

# The Carillon

First Baptist Church of Penfield



2023

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### Pastor's Meditation September 2023

*Then the Lord reached out his hand and touched my mouth and said to me, "I have put my words in your mouth." (Jeremiah 1:9)*

I write September's meditation in August 2023, which marks the anniversary of important days for two distinguished men of faith. 60 years ago, on August 28, 1963, Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. gave his famous, "I Have a Dream" sermon from the steps of

the Lincoln Memorial. 1560 years earlier, August 28, 403, a well-known sinner named Augustine went to Heaven.

Though the two events are hundreds of years apart, both are remarkable displays of God's power. Much attention has been devoted to King's strong oratory and singing rhetoric in that famous speech. In recent years it was revealed that after the 7<sup>th</sup> paragraph, the entire "I have a dream" section of the speech, was unscripted. Imagine!

The speech seemed cutting-edge in its day. But now, much of it seems like common sense. When King said, "We must not allow our creative protests to degenerate into physical violence," that's common sense. When he quoted the Declaration of Independence, "we hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal," that's common sense. Today, it is instinctive for us to think: "I have a dream when my four little children will live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character." It just seems right. Anyone could have had this dream, anyone could have said these words, but until God inspired it, and King dared vocalize it in extemporaneous fashion, nobody had.

To some of those living in 1963, those who were schooled in the destructive practice of racism, King's words were very unwelcome, like a bright light shining into the room of one

who is in a deep sleep. This is what we hope for when God calls men and women; that God would shine some light that takes ourselves and others to the place that God wants us to be; the place that is right.

Augustine was another minister whom God inspired. In his early life he was a worldly man, caught up in lust and greed. He felt the Spirit nudging him to change, but the best prayer he could offer was: "*Da mihi castitatem et continentiam, sed noli modo*" ("Give me chastity and continence, but not just yet!")

But then, after years of ignoring God, Jesus, the Light of the World, shone into his life and he could see how asleep he was: "I was in misery, and misery is the state of every soul overcome by friendship with mortal things and lacerated when they are lost. Then the soul becomes aware of the misery which is its actual condition even before it loses them."

Following his conversion, Augustine felt called to be a priest. People grumbled because they knew the sinful man he had formerly been. In order to answer their critique, he wrote *Confessions*, a masterpiece of spiritual literature. He confessed his sins publicly, and displayed God's grace in his life. Like the "I Have a Dream" speech, today much of *Confessions* seems instinctive and intuitive. For his confessions, Augustine was made Bishop of Hippo, on the Northern coast of Africa (present-day Algeria) where he served for 35 years, writing volumes of work, and becoming one of the church's great

theologians. Then, on August 28, 430, he entered into eternal Light.

Augustine and King would probably not agree on everything, and neither was a perfect man. But one thing they had in common was God's ability to speak through them. Each time we speak, we should ask for God to give us the words. God takes ordinary people, gives them uncommon things to do, and even gives them extraordinary words to say.

In Christ, Pastor Steve



## September Birthdays

- 6 Judy Gibb
- 7 Ellen Stokes
- 8 Agnes Nichols
- 9 Helga Peck
- 11 Walter Durland
- 14 Molly Frenia
- 15 Meliha Sehovic
- 18 Ray Gibb
- 18 Penny Goodman
- 24 Chris Collison
- 30 Jane Pearson



## Church Ladies' Lunch

Tuesday, September 19<sup>th</sup>

Pub 235

235 North Ave., Webster, NY

Men's Lunch

**Thursdays at Noon**  
**Riki's Restaurant in Fairport**


Notes from the Trustees

The Trustees are responsible for the finances of the church, usage of church property, maintenance of the Education Building and our historically designated church building. The Trustees are currently updating our long term Capital Plan for the church building and property needs. Our aging property is always in need of repairs and improvements, some are necessary and some are wants or wishes. Capital projects tend to be expensive and need to be done on a priority basis. The Trustees are seeking your input. Please contact any Trustee with your thoughts and identify them as Necessary or Wants (Wishes). Thank you.

The Trustees are working on a 2023-2024 Lease Agreement with PVNS (Penfield Village Nursery School and Kindergarten).

Respectfully,

Don Fox, Fritz May, Jack O'Brien, Mike Pray,  
 Sarah Phillips, David Trump


Pledges and Donations

Just a reminder that all pledges and donations can be mailed into the church office and will be deposited, or you can also use the Donate button on the church website (for a small fee).

Thank you!

Jeff Bertrand


Coffee Hour Schedule

If anyone wishes to volunteer for Coffee Hour there is a calendar on the bulletin board in New Fellowship Hall.

