

The Lamplighter

First Baptist Church of North East

September 2019

Newsletter

Vol. 51 No. 1

Operation Christmas Child



"Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the world..."

The words in this song can be a good inspiration for us to fill shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child and demonstrate the love of God to children all around the world.

I am continually blessed as I learn what an impact a simple gift-filled shoe box has made on a child.

Just recently I read about a young boy in South Africa, who had been praying for a pair of shoes. He had never owned a pair in his entire life. Occasionally, he would borrow a pair from someone else. Imagine his delight when he received an OCC shoe box and the first item he saw was a pair of red flip flops. He was overjoyed that now he had a pair of shoes all his own! He was amazed and so touched that God cared and had heard and answered his prayer.

Also, there were two brothers in another country, ages 8 and 10, who often had to fend for themselves. Their parents were both alcoholics and were seldom home as they were partying and taking care of their own cravings. The two brothers attended OCC shoe box distribution, heard the gospel and received the Lord as their Savior.

They enrolled in the twelve week follow-up program, "The Greatest Journey." As they progressed, they became burdened for their parents and prayed continually for them. Their parents attended the graduation ceremony held at the conclusion of "The Greatest Journey." There they heard the good news of salvation and both parents prayed to receive Christ as their Savior. Now the whole family attends church together.

(continued on page 4)



Youth Ministry Weekend in Philadelphia.

Free ministry event for all youth in grades 6 to 12. We will meet at the church at 3pm on Friday, September 6 & return back to the church at approximately 1pm on Sunday, September 8. Please see Tim Bayer if interested or with any questions.



Please join us for our annual church picnic in the park.

Sunday, Sept. 8 at 4pm at the North East Town Park (in the Levy Pavilion this year).

Please come ready for a time of fun and fellowship. We ask that everyone brings a dish/dessert to share.

Hope to see you all there!

Rain date is Sunday, September 15 @ 4pm.

I Am Encouraged

So often, when I visit those sick or in the hospital, I am the one encouraged by their trust in the Lord. God's people recognize that they must be in a position of trust. They have no other option than to trust the Lord. Their illness has given them the privilege of surrendering their life and hope for the future to Him.

"In my distress I cried out to the Lord; yes, I prayed to my God for help. He heard me from His sanctuary; my cry to Him reached His ears." Psalm 18:6.

"So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand." Isaiah 41:10

"Even to your old age and gray hairs I am He, I am He who will sustain you. I have made you and I will carry you; I will sustain you and I will rescue you." Isaiah 46:4

This is why I so often leave the visit refreshed, for I have been in the presence of one of God's people.

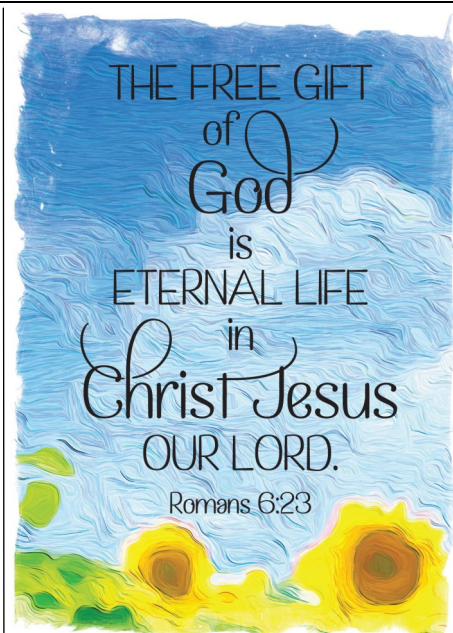
Pastor Dan Mohler



- 2 Eunice Veasey
- 3 Grace Cann
Alivia Nickle
- 5 John Carr
Thomas Shores, Sr.
George Deaver, II
Nancy Hudler
Vincent Marvel
- 7 Alice (Burns) Marvel
- 9 Esther Porch
- 10 Ruby Perry
- 15 Theresa Keyes
Rose Marie Porch
- 17 Christopher "C.J."
Aremu
Charles Hodanics
- 18 Robert Brown
Abigail Mears
- 20 Kevin Barker
- 21 Eliana Moyer
- 23 Duane Combs
- 26 Chrissy Hilaman
- 28 Andrew Gibson
- 29 Kyleigh Lotman
- 30 Seth Hammond



- 3 Ray & Brenda
Sommers
Sonny & Sara Hayes
- 19 Charles & Camille
Hodanics
- 23 Andrew and Chrissy
Norton
- 24 Thomas & Brenda
Beman



Opportunity to serve:

We are in need of some volunteers to help fold and prepare our *Lamplighter* for mailing. Not only would you be helping in this ministry, but it is a great time of fellowship. If interested, please contact Jess Wagner @ 410-287-6247.

