

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



**2018**

# May 2018

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

*Pastor Page:*

Each time I leave my house and return, there are these beautiful spring flowers standing tall sharing their beauty even among the covering of winter's snow that continued to come all through April. They are trusting God that He will send the sunshine they need. I realized there is a message God is sharing with me and I'd like to share it with you.

Yes, we waited every day for spring on the calendar to show its self on earth. Oh, we got a warm day here and there to give us hope, but spring was not coming as planned. Then May came and we went from 52 degrees to 80 degrees in just one day. WOW, spring has arrived. The message I received was this: Things in life do not always go as planned. Spring did not happen in April as planned. But the vibrant colors of the flowers standing tall--even in the frigid temperatures and the snow--gave me the hope that spring truly is coming soon. God will bring spring, but it may not be according to our plan.

In life, we have many plans and sometimes those plans do not materialize as we planned. Sometimes we have problems in life that make us feel that there just isn't any solution. However, like the flowers, God is there by our side every minute. He knows our struggles, and He is by our side to help weather the storm until the solution appears and brings sunshine back into our life. Yes, the perfect solution came in God's perfect timing--not ours. We are never alone in our walk through life; the Lord is there each and every minute rather it be sunshine or snow. Just as the sun is always shining even if it is hidden behind the clouds, Jesus is always with us in the joys and the storms of life. Yes, the sun will shine and your joy will return, just trust in Jesus.

Thank you God for sending us words of hope, encouragement, and assurance through the flowers, the sun, the clouds and the many other things in your creation. Yes, spring, summer and fall are coming—a time of vibrant colors throughout God's creation. Listen to the message God is sharing as we enjoy this colorful and precious blessing.

*Pastor Phyllis*

## Preaching Schedule for May

May 6 Pastor Phyllis

May 13 Pastor Phyllis

May 20 Pastor Bill

May 27 Pastor Bill

### **The surgery date is set.**

I will be having total right hip replacement on May 17 at Thompson Hospital in Canandaigua. Presently, the plan is two days in the hospital and then transfer to the Rehab Center at Thompson. I thank you for all the prayers that have enabled me to get through these most painful days. I would appreciate your continued prayers as I face surgery, rehab, and healing. I will not physically be able to be with you, but I can be reached by phone any day but the day of surgery. I will miss you, but will return as soon as I am able.

Pastor Phyllis

### **DOG'S BEDTIME PRAYER**

Now I lay me down to sleep,  
The king-sized bed is soft and deep.  
I sleep right in the center groove,  
My human beings can hardly move.  
I've trapped their legs, they're tucked in tight,  
And here is where I pass the night.

No one disturbs me or dares intrude,  
Til morning comes and "I want food!"  
I sneak up slowly to begin,  
And nibble on my human's chin.  
For morning's here, it's time to play,  
I always seem to get my way!

So thank You Lord for giving me  
This human person that I see.  
The one who hugs me and holds me tight,  
And shares their bed with me at night!

Submitted by Pastor Bill

## Report from the Financial Secretary

April is supposed to be the start of spring, but this year God has made us wait a bit as we endured stiff chills and on-and-off snow squalls throughout the entire month. Even last Sunday (April 29<sup>th</sup>) we had to drive to church in a swirl of snowflakes. But today on May 1<sup>st</sup> we are basking in a most glorious spring morning complete with bright sun, vividly green grass, daffodils, forsythia and trees with buds just aching to break forth in blossoms and leaves. Even in the cold grey depths of this year's April, we all knew warm spring days would eventually arrive. We just had to wait a bit. Now that they have come, they seem even more beautiful than we could have imagined! Isn't that much like our faith in God whose promises often exceed our expectations?

*"For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us. For the anxious longing of the creation waits eagerly for the revealing of the sons of God."*

**Romans 8:18-19**

### Attendance

April 1	April 8	April 15	April 22	April 29
53	33	27	35	29

### Pledging

This year it feels as if we have had to wait through all of April to begin to see real signs of spring. However, the late spring has not retarded the blooming of our giving. Expected pledges through April were \$19,722 but our actual pledge contributions stood at \$27,499, which is \$7,777 more than anticipated! In addition, our plate collections through the end of April were \$3,178, which is up from \$2,226 at the same time last year.

