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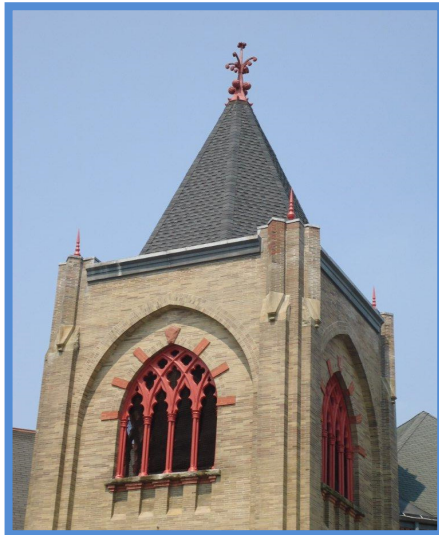
TOWER TOPICS

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF

First Baptist Church

NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK

2014



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VOLUME 66

NUMBER 9

2014

First Baptist Church

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

September 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
WHAT A LOT OF ACTIVITIES THIS MONTH! WHAT AN ACTIVE, VITAL CHURCH! WHAT A WONDERFUL PLACE FOR YOU TO BE!	1 OFFICE CLOSED  Labor Day	2	3 Rev. Wes in Office 12:15 Inasmuch luncheon	4	5 10:00 Men's Coffee Time 	6
7 13 TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 10:00 Pre-service Fellowship 11:00 Divine Worship with Holy Communion Mrs. Kathleen A. Ordiway, preaching 12:15 Communion "Refresher" Class 5:00 L.I.F.E. Grandparents Day	8	9	10 Rev. Wes in Office 7:00 Diaconate/ Trustees Meeting	11	12 RUMMAGE AND 9 AM – 3 PM 10:00 Men's Coffee Time 	13 SALE!!! CHOWDER 9 AM - Noon
14 14 TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST RALLY DAY 10:00 Pre-service Fellowship 11:00 Divine Worship Rev. Wesley R. Bourdette, preaching 12:15 Second Sunday luncheon Ward Kaiser, speaker	15 Rev. Wes at Pastors' Conference at CRCDS	16	17 Rev. Wes in Office	18	19 10:00 Men's Coffee Time 	20
21 15 TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 10:00 Pre-service Fellowship 11:00 Divine Worship Mrs. Kathleen A. Ordiway, preaching <i>Third Sunday Food Collection</i>	22	23  Autumn Begins	24 Rev. Wes in Office  Rosh Hashanah 7:00 Bible Study	25 7:00 Family Night	26 10:00 Men's Coffee Time 	27 WOMEN'S RETREAT 9:30 AM–4:00 PM "Apple of His Eye"
28 16 TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 10:00 Pre-service Fellowship 11:00 Divine Worship Rev. Wesley R. Bourdette, preaching	29	30	 Sept. 24 – Wed. Evening – 7:00 PM Bible Study with Rev. Dr. Charles Lamb The Torah – The first five books of the Old Testament			



19 Jesse McGee
 21 Paulette Gromniak
 30 Alisa Boeskin Salas



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.

September



September 3 – Wednesday

12:15 PM Inasmuch luncheon

September 7 – Sunday

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

10:00 AM Pre-service Fellowship
 11:00 AM Divine Worship with Holy Communion
 Mrs. Kathleen A. Ordiway, preaching
 12:15 PM Communion “Refresher” Course
 5:00 PM L.I.F.E. “Back to School”

September 10 – Wednesday

7:00 PM Diaconate/Trustees Meeting

September 12 & 13 RUMMAGE SALE!!!

September 14 – Sunday

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

10:00 AM Pre-service Fellowship
 11:00 AM Divine Worship
 Rev. Wesley R. Bourdette, preaching
 Rally Day Sunday
 12:15 PM Second Sunday Lunch with Ward Kaiser

September 21 – Sunday

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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

September 24 – Wednesday

7:00 PM Bible Study with Charles Lamb

September 25 - Thursday

7:00 PM Family Night

September 27 - Saturday

9:30 AM – 4:00 PM WOMEN’S RETREAT

September 28 - Sunday

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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

L. I. F. E.

Lively Interesting Fellowship for Everyone

Sunday, September 7, 2014

5:00 PM

“Back to School”

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.

