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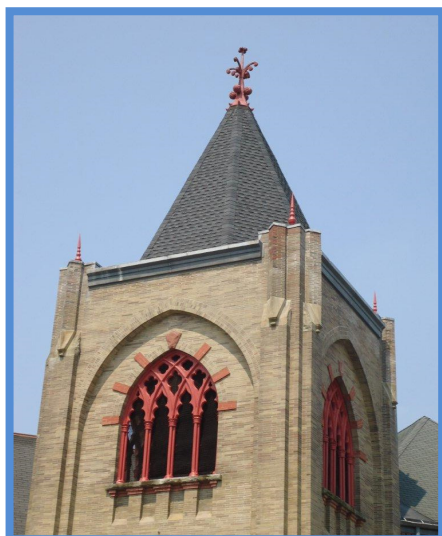
# TOWER TOPICS

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF

## First Baptist Church

NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK

2014



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VOLUME 66






NUMBER 8

2014

## First Baptist Church

554 Main Street  
Corner of Main and Fourth  
Niagara Falls, New York 14301-1584

# August 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 August is here; can fall be far behind? It's time to take advantage of the few remaining leisure moments and to plan for fall. There are several things to plan for: the Communion refresher course after service on September 7 <sup>th</sup> ; Rally Day on September 14 <sup>th</sup> ; Kath's Retreat on Saturday, September 27 <sup>th</sup> . There will be a fall Rummage Sale; L.I.F.E. programs; and the list goes on. Your church is active and engaging. Bring an acquaintance!					<b>1</b> 10:00 Men's Coffee Time 	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b> 8 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 10:00 Pre-service Fellowship 11:00 Divine Worship with Holy Communion Mrs. Kathleen A. Ordiway, preaching 5:00 L.I.F.E. "Good Old Summertime"	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Pastor Wes in office 12:15 Inasmuch luncheon	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 10:00 Men's Coffee Time 	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> 9 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 10:00 Pre-service Fellowship 11:00 Divine Worship Rev. Wesley R. Bourdette, preaching 12:15 Second Sunday lunch: Indoor Picnic	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 9:30 AM Brighton Community Church "Women in Transition"	<b>13</b> Pastor Wes in office 7:00 PM Diaconate/Trustees Meeting	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 10:00 Men's Coffee Time 	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> 10 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 10:00 Pre-service Fellowship 11:00 Divine Worship Mrs. Kathleen A. Ordiway, preaching <i>Third Sunday Food Collection</i>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Pastor Wes in office	<b>21</b> 7:00 PM Family Movie Night	<b>22</b> 10:00 Men's Coffee Time 	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> 11 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 10:00 Pre-service Fellowship 11:00 Divine Worship Rev. Wesley R. Bourdette, preaching	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Pastor Wes in office	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 10:00 Men's Coffee Time 	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b> 12 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 10:00 Pre-service Fellowship 11:00 Divine Worship Mrs. Kathleen A. Ordiway, preaching	 The Diaconate would like to sponsor a Bible Study in the fall. Our response to the Bible Study questionnaires was, shall we say, lackluster. However, Rev. Charles Lamb has agreed to hold a series of six Bible classes this fall. Check out page <b>10</b> for the details. The first class is September 24 <sup>th</sup> .  Circle Thursday, August 21, on this calendar. It's Family Movie Night! This is a great opportunity to engage with families in our community. Your support goes a long way in this opportunity for outreach.					



# TOWER TOPICS

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF

## First Baptist Church

NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK



- 7 David Ward
- 11 Michael Baxter
- 12 Katie Kundl Canterbury
- 13 Andrew N. Baxter
- 14 Debbie Boeskin
- 15 Judy Ward
- 17 Herb Lewis
- 19 Thomas Culbreth
- 30 Chris Kundl



**PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY** for Mark Williams, Jr., Patricia Smeal, Margaret Saul, Janet Keebler, Celia Krasinski, Neal Jacobs, Gisela Scott, Gladys Lewis, Dawn (Schutz) Lynn, Bertha and Harold Bissell, our Church family, our missionaries, our Country and all those who serve our Country.



### August 3 – Sunday

#### EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

- 10:00 AM Pre-service Fellowship
- 11:00 AM Divine Worship with Holy Communion  
Mrs. Kathleen A. Ordiway, preaching
- 5:00 PM L.I.F.E. “Good Old Summertime”

### August 6 – Wednesday

- 12:15 PM Inasmuch luncheon

### August 10 – Sunday

#### NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

- 10:00 AM Pre-service Fellowship
- 11:00 AM Divine Worship  
Rev. Wesley R. Bourdette, preaching
- 12:15 PM Second Sunday Lunch: Indoor picnic

### August 12 - Tuesday

- 9:30 AM “Women in Transition” – Brighton C.C.

