



# Dover Diary

Newsletter of Dover Baptist Association

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

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## Hepler Scholarship

### Applications Due by March 15

Applications for the 2007 W. Paul Hepler Scholarship are due in the Dover Baptist Association office not later than Thursday, March 15, 2007. A candidate must have been a member of a Dover church for at least one year prior to the application, and the application must be approved by the church. For an application form, contact the Dover office or download an application form at [www.doverbaptist.org](http://www.doverbaptist.org).

**Jim Henry to Speak at  
2007 Capital Region  
Pastor-Deacon Conference  
Monday, April 2, 2007, 7:00 p.m.  
Northminster Baptist Church  
3121 Moss Side Ave.  
Richmond, VA 23222**

Join pastors and deacons from the Dover, Hermon, Middle District and Richmond Baptist Associations for this deacon rally! Jim Henry, Pastor Emeritus of First Baptist Church, Orlando, and noted author of deacon materials will speak. The format will differ from last year (no meal or registration). See [www.doverbaptist.org](http://www.doverbaptist.org) for a poster or call the Dover office.

## Dover Reception Celebrates the Ministry of Church Planter Strategist Doug Frazier

Dover Baptist Association celebrated the ministry of Doug and Betsy Frazier at a reception on January 9. Doug has accepted the call to serve as pastor of Bybee's Road Baptist Church. Dover leaders, current and former staff members, and representatives from Dover churches joined family members and guests in celebrating his ministry as Church Planter Strategist. (See the related article on Page 2.)

North Run Baptist Church hosted the reception in its fellowship hall. Pastor Tom Gaskins greeted guests at the door. Dean Wikowsky and other North Run leaders including his wife June, Frances Slater, and Darlene Slater Herod provided and served cake, punch, and other refreshments.

Mike Gillen, Dover's Personnel Committee Chairman, served as master of ceremonies. Virginia Baptist Mission Board staff member Jesse Ramage thanked Doug and Betsy on behalf of the Virginia Baptist and North American Mission Boards. Retired minister Bill Russ, Betsy's father, praised Doug, and others spoke appreciatively of Doug's ministry in Dover. A member of the Bybee's Road Baptist Church Pastor Search Committee shared the story of how God led them to Doug.

Following presentations of parting gifts by Director of Missions Steve Allsbrook and Gillen, Betsy and Doug each spoke in response. Doug sent the following note of thanks:

*Dear Personnel Committee and Friends from Dover Churches:*

*Thank you for the great reception you gave for me and my family on January 9. I was deeply touched by the attendance, testimonials and generosity expressed that night. I have already purchased two beautiful suits with my S & K gift card, and Betsy is still trying to decide what to do with her gift card.*

*I love the portfolio case you gave me. It is already bursting with files and serves me well as a mobile office while I'm commuting.*

*North Run Church provided a great setting for the event. I'm grateful to them for their support of my ministry in Dover.*

*God bless you in 2007 and thank you from the bottom of my heart.*

## Celebration for Baptist Ministry Assistants of Virginia Will Honor Secretaries and Others

Dover Administrative Assistant Sandy Weakley serves as the current president of Baptist Ministry Assistants of Virginia. BMAV connects Virginia Baptist church and association secretaries and other administrative professionals for fellowship, continuing education, and support. Dover Office Secretary Sue Hall is one of two charter members active today. On Saturday, March 24, BMAV will celebrate its 20th anniversary with a luncheon at Richmond's Jefferson Hotel. BMAV asks that churches honor office staff at this event. Send a check for \$35.00 per person by March 9 to BMAV; Marty Garber, Treasurer; *The Religious Herald*, P. O. Box 8377, Richmond, VA 23226.

## Saying Goodbye to Doug

Doug Frazier served as Dover's Church Planter Strategist from March 1, 1994 until December 6, 2006. Betsy, Doug's wife, served in a supportive role. Dover churches have benefitted from their service and leadership. I have too.

I met Doug when he served as pastor of Dover's Hopewell Baptist Church. He participated in a New Work Probe that brought leaders of Dover, Richmond, and Middle District Associations together to explore places for new work in the capital region. Doug understood how new churches and other new works help people meet Jesus, and it showed.