Second Sunday LUNCH

With

Ward Kaiser, speaking

“How Maps Change the World”



IT IS WITH DEEP SYMPATHY that we inform our congregation of the passing of Virginia Tangent on July 18, 2014, aged 94 years. She was active to the end and passed peacefully to her eternal reward.

A memorial service was held in the chapel of her Baptist residence at 3:00 PM on August 15, 2014.



COMMUNION REFRESHER

On Sunday, September 7th, immediately after service, we will be holding a Communion Refresher for everyone who is on our Communion Servers list or would like to be on our list. Many consider it a great honor to serve.

We hear in I Corinthians 11:24-27 *“And when He had given thanks, He broke it, and said, ‘This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.’ In the same way also He took the cup, after supper, saying, ‘This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.’ For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes. Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord.”*

Acts 2:42 tells us *“And they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.”*

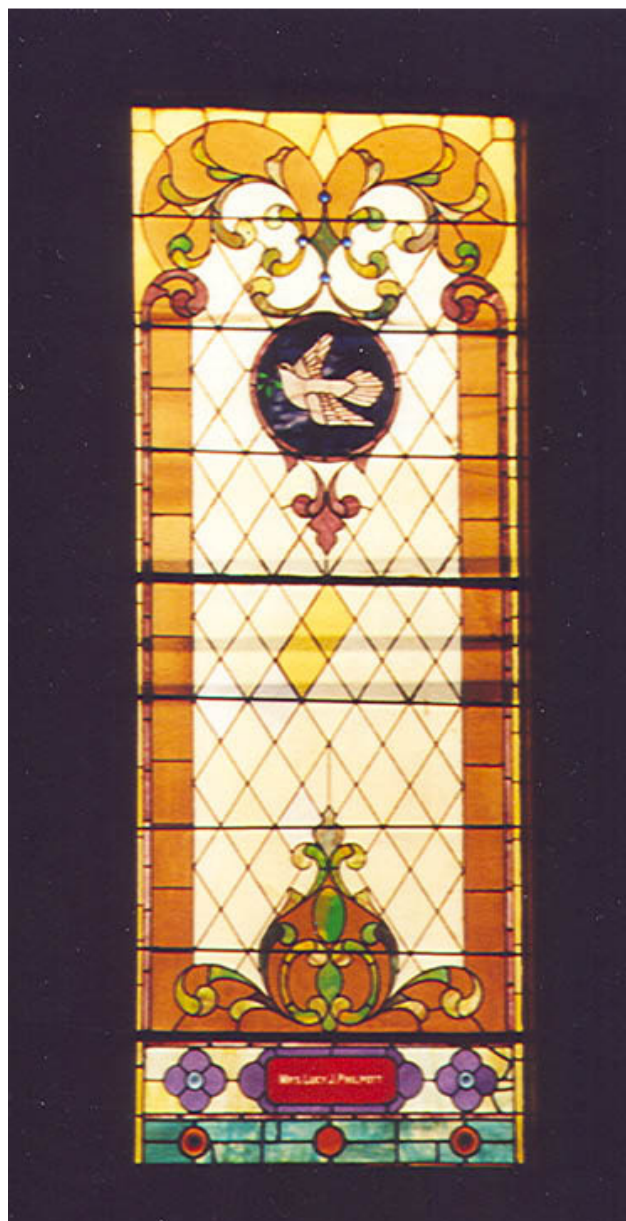
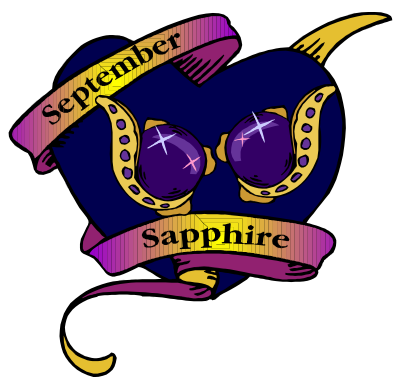
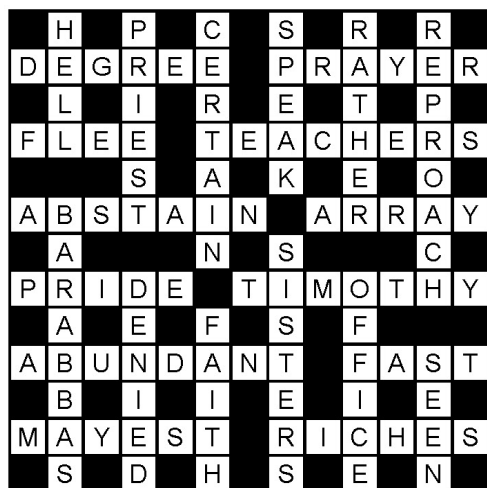
As we serve the elements, we are to be reverent and respectful. Practicing serving will allow us to be more understanding of what we are doing so that it is done in a way that brings glory to God rather than attention to ourselves.

