

The Carillon

First Baptist Church of Penfield



2020

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Pastor's Meditation

Happy Easter, Everybody!

This month marks the beginning of the Lenten Season. *Easter? Already? Didn't we just finish Christmas?* Yes, but unlike Christmas, Easter's date can come earlier one year than it did another. Easter is known as a "Moveable Feast," meaning its date changes each year.

During the First Council of Nicea in 325 A.D. Easter's date was then arranged to be the first Sunday after the first Paschal full moon after the Vernal Equinox. *Paschal full moon? Vernal Equinox? What do these mean?*

According to farmersalmanac.com, "Simply speaking, the Paschal Full Moon is the first full Moon after the spring equinox. Also

called the Egg Moon, this Moon sometimes occurs in March and sometimes in April. The word Paschal means "Passover" in Greek (a transliteration of the Hebrew word *pesach*)." According to Britannica.com: "Vernal equinox [is] two moments in the year when the Sun is exactly above the Equator and day and night are of equal length; also, either of the two points in the sky where the ecliptic (the Sun's annual pathway) and the celestial equator intersect. In the Northern Hemisphere the vernal equinox falls about March 20 or 21, as the Sun crosses the celestial equator going north. In the Southern Hemisphere the equinox occurs on September 22 or 23, when the Sun moves south across the celestial equator."

For us here in the Northern hemisphere, Easter is basically the first full moon in Spring. (For people in the Southern Hemisphere, Easter is basically the first full moon in Fall). In 2020, Easter's date will be April 12. The Lenten season begins 6 weeks before Easter. Calculating backward, Ash Wednesday this year is February 26, and the first Sunday of Lent is March 1st.

The word "Lent" originally meant "Spring." As I write this, it's cold outside and snow is on the ground. *Spring? By February 26? Wouldn't that be nice!* But, there's more going on here than the oft-confusing workings of the church year. *The date is unimportant. What's important is what can happen in our hearts during Lent, if we let it.*

Lent was established as a 40-day experience for believers, in honor of Jesus' 40 days in the wilderness. As recorded in the gospel of Luke, Jesus denied himself food and companionship for an extended period of time, so that he could prove his calling as the Son of God. The Enemy rose up to tempt him, but, using Scripture, Jesus resisted. At the end of temptation, Jesus' confirmed what he already knew. After receiving nutrition and care, Jesus walked into the synagogue, opened up the scriptural scroll, and shared that his life had fulfilled a prophecy from the Book of Isaiah, chapter 61. And there was way more to come.

In the same manner, Lent is our opportunity to cast off all the earthly distractions and focus on our true calling. I believe that God has called each and every one of us to do something big or small for the Kingdom of God. But there's a lot of distractions competing for our attention. I am working on one of my distractions right now, a bit early. I encourage you to pray and see what your distractions are and see if God would like you to remove one. Use this time like Jesus did, to confirm what you already know: that Jesus died for all your sins, that God loves you unconditionally, and the Holy Spirit invites you to do something big or small. All this can happen regardless of what the calendar says. Happy Easter, everybody!



February Birthdays

- 7 Michael Sparnecht
- 9 Patricia Heckman
- 11 Linda Boesl
- 15 Martha Britt
- 20 Caitlin Trabert
- 20 Vickie Johnston
- 21 Jack O'Brien
- 22 Melissa Trabert
- 22 Pat Casey
- 26 Douglas Fisler



Men's Lunch **Thursdays at Noon**

- February 6th** – Riki's
- February 13th** - Riki's
- February 20th** - Riki's
- February 27th** – Riki's

The Men's Lunch will be held at Riki's until further notice. The Cherry Ridge lunch area will be under construction for a time.



Church Ladies' Lunch **Tuesday, February 18th**

Place – Jeremiah's

All Women are welcome!

Please RSVP!

If you need a ride or wish to carpool, please contact Marie at 425-7528



Note from the Trustees

This month the Trustees are sharing their responsibilities as described in the Constitution and By-Laws. Section 13 expounds on the trustees' responsibilities in detail. The following list is a summation of the responsibilities:

- Maintenance, oversight and control of the buildings and grounds
- Hiring, supervision and dismissal of the non-professional staff, including office and maintenance staff
- Creation and presentation of the Financial Budget to the Congregation
- Manage the general financial affairs of the Church
- Supervision of the endowment funds investments
- Oversight of fundraising projects which are not mission oriented
- Maintenance of existing and upgrading of technology
- Designate a Stewardship Committee to coordinate the Stewardship Campaign
- Approve Memorial Fund expenses

If you are interested in serving on the Board of Trustees please contact a Trustee.

Bruce Blackman, Don Fox, Fritz May,
Jack O'Brien or Sarah Phillips



Financial Thoughts

Anyone who asked for pledge envelopes should have one by now. If you would still like weekly envelopes, they are available for the asking.

