

Sermon Notes

September 1, 2013

Bo Matthews, Senior Pastor
bomatthews@verizon.net

Key Verses

Questions I Have

My Personal Take-Away

Take-Aways from the Pastor

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Welcome
September 1, 2013



BRANDYWINE
VALLEY
BAPTIST CHURCH



Welcome to Brandywine Valley Baptist Church!

Join us in introducing people to Jesus Christ and helping them follow Him.



Welcome to Our Guests!

If you are visiting with us today, welcome! We are glad you are here to join us in worship. We invite you to fill out a Connection Card and pick up a gift at the Guest Welcome Center as a welcome gift. You will also find information about our ministries in the entryway as you enter or exit the building. May you experience the love of God and the presence of the Living Christ in your time with us today. We hope to see you again soon and will consider calling Brandywine

Let's make accessible the spiritual **TREASURES** of our church to the spiritual **YEARNING**s in the Brandywine Valley one household at a time.

We will help each other move from the **MARGINS** of Christianity to **MATURITY** in Christ by providing **REAL HELP** and **REAL HOPE** to people

Sunday Morning at a Glance

8:15 a.m.

Contemporary Worship

Children's Ministry: Birth-3 yrs. in nursery

(4 yrs., K, 1st & 2nd graders leave just before sermon for Worship Training Class)

9:45 a.m.

Contemporary Worship

Adult Christian Education Classes: Summer Sampler (see pg. 5 for topics)

Student Ministry: 6-12th grades in the gym

Children's Ministry: Birth-5th grade in nursery & classes

11:15 a.m.

Traditional Worship

Adult Christian Education Classes: See pg. 5 for information

Children's Ministry: Birth-3 yrs. in nursery

(4 yrs., K, 1st & 2nd graders leave just before sermon for Worship Training Class)

Join us Next Sunday for Worship

8:15, 9:45 and 11:15 a.m.

Unity in Peace (Ephesians 4:1-6), Pastor Bo Matthews

On the Calendar

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|-------------------------------|
| • Today | 9:45 a.m. | Video during Summer Sampler |
| • Fri.-Sat., Sept. 6-7 | | Women of Faith |
| • Fri.-Sun., Sept. 6-8 | | Student Ministry Fall Retreat |
| • Sunday, September 8 | 9:45 a.m. | PATH Classes start for adults |
| • Wednesday, September 11 | | Awana Kick-Off |
| • Wednesday, September 18 | 6:30-8 p.m. | Awana begins |
| • Saturday, September 21 | | Third Saturday opportunities |
| • Fri.-Sun., Oct. 11-13 | | Women's Retreat |
| • Tuesday, October 15 | 7:00 p.m. | The United We Stand Tour |

For a complete list of events and times go to www.brandywineonline.org.

Click on Events then drop down to Calendar.

Board of Deacons

George Berghane

Jim Blosser

Brett Dorsch, Chairman

Lee Holtzclaw

John Hutchison, Secretary

Don Kugelberg

Willie Mah

Bo Matthews, ex officio

Craig Montgomery, Vice-Chairman

Steve Schambach

Eric Smith

Lanny Weaver

Jack Woodall

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Associate Pastor, Worship & Music

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Steve Schambach

Ministry Coordinator

Brandywine Valley Baptist Church

7 Mt. Lebanon Road Wilmington, Delaware 19803

(302) 478-4255 // brandywineonline.org

Prayer Requests for 9/1/2013

BVBC Family Members in Harm's Way

Penola Fisher's son-in-law, Darrin White – Air Force

BVBC Family Needs for Prayer

Grieving

*Mark Allston and family – death of Mark's mother

*Sam Arthur and family – death of Sam's mother

Sick

Jennifer Gale – recovery from gall bladder surgery

Winnie Jones – recovery from a fractured leg

Cheryl Aukerman's father, Brad – wisdom for doctors treating severe vertigo

Connie Corrar's friend, Amy Ricketts – fighting cancer for 3rd time

*John Eletheriou's mother – in hospice care

Jim & Carole Gadsby's son-in-law, Rob Lukens– upcoming chemo treatments and surgery for stomach cancer

***indicates new or updated prayer requests**

The most current prayer requests will be listed in Ministry News.

After several weeks, you will find the requests on a more complete prayer page you can pick up each week at the Welcome Center.

Updates and prayer requests can be submitted directly to Carolyn Gale, E-mail Prayer Chain Editor, at CarolynGale824@gmail.com or call her at (484) 574-8950.

