

Bethany Banner

*The Newsletter of
Dover Bethany UM Church
4510 Bull Road
Dover, PA 17315
717-292-2716
www.dbumc.org*

*Rev. Salvatore E Buonocore
Pastor*

April 2022



**Knowing God
Growing in Faith
Serving Others
Sharing the Good News**

Pray Hard, Work Hard

“Pray as though everything depended on God. Work as though everything depended on you.” Saint Augustine (354-430 A.D.)

There is a time to pray and a time to act. I want you to engage in BOTH. And you need to do both at full throttle because we only have about 2 weeks until Easter Sunday. It’s time to pray AND work. Give it your all and see what God does here at our church.

I know we are planning for 200+ in worship for this Easter Sunday, but my God is bigger than that! Plus, there are thousands of folks within 5 miles of us who don’t have a church family and are not pursuing a relationship with Jesus. I say we pray to pack out 2 worship services on Easter Sunday. I say pray for 600+ in worship for Easter! Let’s give these pews a work out. Let’s pull in folding chairs. Let’s make it standing room only! Get on your knees. Get on your face. Pray multiple times a day. Pray with fasting. Weep and intercede for those who are lost and far from God. Let’s pray for an attendance that only God could provide!

Now pray every day from now thru Easter and also work every day on that goal from now thru Easter. You’re praying for opportunities to talk about Jesus and invite folks to church. When the opportunities arise –seize them! Talk to those neighbors and co-workers and extended family members who usually sleep in on Sunday mornings. Get those yard signs out to let folks know where you’re going to be on Easter Sunday morning. Leave invitations in your neighbors’ mailboxes. Get on the phone and start calling those friends. Don’t invite them just once. Invite them a dozen times! Don’t take “no” for the final answer. It might be “no” today, but it might be “yes” the next day. Talk it up about how exciting Easter Sunday is going to be. Be willing to give folks a ride to church; sit with them during worship; answer their questions; introduce them to others in our church family.

If we pray hard and work hard, God is faithful, God is true, and God is able. I believe the only thing holding God back is us!

Pray hard, work hard.

“Take Risks” and God Bless,
Pastor Sal





Emmaus: Spiritual Retreat Weekend

Emmaus is a special weekend spiritual retreat. Many of our church family have already attended this event in past years. We would like to see more of you have this wonderful experience. The weekends start on Thursday night (so if you work, you would have to get off work for on Friday.) The place is Wesley Forrest which is one of our UM camps. It is about a 2 hour drive. **The dates for the next events are:**

Men's Walk: May 12th – 15th and Women's Walk: May 19th – 22nd. The cost is \$220. Dover Bethany will cover half the cost for any from our church family because we strongly believe in this ministry. Emmaus also has scholarships available to help defray cost. Bottom line: cost should not keep you from going. We will make sure you are covered.

It is Easter Egg time!!!

Easter Eggs will be available for purchase from March 20th – April 10th. Proceeds will go towards the shipping costs of our Operation Christmas Child shoebox gifts.

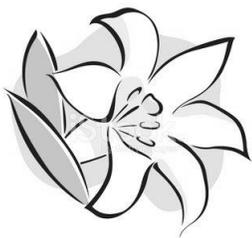


Community Service Blitz – April 8th & 9th

Servant evangelism is where we show the love of Christ, not so much with our words but through our serving. A blitz is an all-out push. Saturday, April 9th, we need an army of volunteers to help “get-r-done”

- 1. Employee Muggings: Friday night, April 8th** we will prepare 100 coffee mugs filled with some “gifts” from Dover Bethany Church to the employees of Dottie's, The Hive, Glacier Flakes and the Pet Store. In our gift mug will also be a contact card inviting folks to join us for worship at Dover Bethany. We will deliver those mugs Saturday morning.
- 2. Fresh Bread Delivery:** We will receive 200 loaves of bread on Saturday morning and deliver them door to door in the community with a contact card stating the gift is from friends at Dover Bethany church and inviting folks to Sunday worship
- 3. Free Hotdogs (and water bottles and chips):** This will be on the porch at Dottie's on Saturday.

Sign up on your communication card for one or more of these opportunities to serve.



Easter Flowers

You may order Easter Flowers at \$11 each: Easter Lily in a 6” pot with 5 plus blooms or Tulips in an 8” pot with 10 bulbs. Orders with payment are due by Sunday, April 3rd. You will find order forms at the welcome center. Make checks payable to Dover Fire Company.