2019 Contribution Statements were mailed January 16th. If you have any questions, please contact me.

If you review the Annual Report, you will see that only 48 of our members actually declare a financial pledge to Our Church. This is the money the Trustees use to pay the salaries, utilities, make repairs, and provide programs. You will also note that 50% of those pledges have not increased this past year. In fact, more than half of those have not changed in more than 5 years. As we all know from our own households, expenses go up over time. So, when you ask Our Church to spend money on an important project, remember they have less money in this year's budget than last years. **WE CAN CHANGE THAT BY GIVING.....**

Bill Werther
Financial Secretary

Coffee Hour Schedule
February 2020-June 2020

February

- 2nd Stokes/Prays
- 9th Scouts
- 16th Judy McNeil/Marsha Kiriazides
- 23rd Phillips

March

- 1st Goodmans
- 8th Phillips
- 15th Collisons
- 22nd TBD
- 29th TBD

April

- 5th Judy McNeil/Marsha Kiriazides
- 12th Ginna Blackman
- 19th Stokes/Prays
- 26th Phillips

May

- 3rd Martha Britt/Sarah Phillips
- 10th Mother's Day TBD
- 17th Judy McNeil/Marsha Kiriazides
- 24th Goodmans
- 31st Phillips

June

- 7th Stokes/Prays

- 14th Ginna Blackman
- 21st Goodmans



Thank You!

The Missions Committee would like to shout-out a big Thank You to all of you who donated pajamas, socks and underwear for the children at the Open Door Mission's Coldwater Road House for homeless women and children.

In a recent conversation with Christopher Scribani, he offered thanks for the contributions from our church and also asked that we pray for the efforts of the Open Door Mission to restore hope and improve lives.

The support the Missions Committee has received from the congregation spurs us on. We look forward to an exciting and rewarding 2020.

Janette, Sue, Ellen



Dear Church Family,

Thank you for always supporting our many adventures! Whether it's candy, cookies, or your kind words of encouragement, we appreciate you!

With gratitude,
Joseph, Jenna, and Lauren



Interested in expanding your theological knowledge?

Consider Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School. Day, evening, weekend, and some online classes are offered for your convenience.

Take a course or two or consider our Certificate program (The School for Christian Leadership).

We also have Master's Degrees in Master of Divinity, and MA degrees in Religious and Theological Studies. Doctoral programs also available.

**WE ARE NOW LOCATED IN VILLAGE
GATE, STOP IN FOR A TOUR OF OUR
NEW CAMPUS!
320 SOUTH GOODMAN STREET,
SUITE 207**

ROCHESTER, NY 14607

**Contact Deanna Pfluke, Director of
Admissions
dpfluke@crcds.edu or (585) 340-9500**



Calendar Update

2/2 COMMUNION Christian: Not what you think #5 & #6

2/9 Scout Sunday – 2nd hour reception

2/15 Flapjack

2/16 Christian: Not what you think #7 & #8

2/23 possible adult discussion

2/26 Ash Wednesday



Flapjack Benefit Breakfast

Saturday, February 15th

8 am – 10 am

We serve an all you can eat breakfast of delicious pancakes, pure maple syrup, scrambled eggs, sausage, and more for just \$6.00 per person!

All February proceeds will go directly to help support: Refugees Helping Refugees

**First Baptist Church of Penfield
1862 Penfield Rd.
585-586-2876
www.fbpenfield.org**



Moderator's Musings

Dear Church,

A couple weeks ago Yvonne called me with her news and asked me if I would consider taking on the duties of the moderator. Without hesitation, I said yes. Not only because I respect and appreciate Yvonne- and would help her in any way that I could- but also because I am proud to be a part of First Baptist Penfield and the potential that I think our church holds for doing good in our community.

Directly after I said yes, I asked Yvonne if Jeff Phillips, being the immediate past moderator, might be a better choice and she pointed me to our constitution which reads "the Moderator-Elect shall act on behalf of the Moderator in his or her absence." So here I am!

Over the next few months my position will be that of Acting Moderator and there will be an election for this position at the April continuation of the Annual Meeting. **And speaking of the Annual Meeting in April, it will be on Sunday, April 19th.**

Lastly, the great Yogi Berra once said...or may have said....or didn't say, "We have a good time together, even when we're not together." This makes me think of Flapjack Saturday, the Bible Study Group, the Women's and Men's luncheons, VBS, both

Choirs, and the many mission endeavors we are involved in. I think it speaks to family and connection and faith. I think it speaks to community and the community that we are continually building here at First Baptist Penfield.

I am honored to serve in the building of that community and I hope that you will join me in sharing our community with others- whether we are together or not together- as the saying goes!

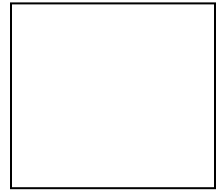
Peace and Understanding,

Michael Pray



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
Francesca Lionetta, Luisa Hidalgo, Jeremy Lopez,

Kevin Spooner ~ Choral Scholars

Sandra 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.*