

The Carillon

First Baptist Church of Penfield



2024

In This Issue

Pastor’s Meditation.....	1
January Birthdays.....	2
Church Ladies’ Lunch.....	2
Men’s Lunch.....	2
Notes From the Trustees.....	3
Pledges and Donations.....	3
2023 Tax Information & Pledges.....	3
Pastoral Relations/Staff Team Activities.....	4
Missions Report.....	4
Historian’s Corner.....	5
January Flapjack Breakfast.....	5
Coffee Hour Schedule.....	6
Worship Service by Phone.....	6
January Adult Discussion.....	6
Health Safety.....	6
1 pm Wednesday Zoom Prayer Group.....	7
Wednesday Bible Club Meeting.....	7
Church Ladies’ Holiday Lunch.....	8
Who We Are.....	11

Pastor’s Meditation – January 2024

“Hey, I think that’s where Brian Daboll went to high school.” I pointed. My son, who has a near-encyclopedic knowledge about football, agreed. It was October 26. We were on our way to a Thursday night game between the Buffalo Bills and the Tampa Bay Buccaneers at Highmark Stadium in Orchard Park, NY. My family was staying at a Bed -n- Breakfast on the shores of Lake Erie. The

route from there to the stadium took us right past St. Francis High School, where New York Giants Head Coach Brian Daboll graduated years ago.

“Who was St. Francis?” asked my daughter, who was driving us to the game. I remembered that Francis lived in Assisi, Italy, but I couldn’t remember much else. I grabbed my phone, did a quick search and (*of course!*) he started the Franciscan Order. And (*I knew this!*) patronage of animals and the environment. He lived from 1181-1226. And then, finally, (*oh yes!*) the prayer he was associated with. Here is one version of that prayer:

*Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace.
Where there is hatred, let me sow love.
Where there is injury, pardon.
Where there is doubt, faith.
Where there is despair, hope.
Where there is darkness, light.
Where there is sadness, joy.*

*May I seek not seek to be consoled as much as
to console.
To be understood as to understand.
To be loved as to love.*

*For it is in giving that we ourselves receive.
It is in forgiving that we ourselves are
forgiven.
And it is in dying that we are born to eternal
life. Amen.*

Virtually every morning since that game (which was murder on the knees, but at least the Bills won), I have said that prayer. The Spiritual Formation Certificate program I belong to requested that I develop a daily spiritual practice and consistently utilize it for a month. So, taking a cue from that ride into the stadium, I chose the so-called “Prayer of St. Francis.” (I’ve since learned that St. Francis didn’t really write this prayer; no one knows who did.) You may notice discrepancies between my version of this prayer and ones you’ve seen on plaques and web-posts. That’s because I memorized it this way and repeat it daily. There’s nothing magic about repetitious prayers; in fact, Jesus discouraged them (Matthew 6:7). But there is something very powerful about asking God to change us. In the prayer that Jesus taught, we say, “*Thy* Kingdom come, *Thy* Will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.” (Emphasis on the “*Thy*” – the goal is not our will, but God’s). The Jesus-abandoning Disciples in the gospels prayed the way Jesus taught them and eventually were changed into the powerful Apostles of the Book of Acts. Francis prayed that way and started ministries so effective that hundreds of years after his death, schools were being named after him. In time, those who seek God’s Will, not their own, can become instruments of God’s peace. Life being difficult, I’m sure we often ask God to change things. When was the last time we asked God to change us?

In Christ, Pastor Steve



January Birthdays

11 – Betty Holderbaum
 13 - Lilly Swail
 14 – Lisa Fox
 22 – Meho Kapidzic
 23 – MaryLou Bullock
 23 – Marsha Kiriazides
 24 – Jeffrey Phillips, Jr.
 29 – Scott Daniel
 29 – Kaya Keenan



Church Ladies’ Lunch

We are taking a brief winter break.

We will not be meeting for our LADIES LUNCHEON in both January and February.

Our luncheons will resume starting in the month of March 2024!

We plan to meet again on the third Tuesday, March 19th, the First Day of Spring!

Please mark your calendars. We will announce the location as we get closer to that date.

Stay Cozy!
 ~ Kathy Ahl, your Common Life Team and all of our wonderful volunteers!



