

# The Carillon

First Baptist Church of Penfield



September 2024

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## Pastor's Meditation – September 2024

Thomas Merton (1915-1968) was a glib, Ivy-league-educated, literary and worldly man who inexplicably felt God's calling to withdraw from society and become a Trappist monk. Trappist monks lead a simple life, and mostly practice silence (no talking). And he found a monastic home at the Abbey of Our Lady of Gethsemani near Bardstown, Kentucky.

After years of silence and solitude, he was given the opportunity to visit nearby Louisville. He wrote:

“In Louisville, at the corner of Fourth and Walnut, in the center of the shopping district, I was suddenly overwhelmed with the realization that I loved all these people, that they were mine and I theirs, that we could not be alien to one another even though we were total strangers. It was like waking from a dream of separateness, of spurious self-isolation in a special world.

This sense of liberation from an illusory difference was such a relief and such a joy to me that I almost laughed out loud. I have the immense joy of being man, a member of a race in which God Himself became incarnate. As if the sorrows and stupidities of the human condition could overwhelm me, now that I realize what we all are. And if only everybody could realize this! But it cannot be explained. There is no way of telling people that they are all walking around shining like the sun.

Then it was as if I suddenly saw the secret beauty of their hearts, the depths of their hearts where neither sin nor desire nor self-knowledge can reach, the core of their reality, the person that each one is in God's eyes. If only they could all see themselves as they really are. If only we could see each other that way all the time. There would be no more war, no more hatred, no more cruelty, no more

greed. But this cannot be seen, only believed and ‘understood’ by a peculiar gift.”<sup>i</sup>

By withdrawing from the world for a time, Merton was able to visit the world again to see people in the loving way God does. In a small way, a church retreat can help us replicate Merton’s experience. First Baptist Church’s retreat is November 2<sup>nd</sup>, at East Rochester’s Eyer Park, Quinzi Lodge, 10am – 4pm. Mark the date. The retreat takes place just before the election. Lord willing, we will benefit from this opportunity to quiet ourselves and “see” each other, even during this season of tumult.

<sup>i</sup>Thomas Merton, Conjectures of a Guilty Bystander



**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 Office Hours**

Beginning September 9<sup>th</sup>  
Monday through Friday  
9:00am – 12:45 pm  
unless otherwise noted  
in the weekly Bulletins



**FBCP September Ladies Lunch**

**Tuesday SEPTEMBER 17th, 12/noon**  
**Landmark Family Restaurant**  
**825 Fairport Road**  
**Located in the Country Club Plaza**

If would like to attend, please RSVP Sandra  
at the Church office  
by Friday, September 13<sup>th</sup> before noon.  
[fbpenfield@toast.net](mailto:fbpenfield@toast.net)  
(585) 586-2876

*We always have a wonderful time and we  
would love for you to be a part of it!  
Please consider joining us.*

~ Kathy Ahl, your Common Life Team and  
all of our wonderful volunteers!



**Men's Lunch**

Thursday, at Noon  
Riki's in Fairport

**Historian's Corner**

By Jim Symonds

One of the Memorial stained-glass windows on the east side of the sanctuary was given in memory of Orestes Case, Sabbath School Superintendent of this church for about 9 years from 1861 until a few months before his death in 1871

**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

**Notes from the Trustees**

The new Bravo AX Carillon from Chime Master Systems arrived on August 23rd. You may recall that at the April portion of the Annual Meeting, we approved the purchase and funding. The system will be located in the sanctuary balcony along with the other electronic equipment. Jeff Phillips and Chris Ahl will be doing the installation.

First Baptist Church of Penfield has received and deposited in the Endowment Account a check from the Jackson National Life Insurance Company of New York. The contribution is from a member of our congregation who had listed us as a beneficiary. Contributions to the Endowment Account are a great way to support the financial strength and financial future of the church. Many thanks to Pat Heckman who left us funds from two different Annuity policies.

Don Fox, Fritz May, Jack O'Brien, Chris Ahl, Sarah Phillips, David Trump



**MISSIONS REPORT**

During September the Missions Team will be presenting the American Baptist Churches' Annual Offering: The 2024 **World Mission Offering** (WMO). This year the scripture is from Luke 24:32, "**Were not our hearts burning within us?**" We will be sharing video messages of how missionaries are working to share God's message globally and to bring help, hope, and healing through International Ministries, also known as the American Baptist Foreign Mission Society.

