



Dover Diary

Newsletter of Dover Baptist Association

"a resource and ally for churches and their leaders"

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July 2007

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Dover Executive Committee

Tuesday, July 10, 2007 - 7:30 p.m.
North Run Baptist Church
2100 Lydell Drive, Richmond

Holiday Closing

The Dover Office will be closed Wednesday,
July 4, 2007 in observance of Independence
Day.

Dover Office Closed

The Dover Office will be closed on
Wednesday, August 1 and Thursday, August 2
for annual clean-up days. The staff will check
messages, but will not be available for telephone
calls or appointments.

Association Missions

Offering Goal: \$29,600

Received to date: \$ 9,617.01

Thank You for your prayers and gifts. All 2007
Association Missions Offering gifts should reach
the Dover Office by Wednesday, October 31,
2007.

Missions Awareness Day

Thursday, July 19, 2007

10:00 a.m. -12 Noon

Fort Lee Baptist Church

2727 Charles City Road, Richmond

Speakers: Lloyd and Connie Rogers, former missionaries in Columbia
and Butch Green, strategic catalyst for Muslim Internationals

Ages 3 - Adult

Please bring a sandwich. Beverage and dessert will be furnished.

Spiritual Enrichment Study

An Event Sponsored by

Dover Woman's Missionary Union

Parham Road Baptist Church

2101 N. Parham Road, Richmond

Thursday, August 16, 2007

6:00 Dinner by reservation. Cost:\$5.00.

RSVP to Carolyn Hollins (804) 779-2602 by Friday, August 10, 2007

Program begins at 7:00 p.m.

Guest speaker: Becky McKinney, President WMUV

Preschool care provided.

Polar Fleece Fabric and Fiber Fill Stuffing Needed for Craft Project This Summer at Camp Little CrossRoads

As a craft project at Camp Little CrossRoads this summer, campers will
make pillows from polar fleece and complete them with a fringe tied in
knots on the outside. The WMU of Virginia is requesting polar fleece fabric
and fiber fill stuffing for the campers to use in making these pillows. The
fleece can be plain or patterned. Both boys and girls attend summer camp at
Camp Little CrossRoads, so patterns appropriate for either or both will
work. Please bring or send fleece and/or stuffing to:

Cross Roads Camp and Conference Center

2247 Little Piney Road

Lowesville, VA 22967

For more information, please contact the WMU of Virginia at (804) 915-
5000 or 1-800-255-2428 or visit www.wmu-va.org. Thank you.

Changing Musical Keys

Music leaders from at least three Dover Baptist churches have recently concluded their ministries. Randy Abernathy, who once served at Walnut Grove, has concluded his ministry at New Bethesda. Mount Vernon Baptist Church celebrated 11 years of music leadership by Randy Markel at a reception. First Baptist Church, West Point, honored Dale and Nancy Saunders as they concluded more than 20 years of ministry there. Dale served as Minister of Music. Nancy ministered at the piano and organ there. I thank God for each of them.

Calendar pages keep turning, and sooner or later every Dover minister moves on. Those who lead the music in Dover churches fill key roles. With the changing of key musical leaders, these churches will also address other key changes.

Church music plays a key role in what Dover Baptists believe and express in worship. I have heard that the person who selects the worship songs shapes the theology of the church. (Many remember the songs they sing over and over.) Music also plays a key role in setting the mood of a worship experience. The type of music and the quality of its presentation can inspire or detract from that experience.

Some might describe choirs, soloists, and ensembles accompanied by a person playing the piano or organ as traditional. I grew up in a church like that. We used hymnals. Many of the members could read music and sing harmony. Some hymn tunes echoed music masters like Beethoven. Most of the hymns we sang used multiple stanzas to develop theological themes. Classically trained musicians played the pipe organ and grand piano.

Today Dover churches use a variety of musical styles and instruments. Praise teams play guitars and other stringed instruments, drums, brass and wind instruments, and electronic keyboards. Even smaller churches use recorded music. An increasing number of congregations use words projected on screens instead of hymnals. The songs they sing often express faith in the very personal terms reminiscent of Gospel songs. The music leaders bring skills gained from a wide range of training and experience.

All those changes bring tensions into Dover churches. The tensions surface as members choose new music leaders who lead new songs in new ways. Changes like these may come between longtime members and newcomers. Such changes may also bring new discoveries.

One day, today's new, younger leaders will conclude their music ministries. Some of them will have served 10, 20, or more years. They and their successors will bring new music and technologies. Some of the new things will become favorite—even traditional—things.

How can Dover Baptists of today embrace these changes? First, we can enjoy familiar forms of worship and sample new ones. Secondly, we can expect God to provide new leaders from familiar and unfamiliar places. Perhaps most importantly, we can stay connected to God whom we worship and trust God's unchanging love.

