

# TOWER TOPICS

The News Magazine of

## First Baptist Church

Niagara Falls, New York



VOLUME 70

NUMBER 3

2018

## First Baptist Church

554 Main Street

Corner of Main and Fourth

Niagara Falls, New York 14301-1584

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# March 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>✝ March is a busy month. Lenten Vespers – Thursday noontime Lenten lunches – special service on Maundy Thursday – three hour Good Friday service – and Festival service on Palm Sunday. Easter is Sunday, April 1. Please invite everyone you meet to come to a lunch or evening service or morning service. Good Friday is special because one can come and go as schedules allow, and the preaching will be outstanding.</p>				<p><b>1</b></p> <p>12:00 Lenten Noontime Lunch Rev. Harvey Kelley</p>	<p><b>2</b></p>	<p><b>3</b></p>
<p><b>4</b> LENT 3</p> <p>10:00 Bible Study and Pre-service Fellowship 11:00 Divine Worship with Holy Communion Rev. Dr. Brian A. Brown, preaching</p>	<p><b>5</b></p>	<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p>OFFICE CLOSED NO Inasmuch lunch (This Month)  7:00 Lenten Vespers</p>	<p><b>8</b></p> <p>12:00 Lenten Noontime Lunch Rev. Brian Brown</p>	<p><b>9</b></p>	<p><b>10</b></p>
<p><b>11</b> LENT 4</p> <p>10:00 Bible Study and Pre-service Fellowship 11:00 Divine Worship with Holy Communion Rev. Dr. Brian A. Brown, preaching 12:15 Second Sunday Lunch</p> <p><b>DAYLIGHT SAVINGS BEGINS</b></p>	<p><b>12</b></p>	<p><b>13</b></p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p>OFFICE CLOSED  6:00 Diaconate/Trustees Meeting 7:00 Lenten Vespers</p>	<p><b>15</b></p> <p>12:00 Lenten Noontime Lunch Rev. Charles Lamb</p>	<p><b>16</b></p>	<p><b>17</b></p> 
<p><b>18</b> LENT 5</p> <p>10:00 Bible Study and Pre-service Fellowship 11:00 Divine Worship with Holy Communion Rev. Dr. Brian A. Brown, preaching <i>Third Sunday Food Collection</i></p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p>Joseph, Guardian of Jesus</p>	<p><b>20</b></p>  <p>Spring Begins</p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p>OFFICE CLOSED  7:00 Lenten Vespers</p>	<p><b>22</b></p> <p>12:00 Lenten Noontime Lunch Rev. Mark Breese</p>	<p><b>23</b></p>	<p><b>24</b></p>
<p><b>25</b> PALM SUNDAY</p> <p>10:00 Bible Study and Pre-service Fellowship 11:00 Divine Worship with Holy Communion Rev. Dr. Brian A. Brown, preaching</p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p>Monday in Holy Week</p>	<p><b>27</b></p> <p>Tuesday in Holy Week</p>	<p><b>28</b></p> <p>Wednesday in Holy Week</p>	<p><b>29</b></p> <p>OFFICE CLOSED  7:00 Maundy Thursday Service</p>	<p><b>30</b> OFFICE CLOSED <b>12:00 - 3:00</b> <b>GOOD FRIDAY</b> Ecumenical Service  <b>Passover</b></p>	<p><b>31</b></p> <p><b>EASTER VIGIL</b></p>



# TOWER TOPICS

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF

## First Baptist Church

NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK



### March Birthdays

10	Kristy Engel
24	Marge Bozigar
25	Ron Bowser
29	Elaine McGrath
29	Joseph Mark Hoopsick III
30	Tim Baxter



PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY for Joseph Hoopsick, William Cody, Carole and Hank Buchalski, John Swindlehurst, Sara Gromniak, Patricia Smeal, Janet Keebler, Gladys Lewis, our Church family, our missionaries, especially Carmella Jones, our Country and all those who serve our Country



