

DOVER DIARY

Newsletter of Dover Baptist Association
Vol. XLVIII, No. 1 January 2025

Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying, "Arise, take the young Child and His mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I bring you word; for Herod will seek the young Child to destroy Him." When he arose, he took the young Child and His mother by night and departed for Egypt, and was there until the death of Herod, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying, "Out of Egypt I called My Son." (Matthew 2: 13 - 15 NKJV)

2025
FULL 'DREAM' AHEAD

Recently, in my reflective time, I reread the Biblical account of Joseph's dreams after that first Christmas. Like us, so much work was put into preparing for the birth of Christ, but probably less thought was put into the "Now what?" after Christmas. It was the "Now what?" however, that began the preparation for both life-changing and lifesaving events. Joseph's obedience to God, given in a dream, would save the life of Jesus. Jesus, obedient to God, would then later save our eternal lives by sacrificing His life for our sins.

Depending on when you receive and read this blog, you may still be caught up in the mad rush of last-minute preparation for Christmas Eve and the celebration of our Savior's birth; or you may be caught up in the mad rush of post-Christmas travel, returning unwanted gifts, or perhaps like me, trying to juggle family, friend and church obligations with all those college bowl games.

As we enter another New Year (and wonder how in the world did the old year rush by so quickly), I want to encourage you to include in your post-Christmas/pre-New Year's planning, a moment to reflect on this past year, and dream about the New Year ahead. Before you take a step outside your home to tackle your myriad of dizzying tasks and obligations, take a moment to 'be still.' Sit at your quiet place or kneel in your proverbial prayer closet. Open God's Word and ask our Lord how He would have you move full steam ahead, or perhaps, like Joseph, move full 'dream' ahead to accomplish His will for your life in 2025.

This week, as our Dover team and volunteers prepared for our own Christmas celebrations, we also prayed and began preparations to support our churches, members and ministry partners in the New Year. Our Student Ministries Council met virtually, prayed, and approved academic scholarships for Dover pastors seeking (as our guidelines state) "to explore or expand his or her ministry calling." Our Watson Mission Team prayed and poured over almost three dozen applications and requests to award grants from our Leslie and Hazel Watson Mission Offering. Dover leaders and pastors are praying as we plan a new child protection initiative to share with our churches. Our Treasurer and finance team are praying and continuing to pursue safe & sound investments, in the aftermath of God blessing our resources this year. (Like another Joseph and Egypt story, from the Old Testament, we know that following financial feast, there's always the possibility of financial famine.) We are committed to being good and faithful stewards of the generous support we receive from our Dover Churches and individuals.

From supporting a new accredited school of theology that disciples and educates pastors and leaders around the world, to updating our by-laws to ease the advancement of Kingdom work, your Dover Baptist Association is moving full steam ahead. I invite you to join us as we dream and implement new and old ways to share the love and hope of Jesus Christ in the New Year! I pray that the Holy Spirit would compel you to move **Full 'Dream' Ahead in 2025.** God bless.

DBA Upcoming Events & Deadlines

Visit www.doverbaptist.org or call the Dover office: (804) 550-1980 for more information.

Weekly Pastor/Minister Support Group, Dover Office & Zoom. Mondays, 9:30 a.m. and Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.

NO PASTOR SUPPORT GROUPS DEC 23, 25, 30 or Jan 1

DOVER OFFICE CLOSED THE WEEK OF CHRISTMAS, Dec 23 - 26, and NEW YEAR'S DAY!

Prayer Council, Jan 13, 2025 10-11 a.m. Dover Office

DOVER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING, Tuesday, January 21, 2025 at 7 p.m. Dover Office & Via Zoom

Dover WMU Council Meeting, Monday, Jan 27, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Dover Office

Pray For These:

Our Dover Staff and all Dover churches:

Jan 5:

Ashland, First Baptist Church: Josh Hayden, Tom Lynch, Bethany Smith-Mullins, Todd Smith, Lisa Reckley, Laura Ross, Ross Wright

Atlee Community Church: Jeff Boggess, Jayden Burch, Kiersten & Trey Critzer, Tom Lewis, Jason Mallory, Chris Muldoon, Chad Rice, Grace Young, Stephanie Johnson, Katelyn Wood

Jan 12:

