

The Carillon

First Baptist Church of Penfield



2024

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Pastor’s Meditation November, 2024

At this time exactly 50 years ago, famous Christian writer, priest and Ivy League professor Henri Nouwen was residing in

Piffard, NY just about an hour from Penfield, doing a six-month residency at the Abbey of the Genesee. He kept a journal of his time there, which was later published as *The Genesee Diary**.

1974 was a tumultuous year, beginning with an OPEC embargo leftover from the previous year that led to an energy crisis. In April, there was a “Super Outbreak” of tornadoes (148 tornadoes in the U.S. and Ontario, Canada during April 3-4, which remains the 2nd largest tornado outbreak in recorded history). The news was predominated by a presidential scandal that culminated in impeachment proceedings, the resignation and subsequent pardon of the president. Fifty years later, things have really calmed down, haven’t they? :-)

Even though Nouwen attempted to withdraw from the world by living with a group of silence-practicing, bread-baking Catholic monks, the news kept intruding and threatening his peace of mind. His journal entries reflect his worries. But his Thanksgiving entry is one that is relatively free from national news. Thanksgiving that year was November 28th, the same as it will be this year. Nouwen wrote:

Thanksgiving is a most American day. It seems to me the day which the people of this nation know how to celebrate best. It is a family day, a day of hospitality, a day of gratitude. It is a day that – unlike Father’s

Day, Mother's Day and Christmas Day – has escaped commercialization. It is the day that makes me desire to be with a family here. Thanksgiving is, first of all, a North American feast. This nation is affluent and has more than it needs. The realization that what we have is a free gift can deepen our desire to share this gift with others who cry for help. When we bless the fruits of the harvest, let us at least realize that blessed fruits need to be shared. Otherwise, the blessing turns into a curse.

The late Oscar Jackson, my former barber, had a great deal of insight into the human condition (like a lot of barbers, I suppose). Years ago, while we watched news of a U.S.' bombing in Syria, during one of his haircuts/therapy sessions, Oscar observed, "We're a rich nation. Trouble is, we can't enjoy it." Perhaps Nouwen had the best insight as to why we can't enjoy it. Money and material goods are a blessing, but holding onto our blessings becomes a curse. It is only through sharing that we discover gratitude again.

Perhaps this is one reason why Jesus encouraged us to share our goods with the poor. We read in Matthew 25: "*Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world,* ³⁵*for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me,* ³⁶*I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.*" ³⁷*Then the*

righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink?' ³⁸And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing?' ³⁹And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' ⁴⁰And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.' This Thanksgiving, make the most of the material goods with which we are blessed. Keep the blessing from becoming a curse - by sharing them with those who have less.

* Copyright 1976 by Henri J.M. Nouwen. NY: Image Books, 1981.



A Message from Your Moderator

I have a confession to make.....lately I have been finding myself in the pajama aisle of any store I am shopping in. I just somehow end up there. I also stalk the Kohl's website when I have Kohl's cash to see if I can find any good pajama deals. The Missions team would love for you to join me in this obsession as their now annual food drive for Penfield Ecumenical Shelf and pajama/underwear drive for Coldwater Women and Children's Home takes place on November 9th this year. I'm also guilty of inviting my children to

Pancake Breakfast each month and paying for their meals because I just love having a morning with them. (disclaimer- we are obviously talking about Noah and Mackenzie. It's way too early for Darwin!)

If you weren't able to make it to the Erie Canal boat trip sponsored by the Deacons, you missed out on some great canal and river history, and also a rousing rendition of "Erie Canal Sal" with some mouth trumpet solos by our guide. Your next opportunity to join in some extra time with church friends will be at our Church Retreat, held on November 2nd. We thank Common Life for helping out with the lunch, so you know it will be great. They are also revving up for our Thanksgiving Luncheon on November 10th. Oh dear- I almost overlooked the Men's and Ladies' Luncheons that take place regularly. Check the calendar and join in on the next one! So many opportunities here people!!!!

