

The Carillon

First Baptist Church of Penfield



2022

In This Issue

<u>Pastor's Meditation</u>	<u>1</u>
<u>Church Garden Plots</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>May Birthdays</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>Pledges and Donations</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>Notes from the Trustees</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>Missions Report</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>A Heartfelt Thank You</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>Sharing Your Love with Altar Flowers</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>How to Join Sunday Service by Phone</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>Men's Lunch</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>How to Join Adult Discussion</u>	<u>6</u>
<u>Adult Discussion Schedule – May, 2022</u>	<u>6</u>
<u>Announcement – Optional Masking</u>	<u>7</u>
<u>Who We Are</u>	<u>7</u>

Pastor's Meditation

May 2022

Why Reach Out?

I know it doesn't seem that way right now - but summer is coming. As cold as it is, I guarantee that sometime in the next 3 months it will be hotter outside than you want it to be.

One of my earliest summer memories is of being 3 years old, in a swimming pool with other kids. I can't remember whose pool it was, but I do remember it was a circular pool which seemed huge to me. The water seemed deep. The other kids, much older and larger, splashed around in the middle of the pool, but not me. Not knowing how to swim, I made

my way around the pool by clinging to its sides. Despite not having full participation in the games the other kids were playing, I was having a great time.

Then, in a moment, I lost my grip. Maybe the side was wet and slippery. Maybe some of the other kids' splashing caused me to let go. At any rate, I started sinking. I kicked and flailed away, trying to grab the side again. My head went under once. I was too small for my feet to quickly hit bottom and bounce back. I somehow kicked-and-splashed my way back to the surface. I don't remember panicking, but I had a feeling of being overwhelmed, like maybe I might not make it.

Suddenly, I saw a hand above me, with one finger extended, reached out to me for me to take it. I grabbed it and was pulled up out of the water. I saw the hand was attached to my father, who had a look of concern on his face. "Are you all right?" he asked. I was fine. He set me up on the pool's deck with a towel, and I returned to the water within 5 minutes. I learned to swim shortly thereafter, and never experienced another incident like that.

For my father, I'm sure it was an insignificant event, quickly forgotten. Any parent would do it. But as I consider the years since, Dad saved my life. Many times I have since felt gratitude that Dad was there. And all he did was reach out to me.

There is a world of people, in Penfield and elsewhere, who don't know Jesus as Lord and

Savior. They'll gladly tell you they are good people, they work hard, know about God, or believe in Jesus, even that they pray sometimes. But, in reality, they are skimming the surface of faith. A turbulent world sends shock waves daily and threatens to make them lose their grip and go under. Surely, they feel overwhelmed at times. And all they need is for someone to reach out to them.

It is in encounters with these people that Christians really get the chance to be The Church. While he walked the earth, Jesus provided a few instructions, echoing the Old Testament admonition to "Love the Lord God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind," and "Love others as yourself." (*Mathew 22:37*). Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me." (*Matthew 16: 24*). Overall, He provided one commandment: "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you." (*John 15:12*) When the church chooses to act His way, people experience love and are rescued.

It's our job to reach out, but not everyone will respond. Just like my Dad's "rescue," it's up to the swimmer to take hold. It might not seem like much to us, but for those introduced to a relationship with Jesus, it is everything. One day they may say, "Thank God they reached out to me."

In Christ, Pastor Steve



Church Garden Plots

There are plots available in the church garden.

Please contact Annette Brotzman ASAP if you are interested. 724-678-0260.



May Birthdays

- 5 Donald Fox
- 10 Mary Durkee
- 12 Darcy Britt
- 13 Janette Keenan
- 16 Dietlinda Payne
- 17 Christopher Britt
- 19 Bruce Blackman
- 19 Joshua Goodman
- 20 Diane Donatelle
- 21 Noah Pray
- 23 Joshua Britt
- 26 Pastor Steve



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



Notes from the Trustees

Lighting in New Fellowship Hall

The Fellowship Hall lighting has been progressively failing. I asked an electrician, Rich Hanss, to meet with me to review the situation. He agreed and we met Wednesday, April 6 at the church. It was not completely clear what the issue(s) might be. A list appears below showing what was discussed.

- The dimmer is a rheostat that was installed when the building was erected in 1965/66.
- The dimmer does appear to be failing. It was originally designed for use with incandescent bulbs.
- The ceiling lights are installed on four different circuits so, there are four light “zones” in the room.
- There is a mixture of bulbs installed in the ceiling light fixtures. There are at least

two different styles of compact fluorescent bulbs and at least two different styles of LED bulbs.