Berea Baptist Church: Mark Jenkins, William Miller, Carey Lewis, Alexis Lewis, Tracy Cronin, Morgan Ellis, Amy Jones, Cynthia McCreary, Megan Mershon, Jordan Pearce, Jodi Whitby, Michael Souders

Beulah Baptist Church: Currently seeking Pastor, Ginger Rice

Jan 19:

Biltmore Baptist Church: Ken Wright, Marsha Ann Worsham

Black Creek Baptist Church: Stephen Kendrick, Grayson Parker, Dawn Parker

Jan 26:

Broadus Memorial Baptist Church: Phil Peacock, Jeff Poythress, Karen Tucker, Tyson Banks, Geneva Bohannon, Jamie Cosley, Abby Carter, Ellis Dunton, Carol Golden, Buddy Crawford

Colosse Baptist Church, Jeff Mills, Marion Timbrook

A special prayer for the following churches that are in transition:

Beulah	Fort Lee	Hillcrest
Ridge	Pamunkey Indian	Parham Road



Dover Baptist Association hosting Appalachian School of Theology satellite class & online, Mondays, 7 pm, beginning January 20, 2025. Introduction to the Old Testament Course is an application of the

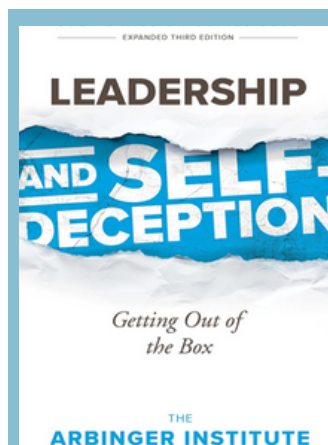
critical methodology to the history, literature, and religion of the ancient Hebrews. Attention is given to the historical context, the development and the message of the Hebrew faith. Scholarships available for Dover churches. To apply and/or for more information, please contact AST at astincva@gmail.com, or call 276-479-3222. Classes and other information are on AST's website www.astva.org.



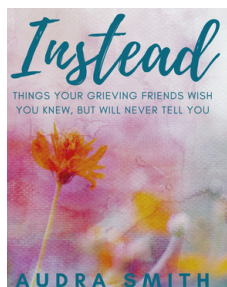
Calling All Men Leaders! The 2025 Noble Warriors Leader's Conference is taking place on Tuesday, January 14, 2025 at Staples Mill Road Baptist Church, Glen Allen, VA.

Register at:

<https://brushfire.com/noblewarriors/events/582904>



Our next **Dover Pastor Health Meeting** is January, 15, 2025, 12-2 p.m. Please bring your own book and lunch. **Leadership and Self-Deception: Getting Out of the Box** by Arbing Institute



INSTEAD: Things Your Grieving Friends Wish You Knew, But Will Never Tell You

by Audra Smith offers a Compassionate New Perspective on Supporting the Bereaved. Available on Amazon. For details and/or to schedule Audra to speak at your event email thepastorswidow@gmail.com

Editor's note: Audra is the widow of former Dover Pastor Jeremy Smith, who went to be with the Lord in October of 2021. She is a woman of great faith & courage, who has taken her grief & battle with cancer, & allowed God to use it to minister to others.

To access our Dover calendar, please check out our website homepage: www.doverbaptist.org

A Few December Highlights ... In Case You Missed It



Thanks for joining us!



A wonderful time of Faith, Food & Fellowship at the Dover Baptist Association Open House & Central Virginia Baptist Association Christmas luncheon.

The **Woman's Missionary Union** (WMU), founded in 1888 as an auxiliary of the Southern Baptist Convention, is the world's largest Protestant women's missions organization.



I want to express a deep-felt appreciation for the fabulous Lottie Moon Christmas Tea we had at Berea Baptist Church on December 7. It was fantastic! There were missionaries at every table for us to talk to, and now to pray for by name! Thank you Berea WMU, staff, and volunteers for your incredible hospitality. Thanks to the International Mission Board for sending your missionaries, and for the Lottie Moon walkthrough display, which was so informative and enjoyable!

Learning about Missions is critical for everyone regardless of age. Teaching Missions in our churches is crucial, especially to our children! Many helpful materials, including the Missions Mosaic Magazine, featuring prayer guides and missionary information are available at the WMU store at wmustore.com or by calling 205-995-4850. Financial support is available through your Dover Baptist Association and Dover WMU.