The Lamplighter

Published 10 times a year.

An electronic version of our newsletter is available on our website as a pdf file and may be emailed to you upon request. It will be emailed to you instead of a mailed, printed copy.

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Dan Mohler, Associate Pastor

Tim Bayer, Youth Associate

Jess Wagner,

Editor/Ministry Assistant

Mailing Assistants: Linda Gocolinski, Bernice Jackson,.

Dear church family,

Greetings in the precious name of our Lord, Jesus Christ. I have just returned from what was the best vacation/mission trip that I have ever been on. Janet and I spent several weeks with our daughter Laura and family, and I went to India for a week in the middle of that time. We stayed healthy and returned refreshed. Thank you all for allowing is this privilege, and what a blessing it was.



When I saw the orphanage in India, with 207 boys, I was very impressed. The campus is in good shape and is well maintained, and the boys are very well cared for in every way. I had the privilege of preaching twice each day, through an interpreter. What a challenge that was. But God's Word translates well in any language, and our host brother, Philip Dongre, was very capable and so gracious.



Above: The boys at Childrens Fellowship of India.

I also had the privilege of preaching at the Boys and Girls Christian Home, about 30 miles away. They have about 225 boys and girls. I was also very impressed with that facility. They are in the process of building a brand new boys dormitory, which should be finished next March. Between the two orphanages, nearly 100 boys and girls opened their hearts Jesus and were proud to acknowledge Him as their Savior. It was a true work of the Holy Spirit, in the hearts and lives of so many precious souls.



Above: The boys and girls at the Boys and Girls Christian Home.

I was also able to visit and preach at Grace Bible College, not far from these two orphanages. Our church supports this work as well. There are about 60 men and women preparing for the gospel ministry in India. I was so impressed with their facilities and well. They just finished a 20,000

volume library, with donated books from the United States. God is working in India in spite of much opposition from the devil. India just passed a law this week that makes it illegal to try to convert someone to Christianity. A pastor could go to jail for one or two years for such an offense. Please pray for our brothers and sisters in India.



Above: Grace Bible College
Below: Dr. Hokuf preaching @ Chris & Laura's church in Gisors



I returned to France and was able to preach in the church plant that Chris and Laura are working with, in Gisors. The church has 25 to 40 people in attendance, and their discipleship program is working to grow their membership to maturity. Please continue to pray for Laura and Chris, as well as Sophia, Eliana and Seth, as they get settled and learn the language, make friends and reach their neighbors. I believe they are doing very well and that God is meeting their every need. (continued on page 4)

(Shoe Boxes, continued from page 1)

We never know what an impact our shoe boxes will make. I encourage you to participate in the wonderful cause. When you fill your shoe box(es), be sure it is covered with prayer.


We will have shoe boxes and brochures available to you in a few weeks. They are free, except for the sturdy, plastic OCC shoe boxes. These are \$1.50 each. You can just place the money in an envelope, mark it OCC, and place it in the offering. Of course you may use your own shoe box(es). Just make sure that when you wrap it, that you wrap the lid separately from the bottom.

The shipping cost for each box is \$9.00. You can write a check for this, place it in the envelope provided in the brochure, and place it in your box at the very top. If you are putting together more than one shoe box, you just need to write one check for the full amount. If you prefer, you can pay for your labels online and print them out to tape on the top of your shoe box. These labels have a tracking code on them and when your shoe box is shipped, you will receive an email telling you where your box(es) have delivered.

November 17th, is "Dedication Sunday." This is when you need to bring your shoe box(es) to the church. We will have a special dedication service involving our children at this time.

