

The Carillon

First Baptist Church of Penfield



2022

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Pastor's Meditation February 2022

For the first several weeks of 2022, our Wednesday 6pm Prayer Meeting will begin with a devotional reading from Henri Nouwen's *The Way of the Heart*. *The Way of the Heart* is a short book, devoted to the lessons learned from "The Desert Fathers," (and mothers), several third-century Egyptian Christians who fled cities and villages and lived alone, trying to encounter God. The most famous Desert Father is Anthony the Great. As a young man, Anthony gave away a large inheritance and moved to the desert, living as a hermit for many years. During that time, his faith was tested when he experienced temptations and visions. After

decades of subsisting in the desert environment, one might have expected him to return to society sickly and weak. Instead, he returned a healthy and well-adjusted man, having conquered, with God's help, his "demons." People found him a source of helpful advice for over 50 years, until his death at age 105. Nouwen makes the case that Anthony encountered God in solitude, and we can, too. Scriptures support this notion. Jesus said, "But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you." (Matthew 6:6)

After nearly two years of pandemic-fueled isolation, you may ask, "Go to my room and shut the door? It's been like that for 23 months now! How could I possibly need more solitude?" Loneliness is indeed our society's problem and increased mental illness is its symptom. However, *the concept of solitude does not mean loneliness. It means being alone with God, who is there to minister to your needs*. The purpose of solitude is not to run away from others, but to create the quiet conditions necessary for us to hear the whispering voice of God, as Elijah did in 1 Kings chapters 18 and 19.

One may wonder, "Why would Protestants read about the Desert Fathers? Aren't they more a concern of Catholicism or Orthodoxy?" Truth is, the era of the Desert Fathers pre-dates the Eastern Orthodoxy -

Catholic church split of 1054A.D. by about 700 years, and pre-dates the Protestant Reformation by about 1200 years. Therefore, the men and women who fled to the desert rightfully belong to every Christian tradition.

More importantly, what they learned is eternal truth. Spending time alone with God belongs in every Christian's walk of faith. While we have life and breath, it is important to shut off the noise. We pray together every Sunday morning and on Wednesdays at 1pm and 6pm. But other times through each week, it is our job as Christians to be alone and silently pray and wait for the whisper of God. Please join us for Wednesday night prayer group, and let Henri Nouwen describe how, in your alone times, you can hear God's whisper.

In Christ, Pastor Steve



Message From The Moderator

Hello Church Family and Friends,

Here we are in February 2022. With our January Congregational Meeting Part I, now in the past, we begin to start preparing for what will be presented at our April Congregational Meeting Part II. We will be taking a close look at our teams and committees. There are some members with terms that expire effective in April of this year.

Now, I know that we are currently operating in a state that we never been in before. However, I know that we will be back 'in person' soon. I also know that when we return, we will continue to have Covid Policies and Procedures in place to be followed, but we will be back and all of our 'in person' activities will resume.

With all of this being said, we need to have well functioning teams and committees in place. We need to have people on our teams who are ready and willing to work together to carry out their team responsibilities. Our future depends on this.

Between now and April, we will be searching for people to join teams and committees where openings are going to appear. Some of you will be contacted to confirm your status moving forward as a current team member. Others will be contacted and asked to consider joining a team. I am asking that we all prayerfully consider any suggestions or recommendations that may come forth to us in this process. We can not operate without our teams and committees in place and dedicated to carry out their team responsibilities.

Let's work together to push through these current issues we are faced with and work to come back together to Glorify God in 2022!

I am excited for this! I pray that you are too.

Thank you.

Kathy Ahl, Moderator



February Birthdays

7 Michael Sparnecht
9 Patricia Heckman
10 Peter Trabert
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



Missions Team

Winter surely has arrived in the Rochester area! The Missions Team has held our first meeting of the new year. We decided to make a contribution to the Open Door Mission to help keep people warm and fed as the bitter cold weather makes being outside dangerous. One only has to look outside at the blowing snow to know without a doubt that homeless people must be brought inside before they suffer frostbite, hypothermia or worse in the freezing, brutal temperatures.

Planning has also begun for a spring food collection on April 2nd for the Penfield Ecumenical Food Shelf. They will be providing extra food for Easter dinners and they do appreciate the donations from our congregation for their holiday meal

distributions. More details will be in the March Carillon.

