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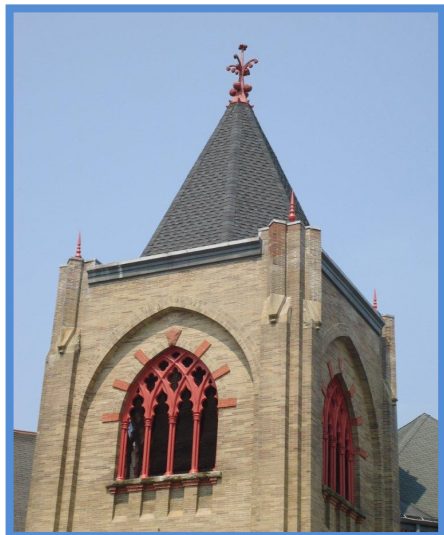
TOWER TOPICS

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF

First Baptist Church

NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK

2014



IN THE NOVEMBER ISSUE:

- ➔ p. 6 — Moderator's Notes & Hospice
- ➔ p. 7 — International Ministries – Kristy Engel
- ➔ p. 8 — Bible Crossword: Philemon
- ➔ p. 9 — Family Night
- ➔ p. 10 — Bible Study
- ➔ p. 11 — Scholar-in-Residence Notes
- ➔ p. 12 — Christmas Mission
- ➔ p. 13 — IM – What Does It Take?
- ➔ p. 14 — *Gift of Music*: Mother/Daughter Recital

VOLUME 66

NUMBER 11

2014







First Baptist Church

554 Main Street

Corner of Main and Fourth

Niagara Falls, New York 14301

November 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>☞ Be sure to check page 12 for our Christmas Mission. ☞ Remember Family Night! ☞ See you at the NATIVITY FESTIVAL!</p>						1
2 ALL SAINTS SUNDAY 10:00 Pre-service Fellowship 11:00 Divine Worship with Holy Communion 5:00 L.I.F.E. "Celebrate November" Daylight Savings Ends	3	4 OFFICE CLOSED  ELECTION DAY	5 Rev Wes office 12:15 Inasmuch luncheon 7:00 Bible Study	6	7 10:00 Men's Coffee Time 	8
9 22ND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 10:00 Pre-service Fellowship 11:00 Divine Worship Rev. Wesley R. Bourdette, preaching 12:15 Second Sunday lunch 2:00 <i>Gift of Music:</i> Constance Allison	10 9:00-Noon Candy Makers	11 OFFICE CLOSED 9:00-Noon Candy Makers  VETERANS DAY	12 Rev Wes office 7:00 Diaconate/ Trustees Mtg.	13	14 10:00 Men's Coffee Time 	15
16 23RD SUN. AFTER PENTECOST 10:00 Pre-service Fellowship 11:00 Divine Worship <i>Third Sunday Food Collection</i> Rev. Wesley R. Bourdette, preaching	17 9:00-Noon Candy Makers	18 9:00-Noon Candy Makers	19 Rev Wes office 7:00 Bible Study	20 7:00 Family Night "Josh and the Big Wall"	21 10:00 Men's Coffee Time 	22
23 REIGN OF CHRIST <i>Last Sunday of the Church Year</i> 10:00 Pre-service Fellowship 11:00 Divine Worship Mrs. Kathleen A. Ordiway, preaching 12:15 Hanging of the Greens	24	25	26 Rev Wes office	27 OFFICE CLOSED  THANKSGIVING	28 OFFICE CLOSED	29 NATIVITY FESTIVAL 10 AM-5 PM Park Place Market
30 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT 10:00 Pre-service Fellowship 11:00 Divine Worship Mrs. Kathleen A. Ordiway, preaching	<p>☞ If you have rummage, bring it in! We're having a "Christmas Clearance" rummage sale in December.</p> <p>☞ Even if you missed the first two Bible studies with Rev. Dr. Charles Lamb, there are still two this month and two next month for you to attend. <u>It is hard to overstate the excellence of these studies with Rev. Lamb.</u></p>					



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



PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY for Margaret Payne, Mary Kay Wilson, Mark Clark, 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.