Please pray for these BVBC families & their unborn babies

Sept	Jerome & Veronica Jackson	Dec	David & Cindy Hall
Oct	Brandon & Amanda Ontjes		

Brandywine Highlights

Join us for a Church Picnic Sunday, September 15!



Please join us for a church picnic on Sunday, September 15 at Fox Point State Park, starting at 1 p.m. We have reserved the pavilion next to the playground for our group. Feel free to bring extra chairs or games, etc. The state park entrance fee is \$3 for DE license tags or \$6 for out-of-state tags. Come out for a wonderful time of fun, fellowship and games! **Plan to bring a main dish, beverages, plates and any utensils for you or your family. Please bring a dessert to share.** This event is rain or shine (unless it thunders) and is sponsored by brandywineKIDS but is for the entire congregation so invite your friends, small group members, etc! For directions, visit www.destateparks.com. Sign up in the Gathering Area or online at brandywineonline.org.

Men's Movie Night September 13

Promise Keepers is sponsoring a movie night downstairs in the Fellowship Hall on Friday, September 13. Movie will start at 7 p.m. We would like to extend an invitation to guys that can't come on Monday mornings but want to get out and have fellowship with other men. All are invited! Mark your calendars now and come join us! For more information, contact Brett Dorsch at coachdorsch1@comcast.net.

Bible Study for Today

Bible Study for Today invites you to join us as we begin our new fall study on Tuesday, September 17 at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Our topic will be "Building with God: Spiritual Warfare" from the books of Ezra and Nehemiah. Men and women of all ages are welcome. Childcare is available. For more information, call Ginny Zuber at (302) 478-0357.

General News

The church office will be closed Monday, September 2, in observance of the Labor Day holiday.

Congratulations to Mei-Ling Johnson and Matt Eckman on their marriage on Saturday, August 31!

Welcome to our World! Andrew Henry was born on Sunday, August 25 to Michael and Carolyn Martin. Congratulations!

Thank You: "Dear Brothers and Sisters, Many heartfelt thanks for all the cards, encouragement and most especially your prayers. I feel every one of them and am at peace with my Savior walking beside me as he leads. I ask for your continued prayers as I begin my treatment for breast cancer. With sincere appreciation and love, Nancy Brosius."

Take a Step along The PATH this Fall



What is The PATH?

The PATH is Brandywine's intentional discipleship process of drawing people closer to Christ.

Brandywine's mission is to introduce people to Jesus Christ and help them follow Him. The PATH is designed to strategically encourage the mission. It is **intentional**. Discipleship will not happen by accident. It is **individual**. Your path may look different from the person next to you. It is **integrated**. This applies to all ministries and all age-groups at Brandywine. We want to take steps together on our journey, being transformed into the likeness of Christ.

What will your next step be? Let's draw closer to Christ together. Come join this exciting adventure!



For current offerings along The PATH, visit the information counter outside the Fellowship Hall or pick up a brochure at the brochure rack. You may also visit brandywineonline.org/thepath.

Brandywine Missions

ESL Advertising – Help Us Get the Word out!

Do you have a neighbor or coworker who might be interested in attending our free English classes for adults on Tuesday nights? If so, please help us get this information to those who need it by giving one of our ESL (English as a Second Language) brochures to someone you know. Brochures can be found at the Missions Corner.

Help Internationals in Our Community

BVBC will resume classes for adult learners of English on Tuesday evenings starting on September 10. Volunteers are needed for providing snacks, hospitality, teaching and child-care. Volunteer applications can be found at the Missions Corner. For further information about this local, cross-cultural outreach at Brandywine, contact Lisa Grimsley at (302) 650-0907 or grimsley@udel.edu.

Community Service on Third Saturdays & Sundays: September 21-22

Sign up for service opportunities at the Missions Corner or brandywineonline.org.

Sunday Breakfast Mission: Help serve evening meal from 5:15-6:30 p.m. to homeless men, women & children. **Sojourners' Place:** Prepare/serve evening meal from 4:30-6 p.m. for men & women returning to the community as self-sufficient people. **Habitat for Humanity:** Help with home construction for low income families from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. or provide lunch from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. **Shipley Manor Outreach (3rd Sunday – September 22):** Hymn singing, devotional message, prayer & meet/greet fellowship time starting at 2 p.m.

Look What's New in the Church Library!

Stop by the Brandywine Library to check out these new books that will both inspire and encourage you. They can expand your view of how big God is. You'll be amazed at what He is doing!