### March 1 — Thursday

12:00 Noon Lenten Luncheon – Rev. Harvey Kelley

### March 4 — Sunday — Lent 3

10:00 AM Bible Study & Pre-service Fellowship

11:00 AM Divine Worship with Holy Communion  
Rev. Dr. Brian A. Brown, preaching

### March 7 — Wednesday

NO Inasmuch Lunch (this month)

7:00 PM Lenten Vespers

Rev. Kathleen A. Ordiway, preaching

### March 8 — Thursday

12:00 Noon Lenten Luncheon – Rev. Dr. Brian Brown

### March 11 — Sunday — Lent 4

10:00 AM Bible Study & Pre-service Fellowship

11:00 AM Divine Worship  
Rev. Dr. Brian A. Brown, preaching

12:15 PM Second Sunday Lunch

### March 14 — Wednesday

7:00 PM Lenten Vespers

Rev. Kathleen A. Ordiway, preaching

### March 15 — Thursday

12:00 Noon Lenten Lunch – Rev. Dr. Charles Lamb

### March 18 — Lent 5

10:00 AM Bible Study & Pre-service Fellowship

11:00 AM Divine Worship  
Rev. Dr. Brian A. Brown, preaching  
*Third Sunday Food Collection*

### March 21 — Wednesday

7:00 PM Lenten Vespers

Rev. Kathleen A. Ordiway, preaching

### March 22 — Thursday

12:00 Noon Lenten Lunch – Rev. Mark Breese

### March 25 — Palm Sunday

10:00 AM Bible Study & Pre-service Fellowship

11:00 AM Divine Worship  
Rev. Dr. Brian A. Brown, preaching

### March 29 — Maundy Thursday

7:00 PM Divine Worship with Holy Communion

Rev. Kathleen A. Ordiway, preaching

### March 30 — GOOD FRIDAY

12:00 – 3:00 PM — 3 hour service – 7 preachers

Church Office Hours: 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM, Monday — Friday

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

James D. Flood, FWTC, FCSM - Church Administrator and Editor





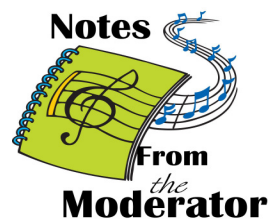
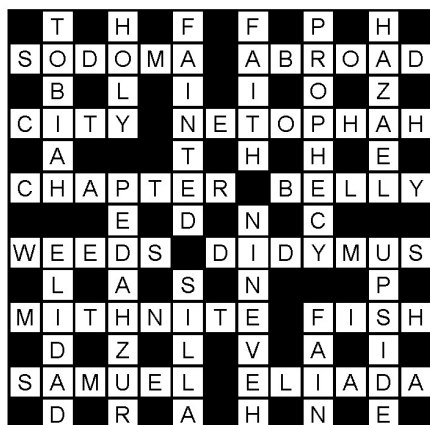
**March 30, 2018 — Noon to 3:00 PM**

*An ecumenical three-hour Good Friday service. Seven sections based on the Last Words of Christ from the Cross. Seven speakers. Special music.*

*Bring friends and family to this very sacred service on this sacred day. Come and go between sections as your schedule allows.*

## Last Month's Crossword Answers

**Jonah**



Spring is springing! It's time to dust off winter blahs, come to church and get your faith rejuvenated. Our Lenten Sunday series lead by Rev. Brian Brown will focus on Christ, the Way, the Truth, the Life; Rev. Kath is leading the Wednesday Lenten series on prayer, and the Thursday luncheons provide good eats and a brief message with fellowship with our fellow Niagara Falls Christians. We are not the only people in Niagara Falls striving to lead better lives. Joining with our city neighbors so we can pray, eat and be better Christians can be fun.