November 2 – Sunday

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

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. “Celebrate November”

November 5 – Wednesday

12:15 PM	Inasmuch Luncheon
7:00 PM	Bible Study with Charles Lamb

November 7 — Friday

1:00 P	Christian Women United Meeting
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November 9 – Sunday

22ND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

10:00 AM	Pre-service Fellowship
11:00 AM	Divine Worship
12:15 PM	Second Sunday Lunch
2:00 PM	<i>Gift of Music:</i> Constance Allison

November 12 – Wednesday

7:00 PM	Diaconate/Trustees Meeting
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November 16 – Sunday

23RD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

10:00 AM	Pre-service Fellowship
11:00 AM	Divine Worship <i>Third Sunday Food Collection</i>

November 19 - Wednesday – Bible Study

November 20 - Thursday - Family Night

November 23 - Sunday - Thanksgiving

REIGN OF CHRIST

10:00 AM	Pre-service Fellowship
11:00 AM	Divine Worship – Stewardship Sunday Mrs. Kathleen A. Ordiway, preaching
12:15 PM	Hanging of the Greens

November 29 – Saturday: Nativity Festival

November 30 - Sunday

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

10:00 AM	Pre-service Fellowship
11:00 AM	Divine Worship

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, October 5, 2014

5:00 PM

“Celebrate November”

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.

November 9, 2014 – 12:15 PM

SECOND SUNDAY LUNCH

With

Gift of Music

2:00 PM

Constance Allison

ANNUAL Nativity Festival

Last year's Nativity Festival was such a success, we will be doing it again this year with a few variations. We will center on the Advent and Christmas feel, eliminating the craft tables and rummage sale. This year we will have the crèche displays, a bake sale and Christmas music.

Our Festival will be held on Saturday, November 29th. Start your preparations for bringing in your crèches - especially bringing in any information about them as soon as possible. I will be typing up descriptions (informative, fun, emotional, etc.) so that they all look similar. I should have all the

descriptions from last year. Please let me know how many you will be bringing in for our event. Last year we had friends and family members sharing their crèches, too - please invite them again!

Also let me know what you will be able to bake for the bake sale. Hopefully there will be many people coming to start their holiday season with us.

We will be having music all day. If there is anyone (individuals, groups, duets) that would like to perform a few songs during the day, please let me know as soon as possible! Live music will be such a blessing and we will be able to advertise the Festival in an even more exciting way! If there are no volunteers, we will be having recorded music during the day.

You can call the Church office (282-4666) and leave a message for me.

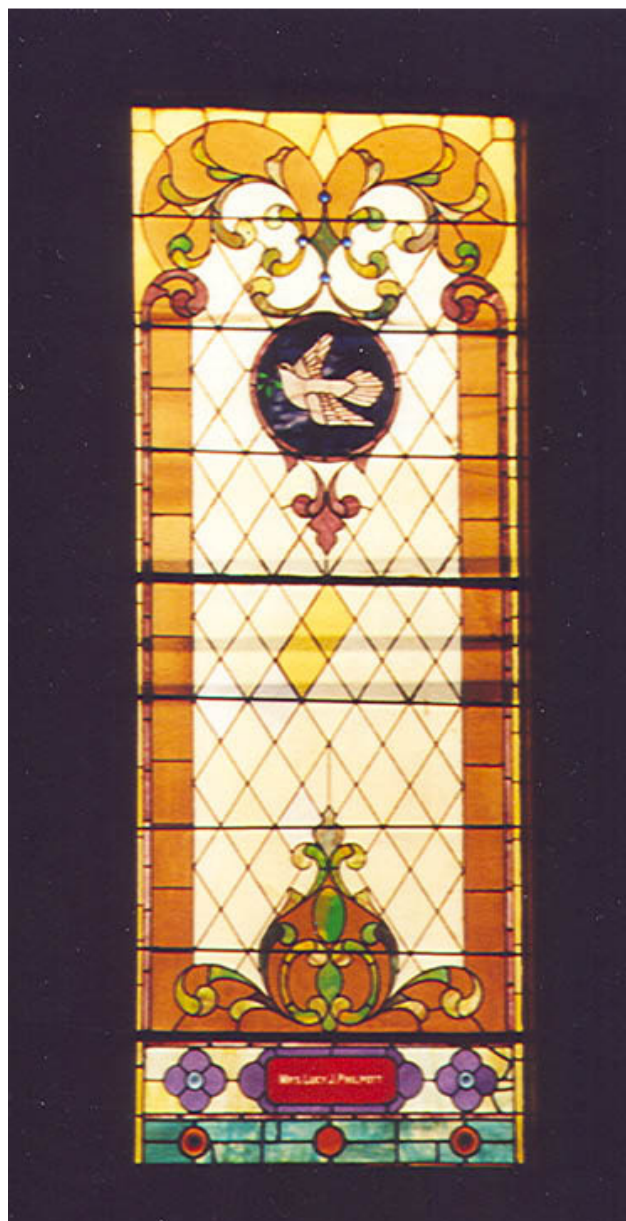
Lastly, spread the word. We will distribute flyers everywhere we can.