- Miraculous Movements: How Hundreds of Thousands of Muslims are Falling in Love with Jesus
- Dreams and Visions – Is Jesus Awakening in the Muslim World?
- In the Land of Blue Burqas
- When Helping Hurts: How to Alleviate Poverty without Hurting the Poor...and Yourself
- Which None Can Shut: Remarkable True Stories of God's Miraculous Work in the Muslim World

Missions Corner

Spotlight on current efforts of Brandywine-supported missionaries

Liz Kealy (Massachusetts)

Liz serves as the Leadership Development Director for the Northeast Region of CRU (formerly Campus Crusade for Christ). Recently she served as a coach for the Bible Study Methods Class for new staff members. She shared her experience of being in service for 30 years with people who are just starting out, and discussed modeling a love relationship with God in the midst of a crazy schedule. In a recent newsletter, she expressed gratitude that she was so enriched herself during the process of launching new workers into the ministry field.



Spotlight on Serving

For a list of service opportunities, please visit
brandywineonline.org/serve.

Volunteer in Awana this Fall!

If you would like to volunteer in Awana, please register as a volunteer online at brandywineonline.org and plan to attend training at Brandywine on Saturday, September 7 from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Support the Children's Ministry at Brandywine

We are looking for teachers and assistants for Sunday mornings and for MOPS childcare (starting in September). Please call the church office at (302) 478-4255 or email Kristi Pullig at kristipullig@bvbcnet.org if you are interested in serving on Sundays. If you would like to help in MOPS, please email MOPPETS volunteer coordinator, Nancy Weaver, at nangelw@verizon.net.

Do You Love to Sing?

Jubilate Deo would love to have you join us in the Fall! We are a small choral ensemble that sings from our hearts and loves praising God in song. *Right now, we have openings for sopranos and men.* If you can read music and love to praise God with your singing, come and join us **every other Tuesday starting on September 3 from 7-8:30 p.m.** in the Choir Room. Jubilate performs once a month during the 11:15 service. If you would like more information, contact Regina Ontjes at (610) 888-5553.

Would You Like to Help Us Greet?

You never get a second chance to make a great first impression! You probably have all heard that expression. Visitors at Brandywine are no exception. Brandywine's Greeter Team is a great way to provide a friendly smile and give guidance in direction to both our guests and our congregation. We are looking for three greeter captains to assist in managing a greeter schedule for each service. If you are interested in a volunteer description, please email Karen Douglas at karendouglas@bvbcnet.org. The captains would not be required to recruit but only to manage the schedule.

Don't Forget to Recycle Your Paper at Brandywine!

We hope you are in a routine of saving all kinds of paper for our recycling project here at Brandywine Valley Baptist Church. If not, please join us in raising money for our building. Bring your old paper, magazines, newspapers, catalogs, shredded paper, junk mail, weekly circulars, office paper and church bulletins. *Please, NO cardboard or phonebooks.* Let your neighbors know we want their paper as well. Don't forget – *we earn money based on the weight of how much paper we recycle*, so bins filled with shredded paper will earn less money. (If you do bring shredded paper, make sure it is enclosed in a bag.) Thank you for allowing us to be so successful! Keep up the great work!



Get Connected

Brandywine Fantasy Football 2013

Back by popular demand, it's Fantasy Football, 2013, Brandywine style! And we are expanding! This year, we will be adding a second league, just for fathers and sons. Guys, want a chance to beat up on dad? Get him to join the fantasy league! We will also have our standard league, open to anyone who is interested. Previous experience is NOT necessary. We will gladly teach you how this works. It's not too late to join us! If you are interested, please contact Pastor Sam at samjohnstein@yahoo.com.



MOPS is Returning to Brandywine!

It's time for another year of MOPS (mothers of preschoolers) and MOMSnext (mothers of 1st-12th graders)! Our mission is to encourage, equip and develop every mother to realize her potential as a woman, mother and leader in the name of Jesus Christ. Through practical biblical presentations for our lives as women, interactions with other mothers who are raising young children, along with refreshments, creative activities and childcare, we seek to meet a mother's need for friendship, creativity and spiritual growth. **MOPS meets on the first Thursday of each month in the morning, September to May, 9-11 a.m., and on the third Thursday of each month in the evening, September to May, 7-9 p.m. (September and January are reversed). Our first meeting is Thursday, September 5 from 7-9 p.m.** Cost is \$80 for morning and evening meeting, or \$50 for just the evening meetings.

