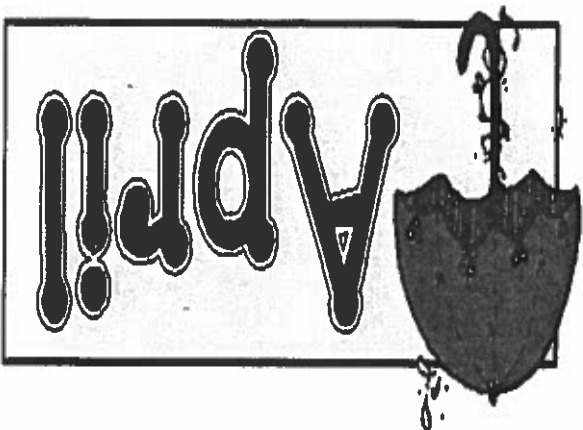


2017



Newsletter of FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
134 North Main Street
Geneva, New York 14456
(315) 789-3220

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

An American Baptist Church
134 North Main Street, Geneva, NY 14456
(315) 789-3220
E-mail: genevafbcc@rochester.rr.com
Web Site: genevafirstbaptistchurch.org

OUR STAFF

The Rev. Phyllis Granger, Pastor
Bill Robbins, Assistant Pastor
The Rev. Daniel T. Benedict, Sr., Pastor Emeritus
Nancy Robbins, Secretary

OUR CHURCH OFFICERS

Beverly Simons - Moderator
Bill Robbins/Sherry Kelsey – Visitation/
Christian Education/Evangelism
Geoff Marshall - Personnel Manager
Gary Hartman- Property Manager
Verne Marshall - Financial Advisor
Judy Hartman - Fellowship Coordinator
Sheila Griffin - Worship
Susan Belding - Missions
Peter Achilles - Treasurer
David Belding - Financial Secretary
Nancy Robbins - Church Clerk

OUR SCHEDULE

Neighborhood Saturday Lunch Ministry - 11:45am – 12:15pm
Worship - Sunday, 10:00 a.m.
Fellowship - Sunday, 11:00 – 11:30 am
Bible Study - Sunday, 11:30 am – 12:30 pm
Prayer Time – every Wednesday, 4:30 pm

April 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Lunch Ministry 11:45 am Doug/Elisabeth Freier Anniversary
2 Worship 10am Pastor Bill	3	4 Phil/Jan Forsline Anniversary	5 Prayer Time 5:00 pm	6	7	8 Lunch Ministry 11:45 am
9 Worship 10am Rev. Granger Palm Sunday	10 Dennis/Wendy Doyle Anniversary	11 ABW meeting 10:00 am Board meeting 7:00 pm	12 Prayer Time 5:00 pm	13 Maundy Thursday Mike Vorozikchak Birthday David/Jamee Sealy Anniversary	14 Ben Sealy Birthday	15 Lunch Ministry 11:45 am
16 Worship 10am Rev. Granger Easter Dorene MacDonald Birthday	17 Lee Getz Birthday	18	19 Prayer Time 5:00 pm	20	21	22 Lunch Ministry 11:45 am
23 Worship 10am Montrose Streeter Cindy VanNostrand Birthday	24	25	26 Prayer Time 5:00 pm	27	28	29 Lunch Ministry 11:45 am
30 Worship 10am Pastor Bill						

Pastor's Page:

I don't know about you, but at my house the snow is almost melted. There are still a few piles where the banks were very high. But for the most part, the signs of our northeastern have vanished. Even little stems of green of my spring flowers are poking out of the ground—a promise of new life soon to come.

That's what the very first Easter morning did for us—a promise of new life. Jesus died on that cross, taking our sins upon Himself; and if we take Him as our Savior, our sins are forgiven and we are promised eternal life. Jesus is the only god ever raised from the dead. Other religions worship their god, but Jesus is the only living God. His resurrection is proof that He is a living God who does exactly as he promised. He now sits at the right hand of God interceding for us.