Ukraine Relief

Wow!!! Praise God!!! Your generosity has been tremendous! Over the last 2 Sundays we have received special offerings to help with humanitarian (and spiritual) relief in Ukraine. Our gifts are being sent to Samaritan's Purse which is doing field hospitals and other relief efforts. Your blessing totaled \$4,095!

Covid Restrictions Are Lifted!

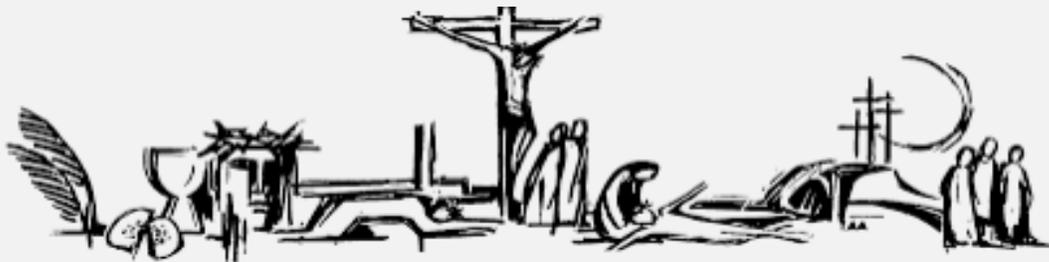
- ♥ Hugs, handshakes and high fives are back again for Sunday worship.
- ♥ We are putting the ushers back to work. We will once again begin passing the offering plates during worship.
- ♥ Sunday morning hospitality center is back open! For those of you who have been missing your caffeine pick-me-up, your sugar buzz or your Sunday morning breakfast – We're Back!
- ♥ Wonderful Wednesday meals are back. Look forward to seeing you all at 6 PM for a shared meal, followed by worship, prayer and study.
- ♥ For communion, we are going to break out the old communion sets and do individual glasses (for Maundy Thursday we are going to attempt one loaf and one cup).

Dover Bethany Early Learning Center Update

Dover Bethany ELC is slowly turning a corner. Financially, things are well because of a state grant we are receiving. Concerning staffing, we have hired several but we have also lost a couple of staff. We are getting by, but things are tight.

Last month we mentioned being placed on a provisional license. That did not happen - the supervisor for the state chose to give us our regular, full license. It is not provisional and thus we are still in the STARS program. We are grateful for that decision by the state. The issues that were raised during the inspection have been addressed and corrected.

On Palm Sunday, April 10th, we will host some of our DBELC staff, children and families for their spring program. Continue to keep DBELC in your prayers as we continue to try and get ahead of the curve. We are not yet back to our pre-COVID enrollment or staffing.



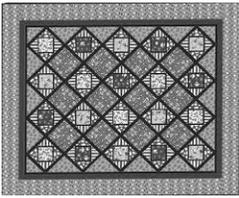
Holy Week Special Services

Maundy Thursday

April 14th at 7pm: Traditionally we do foot washing for this service. Many folks are not comfortable with that practice. We will have a "demonstration" of foot washing, but otherwise we will practice hand washing. We will also celebrate communion and we have a special experience for you after communion that we believe you will find to be very powerful and moving. Make plans to come and bring friends along as we continue a process of preparing our hearts for our Easter celebration.

Good Friday

April 15th at 7pm: During this service we start with all the lights on and end the service in darkness. We strip the church and cover things in black cloth. Through-out the service, we will retell the story of Jesus' last days before his crucifixion and death. This service can be somewhat intense and may not be suited for younger children. Please make plans to attend and bring your friends along as we continue to prepare ourselves for Easter resurrection Sunday!



Quilt Auction

The Stiches of Love ministry will be holding a quilt silent auction. The quilt will be hung in the church lobby and bidders can give their name, phone number and bid amount on the provided slips of paper. More details will be in the Sunday bulletins.

What is the cross in the front of the sanctuary all about?

The Tree Cross

At Christmas time, this cross was a tree,
 as fragrant and beautiful, and green as could be.
 Its branches held objects both shiny and bright,
 entwined in its limbs was many a light.
 All who saw it were hopeful and glad,
 they didn't know someday it would make them feel sad!



For now as you see this tree is a cross
 stripped of its branches, the beauty's been lost.
 Now here it stands, blood stained and bare
 Jesus, the Savior, for our sins was hung there.
 He willingly suffered, "Forgive them," he sighed!
 "It is finished," he called out, and that's when He died!
 He died for us sinners, so God we could meet.
 The tree cross stands empty, the burden it bore
 was God's son, the Messiah, but oh! There is more.
 Our sins count no longer because of His deed
 His life and His death gave us all that we need.
 But He's no longer dead, He's alive as can be,
 and the tree's now a symbol, from death we are free!

