

TOWER TOPICS

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF

First Baptist Church

NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK

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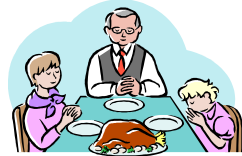
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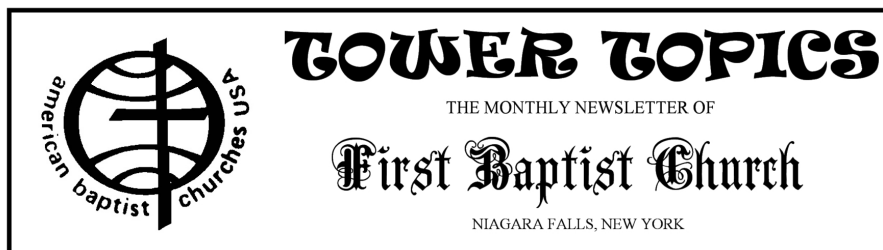
NOVEMBER 2012

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

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

November 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
☺ Basket Auction! Support the basket auction! Support the budget! Kath and her helpers have worked hard to make it a success. There are bargains galore in the baskets as well as baked goods and fun for all. See you there! ☺ VOTE ON NOVEMBER 6TH!				1	2 BASKET AUCTION Elks Club	3
4 ALL SAINTS 10:00 Adult Fellowship 11:00 Worship with Communion 12:15 Sixth Membership Class 5:00 L.I.F.E.	5	6 VOTE!	7	8	9	10
11 24TH SUN. AFTER PENTECOST 10:00 Adult Fellowship 11:00 Worship 12:15 Second Sunday Lunch  Veterans' Day	12	13	14 7:00 Diaconate/Trustees Meeting	15	16	17
18 25TH SUN. AFTER PENTECOST <i>Thanksgiving Sunday</i> 10:00 Adult Fellowship <i>Third Sunday Food Collection</i> 11:00 Worship <i>Stewardship Sunday</i>	19	20	21	22  Thanksgiving	23	24
25 REIGN OF CHRIST/CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY 10:00 Adult Fellowship 11:00 Worship 12:15 The Hanging of the Greens	26	27	28	29	30	



NOVEMBER **SCHEDULES FOR THE MONTH**

Sunday	11/4	11:00 Worship Service 5:00 L.I.F.E. Program
Sunday	11/11	11:00 Worship Service 12:15 Second Sunday Lunch
Wednesday	11/14	7:00 Trustees/Diaconate Mtg
Sunday	11/18	11:00 Worship Service
Sunday	11/25	10:00 Breakfast for All 11:00 Worship Service

November Birthdays

4 Carolyn Culbreth	26 Dana Clark
7 Dawn Schutz	27 Sara Clark
8 Bertha Bissell	29 Charles Compton
10 David Martin	29 Debra Heller
18 Jennifer McGrath	29 Kathy Pasquantino
26 Peggy Scott	

Please continue to pray for Ian Carr, Jr.; Neal Jacobs, Gisela Scott, Gladys Lewis, Paul Ordiway, Margaret Payne, Dawn Schutz, Mike Gunther, Robert Hogan, Tara Clifton, Judy Einstein, Bertha and Harold Bissell, our Country and all those who serve our Country.

L.I.F.E

"November Days"
November 4, 2012

5:00 P.M.

Pot Luck

Bring a dish to pass

Sign up in the Friendship Room

Lively **I**nteresting **F**ellowship for **E**veryone

New Life Center Foundation in Thailand

Receives Major Award from Kenan Institute Asia

Karen Smith, leader of the New Life Center Foundation (NLCF) in Chiang Mai, Thailand and American Baptist International Ministries (IM) missionary, announced that the NLCF has been recognized in Thailand with a major award. The Kenan Institute Asia in collaboration with Resource Alliance and supported by the Rockefeller Foundation, organized the 2012 Thailand NGO (non-governmental organization) awards, the second consecutive year to recognize the achievements of Thai NGOs. NLCF received the award in the medium-sized NGO category.

"We are absolutely thrilled to receive such a prestigious award, and receive this recognition throughout the region," Smith commented. "This recognition affirms the NLCF's exemplary clinical care for victims of trafficking, and our deep commitment to organizational standards of excellence and good governance."

Mr. Richard Bernhard, executive director, Kenan Institute Asia, provided this overview, "The NGO Awards aim to encourage NGOs to pursue operational excellence, good governance, transparency, and self-dependency in order to achieve result-oriented sustainable development."

According to the Resource Alliance, "there are 65,457 NGOs in Thailand working to promote education, public health, social welfare and associations' promotion."

The Alliance, a UK registered charity, "aims to be the global network for fundraising, resource mobilization and philanthropy. The Alliance builds skills, knowledge and promotes excellence within civil society."

The Thailand NGO Awards advance the country's non-profit sector by promoting financial sustainability and strengthening community support of civil society. They

also seek to:

- *promote good standards and practices in resource mobilization, accountability and transparency*
- *recognize and celebrate excellence in the non-profit sector*
- *identify and strengthen successful resource mobilization practices*
- *create examples and inspiration for other non-profit organizations and promote cross-regional learning*
- *promote the overall credibility of the non-profit sector for long term sustainability*

"NLCF is deserving of this award," commented Stan Murray, IM area director for Southeast Asia and Japan. "As a tribute to the staff of NLCF, neither Karen Smith nor IM missionary Kit Ripley attended the award ceremony. They chose instead for the local tribal staff to travel to Bangkok to receive the award. This resonated well with IM missiology that focuses on training and mentoring local people so that any good work that is done will be sustainable."