Do communicate with our team if you have any questions, comments, or know of a need that we should be considering.

Sue, Ellen, Janette



How to Join Sunday Worship Service by Phone

Dial in by phone to join each Sunday's virtual service starting at 9 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 -----> #



Note from the Trustees

Have you missed hearing the hourly chimes coming from our church as you drive down Penfield Road? Unfortunately, our Carillon hasn't been working for several months. Usually we can hear a chime on the quarter hour, on the hours between 9:00 am and 9:00 pm and a hymn at noon.

Our Carillon was purchased in 1962 and provided chiming bells for many years. In 2001 a task force was created to look into repairing or replacing the aging unit. In 2002 a decision was made to upgrade the Mass-Rowe unit that we already owned. The unit was upgraded from the mechanical Chronbell unit to a digital unit. The 8-Track tape player was replaced by a compact disk player and the timing system was up graded to a digital clock. Additional upgrades included a new amplifier, output drivers and a wireless remote control. The remote serves as a "panic switch" to immediately silence the Carillon or to activate the Carillon for special occasions from anywhere on the property.

Once again, we are faced with the Carillon not working. Jeff Phillips and Chris Ahl are evaluating the Carillon mechanics, to determine if it can be repaired or needs to be replaced. Hopefully, once again, we will hear the hourly chimes and the noon hymn. We will keep you posted.

Respectfully,

Don Fox, Fritz May, Jack O'Brien, Sarah Phillips, Mike Pray, 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



Contribution Updates:

The 2021 Contribution Statements were mailed January 19, 2022. Please review your statement for accuracy.

Envelopes are available for anyone wanting them for 2022.

Assigned and not picked up envelope boxes are in the church office.

You may mail any contributions to the church or use Pay Pal for a small fee.

Bill Werther
Financial Secretary



Adult Discussion Schedule

First Baptist Church of Penfield

On Zoom and in NFH

You Were Made For This Moment, DVD
series by Max Lucado

There is a story in the Bible that reminds us of this truth, a book by the name of Esther. Remember Esther? She found herself smack dab in the middle of political upheaval, cultural divides, and family drama, to say the least. When faced with a royal decree that would annihilate her people, Esther had to make some tough choices. Would she remain silent or would she speak up? Would she blend in or would she stand out? Would she trust that God could use her to save a nation or would she cower in fear?

Like Esther, you may be staring down a seemingly impossible situation. And what's true for Esther is true for you: Deliverance will come. God will have his victory. He will rescue his people. He will right the wrongs of this world.

The question is not, *Will God prevail?* The question is, *Will you be part of the team?* You, like Esther, can act in a way that will bless more people than you could imagine. This is your moment.

Your challenge is an opportunity to join God in His work. You don't need to become undone by tough times. You can become

unleashed by our triumphant god. You, my friend, were made for this moment.

**Series runs 11:00am after Worship,
on Zoom.**



Zoom Instructions for Adult Discussion

**Adult Discussion Following Worship
11:00-NOON**

Zoom Only until Further Notice!

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)

Meeting ID: 845 6042 1536

Find your local number:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/u/ksL2GCIc>

Please save this Zoom information

Covid Policies and Procedures *Revised

Tuesday December 14, 2021

1. Church Entry and Exit - People will continue to enter through the ramp door to ensure mandatory sign in should we need to contact trace. Following the church service, attendees may leave the sanctuary in whatever way is most convenient. Masks must still be worn throughout the indoor areas of all buildings.
2. Face Masks and Sanitizing Hand Gel - Both will continue to be available at the entrance for anyone who needs them.
3. FULLY VACCINATED - At the present time, fully vaccinated people should enter the sanctuary, join in the service wearing a face mask, keep it on for the entire service 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 an offering plate 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://mappingmonroe.maps.arcgis.com/apps/dashboards/217749730f174776a3896b3e8950e03b>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

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

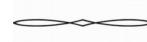
Fellowship Hall Covid Precautions **(Updated 12/5/2021)**

Anyone attending Coffee & Fellowship Time 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.

Thank you.

Kathy Ahl, Moderator



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.*