Men’s Lunch

Thursdays at Noon
Riki’s Restaurant in Fairport

Notes from the Trustees

The Stewardship drive for the 2024 church year was begun in mid-November and has had a good response from many of our church givers. The Trustees always appreciate your timely response. Budget preparation, built on your pledge response, always begins in December and is finalized by mid-January.

The proposed budget, once completed, is presented to the coordinating council for their review. If you have not returned your pledge form to the church, it is not too late to do so. The proposed budget will be presented to the congregation during second hour on January 21, 2024. The congregation will vote on the proposed budget during the Annual Meeting on January 28th. Both meetings will be on zoom as well in person in Fellowship Hall. **Please plan to attend these two very important meetings.**

Respectfully,

Don Fox, Fritz May, Jack O'Brien, Mike Pray,
Sarah Phillips, David Trump



Pledges and Donations

Just a reminder that all pledges and donations can be mailed into the church office and will be deposited, or you can also use the Donate button on the church website (for a small fee).
Thank you!

Jeff Bertrand



2023 Tax information & Pledges

As I usually do, church statements will be mailed to everyone on January 15, 2024. Please review the document to verify accuracy.

Envelopes will be in the back of the sanctuary on January 7 for you to pick up. If You would like an envelope and did not request them, they are available. If you Have left over envelopes, throw them away and use the new one. (I record by envelope number and randomly changing interferes with the records.)

Bill Werther,
Financial Secretary



Pastoral/Staff Relations Team
Activities

The Pastoral/Staff Relations Team, which is charged with the responsibility of advocating for our Pastor, has met monthly this past year, except during June & July. We are currently working with the Trustees on amending the Minister-Church Agreement for next year to include salary considerations for the convalescent period after Pastor Steve’s knee surgeries, and are also coordinating with Pastor Steve to complete his annual performance assessment.

The team members include Herb Beadle, Pat Casey, Penny Goodman, and Barb Slye. Please feel free to contact any Pastoral/Staff Relations Team member if you have any questions, concerns, or praise regarding our pastor.



MISSIONS REPORT

The Missions Team would like to thank everyone who donated to, "**Good Will Come**," the American Baptist Church's annual offering for Retired Ministers and Missionaries and their surviving spouses. Participation in this December offering for gifting moderate thank-you checks has been a long-standing tradition in our church. Approximately \$135 from the Missions budget will be sent in for the RMMO offering also. In December \$400 from the Missions budget was mailed to the Penfield-Area Coalition of Churches for Greater Rochester Habitat for Humanity.

Now we are looking forward to 2024 and have our first meeting scheduled for Thursday, January 4th. We encourage anyone who has a concern or a suggestion for the Missions Team to communicate those to us.

May **Good** Come to each of you in the New Year.

Susie, Ellen, Janette



Historian’s Corner

We are pleased to bring the *Historian’s Corner* back to The Carillon in 2024. Jim Symonds, First Baptist Church of Penfield Historian Emeritus, meticulously researched and curated primary and secondary sources of historical information and hand wrote a collection of articles that first appeared in The Carillon in the 1990s. He remains a fount of knowledge on our church history that cannot be matched, and we are grateful to have him as an advisor on this project.

Did You Know?

Founded in 1804 as the “Baptist Church In Northfield” and later incorporated as “The Baptist Church and society of Penfield”, this was the first established religious congregation of any denomination in Northfield and the second in Monroe County. The original church structure was completed in the fall of 1823 near the intersection of Baird and Penfield Roads. It was moved to the present site in 1839.



January Flapjack



January 20th will be our third Flapjack Breakfast.

Watch for the sign-up sheets.

Tell your friends. Make friends and tell them too!

Let’s make this a success.

Bill Werther/Jeff Phillips



Coffee Hour Schedule

If anyone wishes to volunteer for Coffee Hour there is a calendar on the bulletin board in New Fellowship Hall.

Please contact Sarah Phillips by email or telephone. dunes1158@yahoo.com or 585-329-7072

Thanks again to all my Coffee Angels who signed up last year.