Our team is pleased to bring you an update to what we had reported as the total amount donated for **One Great Hour of Sharing**. Bill Werther shared with us that the new final total was \$2,178.37! Again, we thank you all for your generosity as our congregation joins many others to support the four Annual Offerings of the American Baptist Churches USA.

At our August meeting our team discussed various local organizations, most of which our congregation has supported in the past. We authorized \$500 to be sent to **Habitat for Humanity**; \$500 to be sent to **Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School**, and \$300 to support **Refugees Helping Refugees** as they continue to support each other and get children ready for school again.

We outlined some other organizations which the Missions Team typically supports in the fall, such as **Willow** in October for "Domestic Violence Month," the **Penfield Ecumenical**

**Food Shelf** in November to assist in their extra demands during the holiday season, and the **Open Door Mission** in December to support their mission of ministering to the needs of so many of our neighbors as the cold winter weather arrives. **Please note** that we have moved our **RING IN THE HOLIDAYS** drive-thru food and pajama collection to **Saturday, November 9th**. We are looking forward to this project again, and will have details in the October Carillon.

Ellen, Susie, Janette



**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 -----> #**



**Adult Discussion Following Worship**

In NFH & on Zoom

11:15-NOON

Resumes September 15<sup>th</sup>



**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. Please join us!

**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 Only for about 1 month**

**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**

**Note:** The Bible club will meet on **Zoom only** beginning on August 28<sup>th</sup> for about four to five weeks while Pastor Steve recovers from surgery.



**Flap Jack is back !**



There was an organization meeting August 17<sup>th</sup> with the Brotzman’s showing us how to do Flapjack; **Brotzman Style...**

Business and fellowship were mixed and the results were a resounding, Let’s Do It!

**Breakfast dates are as follows:**

- October 19, 2024
- November 16, 2024
- December 21, 2024
- January 18, 2025
- February 15, 2025
- March 15, 2025
- April 26, 2025

The sign-up sheet for October will be posted September 8, 2024. Once a position is filled on the sheet, we do not need extra helpers.

Everyone must stay out of the kitchen if they are not an assigned worker.

Missions will be posting the selected group for each month so we all know who we are helping.

Bill Werther/Jeff Phillips

**To all my Coffee Angels:**

It's that time of year. We are planning the fall schedule for church activities to resume.

If you would like to volunteer to bring in goodies and make coffee please email me [dunes1158@yahoo.com](mailto:dunes1158@yahoo.com) or sign up on the fellowship bulletin board.

It is much easier if two people share the responsibilities, so ask a friend to partner with you.

**Coffee Hour Schedule**

**September 2024 - October 2024**

**September**

**8<sup>th</sup>** Welcome Back Celebration  
Common Life/Phillips-coffee

**15<sup>th</sup>** Sarah Phillips

**22<sup>nd</sup>** Marsha Kiriazides & Judy McNeil

**29<sup>th</sup>** Marge Maring & Pat Holderbaum

**October** Volunteers needed

- 6<sup>th</sup>**
- 13<sup>th</sup>**
- 20<sup>th</sup>**
- 27<sup>th</sup>**



**Cameron Meal**

We will be continuing our Chili Meals on the following Sunday: **\*Sunday, September 29<sup>th</sup>**

We will be serving our beloved chili these days and will need people to sign up to make Chili, Salad, Corn Bread, and Cookies. There will be sign up sheets in NFH on the following Sunday: **\*Sunday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>**

So please consider signing up!

We ask that your food donation be placed in the kitchen (either the counter or in the refrigerator) by **\*Sunday by 11:00 am**

Thank you so much!

Virginia Bergonzi-Blackman



**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.

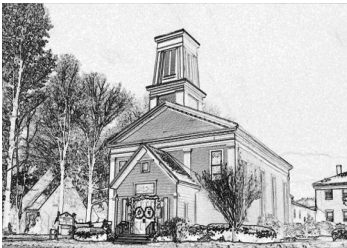
We welcome all to worship with us. Our congregation is a gathering of people who are diverse in theology and political opinions, but who are all seeking to know God in a deeper and more meaningful way.

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

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

### **Church Office Hours**

Monday thru Friday, 9:00am to 12:45pm

### **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.*