April Volunteer Schedule	3	10	17 EASTER SUNDAY	24
Greeters Sanctuary doors, child care entrance and the entrance by the office Four people needed for each service – please volunteer to help	Steve & Carla Green	Dorothy Bell Elaine Myers	8am Bob & Carol Sarver Curt & Kathy Lamparter 10:45 am Mike & Ginger Lehr Nancy Snyder Sue McCarty	Jeff & Lynette Stief Jack McLeod Jim Willour
Nursery	Lynette Stief Tennille Burkhart	Marie Lauer Kathy Lamparter	8am No Nursery 10:45 am Need two people	Margie Burkhart Denise Brulinski
Head Usher	Jeff Stief	Ray Neiman	Jack McLeod	Rich Crager
Hospitality Center	Mark Burkhart Margie Burkhart	Jeff Stief Lynette Stief	N/A	Marlin & Kathy Aughey
Counters	George & Ruthie Laird			

Vacation Bible School is LIVE and IN-PERSON!

Yes, we are back!!! Mark you calendar for mornings from 9 – 11:30 AM beginning June 20th We will celebrate on Sunday, June 26th. The program is for children ages 3 – 12. It takes a team to run this program for the week. We would appreciate you signing up on your Communication Card if you are available. Invite kids from your neighborhood to come join. VBS is operated in cooperation with our Early Learning Center. We hope to host around 100 children!

Sunday Morning Pre-Service Prayer

Have you noticed some prayer going on before Sunday service in the upper corner of the sanctuary? Pastor Sal has called this holy huddle the “bull pen”. Five minutes before the start of service is a time to pray for our pastor and for our time together as well as other prayer concerns for our church family, evangelism, outreach, revival, renewal, etc. Any who wish to join in are welcome. If we run out of room, we simply start working out into the pews! You may pray silently or pray out loud. Because it is only 5 minutes, we do not have time for “polite prayer,” where everyone who prays out loud takes a turn. You are encouraged to simply pray out loud as others are doing the same. Prayer time shifts gears when the organ chimes and we begin the worship service. Continue your prayer in the pews throughout the service!

Shoebox Donation Counting and Sorting

The next time of sorting donations for our shoebox ministry will be Monday, April 25th from 6 to 8 PM. Come out and join in the fun!

Dover Bethany United Methodist Church Calendar						April 2022	
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
					1	2	
3 8am Helping Hands Class 9:15am Worship – Communion & Healing Prayers 11:45am Sunday School for all ages	4 6:15a-9:00am Coffee & Donut Ministry 7pm Men's Group	5 9am Ladies' Bible Study 7pm Board of Director's Meeting	6 9:15am-2pm Mission Central Trip 6pm WWAB	7 10am Bible Study 7pm Bible Study	8 Servant Evangelism Preparation	9 All Day : Servant Evangelism	
10 Palm Sunday 8am Helping Hands Class 9:15am Worship – DBELC Children's Program 11:45am Sunday School for all ages	11 7pm Men's Group	12	13 9am Stitches of Love 6pm WWAB	14 10am Bible Study 7pm Maundy Thursday Service	15 7pm Good Friday Service	16	
17 EASTER 8am - Worship 9am- Easter Festival 10:45am - Worship FOOD BANK Sunday	18 7pm Men's Group	19 9am Ladies' Bible Study	20 6pm WWAB	21 10am Thursday Bible Study 7pm Bible Study	22	23	
24 8am Helping Hands Class 9:15am Worship 11:45am Sunday School for all ages	25 6pm Counting and Sorting 7pm Men's Group	26	27 9am Stitches of Love 6pm WWAB	28 10am Bible Study 7pm Bible Study	29	30	
31 8am Helping Hands Class 9:15am Worship 11:45am Sunday School for all ages							

**Dover Bethany
United Methodist Church
4510 Bull Road
Dover PA 17315**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



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Easter Sunday Celebration, April 17th

Easter Sunday holds a morning full of fun!

Don't forget: we will have two worship services: 8 AM and 10:45 AM

Between our services will be an **Easter Festival** for all ages!!!

We will have food, crafts, games, animals to meet and greet!

**Invite YOUR family and friends to join you for this special day at
Dover Bethany United Methodist.**



Remember to pick up a yard sign and put it in your front yard!