

The Carillon

First Baptist Church of Penfield



2021

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Pastor's Meditation

When Overwhelmed

After the death of Moses the servant of the LORD, the LORD said to Joshua son of Nun, Moses' aide: ² "Moses my servant is dead. Now then, you and all these people, get ready to cross the Jordan River into the land I am about to give to them—to the Israelites. ³ I will give you every place where you set your foot, as I promised Moses.⁴ Your territory will extend from the desert to Lebanon, and from the great river, the Euphrates—all the Hittite country—to the Mediterranean Sea in the west. ⁵ No one will be able to stand against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you. ⁶ Be strong and courageous, because you will lead these

people to inherit the land I swore to their ancestors to give them.

⁷ "Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go. ⁸ Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful. ⁹ Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go." - Joshua 1:1-9 (NIV)

This passage records the day that Joshua received a call from God to shepherd one million Israelites out of the wilderness and into the Promised Land. Quite a daunting task! In an era of mega-churches, pastors are sometimes called to lead thousands of believers. But, as of press time, no pastor has anywhere near a one million-person flock! And no pastor ever gets guaranteed success, but God guaranteed Joshua's success: "I will give you every place where you set your foot...No one will be able to stand against you all of the days of your life."

Despite these "can't lose" promises, Joshua must have felt weak or afraid. This is

probably why God repeatedly told Joshua, “Be strong and courageous.” In the span of just nine verses, God said “Be strong and very courageous” not once, not twice, but three times! God must have been trying to reassure an understandably weak and anxious Joshua.

Another peculiar aspect of Joshua’s call: he wasn’t told to get ready for battle, at least, in the traditional way. Throughout the centuries, when one nation intends to conquer another, it mobilizes troops. It equips soldiers and trains them for combat. Instead, Joshua was told to, *“Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful.”*

In preparation for the battles he was about to fight, Joshua was not instructed to train like a soldier. Instead, God encouraged Joshua to seek the source of True Power to fulfill this calling; God himself. Perhaps you are not called to shepherd a million souls, but maybe you feel overwhelmed, as surely Joshua did on the day he was called. Perhaps, unlike with Joshua, success is not guaranteed. We do not preach the “Prosperity Gospel” in our church. Some of us do not reach what the earth calls “success.” But there is no reason you can’t grow closer to God. Read the scriptures and meditate. Think about God day and night. God has the power to help you overcome the most daunting of tasks;

including death itself. As promised, Joshua reached the Promised Land. Whether in this life or the next, we will, too!

In Christ,
Pastor Steve



Moderator's Message

Greetings Church Family and Friends,
...and hello August 2021!

This is the time of year when we tend to step back a bit from our regular church activities to spend time with our family and friends as we enjoy this beautiful summer season. I know that we all wish the best for each other during this time and look forward to catching up as we come together again in September.

So, with September just around the corner, there are meetings scheduled and planning being done for different activities to take place this coming fall. There will be great activities to participate in for people of all ages. As details become available, the information will be communicated at announcement time during Sunday church services, in weekly bulletins, emails, and The Carillon. Please stay tuned for what's to come.

Until then, best wishes for a safe and wonderful August!

Blessings to all!

Kathy Ahl, Moderator

August Birthdays

5 Beverly Symonds
5 Rev. Berta M. Arnold
11 Carolyn Fry
15 Pauline Bennett
18 Sarah Stokes
20 Jim Symonds
27 Jacob Trabert
29 Bob Foltz



Note from the Trustees

There is excitement brewing about creating a youth group this fall. Plans are under way to use the existing nursery room as the youth room. The nursery will be moved to the current meeting room (old library), located opposite the church office. The meeting room will revert to the old conference room (off Old Fellowship Hall), where so many of us remember having meetings in the past. Plans are to remove the table, currently is in the conference room, and replace it with the table presently in the meeting room. Putting the youth room on the second floor provides accessibility to any youth who might have a need to use the elevator. We are excited to have a designated gathering place for our youth.

If anyone is interested in the sturdy table that is currently in the conference room, contact Fritz at 585- 223-6795.

The driveways and parking lot were sealcoated and striped on Thursday, July 22nd. All of the preparation, sealing and stripping was done in one day. The church was inaccessible for 2 days total. We shouldn't have to repeat this process for another 4 to 5 years.

Respectfully,

Bruce Blackman, Don Fox, Fritz May, Jack O'Brien, 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



Church Ladies' Lunch

Tuesday, August 17th at noon

Genesee Brewery at High Falls

All women of the church are welcome!

Please RSVP to Pat Heckman

Phone # (585) -381-3498



New Address for Agnes Nichols

Agnes Nichols

Ashley Woods Assisted Living/Memory Care

400 YMCA, Room 8

Penfield, NY 14526



Missions Report

We are excited to let you know that our congregation embraced the One Great Hour of Sharing **Let Love Flow** campaign and raised \$1,140 to help. As we sang together, "My greatest time of need was your one great hour to share." Thank you for being, "an instrument of grace" for the many people who struggle to survive.

Knowing that the needs of our community do not take a summer vacation, the Missions Team has sent \$1,000 from our budget to the Rochester Genesee Region of the American Baptist Churches USA. RGR is an important resource for our church, and we want to support their values of respect, Godly justice and reconciliation in doing their work. Also, as it is the time to prepare children to return to school in September, \$250 is being sent to the Open Door Mission Coldwater Road Home for Women and Children to help with the cost of necessary school supplies and clothing.

Let's all keep the love flowing--
Sue, Ellen, Janette



4th Of July Parade



A special thanks to Pat Casey for sharing these beautiful pictures.



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



We have 2 methods of receiving the monthly newsletter.

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

Method 2—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

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, 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

Wednesdays may vary

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.