



Dover Diary

Newsletter of Dover Baptist Association

"a resource and ally for churches and their leaders"

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Dover Minister's Conference

**Monday, February 18, 2008, 10:30 a.m. at the
Dover Conference Center**

Speaker: Dr. Tom Oey

Topic: Chinese/U. S. Cultural Exchange

Lunch is available for \$7.00 per person. Please
make lunch reservations with the Dover office by
Thursday, February 14 (*and remember your
Valentine!*).

Hepler Scholarship

Applications Due March 14

Applications for the 2008 W. Paul Hepler
Scholarship are due in the Dover Baptist
Association office not later than Friday, March
14, 2008. 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.



Pastor-Deacon Conference

March 10, 2008

6:45 P.M. Refreshments

7:15 P.M. Music and Welcome

7:45-9:00 P.M. Conference Sessions

Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond
3400 Brook Road

Conference Choices

The Rookie Deacon

Where Do Deacons Come From?

Three Areas of Prayer—Personal, Public, and the Ministry of Prayer

How to Slow Down So You Can Catch Up

The Role of the Deacon in Church Conflict

What Do I Say When...?

Women as Servant Leaders in the Church

Pastors and Deacons Caring for Each Other

Encouraging the Pastor

☺☺☺ The Public Image of Your Church Deacons ☹☹☹

Pastor and Deacons may attend the same session
Deacons from one church may prefer to split up and teach each other
what they learned from the sessions attended

For more information contact
CVBM Regional Ministries Coordinator Nita May
nita.may@cvbm.org or 804-332-4670

Nine Months and Counting

Somehow, I experienced the words as I said them. The other person had asked, "How long...Dover...?" My mind heard the answer coming, but the effect of the words still caught me by surprise. I began to reply, "225 years."

Think of the organizations, including churches, whose members can say, "We have been serving since 17-anything." Dover has several. They created this association or joined it during its early years. Even with that list as a start, I do not know that I could name three dozen organizations that have served over 200 years.

Such a record deserves celebrating. We want to thank God, the Eternal One, for allowing us to serve Christ and for the heritage of Christian service God has given us here.

Dover's 225th Anniversary Celebration Team met recently. I commend the team's members—George Biggs, Edith Fensom, Marion Pierce, Darlene Slater Herod, and, from a distance, Executive Director Emeritus Richard Moore. I have the privilege of serving with them. Each serves well, and I am grateful.

Each of us experienced the words, "...nine months..." as we checked the list of what has been done and has yet to be done for the October 26 celebration that New Highland Baptist Church will host.

I expect a wonderful celebration of God's work. Fred Anderson will tell us about significant Baptist leaders and events connected to Dover. We will share the music of more than two centuries. Displays of items with historic interest will allow Dover Baptists and our guests to touch and be touched by the things that have helped shape us today. Our WMU has asked for table, wall, and floor space and will have a manikin wearing a historic outfit. One of the pieces I look forward to seeing is a family tree of every Dover church. All of these will take place in conjunction with Dover's 225th Annual Meeting.

Dover Baptists will have other opportunities to connect with, learn from, and be inspired by our history. At Dover's Senior Adult Luncheon on May 20, Richard Moore will join me in a conversation that includes the three decades of Richard's participation in Dover.

Each Dover church has been asked for a contact person. Thanks to the personal efforts of George and Darlene, the team has 41 contacts. (Is your church among the remaining two dozen who have yet to name a contact?)

The team has also invited each church to share a brief story of one or more persons who have contributed to its life and ministry or to the ministry of Dover. Mount Pleasant, for example, shared the story and photo of a woman who shaped generations of children there. While we hope the booklet of these stories will include one or two from every church, we know we these will simply represent the myriad stories of lives God has used among us.

Like events surrounding the birth of a baby, you will hear more later. For now, mark your calendar and hold the date—October 26, 2008, 4:00-9:00 p.m. Pray for the planning team, please. Remember, we shape the history of those who will follow us. Let us leave them a heritage as inspiring as the one we share today.

—Steve Allsbrook

Mount Vernon Launches Celebrate Recovery; NorthStar Community Will Launch at First Baptist Church, Ashland and at Walnut Grove

Satellite Worship and Ministry Sites Reflect a New Model

Several years ago, Bon Air Baptist Church in Richmond launched a ministry to persons with addiction problems, other recovering persons, and their families. They called that ministry Celebrate Recovery. The ministry grew into a congregation, and the name changed to NorthStar Community.

In January, **Mount Vernon Baptist Church** launched a Celebrate Recovery ministry. It meets each Friday evening at 7:00 at the Mount Vernon campus.

Along with the Celebrate Recovery model, one of the newer models churches may use to serve those in need takes the form of satellite congregations. This makes the ministry to more persons, and it makes it available closer to more persons.