Kath



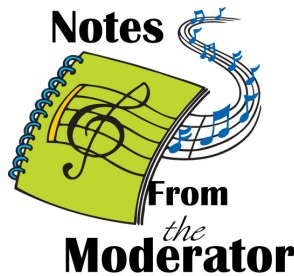
last month's answers

Titus



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, was chosen to do the restoration work. The Studio has just informed us that our stained glass will be back and in before Thanksgiving.

We are still about \$600.00 short of completely raising funds to cover the cost of this work. Envelopes for contributions are available on the table in the Friendship room. We still need a few more donations for this project!



In November, we start our candy making and soon the church will be filled with the scent of delicious butter walnut crunch. The dates are November 10 & 11 and 17 and 18 for preparing, cooking, and boxing up the tasty treats. It's a wonderful taste of the season and can be ordered by calling the office or speaking to Hazel Baxter.

On the first Sunday of November, All Saints Sunday, the Rev. Mark Breese will bring us a mission message about Community Mission. Our mission for November will be food gifts for a family randomly selected by the mission who need a hand with holiday foods.

Further into November the pledge campaign for 2015 will be presented with the theme of "Called as Partners in Christ's Service", (*Ephesians 4:12*). There will be a pledging moment for three Sundays ending November 23. Thanksgiving Sunday will also be the "Hanging of the Greens" to prepare our sanctuary for Advent and Christmas.

The Family Life evening will be November 20th with another Veggie Tale movie, *Josh and the Wall*, popcorn and soda. Bring friends and neighbors and get reacquainted with the new neighbors. As we expand our church culture to new friends, we are ambassadors in Christ's Service.

The expanding Bible Study led by the Rev. Dr. Charles Lamb is inspiring us to read about heroes of the Bible, Samuel, Saul, David and tragic Absalom. Bring your Bible or one can be furnished for you to enjoy this survey into reading and studying the Bible to expand your faith and understanding of Christianity.

The Gift of Music performers on Sunday, November 9th will be Constance Allison performing vocal duets with her daughter. Ms. Allison is the recently retired Vocal Music Teacher from Lockport High School. The Second Sunday luncheon will precede the recital and a reception follows the recital.

Donna Flood



Hospice patients live longer and better....

The New England Journal of Medicine published a study that supports the fact that

patients who receive hospice care live longer than those who receive standard care. The study found that patients lived an average of two additional months. Researchers also found that hospice patients reported a higher quality of life through the final course of their illness. Considered the gold standard of end-of-life care, choosing Hospice ensures the most comfort and best quality of life for both patients and families. Hospice is a Medicare, Medicaid, VA, private insurance and HMO covered benefit.

Just one call to Niagara Hospice provides:

- Physicians, Pharmacists
- Nurses, Social Workers
- Aides & Homemakers
- Volunteers
- Spiritual Care
- Massage & Music Therapy
- Caregiver Support
- Oxygen
- Home Medical Equipment
- Bereavement Care

Call Niagara Hospice at **439-4417** or visit NiagaraHospice.org to learn more.

"We got almost a year with Hospice. In that time we had another Christmas, two more grandchildren were born..."

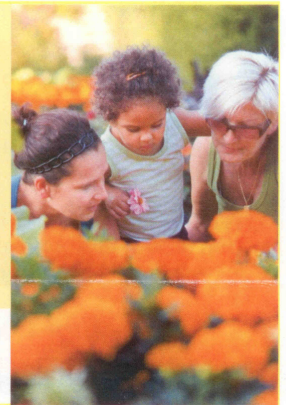
Once we made that decision to call Niagara Hospice, my dad's life got so much better."

