



Dover Diary

Newsletter of Dover Baptist Association

"a resource and ally for churches and their leaders"

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February 2012

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Dover Ministers Conference

Monday, February 13, 10:30 a.m.

Dover Conference Center

Lunch Cost: \$7.00 per person

Brad Hoffmann, Pastor of Cool Spring Baptist Church, will speak on "7 Areas of Ministry Failure"

To order lunch, please make reservations with the Dover Office by Wednesday, February 8.

Annual Planning for Pastors and Sunday School Directors

Monday, April 2, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Dover Conference Center

Include your age-group leaders.

Contact Bill Alphin for more details.

Virginia Baptist Library Association Spring Conference

March 30-31

Eagle Eyrie Baptist Conference Center
Lynchburg

Register directly with Eagle Eyrie. For more information, visit <http://vbla.wordpress.com>.



Pastor-Deacon Conference

Monday, March 19

Branch's Baptist Church

3400 Broad Rock Boulevard, Richmond

6:00 P.M. Refreshments/Bookstore

6:30 P.M. Welcome and Inspirational Meditation

7:00 P.M. Session I

7:50 P.M. Refreshment Break

8:00 P.M. Session II

Conference Choices

- "Helping Others Wrestle Their Way through Grief"—Jim Flammig
- "Pumping New Blood into Worn out Deacons"—Dan Bagby
- "Deacon Family Ministry/Team Ministry Overview"—Tom Stocks
- "New Models in Ministry"—Louis Blakey and Lois Blakey Paige
- "Dealing with Growth within the Church"—David Benjamin
- "Using Social Media in Ministry"—Spencer Dillard
- "Shepherding Congregations through Loss and Grief During Change and Transition"—Bob Lee
- "Basic Training for Deacons"—Ken Kessler
- "Multiple Ministries, Services, and Campuses"—Travis Collins
- "Equipping Saints to Serve"—Roberta Damon
- "Keys to Multiplication"—Larry Frakes
- "Help for Hurting Pastors" (Pastors/Clergy only)—Charles Chandler

Conference Fee \$5.00—Pay at the Door

For details, contact:

Dover Baptist Association, 804-550-1980

Richmond Baptist Association, 804-329-1701

Middle District Baptist Association, 804-276-8481

or visit www.cvbm.org for more information

An Outstanding Virginia GA

Hannah Craft inherited a bent toward missions from her parents, David and Heidi Craft. One might say missions is part of Hannah's spiritual DNA. Last year, Virginia WMU leaders named Hannah the Outstanding GA of 2011. (See www.wmu.org; also visit www.gapassport.com to learn about Girls in Action.)



Hannah Craft

Several WMU leaders at North Run Baptist Church recognized Hannah's "exuberance for missions." Margaret Taylor, June Wikowsky, and Judy Clark encouraged Hannah to apply for Outstanding GA. Pastor Tom Gaskins supported her application, saying, "I am thrilled to recommend her as an Outstanding GA [and expect] she will represent her Lord, Virginia Baptists, and GAs with distinction." WMUV leaders agreed, and the church surprised Hannah with the news.

When Hannah learned of her award, she was still 11 years old. Hannah has danced since her preschool days, traveled on mission trips, and plays the violin and bass. She is no stranger to being around groups, but her recognition as Outstanding GA put her in front of hundreds of people.

Her first real public speaking engagement came at "Mom and Me Camp," a mother-daughter weekend at Eagle Eyrie. That weekend she spoke twice to groups of 200 or more. Hannah had decided to speak on "The Armor of a GA." She said, "I was definitely nervous!"

Like many public speakers, Hannah came to that time well-rehearsed. She had already delivered her message in front of her parents, the mirror, and her pets. Still, she said, "I was glad I did not have my glasses on and could not see all the faces looking at me."

Hannah also credits Edith Fisher, Children's Educational Consultant for WMU of Virginia, with helping her fulfill her various duties. Edith said, "Hannah Craft is an exceptional young lady who shows enthusiasm for learning about missions and doing missions. As the WMUV Outstanding GA, Hannah has embraced the responsibilities of leadership, speaking engagements, and service with poise, confidence, and creativity."

Hannah's speaking engagements included speaking at GA Camp and at the WMUV Annual Meeting. At the Dover WMU Annual Meeting she spoke to more than 500!

Anyone would have found it a challenge to do everything she did as Outstanding GA of 2011. Hannah had to make some big decisions. Her mom said, "Hannah had a big responsibility. It was a kind of role reversal. Hannah was leading, and I was her helper." Heidi asked Hannah questions and gave pointers to help, but she told Hannah, "You have to do your own work."

Hannah did lots of writing in the car. She made packing lists for her speaking engagements and her trips. With a little help and lots of encouragement, Hannah got herself organized.

She prepared for her speaking engagements and got to them with her materials on time. She listened to peers and adults who heard her speak. That attitude and their suggestions helped Hannah make her speeches even better.

Hannah remembers her GA Camp counselors helped her in other ways too. The counselors worked one-on-one to help each camper with personal challenges. Hannah experienced some fear with the demands of her role. In fact, she built one of her speeches around that fear.