We also have new linens for the Communion table. Jim Flood will introduce the items, what they are named and how they are used.

I hope that everyone is able to stay for this refresher.

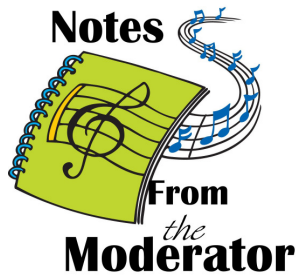
Last month's answers

1 Timothy



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 are still about \$800.00 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.



The Diaconate has established a new temporary committee, the **Family Life Committee** to work on Movie Night and beyond. Efforts made by several people will make an effective program geared to family fun, safety, and inclusion of new folks from the community. Long and short term goals will be established. A family fun event is being planned for October before Halloween with games and activities for children and adults. Long term, if this works out, we'll add the committee to our By-laws and make it permanent.

The Gift of Music series was laid out for the season starting in September with the Rev. Dr. Ward Kaiser talking with us about his book, "How Maps Have Changed the World" after the Second Sunday lunch which will be sub sandwiches.

The rest of the Gift of Music series is:

October: David Keller, Bassoonist, retired from the US Army Band.

November: Constance Allison and daughter singing duets. Connie is a retired music teacher from Lockport High School.

December: James D. Flood performing Yuletide Favorites at the organ

February, March and April-TBA

The Linus Project was outlined at the August Diaconate meeting. The Linus Project is a quilt/blanket making volunteer project for children. Currently 22 hospitals and shelters receive blankets from volunteer stitchers in Erie County. Six sites in Niagara County receive blankets and none come from Niagara County. Whether you quilt, crochet, or only can sew a straight line with a sewing machine, you can easily make a baby or child sized quilt. It's a fun morning or afternoon activity for the sewer and the quilts serve a mission of comfort and caring for children who are sick or injured or have had surgery.

Cont. on page 13, column 2



Women's Retreat and Workshop

At the last meeting the women's retreat was centered around the kitchen ... it was a HUGE success! Go figure, cooking and eating together is very bonding and uplifting! Our next retreat is Saturday, September 27th and we'll be in the kitchen again – this time cooking with apples! Apple bread, apple crisp, apple butter... a new recipe I was just introduced to: Apple Blooms ... who knows what else! Maybe a baked apple with ice cream and caramel sauce for dessert! There will be samples of everything to take home and enjoy, too.

Psalm 17:8 – *Keep me as the apple of your eye; hide me in the shadow of your wings.* We are cherished by God; we are truly the apple of God's eye! Just as we protect the apple of our eyes, our pupils, so God protects us. Sometimes that means protection from hardship and sorrow, and sometimes that means guiding us and holding us close through painful circumstances.

Invite your neighbors, your relatives, your friends for a wonderful day of encouragement, fun, relaxation, laughter and maybe a tear or two. Our retreats are perfect for practically any age. If you have a mature teen in your life, invite her, too!

The cost of the day will be \$20 per person and everyone is encouraged to bring an apron and your favorite apple peeler. Please RSVP to Kathleen Ordiway when you see her, or contact her via her cell phone: 716-213-7374 or e-mail: kathordway@yahoo.com.

Kathleen Ordiway

See the flyer on page 12.

Kristy Engel's Pages

COCHABAMBA, BOLIVIA. IMMEDIATE TEAM NEED.



In January 2015 I will lead a team of 7 healthcare individuals to Cochabamba, Bolivia to partner with the House of Hope and their medical ministry. Are you interested? I hope so! I am looking for seven individuals who are interested in continuing to build relationships with the people of Cochabamba, work with a diverse health team, focus on patient care and learn about the local culture. If you are interested, contact me immediately.

