

I wish, pray actually, that many of the children on my mind had that opportunity to play, perform, laugh, and live. You see, as I'm writing this Christmas blog, the head of the United Nations children's agency UNICEF has declared a Palestinian patch of territory, near Jerusalem, known as the Gaza Strip, to be "The most dangerous place in the world to be a child." Since the vicious Hamas attack of October 7th, over 5,000 children have been killed.

Thousands of miles away, in many Western cultures, including ours, a much more subtle attack on children is being executed. In these so-called civilized societies, the political and conscientious landscape is shifting, and thousands of unborn children are being killed. Thousands more are potentially being torn away from an even greater life, by a culture that is attempting to thwart any belief that there is one absolute, one path to Heaven, and one Savior, whose Christmas birth we celebrate.

Over two thousand years ago, on another Palestinian patch of territory, near Jerusalem, the most dangerous place to be a child, was later reported in the Gospel of Matthew. On that day, and the days to follow, in and around Bethlehem, theologians argue that an equally high percentage of children were killed, as a king, named Herod, consumed by power, attacked and tore apart families in an effort to destroy one child, and the hope of humanity.

Jesus said to his disciples: "Things that cause people to stumble are bound to come, but woe to anyone through whom they come. It would be better for them to be thrown into the sea with a millstone tied around their neck than to cause one of these little ones to stumble. So watch yourselves." - Luke 17: 1-3 (NIV)

Orchestrated by the same satanic force that existed thousands of years ago, the similarity between then and now, is that amidst the evil and hatred that consumes the world, that same Jesus, who lived then, and who lives now, is still the only hope to save the children, and the world. One difference between then and now, is that now, we have been given a role to play in this real-life Christmas production. I encourage you to invite an unsaved friend, family member, or neighbor to church this Christmas season, and to share the love of Jesus.

God bless and Merry Christmas,
Rev. Arnold 'Win' Davis, Executive Director of Missions

DBA Upcoming Events & Deadlines

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

Weekly Pastor Support Group, Dover Office
Mondays, 9:30 a.m. and Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.



Dover Open House Meet & Greet,
Dover Office
Tuesday, December 12,
10:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m.

Pastors and Dover Leaders are invited to drop by our DBA office anytime between 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. for a little food and fellowship. Please [RSVP at this link](#) if you plan to come (or send an email to: Dover.Info@doverbaptist.org).

Dover Council Meeting, Dover Office
December 12, 1 p.m.

DOVER OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S,
December 25—January 1

Looking Ahead...

Dover Executive Committee Meeting, Dover Office
Tuesday, January 9, 7 p.m.

NOTE: THERE WILL BE NO PASTOR HEALTH NETWORK OR SUNDAY SCHOOL DIRECTORS MEETINGS DURING DECEMBER.



Calling All Men Leaders! The 2024 Noble Warriors Leader's Conference is taking place on Tuesday, January 23, 2024 at Staples Mill Road Baptist Church, Glen Allen, VA.

Register at:

<https://noblewarriors.org/leadersconference/>

Dover Baptists gave \$30,805.45 to the 2023 Watson Mission Offering!

Each year Dover Baptists promote a local missions offering. Dover named its missions offering for Leslie and Hazel Watson, two faithful missionaries who served Christ and Southern Baptists in Japan for many years. When they returned to the United States, the Watsons faithfully served both their local church and the Dover Baptist Association.

Our Watson Missions Offering supports local, national, and international ministries. It also provides Dover churches the opportunity to nominate specific ministries and organizations that are making a positive impact in their communities. Application and Grant Guidelines are found on our website: <https://www.doverbaptist.org/resources/amo/>

Goal: \$35,000.00
Received: \$30,805.45

Ministry to Our Baptist Community

Inner City Ministry.....	\$2,500
Famaden Memorial Institute Partnership.....	\$5,000
Standing Rock Reservation Ministry Opportunities..	\$1,500
Ministry to Ministers and Families.....	\$1,000
Central Virginia Raceway Ministries.....	\$500
Partnership Missions Scholarships.....	\$1,000

Ministry to Our Faith Community

HopeTree Family Services.....	\$1,000
ReEstablish Richmond.....	\$1,000
Moments of Hope Ministries.....	\$1,000
Jail Ministries (Good News, GraceInside, VA Center for Restorative Justice).....	\$1,000
Pregnancy Resource Center of Metro Richmond....	\$1,000
Cross Over Healthcare Ministry.....	\$1,000
The Fix Ministry (addiction & mental illness).....	\$1,000
The McShin Foundation.....	\$1,000

Hallelujah Grant Recipients

Deep Run Baptist Church: Backpack Ministry.....	\$1,500
Eastern Henrico FISH.....	\$2,200
Henrico Community Food Bank.....	\$2,200
Oak Hall Baptist Church: Pappy's Pantry.....	\$1,500
Western Hanover Emergency Action Team (WHEAT).....	\$1,905.45

Your generosity makes a difference for the ministries that received a gift from the 2023 offering. Thank you!

