

## **FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**

An American Baptist Church  
134 North Main Street, Geneva, NY 14456  
(315) 789-3220

E-mail: [genevafbc@rochester.rr.com](mailto:genevafbc@rochester.rr.com)  
Web Site: [genevafirstbaptistchurch.org](http://genevafirstbaptistchurch.org)

### **OUR STAFF**

The Rev. Phyllis Granger, Pastor  
Bill Robbins, Assistant Pastor  
Nancy Robbins, Secretary

### **OUR CHURCH OFFICERS**

Beverly Simons - Moderator  
Bill Robbins – 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 – Wednesday, 5:00 pm



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

# 2018

## *Pastor's Page*

February is a month filled with holidays: 2 Groundhog Day, 12 Pres. Lincoln's birthday, 13 Mardi Gras/Shrove Tuesday, 14 Ash Wednesday and Valentine's Day, 15 Susan B. Anthony's birthday, 16, Chinese New Year begins, and 20 Presidents' Day for Pres. Lincoln and Washington ( although his birthday is actually Jan. 11). But of all the celebrations, we see signs of Valentine's Day everywhere. There are red and pink hearts and big red bows everywhere, heart shaped candy boxes, other candy with valentine wrappers, florist reminding you to send your sweetheart a bouquet, and posters inviting you to bring your sweetheart to a delicious Valentine Day dinner. Love is definitely in the air.

For the church, Ash Wednesday on February 14 is the beginning of Lent and our journey to the cross. We again are encouraged to reflect on our life to see if it reflects the love of Jesus. Even Jesus talked about love. He tells us to love our enemy (Mt 5:44, Lk 6:27), honor our mother and father and love thy neighbor as thyself (Mt 19:9) and in Mt 22:36, Mk 12:30, Lk 10:27, love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment. He also states in Jn 14:15, "If you love Me, keep my commandments." In John 14:21, we see that the one who keeps the commandment loves the Lord and will be loved by the Lord and the Father. Jn 13:34 tells us to love one another as Jesus loved us. Jn 15:13 tells us there is no greater love than to lay down our life for our friends. And lastly, John 3:16 tells us of the love of God, "For God so loved the world, that he gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

The Bible is a love story that tells us how much God loves us and the price Jesus is willing to pay to save us, but the question I ask you is: **How can we learn to really love God?** If you would like a deeper understanding of the answer to this question, I encourage you to join our Adult Sunday School. We will be studying Loving God by Chuck Colson. The study guide is in the back of the book. We will have an open discussion of some, not all the questions, as time permits, so if you would like to have us discuss a specific question be sure to let us know when class starts. See a pastor if you need a book. Our classes will be led by several different leaders, so if you would like to lead a class, let Pastor Phyllis know. Please join us so we can learn together and from each other.

*Rev. Phyllis Granger*

### **Preaching Schedule:**

Feb. 4	Rev. Phyllis Granger
Feb. 11	Rev. Phyllis Granger
Feb. 18	Pastor Bill Robbins
Feb. 25	Pastor Bill Robbins

**Lenten Breakfasts** at the Presbyterian Church Feb. 14, 21, 28 and Mar. 7, 14, 21  
Breakfast at 6:45am and Worship at 7:00am

### **Stamp Ministry – Sherry Kelsey**

In 2017, we collected 2829 stamps to be used for Christian work in Hispanic countries. Remember to save the stamp from every envelope you receive, including non-profit and presorted stamps. Keep up the good work. Your efforts are helping to spread the good news of Jesus Christ.

## **Report from the Financial Secretary**

The board has not met since the annual meeting on January 21. So there is no significant update beyond the financial secretary report that appears in the 193<sup>rd</sup> Annual Report. However, for those who may not have been able to attend I summarize from the report below.