BLUEFIELDS, NICARAGUA HEALTH CARE DISCOVERY TEAM



For the first time ever, International Ministries is sending out a Discovery Team that is focused on Health Care! Are you one of the many health care professionals in American Baptist Churches or other congregations that are looking for ways to connect your church to health ministries around the world?

Maybe you just want to learn more about health in a developing country or third world setting? Then this is the trip for you! From April 15-22, 2015 I will lead the first ever health-focused Discovery Team to Bluefields, Nicaragua; one of the poorest areas in the western hemisphere, second only to Haiti. We will partner with missionaries Ketly and Vital Pierre to understand the health needs in this region as well as begin efforts in teaching, education of health principles and mobile medical clinics. If you are a nurse, physician, nurse practitioner, physician's assistant, physical therapist or other ancillary medical person and this sounds like a trip you would be interested in joining, you can find out more information about it, as well as the costs and specific detail by contacting me.

The World Missions Conference 2014

Celebrating 200 Years of Ministry



Only a few short days ago, I returned from an historic gathering in Green Lake, Wisconsin...the 200 year anniversary of International Ministries work and partnership in ministry around the world. There were well over 1100 people present representing 30+ countries from around the world as well as all of our missionaries and their children, back from their overseas assignments. Many of the people I met I had only ever heard their names or about their ministries but we had never met face to face. Together, though, we celebrated each night through music in many languages and photos and videos of the amazing work happening throughout the world. It was an honor to be part of the celebration. So, exhausted, I returned to Atlanta on Saturday without any mishaps in route (those who know me well, recognize that travel is often an adventure for me!) and I began to plan my next several months of journeys. The conference opened new doors for me with opportunities to new countries I've yet to see but also to return to countries where I've already been to begin working on projects that were only ideas before. It's a beautiful thing, this coming together of many people and ideas and cultures...all of us with the desire to make our world a better place and to serve each other in better ways. I can't wait to see what the next 200 years will bring!

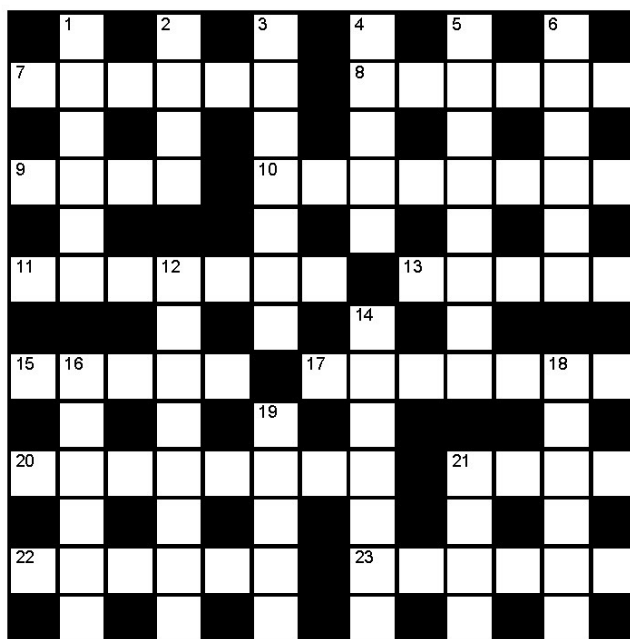


kristynurse@gmail.com

***Do what you can, with what you've got,
in the moment you're given.***

Bible Crossword Puzzles (King James Version)

2 Timothy



Across

- 7 Son of Jacob who was sold into slavery by his brothers. (6)
- 8 Hebrew name for the Lord. (6)
- 9 Paul teaches about being a useful servant for the Master through a metaphor involving vessels of _____, silver, wood and earth. 2 Tim 2:20 (4)
- 10 "I have fought a good fight, I have _____ my course, I have kept the faith." 2 Tim 4:7 (8)
- 11 Paul was "_____ desiring to see" Timothy. 2 Tim 1:4 (7)
- 13 "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness." 2 Timothy, Chapter 3, _____ 16. (5)
- 15 "... The Lord _____ with me, and strengthened me ..." 2 Tim 4:17 (5)
- 17 Containers. 2 Tim 2:20 (7)
- 20 "For the time will come when they will not endure sound _____; but after their own

lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears." 2 Tim 4:3 (8)

