

TOWER TOPICS

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF

First Baptist Church

NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK

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First Baptist Church

554 Main Street

Corner of Main and Fourth

Niagara Falls, New York 14301-1584

April 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 Women's Retreat on the 20 th and the Gospel Fest on the 26 th are two events you shouldn't miss.	1 Easter Monday Church Office Closed.	2	3 12:15 PM Inasmuch	4	5 10:00 Men's Coffee Time	6
7 SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER 10:00 Adult Study and Fellowship 11:00 Divine Worship – Communion Kathleen Ordiway, preaching 5:00 L.I.F.E. "Showers in April"	8	9	10 7:00 PM Diaconate/ Trustees	11	12 10:00 Men's Coffee Time	13
14 THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER 10:00 Adult Study and Fellowship 11:00 Divine Worship Rev. Wesley Bourdette, preaching 12:15 Second Sunday lunch	15	16	17	18	19 10:00 Men's Coffee Time	20 RETREAT 9:30 – 4:00
21 FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER 10:00 Adult Study and Fellowship 11:00 Divine Worship Kathleen Ordiway, preaching <i>Third Sunday Food Collection</i>	22 Earth Day 	23	24	25	26 10:00 Men's Coffee Time 7:00 PM GOSPEL FEST	27 10:30 AM 5K Feet or Famine Walk
28 FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER 10:00 Adult Study and Fellowship 11:00 Divine Worship Rev. Dr. Brian Brown, preaching	29	30	 Rummage collection is in full swing. Drop off your gently used, saleable items any time during office hours.  If you like to walk or hike, Saturday the 27 th is a walk for a good cause. Check the bulletin board for details.			



TOWER TOPICS

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First Baptist Church

NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 4 Jane Garis
- 7 Mark Boeskin, Sr.
- 11 Kathleen Ordiway
- 12 Thomas Culbreth, Jr.
- 15 Glenn Richardson
- 25 Douglas Garis
- 29 Amy Baxter



PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY for Dominic Ligamarri, Dr. Gary Schull, Neal Jacobs, David Compton, Celia Krasinski, Gisela Scott, Gladys Lewis, Robert Hogan, Margaret Payne, Dawn (Schutz) Lynn, Mike Gunther, Tara Clifton, Judy Einstein, Bertha and Harold Bissell, our Church family, our Country and all those who serve our Country.



LOOKING AHEAD

April 3 Wed.

12:15 PM Inasmuch luncheon

April 7 Sun.

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

- 10:00 AM Adult Study and Fellowship
- 11:00 AM Divine Worship - Holy Communion
Dedication of Joseph Hoopsick III
Mrs. Kathleen A. Ordiway, preaching
- 5:00 PM L.I.F.E. "Showers in April"

April 10 Wed.

7:00 PM Diaconate/Trustees Meeting

April 14 Wed.

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

- 10:00 AM Adult Study and Fellowship
- 11:00 AM Divine Worship
Rev. Wesley R. Bourdette, preaching
- 12:15 PM Second Sunday Lunch

April 20 Sat.

9:00 AM- 4:00 PM **WOMEN'S RETREAT**

April 21 Sun.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

- 10:00 AM Adult Study and Fellowship
- 11:00 AM Divine Worship
Mrs. Kathleen A. Ordiway, preaching
Third Sunday Food Collection

April 26 Fri.

7:00 PM Gospel Fest

April 28 Sun.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

- 10:00 AM Adult Study and Fellowship
- 11:00 AM Divine Worship
Rev. Dr. Brian A. Brown, preaching


Heart, Love & Soul

Needs Are Great

Heart & Soul serves an average of 45 guests for breakfast and 160 guests for lunch daily. The food pantry assists over 700 persons monthly with supplemental groceries. In 2012, the dining room served 49,599 meals. During the same year, the pantry provided groceries for 100,451 meals to 7,727 people.

Located at the intersection of Census Tracts 202 and 205, the following are the rates of poverty from the 2010 Census. As you can see, Heart & Soul assists the neediest population in Niagara Falls.

USA	NYS	NF	TRACT 202	TRACT 205
9.9%	14.9%	17.3%	52.1%	34.4%

In order to continue serving those who are hungry, Heart & Soul needs your financial support for the dining room and food pantry. God reward you! 

