

TOWER TOPICS

The News Magazine of

First Baptist Church

Niagara Falls, New York



VOLUME 67

NUMBER 6

2015

First Baptist Church

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

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June 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Dinner Theater Only \$20.00	1	2	3 12:15 Inasmuch lunch	4	5 10:00 Men's Coffee Time 	6
7 2ND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 10:00 Pre-service Fellowship 11:00 Divine Worship with Communion 5:00 L.I.F.E. "June in Bustin' Out"	8	9	10 7:00 Diaconate/ Trustees Meeting	11	12 10:00 Men's Coffee Time  7:30 Three Testaments Opening Night	13 1:00 Conference 7:30 Three Testaments
14 3RD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 10:00 Pre-service Fellowship 11:00 Divine Worship 12:15 Second Sunday lunch 7:30 Three Testaments 	15 7:30 Three Testaments	16 6:00 Dinner Theater "German Night" 7:30 Three Testaments	17 6:00 Dinner Theater "Italian Night" 7:30 Three Testaments	18 6:00 Dinner Theater "French Night" 7:30 Three	19 10:00 Men's Coffee Time  7:30 Three Testaments	20 7:30 Three Testaments
21 4TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 10:00 Pre-service Fellowship 11:00 Divine Worship FATHER'S DAY SUMMER BEGINS 7:30 Three Testaments – Final Show	22	23	24 6:00 Family Night	25	26 10:00 Men's Coffee Time 	27
28 5TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 10:00 Pre-service Fellowship 11:00 Divine Worship	29	30	Get your free tickets! They will be in the bulletins May 31 and June 7. You can also call the Church office. This play is not to be missed!			



TOWER TOPICS

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF

First Baptist Church

NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK



Birthdays

5	Henry Buchalski
6	Eileen Palmer Wrobel
7	Jenny Brown
9	Connie Davis
10	Dorothy Jackson
22	Christeen Palmer Salimbene



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



June 3 – Wednesday

12:15 PM Inasmuch luncheon

June 7 – Sunday

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

10:00 AM Pre-service Fellowship

11:00 AM Divine Worship with Holy Communion

Mrs. Kathleen Ordiway, preaching

5:00 PM L.I.F.E. “June Is Bustin’ Out All Over”

June 10 – Wednesday

7:00 PM Diaconate/Trustees Meeting

June 12 – Friday

7:30 PM Opening Night: *Three Testaments*

June 13 - Saturday

1:00 PM Conference Re: *Three Testaments*

7:30 PM Play: *Three Testaments*

June 14 — Sunday

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

10:00 AM Pre-service Fellowship

11:00 AM Divine Worship

Rev. Brian Brown, FRSA, preaching

12:15 PM Second Sunday Lunch

June 15 - Monday

7:30 PM Play: *Three Testaments*

June 16 – Dinner Theater

6:00 PM “German Night”

7:30 PM Play: *Three Testaments*

June 17 – Dinner Theater

6:00 PM “Italian Night”

7:30 PM Play: *Three Testaments*

June 18 – Dinner Theater

6:00 PM “French Night”

7:30 PM Play: *Three Testaments*

June 19, 20 – Friday and Saturday

7:30 PM Play: *Three Testaments*

June 21 — Sunday

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

10:00 AM Pre-service Fellowship

11:00 AM Divine Worship

Mrs. Kathleen A. Ordiway, preaching

Third Sunday Food Collection

7:30 PM Final Night – Play: *Three Testaments*

June 24 – Wednesday-Family Night – 6:00 PM

June 28 — Sunday

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

10:00 AM Pre-service Fellowship

11:00 AM Divine Worship

Rev. Brian A. Brown, FRSA, preaching

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, June 7, 2015

5:00 PM

“June Is Bustin’ Out All Over”

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.