- 21 "And the servant of the Lord _____ not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient." 2 Tim 2:24 (4)
- 22 "... Let every one that _____ the name of Christ depart from iniquity." 2 Tim 2:19 (6)
- 23 To bear hardship. 2 Tim 4:5 (6)

Down

- 1 Be a "vessel unto _____." 2 Tim 2:21 (6)
- 2 "For if we be _____ with him, we shall also live with him." 2 Tim 2:11 (4)
- 3 What Ruth did when Boaz told her she could glean from his field in Ruth 2:10. (3, 4)
- 4 "But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and _____ deceived." 2 Tim 3:13 (5)

5 One of the things that men will be in the last days. 2 Tim 3:1-3 (8)

- 6 "For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and lead captive silly women laden with sins, led away with _____ lusts." 2 Tim 3:6 (6)
- 12 There were 12 of these. (8)
- 14 James and John were the sons of this person. (7)
- 16 This disciple is famous for his doubt when he saw the risen Christ. (6)
- 18 One of the places where persecutions and afflictions came to Paul. 2 Tim 3:11 (6)
- 19 Paul says he has fought a good _____. 2 Tim 4:7 (5)
- 21 God "is now _____ manifest by the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ." 2 Tim 1:10 (4)



Carrie Simmons: 30 years of Support



Carrie's 1986-87 yearbook photo

The date was October 21, 1983. It was the day that would be the beginning of a beautiful relationship; the day that Carrie Simmons was to begin touching the lives of Springbrook staff for the next thirty years. That year, her family decided that she would benefit from attending The School at Springbrook—or, at the time, the Upstate Baptist Home for Children—as a residential student.

Carrie attended and lived at The School at Springbrook for several years, and then became a day student until she graduated in 1993. That was a big year not only for her, but for Springbrook as well because that fall, Carrie would become the first person to apply for a Home and Community-Based Service (HCBS) Waiver

with the help of Medicaid Service Coordinator, **Judy Beebe**. Having this waiver would mean that Springbrook could support Carrie while she lived in her family's home in Laurens.

In 1993 Carrie became old enough to qualify for day habilitation. Unfortunately, Springbrook did not yet have a program that would work for Carrie, so she instead went to ARC until eventually, we were able to meet her needs. She attended the Springbrook day habilitation program for fourteen years, until June 2014, when she moved away.

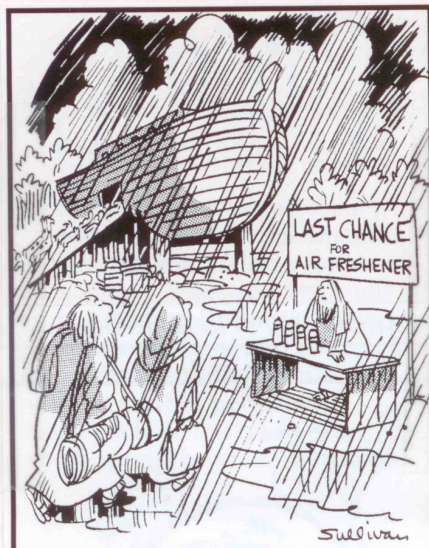


Through the HCBS waiver, Carrie's family acquired funding for modifications at her home to accommodate her mobility needs, which meant navigating her wheelchair at home with greater ease. This also allowed her to gain independence by being able to wheel herself around, rather than needing as much assistance from her mother. She also gained mobility over the years through the help of a physical therapist.

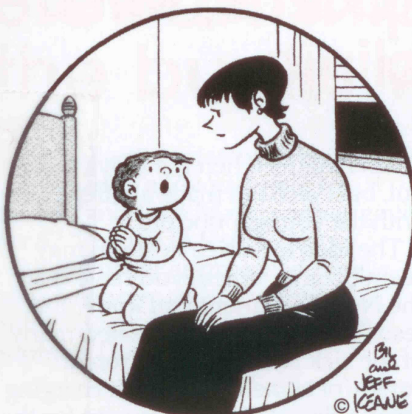
Carrie at her Day Hab Farewell Party, in Oneonta, 2014

Another big change that occurred was Carrie's interaction with other people, which was a challenge for her before coming to Springbrook. The combination of peer interactions at school and her getting used to the regular visits from workers and aides in her home allowed her to make connections with people. Eventually, she became very attached to several Springbrook employees, including Wendy, her therapist. Carrie's MSC at the time, Elayne Mosher Campoli, recalls, "She was happy to see any of us, but when Wendy walked into the room, Carrie would light up. Wendy was able to work with Carrie in ways that no one else could!"

