

The Carillon

First Baptist Church of Penfield



2021

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Pastor's Meditation

My Friend Paul and the Opening and Closing of Doors

Last month marked the fifth anniversary of the death of my friend, Rev. Dr. Paul Holland, Ph.D. People tend to act as if our friends “belong” to us, but with regards to Paul, no one could claim that. I was only one of the hundreds of friends Paul made through 60+ years of ordained ministry in the Presbyterian Church, USA. He made friends with students during 29 years of teaching at Geneva College. He befriended countless clients in private counseling practice. Still, our

relationship felt special, unique, and worth celebrating.

In 2012, after a race-related problem in the community, we formed Pastor's Groups. I was blessed enough to get placed with Paul and three others. We met for lunch on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays, almost-always at Paul's church, which was close by. For four years, almost without-fail, we had lunch together twice a month.

Right away, it became obvious that Paul cared about us. The first things he'd say would be, “How is ministry going for you?” or, “What's going on in your life?” Within a few meetings we recognized we were in a “safe container,” a place where anyone could speak freely. I don't remember discussing any rules, but I am confident that nothing said was ever repeated. We referred to the lunches as “free counseling sessions”. Whether it was McDonald's, Wendy's or leftovers from home, they were easily the best meals that month.

Paul was old-school. He learned biblical doctrine in the 1950s and held on until his dying breath. Within that constraint, he had a mind that was willing to go anywhere. He listened to everybody, never rushed to judgment, and always asked questions to help him process what was being said. But he was no “feel-good” counselor; having absorbed the details, he readily offered opinions on the best way to respond to our challenges. And, in most

cases, his advice was sound. Advice didn't just flow one-way, either. Sometimes, he actually sought my counsel when making his own decisions. I was honored to be asked.

His testimony was rich. He grew up as a bullied kid in blue collar town near Pittsburgh. After high school he drove truck for years before entering college. From there, he followed God's calling to ministry, seminary, multiple Master's degrees, a D. Min. and a Ph.D. in Psychology, followed by decades of college teaching, counseling and ministry to local churches. One time he told us that at every transition in his life, he could see God opening and closing doors for him, so that, ultimately, there was only one choice to make, which he recognized as God's Will.

The month before he died, I received a phone call from Paul that his health had so deteriorated that he knew he could no longer serve as Pastor. As he saw it, God was shutting another door. As Paul had said, when God shuts a door, another opens, and, thattime, it was a doorway to eternal life. Paul passed away quietly at the age of 87, after a brief illness. I imagine my friend in Eternity, together with the many who called him "friend."

Jesus said, "I no longer call you servants, but friends (John 15:15)." I imagine millions of people gathered around their very best Friend Jesus, expressing thanks to the One who opened and closed all their doors in life. I imagine Paul hearing, "Well done, you good and faithful servant." (Matthew 25:23). What a privilege to know you, Paul! I miss

you after all these years, and from our mutual friend Jesus, I draw hope that we will meet again.



October Birthdays

- 1- Mark Britt
- 1- Don Lochner
- 5- Annette Brotzman
- 7- Eric Scott Hunter
- 11- Mindy Kimball
- 13- Ginny Wilterdink
- 17- Ibrahim Kapidzic
- 17- Bruce Neeley
- 18- Kathy Ahl
- 19- Judy McNeil
- 21- Eric Keenan
- 21- Eun Jean Keenan
- 27- Sarah Kohlenberg
- 29- Hava Kapidzic
- 31- Edda Schneider



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



Note from the Trustees

Fall is here, time for us to consider gutter cleaning, snow plowing, ice melt purchase and Stewardship.

The roof over Old Fellowship Hall, near the bathrooms area, has had some repair work done which hopefully will stop the leaks that have occurred over the past several years. On close inspection, it was discovered that exposed roofing nails and some shingle installation issues have allowed rain to penetrate the roof, and allowed rain to enter the building. Although we have great roofing material with a long life expectancy, it is only as good as the installation. Hopefully the problems have been resolved.

The east light in the parking lot is not working; the parking lot is illuminated mostly at the west end. The contractor who installed the lights has been contacted. Hopefully it should be repaired soon.