### **2017 Pledge Year**

We began January of 2017 with 24 pledges totaling \$57,733. Of these 24 pledges, 16 units contributed more than the stated pledged amount, 1 former pledge nevertheless continued to contribute regularly and 3 fell slightly short. As a result, at the end of December, pledge collections totaled \$65,988.50 which was \$8255.50 more than the initial commitments. Besides those who commit to pledging, there are a number in our church family who give regularly and others who contribute anonymously in plate collections. Non-pledging members added \$1150 and plate collections totaled \$5781.59. One of the highlights in the past year has been the generosity shown in these other contributions. Thus total financial giving in support of our church budget totaled \$72,920.09.

### **Additional Giving**

Beyond pledges and plate collection, our congregation has also made targeted contributions in such areas as missions, the building and windows fund, custodial support etc. The total additional giving amounted to \$18,122.23. Thus our congregation's total giving amounted to an impressive \$91,042.32.

### **Pledging for 2018 (slightly updated from the annual report).**

For 2018 we have received 26 pledges totaling \$60,327. There were four new pledges as well as two discontinued pledges. Twelve increased their pledge, 11 maintained their pledge and two decreased. The total represents a \$2594 increase over last year.

As financial secretary I am amazed at the generosity of our church members.

*Then the people rejoiced because they had offered so willingly, for they made their offering to the Lord with a whole heart, and King David also rejoiced greatly.1 Chronicles 29:9  
(and so does financial secretary Dave!)*

**Attendance.** (The worship service on January 7<sup>th</sup> was cancelled due to extremely cold weather.)

January 14	January 21	January 28
20	37	35

A parting note... This past Sunday Pastor Bill gave us an inspiring message about the central importance of giving in our Christian life. While our financial offerings and pledges are critically important in sustaining our church, what God *really* asks from each of us are gifts from the heart. These begin with acts as simple as listening to people, offering a kind word, a caring gesture, a helping hand. In taking these little steps our hearts begin to open, Christian love is given a chance to blossom all around.

Dave Belding  
**Financial Secretary**

## **ABW NEWS**

The ABW Women's group will meet on Tuesday, February 13, at the church at 10:00 am - weather permitting!

We will continue our Bible Study with: Deuteronomy, Joshua, Judges, and Ruth.

All women are invited to attend!

Bev Simons

### News from the Frederick Family

We have a new granddaughter! Jason and Jeannette had a baby girl! Isabel Rose Bastedo was born on January 3rd, 2018. She weighed 8 lbs., 7 oz., and was 21" long. Everyone is doing fine.

On the school side, Jaimee is attending Alfred State, majoring in Agricultural Technology, with a concentration in Animal Science. She finished her first semester in December and was named to the Dean's List.