Hope is the foundation of our faith. We have the hope of a new life and a better place after our physical bodies pass away. The greatest mystery in the world is that God desires the resurrected Christ to dwell in the hearts of those who believe and to be their “hope of glory.” Our “hope of glory” is the presence, power, and activity of all the fullness of God. “Glory” refers to the manifest presence of God. It's an expression of God's active involvement in the life of His people. Eternal life, therefore, is to live in the presence of God and enjoy His goodness forever!

The mystery of eternal life is Christ in you, the hope of glory. And anyone who has put his or her life in Jesus Christ has, at that moment, received the hope of glory. Our sinful life is in the past and our new life lies before us. We are not weighted down with the burden of our sins. We have been set free to live life abundantly in obedience to God. Our purpose now through the power of the Holy Spirit is to live a life that reflects the love of Jesus and brings honor and glory to God.

Since we have all been created as unique individuals with different gifts, this may look different from one individual to another as we serve in the kingdom. But the following is the same for everyone—we are to show the love of Jesus to everyone, make a friend of that person and then lead that person to a relationship with Christ.

There are many worship opportunities being offered during Lent—a weekly breakfast at the Presbyterian church, messages about Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection being offered each Sunday at First Baptist, Sunday school after church to discuss the Sunday message, Palm Sunday, a joint Maundy Thursday service for the Baptist, Presbyterian, and Methodist churches being held at our church at 7:00 on April 13, and then Easter Sunday. Can you imagine how different our life would be without the resurrection of Christ? Our relationship with Christ is the most important part of our life. If Jesus had not been raised from the dead, this relationship would not be possible. But because He has been raised, this relationship is the heart of who we are. If you don't have Christ, you don't have anything. Let's worship the Lord by attending these worship opportunities.

Gary and Judy Hartman will be returning the first part of April. Judy will be planning a congregation dish to pass event for after Easter. Watch for more details in your Sunday bulletin.

Wishing you a blessed Easter,

Rev. Phyllis Granger

Preaching Schedule for April

April 2 Pastor Bill Robbins -- Communion Sunday
April 9 Rev. Phyllis Granger -- Palm Sunday
April 16 Rev. Phyllis Granger -- Easter Sunday
April 23 Rev. Dr. Montrose Streeter
April 30 Pastor Bill Robbins

A Little Mixed Up

Submitted by Margene Achilles

Dear Friend,

Just a line to say I'm living, that I'm not among the dead.

Though I'm getting more forgetful and more mixed up in my head.

For sometimes I can't remember when I stand at the foot of the stair,

If I must go up for something, or I've just come down from there.

Before the fridge, so often my poor mind is filled with doubt –

Have I just put food away or have I come to take something out?

Then there's time when I dash about with my night cap on my head,

I don't know if I'm retiring or just getting out of bed.

So remember I do love you and I wish that you were here,

But now it's nearly mail time so I must say good-bye, my dear.

There I stood beside my mail box with my face so very red.

Instead of mailing you my letter, I have opened it instead.

Report from the Financial Secretary

On Sunday, in speaking about our recent Bible study on prayer, Becky emphasized the awe-inspiring privilege God offers us to speak personally with Him through prayer. Indeed, the ever-present opportunity to open our hearts to God at each moment of the day has the potential to radically transform the very foundation of our lives. In Christ through prayer we are alchemists of life, transforming the base metal of pain and strife into gold with love and hope.

When we pray for each other, when we help each other, we become part of God's great and gracious plan of salvation and in so doing we are redeemed.

Attendance

March 5
29

March 12
28

March 19
36

March 26
34

Pledging

Our Church's motto is "Little is much when God is in it". I see this manifest each Sunday through the overflowing generosity of our offerings. For the month of March, our actual pledge giving was \$21234, more than \$6800 above the anticipated revenues of \$14433. What a privilege it is to belong to God's family at First Baptist.

Dave Belding
Financial Secretary

THE STUDENT LOAN FUND

Our Student Loan Fund has limited funds available for loans for the 2017-2018 school year. Applications are due May 15. Blank forms and Loan Information sheets are available from Marlyn Stanton, Mary Achilles, and Tena Milne. Contributions in memory of (or in honor of) individuals are always welcome!

ABW WOMEN

The women's meeting will be held at 10:00 at the church on Tuesday, April 11. We will continue our study of the book, "A Man Called Peter". All women are invited.

He is Risen