Even though Carrie recently moved away and will no longer be receiving services through Springbrook, we are proud of her and all that she has accomplished over the years. As with all of the individuals and family members Springbrook supports, she is another thread in the fabric that makes us who we are.



THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Jeff and Bill Keane



"I'm done. Do you need me to put in a good word for you 'bout anything?"

from JoyfulNoiseletter.com
Reprinted with permission of Bill Keane



"So that's what tithing was all about."

from JoyfulNoiseletter.com
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When Mega-churches get

You don't remember me?
You led me to the Lord.
You baptized me and disciplined me.
You signed my Bible.
You married me to my wife--
your daughter.

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INHERIT THE MIRTH by Cuyler Black



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SPEED BUMP by Dave Coverly

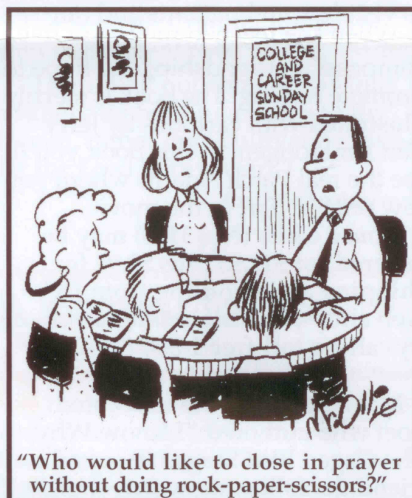


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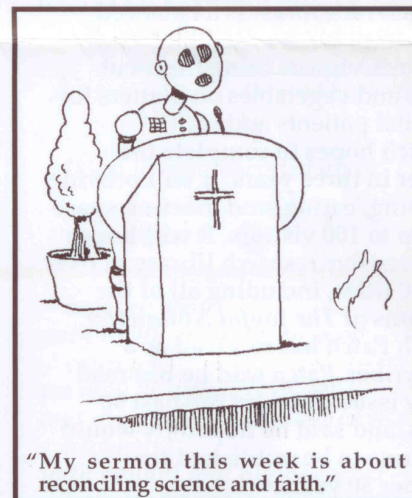
"You have to expect a little stage fright for some of the new ones."

from JoyfulNoiseletter.com
©Ron Morgan
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"Who would like to close in prayer without doing rock-paper-scissors?"

from JoyfulNoiseletter.com
©Tim Oliphant
Reprinted with permission



"My sermon this week is about reconciling science and faith."

from JoyfulNoiseletter.com
©Scott A. Masear
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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, 4th & 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

Send your payment to: Kathleen Ordiway, 258-83rd 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



The last article dealt with Invitational Ministry, the planning that needs to happen to identify our neighbors, the people closer to the church who would be likely to attend. Who is in that area now? As time passes people move from place to place. Are you living where you've always lived or have you downsized to something smaller, more convenient? If we desire to reconnect with our neighborhood we have to reach out. All neighborhoods have a life cycle. As a hiker, I know there are few residents towards the Rainbow Bridge so we have to look to the east, north, and south away from the river. Who is currently living there, what are their needs and interests?

People come to social events at the church, meet new friends and in days of yore, friendships evolved. In today's world the new neighbors may be of a different economic, social or racial and ethnic grouping than those who used to live near the church. There's probably a culture transition going on of which we are unaware. Based on the diverse demographic, we give up inviting and the church and the neighborhood changes into something else. When a neighborhood transitions, those who can afford to move out of the area and the church can become disconnected from the neighbors.

How do we reconnect? Our children have moved out of the neighborhood, the city and the state. If they haven't moved they've become disconnected. A congregation full of commuters for whatever reason is headed toward the challenge of decline.

Cont. on page 16, column 1

Moderator's notes, cont. . .

Our project will be to work this into our regular meeting times in Women's Ministry or Family Life.