Her role gave Hannah opportunities that few children get. She made new friends and found some nice people along the way, people who helped her. She grew in all the ways a child her age grows. She also grew in her relationships to others, and Hannah grew closer to God.

"I am grateful, to God and to others, for the experience," she said. "I am glad I was picked. It was a great spiritual journey. It's been fun. I have loved every minute of it. It has brought me closer to people, and it has definitely brought me closer to God."

Hannah is at least a fourth generation WMU member. Dover WMU Director Sharon McKinley was her mother's GA leader. Grandmother Marilyn Hurt, great grandmother Dorothy Bowles, and great aunt Elizabeth Fletcher also participate in WMU groups at North Run Baptist Church.

Hannah said, "My family has definitely been a big part of this. Daddy helped me when I was writing my speeches. Mama drove me to all the places I had to go and prayed with me before going on stage. They all helped me with my decisions. Granddaddy [Randall Hurt] would even make funny faces to make me smile while I was speaking."

Heidi said, "I want to thank our church family, WMUV, and others for the love and support that Hannah and our family have received. God has blessed Hannah and us. Like us, Hannah has been provided the right foundation for life. Please pray she will keep making the right choices."

Anyone who spends time with Hannah might think she has a bright future. She has dreams and makes quite an impression.

"Before this," she said, "I knew I wanted to be in law, but I did not

make decisions well. I even had trouble deciding what to wear." Hannah has made many decisions in the past year. She has gained experience and ability in public speaking. For now, she still wants to pursue a career in law. Hannah said, "I want to be a prosecuting attorney."

Hannah has already served Christ with distinction, and those who know her think God will give her much more to do. June said, "The way Hannah represented GAs shows Hannah's great potential as one whom the Lord can use for His glory." Heidi has noted how Hannah's confidence has grown. David said, "I am very proud of her and thank the Lord she has made the decisions she has."

In Hannah, God has already touched her family, North Run Baptist Church, Dover, and Virginia Baptists. Edith said, "It will be exciting to see how Hannah continues to seek leadership roles and also impact the world for Christ in the years to come."

—Steve Allsbrook



One family—four generations of WMU

Pray for These

The ministers of Baltimore Baptist Association churches, Thembalihle Baptist Church and Pastor Jeffrey Fololo, the churches and leaders of the Baptist Union of Macedonia, and, in Dover:

February 5 **Colosse** Steve Smith, Pastor
Gaynell Smith, Marian Carnell, Rose Rice
February 12 **Cool Spring** Brad Hoffmann, Pastor
Wayne Smith, Ted Tussey, Jesse Flury
Glen Bohannon, Bryan Dupuis, Greg English
Brenda Kidd, Jill Baughan, Sharon Neeley
Candace Nahodil, Sheila Leistner, Laurie Spiers
Linda McNally, Pam Arkesteyn, Amy Poe
Jim Legg, Steve Rowe, Alice Rusher, Sandy Owen
Corinth Ben Caldwell, Pastor
Vicki Kimbrell, Don Bradley
February 19 **Cornerstone Christian** Les Redfern, Pastor
Pam Hughes
Deep Run William Catlett, Pastor
Bob Baine, Terry Jones, Andrea Mason
February 26 **Dover** Michael Garner, Pastor
Jackie Shultz, Donna Martin
East Gate Catherine Lee, Pastor
Sharon Stith

Dover Baptists Express Sympathy

...to Carroll and Sandy Weakley on the death of his brother, Virgil Pettit, on December 26. Sandy is the Executive Assistant of **Dover Baptist Association**.

...to Doris and Terry Sharpe on the death of her mother, Doris Hatton Heflebower on January 18. Terry is the Pastor of **Western Hanover Church**.

Congratulations

...to Bill Alphin on his first anniversary with Dover Baptist Association. Bill now serves as Associate for Church Development.

...to Steve Allsbrook on his fifteenth anniversary as Dover's Director of Missions.

...to Butch Hutson on his twelfth anniversary as Pastor of **Gwathmey Baptist Church**.

...to Vi White on her fourteenth anniversary as Secretary and to Amy Swartz on her thirteenth anniversary as Director of Handbells at **Hunton Baptist Church**.

Personnel Changes

Ed Martin has concluded his service as Minister of Youth at **Grace Community Baptist Church**.

Get Well Wishes

...to Debbie Lane, wife of Bob Lane, Pastor at **Hopewell Baptist Church**.

...to Elizabeth Day, wife of Morgan Day, Interim Minister of Music at **North Run Baptist Church**.

DWMU News

March 10 - Dover WMU Council meeting and retreat at the Dover Conference Center

Position Available

First Baptist Church of West Point seeks a summer intern to work with children and youth, June-August. Contact Phillip Higgins at 804-843-2484 or e-mail fbcwestpoint@verizon.net.

Mechanicsville Baptist Church seeks a part-time organist/accompanist for its traditional worship services and weekly adult choir rehearsals. Contact Brenda Brown at the church (804-746-7253), 8016 Atlee Road, Mechanicsville, VA 23111 or e-mail music4mbc10@gmail.com.