June 16, 17, 18 – 6:00 PM

Dinner Theater

Tuesday – “German Night”

Wednesday – “Italian Night”

Thursday – “French Night”

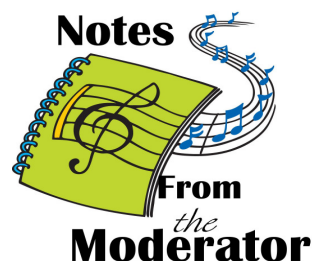
**ONLY \$20 For a DELICIOUS Scipione's
Catered Meal!**

Last month's answers

Jude



Notes



New congregation members have been invited to join our church. We see new faces every now and then. When people return, show an interest in our activities, they are invited to join us on a permanent basis. It's exciting to think of our expanded capabilities. If you haven't been invited and wish to be a member, see Kath or Donna to make arrangements for attending a newcomer class, be Baptized if necessary, and have the right hand of fellowship extended to you.

The Open House on Sunday May 17 had a few visitors. The post Easter Bible Study discussions have concluded with lively discussions led by the Rev. Cheryl Wood-Thomas and Alison Miculan. The Old Testament history was explained and its relevance to today's issues within our community and into the world was discussed from several points of view. We thank Jim, Kath and Donna for treats at these gatherings.

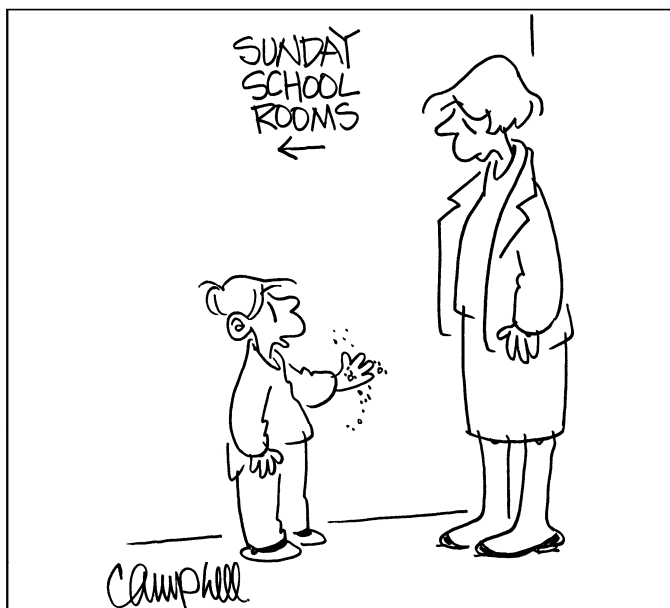
Our Heart, Love, and Soul offerings of food and personal care items turn to family and kid friendly foods as summer vacation will soon be here. Discussions have been held to work on a summer basketball camp for city youth. A project such as this has been successful in Canada and we are learning from it. This maybe just the ticket for our gym and the youth of our city. Stay tuned for further information.

The repair for our external walls on the alley side is nearing completion. The power lines have been moved to the other side of the alley making it safer for workman on the high lifts. The windows and screens have been painted at the ground level so now all the paint matches around the church. The roof repair will be completed at the same time as both crews need the high lift to reach damaged areas.

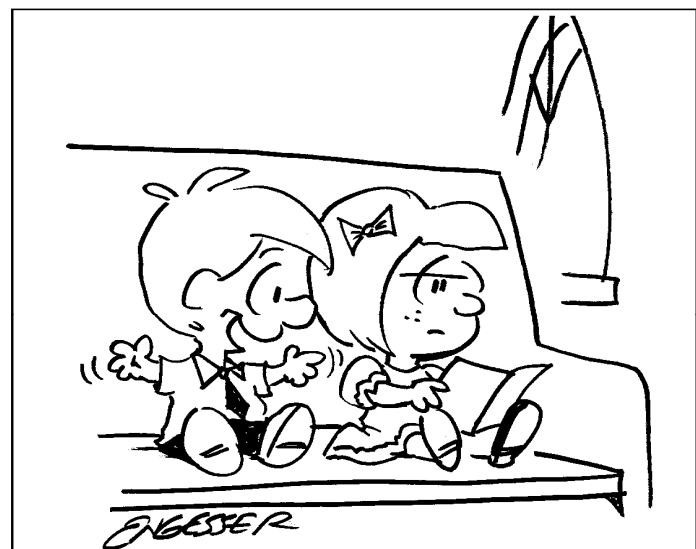
Continued on page 9



"These are vegetables, mother. You wouldn't want me to eat something I've given up for Lent, would you?"



