

# CHRISTIAN CARRIER

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FEBRUARY 2007

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**First Baptist Church  
408 Pleasant Street  
Manlius, NY 13104**

**Church Office Telephone: (315) 682-8941**  
**Website: [www.firstbaptist-manlius.org](http://www.firstbaptist-manlius.org)**  
**Church email: [fbcman@twcny.rr.com](mailto:fbcman@twcny.rr.com)**  
**Pastor Leon's email: [fbcm-pastor@twcny.rr.com](mailto:fbcm-pastor@twcny.rr.com)**

## ***From Your Pastor***

### **A Focus for 2007**

Do you sense a need to be more familiar with the Bible and its stories? Are you eager to grow in your relationship with God through Bible reading and study? Do you feel a need to apply Biblical principles to your life? I am eager for our church to support you and challenge you as we begin this new year.

At our Leader Gathering on Saturday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, twenty-two people came through the snow and cold to spend three hours of reflecting on this past year and focusing our efforts in the new year. We agreed on a church focus: **“Growing in Bible literacy, Bible application and reading the Bible so that we grow in our relationship with God.”**

We will ask our boards and committees to find ways to help our congregation in this crucial area.

Already, our Board of Christian Ed. has formed a task group whose focus is our plans for Adult Sunday School and to help form and support small groups. In addition, we are working on a Foundations class on Reading the Bible.

### **Lenten Bible Study**

On Wednesday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, we will begin a 5 week Lenten Bible Study with each study preceded by a meal. The focus of these studies will be on the Apostle Peter: A Model for Discipleship”. These studies will prepare for my Sunday sermons on the same topic.

### **Cindy Mapstone Internship**

As part of her seminary education, Cindy will participate in an internship at First Baptist this winter and Spring. I will be her supervisor and we will form a Ministerial Advisory Committee of church members to meet with her monthly. The focus of her work will be a congregational care system. Keep Cindy in your prayers as she does this work.

### **Thank You**

Thank you to each of you who have served on our boards and committees this past year. Thank you to those who have agreed to take new positions of responsibility. You make a difference in our effectiveness for Christ’s Kingdom.

### **Coming Worship Services and Events:**

#### **Sunday, February 4<sup>th</sup> –**

**Damon Gagnier** will bring us the message. Come and hear his testimony of how God has been at work these past months of his life. Share in the Lord’s Supper.

#### **Sunday, February 11th –**

My sermon will focus on Psalm 1

#### **Sunday, February 18th –**

My sermon will focus on Genesis 45 – Joseph and his brothers reunited.

#### **Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup> –**

First Sunday in Lent. My sermon series on Peter will begin: “Called and Appointed”

Faithfully,  
Pastor Leon

## PRAYER REQUESTS

### **Please keep in prayer:**

Wanda Baker  
Cecile White's Aunt Irene  
Virginia Noble  
Carol Davenport's sister, Barbara  
Mary Jane and Russell Davis,  
Jill Doss' parents  
The Loope Family  
Ruth Costello  
Donald Loope  
Andy Burt

## PRAISES

*"To My Church Family ~ I wish a healthy, happy New Year to everyone. I wonder what 2007 holds for us. Certainly, 2006 was very kind to me. I thank God every day for the thousands of blessings He has given. I have the most wonderful, loving, caring church family that anyone can have. Bless every one of you. Love and prayers, Edith Laning (dated 1/3/07)*

## **FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS**

Birthstone – Amethyst

Flower – Violet

1. Betsy Burt
4. Colleen Guynup  
Deborah Oley  
Charles Struwing
6. Haralds Rikveilis  
Jacob Albanese
8. Stephen Burt
13. Walter Ammann
14. Murray Chesebro
16. Karin Davenport  
Ken Wales
17. Rick Penhall
20. Adam Baier  
Michelle Hotchkiss
26. Jake Everly  
Trudy Siegenthaler  
Mary Lou Wales
28. Andy Bailey

## **ANNIVERSARIES**

13. Linda & Erich Heller

## ABW MINISTRIES



- Blanket Sunday is scheduled for **Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup>**. The need is great! Church World Service has depleted its supply of blankets. We can help restock the shelves. Please give generously!
- **Monday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 a.m.-Noon.** There will be a White Cross work meeting held on this date in the Church library. The hostesses for this event are Ruth Ware and Annette Andrusyszyn.