Church Office Hours: 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon, Monday — Friday

716-282-4666 — nfb@niagarafallsbaptist.org — www.niagarafallsbaptist.org

L. I. F. E.

Lively Interesting Fellowship for Everyone

Sunday, April 7, 2013
5:00 PM

“Showers in April”

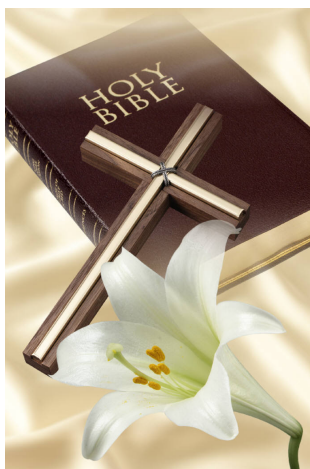
Pot Luck
Bring a Dish to Pass
Sign up in the Friendship Room

MEN'S MORNING COFFEE

You may know that Jim Flood has the coffee pot on every day during office hours. Friday mornings are a little bit special in that a few of the guys get together for a cup around 10:00 AM in the Friendship Room. If anyone is moved to bring something from a local bakery, that is definitely more than acceptable. Any of you guys want to join us? Just drop in. No agendas. Very few deep theological discussions. Only a wee bit of male camaraderie. Ring the bell; just stop in.

Do We Have your birthday?

If your birthday doesn't appear on our list, please call the office to let us know your special date so we can include it.





Gospel Fest 2013

Community Missions
OF NIAGARA FRONTIER, INC.

**JOIN US FOR AN EVENING
OF MUSIC AND CELEBRATION**

Friday April 26th, 7:00 PM
Doors open for seating at 6:30 PM

First Baptist Church
554 Main Street (4th & Main).
Niagara Falls, NY

**Free
Admission**

Visit us on line for more information!
www.CommunityMissions.org

2013 Performers

Men in White Choir (Buffalo, NY)
Revelation (St. Paul Lutheran Church, North Tonawanda)
Mt. Erie Male Chorus (Mt. Erie Baptist Church, Niagara Falls, NY)
Christ Redemption Tabernacle (Niagara Falls, NY)
The Gathering Band (Pendleton Center United Methodist Church)
"Come See A Man" Praise Singers (Niagara Falls, NY)
Tribe of Judah (Grand Island)
Keri Cardinale & Joanne Lorenzo

Special Ticket Giveaway
From Pathway Concert Promotions

All attendees will be entered in a draw to win a pair of tickets to see **The Gaithers** in concert at the Saratoga Performing Arts Center, in Saratoga, NY on May 29th! These special tickets are for VIP Seating at the concert!!! Additional Tickets for the drawing can be purchased at Gospel Fest.

Winner must provide their own transportation. Learn more at www.conservativemission.org/music

Community Missions of Niagara Frontier, Inc., 1570 Buffalo Ave., Niagara Falls, NY 14303 • 716-285-3403 x2259 • www.communitymissions.org
Event Information: Rev. Mark Brees x2259 mbrees@communitymissions.org
Sponsorship Opportunities Available.

ALSO FROM HEART, LOVE AND SOUL . . .**Wish List**

- Large pastry bag with tips
- White or black tube socks for adults
- Peanut butter
- One-pound bags of white rice
- Any kind of dry beans
- Laundry detergent (small bottles)
- Toilet paper
- Diapers for children, sizes 3 & 4
- Deodorant
- Bar soap or body wash
- Toothpaste
- Razors & shaving cream
- Electric forklift OR Electric pallet-jack with vertical capability

Gospel Fest – April 26th

This year's Gospel Fest, presented by Community Missions, will be held right here at our church – a wonderful opportunity for us to open our doors to the community and to continue our support of a wonderful mission in Niagara Falls!

Gospel Fest will be on Friday, April 26th at 7 p.m. We will begin welcoming guests at 6:30 p.m. We should be ready to answer questions about parking if our friends tell us they are coming to the concert. I know that we will all have on our most welcoming faces for the attendees!

There will be several groups performing, including the Mount Erie Male Church, from Mt. Erie Baptist Church right here in Niagara Falls; Tribe of Judah, a group I was blessed to hear and see perform several years ago at a women's event at Niagara Community Church; and Revelation from St. Paul Lutheran Church in North Tonawanda. The mix of music is diverse and there is sure to be something to please everyone!

Everyone is encouraged to bring a non-perishable food item for the Mission's food pantry and they will also collect a free will offering.

As a chair of the Religious and Community sub-committee of the Community Missions Board, it's my pet project to make sure there are plenty of baked goods to share at the reception after the concert. Anyone who is able to bake (or purchase) cookies, cupcakes, brownies, sweetbreads, etc. – please let me know! I also would welcome anyone who would like to come down to the dining room to help me make sure trays are ready and coffee is made. All paper products and drinks are provided by the mission.

Looking forward to sharing this wonderful event with you and our community!