God will send new musical keys to Dover Baptists. They will add new harmonies to favorite ways you and I raise our voices in worship and praise.

—Steve Allsbrook

Latino Ministry News

Dover, Middle District, and Richmond Baptist Associations refer to our Latin American Mission Project as LAMP. The Virginia Baptist Mission Board and La Primera Iglesia Bautista de Richmond share in LAMP. Louis Orsatti serves as pastor of La Primera and as the Latino church planter strategist for the capital region. He stays busy.

His work focuses on direct ministry and the support system for ministry. As a pastor and missionary, Louis provides ministry services. In cooperation with CrossOver Ministries, Louis has led devotionals for their "Lay Health Promoter" events. Eleven people indicated they received Christ at these events in April and May. Louis also works with ESL classes. He helps those learning English to hear the Gospel and grow in Christian faith.

Louis helps conduct surveys in areas that show the presence of Latino people. Such surveys help Louis locate Latino people, share Christ, and tell people about ministry resources. Cooperating with another Latino leader, Louis helped start a Bible study in one of the areas they surveyed.

For two years he has provided pastoral care to a woman battling cancer in the West End. She and members of her family had accepted Christ. Louis presented the Gospel during the funeral service, and many others accepted Christ!

In some cases, Louis ministers by enlisting sponsor churches. That ministry builds the network that helps support direct ministry. For example, the Latino leader with whom Louis cooperated in starting the new Bible study leads Los Pescadores, a church that started meeting three years ago. It meets at Fairmount Memorial Baptist Church.

Louis met with Fairmount Memorial's interim pastor Bill Corey and the church council to share information that might help Fairmount Memorial develop a closer relationship with Los Pescadores. Now those leaders have information to share with the congregation. Louis welcomes the opportunity to speak to any Dover church that would like to know more about local mission opportunities among the Latino population.

The Lay Latino Church Planter Program seeks to develop lay leaders into church planters. Louis also asks that we pray for the 20 people in this program. A June 16 concert featured Samuel Hernandez, a very popular Latino Christian singer. Pray God will lead Louis and others in the connections that will follow from this concert. Louis also asks that we pray for the youth retreat leaders and participants. The retreat takes place the first week of July at Williamsburg Christian Retreat Center. Pray for Louis and wife Rebeca in their local radio ministry too.

Remember the whole Orsatti family. Pray God will provide the financial resources for daughters Francine and Stephanie to advance to their second years in college. Pray, too, that their family will take the time to love one another and have family time in the midst of ministry.

If this sounds like work on the mission field, it is. If this sounds like Louis and his family have stretched to their limits, they have.

The Orsattis thank God for you and the ministry you help make possible. Pray for them. Pray that God will send others to work beside them. Consider what God would have you and your church to do to help those God has sent here find Christ.

Pray for These

- July 1 **Manakin, First** Rev. Joseph Allen, Jr., Pastor
Elizabeth Howell
- July 8 **Mattaponi** . . . Rev. Donald Stewart, Interim Pastor
Gertrude Custalow
- July 15 **Mechanicsville** Without a Pastor
John Bryant, Brenda Brown
Brenda Jennings, Peggy Hildreth, Debbie Turner
Martha Loving, Thomas Rawls
- Middle Eastern** Rev. William Khalil, Pastor
- July 22 **Mount Olivet** Rev. Dale Ashley, Pastor
Claudia Phillips, Cindy Weston, Shirley Mills
- Mount Pleasant** . . . Rev. Dr. Barbara Filling, Pastor
Lisa Dixon
- July 29 **Mount Vernon** . . Dr. Donald F. Runion, Jr., Pastor
Larry Hoyle, Jamie Nuckols, Sarah Beasley
Beth Royal, John Mark Skammer
Kathi Traficanti, Eugenia Freiburger
Kathy Jones, Jean Grubbs, Gayle Oliver
Nancy Allen, Virginia Ayres, Jessica Benson
Gayle Christian, Melody Fowler, Rachel Hoffman
Amy Jenkins, Rod Roberts, Sarah Royal
Gail Samuel, Julie McGowan
David Jones, Darie Lee

Personnel Changes

Black Creek welcomes **Gene Burrus** as **Minister of Music and Worship**. He began his ministry on June 18.

Rev. Jim Hunter, pastor of **Biltmore**, concluded his ministry at the end of May and now serves as a pastor in Kentucky. He received his Doctor of Ministry degree from Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond in May.

Cornerstone Christian welcomed **Rev. R. Brandon Ives** as **Outreach and Youth Pastor**.

Rev. Chris Fowler, **Mechanicsville**, concluded his service as pastor on July 1. He and wife Tammy have been appointed by the International Mission Board to serve as missionaries for Southeast Asia. The church held a farewell reception on Sunday, July 1.

