

# The Carillon

First Baptist Church of Penfield



2023

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### Pastor's Meditation

#### *Remember*

Since I've been Pastor here, three groups of people from First Baptist Church and have read the Bible with me. We're on our 3<sup>rd</sup> time through. This time, one historical event that stood out to me is "back when they forgot Passover."

During King Hezekiah's reign of the Southern Kingdom, which is recorded in 2 Chronicles, 2 Kings, Isaiah and to some extent, the Psalms, the Northern Kingdom fell to the Assyrians. Trying to avoid such a disaster

upon his Kingdom, Hezekiah made holiness a priority. He ordered that all the idols and false places of worship be destroyed. He brought back Levite Priests to restore the Holy Temple in Jerusalem. In the process of cleansing the Temple, the priests re-discovered God's instructions for an annual Passover celebration. Passover, first prescribed in the Book of Exodus, was perhaps the holiest season of the year – and both Kingdoms had forgotten all about it – perhaps for hundreds of years!

It's hard for us today to imagine forgetting Passover. Many of us were "schooled" by Cecil B. DeMille's *The Ten Commandments* movie of 1956, which was shown annually on free TV for at least 40 years, making Passover relatively fresh in American minds. As a result of that movie, even non-Jews know something about Passover. Last month, during our Maundy Thursday service, we read the passage in Exodus that referred to Passover (because Jesus' "Last Supper" was a Passover Meal.)

So, back in Hezekiah's time, the people forgot Passover. Why was that a problem? As the King considered the consequences for his nation, he saw lots of problems, simply put: God had stopped blessing them. Hezekiah said, "The wrath of the LORD came upon Judah and Jerusalem and he has made them an object of horror, of astonishment, and of hissing...Our fathers have fallen by the sword

and our sons and our daughters and our wives are in captivity for this.” (2 Chronicles 2: 8-9). All because they forgot to remember the

Passover. Hezekiah reinstated Passover and preserved his Kingdom for another 100 years.

There is power in remembrance. On Memorial Day, we remember those who died trying to preserve our nation. The richest, most powerful nation on earth often pivots wildly between an uneasy calm and an unhinging crisis. In crisis, we depend on soldiers’ willingness to sacrifice (though I pray we never take advantage of that). If we are honest, we know that we are utterly dependent on them. Much more so are we dependent on God. Think of those times that God delivered you from illness, financial distress, loss of a relationship or some other feared calamity. Don’t forget about it. Instead, stay close to the One who brought you through bad times and can do it again. In remembrance, we throw away our illusions of somehow being independent of God’s help. In remembrance, we consider those times when we absolutely *needed God*. Remembrance connects us with our true nature as human beings: imperfect, vulnerable, often-surrounded by peril, dancing on the head of a pin and utterly dependent on the Divine. We correctly say, “But for the Grace of God, go I.” When times are good, it’s easy to forget, but forgetting somehow hurts us. Instead, we must remember, for there is power in remembrance.

In Christ, Pastor Steve

**May Birthdays**

5 Donald Fox  
8 Bob Klos

10 Mary Durkee  
12 Darcy Britt  
13 Janette Keenan  
16 Dietlinde Payne  
17 Christopher Britt  
19 Bruce Blackman  
19 Joshua Goodman  
20 Diane Donatelle  
21 Noah Pray  
23 Joshua Britt  
26 Pastor Steve  
27 Kermit Slye  
29 Tim Green



**Church Ladies’ Lunch**

**Tuesday, May 16<sup>th</sup> at Noon  
Flaherty’s in Macedon.**

**113 Pittsford Palmyra Road.  
Across from Wayside Garden Center.**



**Men’s Lunch**

**Thursdays at Noon  
Riki’s Restaurant in Fairport**



### Notes from the Trustees

The ramp used for entering the church building was built and dedicated in 1986. Our thirty seven year old ramp is showing signs of deterioration and will be repaired this year. A break in the cement where the ramp meets the flat area is collecting dirt which will encourage further failure of the cement. Also, one of the footers is showing signs of flaking. These masonry repairs will be paid for using funds from the Wallin-Ramp/Elevator fund.