About NLCF...

The NLCF works exclusively with young ethnic minority women throughout the Mekong sub-region who are at risk for, or victims of, human trafficking, forced labor, and sexual abuse. Since its inception in 1987, the NLCF has partnered with the Royal Thai Government and international NGOs to provide legal, psychological, and repatriation assistance.

New Life Center Foundation provides:

- **Education** (promoting literacy and life-skills from elementary to university levels)
- **Vocational training** (providing specialized training which results in viable employment and work skills)
- **Therapeutic activities** (art therapy, music, dance, cooking, martial arts, individual counseling)
- **Handicrafts & income generation** (cultivating traditional tribal embroidery and creative thinking skills through the production of handicrafts, home décor, and jewelry)
- **Shelter** (safe shelter and medical care for victims of trafficking)

Anti-Trafficking Campaigns

NLCF conducts community based anti-trafficking campaigns (in partnership since 1994 with the United Nations agencies UNESCO, UNICEF, and the UN-IAP). NLCF ethnic minority staff and residents create educational campaigns that are implemented in tribal communities throughout Thailand, China, Laos, and Myanmar. Through drama, songs, skits and pictures, these ground-breaking campaigns have disseminated information about trafficking, safe migration, and HIV/AIDS to over 50,000 minority persons.

Partnership with Upland Holistic Development Program (Fang, Thailand)

NLCF staff provide business development services in conjunction with the UHDP's community-based micro-enterprise development program. Services include workshops in accounting, math, basic business principles, and marketing. The NLCF funds a literacy program for adults involved in a range of UNDP programs.

NLCF believes in grass-roots activism, empowering people at a community level, and engaging local churches and other organizations to create a world without exploitation.

American Baptist International Ministries (IM) was organized in 1814 as the first Baptist international mission agency in America. It began its pioneer mission work in Burma and today works in Asia, Africa, Europe, the Middle East and the Americas serving more than 1,800 long-term and short-term missionaries. Its central mission is to help people **come** to faith in Jesus, **grow** in their relationship with God, and **change** their worlds through the power of the Spirit. It works with respected partners in over 70 countries in ministries that meet human need.

Christmas is coming and we will be taking orders for the **Poinsettias**. If you would like order a plant, please complete the form and place in the offering plate, mail to the church or leave in the office. Orders must be in by December 3, the latest.

Name:

Phone:

Quantity: x \$7.00=

In Honor of:

In Memory of:

Quantity to be picked up:

Quantity to be taken to Shut-Ins:

BASKET AUCTION**AT THE ELKS LODGE****FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2012****DOORS OPEN AT 3:00 PM****DRAWINGS START AT 7:00 PM****50/50 DRAWING****TICKETS: \$5.00 FOR 25****BALE SALE****ELKS FISH FRY, TOO!****STILL NEED BASKETS AND BAKED
GOODS**

From the Moderator...

October has come to a close and November is here. We candy makers are planning dates, making our lists of supplies, and gathering orders for our delicious butter walnut crunch candy. See Carol Buchalski or Hazel Baxter to place your order. We make it once a year so it's definitely a holiday treat to anticipate. The church will smell of sugar and butter all month!

The gym has been cleaned and swept and is ready for action. Ideas for its use are needed so if something fun or useful crosses your mind, write it down and give it to Donna. My thanks go to Jim Flood and Chuck Compton for the assist on the sweep out and to Peg Tompkins for making arrangements with Community Mission to take the leftover clothes and house wares. All the light bulbs are working in the gym making it bright and cheery.

We are working on a to-do list for next year's budget which so far includes a safety and security review of

our building, replacing the sanctuary carpet and continuing with external renovations. Two sides of the building are complete and there's two to go. Painting the outside of the windows is also on the list. If this sounds like a lot, it is and keeping up on repairs and renovations is a big job.

Church attendance fluctuates at this time of year as our "sunbirds" leave for warmer climates. Our membership class is half way through its course and soon we'll have new members joining us with the Right Hand of Fellowship. Thank you to Kathleen Ordiway and Jim Flood for leading the class.

Speaking of leadership, Kathleen Ordiway, Marge Bozigar and Connie Davis are hard at work on the Basket Auction for Nov. 2 and Bake Sale at the Elks Club on Outlet Drive. Bring in your basket to church or the Elks the morning of the auction and sign up to make baked goods for the bake sale.

Check ahead for the "Hanging of the Greens" on the last Sunday of November. Advent starts Dec. 2. Our Thanksgiving offering envelopes are available for contributions. We're collecting food for a family picked at random by Community Mission for their holiday dinner. Contributions of canned and dry goods will go into the basket for their meal. Additional contributions will be given to Heart, Love, and Soul who assist the handicapped and those on SSI. These gifts are a tangible way to give back to the community members who have little and need much.

Donna Flood