Later, Dover approached Doug to join the staff. Doug and Betsy completed the appointment process and were commissioned as missionaries by the Home (now North American) Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Doug's love for starting new work to reach people with the Gospel kept showing. He played a major role in the starting of Atlee Community Church. So did Betsy. They helped start Western Hanover Church in Dover. Sometimes directly, sometimes indirectly, other churches benefitted from their ministry. When Dover agreed to share Doug's services with the Virginia Baptist Mission Board and later with Middle District Association, Doug helped start more new churches.

He also used his expertise to help Dover acquire property for future church sites and to help existing churches reach more of the people to whom God sent them. Churches from Beulah to Mount Vernon have learned about their communities using the Scan/US reports that Doug generated and interpreted. Before East Highland Park transformed into New Highland Baptist Church, Doug consulted with their pastor search committee. They found Bob Lee, and he has served as pastor there since.

Today Dover owns a potential church site in Goochland County, has reserves to purchase additional land, and has funds to help start more new churches. Dover already had some resources like this in place when Doug joined the association's staff team. He helped grow and develop them.

He also helped Dover develop by venturing into the Latin American Mission Project we call LAMP. Doug played a large part in bringing Louis Orsatti to the area.

He helped tell the Dover story when Grace Chinese Baptist Church and Cornerstone Christian Church inquired about joining Dover. I think of Doug as an ambassador for Dover, for he has helped many appreciate the ministries of this association.

Sue Hall worked with Doug the entire time he served at Dover. Bob and Barbara Boggs have known Doug since his days at Hopewell Church. Sandy Weakley and I worked with Doug for nearly ten years. Each of us will miss Doug. He brought a caring heart and deep commitment to Christ to his work and to our team.

Though I served as Doug's supervisor, we had a collegial relationship. I served as his backup, and he helped as mine.

Whenever a Dover staff team member's ministry concludes, I conduct an exit interview. During his exit interview, Doug expressed gratitude and appreciation for Dover. I concluded the interview by telling Doug, "I could not have asked for better." I cannot imagine that Dover could have either.

Thank you, Doug and Betsy. God bless you, your family, the Bybee's Road family, and all those your ministry together will reach.

—Steve Allsbrook

## 2007 Marks the 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Baptist Associations!

At our house, we love to celebrate. Holidays, birthdays, and more—give us a reason to gather for a meal and one another's company and we go for it. There's something comforting and energizing about gathering together with people you care about, even if you don't all think alike. That's part of who we are as a family.

Imagine 300 years ago, way back in 1707, when the first "family" of Baptist churches gathered together in Philadelphia to form the very first Baptist association in this land. What a diverse group it must have been! They came together for fellowship, to encourage and help one another, and to join together cooperating in common ministries.

The first state convention was not formed until 114 years later in South Carolina in 1821. As a denomination we have grown and changed in many ways, but we still come together as associations. We still gather for fellowship, for counsel and assistance, and to cooperate in common ministries. Now Dover, Middle District and Richmond Baptist Associations have formed Central Virginia Baptist Ministries to serve as a catalyst for our shared ministries and mission efforts.

It has been said, "If everything the Baptists built came apart, the Southern Baptist Convention, the state convention, state associations, agencies, boards, and institutions, and associations—if it all disintegrated—the body of Christ, the local church, will survive. [If that happened]...one of the first things they would create would be an association."<sup>1</sup> We need each other to be the church Christ intended us to be.

Wouldn't it be great to celebrate this 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary by gathering some of our shared history? We could share some of the mementos that remind us of the warm fellowship we have shared for generations. We could share things that remind us of how we have stood together for what we believe.

Central Virginia Baptist Ministries belongs to Dover, Richmond, and Middle District. In my new role as Regional Ministries Coordinator for CVBM, I want to connect with that heritage. I ask you to please help me do that! Make sure your church is included by sending me stories that should be remembered. Share stories of the past, and share stories from today that future generations should remember and celebrate.

E-mail them to nita.may@cvbm.org. Mail them to me addressed to Central Virginia Baptist Ministries at the Dover office. You may even want to call me and arrange a time for me to hear them. Especially this year, share your memories and memorabilia, photos, and anything else that helps remind us of our past and of our purpose.

