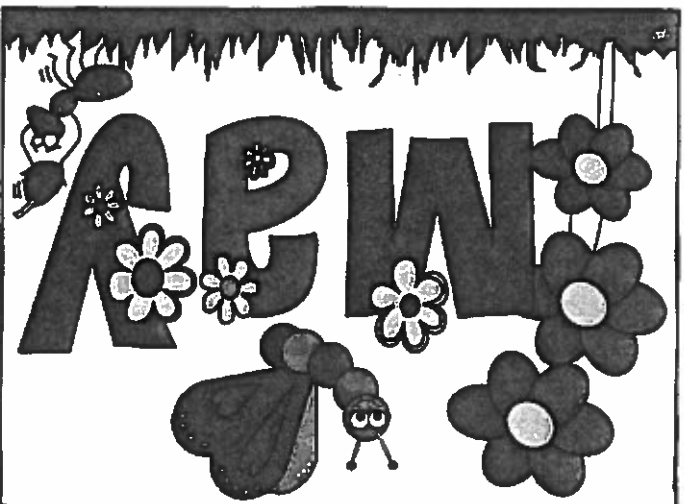


# 2017



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: [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

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

# May 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 Prayer Time 5:00 pm Jeff Littlefield Birthday	4 Carol Schaffner Birthday	5	6 Lunch Ministry 11:45 am
7 Worship 10am Pastor Bill  Marjorie Davoli Birthday	8	9 Board mtg 7pm  David Sealy Birthday	10 Prayer Time 5:00 pm	11	12	13 Lunch Ministry 11:45 am  Christina Rankin Birthday
14 Worship 10am Rev. Granger  Mother's Day  Rich Principio Birthday	15 Dan Benedict Birthday	16 Geoff Marshall Birthday  Bill Robbins Birthday	17 Prayer Time 5:00 pm	18	19	20 Lunch Ministry 11:45 am
21 Worship 10am Pastor Bill  Pam Marshall Birthday	22	23 Florence Steele Birthday	24 Prayer Time 5:00 pm	25 Jason/Sherry Swinehart Anniversary	26	27 Lunch Ministry 11:45 am  Jean Smith Birthday
28 Worship 10am Pastor Bill	29	30	31 Prayer Time 5:00 pm			

## Pastor's Page

First, I would like to thank everyone who participated in or attended the Holy Week worship services. I am sure Christ was pleased in the way we honored and glorified Him during this sacred time. Easter starts yet another season on our Christian calendar – from the resurrection on Easter to the Day of Pentecost.

It is during this 50 day period that the Risen Christ was present throughout the land bringing peace, love, hope and promise to His people. We, the church, representing the body of Christ should be doing the same thing. As we move forward in this next worship season, may we concentrate more and more on reflecting the love of Christ wherever we go and in whatever we do.

I am pleased with the way our church is growing and expanding our ministries to God's people. I feel that God is pleased with our church and that is why He is allowing our pledges and offerings to cover our church expenses. When we realize that all that we have belongs to the Lord and that we are only stewards of His provisions, we can give to the Lord in time and money, focus on His ministry and not waste time worrying how to keep the budget in the black. As we use more of our resources and our time to serve the kingdom, God just keeps replenishing the supply. God is so good and He will always provide for the faithful. Many, many times He has proven the truth our faith statement, "Little is much when God is in it." Again, I say thank you for making a commitment to grow in Christ and to serve Him to the best of your ability. As we continue to keep this commitment, He continues to use our church in many new ways. I can only imagine the plans He has for the future of this church. Praise be to God for the work He is doing in this church.

Next, I would like to thank everyone who prayed for Sherry and our family. When I took her to the emergency room on Monday, I was told if we had waited any longer she would have died. Two days later, as they were finally getting the infection under control, she developed pneumonia. Again, she was in critical condition as her lungs began to shut down. I thank God for all the many people who lifted prayers to God on her behalf, and I thank God for His faithfulness. She is now home with oxygen to help her breathe while her lungs try to recover and heal from this setback. We still welcome your prayers during this long healing process.

Finally, this Memorial Day, please remember to pay tribute to all the men and women who gave their lives in service to our country. Also, remember to offer special thanks to the loved ones who have greatly influenced your life and are not here to witness that impact.

*Rev. Phyllis Granger*

### May Preaching Schedule:

May 7	Pastor Bill
May 14	Rev. Granger
May 21	Pastor Bill
May 28	Rev. Granger

## Report from the Financial Secretary

While mowing yesterday, I noticed new shoots of lilies of the valley in our garden, and immediately recalled this verse:

*"So why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?" Matthew 28-31*

What relief and joy to relax in God's loving arms! God does not want us to worry, but simply to fully embrace his path, to labor for his kingdom and enjoy his bountiful blessings. Our church is blessed in many wonderful ways. Each Sunday we sense this as we sing together, as we pray, as we hear God's priceless Word and allow God's generosity to spread into our own spirit. Receiving His grace so abundantly calls forth the only natural response: to give of ourselves.

### Attendance

April 2	April 9	April 16	April 23	April 30
39	36	62	44	30

### Pledging

Apparently God does not want us to spend our lives fretting over financial worries. We finished April in very good shape. Anticipated pledges were \$19984. But our actual pledges totaled \$27131.50, more than \$7147 above the projection. He must have in mind some real work for us!

Dave Belding  
Financial Secretary

## America For Christ Offering

Thanks to the heartwarming generosity of our church family, we raised a grand total of \$536.19 during the months of March and April toward the America for Christ Offering. These gifts help support ministries throughout the United States and Puerto Rico and bring Christ's loving spirit to those in need. What a blessing it is to be a part of God's merciful plan!

Susan Belding  
Mission Coordinator

### 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!

**THE DIRECTORIES ARE READY.  
IF YOU WOULD LIKE ONE SENT TO YOU,  
PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH AT 315-789-3220  
AND LEAVE A MESSAGE.**

Dear Friends of First Baptist Church of Geneva,

We would like to thank you for giving us the opportunity to share our personal stories, what The Coffee Connection is all about and how The Coffee Connection has impacted our own lives. The purpose of The Coffee Connection is to empower women in recovery from addiction by providing employment training and creating jobs. Addiction is a deadly disease and your support is helping save women's lives. Your generous monetary donation is greatly appreciated. Your contribution will be used towards employment training, on May 8th 15 women will be taking the Serv Safe (food handling safety) instructional course and test. We would not have been able to make this happen without you!!! Thank you again for your compassionate support. We sincerely appreciate your kindness and generosity. We are absolutely thrilled to be catering your Mother's/Father's Day event in June. Thank you again for your compassionate support.

Best Always,

Kait Poweski & Marcy Richer

### **MOTHER'S DAY & FATHER'S DAY CELEBRATION**

For the past several years, the women have baked pies for Father's Day. Last year, the men provided brunch for Mother's Day. Since some mothers are away on Mother's Day and some fathers are away on Father's Day, the following idea was brought to the board: Celebrate Mother's Day and Father's Day the first Sunday in June (half way between!!).

Coffee Connection will cater this event for us on Sunday, June 4, 2017! The menu will include ham, vegetables, salad, rolls, and pie. The church will provide coffee, milk, juice, and water.

A good-will basket will be available for donations. Bill and Nancy Robbins will be taking reservations during Fellowship starting Sunday, May 7, 2017. For our members and friends who may not be able to come to church each Sunday but wish to come to the luncheon, please call the church office at 315-789-3220 and leave a message on the answering machine with your name and how many will attend. Thank you!