- Paul Mullane, Lockport

**NIAGARA
HOSPICE**

(716) 439-4417

www.NiagaraHospice.org



Turkey Day is just around the corner. Let's remember to give thanks for our wonderful and beautiful church with a gift to our traditional special Thanksgiving Offering. Many, many thanks.



Thanksgiving Offering

\$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving. Psalm 95:2



HEALTH INITIATIVES AROUND THE WORLD



Cochabamba, Bolivia

January 10-19, 2015

I will be leading a small medical team to work with the House of Hope medical outreach. We will be assisting their ongoing mobile medical clinics targeting the Quechua people within the Cochabamba community. This will be a time of encouragement and assessment of health needs.



Chiang Mai, Thailand

October 16- Nov. 9, 2014

I will be part of a Discovery Team led by International Ministries that will partner with ITDP and a Karen Hill Tribe village near the Thai-Burma border. It will include health teaching, sanitation, some minor medical care and ongoing growth of my understanding of the health in this part of the world.



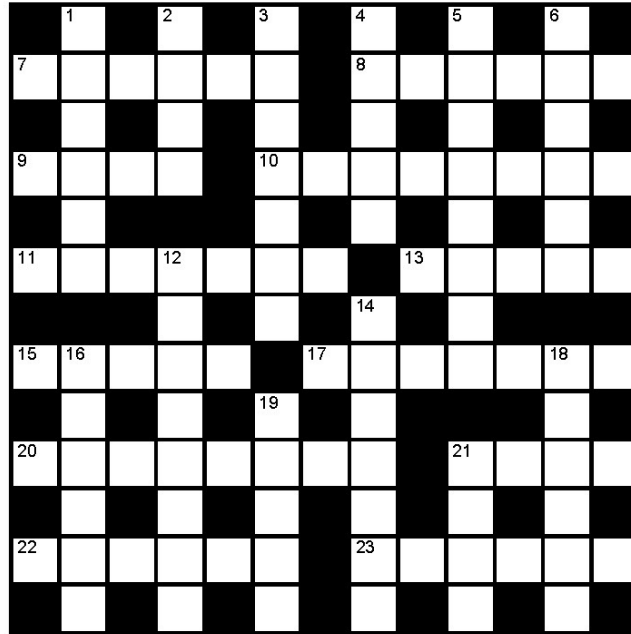
Bluefields, Nicaragua

April 15-22, 2015

This will be the first health-focused Discovery Team co-led by myself and a physician from New York. We hope to continue to build relationships with local health staff as well as begin new projects that will grow access to health care for the community. Sustainable health projects are the hope for future work in this area.

Bible Crossword Puzzles (King James Version)

Philemon



Across

- 7 Jesus healed people and drove these out of them. (6)
- 8 "Wherefore, though I might be much bold in _____ to enjoin thee that which is convenient," Philemon 1:8 (6)
- 9 "Repent; or _____ I will come unto thee quickly, and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth." Rev 2:16 (4)
- 10 Many followed Jesus because of these. John 6:2 (8)
- 11 The judgments of the LORD are more desired than gold and _____ than honey. Psalms 19:10 (7)
- 13 "O LORD, truly I am thy servant; I am thy servant, and the son of thine handmaid: thou hast loosed my _____." Psalms 116:16 (5)
- 15 "That the communication of thy _____ may become effectual..." Philemon 1:6 (5)
- 17 "And they _____ the passover with fire according to the ordinance." 2 Chron 35:13 (7)
- 20 Paul wrote a letter to the "fellowlabourer" _____. Philemon 1:1 (8)