Please contact Sarah Phillips by email or telephone. [dunes1158@yahoo.com](mailto:dunes1158@yahoo.com) or 585-329-7072

Coffee Hour will start on September 10th with a Welcome Back Picnic, so the first Coffee Hour sign up will be Sept. 17th.

Thanks again to all my Coffee Angels who signed up last year.

Blessings, Sarah Phillips



## Missions Report

During the month of September, the Missions Team will be presenting the American Baptist Church's **World Mission Offering (WMO)**. The theme this year is, "**He has made everything beautiful in its time.**" **Ecclesiastes 3:11** Our donations, along with thousands of others across the country, will help to support the International Ministries' work to improve the lives of vulnerable people in 70 countries around the world.

With the help of Pastor Steve, the Missions Team has confirmed some very special speakers for the upcoming **2nd hour** programming. Two of these will be on Zoom, so you will be able to hear and see the speakers from home if you cannot get to church.

On **September 17, 2023, Reverend Jen Lessard, Pastor of York, NY Baptist Church**, will join our congregation via Zoom during 2nd hour, to **discuss her recent trips to Ecuador**. Jen has made a powerpoint to go along with all that she wants to share with us about her experiences there.

On **September 24, 2023, Toya Richards, ABC-USA International Ministries global servant to South Africa**, will join our congregation via Zoom during 2nd Hour. Toya has experience in print journalism and communications. She will be a professor at the Cape Town Baptist Seminary, teaching intermediate to advanced English language

skills and more, to prepare students for advanced seminary studies. How interesting it will be to **hear her story of embarking on this career path with the ABC-USA International Ministries!**

On **October 1, 2023, Reverend Dr. Sandra Hasenauer, Executive Minister of our ABC-USA Rochester-Genesee Region** will join us in-person during 2nd Hour. This will surely be a good opportunity to either meet Sandra or to reconnect with her again since she does have in-person history with our church. Let's give her a warm welcome!

The Missions Team is very excited to be planning for **Paul Ashton Vick** to speak in-person during **2nd Hour on Sunday, October 8, 2023**. Paul is an ordained American Baptist Minister and an attorney, with an exceptional life story to share. He has written a book which you might be familiar with: **Where the Cotton Grows**. Paul Vick grew up in Rochester, NY and graduated from James Monroe High School, but even before all of that he was the youngest sole survivor of a commercial plane crash. Please save the date so that you can join us to welcome Paul Vick to our church and to hear his story of triumph over tragedy.

Additionally, we have begun to plan for the **RING IN THE HOLIDAYS 2023** drive-thru collection of food and gifts for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Again this year we will be helping the **Penfield Ecumenical Food Shelf** with food for

**Thanksgiving** dinners. As we have done in the past, we will also be collecting **New Pajamas for the women** at the **Coldwater Road House for Women and Children**, to brighten their Christmas with a surprise gift. More details will be coming about this special collection. Please mark your calendars now for **RING IN THE HOLIDAYS 2023, October 21st from 10 a.m. - Noon, in the church parking lot.**

We will be sending \$500 to the Shepard Home to support their "gentle ministry" to care for the dying and their families, right here in Penfield. As the schools open again for a new year, the Missions Team is sending the Cameron Community Ministries \$700 from our budget to help them get children and families started with school supplies and food; basic needs and emergency support to meet daily challenges.

As the Missions Team prepares for a busy fall season, we want to thank all of you for your generous and unfailing support of our efforts.

Janette, Ellen, Susie



## How to Join Sunday Worship Service by Phone

**Dial in by phone to join each Sunday's  
virtual service**

**Zoom opens at 9 am**

**Worship Service starts at 9:30 am**

**Dial by your location**

**+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)**

**When prompted, punch in this meeting ID  
-----> 839 345 585**

**When prompted, punch in -----> #**



## Wednesday Zoom Prayer Group

Please join Pastor Steve Wednesday for a Zoom Prayer Group Meeting. We will share our concerns and take them to God. Although we've scheduled a one-hour Zoom meeting, these are expected to end sooner. Please join us!

**1:00 pm Prayer Group:**

Zoom Computer Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/950690121>

**Meeting ID: 950 690 121**

**Phone users dial: 1-646-876-9923**

**When Prompted, enter**

**Meeting ID: 950 690 121**

**Bible Club Meeting**

**Wednesday, - Time: 6:00 pm  
NFH & Online/Zoom**

Please join us as we begin reading the Bible, from start to finish, using *The Daily Contemplative Bible*, which has segmented the entire Bible into 365 daily readings – cost is \$14. each. By the end of the year, we will have read the Bible cover-to-cover!