### August 13 – Wednesday

- 7:00 PM Diaconate/Trustees Meeting

### August 17 – Sunday

#### TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

- 10:00 AM Pre-service Fellowship
- 11:00 AM Divine Worship  
Mrs. Kathleen A. Ordiway, preaching  
*Third Sunday Food Collection*  
[August is Pasta, or whatever.]

### August 21 - Thursday

- 7:00 PM Family Movie Night

### August 24 - Sunday

#### ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

- 10:00 AM Pre-service Fellowship
- 11:00 AM Divine Worship  
Rev. Wesley R. Bourdette, preaching

### August 31 – Sunday

#### TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

- 10:00 AM Pre-service Fellowship
- 11:00 AM Divine Worship  
Mrs. Kathleen A. Ordiway, preaching

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

716-282-4666 — [nfb@niagarafallsbaptist.org](mailto:nfb@niagarafallsbaptist.org) — [www.niagarafallsbaptist.org](http://www.niagarafallsbaptist.org)

**L. I. F. E.**

Lively Interesting Fellowship for Everyone

**Sunday, August 3, 2014****5:00 PM****“Good Old Summertime”**

Pot Luck.

Bring a dish to pass.

Sign up in the Friendship Room.

**Do We Have Your Birthday?**

If your birthday doesn't appear on our list, **please** call the office (716-282-4666) to let us know your special date so we can include it.



Join us at the  
**Church Picnic!**

Indoors at the Second Sunday lunch,  
after service on August 10, 12:15 PM.

**Children's Missions****Children in need served by woman once in their shoes**

Home is not only where the heart is, but where it returns to time and time again.

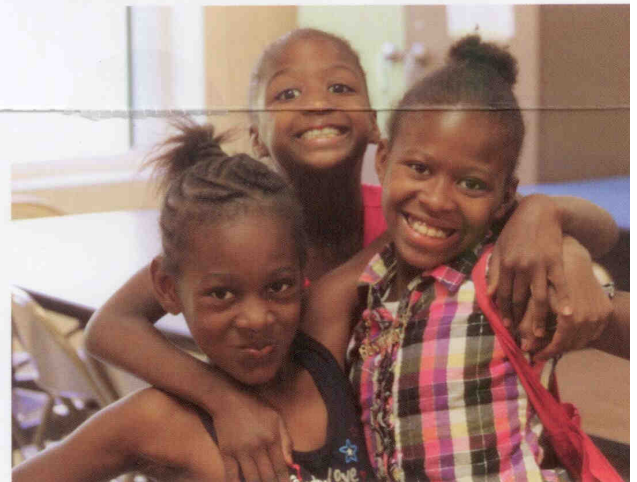
At Rockford Village Community Center, Youngstown, Ohio, Destiny Williams, along with a handful of staff and volunteers, tends to the needs of 30-50 youth ages 6-18. The



community center is part of Neighborhood Ministries (NM), a Neighborhood Action Program (NAP) Christian center of ABHMS.

From the age of 6, Williams (pictured at left) was cared for both physically and spiritually at another NM center in Campbell, Ohio. As a teenager, she helped to support herself by working with NM in the summer.