Rally Day is the Second Sunday of September and those who teach, serve Communion, call on the sick or homebound as deacons, or work as a trustee and generally care for our building, will be rededicated for this season. Calling to mind that service to our members and our community is a purpose of our church, is the point of Rally Day.

The mission for September is "America for Christ: Seek Justice." (Isaiah 1:17). See details in this issue.

Our **Fall Rummage and Chowder Sale** will be in September on Friday and Saturday, the 12th and 13th. Please bring in your gently used items to the office or the gym at your convenience. No electronic media items are needed. However, CD's, DVD's and books are welcome. All children's clothes and toys are very welcome along with adult clothes and housewares. Boots, shoes, coats and jackets are needed as well. Pickups can be arranged by calling Donna at 759-6442 or the office at 282-4666 M-F.

Donna Flood



The latest VeggieTales movie, "Celery Night Fever," 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. This can be a new means of outreach and growth for our church. With your support it certainly can be.

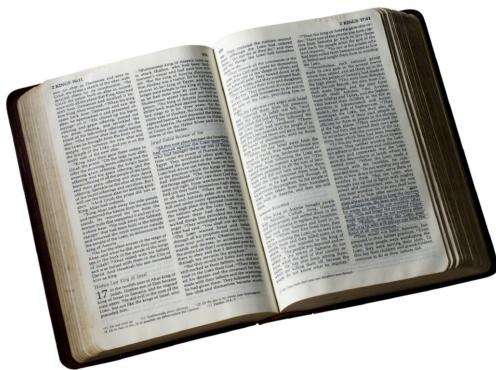
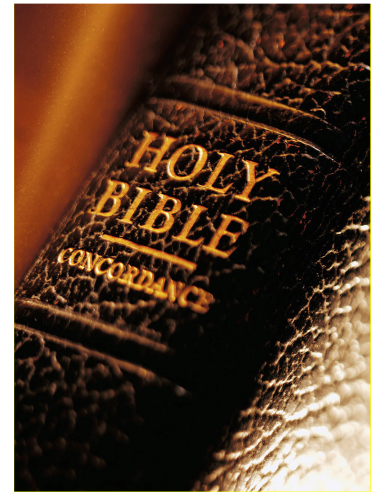
Next month the Family Night will be September 25 at 7:00 PM. Let's all put up posters and come for the fun and fellowship!

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.

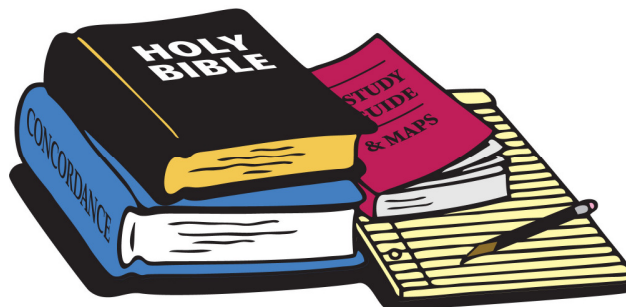
Mark your calendars right now to save the dates for this wonderful opportunity to learn and grow in Biblical knowledge under the guidance of a gifted teacher.



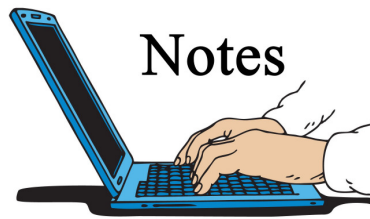
Dates for the Bible classes *All classes start at 7:00 P/M*

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



Scholar-in-Residence



As tensions between religious groups became acerbated this summer, our scholar-in-residence engaged with religious leaders and scholars from around the world at Oxford and Cambridge Universities in England and with colleagues in Ireland where “battles” continue. Brian and Jenny have just returned; we hope to get a full report for the next issue of *Tower Topics* in October. In the picture below, Brian is engaging public figures from China, Israel, the United States, Canada, Pakistan, the United Kingdom and Australia.



