



Dover Diary

Newsletter of Dover Baptist Association

"a resource and ally for churches and their leaders"

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Student Addresses Wanted!

Many new high school graduates from Dover churches will seek more education. Baptist Collegiate Ministry provides a Christian community in higher education settings. We need your help! Dover's Student Ministries Council wants to send a care package and information about Baptist Collegiate Ministry to every Dover high school graduate. Will you help us get their names and contact information?

If someone in your family or your church family is graduating high school and will continue their education, please send the names and contact information to us. [It would really help us to have the names and contact information by Friday, July 12.](#)

We promise to use that information only to send them the packages and help connect them with Baptist Collegiate Ministries. E-mail each student's name, home address, e-mail address, and the name of the college or school he/she will attend to ridgechurcheducation@gmail.com or mail it to our Student Ministries Council at the Dover office. Thank you!

2019 Hepler Scholarship Recipient

The Student Ministry Council would like to congratulate William Harrison Simms III (Mount Olivet Baptist Church) on receiving the 2019 Hepler Scholarship. Harrison will attend Virginia Commonwealth University this fall.

Tribute to a Dover Pillar

Mary Owen McLean passed away on May 8 at the age of 100. She was a member of First Baptist Church Ashland for most of her life. Mary was a strong leader in the Dover WMU back in the 1960s and 70s, she left quite an impression on her peers and the young women. She cared deeply about her church. Robert Thompson, former pastor of FBC Ashland, had the privilege of giving her eulogy. Mary faithfully came to visit Robert each week—just to ask what needed to be prayed for on behalf of the church and for him too.



In the early 1990s, Mary was asked to establish Sunday School at Faith Baptist Church, a sister Dover church in Goochland County that (at the time) was less than 20 years old. Pastor Jim Whitaker knew of Mary's leadership and abilities at FBC Ashland, and he asked her to come serve as a missionary at Faith. Jim shared the following about Mary, "The people at Faith really responded to Mary. She was so caring and friendly. She taught the church about WMU and was a general resource person for Sunday School. When I was preaching, at times I asked Mary to take the part of a Bible character. Everyone really enjoyed those times. Mary became a real minister to some of the hurting in the church community. We all knew the time would come when Mary would return to ministry at First [Baptist Church] Ashland. When she left Faith it was a stronger church."

Mary also earned a Master's Degree in Deaf Education, and taught deaf children in Tennessee and Virginia. During her final years, Mary had Alzheimer's. We thank God for the life Mary led and the example she set for generations of Dover Baptists.

Congratulations to Dover's Men In Ministry

Dover's Men In Ministry recently won Hanover County's "Spirit of Volunteerism" Judges' Choice award. The Men in Ministry build wheelchair ramps throughout Central Virginia for people in need.

BRIDGING CHINESE AND AMERICAN CULTURES DURING A DEADLY BUS CRASH

It was a typical Tuesday morning in the church office when I got an unexpected call from the church secretary, Evelyn Yao. My heart grew heavy as her words began to unfold. “The hospital just called our church asking for help, they need Chinese translators. A charter bus carrying many Chinese passengers had fatally crashed outside of the city. The hospitals are overwhelmed. Their handful of translators are insufficient. They need to get medical attention for the injured but are unable to communicate with them. Bi-lingual speakers who can speak Chinese and English are needed to help bridge the language divide. Are you available to head over to the hospital immediately to assist? I have also alerted our church members through the church chat group.” Evelyn said.

As the day progressed, we learned from the local news NBC12 WWBT that the deadly bus crash had occurred at 5:30 am earlier that morning. The bus had run off an exit ramp and overturned. The accident claimed two lives, an 81-year-old woman from Jamaica, New York, and a 37-year-old Chinese man. In

addition, more than 50 people, ranging from toddlers to adults, were injured and taken to area hospitals. For the next eight days, I watched as our church chat group exploded with daily needs, updates and prayer request. I witnessed God intertwining the lives

of our church members with the lives of those fatally impacted by the tragedy in unexpected and marvelous ways.

One of the first to help organize and mobilize the church was Helen Huang, the wife of our church elder, Peter Li. She visited the hospitals to learn of the needs and quickly put together a list of hospitals, patient rooms, requests, and shifts. Church members took shifts through the day to function as translators, bridging the language gap between patients and medical staff. They also assisted with purchasing new clothes and basic necessities because many patients lost all of their belongings during the accident. “I was surprised to learn that most of them had never heard of Jesus nor been to a church,” Helen said. “I had the opportunity to spend time and pray with a particular patient in the hospital over the course of a few days. She came to accept Jesus as her Lord and Savior! We both cried as she repeated over and over again that the day of the accident was the beginning of her new life in Jesus. Days later, another friend of hers who was involved in the accident also accepted Jesus!”