Our church building is buzzing all week long. PVNS, Copycats, Scouts, Bible Club on Wednesdays (1:00 p.m. by Zoom and 6:00 p.m. in the sanctuary)..... You'll also find the Trustees behind the scenes taking care or arranging for help with plumbing, painting, electrical work, maintenance, etc. This month Trustees will be sharing information about our Stewardship Campaign. As moderator I attend as many of their meetings as I can and I can assure you they are a busy group keeping the building standing for us to worship under!

Our Teaching Team is back with new topics for Second Hour each Sunday. The bell choir

sounds mah-va-lous rehearsing, and the new choral scholars are a great addition to our lovely choir! Our Worship Team is also doing a great job of keeping our Sunday services going smoothly. Just preparing Communion alone is a huge job that they undertake each month! We look forward to seeing all of you at Sunday Services at 9:30 a.m. each week. Join us by zoom if you aren't able to make it. I even attended one Sunday in October from a campground in Sandusky, Ohio. (Sister time...it was surprisingly quite fun!)

Your Coordinating Council meets each month to review all that is happening in the church and ensure that we haven't overlooked or overlapped activities and events. If you have a question or idea that you aren't sure where to head with, let one of us know! But most importantly this month of November, be thankful. I cannot be thankful enough for everything this church offers for me, for others, for my faith.

-Sandy



Men's Lunch
Thursday, at Noon
Riki's in Fairport



November Birthdays

- 2 Katelyn Lochner
- 3 Emma Kimball
- 10 Deborah Lochner
- 14 Kiera Donaher
- 18 Sarah Phillips
- 17 Emily Johnson
- 21 Herb Beadle
- 22 Liza Kimball
- 25 Shawn Keenan
- 27 Mary Beadle
- 30 Colton Donaher
- 30 Gregg Goodman
- 30 Roger Zaenglein



2024 Habitat Holiday Pie Sale

We are partnering with Indian Pines Farm Market in Penn Yan to offer fresh baked holiday pies made with their locally grown fruits.

Dutch Apple, Pumpkin, Apple-Cranberry, Pecan, Fruits of the Forest (strawberry, rhubarb, apple, red and black raspberries).

Order online at link below and pick up your pies here at FB Penfield on Tuesday, November 26th.

Let your dessert do good!

<https://donate.grhabitat.org/penfieldpies24>

Place your pie orders
by Sunday, November 17th

Holiday Pie Pickup

Church Parking Lot
Tuesday, November 26
1pm – 6pm



FBCP November Ladies Lunch

Tuesday NOVEMBER 19th, 12/noon

Riki's Family Restaurant

25 North Main Street, Fairport

We do have a reservation, however, I need to call in the number in our party the day before, so please notify Sandra by Monday November 18th before 12:00

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!



Notes from the Trustees

November is our annual STEWARDSHIP DRIVE. Commitment Sunday is November 24th. Now is the time to consider your 2025 financial commitment to our church in support of our facilities, leadership and outreach. Like home, the cost of operating and maintaining the church continue to increase.

During the week of November 4th, you will receive a mailing that will consist of a letter from the Trustees, a pledge form and a stamped return envelope. The pledge form can be mailed back to the church or placed in the collection plate on Commitment Sunday, which is Sunday, November 24th.

As always, the Trustees thank you for your prayerful consideration of and commitment to the First Baptist Church of Penfield.

Don Fox, Fritz May, Jack O'Brien, Chris Ahl, 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



Flapjack is Ready for Another Breakfast.

Saturday November 16 from 8 to 10.



\$10.00/person, \$5.00 for children under 12.

**Pancakes, eggs, sausage, Apple topping,
whipped cream, coffee, fellowship.**

Tell your friends...

Kitchen helpers need to wear a hat and most of them will also need to wear gloves. **Only workers** will be allowed in the kitchen. Sign up sheets are in Fellowship Hall.

A donation will be made to Penfield Eucmenical Food Shelf.

Bill Werther/Jeff Phillips - Coordinators



Historian's Corner

By Jim Symonds

As we continue on the theme of memorial stained glass in our sanctuary, you will find one for Thomas Embury who was a Deacon of this church from 1883 to 1902.