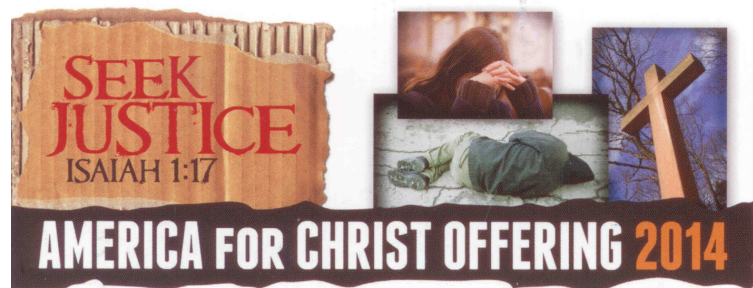
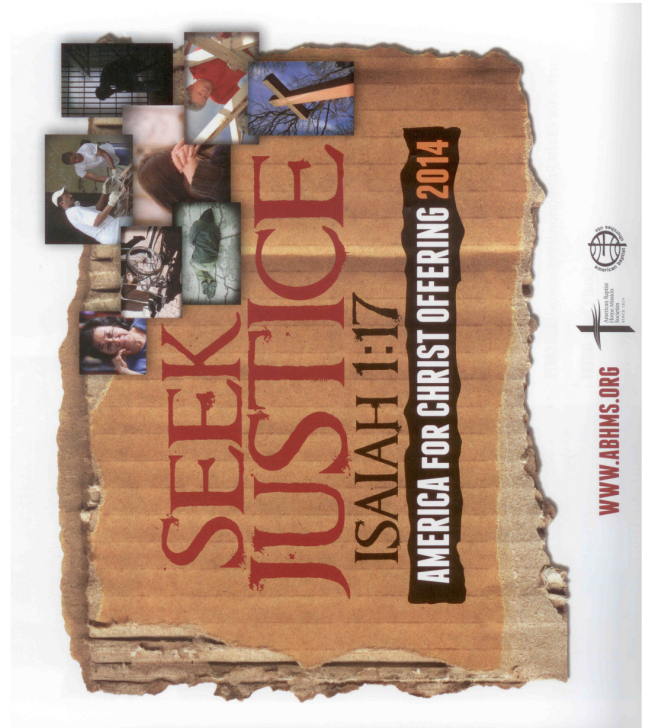
If decline has already happened the church first needs to reconnect with adults and adult children of current members who live nearby. With some young families in for a visit who may return a second Sunday, success is perceived and younger families are invited and people are attracted to those with whom they already have a relationship. We need to track (down) those who are on the move. Neighborhoods have life cycles and they are either on the way up or declining.

What do you think about our neighborhood? I've observed derelict housing being torn down, a few houses sport lovely flower beds, some are cleaned up and improvements are being made. Truly, our neighborhood is in some kind of transition. The condition of the housing stock gives us a big clue. As things revitalize, we have a window of opportunity to help with the cleanup. Guess what? We have already started with our own church. Are stores closing or opening? Be a detective; start observing what's open, closed, for sale, or being torn down. Look for windows of opportunity. Maybe go for a short walk around our block and see what's up. Continuing the study, a realtor could help us out with facts and figures about demographics, coffee shops and cafes, open air markets to walk to, such as the one opening across from the Post Office, and investors working in our area. It's time to gather the facts!

To be continued . . .

Donna Flood

Love



DID YOU KNOW THE FOLLOWING?

- In 2013, the official poverty rate was 15 percent, with 46.2 million people in poverty (U.S. Census Bureau).
- Immigrants largely arrive through legal channels. Foreign-born people in the United States numbered 39.9 million in 2010: 44 percent were naturalized citizens; 24 percent were legal permanent residents; 29 percent were unauthorized migrants; and 3 percent were temporary legal residents, such as students or temporary workers (Center for American Progress).
- In 2011, 7.2 million people were in prison or under official supervision, such as probation. This population is larger than the state of Washington. Four in 10 prisoners return to state prisons within three years of release (businessinsider.com/11-facts-about-prisons-2011).
- Approximately 6 million students in grades seven through 12 are struggling to read at grade level. Among the highest, 70 percent of eighth graders read below the standard (Alliance for Excellent Education).
- Teacher quality is one of the most significant factors related to student achievement. In the United States, 14 percent of new teachers resign by the end of their first year, 33 percent leave within their first three years, and almost 50 percent leave by their fifth year (Alliance for Excellent Education).

Our America for Christ (AFC) Offering 2014—"Seek Justice"—supports American Baptist home mission that offers the transformative grace and compassion of Jesus Christ. As American Baptists, we serve as the caring heart, serving hands, going feet and prophetic voice to churches and communities across the United States and Puerto Rico. Give generously today!

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