As well as a ministry for mothers, MOPS also provides a great ministry opportunity for our MOPPETS workers (both men and women). **This is our greatest need right now.** The MOPPETS program is a key element in the success of our MOPS group! As a volunteer, you will be helping to care for our precious children, from birth through elementary school, and minister to them, during our monthly meetings. For some of these children and their moms, it will be the first time they hear of God's love for them. How amazing to be a part of that! A caring staff will provide you with activities that contribute to children's physical and creative

development and spiritual enrichment. Your commitment will be to show up, and show God's love to these children. Please plan to arrive 15 minutes early and stay 15 minutes late. Childcare is only available for the morning meetings. Please prayerfully consider this serving opportunity! For more information about MOPS or MOPPETS, please mark your connection card and visit the table in the Gathering Area. **We need you!**

For more information about MOPS at Brandywine, please contact Phoebe Bosma at bosma.phoebe@gmail.com.

Stay Connected



www.brandywineonline.org



[brandywineonline](https://www.facebook.com/brandywineonline)



[bvbcnet](https://twitter.com/bvbcnet)



brandywineonline@gmail.com



Prayer Chain:
carolyngale824@gmail.com

Sunday Morning Adult Classes along The PATH

Begin next Sunday, September 8

Classes at 9:45 a.m.

Faith Class: <i>The Church in Exile: The Book of Daniel</i> Teachers: Sam Arthur, Ed Ford, Paul Johnston	Location: Room 33G
Fellowship Class: <i>The Parables of Jesus</i> Teacher: John Ladd	Location: Room 33C
Homebuilders: <i>Hope, Faith & Love in Trying Times</i> Teacher: Wayne McCarty (and others)	Location: Room 33K
Quest for Christianity: <i>Book of John</i> Teacher: Don Kugelberg	Location: Fellowship Hall
Women's Class: <i>Creation to King Saul</i> Teachers: Rotating Teachers	Location: Room 17A&B
*Young Family Life: <i>A community of families with young children</i> Topic: <i>A Study in the Book of Jonah</i> Teachers: Ed Rowse	Location: Room 16 A&B
JOURNEY: <i>A community of young adults in their 20's</i> Teachers: Rotating	Location: Loft (above the gym)

Classes held at 11:15 a.m.

*MOSAIC: <i>Ministry of Single Adults in Christ</i> Currently Meeting with Pastor Karl in the "Authority of the Bible Class" in Room 33C	
*Young Family Life: <i>A community of families with young children</i> Topic: <i>Your Move</i> Teachers: Pastor Karl Nockengost and team	Location: Room 33L
Deeper, Higher, Stronger Small Group Topic: Life-centered Bible Study Teachers: Robert & Sandy Ricci	Location: Room 33G
Spiritual Disciplines Topic: <i>The Life You've Always Wanted</i> Teacher: Sandy Nockengost	Location: Room 33F
Authority of the Bible Teacher: Pastor Karl Nockengost	Location: Room 33C

***This class is a ministry to young adults that include small groups and outside activities.**

Sunday Evening Prayer Night: Every Week at 6 p.m.

All are welcome to gather for informal prayer and worship every Sunday evening at 6 p.m. in the sanctuary. For more information about Prayer at Brandywine, pick up a new info card in the brochure racks.



Student Ministry

Today Student Quest at 9:45 a.m.
September 6-8 Student Ministry Retreat
Sunday, September 22 Student Leadership Information Meeting
Sunday, September 29 Worship Team Practice
Tuesday, October 15 United We Stand Tour
Friday, November 22 Endless Night

STUDENT MINISTRY RETREAT: The Student Ministry Annual Retreat to High Point Camp is THIS Friday through Sunday, September 6-8. There will be low ropes courses, the Blob, the all-new Laser Tag game, time with friends, bonfires, and the opportunity to grow closer to God. The Retreat registration deadline has passed. If you wish to attend, please contact Pastor Matthew McNutt or Melissa McGrath in the church office at (302) 478-4255 as soon as possible to ask about available spots. The cost is \$115 per student, or \$100 for students with multiple siblings attending.