Kathleen Ordiway

**BUILDING
COMMUNITIES
OF HOPE**
MATTHEW 5:13-16



**AMERICA
FOR CHRIST
OFFERING
2013**

Immerse Participants Build Community through 'Mission in the City'

What would it be like if you had no shoes or socks to wear? No food to eat? If you had to attend a school filled with dirt, debris and dark and dreary walls? What if you were a senior citizen and had no one to talk to each day? Those attending Immerse—the 2012 national gathering of American Baptist youth in



Washington, D.C.—addressed these issues and more as they immersed themselves in scripture, prayer, worship and service.

For two days during the recent gathering, American Baptist Home Mission Societies (ABHMS) deployed more than 1,000 youth to build communities of hope in the metro D.C. area in an initiative dubbed "Mission in the City." Participants completed a wide range of projects, including gleaning fields of collard greens—picking the stalks bare; collecting enough corn on the cob to fill a tractor-trailer—more than 18,000 pounds; delivering bags of groceries to homebound seniors in the morning and engaging others in an afternoon of fun and games at a Caribbean festival; cleaning traps in the Anacostia River; and washing individuals' feet and presenting them with new footwear.

Chase Bradford of First Baptist Church, Terre Haute, Ind., was deeply affected by the foot washing. "The most transformational for me was to pray with a young girl after I washed her feet and presented her with a new pair of shoes and socks," he says.

These volunteer experiences are made possible through your donations to the America for Christ Offering. For information regarding similar volunteer opportunities, visit www.abhms.org > Volunteer, or contact Victoria Goff, ABHMS national coordinator of Volunteer and Disaster Response Ministries, at victoria.goff@abhms.org or 1-800-222-3872, x2449.

 AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES USA

www.abhms.org > GIVE NOW

AF134

Help US Go Green . . .

If you have an email address and would like to get the Tower electronically, call or send the email address to the office. You'll save the Church paper, toner, and postage.

From the Moderator...

The ABW (American Baptist Women) have just finished a collection of items for School Kits which are distributed through Church World Services. Remember the lists? We collected enough supplies for 14 kits, several more than last year, which have been assembled, bagged and mailed. Many thanks to all of our church members who contributed the pencils, et al., and the cash to complete the task.

Reflections on Easter: many thanks to the Rev. Dr. Charles Lamb for the interesting, inspirational and devotional Wednesday services during Lent. Stories from the prophets were the basis for life events that served as a focal point for meditations on repentance and reconciliation. It was a spiritually growing experience for those who attended. Palm Sunday was a service of Baptism of Lydia Hoopsick and the reading of the Passion story. Easter Sunday was a festival service of celebration and welcoming of another new member amidst many beautiful flowers dedicated to loved ones. Holy Thursday was a celebration of the first communion with a message by Kathleen Ordiway and Good Friday Music and Meditation was a self-guided walk through scriptures accompanied by organ music by Jim Flood and piano music by Donna Flood. This was a fully observed Lenten and Easter season at First Baptist Church.

Communion for the homebound was celebrated by Pastor Wes Bourdette and Kay Buckley and Ron Bowser in March. Quarterly, communion is taken to those who can't get out. If you or a loved one would like a visit, call the office at 282-4666.

In the last page of this Tower Topics issue, please note the flyer for the Women's Retreat on April 20th, led by Kathleen Ordiway. This important outreach to the community of Christian women will be available to those who wish to attend.

Also in another location in this issue is information about Gospel Fest on April 26 with choirs and musicians from ten area churches. Catch the spirit, have some fun, and attend this benefit for Community Missions.

OPEN HOUSE AT CAMP VICK

June 15, 2013



10:00 - 3:00 RAIN or SHINE



Free Lunch
Tours
Crafts
Campfire
Fun Fellowship



Camp Vick is in Sandusky, 3 ½ miles south of Arcade on Route 98 at Sandbank Road. Turn right onto Sandbank Road and the entrance to camp is about 2,000 feet on the right.



Camp Vick
11165 Sandbank Rd.
Freedom, NY 14065
716-492-4494

e-mail: campvick@abc-nys.org

Website: www.vpccministries.org

ALSO FROM the Moderator...

It's not too early to start thinking summer! Why would a kid want to go to a Christian Camp? It's fun! Camp Vick is a place where one can be themselves, not be judged, not be left out, and not be pressured to be like everyone else. Each session has a different activity focus so there is pretty much something for each personality and individual to like. Camp Vick is a different kind of place where you'll be challenged, grow and succeed in all. "Camperships" (financial aid) is available for children and grandchildren of members, particularly if they enjoy LIFE through our church. Check out the web site at www.VPCCMinistries.org. There's an Open House on June 15; see the flier. Registrations received by May 15th can deduct \$25 and Camp sessions will conclude each Friday evening with a family dinner.