I'd also love for all our Dover church ladies to be part of our Dover WMU. The purpose of WMU is to Teach Missions - Do Missions - Pray for Missions - Give to Missions and Support your local church. I would be thrilled to help anyone who wants to start learning and/or teaching about Missions. Email me at wardbeth73@yahoo.com and watch out for upcoming events including our Family Missions' event on March 29.

I Corinthians 3:9 "We are laborers together with God" (KJV)

Beth Watson Ward Dover WMU Director

Welcome New Dover Pastor!



A warm welcome to Rev. Nasser Roshdy Ghobryal and his wife Nawal Assad to Arabic Baptist Church. Rev. Nasser arrived from Egypt, and started serving on December 6.

Updates:

Please inform dover.info@doverbaptist.org of any staff changes so that our information is accurate and up-to-date for your church.

Please also let us know if the new staff would prefer our communications (*Dover Diary* and weekly email news blast) to their personal or work email address.

Looking for a new Bible study? Choir piece?

FREE donated Bible study materials at our Dover office. Call Molly at 804-550-1980 and set up a time to browse.

FREE music from Westhunt Baptist Church! Email Joanna Barnes at jlcbarnes@yahoo.com or leave a voicemail at 804-270-1720 to set up a time to browse.



Dover Baptist Association
PO Box 6128
Ashland, VA 23005
"A Resource Network for Baptist
Churches since 1783"

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Positions Available

Visit www.doverbaptist.org/job-listings for all openings or click hyperlinks listed here in the electronic newsletter.

Black Creek Baptist Church seeks a [Musical Accompanist \(part-time\)](#). Any potential applicants can reach out to bliz0204@yahoo.com

Corinth Baptist Church seeks a [Minister for Next Generation and Family Ministries \(full-time\)](#). Interests should send résumés to NextGen@corinthbaptist.us

Grace Chinese Baptist Church seeks a [Mandarin 中文 Pastor \(full-time\)](#). Please upload your cover letter, resume, and statement of faith to:

<https://tinyurl.com/gcbr24>

Mount Vernon Baptist Church is seeking [Child Care Workers](#), a [Special Needs Ministry Assistant for Students \(part-time\)](#), and a [Ministry Assistant for Student Ministries \(full-time\)](#). For more info and/or apply:

<https://mountvernon.church/careers/>

New Highland Baptist Church seeks an [Accompanist \(part-time\)](#). Send résumés to: djevers254@gmail.com

Pamunkey Indian Baptist Church seeks a [Pastor \(full-time\)](#). Email Aindian02@aol.com.

Parham Road Baptist Church seeks a [Choir Director/Pianist \(part-time\)](#). Please send résumés to churchofficeprbc@gmail.com with attention:

Elaine Lane.

Pioneer Baptist Church seeks a [Pianist \(part-time\)](#).

Interests please contact

office@pioneerbaptist.comcastbiz.net

Non-Dover Baptist Association Opportunities

First Baptist Church, Richmond seeks a [Payroll/Accounts Payable Coordinator \(full-time\)](#).

Visit: www.fberichmond.org/about/careers

Gravel Hill Baptist Church of Richmond seeks a [Church Pianist/Keyboardist \(part-time\)](#). Send résumés to: kcj.gravelhill@gmail.com.

Hatcher Memorial Baptist (Henrico) seeks a [Church Office Administrator/Communications Coordinator \(part-time\)](#). Send résumés to

office@hatcherchurch.org ATTN: Personnel Chair

May Memorial Baptist Church seeks a [Music Minister and/or Organist \(part-time\)](#). Send résumés to Pastor Michael Edwards, revmkedwards@gmail.com.

Braille Circulating Library seeks an [Executive Director](#) For a job application or questions, please contact BrailleLibTreasurer@gmail.com



Help Us Save Green & Go Green— Currently, we publish over 1,000 mailed copies of the Dover Diary! In an effort to reduce this expense and "go green," if you receive a postal copy, please let us know if you wish to continue to receive hard-copies or supply an email address. Otherwise, eventually 5 hard-copies will be mailed to all member churches and all other contacts will receive digital copies.