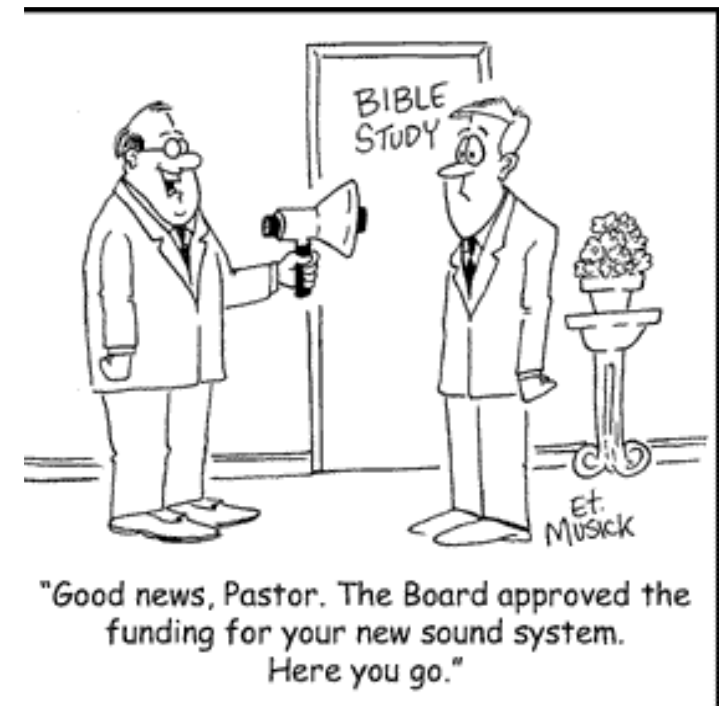
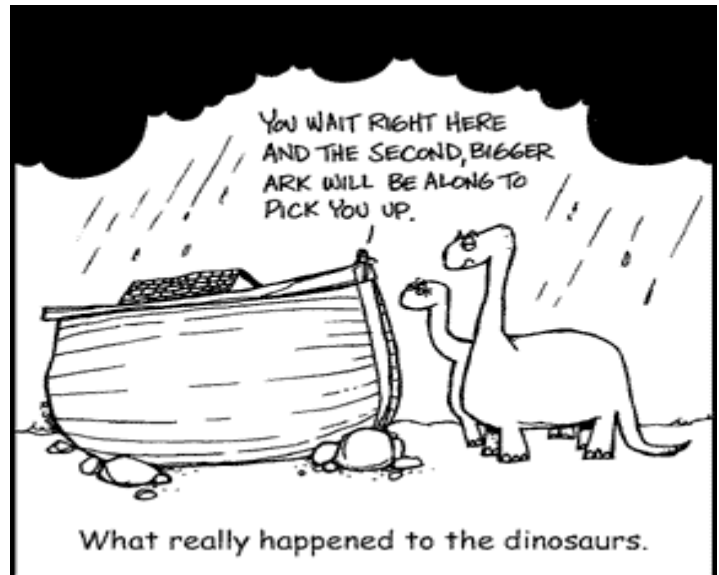
Our Holy Week observation includes Palm Sunday with a procession of the palms, Holy Thursday celebrates the first Communion and the Good Friday observance brings home the message of the Gospels and the sacrifice at the Cross. Easter service celebrates the rising from the tomb and the triumph of the Cross. These Christian events can be best observed in the first person, that is, you and yours, jumping in with both feet and participating in the services.

Many hands have made light work of the Thursday luncheons and we thank the following cooks and cook helpers; Connie Davis, Hazel Baxter, Marge Bozigar, Margie Blakely, Kay Buckley, Ron Bowser, Donna Flood, Sally Denny, Jim Flood and John Burrows. At this writing I have no idea of exact numbers, but will later. Call the office if you're coming and pay at the door. Bring your friends and neighbors, too.

Progress has been made on the restoration on the second floor Christmas storage room. More progress has been made on the gym floor! Hopefully, we'll have our Mother's Day brunch in the restored gym and then it will be open for business. There are other plans afoot. The memorial committee has a suggestion for a system to assist hearing sermons and many other things. See Hazel or Jim with your good suggestions.