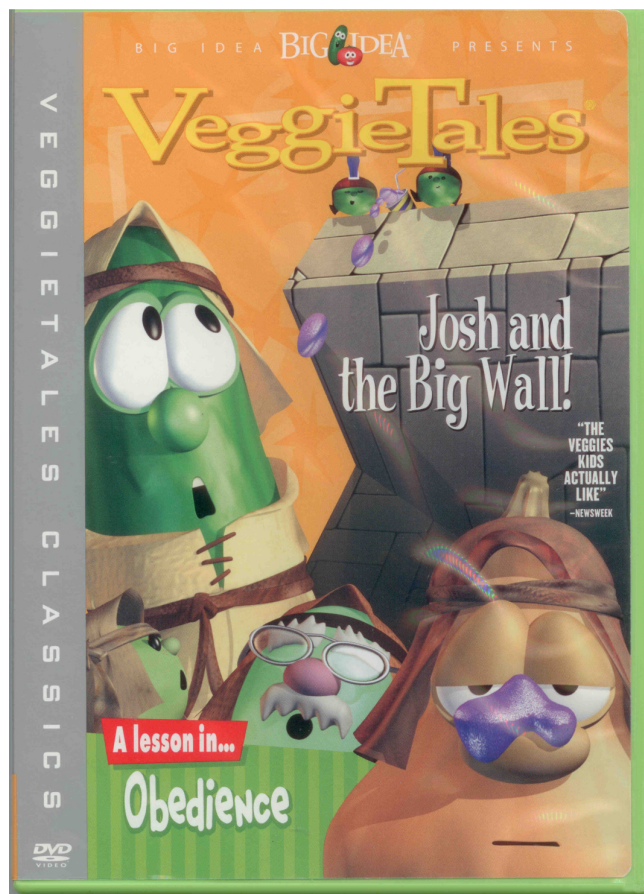
- 21 "Wherefore, though I might be much _____ in Christ to enjoin thee that which is convenient," Philemon 1:8 (4)
- 22 To turn away from sin. Rev 2:16 (6)
- 23 "I Paul have written it with mine own hand, I will repay it: _____ I do not say to thee how thou owest unto me even thine own self besides." Philemon 1:19 (6)

Down

- 1 "For we have found this man a pestilent _____, and a mover of sedition among all the Jews throughout the world," Acts 24:5 (6)
- 2 "For we have great joy and consolation in thy _____," Philemon 1:7 (4)
- 3 Hagar and Abram's son. Gen 16:15 (7)
- 4 "He said unto them, Give place: for the maid is not dead, but

sleepeth. And they laughed him to _____." Matt 9:24 (5)

- 5 "If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is _____." 1 Peter 2:3 (8)
- 6 "What and if ye shall see the Son of man _____ up where he was before?" John 6:62 (6)
- 12 "I cried unto him with my mouth, and he was _____ with my tongue." Psalms 66:17 (8)
- 14 One of the four Canaanite cities given to the Levites. Josh 21:34 (7)
- 16 A name. "The seventeenth to Hezir, the eighteenth to _____," 1 Chron 24:15 (6)
- 18 "For the cry is gone round about the borders of Moab; the howling thereof unto _____, and the howling thereof unto Beerehim." Isa 15:8 (6)
- 19 A person who makes swords or spears. 1 Sam 13:19 (5)
- 21 "And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the _____ lying in a manger." Luke 2:16 (4)



The Family Night is turning out to be a big hit. Last month we saw the VeggieTale *Minnesota Cuke and the Search for Noah's Umbrella*, and not only was it entertaining, but delivered a great message in confidence. .

Last month's Family Night was also a Halloween party for all ages planned and led by Katona Hoopsick.

Our new large screen 60" TV with extra "sound bar" audio equipment provides a big, engaging picture with superior sound to captivate the audience, young and old(er).

We need a few people from our congregation to volunteer to be at the Family Nights to speak to the people who come in. It's not enough to pass out free popcorn and a brochure on the church; the personal touch is what's needed. This is a real opportunity for outreach and service. Can you be there some nights?

And speaking of outreach, notice that First Baptist will be at the Park Place Market on Saturday, November 29th from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM. This coincides with our Nativity Festival and will give us the opportunity to direct people to our church, only a block away, for the Festival. The Market is so close to the Church and the special Saturday opening is especially for informational opportunities for various organizations. How about volunteering to come down for a couple of hours to see whom you could talk to? Speak to Jim, Donna, or Hazel. We need your help. We'll be passing out information, brochures and pens. This is a great opportunity to meet people and to tell everyone of our services, activities, and our friendly Christ-centered influential Church. This is a really important chance to meet and talk to people from the neighborhood with whom we might not otherwise come in contact.