"Mrs. Moore expects us to gain a firm grasp of our Sunday school lessons. See? Rosin."



"So basically he took five loaves of bread and supersized 'em."



"The Sunday school teacher says this'll be a true test of my acting ability. What does she mean by that?"



"You're right. Man does not live on bread alone. My mom and dad use credit cards."



"I don't know where Cain and Abel went for Thanksgiving, Son. I just know they didn't go to Grandma's."



OK, what is it and where is it? A freshly brewed cup of gourmet coffee is the prize for everyone who can answer the question correctly. Send in your answer to the Tower Topics editor, aka, the Church Office.

Need a Little Transportation?

Sometimes lack of transportation keeps a person from coming to church when they want to. Do you or someone you know need transportation to come to First Baptist? Let us see what we can do. Call the Church office (716-282-4666) to let us know your needs and we will see what can be done to help out.



Scavenger Hunt

The figures aren't in yet, but the Second Annual Scavenger Hunt Fundraiser was definitely a big hit if we count enthusiasm, silliness and fun! After many years of holding a basket auction as our second most profitable fundraiser, the auction was put to rest. Many long hours were put in by some very faithful people - members, family and friends, alike - and they are thanked for their diligence. But after realizing the exorbitant time and expenses to put on such a major endeavor, we decided to try something different.

This year a wonderful list of things to find was created by my cousin, Julie Brundage Lowry. Four teams (my siblings & dad; my children; Julie's team and Katona's family) signed up to scour the city to find bus benches, red noses, fortune cookie fortunes, live bugs, slides, sand, fire hydrants, paint samples, people in uniform, a pet rock, garage sale signatures and so many other trivial "stuff"! Everyone met in the church dining room for their lists and rules, and then set off for a 2 1/2 hour adventure. Julie held down the fort with Connie and Diane while we were gone. Connie brought a luscious dessert and even raced home to bake something else while we were gone so there would be plenty of sweets.

A red nose! Should have been easy... just go to Walgreen's, purchase red noses from their Red Nose Campaign and photograph our group. Well, that campaign is going so well that both locations ran out of Red Noses! A fiction book with our names in it? Ah, after much searching, my team found not only one of our team member's name, but TWO in the same sentence! There was a bit of controversy, though, when one of my team members bagged up a spoonful of sand only to have another team call foul when they said it was only dirt! Sadly, they were right... but no cheating was attempted, only a mis-identification! Strangest house off of Lockport Road (on Lincoln?) - who couldn't miss that "lifesaver striped" house?!

When we got back to the church, with only moments to spare, our lists, photographs, and piles of items were cataloged and counted - while pizza was delivered for our hungry bellies!

The winner? All of us were winners, but my team came in first place - winning a gift certificate for Menchie's Frozen Yogurt. While eating some delicious pizza, we put tickets in baskets representing some wonderful donated prizes to see who would be lucky enough to go home with something special. There was good luck all around as every team was well represented in the winnings!

After considering the small number of teams - although we had an amazing time - I had considered calling our second scavenger hunt our last. But everyone participating had so much fun that they urged a few minor changes that will surely bring in many more teams next year - and therefore bringing in more money to be used toward the church budget and our continued mission to serve our area as Christ's hands, feet and heart.

Donations toward the fundraiser continue to come in from those who were unable to participate. Thanks go out to all those who have taken part!