Mount Vernon welcomed **David Jones** as **Minister for Music Arts**, **Darie Lee** as **Minister for Younger Children**, and **Julie McGowan** as **Minister for Communication**.

Randy Abernathy, **Minister of Music** of **New Bethesda** concluded his ministry on June 17. The church held a farewell reception on Wednesday, June 13.

New Highland welcomed **Sheri Castle** as **Worship Leader** on April 25.

North Run welcomed **Rev. Morgan J. Day** as **Interim Minister of Music** on April 15. **Jay Cable** concluded his ministry as **Interim Minister of Music** on April 8.

Rev. Carter Bearden concluded his ministry as pastor at **Northside** in June. The church honored Carter and wife Liz with a farewell celebration reception on Sunday, June 24.

Congratulations

We celebrate with **Shirley and Ken Smith**, pastor of **Hardy Central**, on the marriage of their daughter Cathryn to Rick Carswell on June 16. On Sunday, July 8 following the morning worship service, **Hardy Central** will hold a reception in honor of **Ken Smith's** 20 years of service to the church. **Mechanicsville** thanked **Debbie Turner** for 15 years of service as Secretary on Sunday, May 20 during the worship service.

Susan and Todd Combee, pastor of **New Bethesda**, celebrated 25 years of marriage on May 22.

We celebrate with **Rev. Dr. Tom Gaskins**, pastor of **North Run**, on the marriage of his son, Thomas to Ainsleigh Thomas on Saturday, May 26.

Ridge thanked **Rev. Alan Ray** for his 5 years of service as pastor in June.

Walnut Grove celebrated the release of **Dr. Drexel Rayford's** CD, "Cherokee Road" with a concert on Sunday, June 3. His album was some 30 years in the making.

Outstanding Achievement Award

The North American Mission Board recognized **Ward Hildreth** of **Mechanicsville** with the "Joel W. Phillips Outstanding Achievement Award for Volunteer Ministry" through Southern Baptist Disaster Relief on May 20.

Amateur Radio Operators Needed

Amateur (HAM) radio operators are needed who would like to serve as part of a new disaster relief unit. The Command and Communications unit is housed in a 26-foot RV trailer. Its ministry will give communications and leadership support to other disaster units deployed after a disaster. If you have your Amateur Radio License and would like to serve as part of this ministry team, please contact Tom Cline at (757) 766-0912 or e-mail tg_cline@yahoo.com.

Mark Your Calendars for the 2007 Key Leader Conference

Monday, September 24 at Cool Spring Baptist Church
Tuesday, September 25 at Central Baptist Church

Central Virginia Baptist Ministries will offer the 2007 Key Leader Conference on two evenings this year, one north and the other south of the James River.

Each evening will feature sessions for key church leaders with an optional dinner. Most, but not all of the sessions will be offered at both locations, so you may attend one or both evenings.

Look for more details in the next issue of the "Dover Diary." Mark your calendars and begin spreading the word at your church.



Dover Baptist Association
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*"a resource and ally for
churches and their leaders"*

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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, Office Assistant

Church News

Middle Eastern Baptist members attended the 38th annual Bible conference in Millersville, Pennsylvania, May 25-28. This is one of the largest evangelical Arabic conferences held in the U.S.A. People from across the United States and Canada attended.

Northside celebrated its 100th anniversary with a weekend celebration June 16-17. The celebration weekend offered activities for all ages, a picnic, and a worship celebration.

Shalom recognized their charter members on their 35th anniversary celebration on June 3.

Designate United Way Gifts to Central Virginia Baptist Ministries

Regional Ministries Coordinator Nita May has announced that contributors to the United Way in the greater Richmond area may designate all or part of their United Way gift to support Central Virginia Baptist Ministries. The United Way pledge form has a space for making this designation. Just mark it "Central Virginia Baptist Ministries" and make others aware of this option. Thank you!

Positions Available

First Baptist, West Point is seeking an accompanist to practice with the adult choir and assist in their worship services. Preferred qualifications include the ability to play both organ and piano. Salary is commensurate with experience. Please contact the office at (804) 843-2484 or e-mail fbwestpoint@verizon.net.

New Bethesda Baptist is seeking a part-time music minister. Please contact the church office at (804) 779-2101 for more information.

May Memorial Baptist is seeking **Minister(s) for Youth and Children's Ministries.** The church is looking for one or two individuals to head respective ministries working closely with the pastor and designated age groups, lay leadership, and parents. Youth position—approximately 20 hours per week; Children's position—approximately 10-20 hours per week. The church would consider one individual for a combined position 30-40 hours per week. Please mail resumes to Personnel Committee, May Memorial Baptist Church, P.O. Box 56, Powhatan, VA 23139, or e-mail admin@maymemorial.org.