Dave Belding  
Financial Secretary

### THE STUDENT LOAN FUND

Our Student Loan Fund has limited funds available for loans for the 2018-2019 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 (or in honor of) individuals are always welcome!

### ABW

The women of the church will meet on Tuesday, May 8 at 10:00 am at the church. The program will include Samuel I and II; Kings I and II; and Chronicles I and II. The Finger Lakes Women's Association will meet on Saturday, June 19 at Seneca Lake Park. Please see the enclosed poster for more information. We will talk about this at the meeting on May 8.

Bev Simons

### **SAVE THE DATE – SUNDAY, JUNE 3, 2018 Mother's Day, Father's Day, Family Day Celebration**

To honor our Mothers, Fathers, and Families, we will celebrate together with a good old fashioned Baptist Pot Luck, dish to pass, luncheon. The Fellowship Committee will provide the ham, dessert, and drinks. Please bring your favorite dish to pass or volunteer to help set up or clean up. And please invite your family to join us. This is a family friendly celebration. See you there!

Judy Hartman



American Baptist  
Women of the Finger  
Lakes invite you to join  
us for a

**A Breath of Spring!**

**Saturday May 19<sup>th</sup>**

**at 10am**

*Pavilion #4 Seneca Lake State Park  
(Enter prior to 10am for free parking or  
park outside the entrance and car pool  
in. Entrance fee \$7 per vehicle.)*

**OPEN TO WOMEN OF  
ALL AGES**

**RSVP REQUIRED**

**[contactus.flabwm@gmail.com](mailto:contactus.flabwm@gmail.com)**

or

**585-944-2387**

We begin with a business meeting, followed by a time of taking in nature, a meditation time, a light lunch and more group activities.

**No membership required!**  
Contact us at the email above with questions, and we'll see you there! Bring your favorite lawn chair, rain or shine.



Joke: The Baptist White Lie Cake

## THE BAPTIST WHITE LIE CAKE

Have you ever told a white lie? You are going to love this, especially all of the ladies who bake for church events:

Alice Grayson was to bake a cake for the Baptist Church Ladies' Group in Tuscaloosa, but forgot to do it until the last minute.

She remembered it the morning of the bake sale and after rummaging through cabinets, found an angel food cake mix & quickly made it while drying her hair, dressing, and helping her son pack up for Scout camp.

When she took the cake from the oven, the center had dropped flat and the cake was horribly disfigured and she exclaimed,

"Oh dear, there is not time to bake another cake!" This cake was important to Alice because she did so want to fit in at her new church, and in her new community of friends. So, being inventive, she looked around the house for something to build up the center of the cake. She found it in the bathroom - a roll of toilet paper. She plunked it in and then covered it with icing. Not only did the finished product look beautiful, it looked perfect.

And, before she left the house to drop the cake by the church and head for work, Alice woke her daughter and gave her some money and specific instructions to be at the bake sale the moment it opened at 9:30 and to buy the cake and bring it home.

When the daughter arrived at the sale, she found the attractive, perfect cake had already been sold. Amanda grabbed her cell phone & called her mom.

Alice was horrified-she was beside herself! Everyone would know! What would they think? She would be ostracized, talked about, ridiculed! All night, Alice lay awake in bed thinking about people pointing fingers at her and talking about her behind her back.

The next day, Alice promised herself she would try not to think about the cake and would attend the fancy luncheon/bridal shower at the home of a fellow church member and try to have a good time. She did not really want to attend because the hostess was a snob who more than once had looked down her nose at the fact that Alice was a single parent and not from the founding families of Tuscaloosa, but having already RSVP'd, she couldn't think of a believable excuse to stay home.

The meal was elegant, the company was definitely upper crust old south and to Alice's horror, the cake in question was presented for dessert! Alice felt the blood drain from her body when she saw the cake! She started out of her chair to tell the hostess all about it, but before she could get to her feet, the Mayor's wife said, "what a beautiful cake!"

Alice, still stunned, sat back in her chair when she heard the hostess (who was a prominent church member) say,

"Thank you, I baked it myself.."

Alice smiled and thought to herself, "God is good."