Please remember that we are still collecting Campbell products UPC codes (on the back of cans).

- Mark your calendars for the 4-week Lenten Bible Study beginning on **Monday, March 12<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m. in the Library**. A soup luncheon will follow in the Chapel.

## UNITY FELLOWSHIP

The next meeting will be on **Saturday, February 24<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m.** ~ a breakfast is planned in the Chapel. The committee consists of Ken Bex, Ruby Pfohl and Betty Heller.

**All are invited!!**



## **SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS**

### **Volunteers Needed for Rotational Curriculum**

Beginning on March 11 our children's Sunday School classes will begin the Lenten Rotational Curriculum, Jesus – Death Destroyer. Over 4 weeks, the children will discover these events from Jesus' final days:

Jesus' Triumphant Entry                      The Passover Meal  
Jesus Prays for His Followers  
Jesus is Crucified – and Rises Again!

**ADULTS ARE NEEDED** to help make this a success. No experience is necessary for many of the jobs – just a love of our children and seeing them grow with the Lord. We provide on the job training! Leaders are needed for the Games Center, the Storytelling Center, The Art Center, and the Drama Center. Your commitment will be only 2 of the 4 Sundays. If you have 4 Sundays to give, then your help is needed in the Opening and Closing sections, as well as being a group leader. More details of the duties are available by speaking with Kathie Shevchuk (682-8678).

If you are interested, please see Kathie as soon as possible. Again this curriculum will begin March 11, 9:45-10:45.

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**Children's Day** will be **Sunday, June 10** and the young people will be presenting the musical The First Action Heroes. If you can help in any area listed below, please see Kathie Shevchuk (682-8678).

**Assistant Director**—available to go out with Joyful Sounds for rehearsals

**Set Design** – able to paint backdrop scene

**Props** – not hard to find

**Costumes** – able to sew

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### **ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES**

9:45 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. Sunday School hour:

**The Fruit of the Spirit** – Leader, Betsy Burt – Meeting in the Chapel

**Bible Discussion – Focus: Gospel of Matthew** - Meeting in Room 207

**Journeys Bible Study** – Leader, Erm Ferris – Meeting in the Library

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**HAND BELL CHOIR** - "Would you like to listen to a beautiful Hand bell Choir? If so, maybe you would be willing to be a part of that hand bell choir! If you have ever thought that it would be fun to try, now is your chance. This would be a one-time concert event. Ages 9 and older are welcome to participate. Please see Al Dominy or Joyce McCartney for more details."

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL PLANNING

Thursday, February 15<sup>th</sup>  
at 6:30 p.m. in the Chapel

**WE WANT YOU!!!!** Calling all those interested in seeing a VBS at First Baptist Church this summer. If you missed our traditional VBS this past summer and would like to be part of making it happen in 2007, please come to our initial planning meeting. Help get the ball rolling!



The Christian Ed. Board will provide a delightful meal to help inspire some creative ideas and help set the stage for what we hope will be another wonderful and inspirational event.

Help touch the lives of the children of our church and reach out to those who are our guests.

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### JR. – SR. HIGH YOUTH GROUP

Sundays, January 28<sup>th</sup>, February 11<sup>th</sup> and February 25<sup>th</sup>

Meet at the church from 6 – 7:30 p.m.

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### Souper Bowl Sunday National Emphasis – Local Focus Sunday, February 4<sup>th</sup>

Youth at First Baptist will hold soup pots at the church doors on Souper Bowl Sunday, February 4<sup>th</sup>. They will join young people in churches all across the country to collect money for those who are hungry and hurting. All money donated at First Baptist will go to the FM Food Pantry.

