

The Carillon

First Baptist Church of Penfield



2021

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Pastor's Meditation

How About You?

I like New York in June, how about you?

I like a Gershwin tune, how about you?

I love a fireside when a storm is due

I like potato chips, moonlight and motor trips

How about you?

The weather is finally breaking for the better, giving us glimpses of how idyllic summers are in Western NY. One rainy November before the pandemic, I tried to describe Rochester summers to a skeptical visitor. As we talked, the skies outside looked bleak. The sounds of wind and rain beating against the windows made optimism seem

misplaced. The visitor left unconvinced that Rochester could ever be a beautiful place. But it's still true: "I love New York in June, how about you?"

How About You? is one of the American standards, written 80 years ago and covered by everyone from Frank Sinatra to Harry Nilsson. When the lyricist, Ralph Freed, wrote it, he was thinking about New York City in his day. But we know "The Big Apple" holds no monopoly on beauty, then or now. The song could have easily been written about Rochester today. Gershwin tunes, potato chips, fireplaces during storms, moonlight and motor trips are still good things (potato chips are perhaps *too* good!). What makes the beautiful days of June seem so nice?

Perhaps it's the contrast that we know, living in a region where there are truly four seasons. If we didn't know what a gray November day felt like, would we appreciate a sunny June day as much? If we didn't experience Jack Frost nipping at our noses in December, would a summer breeze be as comforting? In life, if we didn't muddle through setbacks, losses and hurts, would we appreciate those times when we catch a break? It might hurt to hear this. Maybe you've been through enough. Sometimes our troubles seem overwhelming, and we would welcome the chance to find out what the absence of suffering is like.

The Apostle Paul wrote in Romans 8:18: “I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us.” Christians truthfully acknowledge the oft-bleak reality of the present, but not without hope. We long for God to set up The Kingdom where, “mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.” (Revelation 21:4)

About 50 years after *How About You?* Canadian songwriter Jane Siberry asked a different question:

*But if you could
Do you think you would trade it all?
All the pain and suffering?
Ah, but then you'd have missed
The beauty of the light upon this earth
And the sweetness of the leaving*

God's specialty is taking something bad and making something good out of it. Repeat this often for emphasis. Scriptures like the ones cited here affirm this notion. If we put our trust in Jesus, who Himself suffered, Heaven is our destiny. Along the way, each bright day and surprise blessing seems all the sweeter for our having seen the other side. Good times and bad, God stays right with us.

*I like New York in June.
How about you?*

In Christ, Pastor Steve



Moderator's Message

Greetings Everyone,

The sun is shining bright and it's a beautiful day as I sit down to write my first 'Message from the Moderator'. I can't help but to think of all the good times to come as we begin to find ways to safely gather together again as Covid issues have begun to wind down.

These gatherings include our church services, in which we have just updated the Policies and Procedures List. Also, we are talking about ways to safely bring back our coffee and fellowship time following our church services. We are also talking about different outdoor events and activities to be held this summer, and into the fall as well. And, with all of that being said, we just received great news today! Starting this coming weekend, there will no longer be any restrictions to our building usage! This means that we are free to be anywhere in the building, and we can begin to resume with some of our 'normal' activities once again! How exciting and wonderful is that!? Very soon, you will be hearing about great things to come as plans

are carefully being made and finalized. I will do my best to be sure that everyone stays informed as we move forward.

Just a reminder: The health and safety of anyone who enters our church building or participates in any events or activities on our church grounds, will continue to be our first concern. This will remain front and center as we continue to plan into the future.

Speaking of future, I am so excited for what is to come, and I know you will be too!

Lastly, please feel free to come to me with any questions or concerns. I am more than happy to listen and to have a conversation with anyone at anytime.

Be well and be blessed,
Kathy Ahl



June Birthdays

- 1 Yvonne O'Brien
- 2 Catherine Swail
- 2 Peggy Webber
- 5 Heidi Tyler
- 12 Steve Wilterdink
- 16 Kathy Werther
- 19 Melissa Phillips
- 19 Tim Tyler
- 21 Andrew Frenia

- 21 Jeff Phillips
- 25 Barbara King



Church Ladies' Lunch

3rd Tuesday of each Month at noon
This Month, Tuesday, 15th

**McArdles
Fairport**

All women of the church are welcome!
If you need a ride or wish to carpool please
contact Marie at 425-7528



Thank You

Thanks to the deacons for your prayers for my husband, Mike.

Thank you Pastor Steve for praying with me when I needed prayer most.

Everything turned out beautifully and my husband feels better and has returned to work.

Prayer is the best medicine!

Saundra



Note from the Trustees

Good news! We seem to have the squirrel problem, reported last month, under control. Also Sarah and Jeff Phillips will soon be painting the peeling and rusting north doors on the education building.

Our church has had two dumpsters in our parking lot for many years; one for paper/cardboard ONLY and the other for church garbage. We have encouraged our members and others to contribute to the paper dumpster. The "garbage" dumpster is for church use only.

There is an ongoing issue with someone putting inappropriate items in both dumpsters. Recently we discovered a large amount of styrofoam packing material in the paper dumpster. We have discovered plastic, bubble wrap, cans, beer bottles, nails and other *GARBAGE* in the paper dumpster. In the garbage/trash dumpster we have found cement, furniture, doors, a grill with small propane cylinders and other building materials that are definitely not church or PVNS related.