THREE TESTAMENTS

Shalom, Peace, Salam

A Three Act Drama addressing the Quest for Peace in Our Time

Written by Brian Arthur Brown

June 12th – June 21st 2015 at 7:30pm

First Baptist Church

554 Main St., Niagara Falls, NY

\$18 US / \$20 CDN / \$10 Seniors & Students

Rev. Brian Arthur Brown, the author of this truly wonderful play, is graciously providing (at least)

Two Complimentary Tickets

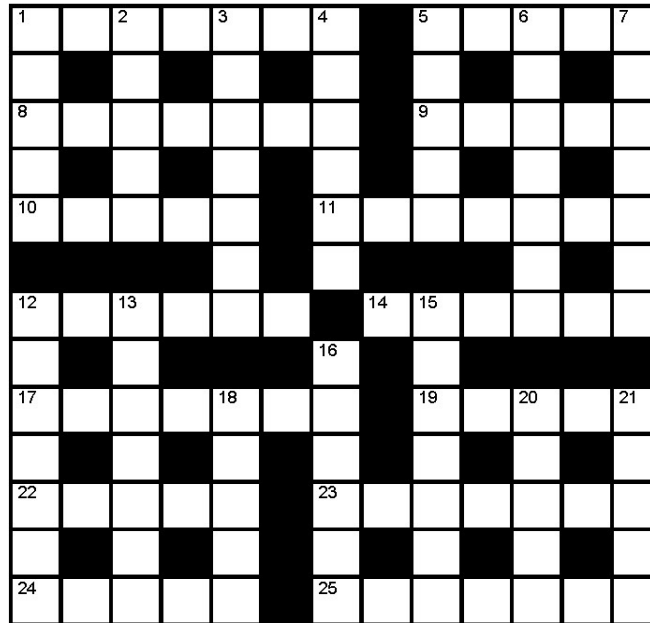
To everyone in the congregation of First Baptist Church.

Dinner Theater tickets for Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday nights are available at \$20.00 for the catered meal. Call Church Office.



Bible Crossword Puzzles (King James Version)

Revelation



Across

- 1 These came out of the smoke and had power. Rev 9:3 (7)
- 5 This part of the city fell after the earthquake. Rev 11:13 (5)
- 8 Two words. Rules put forth by humans. (4,3)
- 9 "And no man was able to _____ into the temple." Rev 15:8 (5)
- 10 "I know the blasphemy of them which say they are Jews, and are not, but are the synagogue of _____." Rev 2:9 (5)
- 11 The type of stone that John uses to compare who he sees on the throne. Rev 4:3 (7)
- 12 "For thou wast slain, and hast _____ed us to God by thy blood." Rev 5:9 (6)
- 14 The church in Pergamos "_____ Balac." Rev 2:12-14 (6)
- 17 This was offered along with prayers. Rev 8:3 (7)
- 19 "I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and _____ behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet." Rev 1:10 (5)
- 22 "And she _____ with child cried, travailing in birth, and pained to be delivered." Rev 12:2 (5)
- 23 One of the things the Son of God recognizes in the church in Thyatira. Rev 2:18-19 (7)
- 24 One of the items of merchandise that is no longer available after

- the destruction of Babylon. Rev 18:11-13 (5)
- 25 "Salvation to our God which _____ upon the throne, and unto the Lamb." Rev 7:10 (7)

Down

- 1 Seven of these were burning before the throne. Rev 4:5 (5)
- 2 "I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience, and how thou _____ not bear them which are evil." Rev 2:2 (5)
- 3 This lasted for half an hour when the seventh seal was opened. Rev 8:1 (7)
- 4 "And he saith unto me, The waters which thou _____, where the whore sitteth, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues." Rev 17:15 (6)
- 5 The 24 elders fell down "and cast _____ crowns before the throne." Rev 4:10 (5)
- 6 "Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and

have need of _____." Rev 3:17 (7)

7 "For the _____ of the earth is ripe." Rev 14:15 (7)

12 This was around the throne of the Lord. Rev 4:3 (7)

13 John saw that the Devil was cast into the bottomless pit "that he should _____ the nations no more." Rev 20:3 (7)

15 "I will give unto him that is _____ of the fountain of the water of life freely." Rev 21:6 (7)

16 These surround the throne saying, "Holy, holy, holy, LORD God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come." Rev 4:8 (6)

18 "And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor _____, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name." Rev 14:11 (5)

20 "I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am _____ for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death." Rev 1:18 (5)

21 "And he _____ great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men." Rev 13:13 (5)

Church “Camperships” Are available!