SMALL GROUPS: Small Groups will be kicking off before we know it! Small groups are perfect for playing games, growing closer to God, and making new friends. All 6th-12th graders are invited to join a small group. We will meet weekly on Wednesday nights from 6:30-8 p.m. Save the date for the first small groups of the school year on Wednesday, September 11.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP INFORMATIONAL MEETING: Calling all students who want to use their gifts to serve in the student ministry! If you are even slightly interested in being a part of the worship team (singing, instruments, etc.) or involved in student leadership (drama, media, event planning, ministry training), please attend this meeting to find out more! The meeting will be right after Student Quest on Sunday, September 22 from 10:45-11:15 a.m. Come fill out a form and find out more on how you can be involved in the 2013-2014 school year. Contact Pastor Matthew McNutt or Melissa McGrath for more information.

WORSHIP TEAM PRACTICE: We are inviting all student musicians to come out to this group practice on Sunday, September 29 from 12:30-2:30 p.m. in the Gym. We will be practicing several worship songs, sharing what we know, and growing together as a team. Bring whatever instrument you play and skill level you are at and come out and practice with us! If you plan to be involved in the worship team this year, this practice will be a great way to get connected. Eat lunch beforehand and be ready to practice!

SAVE THE DATE! The United We Stand Tour is coming to Brandywine Valley on Tuesday, October 15 at 7 p.m. Get excited for amazing music by Building 429, The Afters, Hawk Nelson, and Finding Favour! Invite your friends and spend the evening rocking out to some great Christian music. Tickets are on sale now for \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door!



They will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream. It does not fear when heat comes; its leaves are always green. It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit. Jeremiah 17:8

CHILDREN'S BULLETINS: Our children's bulletins are designed for any child up through 5th grade. These pages are filled with activities intended to connect our children to the worship service. You can find children's bulletins near the side door in the Sanctuary.



REGISTRATION FOR AWANA IS NOW OPEN! Awana will meet on Wednesday nights from 6:30-8:00 p.m. A special kick-off open house is planned for September 11 and Awana will first meet on September 18. A \$30 non-refundable registration fee includes club costs for the year, a

uniform (vest or shirt) and handbook. Visit the Gathering Area today to pick up a registration card or register and pay online at brandywineonline.org.

MOVE-UP DAY FOR NURSERY/PRESCHOOL SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES IS TODAY! Look for new classroom starting this morning for our 2-year-olds through incoming 3rd graders. Our main children's hour is at 9:45 a.m. See the insert for more details.

AWANA VOLUNTEERS: If you would like to volunteer in Awana, please register as a volunteer online at brandywineonline.org and plan to attend training at Brandywine on Saturday, September 7 from 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. (Childcare not available.)

SAVE THE DATE

- Promotion Sunday – TODAY for 2's through incoming 3rd graders
- Family Picnic at Fox Point State Park– September 15 at 1:00 p.m.
See page 3 for details. Sign up in the Gathering Area.
- First MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) – September 5 from 7-9 p.m..
- Awana Kick-off – September 11 from 7-8 p.m.
- Joy-Hope Foundation 5K/10K – October 12
- Fall Festival – Friday, October 25

Small Groups along The PATH

Getting Connected

Here are some groups you can join:

- Women's Groups: Contact Sally Kantzes (sallybvbc@gmail.com)
- Men's Groups: Contact Jim Blosser (blosserjd@msn.com)
- All other groups: Contact Pastor Karl Nockengost (karlnockengost@bvbcnet.org)
- Triad Groups: Men's groups that focus on basic discipleship.
- Couples Groups: Based on geographical area.

For more information about specific groups visit brandywineonline.org/small_groups.

DivorceCare

A DivorceCare Support Group will be starting soon! We will meet on Monday evenings starting September 16. Time and location to be determined. Childcare will be available if needed. Don't go through separation or divorce alone; join a caring group of people to walk beside you through one of life's most difficult experiences. This group is led by people who understand, from personal experience, what you are going through. You will find valuable resources to help you deal with the pain of the past and look forward to rebuilding your life. For more information, please contact Jan Skipper the church office at (302) 478-4255, Sally Kantzes at sallybvbc@gmail.com or Lori Kellogg at lori.kellogg@yahoo.com.

Friday Morning Small Group Starting

If you are a woman between the ages of 25 and 105, we would love to have you join us! We meet every Friday, 9:15-11:30 a.m. in Room 33K, starting September 13. We will be studying "Esther: It's Tough Being a Woman" by Beth Moore. Childcare is provided, but we will need a head count. For more information, please contact group facilitators Courtenay Brandt (lcbrandt@gmail.com) or Erica Cura (ericacura@comcast.net).