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY! Oh, boy! After forty years of wandering in the desert, the children of Israel finally get to go to the Promised Land! Only one little thing they overlooked... Jericho! Yep. Surrounded by huge walls and bristling with really annoying peas, no one gets to the Promised Land without going through Jericho first!

But how? Joshua has God's directions, but they sound kind of, well, weird. To make matters worse, some of the veggies are cooking up a plan of their own. In the end they have to decide whether it's better to do things their way or God's way. Kids of all ages will learn a lesson about obedience in this hilarious retelling of the classic Bible story – *Josh and the Big Wall!*

Presented Thursday, November 20, at 7:00 PM, this is a lesson for all ages, with engaging songs, veggie action, and terrible jokes and puns. Come for the free popcorn and soda, stay for the movie, and perhaps meet some of our neighbors of all ages who come and receive a Christian message – another outreach of your church.

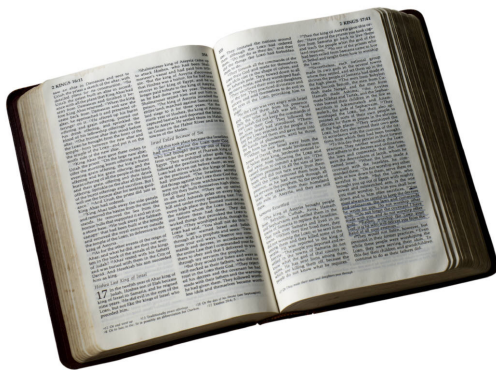
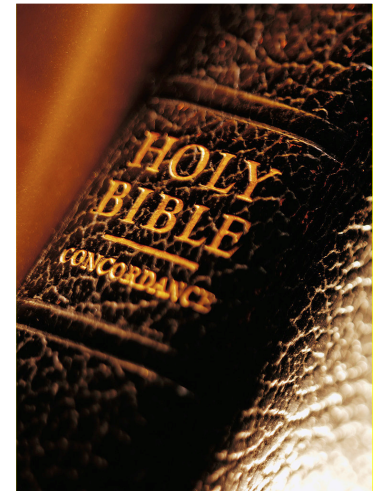
Bible Study

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.

The first two sessions were absolutely wonderful! The wealth of knowledge that was passed around from almost all participants was nothing short of astounding. **Do not miss out on the remaining meetings!**

This fall series is 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.

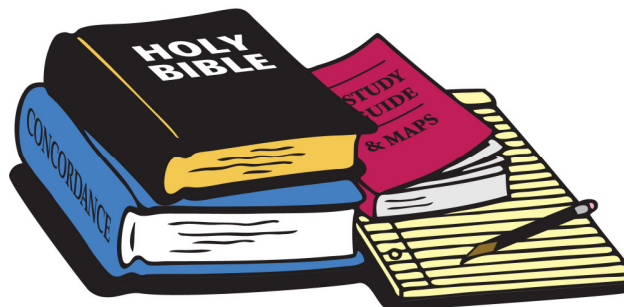
Mark your calendars right now to save the remaining dates for this wonderful opportunity to learn and grow in Biblical knowledge under the guidance of a gifted teacher.



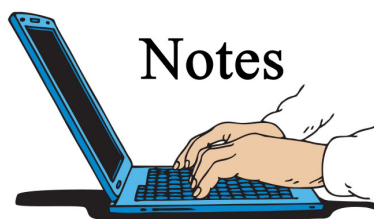
Dates for the Bible classes *All classes start at 7:00 P/M*

November 5 — The Prophets
November 19 — Job, Psalms, Proverbs, etc.
December 3 — The Epistles
December 17 — The Gospels

Be Nourished



Scholar-in-Residence



The Resurrection of History

We have a new book in our church library, a freebee I got from the publisher in thanks for writing the Foreword for the author, a dear friend. In *The Resurrection of History*, David Bruce digs deeper than most New Testament scholars want to go.

Instead of naively assuming that the New Testament accounts of the resurrection of Jesus are “telling the truth” on the one hand or are just a pack of fables on the other, Bruce asks us to slow down and first ask the question, “What does it mean to say *anything* is historical?” He even opens the door to questions about the nature of reality, so appropriate in this age of the God particle and “quantum theology.”