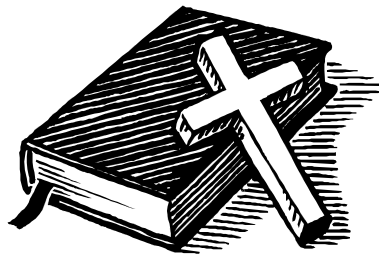
140 million people all over the world will tune into the Super Bowl football game. There will be parties with abundant food, friendship and fellowship. At the same time there will be people worrying about staying warm, finding shelter and a warm meal. Join our young people as they demonstrate God's love by loving their neighbors through the Souper Bowl of Caring. Our young people are developing hearts for giving that can last a lifetime. Please support their efforts.

# **Community Ash Wednesday Service**

**at Immaculate Conception Church  
Fayetteville, NY**

**Wednesday, February 21<sup>st</sup>  
at 7:00 p.m.**

Come to an evening of prayer and self-reflection. Each person can choose to receive ashes. Pastor Leon will participate in this service. You are invited to come and experience this worship with many other churches from the F-M area. While we have not emphasized Ash Wednesday in the past, it will be an opportunity for us to learn. Consider participating and allow the experience of this ritual lead you into this season of Lent.



# Lenten Bible Study and meal



**5 Wednesday Evenings  
6-8 p.m.**

**Begins on Wednesday, February 28<sup>th</sup>**

**Join your church family in Bible study and fellowship!**

**Fellowship:** We will begin our meal at 6 p.m.  
sharing a light but filling meal of soup, salad, bread and dessert.  
We will complete the meal with time to clean-up and gather for the  
Bible Study with Pastor Leon.

**Bible Study:** The Bible Study will begin at 7 p.m.  
Pastor Leon will lead us in a study of:

**“Peter: A Model for Discipleship”**

We will explore a number of the stories of Peter:

- His call to follow
- Walking on water
- His confession of faith
- His denial and need for forgiveness

**Children’s Program:** There will be activities for the children which will  
follow the evening topics. Kathie Shevchuk will coordinate these, so  
it will be helpful to let her know what children plan to attend.

Can you help with the Children’s Program? Call Kathie at 682-8678

## **MISSION NEWS**

**Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup> – Blanket Sunday!**

### **American Baptist Churches name Rev. Dr. Reid Trulson as International Ministries Executive Director:**

The Rev. Dr. Reid Trulson has been named the new Executive Director of the Board of International Ministries. ABC General Secretary Roy Medley gave his enthusiastic endorsement as he shared that during visits to the churches of Eastern Europe and the Middle East, he had learned firsthand, “Trulson is loved and respected by church leaders throughout the region he has served. He will provide strong leadership to our International mission.”

The President of the IM Board, Rev. Ray Schooler, celebrated the decision by saying, “Reid has a tremendous heart for mission. He has a great historical perspective, a steady hand and a dynamic vision. Since his nomination, we have received overwhelming affirmation of this choice from missionaries, staff, board members and many others.

Trulson thanked the board for their confidence and support, recognizing that “this moment is not about me or about any one of us, but about what the Lord will do in and through International Ministries to bring glory to God.” Trulson then led a time of prayer for the members of the board. The board members responded by laying hands on Trulson as Medley led them in a time of prayer for God’s work in and through IM’s new executive director.