Pizza provided for those attending in-Person

**How to join us online:**

**Join Zoom Meeting**

**<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86182075740>**

Meeting ID: 861 8207 5740

**Call-in:**

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

+1 646 931 3860 US

Meeting ID: 861 8207 5740



**Save the Date to Support  
Habitat for Humanity!**

On Sunday September 24, 2023 visit the Panera at 2152 Fairport Nine Mile Road and 40% of your purchase will be donated to the Penfield Coalition of Churches for GR Habitat for Humanity. All day: Use promo code FUND4U when ordering on Panerabread.com, in the Panera App or at an in-café kiosk. 4 PM to 8 PM: Present a printed or digital copy of this flyer when ordering at the Café or Drive Thru. Thank you!



**Panera FUNDRAISING**

*Help support us!*

**Greater Rochester Habitat for Humanity - Penfield Coalition for GRH**

September 24, 2023  
4:00 pm to 8:00 pm EDT  
2152 Fairport Nine Mile Road

DIGITAL FUNDRAISER PROMO CODE: **FUND4U**

Present a printed or digital copy of this flyer to the cashier when ordering at the Cafe or Drive-Thru. Enter the promo code FUND4U at checkout on Panerabread.com, in the Panera App, or at an in-café kiosk to ensure your organization gets a portion of the proceeds.\*\*

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\*40% special promotion limited to one event per organization. All other events scheduled by the same organization will be honored at our standard 20% donation rate. \*\*Offer valid only on the details and at the Panera Bread identified on this flyer. Offer valid for dine-in, take-out, pick-up, and delivery. Delivery orders placed through third-party sites are excluded and will not count towards the event. Tax, gift cards, and catering orders are excluded from the donation. Offer valid if flyer is distributed to or near the restaurant. Other restrictions apply. For complete details, visit <https://fundraising.panerabread.com>. \*\*\*Services vary by café.

**September Adult Discussion**

**11:15 am  
NFH and Zoom**

**9/03 LABOR DAY WEEKEND  
– NO ADULT DISCUSSION**

**9/10 WELCOME BACK CELEBRATION  
– NO ADULT DISCUSSION**

**9/17 Jen Lessard – Equador (tentative)**

**9/24 Toya Richards – South Africa**



**Health Safety**

**For the latest info on COVID-19, please go to the Center for Disease Control Website ([cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov)) for weekly Updates of the COVID-19 level.**

**Or call the CDC at 1-800-232-4636 for updates**



**Who We Are**

The First Baptist Church of Penfield was established in 1804 in what is now an eastern suburb of Rochester, New York.

We are affiliated with American Baptist Churches of the Rochester/Genesee Region, and nationally with the American Baptist Churches, USA.

We welcome all to worship with us. Our congregation is a gathering of people who are diverse in theology and political opinions, but who are all seeking to know God in a deeper and more meaningful way.

The First Baptist Church of Penfield continues to include all who seek Jesus as Lord - regardless of race, class, gender, disability, place of origin, or sexual orientation, identity, or expression.

## **The Carillon**

First Baptist Church of Penfield  
1862 Penfield Road  
Penfield, NY 14526



### **We have 3 methods of receiving the monthly newsletter.**

**Method 1—Open the link on our web page at [www.fbpenfield.org](http://www.fbpenfield.org)**

**Method 2—Pick up your personal copy at Sunday Worship**

**Method 3—Receive a printed copy via US Postal Mail**

Please help us to obtain a cost savings! Open the link or pick up!

If you wish to change your method, please e-mail us at

[fbpenfield.@toast.net](mailto:fbpenfield.@toast.net) or call the Church Office at (585) 586-2876.

### **Our Church Staff**

Rev. Steven D. Brotzman ~ Pastor

Dr. Naomi Gregory ~ Organist, Music Director

Caroline Duers, David Griffith, ~ Choral Scholars

Saundra Augustus ~ Office Assistant

Laura Swail ~ Nursery Care

Meho & Hava Kapidzic ~ Church Custodians

### **Contact Information**

(585) 586-2876

E-mail ~ [fbpenfield@toast.net](mailto:fbpenfield@toast.net)

Website ~ [www.fbpenfield.org](http://www.fbpenfield.org)

Find us on Facebook

### **Summer Church Office Hours**

Tuesday thru Friday, 8:00am to 12:00pm

### **OUR PURPOSE STATEMENT**

*We welcome to our worship all who desire to know God through Jesus Christ.*

*We encourage each other to develop a relationship with God and to live as Christ taught us.*

*We covenant together to seek out and minister to those in spiritual, emotional or physical need.*