



Dover Diary

Newsletter of Dover Baptist Association

"a resource and ally for churches and their leaders"

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April 2007

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Dover Minister's Conference

Monday, April 16, 2007- 10:30 a.m.

Dover Conference Center

"Church Conflict"

Speaker: Rev. John Tadlock with VBGB
Lunch: \$6.00. Please make reservations by
Thursday, April 12 with the Dover Office.

Executive Committee Meeting

Tuesday, April 10, 2007- 7:30 p.m.

North Run Baptist Church

Dover Investment I, L.L.C.

Meeting

Tuesday, April 10, 2007- 7:30 p.m.

North Run Baptist Church

*This meeting will take place in conjunction with
the Executive Committee meeting.*

Dover Seniors Lunch

Tuesday, May 22, 2007 12 Noon

Mount Vernon Baptist Church

Guest Musicians- The Hardy Central Ramblers

Cost: \$6.00. Please make reservations by

Tuesday, May 15 with the Dover Office.

If your church comes as a group, it would be very
helpful if one person would collect the money
and register and pay for the entire group.

Parham Road and Grace Chinese Baptist Churches to Co-host Semiannual Meeting, Sunday, April 22

*Featured Speaker: Nita May,
Regional Ministries Coordinator,
Central Virginia Baptist Ministries
Parham Road Baptist Church
2101 N. Parham Road
Richmond, VA 23229
Sunday, April 22, 2007, 3:00-4:30 p.m.
Registration opens at 2:30 p.m.*

Remember to elect your church's messengers!

*Article 4 of Dover's Constitution states, "Each member church shall be
entitled to send two messengers to annual, semiannual and special called
Association meetings. A church that contributes at least \$400 to the
General Fund during the Association's previous fiscal year shall be entitled
to have three (3) messengers. An additional messenger is added for each
additional \$400 contribution to the General Fund up to a maximum of seven
(7) messengers from any church."*

Dover Woman's Missionary Union Annual Meeting Will Feature Mother and Daughter Missionaries

*Guest Speakers: Rachel James (wife of Dr. Sam James), a nurse and
former missionary to Vietnam, who works in Northern Africa and the
Middle East*

*Rev. Chris and Deborah Winans, missionaries to Sapporo, Japan
(Deborah is the daughter of Sam and Rachel James)*

Tuesday, May 8, 2007

Mechanicsville Baptist Church

Session Times: 4:15 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Dinner at 5:45 p.m. Cost: \$6.00

Advance reservations and payment are due by Tuesday, May 1, 2007

Churches are asked to make reservations as a group.

Please send checks payable to Dover WMU to Carolyn Hollins, DWMU
Treasurer, 5028 Mechanicsville Turnpike, Mechanicsville 23111.

God's Servants on the Edge of History

I first heard of Sam and Rachel James through the church that ministered to me during my college years. At that time they served as missionaries in war-torn Vietnam. Years later, Sam led one of my graduate-level classes—the one personal spiritual development. I still think of that time with Sam as a holy and wonderful gift.

When I ran into Sam recently, he told me he had finally written a book about his missionary experiences. He called the book *Servant on the Edge of History* (Hannibal Books). Dover WMU Director Judy Shepard described it as a book she could hardly put down. I agree!

Reading the book reminded me of my impressions during that doctoral class. For example, Sam shared the night he truly saw himself as a missionary. “God said to me, ‘...you are not in Vietnam because you love the...people. You are here because I love them. I want to love them through you’” (26).

Missionaries have to make plans. Writing from his heart and his experience, Sam said, “...no strategies, goals, objectives, and action plans are worth the paper on which they are written unless those who would carry them out are empowered by the eternal love and compassion of Christ and filled with His presence” (30).

“Never once,” Sam said, “...did I become accustomed to not being able to minister to the hordes of people who cried out for help” (37). Another time, grieving with those dying, Sam thought he might become a physician to help the people. He saw that as a gift to God. “I later discovered that what I was really doing was finding a way to meet my own need to minister” (53). What honesty and insight!

If I had read only the story of the former Viet Cong man who taught how the communication skills he learned as a communist became a powerful way of helping people hear of Christ, I would have thought the book worthy my time. (Read this part to learn a missiological insight about discipleship and outreach!) Near death he told Sam, “I regret that I only lived for three years. I am 58..., but I did not begin living until I met Jesus. Thank you for telling me about Him” (73).

What more can I say? Get the book and read it! Let me also encourage you to attend the Dover Woman's Missionary Union Annual Meeting on May 8 (see Page 1). Rachel James and daughter Deborah will speak together for the first time on the same program as the wife/mother and daughter who lived in Vietnam during the turbulent days of which Sam wrote.

Each has her own story to share. Together, they will have a powerful, personal dialogue about “...very average people... who lived their lives while realizing God's presence and His dynamic intervention at significant moments” (10).