Respectfully,

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



Missions Report

During September our congregation participated in the ABC International Ministries' **World Mission Offering**. Our Missions team shared videos and information

about the global effort and how people's lives can be greatly improved, even transformed. The theme for 2021 has been, "We've been surprised by God's glory" John 1:16. Thank you for your donations to this annual ABC special offering.

**RING IN THE HOLIDAYS 2021!
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 10 A.M. -
NOON in the church parking lot**

The Missions team is planning our 2021 Drive-thru collection of food and gifts for the holiday season. To help the **Penfield Ecumenical Food Shelf** with their distribution of Thanksgiving dinners for families in need, we asked them for suggestions and received the following wish list:

Canned corn, cranberry sauce, boxes of turkey stuffing, turkey gravy packets, boxes of brownie mix.

The Missions Team will also be authorizing \$500 from our budget to further help support the PEFS with this holiday effort.

Also, as we have done in the past, we would like to help with Christmas Cheer at the **Coldwater Road House for Women and Children**. Please consider bringing in **pajamas for the women**. There is a need for sizes from Small/Medium - XXL. Nothing has to be wrapped.

We hope to see you there!

Ellen, Sue, Janette



Meet Our New Choral Scholars

Caroline Duers - soprano



Caroline Duers is a second-year soprano pursuing a BM at the Eastman School of music, studying with Dr. Jonathan Retzlaff. Originally from Storrs, Connecticut, Caroline was raised on a foundation of church hymns and school choral activities. She has trained classically for 7 years thus far and has competed and placed nationally as a soloist as well as an ensemble member in various organizations (NAFME, ACDA, Schmidt, WNO, etc.) She has worked professionally with the Cathedral Schola Cantorum at St. Joseph's Cathedral in Hartford, CT. Caroline participates in the Eastman Collegium, an early music ensemble, and will be performing in Winter of 2022 in the school's production of *La Calisto*. She is thrilled to be working with the First Baptist Church of Penfield's choir and is delighted to meet the congregation.

Samantha Sosa – alto



Samantha Sosa is a Venezuelan soprano and third-year undergraduate student at the Eastman School of Music. She studies with Professor Katherine Ciesinski and is pursuing her BM in Vocal Performance. She has been a finalist in two international competitions this past year. The Classical Singer International Vocal Competition as a musical theater finalist and the Opera Viva competition. She performs early music with the Eastman Collegium and freelances as a jazz vocalist. You can see her perform next in Eastman Opera Theatre's fall double bill as the Little Daughter in the opera *Proving Up* on November 4th and 6th. She is honored to be able to sing at the First Baptist Church of Penfield every week and is excited to meet everyone.



David Griffith – tenor

David Griffith is a second-year tenor at the Eastman School of Music from Syracuse, NY. He has sung in church choir since age 6, and also enjoyed performing in theater since he was young as well. David studies with Professor Robert Swensen at Eastman and is very eager to continue to pursue music in the future. Aside from music, David enjoys golf, movies and nature. He is so happy to meet everyone at the First Baptist Church of Penfield, and is excited to sing with the choir.

**Jason Rober – bass**

Jason is a new graduate student at the Eastman School of Music, originally coming from New Paltz, New York. He first studied Music Education at SUNY Fredonia, before deciding to study voice here in Rochester, with Professor Jan Opalach. Jason loves the choral repertoire, and is exceedingly content when singing church music. Aside from the realm of music, he adores hiking, whether it be in his hometown, or wherever else he can find a hill. Jason also takes pride in his vegetarian cooking, and loves to offer his friends a luscious chili or a zesty quesadilla. He is very much looking forward to becoming acquainted with the congregation in Penfield.



A Message from the Moderator

Greetings Church Family and Friends,

As I prepare this message, I would like you to know that today is Sunday September 19th, and as most of you are aware, our choir returned to our sanctuary this morning for the first time since the start of Covid. Hallelujah! I'm sure that those who attended, whether online or in the sanctuary would agree that it was a joyous occasion. We are so grateful to have Naomi, the choral scholars, and all of the members of our choir return, and a great big welcome to the new members as well! We thank each one of them for sharing the wonderful gift of music. We can all look forward to what they bring to our Sunday worship as we head into the upcoming holiday season.

Now that our Sunday worship services are starting to work their way to get closer to normal, so are some of the programs and activities that we offer. We have started up a modified time of Coffee and Fellowship, followed by Adult Discussion. A Sunday School program is in the works and will begin very soon as well. Team meetings are taking place and planning is in the works to get everything up and running again in a safe and modified way.