- The LED bulbs were not intended for use in enclosed fixtures and the ones we looked at did not indicate they were dimmable (although they obviously did dim).
- All the ceiling fixtures are enclosed fixtures.
- The electrician does not have the ability to repair the mid-60's vintage dimmer.
- To replace the dimmer, he would likely recommend installing four new dimmers in the wall to individually dim the four light circuits.
- The electrician plans to submit a proposal for the “repair” by April 20, 2022.

I recommend, that in the meantime, an inventory of all the installed bulbs be taken and a plan to replace those bulbs with correctly configured bulbs be completed.

Further, I recommend that at least one other electrician be contacted and asked to review the situation.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Phillips



Missions Report

The Missions Team would like to send out a huge THANK YOU to everyone who came to our SPRING INTO ACTION drive-thru for the Penfield Ecumenical Food Shelf. Ellen's SUV was beyond loaded with layers of your kind-hearted outpouring for the needs in our community! Thank you also to Ray and Judy Gibb who brought coffee and enough donuts to share with the Boy Scouts too. Everyone was working together and it was inspirational!

We also want you to know how greatly we appreciate the donations that have come in for the ABC International Ministries' One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) offering. Bill Werther has confirmed to us that donations from the congregation totaling \$3,061.94 were marked for the crisis in Ukraine. In addition, the Missions Team allocated \$440 from our 2022 budget so that \$3,501.94 will be sent from our church family to help at this time.

From the Missions budget, we have recently sent out money to support Flower City Habitat for Humanity and to Refugees Helping Refugees (RHR), after we were alerted to a specific need where we could easily give them, "a lift." This non-profit organization, "seeks to foster the growth, self-determination, and self-reliance of Rochester's refugee community by making them agents of their own advancement." We are also sending our church's support to the American Baptist Churches of the Rochester/Genesee Region for their ministry and missions.

Our team considers it a privilege to be engaged in these mission opportunities. Know that we appreciate all of your support when our team calls on you to help--whether for nearby or far away.

Sue, Ellen, Janette



A Heartfelt Thank you...

I want to let my church family know how much your cards, calls, and treats mean to me. I truly appreciate your caring and prayers. What was supposed to be "routine" knee surgery became a perfect storm of everything that could go wrong, did. An ambulance trip to the hospital was the icing on the cake!

Your support is appreciated and only affirms how important our Church Family is to all of us at Penfield Baptist.

Bill Werther



**Sharing Your Love
With Altar Flowers**

Everyone has special dates in their lives- anniversaries, memories, birthdays. We encourage you to honor those dates with flowers for our altar on Sundays. Please visit our sign up genius page online to reserve your special date, or contact Sandra in the office to reserve it for you. You can reach the sign up by visiting our church website- fbpenfield.org and scroll down to the "FLOWERS" link that will take you there! Or visit signupgenius.com and search under our church email (fbpenfield@toast.net). You can have your flowers delivered from any florist during church office hours, or bring them with you on Sunday! Seasonal flowers from your gardens are also very lovely.

One important note- after you check the box for your selected date, you need to SCROLL DOWN to the very bottom of that page to hit "submit". It's a ploy to get you to notice more awesome dates and pick more than one before you submit!!!

If you have any questions, please just ask Sandra in the main office, or Sandy Pray!



**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 -----> #



Men's Lunch

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



**Zoom Instructions
for Adult Discussion**

**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>

Call-in information

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 845 6042 1536



**Adult Discussion Schedule
May, 2022**

**Revisiting *How to Fight Racism*,
Video Study by Jemar Tisby
(all adult discussions will be on Zoom)**

May 1 Ginna Blackman
How to Explain Race and the Image of God
(30 min)

May 8 Mother's Day
(no discussion)

May 15 Pastor Steve
How to Make Friends (17 min)

May 22 Kerm Slye
How to Orient Your Life to Racial Justice
(17 min) -

May 29 MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND
(no discussion)

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"Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love." 1 John 4: 7,8.



**ANNOUNCEMENT-Regarding
OPTIONAL MASKING**

From The Moderator – Effective
Sunday March 20th, 2022

Optional masking has officially started.

Please attend our live services in our sanctuary in whatever way you are most comfortable.

Masking is optional as well in Fellowship Hall, where we gather for Fellowship Time, Adult Discussion and other various events.

Disposable Masks and Hand Sanitizing Gel will continue to be available for those who chose to use them. (The Coordinating Council will continue to monitor Covid updates provided by the Monroe County Department of Health and will make changes to our masking policy if necessary.)

****** Please Note: Masking will continue to remain mandatory for our Nursery Staff until further notice.***



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

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

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

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.*