Sam, Rachel, and their family served in Vietnam from 1962 until Saigon fell in 1975. The chapter about leaving tells of a real non-fiction drama. As the plane departed, Sam and God engaged in a dialogue about Sam's identity and what Sam thought had been ripped from him. Sam concluded that nothing would identify him but his identity in Christ. “By the grace of God my walk with Jesus, my behavior, my attitude, my commitment of life, my very being will reveal one singular identity. I am God's child for eternity” (158).

How Sam lives shows that. Can one aspire to any higher goal? No.

—Steve Allsbrook

Reports from Toronto and Paris

Walter McIntyre, Toronto Partnership Coordinator

Dover Baptist Association has a partnership with Middle District Baptist Association, Richmond Baptist Association, NorthStar Church Network, and the Toronto Area Association of Baptist Churches. At least seven of our Virginia churches have scheduled volunteer mission trips to Toronto this year. They will work with churches on various projects and work with a camp program too.

Walter McIntyre serves as the coordinator for the partnership in Toronto. As part of association ministry there, he helps connect TAABC churches with Virginia churches. This year Walter has helped connect Mount Olivet, a Dover church, with Kipling Avenue Baptist Church. The Mount Olivet team will assist the church with “Holiday School” (i.e., Vacation Bible School) in August.

Walter hopes to attend Dover's Semiannual Meeting on April 22. Dover and our other association partners help TAABC provide the funds that make Walter's services possible. Walter made quite an impression on Dover Baptists when he spoke at our Semiannual Meeting in 2006. He returned to the area for a brief visit last October.

Those who spend time with Walter come away amazed at how God has used this humble, unassuming man to connect religious leaders and civic leaders in and beyond Canada. Pray for Walter as he helps connect Dover Baptists with Toronto Baptists. Pray for his ministry in and beyond Canada. If you would like to connect with Walter during his April visit, please contact the Dover office.

Lisa Hague, “Our Person in Paris”

Dover Baptists may not remember “our” person in Paris. Lisa Hague, former youth minister at Gwathmey Baptist Church, lives and works in Paris. Bob Boggs shared a recent letter from Lisa. After describing an adventure that involved someone boosting her high enough to climb atop a courtyard wall, she said, “That's how I feel about my work. Sometimes I cannot imagine how I will ever surmount the difficulties.” Lisa goes on to say, “Prayer is a priceless resource for [me]...”

Lisa has welcomed a new teammate at work. Now Lisa can move forward with her next project, building new relationships that help people, including helping them find Christ. Much like Dover Baptists who help others learn English, Lisa's work puts her in touch with people who speak a different first language. She has even started to learn some of the language of those she helps teach.

Lisa shared some specific requests for prayer. Pray for her team's unity in Christ as the newest member gets settled and they learn how to work together. Pray for the volunteers teams that will visit—for their safe travel, for effective work, and for powerful testimonies when they return.

Also pray for Lisa when she makes a “whirlwind tour” to Virginia, April 21-29. Pray that God will guide Lisa to make the appointments and connections she needs to make in such a brief time back. If you would like to connect with her, please contact the Dover office promptly.

Pray for These

- April 1 **Four Mile Creek** Sam Grozdanov, Pastor
Jeff Mills, Jackie Horst, Nancy Foster
Kelly Childress
- April 8 **Glen Allen** John Tadlock, Interim Pastor
Janet Barnes, Ken Archer, Terry Riddell
Jan Kessler
- Goochland** Dean Frazier, Pastor
Michelle Swain, Denise Huff
- April 15 **Grace Chinese** David Meng, Pastor
Carter Tan
- Grace Community** Guy Holloway, Pastor
Larry Pumpelly, Ed Martin, Brenda Burnett
Linda Collins, Gay Holloway, Sherry Pinkard
Sharon Richards
- April 22 **Gwathmey** Butch Hutson, Pastor
- April 29 **Hardy Central** Ken Smith, Pastor
Nancy Ames, Cindy Marshall

Prayer Concerns

Executive Director Emeritus Richard Moore is recovering from recent surgery.

Sympathy

We extend sympathy to the family of **Susan Ukrop Korman** on February 15, 2007. (Her deceased husband William M. Korman, Sr., served as Moderator in 1979-1980 and their son Bill, Jr., served as Moderator in 1997.)

We extend sympathy to **Rose Rice**, Youth Director at Colosse, on the loss of her father, Cornelius O. Grazebrook on March 2, 2007.

Personnel Changes

Patrick Brandon Wood began as full-time Minister of Music, Youth and Children at **Hillcrest** on March 19.

Dover Baptist Church welcomed their new pastor, **Rev. Mike Garner**. He served as their interim pastor since November, 2006.

Ed Johnson concluded his Interim Pastor service at **Sharon** on March 4, 2007.

Congratulations

Rev. Mike Garner and wife, Kathy from **Dover Baptist Church** welcomed a new granddaughter, Eleanor Zeta Garner on Wednesday, March 7, 2006.

Kentwood Heights held an Ordination Service on February 25 for **Mike Spagnuolo**, Minister of Youth and Worship.