The Spring/Summer Rummage Sale will be the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> of July. When you clean out those closets, bring items to church or call for a pick up at 282-4666.

**Donna Flood,**  
Moderator





# GOOD FRIDAY

## Ecumenical Service

Seven Last Words of Christ from the Cross  
at

First Baptist Church

554 Main Street, Main at Fourth, Niagara Falls, New York 14301-1584 (716) 282-4666

FRIDAY, MARCH 30, 2018

NOON – 3:00 PM

Seven Sections – Special Music  
Seven Speakers:

Rev. William Thomas

Rev. Harvey Kelley

Rev. Dr. Judith Mercer

Rev. Dr. Brian Arthur Brown

Rev. Patricia Ludwig

Rev. Kathleen A. Ordiway

Rev. Dr. Charles F. Lamb

Come and go as your schedule allows.





## Lenten Vesper Series ... Prayer

Join us at 7 PM on Wednesday evenings through March 21<sup>st</sup> as we travel together on our Lenten journey, thinking about prayer – why pray, how Jesus prayed, what we should pray and does it really make a difference?

On February 21<sup>st</sup>, we acknowledged the need to confess our sins to God so that we can continue in relationship and see our lives change. “If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins.” 1 John 1:9.

February 28<sup>th</sup>: “Seeing God In Our Lives” ... “Philip said to Him, ‘Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.’” John 14:8. If you look, you’ll see God, especially when you pray for open eyes. We are never alone, even when it sometimes feels that way.

March 7<sup>th</sup>: Are you making a “Joyful Noise”? 1 Peter 1:8 “Rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy.” Don’t let a day go by without making a joyful noise! Whether you sing, shout aloud, share your blessings – in all things, rejoice!

March 14<sup>th</sup>: I Believe. We have to believe in what we pray and to whom we pray. Psalm 27:13 “I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.” What do you believe?

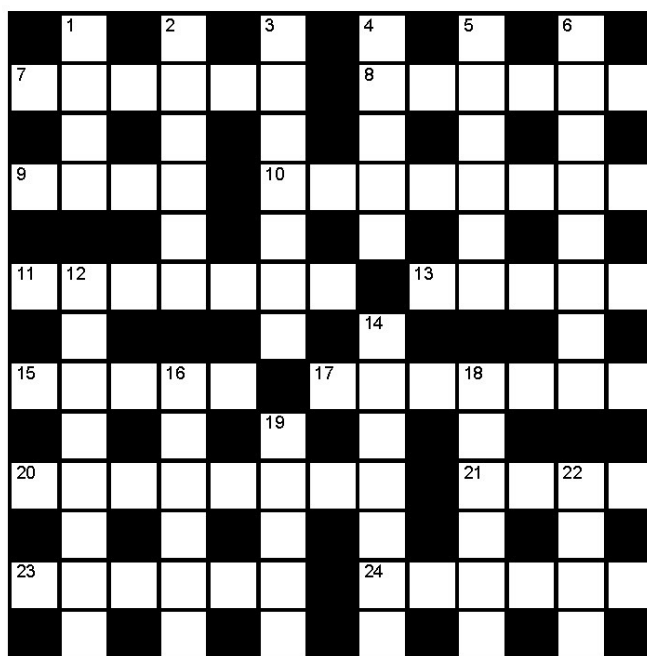
March 21<sup>st</sup>: If we believe prayer makes a difference, if we believe God is listening, then sometimes we find ourselves “Crying Out To God” in our pain, in fear, in our sorrow, in our confusion. Psalm 18:6: “In my distress I called upon the Lord; to my God I cried for help. From his temple he heard my voice, and my cry to him reached his ears.” On this last Vesper Service of the series, we will have our traditional once a year Altar Call. Anyone and everyone is invited to come forward if they so desire. At the end of the series, everyone will receive a small prayer booklet. Invite a friend to travel on the journey with us.