Donna Flood

BUILDING COMMUNITIES OF HOPE

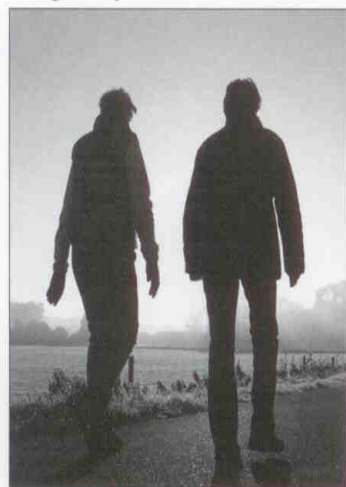
MATTHEW 5:13-16



AMERICA FOR CHRIST OFFERING 2013

Hospice Chaplains: A Ministry of Presence and Hope

Bob and Helen courageously faced Bob's dementia together, but when their lives became too much to manage, Helen knew that they needed to make a change. They moved to a smaller home near their son, but Bob's condition worsened to the point where he wasn't always able to recognize Helen as his wife. Helen realized that they needed the kind of support that hospice provides.



The Rev. Sue Callahan-Camaio brought her theological understanding and active listening skills into the home to help dispel Helen's growing sense of isolation. An American Baptist-endorsed hospice chaplain from Michigan, Callahan-Camaio works for Seasons Hospice and Palliative Care, a community-based organization operating in several states across the country.

Hospice chaplains encourage people like Bob and Helen to explore ways in which their faith in God gives them strength in end-of-life situations. "It is walking with another person during the most difficult time of their life as they lose the person they love," Callahan-Camaio observes.

Hospice chaplains prepare for their work with seminary training, as well as hundreds of hours of clinical pastoral education.

Through your contributions to the America for Christ Offering, American Baptist Home Mission Societies (ABHMS) provides vetting, endorsement, support and advocacy for chaplains and pastoral counselors. For more information, visit www.abhms.org > Ministries & Programs > Caring Ministries > Chaplaincy, or contact the Rev. Paul E. Clark, ABHMS ecclesiastical endorsing agent, at paul.clark@abhms.org or 1-800-222-3872, x2428.

SUCH a Deal . . .

Would you believe only 4 boxes of candy left? First come, first served. Close out at \$5.00 a box. Hurry!

Camp Vick and Pathfinder Lodge

Our regional American Baptist Camps have released their 2013 schedule of activities and camp weeks. The schedules are listed on the bulletin board. Bear in mind that First Baptist Church provides one-half scholarships to anyone associated with our church who wants to go to one of these very worthwhile weeks. [Young, old, or in between. There's a camp for everyone.] Many of us remember fondly our weeks at Church Camp (albeit a quite a few years ago!). This is just another example of our mission commitment. See the Open House flyer in this issue.



We Do Our Bit . . .

At First Baptist we do our part. The February Blanket Sunday Offering was much better than last year. In March we sent a check for \$352.00 to Church World Service for blankets. Read their thank-you note on the bulletin board. That represents the actual Blanket Sunday Offering (\$258.00) plus the Communion Offering for February (\$94.00). In March the School Kits were put together and sent to Church World Service along with \$2.00 per kit for packing and shipping to wherever they are needed.

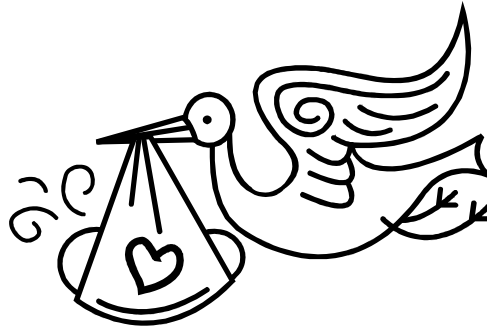
And also From the Moderator . . .

Prayer List updates for the bulletin can be sent or called into the church office at 282-4666. Please keep track of your person for whom we're praying to let us know when they can be taken off the list or if someone else needs to be added.

Women's Retreat & Workshop

Before You Were Born

Saturday, April 20, 2013, 9:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.



Led by Kathleen Ordiway

Held at First Baptist Church, 4th & Main St, Niagara Falls

Cost: \$20.00 per person

Includes: Continental Breakfast, Buffet Lunch; booklet, handouts & surprises!

Jeremiah 1:5: "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you"

God has loved you longer than anyone else has known you!

Questions or to RSVP, contact Kathleen Ordiway, 716-283-3225 or kathordway@yahoo.com

Send your payment to: Kathleen Ordiway, 258-83rd St, Niagara Falls, NY 14304

Cancellation Policy: Full refund less \$5 if cancelled up to 7 days before retreat.

Cancellations closer to the retreat will depend on filling your spot.

Check Return Fee: \$25 will be charged for any check returned.