

The Carillon

First Baptist Church of Penfield



November 2023

In This Issue

Pastor’s Meditation.....	1
November Birthdays.....	2
Church Ladies’ Lunch.....	2
Men’s Lunch.....	2
Notes From the Trustees.....	3
Pledges and Donations.....	3
Coffee Hour Schedule.....	3
Flapjack is Back!.....	4
Missions Report.....	5
Worship Service by Phone.....	5
November Adult Discussion.....	6
Wednesday Zoom Prayer Group.....	6
Wednesday Bible Club Meeting.....	7
Flower Bar.....	7
Annual Holiday Pie Sale.....	8
Annual Thanksgiving Dinner.....	9
Health Safety.....	10
Turn Your Clocks Back.....	10
Who We Are.....	11

Pastor’s Meditation November 2023

The Gales of November, Remembered

Does anyone know where the love of God goes, when the waves turn the minutes to hours? ”

Gordon Lightfoot

Singer-songwriter Gordon Lightfoot passed away earlier this year, leaving behind an enormous legacy among Canadian artists. His most-successful song, “The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald” was all over the airwaves in 1976. It discussed, with embellished detail, a November 1975 shipwreck of an iron-hauling boat on Lake Superior that resulted in the deaths of 29 crewmen. Living in the Great Lakes region as we do, we can easily imagine the perils of navigating a boat during inclement weather. We get to see first-hand the way storms rage along these large lakes, blowing unabated winds that stir up the water- and cause even the soundest vessel to tip and rock.

Lightfoot’s lyrics pose the question, oft-asked when tragedy strikes: “Where was God?” People were asking it in October during the violent attacks that wounded Israel, and they will certainly be asking it during the retaliatory destruction of the ensuing war. In the U.S., we asked it after September 11, 2001. Wise believers find no easy answers. God, who is all-knowing, knew the destruction was coming. God, who is all-powerful, could have stopped it. A loving God, described as simply “Love” in 1 John Chapter 4, could not want to see people suffer and die. So, how do we reconcile these nearly-contradictory understandings of God?

In a deep mystery, reconciliation comes from Jesus, who, though himself God, became a

person, suffering and dying just as people do during their worst times. For me, this makes Jesus uniquely qualified to be Savior. He knows first-hand what pain and suffering are like. He knows how it often hurts to be alive in this troubled world. He has felt the storm, experienced the attack, and walked through the valley of the shadow of death.

Romanian-born Holocaust-survivor Elie Wiesel wrote *Night*, based on his experiences as a teenager in the Auschwitz and Buchenwald concentration camps. He described a public event at a camp where three people were hanged, including a child. He wrote:

The two men were no longer alive...But the third rope was still moving: the child, too light, was still breathing...And so he remained for more than half an hour, lingering between life and death, writhing before our eyes. And we were forced to look at him in close range. He was still alive when we passed...

Behind him, he heard a man ask:

“For God’s sake, where is God?” And from within me, I heard a voice answer, “Where He is? This is where – hanging here from this gallows...” (Wiesel, Elie, Night, NY: Hill & Wang, 2006, 64-65)

Where was God during the hanging? Where was God during the shipwreck? Where was God in the attack? Right in the middle of it, as close as possible to the suffering and dying. Why? Because Jesus understands suffering at its deepest possible level. Through difficult times we hold on to our faith and wait for a

sense of God’s presence, knowing that “The Lord is close to the broken-hearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.” (Psalm 34:18)

In Christ, Pastor Steve



November Birthdays

2 Katelyn Lochner
3 Emma Kimball
10 Deborah Lochner
14 Kiera Donaher
18 Sarah Phillips
17 Emily Johnson
21 Herb Beadle
22 Liza Kimball
25 Shawn Keenan
27 Mary Beadle
30 Colton Donaher
30 Gregg Goodman
30 Roger Zaenglein



Church Ladies’ Lunch **Tuesday, November 21st** **Jonathons**



Men’s Lunch **Thursdays at Noon** **Riki’s Restaurant in Fairport**

Notes from the Trustees

November is our annual STEWARDSHIP DRIVE. Commitment Sunday is November 19th. During the week of November 7th you will be receiving pledge materials consisting of a letter from the Trustees, a pledge form, and a stamped, return envelope. The Trustees were very appreciative of your support during the Capital Fund Drive last spring but now it is time for your recommitment to the annual expenditures of the church. Like home, the costs for operating and maintaining the church continue to increase. Now is the time to start thinking about your 2024 financial commitment to the church in support of our facilities, leadership and outreach. We, the Trustees, thank you for your prayerful consideration of and commitment to the First Baptist Church of Penfield.

Pancake Breakfast is returning on Saturday, November 11th between 8:00 and 10:00 AM. After a few years off due to COVID 19, we are trying to get the popular monthly breakfast up and rolling again. We hope to see you there.

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



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



Flapjack is Back!!



Saturday November 11 from 8 to 10

\$10.00/person

**Pancakes, sausage, blueberries,
whipped cream, coffee, fellowship.**

Tell your friends...

Kitchen helpers need to wear a hat and most
of them will also need to wear gloves.