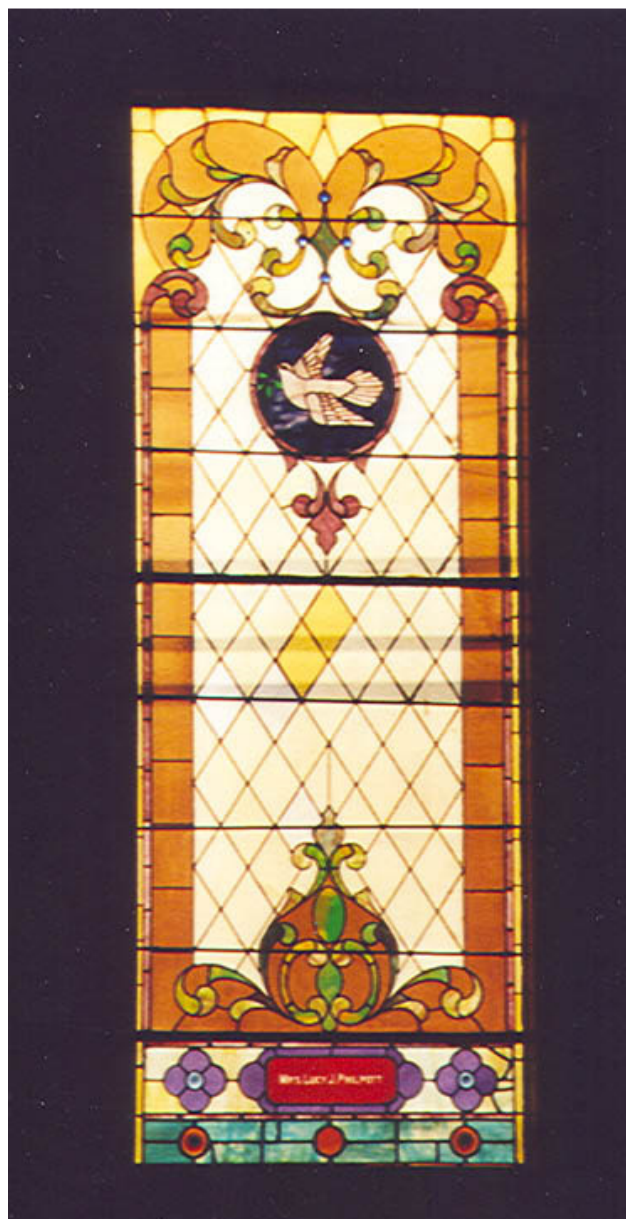
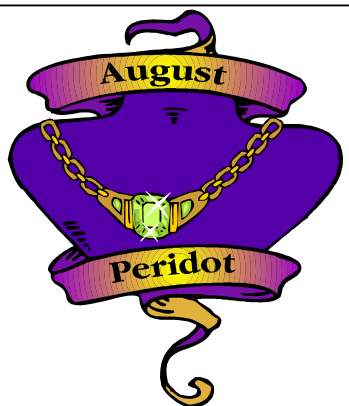
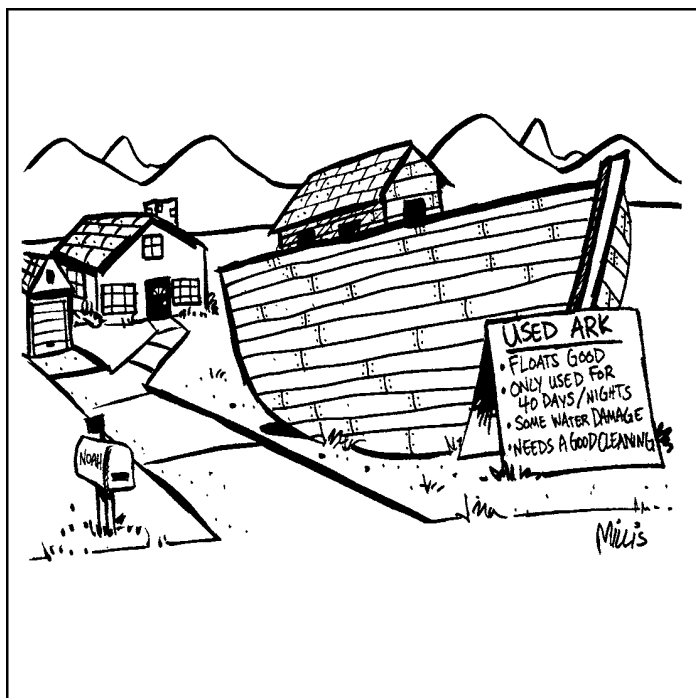
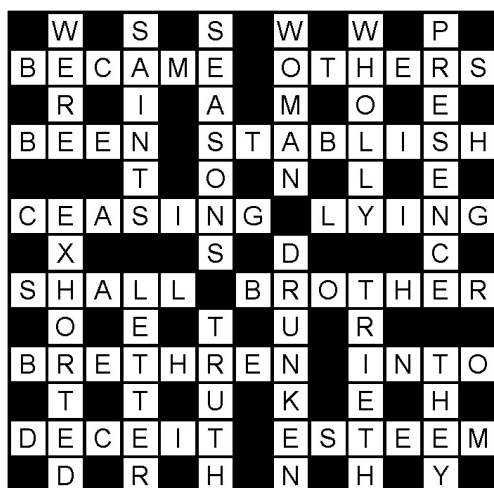
As of January 2013, Williams has been part of Rockford Village Community Center's paid staff. Her reasons for choosing to work with NM include wanting to work with



children, considering NM a second home and—as an individual who was previously served by NM—being aware of its good work.

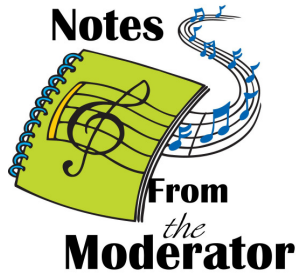
“My biggest joy is being able to make a child who's having a bad day smile,” says Williams. “I love being able to help young people move forward in whatever they do.”



*last month's answers***1 and 2 Thessalonians**

WE ARE INDEED FORTUNATE to have many beautiful stained glass windows in our church, especially the two very large triple lancet windows in the sanctuary. The Jerome Durr Studio, LLC, in Syracuse, NY, has been chosen to do the restoration work. You will have noticed some “holes in the wall.” We will be missing these sections until the end of August when they will return and re-install the new and re-leaded sections.

Envelopes for contributions are still available on the table in the Friendship room. We still need a few more donations for this project.