BTSR seeks a detail-oriented person to serve as part-time Assistant to the Dean. Requirements include knowledge of basic computer and office skills, proficiency with Word and Excel, and strong writing and communication skills. Contact Israel Galindo at 804-204-1221 or e-mail igalindo@btsr.edu.

Gospel Jail Ministry seeks a full time Chaplain to minister in an Adult Jail and two Juvenile Detention Centers. Please call Chaplain Joe Driver at 804-261-1810.

Baptist Ministry Assistants of Virginia Celebrates 25 Years of Ministry

March 28-30

Quality Inn & Suites, 705 Atlantic Avenue, Virginia Beach
\$75 Conference and Banquet

\$40 Friday Night Banquet Only

Additional fee for optional hotel room (call 757-428-8935 and mention BMAV to get \$79.00 rate)

Visit <http://bmav.wordpress.com> for a copy of the brochure.

E-mail jnblackcreek@aol.com for more information.

"The Art of Marriage" Conference

February 3-4 at New Highland Baptist Church

February 10-11 at Beaverdam Baptist Church, Cool Spring Baptist Church, Grace Community Baptist Church, and other churches in the metro Richmond area

Advance registration cost: \$50 per couple, \$30 per single

First Things First of Greater Richmond is bringing "The Art of Marriage" to the area. This conference helps couples understand God's blueprint for marriage. To register, see the full list of locations and dates, or get more details, visit www.firstthingsrichmond.org.

ESL Training Certification Classes

Dover Conference Center

Friday, February 17, 6:30 p.m.-9:15 p.m.

Saturday, February 18, 8:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Friday, February 24, 6:30 p.m.-9:15 p.m.

Saturday, February 25, 8:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Cost: \$10 (includes a textbook and other handouts)

These classes train volunteers to teach survival English to immigrants. Certificates will be awarded to those who attend all sessions. To register or learn more, call Jennifer Chrisman at 804-737-6147 or e-mail jennifer.dover.esl@verizon.net.



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

Steve Allsbrook, Director of Missions
Sam Duenckel, Associate for Missions
Sandy Weakley, Executive Assistant
Sue Hall, Ministry Assistant
Peggy Etheridge, Ministry Assistant
Bob Boggs, Associate for Ministry to Church Leaders
Barbara Boggs, Associate for Ministry to Church Leader
Families
Bill Alphin, Associate for Church Development

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Church News

Dover Baptist Church ordained K. Wayne Hast to the Gospel ministry in November.

Four Mile Creek Baptist Church held a service of "Awakening" on January 31.

Mount Pleasant Baptist Church won First Place in the Charles City Christmas Parade and Third Place in the New Kent Christmas Parade. They provided 21 sleeping bags and hygiene kits for the homeless in the Richmond area. In November they collected shoe boxes for Samaritans Purse and hygiene bags for the Fluvanna Correctional Center.

Mount Vernon Baptist Church is hosting the Deep Run High School Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre on February 13.

Parham Road Baptist Church celebrated Unity Sunday on January 1 with **Grace Chinese Baptist Church** which included combined choirs, their Praise Team, preaching translated by Pastor Daniel Chu, and an authentic Chinese luncheon. Parham Road began its new Sunday Night Live Worship Experience on January 22 with guests Jeff Scott, Pastor of **Northside Baptist Church**, and his son Brennan. The WMU met at The Beckett Center for Christian Understanding of Islam and toured the museum on January 9.

Hepler Scholarship Applications Due by March 15, 2012

To be considered for the W. Paul Hepler Scholarship, a person must be a member of a Dover Association Baptist Church for at least one year prior to the application. The application must be approved by the church. Applications must be submitted to the Dover office no later than March 15. The applicant must be planning to pursue a baccalaureate or graduate degree in an accredited college, university or seminary and must be accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools or the American Association of Theological Schools. See www.doverbaptist.org or contact the Dover office for an application.

Check Out the Latest Additions to the Dover Library

Check out the Bible study kit *James: Mercy Triumphs* by Beth Moore. This study calls attention to what it means to live the Christian faith. Beth Moore explores joy, hardship, faith, wisdom, single-mindedness, the tongue, humility, prayer, and more. Be inspired to put your faith into action in practical ways as you get to know both the man and the New Testament book.

Take a look at *An Uncommon Event* by Tony Dungy, former Indianapolis Colts coach. Tony reveals secrets to achieving significance that he has learned from his remarkable parents, his mentors, and his walk with God (DVD and book).

Build your church's ministry to men with *Men's Ministry in the 21st Century—the Encyclopedia of Practical Ideas*.

Community Health Fair for Older Adults and Caregivers

Thursday, February 9, 2012, 10:00 a.m.-12 noon
Mechanicsville Baptist Church
8016 Atlee Road, Mechanicsville
Sponsored by the Hanover Council on Aging

Hear brief presentations on various services designed to help older adults age well physically and financially. Meet local representatives of resources who can personally answer your questions. This event is free and offers refreshments and door prizes! Call 804-365-4302 for more information.