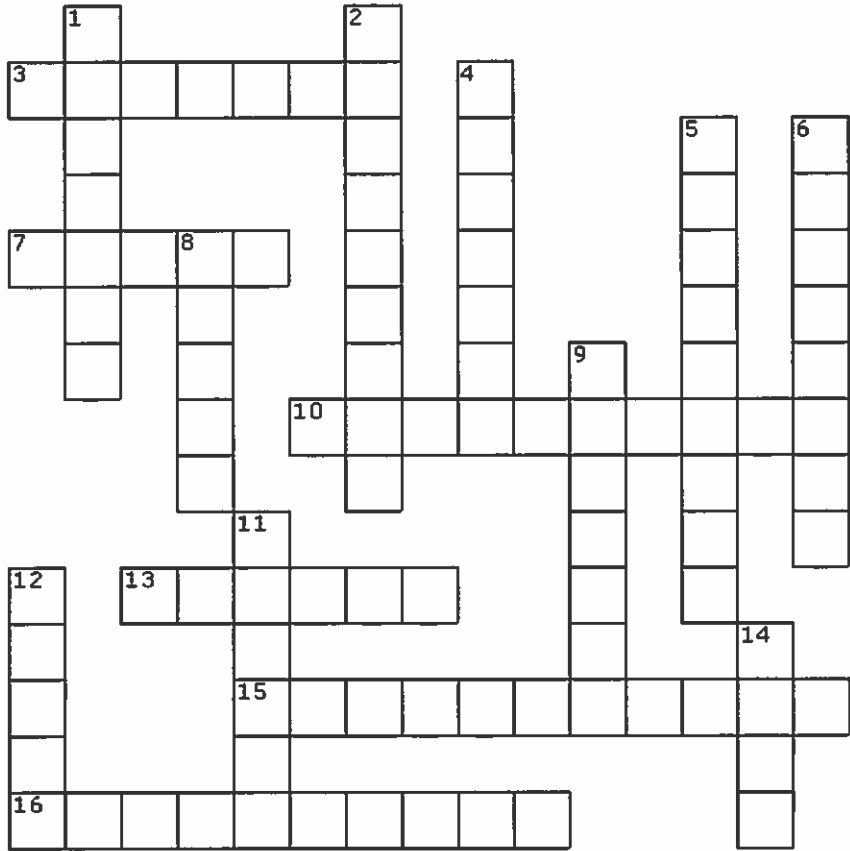
Jan

# Christian Bible Reference Site

## Crossword Puzzle: Places

**Desktop, laptop:** Type with your regular keyboard. Click on a square to type across. Click twice to type down. Or click on a clue then type. Or print this page and solve on paper. **Tablet, mobile, smartphone, touchscreen:** Type with the on-screen keyboard below the puzzle. Tap a square to type across. Tap twice to type down. The **Solve** button at the top of the puzzle shows the solution.

Solve



**ACROSS**

- 3 Sea of \_\_\_\_\_
- 7 Residents of this city tried to build a tower to heaven
- 10 Jesus was arrested in this garden
- 13 Ancient Jewish kingdom
- 15 Jesus was baptized in this river
- 16 God gave Moses the Ten Commandments on this mountain

**DOWN**

- 1 Jesus was crucified on this hill
- 2 Jesus was born here
- 4 The Corinthians lived here
- 5 The Jewish temple was here
- 6 Jesus grew up here
- 8 Moses led the people out of slavery in this land
- 9 Joshua fought the battle of \_\_\_\_\_
- 11 Noah's ark landed in the mountains of this region
- 12 God destroyed this city by fire
- 14 Jesus turned water in wine at a wedding here



# February 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 Scott Rankin Birthday	3 Lunch Ministry 11:45 am
4 Worship 10am Rev. Granger  Dick/Marion Buck Anniversary	5 Alma Laguer Birthday  Celeste Krivicich Birthday	6 Ashton Michael Vorozilchak Birthday	7 Prayer Time 5:00 pm  Dale Wakley Birthday	8	9	10 Lunch Ministry 11:45 am  Meredith Achilles Vorozilchak birthday
11 Worship 10am Rev. Granger  Judy Hartman Birthday  Tim Freier Birthday	12 Isabella Myers Birthday	13 ABW mtg 10:00 am	14 Prayer Time 5:00 pm  Juliana Freier Birthday	15	16	17 Lunch Ministry 11:45 am
18 Worship 10am Pastor Bill	19	20 Board mtg 6:00 pm	21 Prayer Time 5:00 pm  Kathy Price Birthday	22	23	24 Lunch Ministry 11:45 am  Courtney Swinehart Birthday
25 Worship 10am Pastor Bill  Marcia Peters Birthday	26	27	28 Prayer Time 5:00 pm			

I want to support  
the Regional Ministries  
of American Baptist Churches  
of New York State!!!



## WHAT IS REGIONAL MINISTRY?

Strengthening Local Churches by:

- \* Helping churches find pastors
- \* Developing & Deepening Relationships
- \* Training Lay Leaders and Pastors
- \* Providing opportunities for mission
- \* Developing our Youth for faith and leadership

Your offerings may be made out to:  
First Baptist Church Geneva  
Mail to: First Baptist Church  
134 North Main Street  
Geneva NY 14456  
Note Regional Offering



# ABC/ NYS Region Offering 100% of every dollar supports ABCNYS