Bugs, beaches and summer bru-ha-ha are upon us. It's the time to take in the tastes, smells, and activity that the season brings to us, yet not forget that worship is still a priority for the lives we lead. Though 24% of our total population chooses to worship and the other percentages choose not to worship or not to believe, our summer services have been attended with higher numbers than you'd think. It's been great to greet visitors, old friends, and former members whose roots are at First Baptist. We all tend to look at church through the rear view mirror, what and who we were in the past, but there are programs and events to look forward to so it's time to refocus, regenerate, as well as review so long as it's not rear view what is happening this summer. Did you miss "Veggie Tales, the Fennel Frontier"? Movie Night will come around again with popcorn and soda for family fun. However, if you missed the Men in White, that was a one timer, but concerts are being planned for 2014-15 and the Gift of Music continues. Music and Worship will be meeting this summer to plan ahead.

The reconstruction continues. The stained glass windows are being repaired as I write and will be reinstalled in late August weather permitting. News from the NYS Landmark Conservancy is we're under consideration for a grant submitted June 1. We should be notified in September if we will be awarded funds for our final building refurbishment project on the alley side of the church. It's the last, but not least, of the external brick and mortar work. Of more interest to all, external drains have been cleared and are free flowing. Perhaps that work will take care of some wet floor and wall issues that have been plaguing the trustees in the past.

Mission work continues with Community Mission and Heart, Love and Soul. Food contribution requests are for kid friendly foods and personal care products. There's an interesting article about "One Great Hour of Sharing," our August mission, enclosed in this issue. As usual there are needs for many storm struck people, stateside and abroad.

Stay tuned for updates in the October issue.

**Donna Flood**



## Women's Retreat and Workshop

Women and Girls of all ages! You are invited to the next Retreat and Workshop: The Apple of His Eye, on Saturday, September 27, 2014 from 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., held at First Baptist Church. A continental breakfast will be available at 9:30, with the retreat following at 10 a.m. The cost is \$20 per person and reservations are requested by September 19th. Join us for the apple-y goodness you can imagine! We will be in the kitchen for part of the day, so feel free to bring an apron.

*Psalm 17:8 Keep me as the apple of your eye; hide me in the shadow of your wings.*

Cash or checks can be given to Kathleen Ordiway at church or mailed to her at 258-83rd St, Niagara Falls, NY 14304.

**See the flyer on page 12.**



## Communion Refresher

For all those who would like to continue to serve Communion or are interested in serving in the future, we will be having a refresher "class" on Sunday, September 7th at 12:15 p.m.

Serving Communion is an honor and privilege, to be approached with reverence and a servant's heart. Jesus called us to remember Him in the breaking of the bread. Please stay for our refresher class.



## ***FBC Indianapolis Reaches out to Neighboring Karen Refugees***

*The story below is about a ministry of the First Baptist Church of Indianapolis, Indiana, which is a recent recipient of the [Matthew 25 Grant](#), sponsored by ABCUSA.*

First Baptist Church of Indianapolis, Indiana, has a large number of Karen refugees from Myanmar who have moved into its neighborhood in recent years. As the church has reached out to help its new neighbors, they have noticed that the children of the families often begin school ill equipped to learn. They do not speak English, and they are not accustomed to the kind of social interactions that are normative in the American culture. Even children who have been in the U.S. for some time are insulated from the broader culture during their preschool years.

The church has created a scholarship program to allow these children to attend their preschool. The Karen children enter the classroom with welcoming smiles and excitement for the day's activities. Their social skills continue to grow throughout the school year. Learning to work and play with new friends is an invaluable lesson. Friendship truly is a universal language.

This year the ABCUSA Matthew 25 grant allowed First Baptist to fully fund the preschool costs for one Karen child, Sam. He made great progress over the course of the academic year, improving his English and learning quickly. He gets along well with his classmates and has learned the rules and routines of the classroom. He is learning to combine his Karen roots with his American surroundings. Because of this opportunity, Sam will enter kindergarten this fall with the readiness skills necessary for academic success.

Many studies have indicated the importance of early educational opportunities. Sam's future is brighter today because First Baptist Church of Indianapolis cared about him and helped him acquire the tools for success.

*The Matthew 25 Grant, sponsored by ABCUSA, is funded by a generous donor whose goal is to help meet the needs of "housing, feeding, education and health with regard to the less fortunate." Ministries must be in relationship with American Baptist Churches to be eligible to apply. Awards for the Matthew 25 grant are made twice a year, in April and October, with application deadlines of March 1 and September 1.*



## 10 Facts You Should Know About American Baptists

The 1.3-million members and over 5,200 congregations of American Baptist Churches USA share with more than 42 million Baptists around the world a common tradition begun in the early 17th century. That tradition has emphasized the Lordship and atoning sacrifice of Jesus Christ, believers' baptism, the competency of all believers to be in direct relationship with God and to interpret Scripture, the importance of the local church, the assurance of freedom in worship and opinion, and the need to be Christ's witnesses within society.

The following facts are representative of the tradition and practice of American Baptists.