Additional information on Reid Trulson and the work of American Baptist Churches International Ministries can be found on the International Ministries website at [www.Internationalministires.org](http://www.Internationalministires.org)

### **News from John and Debra Coates in Cambodia**

In John’s most recent letter he writes: “...I want to bring another concern to you all. Debbie and I are feeling very overwhelmed this past month or more. The physical needs are very great and we are constantly confronted with very basic needs of Christians and non-Christians alike. The spiritual needs and concerns are also very great and they seem to have shifted into a higher gear lately. There has been a sharp increase lately in the number of people making public commitments to the Lord. I know we should be completely encouraged by this, and we are very encouraged. We praise the Lord for this! Yet at the same time, the sharp increase has exacerbated weaknesses in the church. The growing harvest is outpacing the harvesters, or so it seems to us. We feel overwhelmed at the teaching that is needed. There is no strong discipleship of youth or children, and they badly need leadership. It is a ripe time for them to be discipled. We lack harvesters, ability, and financial resources. And there is an increased need for teaching adults, too. Pray that God will help us to meet this happy need.



# Women & Girls' State Gathering

American Baptist Women's Ministries of NYS

## "Come to the Edge"

April 27-29, 2007

at

Adam's Mark Hotel

120 Church St.

Buffalo, NY



Special AB Girls program for girls in grades 7-12.

### Special Guests:

- \* Friday night Inspirational Concert by New Beginnings
  - \* Sat. & Sun. Keynote Speaker Jan DeWitt
  - \* Missionary - Debbie Kelsey
  - \* Sun. Bible Study Leader Rev. Betty Wright-Riggins
- Various Workshops on the theme for all ages, as well as a trip to Cornerstone Manor - see registration material for titles.

### Costs:

Registration: Full time - \$15.00                      Part time - \$10.00  
(send to ABWM Conv. Registrar, Nancy Farley) (after 3/31/07 add a \$5.00 late fee)

Hotel Room & Meals (includes 2 nights lodging & 4 meals):

Single - \$261.00

Double - \$172.00/person

Triple - \$142/person

Quad - \$125.00/person

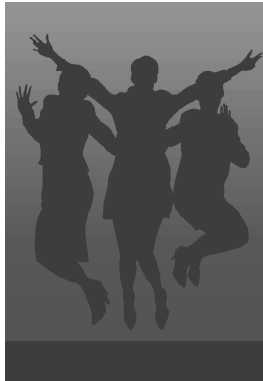
AB Girls are \$20 less/girl on room rates & must be accompanied by an adult  
(Room registrations to be sent with Tax Exempt form & church check directly to Adam's Mark Hotel.)

All registrations are due by March 31, 2007 to both registrar & hotel.

There are no other hotels close by - so register early to secure your room!!

**You may access forms and other information at [www.abmennys.org](http://www.abmennys.org) (look for the ABW icon) or contact Christy Brownell at 518-225-4732 or email Christy at: [cbrownell@abc-nys.org](mailto:cbrownell@abc-nys.org).**

**WOMEN OF FAITH**  
**Amazing Freedom 2007**  
**Let Your Spirit Soar!**  
**Rochester, NY**



**June 1-2, 2007**  
**Blue Cross Arena**

“So if the *Son* makes you free  
you will be truly *free*.” -John 8:36

Early bird price \$75 plus hotel and meals.  
Scholarships are available.

If you need more information, please contact  
Kathie Shevchuk @ 682-8678.

A short, informational meeting will be held  
after the 11:00 worship service on  
**February 11th.**

If you are unable to attend  
but interested in attending the conference,  
let Kathie know!