Dinner Theater tickets for Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday nights, June 16, 17 and 18 are available at \$20.00 for the catered meal. Call the Church Office.



Fully catered meals by Scipione Catering.

TUESDAY IS "GERMAN NIGHT"

WEDNESDAY IS "ITALIAN NIGHT"

THURSDAY IS "FRENCH NIGHT".

Call the Church Office for reservations. 6:00 Meal — 7:30 play.



IM Re-establishes Partnership with the Baptist Convention of Zambia

Rev. Dr. Eleazar Ziherambere (top row)

Baptists in the U.S. and Zambia are celebrating the renewal of a partnership between International Ministries (IM) and the Baptist Convention of Zambia (BCZ). This step promises to be a mutual blessing to the U.S. and the African nation of Zambia, which was known as Northern Rhodesia until 1964.

Dynamic growth has been occurring among the churches of BCZ, which numbered 350 in 2001 and have now grown to nearly 800—a 125% increase. This expansive ministry requires resources beyond those that any one convention of churches can provide by itself. The partnership that is now being strengthened between BCZ and IM can help to address this challenge.

IM Area Director for Africa the Reverend Dr. Eleazar Ziherambere has been instrumental in developing the relationship between IM and BCZ. From 1992 to 1997, Ziherambere was the general secretary of the All Africa Baptist Fellowship, composed of 40 church conventions with approximately six million members. While the Fellowship's office was hosted in Zambia, Ziherambere became personally familiar with the needs of the Zambian Baptists.

After serving the American Baptist Churches of New Jersey (during 1997–99), Ziherambere joined the IM staff to encourage African-American congregations in the U.S. to become more involved with international mission. He and Dr. Walter L. Parrish II, executive minister of the American Baptist Churches of the South (ABCOTS), led a group of ABCOTS clergy on a mission trip to Zambia in 2001. Other such visits followed, and in 2003 ABCOTS and BCZ signed a covenant that, among other actions, called for sister relationships between ABCOTS and BCZ congregations. This led ABCOTS clergy to offer seminary-type training for BCZ clergy during their subsequent visits to Zambia. At that time, of the 350 BCZ churches, only 50 were led by pastors with formal biblical training.

In 2005, IM and BCZ signed a covenant that led IM missionaries Charles and Sarah West to serve in Zambia, where they offered leadership training. This same covenant called for regular evaluation of the IM-BCZ partnership. Because of tension within the BCZ leadership, IM regretfully concluded in 2012 that the relationship needed to be suspended.

In the months that followed, BCZ leaders began to work on a resolution to their internal problems, and IM Global Consultant for Peace and Justice Dan Buttry helped

complete that conflict transformation process in 2014. People shed tears of joy as they expressed their gratitude for the event. This has opened the door to a renewal of the IM-BCZ partnership, which Ziherambere states "will pave the way for people in our local churches, especially ABCOTS, to reconnect with their brothers and sisters in Zambia for mutual exchange and blessing."

Additionally, in response to a BCZ request for IM to send someone to assist with women's ministries, newly endorsed missionary [Kathy Charland was recently assigned to Zambia](#). She is slated to help establish a women's center and work with economic empowerment for women. All those involved are celebrating God's timing, as Charland had sensed a call to serve in Zambia even before BCZ was developing a request for someone with her skills. Charland's heart has been in Zambia ever since she served there as a volunteer in 2007.



Smiling faces of just a few of the students at Centro Pedagogico Didaque in Tijuana, Mexico, as they model their new school uniforms

For many students, the school is their first time experiencing God's love, and it provides an escape from difficult home environments.

Many former students have gone on to middle and high schools, and are far better prepared to get out of the cycle of poverty and to be future leaders in their communities. The more severely disabled students have gained dignity and hope for the future due to their positive experiences at school.

The purpose of this mission project is to help provide an education for children who otherwise would not have the opportunity.

This project will be managed by Patti Long, IM missionary to Tijuana. It is anticipated that this project will improve the overall education of the community.