It's been said that associations are to individual Baptists what the soup pot is to vegetables and broth. Each is good on its own, but they're really good together!<sup>2</sup> Shared missions and ministries—that's my idea of CVBM soup! Let's get cooking!

—Nita May

<sup>1</sup> Stephen Welch in *The Districts: Examining the Past and Possible Futures of Local Associations* (University of Richmond, VA: Center for Baptist Heritage and Studies, 2002), 76.

<sup>2</sup> Mike Clingpeel





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Steve Allsbrook, Director of Missions  
Sandy Weakley, Administrative Assistant  
Bob Boggs, Associate for Ministry to Church Leaders  
Barbara Boggs, Associate for Ministry to Church Leader  
Families  
Nita May, Regional Ministries Coordinator, CVBM  
Louis Orsatti, Regional Latino Church Planter Strategist,  
LAMP  
Sue Hall, Office Secretary

## Church News

**Ashland, First** will dedicate their new sanctuary and memorial garden on March 11.

**Cool Spring** will be hosting a Beth Moore simulcast, Straight Talk About God's Deliverance on Saturday, February 24 from 10:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. Tickets will be \$20 per person and will include lunch and afternoon snacks. Tickets may be purchased through the Church office until February 19. For more information, please call 746-0800, ext. 208. Also, they will have a seminar and support group called Grief Share which will meet on the second Sunday of each month at 5:00 p.m.

**Fort Lee's** youth sponsored a luncheon on December 17 with proceeds going to expenses for their mission trip.

**Grace Chinese** has moved into the Parham Baptist Church facility and will meet there at least through April.

**Grace Community** plans a youth mission trip to Hermosillo, Mexico.

**Hunton** sponsored a blood drive on January 21.

**Mount Olivet's** choir presented their Christmas cantata at Henrico Doctor's Hospital Parham on December 29.

**Mechanicsville** is hosting Grief Share, a support group for grief recovery for 13 weeks beginning January 10.

**New Bethesda** will have Disciple Now, an in-town retreat with Walnut Grove featuring Phil Baquie as the worship leader on February 23 - 25.

**North Run** held AED/CPR training on January 13.

**Parham Road** has welcomed the Grace Chinese congregation to share its facility at least through April.

**Pioneer** had a chili cook-off for men and bake-off for ladies on January 21 with certificates going to the winners.

**Ridge's** youth will have a Creative Ministry group every Sunday from 4:00-5:00.

**Shalom** will host a 30 hour Famine Fundraiser/lock-in beginning at 6:00 p.m. Friday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> with games, devotions, worship and concerts. Other youth groups are invited to participate. Please contact Spencer Dillard at 350-5884 for details.

**Walnut Grove** has cookbooks for sale for \$6.00.

**West Point, First** held a Deacon's Workshop on January 13 which also included breakfast and an evening banquet.

## Positions Available

**Cornerstone Christian Church seeks a full-time Youth Pastor/Director of Outreach.** Some experience will be required, and a degree or the pursuit of a degree is highly desirable. Please send resume and introductory letter to: Rev. Dan Ficklin at [cccpastor@verizon.net](mailto:cccpastor@verizon.net) or to Cornerstone Christian Church, Attention: Rev. Dan Ficklin, 9400 Gayton Road, Richmond, VA 23229.

**Corinth Baptist Church seeks a part-time Worship Leader.** Duties include working with pastor to plan and conduct worship services, coordinate various ministries: music, drama, video, audio, bulletin preparations, etc. Interested parties should contact the personnel committee at Corinth Baptist Church, P. O. Box 126, New Kent, VA 23124.

**Gwathmey Baptist Church seeks a part-time Youth Minister.** For details, contact Rev. Butch Hutson @ 798-6615.

**Mount Vernon Baptist Church seeks an Administrative Assistant 30 hours per week for Service and Administration Ministries.** Strong organization and communication skills needed as well as working knowledge of Microsoft Office products. Send resume or contact Rev. Larry Hoyle, [lhoyle@mvbc.info](mailto:lhoyle@mvbc.info), or Eugenia Freiburger, [efreiburger@mvbc.info](mailto:efreiburger@mvbc.info), 11220 Nuckols Road, Glen Allen, VA 23059, 804-270-6600.