At the other side of town, church members Stuart and Sarah Bice who own a local real estate company ferried patients to and from the hospitals to a local towing company

to sort through unclaimed belongings. At the collection site, they would also serve as translators. “One of the hospital patients I talked to was a Buddhist. She kept repeating how unlucky and unfortunate she was,” Sarah said. “I was surprised when she allowed me to pray for her. I told her that Jesus loves her and to be thankful to God for a second chance in life. I had to hold my tears back as I hugged her.”

These were the Spirit-filled testimonies I heard over and over again as I watched our church members bridge the cultural and language divide in the midst of a tragedy. As a direct result of this incident, our church was contacted by Central Virginia Interpreter Services. They communicated the overwhelming needs for similar situations in healthcare, schools, social services, worksites and particularly in the courts. God was opening up an untapped mission field for our church.

There are so many who live in America today who are unable to communicate even the simplest needs due to their language and cultural background. It is in these situations that

the ethnic churches shine the brightest. They bridge cultures in a multi-cultural country. Unfortunately, ethnic churches do not normally come to mind in mainstream religious America. However, it is undeniable that they are playing an increasingly vital role as the landscape of American demographics change and the focus on multi-cultural world mission increases.

As I reflect on the incident a week later, I clearly see the restorative work of Jesus. Scripture tells us the reason there are multi-languages is the consequence of man’s pride. Genesis 11:1-9 reveals the whole world originally had only one language. However, man wanted to build a tower that reaches to the heavens, so that they could make a name for themselves. As a result, the Lord confused their language so they will not understand each other and scattered them over the face of the whole earth. Over the course of the week, we saw the pain, confusion, and chaos of this consequence. But we also saw how those who follow Jesus began to bridge and close this division. We saw how God used the ethnic church to bring cultures together. We saw how God used His children to tear down walls that divide. All of these are but a foretaste of what is to come as revealed in Revelation 9:9-10, “a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, “Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!””

—Carter Tan, Pastor
Grace Chinese Baptist Church



Pray For These

The leaders of **Tipi Wakan Ministries**, our **Dover Staff**, and in **Dover's churches**:

June 2: **Little Elam Baptist Church**

Danny Patterson, Pastor; Daniel Wallace, Julene Branch, Thelma King

Prayer: Pray for the church leaders and ministries of Little Elam Baptist Church.

Praise: We praise God for his blessings and mercy each day.

June 9: **Manakin, First Baptist Church**

Anthony Jones, Jr., Pastor; Travis Harris, Elizabeth Howell

Prayer: Pray for the church leaders and ministries of Manakin, First Baptist Church.

Praise: We praise God for his blessings and mercy each day.

June 16: **Mattaponi Baptist Church**

Kevin Watkins, Pastor; Denese Davis

Prayer: Pray as we honor Native Sunday on the 9th of June, celebrating Mattaponi history and culture. We will celebrate our youth and graduates on July 7th.

Praise: We had a great Sunrise service and breakfast on Easter.

June 23: **Mechanicsville Baptist Church**

Tim Madison, Pastor; Dwight Hedges, Paul Rozecki, Jean Dart, Linda Dickerson, Julie Scott

Prayer: Renewed commitment to following Christ through Church Council. Pray for our Dominican Mission Team as they travel to the Dominican Republic in June.

Praise: Significant growth in our children's area. Pray for the church as it discipled them as they grow in their love for Jesus.

June 30: **Mount Olivet Baptist Church**

Dale Ashley, Pastor; Claudia Phillips, Cindy Weston, Karen Morris, Lisa Smith, Alice Rusher

Prayer: For God's leadership in discovering candidates for two part-time staff positions at the church -- part-time Children's

Minister and part-time Youth Minister. For effective follow-up with men and boys who attended the Men's Retreat held last month (May 17-19). For the children and workers who are involved in our upcoming VBS on June 24-28.

Praise: We praise God for his blessings and mercy each day.

Dover Baptists Express Sympathy

...to the family of Betty Jordan who passed away on February 16. Betty was the mother of Michael Jordan, Pastor of **Fort Lee Baptist Church**.

...to the family of Nelda Tompkins who passed away on April 19. Nelda was the mother-in-law of Joanie Tompkins, Administrative Assistant at **Ashland, First Baptist Church**.

...to the family of Doris Crooks who passed away on May 4. Betty was the mother-in-law of Louise Crooks, Financial Secretary at **Ridge Baptist Church**.

...to the family of Charlene Miller who passed away on May 11. Charlene was the sister of David Barnes, member of Dover's Properties Committee and member of **New Highland Baptist Church**.