May God bless you...and get packing!

Nancy Hudler



Finance Committee Meeting:
Wednesday, September 18 @ 1pm

This meeting will be held to work on the church budget for 2020. If anyone has any requests or input, please see Jess Wagner in the church of-
fice or contact her at 410-287-6247, before the above mentioned date.



Above: Dr. Hokuf and Janet with their grandchildren in Paris.

(Pastor's letter cont. from page 3)

As I return to our church, I feel a renewed desire to reach our community as well. Our missionaries have a monumental task, but like Paul said, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." (Philippians 4:13)

Your brother in Christ,

Pastor Steve

Dr. Stephen D. Hokuf



Above: India missions team
(Left to right) John St. Pierre, Philip Dongre, Dr. Hokuf





Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
1 9:20am: Breakfast	2	3 8am: Boo Hoo Breakfast @ JLMCC 10:30am: Ministers & Wives Fellowship @	4 6:30pm: Prayer/ Bible Study	5	6 3pm: Youth ministry weekend in Philadelphia	7 7:45am: Men's Prayer Breakfast @ Denny's & Deacon's Mtg at the church.
8 1pm: Youth return 4pm: Church picnic @ the NE Town Park; Levy Pavilion.	9	10	11 6:30pm: Business Mtg after Prayer/ Bible Study	12	13	14
MD/DE State Missions Offering and Week of Prayer						
15 October Lamplighter articles due! 4pm: Rain date for church picnic	16	17	18 1pm: Finance Committee Mtg 6:30pm: Prayer/ Bible Study 6:30am: Kids Klub starts	19	20	21 8am: Workday here at the church
				See page 6 for regular events/services		
22	23	24	25 6:30pm: Prayer/ Bible Study 6:30am: Kids Klub	26 10am: Fold October <i>Lamplighter</i>	27	28 8am: Rain date for workday here at the church
29 6pm: Evening service showing Dr. Dobson's "Straight Talk to Men"	30	1	2 6:30pm: Prayer/ Bible Study 6:30am: Kids Klub	3	4	5 7:45am: Men's Prayer Breakfast @ Denny's & Deacon's Mtg at the church.

State Missions
Offering & Week
of Prayer

Maryland/Delaware &
**THE NATIONS
FOR CHRIST'S
GLORY!**

September 8-15, 2019



What is the Maryland/Delaware State Missions Offering?

The annual Baptist Convention of Maryland/Delaware State Missions Offering sustains ministries not funded through the Cooperative Program. A way to change lives and to develop tomorrow's leaders. A way to start more churches and reach more people for Christ.

How is the offering used to reach Maryland/Delaware?

100% for Missions & Evangelism Ministries/Strategies (Camp Evangelism, Church Planting, Collegiate Ministry, Disaster Relief, and Special Needs Ministries)

What is the statewide challenge goal?

\$150,000

What is our church goal?

\$1,000



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

REGULAR CHURCH SERVICES/EVENTS

Sunday

8:30am

WORSHIP

9:20am

Breakfast (1st Sun, monthly)

9:30am

 **Sunday School/Bible Study**

10:30am

WORSHIP/Children's Worship

6pm

Youth (Resumes in the fall)

6pm

WORSHIP (Last Sunday of the month only)

Tuesday

6pm

 **Praise & Worship Team Practice**

Wednesday

6:30pm

Kids' Klub (Resumes 9/18)

6:30-7:30pm

 **Prayer/Bible Study**

BUSINESS Mtg (2nd Wed—after Prayer Mtg)

Thursday

10am

Choir Practice (Resumes in Sept.)

10am

Fold Lamplighter (Last Thurs of the month)

11am

Ladies' Prayer Time (Resumes in Sept.)



Budget/Attendance Analysis

Budget/General Fund
Weekly Average as of
8/18/19(33 wks): **\$3,729.**

Needed Weekly: **\$3,802.**

Budget Status: **-\$2,407.**

Maintenance/Building
Repairs Fund: **\$2,352.**

PARKING LOT FUND:

Received to date: **\$43,315.**

Church goal: **\$47,745.**

Average morning
worship attendance:
6/23/19-8/25/19: **72**