# FEBRUARY 2007



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 <b>6:30-8:30</b> <u>Basketball</u>	2	3
4 <b>8:30 am</b> <u>Worship Service</u> <b>9:45-10:45 am</b> <u>Sunday School</u> <b>11:00 am</b> <u>Worship Service</u> <b>12:15 pm</b> <u>Ministry Support</u> <b>12:30 pm</b> <u>Choir Rehearsal</u>	5	6 <b>6:00 pm</b> <u>Diaconate</u> <u>Board Mtg.</u>  <b>7:00 pm</b> <u>Weigh Down</u> <u>Workshop</u> (Library)	7	8 <b>6:30 pm</b> <u>Christian</u> <u>Education</u> <u>Board Mtg.</u>  <b>6:30-8:30 pm</b> <u>Basketball</u> (gym)	9	10
11 <b>Blanket Sunday</b> <b>8:30 am</b> <u>Worship Service</u> <b>9:45-10:45 am</b> <u>Sunday School</u> <b>11:00 am</b> <u>Worship Service</u> <b>12:15 pm</b> <u>Women of Faith</u> <b>12:15 pm</b> <u>Missions Board</u> <b>12:30 pm</b> <u>Choir Rehearsal</u> <b>6 pm</b> <u>Trustees</u> <b>6:00-7:30 pm</b> <u>Youth Group</u>	12 <b>10:00 am</b> <u>ABW White</u> <u>Cross Mtg.</u> (Chapel)  <b>6 pm</b> <u>King's Kids</u> <u>Committee</u> (Library)	13 <b>7:00 pm</b> <u>Weigh Down</u> <u>Workshop</u> (Library)	14 <b>Valentine's</b> <b>Day</b>  <b>7:00 pm</b> <u>Executive</u> <u>Committee</u> <u>Meeting</u>	15 <b>March</b> <b>Newsletter</b> <b>Items Due!</b>  <b>6:30 pm</b> <u>VBS Meeting</u> (Chapel)  <b>6:30-8:30 pm</b> <u>Basketball</u> (gym)	16	17
18 <b>8:30 am</b> <u>Worship Service</u> <b>9:45-10:45 am</b> <u>Sunday School</u> <b>11:00 am</b> <u>Worship Service</u> <b>12:30 pm</b> <u>Choir</u>	19 <b>President's</b> <b>Day –</b> <b>Church</b> <b>Office is</b> <b>Open</b>	20 <b>7:00 pm</b> <u>Weigh Down</u> <u>Workshop</u> (Library)	21 <b>7:30 pm</b> <u>Community</u> <u>Ash</u> <u>Wednesday</u> <u>Service at</u> <u>Immaculate</u> <u>Conception</u>	22 <b>6:30-8:30 pm</b> <u>Basketball</u> (gym)	23	24 <b>9 am</b> <u>Unity</u> <u>Fellowship</u> <u>Breakfast</u> (Chapel)
25 1 <sup>st</sup> Sun/Lent <b>8:30 am</b> <u>Worship Service</u> <b>9:45-10:45 am</b> <u>Sunday School</u> <b>11:00 am</b> <u>Worship Service</u> <b>12:30 pm</b> <u>Choir</u> <b>6:00-7:30 pm</b> <u>Youth Group</u>	26	27 <b>7:00 pm</b> <u>Weigh Down</u> <u>Workshop</u> (Library)	28 <b>6:00-8:00 pm</b> <u>Lenten Bible</u> <u>Study</u> (Chapel) Thru March 28th	<b>Coming in</b> <b>March ~</b>  <b>ABW Lenten</b> <b>Series</b> <b>Mondays</b> <b>from 3/12/07-</b> <b>4/2/07,</b> <b>10:30 a.m.</b>		

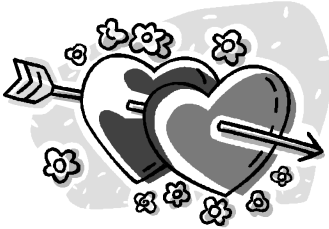
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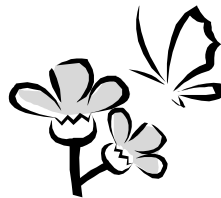
**Rev. Leon Oaks-Lee, Pastor**  
**All the Believers, Ministers**

**Address Service Requested**



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**Inviting People to New Life**



## **Mission Statement**

In Celebration of the good news shown to us in Jesus Christ,  
We will invite others to unite with us as part of the family of  
God,

Sharing the Gospel through

Worship,

Education,

Encouragement of one another and the

Support of Mission

As we serve Manlius and our surrounding communities.