Blessings, Sarah Phillips



How to Join Sunday Worship Service by Phone

**Dial in by phone to join each Sunday's
virtual service**

Zoom opens at 9 am

Worship Service starts at 9:30 am

Dial by your location

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

**When prompted, punch in this meeting ID
-----> 839 345 585**

When prompted, punch in -----> #



Adult Discussion Following Worship

11:15-NOON

This is a recurring meeting

In person and on Zoom

Below is the Online Information

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84560421536>

Call-in information

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

January Adult Discussion Schedule

Resumes January 7, 2024



Health Safety

**For the latest info on COVID-19, please go
to the Center for Disease Control Website
([cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov))**

**Or call the CDC at 1-800-232-4636 for
updates**



Bible Club Meeting

**Wednesday, - Time: 6:00 pm
NFH & Online/Zoom**

Reading Scripture every day can change your life. Bible Club resumes in-person the second week of January. Pastor Steve will be hosting a discussion each week, both in-person and online. (dates and formats to follow). Hope to see you there!

For 2024, we will be reading the New Testament in a year. Cost for materials is \$20 each, which includes a separate portable Bible map. Description of the Bible is as-follows:

The One Year Bible (allows us) to read the New Testament in a year-in just 5 minutes a day. This unique volume, for those looking for a portable New Testament Bible, features the beautifully translated, clear, and accurate New Living Translation, which will increase the wonder and impact of your experience.

Key features include:

- *Five-minute daily readings to help you read through the entire New Testament in one year*
- *Full-color illustrations on every page, creating a visually rich reading experience*
- *Generous, easy-to-read 9.5pt font*

The clear and trusted New Living Translation (NLT)

How to join us online:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86182075740>

Meeting ID: 861 8207 5740

Call-in:

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

+1 646 931 3860 US

Meeting ID: 861 8207 5740

**1 pm Wednesday Zoom****Prayer Group**

Please join Pastor Steve Wednesday for a Zoom Prayer Group Meeting. We will share our concerns and take them to God. Although we've scheduled a one-hour Zoom meeting, these are expected to end sooner. Please join us!

1:00 pm Prayer Group:

Zoom Computer Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/950690121>

Meeting ID: 950 690 121

Phone users dial: 1-646-876-9923

When Prompted, enter

Meeting ID: 950 690 121



Church Ladies' Holiday Luncheon









Who We Are

The First Baptist Church of Penfield was established in 1804 in what is now an eastern suburb of Rochester, New York.

We are affiliated with American Baptist Churches of the Rochester/Genesee Region, and nationally with the American Baptist Churches, USA.

We welcome all to worship with us. Our congregation is a gathering of people who are diverse in theology and political opinions, but who are all seeking to know God in a deeper and more meaningful way.

The First Baptist Church of Penfield continues to include all who seek Jesus as Lord - regardless of race, class, gender, disability, place of origin, or sexual orientation, identity, or expression.



The Carillon

First Baptist Church of Penfield
1862 Penfield Road
Penfield, NY 14526



We have 3 methods of receiving the monthly newsletter.

Method 1—Open the link on our web page at www.fbpenfield.org

Method 2—Pick up your personal copy at Sunday Worship

Method 3—Receive a printed copy via US Postal Mail

Please help us to obtain a cost savings! Open the link or pick up!

If you wish to change your method, please e-mail us at

fbpenfield.@toast.net or call the Church Office at (585) 586-2876.

Our Church Staff

Rev. Steven D. Brotzman ~ Pastor

Dr. Naomi Gregory ~ Organist, Music Director

Caroline Cooke, Caroline Duers, David Griffith, ~
Choral Scholars

Saundra Augustus ~ Office Assistant

Laura Swail ~ Nursery Care

Meho & Hava Kapidzic ~ Church Custodians

Contact Information

(585) 586-2876

E-mail ~ fbpenfield@toast.net

Website ~ www.fbpenfield.org

Find us on Facebook

Summer Church Office Hours

Tuesday thru Friday, 8:00am to 12:00pm

OUR PURPOSE STATEMENT

*We welcome to our worship all who desire
to know God through Jesus Christ.*

*We encourage each other to develop a
relationship with God and to live as Christ
taught us.*

*We covenant together to seek out and
minister to those in spiritual, emotional or
physical need.*