...to the family of Mary Franklin who passed away on May 12. Mary was the grandmother of Greg Soult, Pastor of **Antioch Baptist Church**.

Personnel Changes

Manakin, First Baptist Church welcomed Anthony Jones, Jr. as their Pastor on April 7.

North Run Baptist Church welcomed Adam Denny as their Pastor on April 28. Larry Frakes concluded his service as Interim Pastor.

Four Mile Creek Baptist Church welcomed Mike McMeniman as their Pastor on May 13.

An installation service will be held on Sunday, June 30. Tom Gaskins concluded his service as Interim Pastor on May 12.

Cornerstone Christian Church welcomed Todd Smith as their Interim Pastor on May 26.

Oak Hall Baptist Church welcomed Eric Durden as their Interim Pastor on May 26.

DEADLINE FOR WATSON GRANT APPLICATION WEDNESDAY, JULY 31

Visit www.doverbaptist.org/resources/amo/watson-mission-offering-grant-guidelines
or call the Dover office at (804) 550-1980 for more information.

Nominations for this grant must come from Dover churches on behalf of ministries and organizations of their choice.



Dover Baptist Association
11006 Lakeridge Parkway
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***"a resource and ally for
churches and their leaders"***

Non-Profit Organization
US Postage Paid
Permit No. 3022
Richmond, VA

Bob Dale, Intentional Interim Director of Missions
Rose Mary Stewart, Intentional Interim Director of Missions
Sam Duenckel, Associate for Missions
Sandy Weakley, Executive Assistant
Sue Hall, Ministry Assistant
Steve Smith, Associate for Ministry to Church Leaders
Jacquie Alleva, (Temporary) Office Assistant

Positions Available

Visit www.doverbaptist.org/tag/church-jobs for all of the job openings.

Goochland Baptist Church seeks a Part-Time Minister of Youth who will develop and implement Christ-centered activities that promote the spiritual growth of our community's young people for the summer of 2019. If desired, the job may be extended beyond the summer as an "Interim Minister of Youth" position. Interested applicants should send resumes to goochlandbaptistchurchjobs@gmail.com

Hunton Baptist Church seeks a part-time Children's Ministry Director. Visit

www.doverbaptist.org/tag/church-jobs for more information, or call (804) 266-0100.

Mount Olivet Baptist Church seeks a part-time Children's Minister (20 hours per week). Visit the church website: www.mtolivetbaptist.org for more information or call (804) 883-5950.

Mount Olivet Baptist Church seeks a part-time Youth Minister. For more information, email youth.minister.search@mtolivetbaptist.org

New Bethesda Baptist Church seeks a part-time Nursery Coordinator. For more information and/ or apply please email resume and references to personnel@newbethesda.org

New Bethesda Baptist Church seeks a part-time Nursery Worker with experience in caring for children between the ages of birth to 5 year olds during worship time. For more information and/or apply, please email personnel@newbethesda.org

The Day School at New Highland Baptist Church seeks a Preschool Director. This 20-hour/week position oversees the administration, education program, fiscal responsibilities and safety compliance for the preschool. The successful candidate is a mature Christian who actively serves in a local church, has a Bachelor's Degree in Early Childhood Education or the equivalent experience, and meets all requirements and qualifications set forth by the Virginia Department of

Social Services' Licensing Standards. Interested candidates please send resume and references via e-mail to Joan Purdy of the NHBC Preschool Committee at richarda.purdy@comcast.net

Oak Hall Baptist Church seeks a full-time pastor. Please send questions or resumes to aloyall@comcast.net

Mount Vernon Baptist Church seeks a full-time Associate Pastor to Students. This person will have a heart for relational youth ministry within the overall church vision. The role of the Associate Pastor to Students is to lead the church in cooperation with the Associate Pastor for Discipleship in developing and implementing a comprehensive program of ministry for all students sixth grade through college. For more information, or apply, please contact Clayton Carnall via email ccarnall@mvcbenow.org

Walnut Grove Children's Learning Center is hiring for the following positions: Preschool Teachers and Teacher Assistants - Full and Part-time.

Email: office@wgclc.com or call (804) 730-6324 for an application.

Westhunt Baptist Church seeks part-time Music Minister. For more information, please email resume and references to personnel@westhunt.com

Outside of Dover Baptist Association:

May Memorial Baptist Church in Powhatan seeks a Financial Secretary (part-time). For more information, contact Gerald Hagen at (804) 356-1319. Please submit resume and cover letter to Finance Chairman, P.O. Box 56, Powhatan, VA 23139.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Hanover seeks a part-time Organist/Music Director for one Sunday service per week, beginning summer 2019. Please visit www.doverbaptist.org/organist-music-director-part-time for more information.