The Resource Center Events

1202 Wilmington Avenue Richmond, VA 23227

(804) 358-8306 or toll-free (888) 241-5132

Conversational Spanish, 8 sessions led by Kathleen Kinney
Tuesdays 7-9 p.m. beginning April 3, 2007

Interesting Women, a sharing time with local women Saturday
April 2, 2007 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Storytelling Workshop led by Denise Bennett Thursday May 3,
2007 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

WMU Dates to Remember

- April 11 Area V 10:30 a.m., lunch, Little Elam
April 16 W/M East 6:30 p.m., dinner, Antioch
April 17 Area IV 6:15 p.m., dinner, Sharon
April 26 Area II 10:30 a.m., drink & pastries, Parham Road
April 30 W/M West 7:00 p.m., dessert, Mt. Olivet
NOTE: Areas I and III No Spring Meetings

Children's Tour of IMB Building

For Boys and Girls (Grades 1-6) and Chaperones

Monday -Wednesday, April 9-11, 2007

10:30-11:30 a.m. each day

Please bring a bag lunch!

Registration deadline Friday, March 30!

Please call Hilma Herron at (804) 219-1276 or email her at hilmaherron@yahoo.com.

DWMU Annual Meeting

Tuesday, May 8, 2007

Mechanicsville Baptist Church

Guest Speakers: Rachel (Mrs. Sam) James with daughter Deborah and Chris Winans, missionaries to Japan

Session Times: 4:15 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Dinner at 5:45 p.m. Cost: \$ 6.00

Reservations are needed by Tuesday, May 1, 2007

Please send checks to Carolyn Hollins, 5028 Mechanicsville Turnpike, Mechanicsville 23111.

Dover Resource Center

The Dover Resource Center has the following new resources:

The Mayberry Bible Study, Vol. 4 (DVD) by Stephen Skelton

A Christmas Carol Bible Study (DVD) by Stephen Skelton

Tear Soup, a Recipe for Healing from Loss (DVD and book)

Why Men Hate Going to Church (DVD/book) by D. Murrow

Digital Juice for Power Point (DVD)—gift of Doug Frazier

Live a Praying Life Leader Kit by Jennifer Kennedy Dean -

13 week Bible study on prayer and God's plan to include us in accomplishing His will, published by New Hope/WMU.

The following kit is missing:

Kit #27- *Network: the Right People...in the Right Places...for*

the Right Reasons is missing but not checked out in the

computer circulation records. This is the original video kit

published in 1994. Please notify the Dover office if you are

using this resource.

Positions Available

Hopeful seeks a Youth Minister full-time- working with youth in grades 7-12. Individuals interested in applying for this position should view the complete job description on their website www.hopefulbaptistchurch.org. and submit a resume to Youth Minister Search Committee, Hopeful Baptist Church, 14340 Hopeful Church Road, Montpelier, VA 23192

(Call 804-883-6617 for additional information)

North Run seeks a part-time Music Minister for its diverse music program. Preferred qualifications include a degree in music and experience in traditional and contemporary worship and choral direction. Post resumes to North Run Baptist Church, Attn: Search Committee, 2100 Lydell Drive, Richmond, VA 23228 or e-mail to email@northrunbaptist.org.



Dover Baptist Association
11006 Lakeridge Parkway
Ashland, VA 23005

***"a resource and ally for
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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
Leigh Ann Dicken, Interim Office Assistant

Church News

First/Ashland dedicated their new sanctuary on Sunday, March 11, 2007.

Mt. Olivet will host a children's ministry event on April 1, 2007, 4:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall, **Jubilee Gang**. Jubilee Gang is a professional, high-energy, multi-media ministry team that points people to a deeper relationship with Jesus. This 90 minute program is family-oriented, designed for children (Grades K-6). Jubilee Gang teaches through nickelodeon style games, hilarious video clips, character skits, object lessons, and illustrated sermons. This event is free, however space is limited. Please call the church office at (804) 883-5950 to reserve free tickets.

Shalom Baptist and Cornerstone Christian took 12 youth to Eagle Eyrie for Sr. High Weekend. **Shalom** had 2 youth make a commitment to their call to ministry. Praise God!

Bring-A-Kid Race Night

Richmond International Raceway

Friday, May 4, 2007

Rally: 5:00 p.m. (Location: TBA)

Cost: \$35.00 per adult; children 12 and under, free, includes rally and reserved group seating for the NASCAR Busch Series Race (Seating in turn 3)- We recommend a 1 to 12 adult to children leader ratio.

Dinner-(Hotdog, chips, soda, and cookie) available for \$6 (a \$12 value)

Deadline for ordering race/meal tickets is April 12, 2007

To request a ticket form please check the Dover website or contact office at (804) 550-1980.

Please send church check or money order payable to:

Dover Baptist Association, 11006 Lakeridge Parkway,
Ashland, VA 23005

Please note: all race tickets and meals will be handled out at the the rally; only the number of tickets will be issued for those present and no refunds are allowed the day of the event.