With that being said, I will be making an effort to connect with teams and their members to review team responsibilities

together, and assist in resolving any areas where help may be needed. As always, I look forward to working with everyone.

Let us truly love one another and work together to Glorify God in all that we do!

Be Blessed!

Kathy Ahl, Moderator



Church Ladies Lunch

3rd Tuesday of each Month
October 19th, 2021
Full Details TBD



Adult Discussion Schedule**First Baptist Church of Penfield
On Zoom and in NFH**

“How to Fight Racism” by Jemar Tisby

October 2021

10/3 **Hot Potatoes / Forum**

10/10 *How to Do Reconciliation Right*
(20 min) **Pastor Steve**

10/17 *How to Make Friends*
(17 min) **Pat Holderbaum**

10/24 *How to Build Diverse Communities*
(17 min) **Kathy Ahl**

10/31 *How to Work for Racial Justice*
(16 min) **Pat Holderbaum**

November 2021

11/7 *How to Fight Systemic Racism*
(26 min) **Annette Brotzman**

11/14 *How to Orient Your Life to Racial*
Justice (17 min) / Conclusion
4 min) **Pastor Steve**

11/21 Thanksgiving Dinner (if safe to do so)

11/28 No Adult Discussion on
Thanksgiving Weekend

Zoom Guide for Adult Discussion**Adult Discussion Following Worship
11:15-NOON**

Time: This is a recurring meeting

Join Zoom Meeting

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

Meeting ID: 845 6042 1536

One tap mobile

+16468769923,,84560421536# US
(New York)

+13017158592,,84560421536# US
(Washington DC)

Dial by your location

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)
+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Meeting ID: 845 6042 1536

Find your local number:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/ksL2GCiIc>



Policies and Procedures

***Updated Thursday, August 5, 2021**

1. Church Entry and Exit - People will enter and exit through the ramp door only. All other ways will remain closed.

2. Sanitizing Hand Gel and Face Masks - Both will continue to be available at the entrance (Usher's Station) for anyone who chooses to use them.

3. FULLY VACCINATED - At the present time, fully vaccinated people should enter the sanctuary and join in the service wearing a face mask and practice social distancing as needed to respect the wishes of others around them.

4. UNVACCINATED or NOT FULLY VACCINATED – Unvaccinated people or those who are not fully vaccinated, are expected to continue wearing a face mask, keep it on for the entire service, and continue to practice social distancing of 6 feet or greater while in the church. Attending the church service online is also encouraged.

5. About the Children - We understand that some children will not yet be vaccinated or not yet fully vaccinated, there will be a section of pews designated for children and their families only at the front of the sanctuary. Just beyond the children's section, there will be a section of pews that will be off-limits for any seating. The remainder

of the pews will be available for general seating.

6. Children's Moment - Anyone providing the Children's Moment in person will be required to wear a face mask, whether fully vaccinated or not.

7. Singing - Any member of the congregation who chooses to participate in singing at any time throughout the church service must wear a face mask while singing, whether fully vaccinated or not.

8. There will continue to be no childcare provided at this time.

9. The offering plates will not be passed, however, there will continue to be a donation box in the back of the sanctuary.

10. On Communion Sundays, the Lord's Supper will continue to be given using sealed, disposable communion cups and wafers to ensure everyone's safety.

11. The regular Sunday Worship Services will continue to be available electronically, over-the-phone, and on the on-line ZOOM platform. Our policies will continue to follow the guidance provided by Monroe County Department of Health and the CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

<https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view>

Fellowship Hall
Covid Precautions

(Effective 9/12/2021)

Anyone attending the ‘modified’ Coffee & Fellowship, and/or Adult Discussion in Fellowship Hall following Sunday Worship must be wearing a mask.

The only time anyone’s mask should be lowered or removed, is when they are seated first to drink and/or eat. The tables and chairs will be setup for this purpose and with distancing in mind. When done drinking and/or eating, masks must be put back on.

Prior to Adult Discussion start time, if people choose to stand to mingle with others while enjoying a beverage or a snack, please do so outdoors. Thank you.



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 Duers, Samantha Sosa,

David Griffith, Jason Rober ~ 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

Church Office Hours

Monday thru Friday, 9:00am to 12:30pm

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.