First Baptist Church, Ashland and Walnut Grove Baptist Church have partnered with Bon Air to offer this ministry beginning February 10. The satellite sites will deliver offer a combination of live worship elements and recorded messages. The services at Walnut Grove start at 10:00 a.m. The services at First Baptist, Ashland start at 4:30 p.m.

Please pray for these new ministries and those they will touch with God's power to bring hope and to heal. Spread the word about these ministries. "Come and see" may be all the invitation that someone you know needs.

Poplar Springs Baptist Church Breaks Ground for New Worship Center

St. John's Plans to Move from Samaria Baptist Church Later This Year

Poplar Springs Baptist Church lost its sanctuary and related facilities to an act of arson on January 13, 2004. Over an extended period several churches were damaged or destroyed by intentional fires. In Dover, Hardy Central and Faith Baptist Churches were severely damaged. Another church, St. John's Baptist Church in Charles City County, was destroyed. Neighboring Samaria Baptist Church offered the grieving congregation the use of its newest space.

On January 13, the fourth anniversary of its fire, **Poplar Springs Baptist Church** broke ground for the building that will replace and succeed the one they lost. The congregation celebrated the day, and everyone present was invited to turn the earth on which the new worship center will rise.

Last year, St. John's Baptist Church broke ground for its new home. Later this year, St. John's will move and **Samaria Baptist Church** will regain the use of the space they have so generously shared with a sister congregation.

Thank God for the progress of each of these churches. Each of them has a testimony of God's provision in their need. When the time comes, participate in the special services they will host to honor God and commemorate this time in the life of each.



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Barbara Boggs, Associate for Ministry to Church Leader
Families
Nita May, Regional Ministries Coordinator, CVBM
Louis Orsatti, Regional Latino Church Planter Strategist,
LAMP

Church News

Antioch began a study of *Fresh Start with God* by Gerald Sharon and Brad Johnson.

Atlee Community and **Shalom** are offering Dave Ramsey's *Financial Peace University* class. It's a biblically based, video-driven small group study that teaches families to beat debt, build wealth, and give like never before.

Dover offered Lee Strobel's *The Case for Christ: A Journalist's Personal Investigation of the Evidence for Christ* in January.

Living Proof, the new church which Dover Baptists have partnered to help start in partnership with Hermon and Fredericksburg Associations, Virginia Baptists, and several churches, held its first service last September 16. Living Proof and primary sponsor **Concord** held a combined baptismal service for sixteen people. Living Proof baptized an entire family together. At the end of the service, Pastor Scott Roberts had already changed when another person came forward. Scott put his cold, wet clothes back on and baptized that person too.

Mount Olivet and **Shalom** held a joint youth worship service on Sunday, January 27.

A team from **New Highland** will work on a project in Port Sulphur, LA the week of March 24. The team will continue to help with rebuilding homes damaged by Hurricane Katrina.

Free Items

Faith Baptist Church has 106 copies of The Baptist Hymnal (1975 Edition) and a Canon PC980 tabletop copier (purchased in February 2002 that needs repair) to give away. E-mail Paula at caddengoochland@comcast.net or call Paula at 804-288-6057, ext. 201.

Positions Available

Dover Baptist Association is now accepting résumés for the position of **Office Assistant**. The part-time staff team member will work two days per week, Thursday and Friday. Computer skills necessary. Send résumé to sandy@doverbaptist.org.

The Emerging Leaders Team of the Virginia Baptist Mission Board is seeking a **full-time Ministry Assistant** to provide administrative support for the Team Leader and all of the age-group strategists working out of the Richmond office. Candidates must be proficient in MS Word, Excel and Outlook. E-mail résumé to Jody Faig, HR Associate, at jody.faug@vbmb.org or mail to P. O. Box 8568, Richmond, VA 23226.

Mount Vernon is accepting résumés for the positions of **Food Service Director** and **Director of Financial Accounting**. Contact Larry Hoyle at 804-270-6600, ext. 102 or e-mail employment@mvbc.info. Mount Vernon is also seeking a **Minister to Students**. For information or to submit a résumé e-mail Jamie Nuckols at jnuckols@mvbc.info or 804-270-6600.

Broadus Memorial Baptist Church is seeking a full-time leader for the areas of **Children's Ministry** and **Education Ministry**. However, candidates for part-time position in either ministry will be considered. For more information, contact 804-779-2700 or phil@broadusmbc.org. Send résumés to Personnel Committee, 5351 Pole Green Road, Mechanicsville, VA 23116.

New Bethesda is seeking a **part-time Minister of Music** to work with our adult choir and lead in worship on Sunday mornings and during our monthly praise and worship service. Please résumé to Personnel Committee, New Bethesda Baptist Church, 9019 New Bethesda Road, Mechanicsville, VA 23116 or email todd@newbethesda.org.