All solutions we have discussed (security cameras, locks) seem fine until we discover the negative implications. We plan to work with our dumpster company for a solution that will work for the Church and PVNS.



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



Pastor Steve Returns to His Office Tuesday, June 1st

Effective Tuesday, June 1st, Pastor Steve will be back in the Pastor's Study regular hours, 9am to noon, Tuesdays through Fridays.

The church will be open for visitors.

However, if you decide to visit, out of an abundance of caution, we ask that you wear a mask, whether vaccinated or not. Likewise, Sandra and Pastor Steve will also don masks when we receive visitors.



Missions Report

During June the Missions Team will present the *One Great Hour of Sharing* offering, a ministry of the American Baptist World Relief Office. This year's theme is "Let Love Flow" based on Isaiah 49:8-12. Through global partnerships, your offerings will be used to promote food security; enable health and wellness programs; support education and vocational training and provide access to clean, safe water.

In May mission offerings of \$500 each were sent to Rochester Crozier Divinity School and Penfield Coalition of Churches for Flower City Habitat for Humanity.

Due to the Covid 19 pandemic Flower City Habitat for Humanity went from building nearly twenty houses per year down to four. Our Penfield Coalition of Churches sponsored house was one of those four. We partnered to rebuild a zombie home at 77 Melville St. We held a ground breaking and Blessing ceremony in early fall of 2020 and with the completion of the house held a Home Dedication ceremony on April 24, 2021 all under strict Covid protocols. It was live streamed and a video can be viewed at www.facebook.com/RocHabitat/Live. Flower City Habitat has partnered with the City of Rochester, the Rochester Land Bank, Enterprise Community Partners and the ESL Federal Credit Union to try to eliminate zombie homes in the community.

Rebuilding homes and neighborhoods does not happen overnight, but it can happen. The 100 houses that Flower City Habitat built has fully transformed the Josana neighborhood in Rochester. Our Penfield Area Coalition has sponsored and volunteered labor on 12 of those houses in 22 years. The Penfield faith-in-action coalition was started in 1996 and First Baptist Penfield joined in 1997.

Special thanks and recognition to Dick Andrews who was on the early steering committee and continued to shepherd the work of Habitat for Humanity within our church up until 2013.

Your Mission Team,
Sue, Janette & Ellen



Adult Discussion in June

**June 6 - Session 6 This Isn't Easy,
But it is Good.**

June 13 - Hot Potatoes With Don Fox

**June 20 - no adult Discussion
Father' s Day**

June 27 - Church Picnic



Church Picnic!

**June 27, 2021 (no rain date)
Starts at 10:45am – 11:00am**

Heritage Park behind FBCP parking lot.

Completely catered. No charge.
Bathrooms in new fellowship hall.

Tents, tables and some chairs will be
provided, or bring your own lawn chair.

Come one and all to get together to share a
meal before the start of summer.

Please call or e-mail Sandra at the church
office no later than June 24, 2021 to make a
reservation.



**Cookies and Lemonade
at Roger's House
May 23, 2021**



Updated Covid Church Policies and Procedures

Dear First Baptist Family and Friends,

This past Sunday evening, May 23rd, The Reimagine Team came together to review the church policies and procedures relating to Covid. We started by reviewing CDC updates, and updates from NYS as well. (I have included both links at the end of the list.) With that, as a team, we felt comfortable eliminating some of the items from our church's current policies and procedures list. We also considered what was left and very carefully decided on some updates to the remainder of the list. These decisions were made while keeping in mind the best interest of the church and its members and friends. It is important that we each take a few minutes to review this list. If anyone has any questions or concerns, please feel free to talk to myself or any member of The Reimagine Team.

Thank you, and may God bless each and every one of us, and may he help us to look out for one another, so that we can be happy, healthy and safe together!

Kathy Ahl, Moderator

The Reimagine Team - Mike Pray, Pastor Steve, Don Fox, Fritz May, Sue McNally, Jeff Phillips, Marie Sandman, David Trump, Gina Blackman, Kathy Ahl.

Policies and Procedures for Church Services Updated May 23, 2021

1. Church Entry - People will continue to enter through the ramp door only. All other doors will remain closed and locked, unless in the event of an emergency.
2. Sanitizing Hand Gel and Face Masks - Both will continue to be available for anyone who chooses to use them.
3. Church Bulletins will be available upon entering the sanctuary.
4. Ushers and their responsibilities will once again resume.
5. FULLY VACCINATED - People may enter the sanctuary and join in the service, with or without a face mask, and practice social distancing when necessary, while respecting the wishes of others around them.
6. NOT VACCINATED or NOT FULLY VACCINATED - People are expected to continue wearing a face mask and to keep it on for the entire service, and continue to practice social distancing when necessary while being aware and respecting the wishes of those around them. Attending the church service online is also encouraged.
7. About the Children - As 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.

8. Children's Moment - If the person giving the children's message is in the sanctuary, and provided there are children in the sanctuary that will be participating, the message giver will always be required to wear a face mask, whether fully vaccinated or not.

9. 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.

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

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

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

13. The regular Sunday Worship Services will continue to be available electronically, over-the-phone, and on the on-line ZOOM platform.

CDC <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated-guidance.html>

NYS

https://www.governor.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2021-05/NYS_CDCGuidance_Summary.pdf

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

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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
Francesca Lionetta, Luisa Hidalgo, Jeremy Lopez,

Kevin Spooner ~ 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 1:00 pm

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.