***Rev. Kath***



## Bible Crossword Puzzles (King James Version)

## Micah



## Across

- 7 "Be in pain, and \_\_\_\_\_ to bring forth, O daughter of Zion, like a woman in travail." Micah 4:10 (6)
- 8 "They shall make great noise by \_\_\_\_\_ of the multitude of men." Micah 2:12 (6)
- 9 "I will surely assemble, O Jacob, all of \_\_\_\_; I will surely gather the remnant of Israel." Micah 2:12 (4)
- 10 This word means devoid of inhabitants. Micah 7:13 (8)
- 11 "And I will execute vengeance in anger and fury upon the \_\_\_\_\_, such as they have not heard." Micah 5:15 (7)
- 13 The mountains shall be molten "as the waters that are poured down a \_\_\_\_\_ place." Micah 1:4 (5)
- 15 "Then shall the seers be ashamed, and the diviners confounded: yea, they shall all cover their lips; for \_\_\_\_\_ is no answer of God." Micah 3:7 (5)
- 17 "I will bear the indignation of the LORD, \_\_\_\_\_ I have sinned against him ..." Micah 7:9 (7)

- 20 "Enlarge thy \_\_\_\_\_ as the eagle ..." Micah 1:16 (8)
- 21 "And they shall abide: for now shall he be great unto the \_\_\_\_\_ of the earth." Micah 5:4 (4)
- 23 "... As wax before the fire, and as the \_\_\_\_\_ that are poured ..." Micah 1:4 (6)
- 24 "The daughter \_\_\_\_\_ up against her mother." Micah 7:6 (6)

## Down

- 1 "Declare ye it not at \_\_\_\_\_, weep ye not at all: in the house of Aphrah roll thyself in the dust." Micah 1:10 (4)
- 2 "And the remnant of Jacob shall be among the Gentiles in the midst of many people as a lion among the beasts of the \_\_\_\_\_." Micah 5:8 (6)
- 3 "Mine eyes shall behold her: now shall she be \_\_\_\_\_ down as the mire of the streets." Micah 7:10 (7)

4 When I fall, I shall do this. Micah 7:8 (5)

5 "For she gathered it of the hire of an \_\_\_\_\_, and they shall return to the hire of an \_\_\_\_\_." Micah 1:7 (6)

6 A fortified place. Micah 7:12 (8)

12 Micah prophesies that a ruler will come out of Bethlehem \_\_\_\_\_. Micah 5:2 (8)

14 "Are there yet the treasures of wickedness in the house of the wicked, and the scant \_\_\_\_\_ that is abominable?" Micah 6:10 (7)

16 "There the LORD shall \_\_\_\_\_ thee from the hand of thine enemies." Micah 4:10 (6)

18 "Ye pull off the robe with the garment from them that pass by securely as men \_\_\_\_\_ from war." Micah 2:8 (6)

19 The lion is this. Micah 5:8 (5)

22 "He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what \_\_\_\_\_ the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?" Micah 6:8 (4)





## OUR 175<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY HISTORY CORNER

During our 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year (and probably beyond) we are delving into our archives to bring our wonderful past to light. Last month we had the boys basketball team. In this photograph:

- ❖ What service is this? (Easy question)
- ❖ What year is it? (Harder question, but there are clues.)
- ❖ Who is the minister?

ANSWERS: \_\_\_\_\_

ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S PICTURE: The boys basketball team, probably in the 1950's. We do not know the names of the players or the coaches. Can anyone help?



## Rebuilding, Restoring, Renewing Puerto Rico

In response to the devastating one-two punch leveled at Puerto Rico by hurricanes Irma and Maria in fall 2017, American Baptist Home Mission Societies (ABHMS), in partnership with American Baptist Churches USA (ABCUSA), launched the “Rebuilding, Restoring, Renewing Puerto Rico” multi-year initiative.