Recently you should have received a letter from the Trustees about the Capital Fund Drive to cover the unexpected roof replacement on the east side of the Old Fellowship Hall and recent tree removals. Contributions to the fund can be made by check, the Donate Button on our website or using an envelope located in the pews. The Capital Drive was approved at the January Annual Meeting.

Respectfully,

Don Fox, Fritz May, Jack O'Brien, Mike Pray,  
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 Financial Procedures**

I have been recording and depositing all money that comes to our church for over 15 years. Jeff Bertrand is the second Treasurer I have worked with during that time. We have very distinct duties and while we coordinate account labels, fund numbers and data entry; the only common item is that we are responsible to the Trustees.

Our computer software, Power Church Plus, is designed to provide all the data recording a church requires and allows users to have access by password that is linked to specific limited access within the system. There are four users, Pastor Steve, Sandra, Jeff, and me. All of us have different access rights within the system.

Pastor and Sandra can only access names, addresses, photos, and birthdays. I can access all those as well as enter pledge values, record every penny that comes to the church, print quarterly statements, do weekly deposits, and print weekly reports detailed and general. The detail is seen only by me and is locked in a cabinet only I have a key to. It is kept 10 years and then destroyed. The general report goes to Jeff Bertrand and Pastor Steve. It only shows dollar amounts opposite key account headings such as: Pledged Income, Loose Offerings, Coffee Hour Funds, Memorial Funds, etc. No names ever appear on any report other than my locked detailed weekly report. When I “post” my deposits weekly, the data is transferred to Jeff’s side of

the system. Jeff sees the funds entered by general categories. He pays all the bills incurred by the church and works with the payroll company. Jeff also receives the Pay Pal Funds and sends me a copy of the contributors weekly for my recording. (Those funds go directly into our bank account.)

Church checks are generated on this system and printed by Jeff. Fritz May signs all the checks.

No one in the congregation, but me, can see what any Individual contributes to the church. Unless someone were to ask me to disclose something on their behalf, I would never say a word. I assume if an individual wants someone to know about a financial gift, they would tell them directly.

Lastly, the financial information is kept in the church office on one computer. All checks are in the office as well. I back up the data weekly when I complete my recording.

I hope this will provide an overview of money handling at First Baptist Penfield.

Bill Werther  
Financial Secretary



**Missions Report**

The Missions Team was pleased to have Cathy Kamp from **Penfield Hope**, Inc. come to speak during the 2nd Hour on March 26th. Penfield Hope, located at 1771 Penfield Road, is a social ministry of St Joseph's Church. Their outreach is, "walking with clients on a path to family and housing stability." The Missions team has recently sent \$500 to Penfield Hope. We support them as a community "partner," recognizing that they are equipped to serve local people's complex needs in a broad and hands-on manner. \$500 was also sent to the **Penfield Ecumenical Food Shelf** in support of local families who struggle with food insecurity.

We sent \$500 to **Cameron Community Ministries** following the massive warehouse fire in their neighborhood. Cameron reached out to 5 families who were displaced from their housing because of smoke and water damage. We wanted to help with items like microwavable food, diapers, baby formula, personal hygiene items--all needed by these people while they had to be in temporary housing.

We have been told that \$1,880 is the total amount that was collected at our church for the **One Great Hour of Sharing** offering for earthquake victims in Turkey and Syria. Again, we thank you for those much-needed donations.

During the month of June, the Missions Team will be helping with the American Baptist Church's **America for Christ Offering**. The theme for 2023 is, "Grace Upon Grace, inspired by John 1:16-17 (NRSV): "From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace..."