**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**

**11/3 *The Reason for God –
Why Does God Allow Suffering?- Annette B.***

**11/10 Thanksgiving Party –
No Adult Discussion**

**11/17 *The Reason for God -
Why is the Church Responsible for So Much
Injustice? – Pastor Steve***

**11/24 *The Reason for God -
How Can God Be Full of Love and Wrath at
the Same Time? – Ginna B***



Wednesday Zoom Prayer Group

Wednesdays at 1 pm

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 and Zoom**

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



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 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.

Volunteers needed in November:

3rd, 17th, 24th

**MISSIONS REPORT**

We are pleased to share with you that \$1,426.62 is the final amount that was donated for the ABC-USA World Mission Offering, which was presented during September. Near the end of the month, there was a little push to get the total ahead of last year, and we did it! Thank you for your caring hearts.

It is almost time for our annual **RING IN THE HOLIDAYS** drive-thru event! It will be on **Saturday, November 9, 2024, from 10 a.m. - Noon**. The Missions Team will be in the church parking lot to greet you, rain or shine. Again this year we will be collecting food for the **Penfield Ecumenical Food**

Shelf to help them prepare for food distribution for Thanksgiving and Christmas meals. They have specifically asked for donations of:

Boxes of Turkey Stuffing

Boxes of "Jello" gelatin mix (regular and sugar-free)

Canned green beans

We will also be collecting items for the **Coldwater Road House for Women and Children**. The staff has encouraged us to focus on basic items which are most needed when families arrive at the house with little or nothing. These include, **new pajamas for the women in sizes from small - XXL**. For the children, **boys and girls of various ages, new socks and underwear in a variety of sizes**. **Nothing needs to be wrapped.**

As we move into the holiday season and the cold weather begins to settle in, it is startling to think of all the people locally, plus those who are picking up the pieces from the recent hurricanes in the south, who have extreme needs this year. Bill Werther has reported that already \$120 has been donated through One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) toward the Hurricane Disaster Relief which was explained on Sunday, October 13, 2024, and included in the bulletin too.

The Missions Team appreciates all of you for your ongoing generosity. We wish you all a blessed Thanksgiving.

Susie, Janette, Ellen



RING IN THE HOLIDAYS with Gratitude & Giving

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 9, 2024
10:00 AM – NOON

DRIVE THRU COLLECTION

FIRST BAPTIST PENFIELD PARKING LOT 1865
Penfield Road/ RT 441

**Penfield Ecumenical Food Shelf
Holiday Food Basket Needs**

- Boxes of Turkey Stuffing
- Canned Green Beans
- Boxes of “Jello” gelatin mix
(regular and sugar-free)

**Open Door Mission Coldwater House
for Women & Children**

NEW Women’s Sleepwear/Pajamas
Sizes XS to XXL

NEW Children’s Socks and Underwear |
ALL Sizes Needed



Photographs



Jane P, Marsha K., &
Judy M. (behind the camera)
celebrate Janes’s Birthday



Jane P.

Ginny's Birthday and River Cruise

All Photographs by Judy McNeil



Ginny W.'s Birthday Celebration



Kate, Roger, and Emily



Kerm S., Dennis G., Sue G., Barb S., John H.



Magaret M., Marie F., Liz B., David T.,
Kerm S., Bob Foltz



Roger Z., Emily J., Susie S.,
Fritz M., Georgia M.



David. T., Dennis G., Sue G., John H.,
Sandy P., Sarah P.

Health Safety

For the latest info on COVID-19, please go to the Monroe County Board of Health - Covid Information updates.

<https://www.monroecounty.gov/health-covid-flu-rsv>

Phone #: (585) 753-5555



Church Retreat

First Baptist Church of Penfield - 2024
Retreat

Saturday, November 2, 10am-4pm, Quinzi
Lodge, Eyer Park, East Rochester, NY 14445

**See the back of your calendar insert
for complete details**



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

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 or call the Church Office at (585) 586-2876.

Our Church Staff

Rev. Steven D. Brotzman ~ Pastor

Dr. Naomi Gregory ~ Organist, Music Director

Choral Scholars: Alexandra Hague, Caroline Smith,

Lucas Mann, Pedro Sperb

Saundra Augustus ~ Office Assistant

Laura Swail ~ Nursery Care

Meho & Hava Kapidzic ~ Church Custodians

Contact Information

(585) 586-2876

E-mail ~ fbpenfield@toast.net

Website ~ 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.