**1 American Baptists believe that Jesus Christ is Lord and Savior, and that the Bible is the divinely inspired word of God that serves as the final written authority for living out the Christian faith.**

American Baptists celebrate the fact that belief in Jesus Christ assures salvation and eternal fellowship with a loving God. The events of the first Easter week are the cornerstones of our faith: the death of Christ, in which He took upon Himself the sin of the world, and the Resurrection, which gave proof of His triumph over sin and death. Holy Scripture always has been for American Baptists the authoritative and trustworthy guide for knowing and serving the God who is revealed as Creator, Savior and Advocate.

**2 For American Baptists the local church is the fundamental unit of mission in denominational life.** Baptist roots date back four centuries to a people seeking the opportunity to worship God as individual members of freely organized and freely functioning local churches. Baptists always have maintained the need for autonomous congregations, responsible for articulating their own doctrine, style of worship and mission.

**3 American Baptists partake of two ordinances: believers' baptism and The Lord's Supper.** Baptism, an act of full immersion following Christ's example, is undertaken by those spiritually mature enough to understand its profound, symbolic significance: resurrection to new life in Christ. Through The Lord's Supper, or Holy Communion, the bread and cup that symbolize the broken body and shed blood offered by Christ recall God's great love for us—just as they did for the disciples on the eve of Christ's crucifixion.

**4 American Baptists believe that the committed individual Christian can and should approach God directly, and that individual gifts of ministry should be shared.** American Baptists hold that all who truly seek God are both competent and called to develop in that relationship. They have rejected creeds or other statements that might compromise each believer's obligation to interpret Scripture under the guidance of the Holy Spirit and within the community of faith. American Baptists also celebrate the special gifts of all believers, testifying that God can use each of us in ministry.

**5 American Baptists take seriously the call to evangelism and missionary work.** American Baptist worldwide mission work is a response to Christ's call to "make disciples of all nations." Through the efforts of our missionaries in partnership with others, ministries of evangelism, healing, education and development have made Christ's love known in the U.S. and around the world.

**6 American Baptists support religious freedom and respect the expressions of faith of others.** As a people whose forbears came together in response to intolerance, American Baptists have cherished freedom and pursued it for millions around the world. Manifestations of that ideal include supporting separation of church and state, advocating for people everywhere to be guaranteed the right to worship free from discrimination, and lifting up respectful dialog as a healthy means to understanding.

**7 American Baptists acknowledge that God's family extends beyond our local churches, and that God calls us to cooperative ministries.** Early Baptists saw that the effectiveness of their ministries would be greater through cooperation with other believers. Today within our American Baptist regions, churches work with each other and with denominational staff and in local and regional ecumenical arenas to increase the vitality and scope of their ministries. That outreach extends worldwide through our relationships with the Baptist World Alliance, the National Council of the Churches of Christ, the World Council of Churches and other groups.

**8 American Baptists have been called to be Christ's witnesses for justice and wholeness within a broken society.**

American Baptists have been led by the Gospel mandates to promote holistic change within society, as witnessed by their advocacy of freed African Americans following the Civil War, the Civil Rights Movement, women in church and societal leadership, ecological responsibility, and many other issues. While not all of one mind as to how to deal with challenges, American Baptists do affirm the need to follow Christ's example by being actively involved in changing society.

**9 American Baptist Churches USA celebrates the racial, cultural and theological diversity witnessed within its membership.** American Baptist Churches USA today is the most racially inclusive Protestant body. Represented in our churches are equally diverse worship styles, cultural mores and approaches to Scriptural interpretation. The resulting challenges and opportunities have made us stronger — through fellowship, respect, mutual support and dialog, all based on a belief that unity in Christ involves growth and understanding.

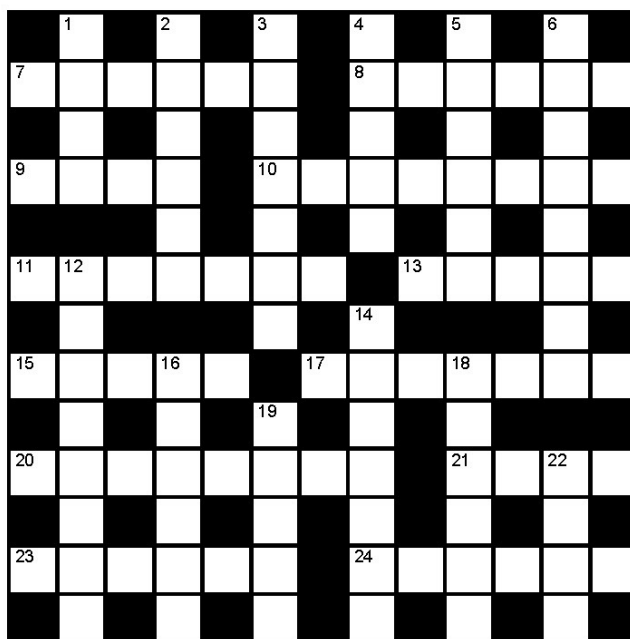
**10 American Baptists heed the biblical call to renewal and the need for a vital witness in a new millennium.** As people of faith, American Baptists seek renewal and revitalization. Informed by their history and tradition, motivated by contemporary needs and challenges, and strengthened by God's leading and the example and sacrifice of their Savior, American Baptists seek to bring a transforming witness to an uncharted future.