If you have an idea or a concern for the Missions Team, please contact us.  
Janette, Ellen, Susie



**How to Join Sunday  
Worship Service by Phone**

**Dial in by phone to join each Sunday's  
virtual service  
Zoom opens at 9 am  
Worship Service starts at 9:30 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 ----- > #\_**



**Adult Discussion Following Worship**

**11:15-NOON**

**This is a recurring meeting  
In person and on Zoom**

**Below is the Online Information**

**Join Zoom Meeting**

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

**Meeting ID: 845 6042 1536**

**Call-in information**

**+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)**

**Meeting ID: 845 6042 1536**



**Wednesday Zoom Prayer Group**

Please join Pastor Steve Wednesday for a Zoom Prayer Group Meeting. We will share our concerns and take them to God. Although we've scheduled a one-hour Zoom meeting, these are expected to end sooner. Please join us!

**1:00 pm Prayer Group:**

Zoom Computer Link:

**<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/950690121>**

**Meeting ID: 950 690 121**

**Phone users dial: 1-646-876-9923**

**When Prompted, enter**

**Meeting ID: 950 690 121**



**Bible Club Meeting****Wednesday, - Time: 6:00 pm****Online/Zoom**

**Please join us** as we begin reading the Bible, from start to finish, using *The Daily Contemplative Bible*, which has segmented the entire Bible into 365 daily readings. By the end of the year, we will have read the Bible cover-to-cover! Teaching & Worship Teams have provided the first 10 copies. If additional people participate, the cost is \$14 each. Electronic copies are also available for Kindle readers at a cost of \$10.

The New Revised Standard Version text—the most trusted, accepted, and accurate translation of the Bible on the market.

**How to join us online:****Join Zoom Meeting****<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86182075740>**

Meeting ID: 861 8207 5740

**Call-in:**

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

+1 646 931 3860 US

Meeting ID: 861 8207 5740







**First Baptist Church of Penfield's**  
**Bell Choir**

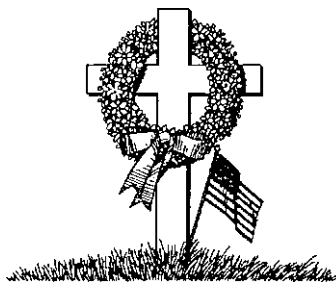


**In Memory of Veterans**  
**First Baptist Church of Penfield**

Edgar Anderson  
Elmer Andrews  
John Bartholomew  
Fred Beauter  
Arthur Bennett  
Althea Bilous  
Andrew Britt  
Lamond Brownell  
† Abel Case  
Pharcellus Church  
Richard Cleaver  
Walter Coleman  
John Cranch  
William Credit  
Marvin Darling  
Eugene Dewey  
†† Rex DeWispelaere  
†† Robert Funk, Jr.  
Robert Harris  
Earl Hockenbrough  
Roger Kussie  
Charles LeClear  
Harold Lindsay  
Marion Lindsay  
Guy McGowan  
Frank Mehlenbacher  
Philip Morse  
Stewart Nichols  
Bryant Parsons  
William Pearson  
Bob Rode  
Kenneth Thomson  
Robert Tiege  
Marvin Waddell

Walter Wadeikis  
Edward Wallin  
Orrin Weber

**† Died in Civil War**  
**†† Died in Vietnam War**



**In Memorium**

Margaret Militello remembers her brother,  
Frank Beltran, who died for his country in the  
Vietnam war.

**Who We Are**

The First Baptist Church of Penfield was established in 1804 in what is now an eastern suburb of Rochester, New York.

We are affiliated with American Baptist Churches of the Rochester/Genesee Region, and nationally with the American Baptist Churches, USA.

We welcome all to worship with us. Our congregation is a gathering of people who are diverse in theology and political opinions, but who are all seeking to know God in a deeper and more meaningful way.

The First Baptist Church of Penfield continues to include all who seek Jesus as Lord - regardless of race, class, gender, disability, place of origin, or sexual orientation, identity, or expression.

# **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](http://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](mailto: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

Samantha Sosa, Caroline Duers,

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](mailto:fbpenfield@toast.net)

Website ~ [www.fbpenfield.org](http://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.*