The 2024 Leslie and Hazel Watson Mission Offering Goal: \$33,000

Pray For These

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

- December 3 Walnut Grove Baptist Church
Colby Whitaker (Senior Pastor),
Craig Simpson, Mae Antkiewicz,
Kristi Bowles, Pam Burris
- December 10 First Baptist Church West Point
James Goebel (Senior Pastor),
Sandra Mauney
- December 17 Westhunt Baptist Church
Jillian Andrzejewski (Senior Pastor),
Joanna Barnes, Barry Burijon
- December 24 Antioch Baptist Church
Greg Soult (Senior Pastor),
Connie Lambert
- December 31 Arabic Baptist Church
(Seeking a Pastor)
Boushra Hanna

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 | |

Dover Expresses Our Sympathy

To the family and beloved of Joyce Samuel Hall, who passed away at the age of 91 on November 14, 2023. Joyce was a former Dover messenger and Deacon at Glen Allen Baptist Church.

To the family and beloved of Pastor Emeritus Rev. Elmer West of Glen Allen Baptist Church, who passed away at the age of 101 in November 2023.

To the family and beloved of Marlene Bresee, retired church secretary and receptionist at Northside Baptist Church.



Congratulations & Hallelujah!

...to Little Elam Baptist Church for 137 years of faithful service as a community of believers dedicated to God, and for 84 years as a WMU Partner!

In Case You Missed It

In November we celebrated...



Dover Churches Joining Together in Thanksgiving Services

November 19—Poplar Springs Baptist Church, Hardy Central Baptist Church, and Pioneer Baptist Church

November 20—Broadus Memorial Baptist Church, New Bethesda Baptist Church, Shalom Baptist Church, and Walnut Grove Baptist Church (with Evangelical Friends)





Dover Baptist Association
PO Box 6128
Ashland, VA 23005

“A Resource Network for Baptist Churches since 1783”

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Positions Available

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

Berea Baptist Church seeks a Church Office Assistant (full-time). For more info, visit www.berea-baptist-church.org
Ferry Farm Baptist (Fredericksburg) seeks a Children & Youth Pastor. Send cover letters and résumés to: cyfpastor-search@ferryfarmbc.org

First Baptist Church, Richmond seeks a Payroll/Accounts Payable Coordinator (full-time). For more info, visit www.fbrichmond.org/about/careers

Four Mile Creek Baptist Church seeks a Music Coordinator (part-time), and a Pastor (full-time). Music Coordinator interests, send résumés to ChurchAdmin@FMCBaptist.com. Pastor interests, send résumés to pastorsearch.fmc@gmail.com

Gravel Hill Baptist Church of Richmond seeks a Church Pianist/Keyboardist (part-time). Send résumés to: kej.gravelhill@gmail.com

Hillcrest Baptist Church seeks a Director of Music Ministry (part-time). Send résumés to: hbcmusicsearch@gmail.com

Hopeful Baptist Church seeks an Assistant Pastor (full-time). Interests inquire: HBC.assistantpastorsearch@gmail.com

Mechanicsville Baptist Church seeks a Senior Pastor (full-time). Send résumés to: searchteam.mbc@gmail.com

Mount Vernon Baptist Church is seeking Child Care Workers. For more info and/or apply, visit www.mvbcnow.org/jobs

New Highland Baptist Church seeks a Children's Ministry Director (part-time). Send résumés to rjparrett@gmail.com with subject "Children's Ministry Director."

Poplar Springs Baptist Church seeks a Worship Pastor (part-time).

Contact Marvin Beck at MXB@copper.net if interested.

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

Taylorville Baptist Church is seeking a Pastor (full-time). For more info, visit www.taylorvillebaptist.org/careers

Walnut Grove Baptist Church seeks a Pianist/Praise Team Leader (Part-Time). Interests please send resumes to Office@wgva.church.

Winfree Church seeks a part-time Minister of Congregational Care. Send résumés to winfree.search@gmail.com

Church & Clergy Tax Seminar

February 22, 2024 - 9:30 a.m. until Noon

Location: Virginia Baptist Resource Center or Virtual
2828 Emerywood Parkway, Henrico 23294

Register: www.bgav.org/events

Seminar runs from 9:30 a.m. until noon. This seminar is designed for church staff and lay leaders who handle taxes and compensation. Attendees will get help with tax implications of compensation planning for church staff (including retirement and insurance), handling minister's taxes, and federal reporting requirements for churches. Those who cannot attend the seminar have the option to receive a link to the seminar recording for future viewing.

Attend In-person Seminar ONLY:

- \$15 for BGAV members
- \$30 for non-BGAV members

Link to Webinar Recording for Future Viewing ONLY:

- \$15 for BGAV members
- \$30 for non-BGAV members

Attend In-person Seminar + Receive Recording Link:

- \$20 for BGAV members
- \$40 for non-BGAV members