## Bible Crossword Puzzles (King James Version)

## 1 Timothy



## Across

- 7 "For they that have used the office of a deacon well purchase to themselves a good \_\_\_\_\_, and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus." 1 Tim 3:13 (6)
- 8 Paul exhorts that this be made for all men. 1 Tim 2:1 (6)
- 9 "But thou, O man of God, \_\_\_\_\_ these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness." 1 Tim 6:11 (4)
- 10 In 1 Tim 1:7, Paul instructs Timothy about some who have turned aside to meaningless talk and "desiring to be \_\_\_\_\_ of the law" but do not understand what they say. (8)
- 11 In later times some will depart from the faith and teach false practices like forbidding marriage and commanding to \_\_\_\_\_ from meats. 1 Tim 4:3 (7)
- 13 Women are to adorn themselves in modest apparel, not costly \_\_\_\_\_. 1 Tim 2:9 (5)
- 15 For a man to be a bishop, he should not be a novice so that he isn't lifted up with this. 1 Tim 3:6 (5)
- 17 The recipient of this letter. (7)

- 20 "And the grace of our Lord was exceeding \_\_\_\_\_ with faith and love which is in Christ Jesus." 1 Tim 1:14 (8)
- 21 To abstain from food as a spiritual sign of worship. (4)
- 23 "But if I tarry long, that thou \_\_\_\_\_ know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God." 1 Tim 3:15 (6)
- 24 Paul instructs not to be high minded or trust in uncertain \_\_\_\_\_. 1 Tim 6:17 (6)

## Down

- 1 The place where Jesus refers to "the fire that never shall be quenched." Mark 9:43 (4)
- 2 Christ is both king and this. (6)
- 3 "For we brought nothing into this world, and it is \_\_\_\_\_ we can carry nothing out." 1 Tim 6:7 (7)
- 4 We can trust Paul as a preacher, apostle, and teacher of the Gentiles. He says, "I \_\_\_\_\_ the

truth in Christ, and lie not." 1 Tim 2:7 (5)

5 "But refuse profane and old wives' fables, and exercise thyself \_\_\_\_\_ unto godliness." 1 Tim 4:7 (6)

6 Paul and Timothy "both labour and suffer \_\_\_\_\_" because of their calling. 1

Tim 4:10 (8)

- 12 This criminal was set free in the place of Christ. (8)
- 14 Timothy is to treat the older women as mothers and the younger as these. 1 Tim 5:2 (7)
- 16 "But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath \_\_\_\_\_ the faith, and is worse than an infidel." 1 Tim 5:8 (6)
- 18 Paul gives instruction on the \_\_\_\_\_ of a deacon and a bishop in 1 Tim 3. (6)
- 19 One of the things Paul encourages Timothy to follow after in 1 Tim 6:11. (5)
- 22 "God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, \_\_\_\_\_ of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory." 1 Tim 3:16 (4)

## One Great Hour of Sharing

### Where Your Gifts Made a Difference in 2013

When you take a global view of our world, natural disasters occur every week. If you include disasters of human origin, the opportunity to respond to people in need is even more frequent. The larger disasters are captured by our news media, and word of the tragedy is brought into our homes. It is difficult to imagine the suffering of those whose lives were forever changed in just a few seconds. But many needs of our world—whether in a neighboring state or half the world away—remain uncovered by our news media. However, with our extensive network of international and domestic partners, American Baptists are able to make a difference wherever and whenever disaster strikes.

In 2013, nature's fury was on display as tornadoes ravaged Moore, OK, and then the strongest typhoon ever to make landfall, Typhoon Haiyan, raged across the Philippines. Across the United States drought affected thousands of farmers—large scale and small—the effects of which are now felt by rising food prices. And on the continent of Africa, drought and famine conditions in East Africa continued to be so severe it was the worse experienced by millions in decades.

But 2013 wasn't just a year for extraordinary natural disasters, it was also a year of many man-made disasters, as the "Arab Spring" pro-democracy uprisings and intense internal civil conflicts continued and forced hundreds of thousands of Syrians to flee their homes. As the year came to an end, fighting in South Sudan uprooted hundreds of thousands who were already living precariously close to poverty. Yes, your gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing brought relief in each of these situations. Here is where your gifts made a difference in 2013.