But David Bruce maintains focus on the issue of history, a question that is actually more difficult to answer than you might think. Many throughout the centuries have tried to answer it, but Bruce deftly shows how what we think it means for something to be historical is wrapped up in our different understandings of God, the universe, and even the meaning of life.

Rather than throwing up his hands in futility, Bruce engages some of the best historical, philosophical, and theological minds of the twentieth century, believing that if we are to take Jesus seriously, and wrestle with the Church’s claims that he rose from the dead, we have to get our twenty-first century thoughts organized. Bruce isn’t afraid to critically examine the ideas of Bultmann and Barth, Moltmann and von Balthasar, or Crossan and Wright and to move beyond them. The hardest thing to believe about Bruce’s exploration is how easy he makes it for readers like you and me to follow centuries of discussion about the most serious—and most controversial—claim of Christianity, enabling us to “move on” ourselves in ways that are faithful in our time.

In the end, Bruce comes out squarely on the side of the longstanding tradition of the Church as something that can and should be embraced, but only after facing the challenges head on. He argues that if Christians in our day and age want to take their own faith seriously, they will have to come to grips with what the first Christians genuinely thought and said about the resurrection of Jesus, and then seriously wrestle with how we may embrace those claims as our own, should we choose to do so. In the end, Bruce is more interested in twenty-first century Christians speaking about their faith with integrity than “proving” the resurrection of Jesus to some imaginary neutral observer.



David Bruce, author

Rev. Dr. Brian Arthur Brown
Scholar-in-Residence

CHRISTMAS Adopt-a-FAMILY

We will once again be collecting gifts for a family this Christmas. Community Missions will be finding us the perfect family and giving us this information as soon as possible.

"With the Holidays just around the corner, Community Missions staff and volunteers have begun preparing. A time that for many is filled with joy, family and abundance ... can also be the most difficult time of year for those in need." (Community Missions) Our hearts have been so filled with giving every year and I know that God will continue to lead each of us.

All gifts are due at the Mission by Monday, December 8th. It is requested that each gift is labeled with the child's / parent's name and assigned family number. We will also be donating a \$25 gift certificate to a grocery store. All of the gift requests will be made available soon.

Kathleen Ordiway

CALLING ALL Candy Makers!

Also all wannabe Candy Makers and those who can help. This is a very important fundraiser for the Church and a time of fellowship for those helping out. [Besides, you might get to learn the secret recipe!] The dates are November 10, 11, 17 & 18: 9:00 AM until around noon in the Church kitchen. This is an important way to serve your Church (plus get a free sample of butter crunch.) The order form is below.



First Baptist Church




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

Candy Order Form

Absolutely delicious Butter Crunch candy is available in one (1) lb. boxes for a donation of \$10.00 each. Make checks payable to First Baptist Church.

Number of 1 lb. boxes _____ x \$10.00 = _____ total.

(We can ship, too. Add \$3.00 for first box and \$1.50 for each additional box.)

Pickup Date _____ We also accept    Fill in information below..

Name _____ Telephone _____

Address _____

(Optional) Credit Card Number _____ Expiration _____ CCV # _____



Have you ever wondered what it takes to send a missionary overseas?

It takes prayerful vision, planning and partnering to send the *right missionary or development worker* for the *right task* to be *effective* in meeting a country's spiritual needs.

And with your church's help through the World Mission Offering, that's what International Ministries does—year after year—all over the world.

International Ministries partners and projects depend on your gifts to the World Mission Offering!

Your gifts directly support the entire network of IM missionaries, staff, projects and partners in 70 countries around the world! *Pray for them!*

Through your gifts, you are helping to grow and sustain workers around the world. **Rise to the challenge!** Give generously through your church offering.



INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES
COME. GROW. CHANGE.
www.internationalministries.org



Gift of Music presents a
Mother / Daughter Recital

Featuring...



Kathryn Elizabeth Allison-Lyric Soprano

and

Constance Anne Allison-Mezzo-Soprano

Accompanied by Ivan Decenko

Sunday, November 9, 2014
2 PM

First Baptist Church

554 Main Street
Niagara Falls, New York 14301