Grief Share Support Group to Start

Grief Share is a support small group for anyone who has suffered the loss of a loved one. A new session of Grief Share will begin October 1 on Tuesday afternoons in the Conference Room from 1-3 p.m. Tuesday evening sessions from 7-9 p.m. are also now being offered upon request. To sign up or for more information, please call the church office at (302) 478-4255 or Norma Smith at (302) 798-1694.

Weeknight Class along The PATH

Academy Class Begins Thursday, September 12

An Academy Class on "How to Study the Bible" will begin on Thursday, September 12 at 7 p.m. in Room 33C of the Fellowship Hall. The class focuses on techniques and principles that will help you develop an understanding of the Bible and cultivate your own spiritual nourishment. This challenging class includes a workbook with homework which you will find enriching and rewarding. Led by Pastor Karl.

September 1, 2013

Sam Stein, Associate Pastor of Worship & Music
Regina Ontjes, Assistant to the Pastor of Worship & Music

*Sound enhancement units are available at the Welcome Center
for those who have difficulty hearing.*

8:15 / 9:45 a.m. Contemporary 11:15 a.m. Traditional

Prelude
Call to Worship
Praise Choruses, Hymns
Prayer
Anthem
Communion Meditation
Communion
Offering
Benediction
Postlude

*Children ages 4 - 2nd grade are dismissed just before the message to Room 47
(at 8:15) or Room 69 (at 11:15) for Worship Training.

Today's music list can be found on our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/brandywineonline.

Children's Worship Training Class

This is for children in the Orange/Purple Groups (ages 4-6) & 1st/2nd Grades at the 1st or 3rd service. These children should sit with their parents during the church worship service or they may sit with the Worship Training teacher. Children will stay in the worship service until the sermon begins. At that time, they go to class to learn about worship and have a short Bible story/activity.

**WE
THREE
SPIES**

Announcing

We Three Spies

A Christmas musical designed for all children in 1st-8th grade

Practice begins Sunday, September 22 from 5-6 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

Sign up today by the Choir Room. CDs & books (\$10 for one of each) are available to pick up next Sunday, September 8 at the Choir Room. Our presentation will be December 24 at 5 p.m. We will also sing at other times.

Our Financial Report Year-to-Date

This report will be updated monthly

The average monthly giving through August exceeded the \$155,000 per month we needed to implement the 2014 budget. Therefore, we will start the new fiscal year in September without the need for another congregational meeting. We **thank you** for your faithfulness and generosity in giving to the General Fund in fiscal year 2013.

Average Monthly General Fund Giving: \$170,895 (Sept. '12-July '13)*

(We need to average \$155,000 per month to implement the 2014 budget.)

General Fund Giving	Sept '12-July '13	Sept '12-July '13	Shortfall
	Budget	Actual	
	\$1,994,695	\$1,942,528	(\$52,167)

Financial Stewardship: Financial Concerns

Our giving through the first eleven months of our fiscal 2013 year was \$1,942,528. This places us \$52,167 below budget year-to-date. Please continue to pray that God will help us through these uncertain times we are facing in today's very volatile economy. Remember your gifts are critical to supporting our vision and our mission, here in the Brandywine Valley and around the world.

(*Dec. '12 has been reduced to represent average December giving in the 2010-2012 periods.)

Debt Reduction

	Balance as of 2/28/13	Balance as of 7/31/13
Second Mortgage on the Sanctuary	\$ 88,476	\$ 82,877
Mortgage on East and West Wings	\$ 745,776	\$ 705,316
First Mortgage on Sanctuary	\$4,376,301	\$4,344,214
	<u>\$5,210,553</u>	<u>\$5,132,407</u>

Thank you to those continuing to pay on your pledges and commitments to the *Next Steps* and *Keeping in Step with the Spirit* campaigns. These are very important parts of our debt reduction program. If you are making gifts to our building funds, please clearly mark your contributions to either *Pillar of Fire* or *Next Steps*.

Baptism Sunday Is September 22

Baptism illustrates your new life as a Christian. Christ died for our sins...He was buried, and...He rose again (1 Corinthians 15:3-4). Baptism is like a wedding ring; it's an outward symbol of the commitment you make in your heart. Our next Baptism will be held **Sunday, September 22** with a class taught by Pastor Bo on **Sunday, September 8** at 5 p.m. in his office. If you have any questions regarding baptism at Brandywine, please contact Debbie Bricker at debbiebricker@bvbcnet.org or (302) 478-4255.