#### AROUND THE WORLD

Country	Situation Calling for a Response
China.....	Sichuan Earthquake Dingxi City Earthquake
Egypt.....	Relief for Persecuted Christians
India.....	Cyclone Phailin Relief
Mexico.....	Mixteca Region Flooding
Nicaragua.....	Refugee Relief
Philippines.....	Typhoon Haiyan Relief
Spain.....	Fire Damage to Seminary Building
Syria.....	Relief for Internally Displaced People Due to Civil War
Thailand.....	Fire in the Ban Mae Sur Refugee Camp Kwai River Christian Hospital Flood Relief Peanut Crop Virus

#### HERE AT HOME

State	Situation Calling for a Response
Various.....	Spring Storms and Tornadoes
Various.....	ABMEN National Disaster Responses
Colorado.....	Fire Relief
Idaho.....	First Baptist Church, Emmett Arson Relief
Illinois.....	Metro Chicago Flood Relief Tornado Relief
New York.....	Flood Relief
South Dakota.....	Blizzard Relief

Love and compassion are  
necessities, not luxuries. Without  
them, humanity cannot survive.

— Dalai Lama XIV



## One Great Hour of Sharing World Relief Committee

Have you ever wondered how the gifts that you give to the One Great Hour of Sharing offering get to the places where they are put to work? This is the responsibility of the World Relief Committee (WRC or "Committee"). The Committee's purpose is to support, enable and encourage emergency relief, refugee work, disaster rehabilitation, and development assistance. The source of funds for this work is the gifts you give to the One Great Hour of Sharing offering.

The WRC is made up of people from different parts of our American Baptist life:

- 7 voting members elected as follows:
  - 2 from the Board of Directors of the American Baptist Foreign Mission Society;
  - 2 from the Board of Directors of the American Baptist Home Mission Societies;
  - 2 from the Board of General Ministries; and
  - 1 from the Executive Committee of the American Baptist Women's Ministries.
- 3 staff members: a representative each from the American Baptist Foreign Mission Society, the American Baptist Home Mission Societies, and the American Baptist Churches USA.
- The World Relief Officer serves as staff to the committee.

Although only the voting members vote on final decisions, all members have the opportunity to share their opinion on each of the project requests prior to the decision being made.

The World Relief Committee meets face-to-face two days a year to consider development project proposals. Each individual project proposal is submitted via a completed application which is presented by the appropriate staff representative and then considered by the committee. A formal vote is taken on each project, and the approval process is followed by a time of prayer for the partners who will receive the funding and for the people whose lives will be made better in some way by the project.

The committee also receives and reviews the annual financial report of the income and use of all One Great Hour of Sharing monies.

**For it is in giving  
that we receive.**

*— St. Francis of Assisi,  
founder of the Franciscan Order*



Women's Retreat & Workshop

# The Apple of His Eye

Saturday, September 27, 2014, 9:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Held at First Baptist Church, 4<sup>th</sup> & Main St, Niagara Falls, NY

Led by Kathleen Ordiway



**9:30 a.m.:** Continental Breakfast with Healthy Choices, too

**10:00 a.m.:** Retreat

Join us for all the apple-y goodness you can imagine.

We'll be in the kitchen preparing delicious items to share, so feel free to bring an apron.

Cost: \$20.00 per person

Please RSVP by 9/19/2014

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

Join us for fun, relaxation, new and old friends, good food and a time to be revived!

**Psalm 17:8 *Keep me as the apple of your eye; hide me in the shadow of your wings***

**We are cherished by God... the apple of His eye.**

Questions or to RSVP, contact Kathleen, 716-283-3225, 716-213-7374 or

[kathordway@yahoo.com](mailto:kathordway@yahoo.com)

Send your payment to: Kathleen Ordiway, 258-83<sup>rd</sup> 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.

*Retreats are non-denominational, Christian events*

## Looking Forward...

I received a copy of a survey from Pew Research Center, September 13, 2013, regarding church attendance - and why some people stay home. Worship attendance in the "seldom to never" category has increased from 25% to 29%, therefore, almost one out of three people you know or meet does not attend church, compared to a decade ago when it was one out of four.

The reasons given for this lack of action are:

- 24% cite personal priorities
- 16% are too busy
- Work conflicts
- Health problems
- Transportation Difficulties

Another 4 in 10 (37%) point to directly related issues with religion or church itself. The most common were disagreements with the beliefs of the religion or their church leaders or believe that attending worship is not important. Meanwhile, almost one-in-ten (9%) do not attribute their lack of attendance at services to anything in particular.

I've been studying three books which make suggestions for reaching those 1 in 3 persons who are non-religious, non-practicing and non-attending people. Our Worship and Music Committee is starting a study and making plans to look forward to rebuilding the congregation of our church. I've started study and hope to lead discussion on what we, at First Baptist can practically do, set priorities and make an action plan over the next several months.