ABHMS is thrilled to share that the initiative’s initial fundraising goal—\$1 million via One Great Hour of Sharing by March 30, 2018—was surpassed as of Feb. 9, 2018! However, great need still exists in Puerto Rico, and ABHMS urges continued [giving](#) to help our brothers and sisters on the island.

Because the need is so great, ABHMS is not limiting its volunteer-mobilization efforts to specific work weeks on the island. In the “Rebuilding, Restoring, Renewing Puerto Rico” online registration packet below, indicate your preferred volunteer work week, beginning March 1 or later. Create your own work group or be placed with a group. Cost of \$150 per person per week includes housing, food and supplies. Volunteers are responsible for transportation to, from and on the island.

“Within the next three to five years,” Haggray said, “we will work with our American Baptist partners to restore all 114 churches and nine missions in the Iglesias Bautistas de Puerto Rico as well as Corporacion Milagros del Amor and Seminario Evangélico de Puerto Rico.”

### Give

Donations may be made via your church; via credit card online at [abhms.org](http://abhms.org) > [GIVE NOW](#); or if making a donation by check please make checks payable to **American Baptist Home Mission Societies** and on the memo line place: **OGHS – PR** and send to

ABHMS  
Attn: Kim Wilkins  
Puerto Rico Rebuild  
P.O. Box 851  
Valley Forge, PA 19482-0851

One hundred percent of donations go to relief efforts; no dollars are retained for administrative costs. To ensure that your church receives credit for your gift, write the church name on your check or, if giving online, in the “comment” box.

### Volunteer

The need in Puerto Rico is so great that ABHMS is not designating specific volunteer work weeks on the island. Churches, other groups and individuals are urged to determine their own volunteer work weeks, beginning March 1 or later. Volunteers can create their own work groups or contact ABHMS to be placed with a group. Cost of \$150 per person per week includes housing, food and supplies. Volunteers are responsible for round-trip transportation to Puerto Rico as well as transportation on the island.

# WEDNESDAY LENTEN VESPERS

at

**First Baptist Church**

554 Main Street, Main at Fourth, Niagara Falls, New York 14301-1584 (716) 282-4666

## Wednesday evenings at 7:00 PM

***Rev. Kathleen A. Ordiway, preaching***

February 21 — “Confession”

February 28 — “Seeing God in Our Lives”

March 7 — “Joyful Noise”

March 14 — “I Believe”

March 21 — “Crying Out to God”

**Maundy Thursday — March 29 — Holy Communion**

### **GOOD FRIDAY**

**12:00 Noon – 3:00 PM**

**7 Sections – 7 Preachers**

## **Come and bring a friend!**

***All are welcome*** — [www.NiagaraFallsBaptist.org](http://www.NiagaraFallsBaptist.org)





# THURSDAY NOON LENTEN LUNCHES

at

## First Baptist Church

554 Main Street, Main at Fourth, Niagara Falls, New York 14301-1584 (716) 282-4666

### EXCELLENT FOOD – GREAT SPEAKERS – 12:00 Noon GOOD CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

February 15 — Roast Chicken with mashed potatoes	Rev. Dr. Judith Mercer, speaker
February 22 — Baked pork chops with baked potatoes	Mrs. Marlene Burling, speaker
March 1 — Baked ham with scalloped potatoes	Rev. Harvey Kelley, speaker
March 8 — Meatloaf and roasted potatoes	Rev. Dr. Brian A Brown, speaker
March 15 — Chicken and biscuits	Rev. Dr. Charles F. Lamb, speaker
March 22 — Roast pork loin with stuffing	Rev. Mark Breese, speaker
Vegetable and Salad, Rolls and Butter, Coffee and Tea, & Dessert with all meals	

Adults \$8 — Children (6-12) \$4 — 5 & under — free  
Pay at the door

**Come and bring a friend!**  
**Call to let us know you're coming.**  
716-282-4666

***All are welcome*** — [www.NiagaraFallsBaptist.org](http://www.NiagaraFallsBaptist.org)