Standing and walking are a big part of the job.
Only workers will be allowed in the kitchen.

A donation will be made to a worthy cause
suggested by the Missions Board.

Bill Werther
Coordinator



Missions Report

The Missions Team was very pleased with the response to our two 2nd Hour speakers in October, Dr. Rev. Sandra Hasenauer and Rev. Paul Vick. We very much appreciate their time to come and share with us in person. We also are grateful to everyone who helped with the Coffee Hour refreshments on these two Sunday mornings--some had planned on it and some jumped in when there was a last-minute need. We thank you all.

We are looking forward to the holiday season with enthusiasm. At the time of this writing, it is too soon to report on our annual **RING IN THE HOLIDAYS** drive-thru collection for the Penfield Ecumenical Food Shelf and the Coldwater House for Women and Children. It is a wonderful way to share our blessings with local families who are struggling. We do know from past years, without any doubt, that our collective donations will be greatly appreciated! We are grateful to you for the generous way you partner with us to spread warmth and cheer for the Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons.

We recently received a Thank You letter from the Shepherd Home in Penfield for the support we had sent to them from our church in August. Other local organizations which have been sent support from the Missions budget this fall are Willow Domestic Violence Center, Penfield Ecumenical Food Shelf and Coldwater House for Women and Children.

"Let us not become weary in doing good!"

Galatians 6: 9

(quote by ABC-USA.org)

We wish all of you a Happy Thanksgiving!

Ellen, Susie, Janette



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 -----> #



November Adult Discussion

Sundays 11:15 am to Noon

During Adult Discussion time (11:15am to 12:00 noon) on Sundays October 29 and November 12 and 19, we will be showing a short (10 minute) DVD, followed by a discussion about finding our purpose on this earth.

The series is called *On Purpose: Finding God's Voice in Your Passion*. Here is the series' description:

We are hungry for a sense of purpose, direction, and calling in our lives. That's as basic an ingredient to the human experience as they come. We want to be part of something bigger than ourselves. We want to participate in something that has eternal merit and lasting impact. We do not want to live a shallow, hollow existence. We yearn for deeper meaning, for deeper purpose within our lives. We want to be more than we are.

On Purpose: Finding God's Voice in Your Passion helps us see God's purpose for our lives, how to open ourselves to God's voice, and how to take the first or next step to follow God's call. Reading this book and exploring life choices alongside others, readers learn how to channel their passions, hear God's voice, and live the life they were meant to live.



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



Bible Club Meeting

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

Please join us as we begin reading the Bible, from start to finish, using *The Daily Contemplative Bible*, which has segmented the entire Bible into 365 daily readings – cost is \$14. each. By the end of the year, we will have read the Bible cover-to-cover!

Pizza provided for those attending in-Person

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

**Flower Bar**

Brenda, Annette and Barbara

Twice this summer members of First Baptist Church hosted a "Bouquet Bar," which raised over \$200 for the Penfield Hope Ministry. All flowers were grown in the church garden. A later event (pictured here) created bouquets to take to elderly members of First Baptist.



**2023 PENFIELD COALITION
OF CHURCHES
ANNUAL HOLIDAY PIE SALE**



***ENJOY YOUR HOLIDAY PIES WHILE
SUPPORTING IMPACTFUL
ORGANIZATIONS THAT ARE BUILDING
HOMES, COMMUNITY AND HOPE IN
THE GREATER ROCHESTER AREA***

**APPLE CRUMB
CHERRY
PUMPKIN**

EASY ONLINE ORDERING AT
<https://give.grhabitat.org/ge/pies23>

**ORDER BY NOVEMBER 5, 2023
DRIVE THRU PIE PICK UP
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20
2 PM – 6 PM
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH PENFIELD
PARKING LOT**

Each \$17.00 pie purchased will support the 2024 home build by the Penfield Coalition for **Greater Rochester Interfaith Build (GRIB)**.

We are again partnering with Special Touch Bakery, a non-profit organization that inspires the lifelong success of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, so your holiday desserts double the impact!



THANKSGIVING DINNER

Our FBCP Family Thanksgiving Dinner is fast approaching.

It will be held on Sunday November 5th in Fellowship Hall, following Sunday Worship.

This will be a traditional Thanksgiving meal with Turkey, Stuffing, Mashed Potatoes, and so much more!

We are only asking for two things:

1) We are asking for cooked turkey. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall for this purpose.

Turkeys need to be cooked, deboned and carved. We would also like your pan drippings as well, on the side for our gravy mix.

Cooked turkeys should be dropped off to the church kitchen one day prior to the dinner. We will be in the church kitchen to collect the turkeys on Saturday November 4th, from 11am to 1pm.

*** Please Note: As of Thursday October 26th, we have only 4 people signed up for turkeys. Please consider signing up as well.

2) 'Many Hands Make Light Work'.

We are hoping to have everyone help with cleanup at the end. Thank you in advance for your participation in that!

Also, Monetary donations will be welcomed. Baskets will be in place at this event.

We look forward to this annual event! Please mark your calendars and plan to come.

It will be a great time of wonderful fellowship and delicious food!

Blessings!

FBCP Common Life Team

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



November 5, 2023 at 2:00 am

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.*