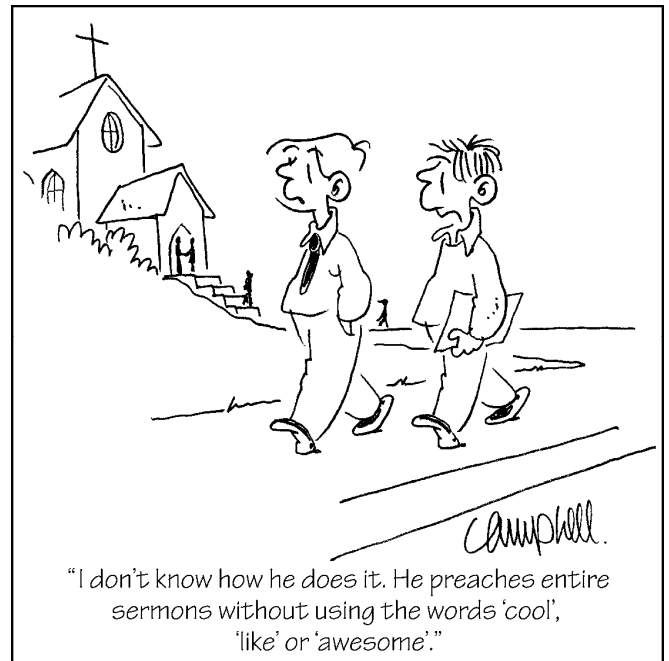
Do we know the people who live around the church and around us? What are their priorities? Have we invited them to come to church? We have plenty of questions and are seeking answers. May the Holy Spirit lead us onward in this work.

***Donna Flood***

## Family Movie Night...

Was a big success on Thursday, July 24. The latest VeggieTales movie, "The Fennel Frontier," was very cleverly written and the production itself was outstanding. (The freshly popped popcorn was a big treat, too.) We saw several new faces and quite a few kids. Can this be a new means of outreach and growth for our church? With your support it certainly can be.

Next month the Family Movie Night will be August 21 at 7:00 PM. Let's all put up posters and come for the fun and fellowship!



**Join Destined for Success, Women in Transition and Brighton Community Church for a Conversation Circle focusing on "The Invitation" by Oriah: A Challenge for You to Live an Authentic Life.**

Date: Tuesday, August 12, 2014.

Time: 9:30 am (Check In)/ Conversations 10:00 am-12:00 pm.

Location: Brighton Community Church

1225 Brighton Road, Tonawanda, NY 14150

[www.brightoncommunitychurch.blogspot.com](http://www.brightoncommunitychurch.blogspot.com)

716-832-4889

### **Participating in the Circle:**

Pastor Lisa Drysdale-Brighton Community Church  
Alicia Scott-licensed registered nurse-Niagara Falls  
Memorial Medical Center

Dr. Norschenia Dobbs-Founder/CEO No Opportunity Wasted

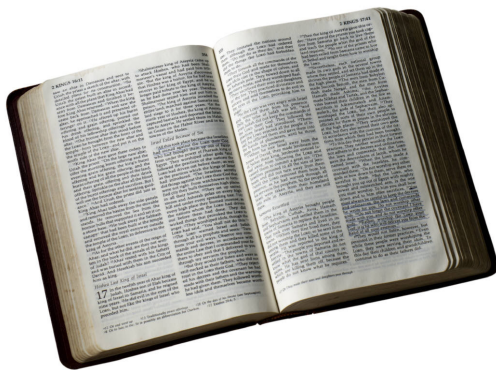
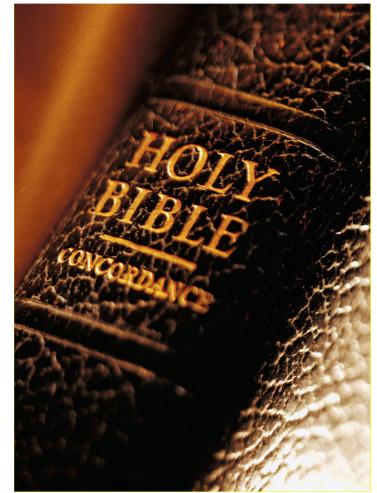
"In a world of endless small talk, constant traffic jams and overburdened schedules...Accept "The Invitation" and open yourself to embrace all that is possible.

## Bible Study

The Rev. Dr. Charles Lamb has graciously agreed to lead our Bible Study classes this fall. The Diaconate wishes to invite everyone, both members of First Baptist Church and our community in general, to participate in these extraordinarily fine sessions. Dr. Lamb taught Bible at Niagara University for many years and brings a wealth of information and insight to his studies. Many of us were fortunate enough to hear Rev. Lamb's Lenten series in 2013 and have come to appreciate his insightful yet down to earth approach to the Scriptures.

This fall series will be a general survey to provide deeper understanding of the Bible as a whole. In the spring the study group will be able to choose a specific area for closer attention.

Mark your calendars right now to save the dates for this wonderful opportunity to learn and grow in Biblical knowledge under the guidance of a gifted teacher.



### *Dates for the Bible classes* *All classes start at 7:00 P/M*

September 24 — The Torah, the First Five Books  
October 8 — Historical Writings & King David  
November 5 — The Prophets  
November 19 — Job, Psalms, Proverbs, etc.  
December 3 — The Epistles  
December 17 — The Gospels

## Be Nourished

