

CHRISTIAN CARRIER

February 2009



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

Church Office Telephone: (315) 682-8941

Website: www.firstbaptist-manlius.org

Church email: fbcman@twcny.rr.com

Pastor Leon's email: fbcman-pastor@twcny.rr.com

From Your Pastor ~

I awake this morning with many things running through my mind. I check my list of responsibilities. My mind keeps racing to the opportunities I'd like to work on and the people I'd like to be with. But, I am also feeling the pressure of my schedule and deadlines to meet.

This is not an unfamiliar feeling to me. I know what I need. I need to allow God to bring order to my chaos.

I begin with about 10 minutes of quiet. I sit in a comfortable place and begin to pay attention to my breathing. "Lord Jesus Christ" I breathe in (I want Jesus' spirit to fill my heart, my lungs, my veins and arteries, my brain. As I begin, my anxieties, fears and desires are leaving no room for God). "Son of God" I breathe out (I want my life to share God with others. I want what I produce and give to the world to be of God, not of my anxiety and worry.).

For a while I breathe in "Lord Jesus Christ" and breathe out "Son of God." I can feel my heart rate lower and my mind slowing down. I keep a tablet near by. Thoughts come to me. Some thoughts are responsibilities I need to remember, others are thoughts about people or situations. I jot these down on paper so that I can let go of them and pick them up at another time. Right now is a time to be quiet. I want to be connected to God. I want to be connected to the things that are most important and central to my life.

As I feel more centered in God, I read a Psalm. The Psalm speaks about "walking in my integrity" and "trusting God without wavering." Later it says,

"for your steadfast love is before my eyes."

I can feel my day beginning to take shape. I still have a list of responsibilities, deadlines to meet and schedules to keep, but my eyes are already looking for God's steadfast love. When I sit down to breakfast, I see God's steadfast love in the provision of food, my health, and my marriage. God is good!

Today I want to walk in my integrity. I want to be true to who God has made me to be. I want to be honest and direct in my dealings with others.

My prayers today include each of you in our church family. I pray that you are finding ways to allow God to shape your life. I pray that you are seeing God's steadfast love and finding ways to allow God to work in and through you for others.

I share with you a little of my own journey, because I know it is not easy to stay focused on God. I want to share with you the joys and struggles of walking in the way of Jesus. I invite you to give and receive encouragement to each other.

Pastor Leon

P.S. Thank you to the Deacons who held a service of prayer and healing on January 13th. Those who came felt it was important, and the Deacons plan to offer the opportunity again.

IN THE CHURCH FAMILY

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please Pray for ~

Wanda Baker The Breed Family
Loretta Beuchert Mike Adams
Virginia Noble Ruth Costello
Courtney H. Ann and Gene Spradling
Connor Marian Pollock
Russell and Mary Jane Davis Zulauf
The Nehemiah Team Helen Jenks
Florence Cowles, Barbara Brace's mother
Virginia, Carol Davenport's aunt
Marilyn Fowler Mills Tom Conley
Peggy, Marg Kerr's sister and Peggy's
son, Greg Mary Schwarz
Carole Guynup Linda & Marty Malloy
Kyle Short Grace Chege's niece
Phyllis Bailey The Barber family
Dana Berg and his wife, Debbie
Lucy Shephard Judy Ewing

PRAISES

Pauline and Harry Cole would like to thank all of those who have so faithfully been greeters and ushers for the Worship Services in 2008.

~ ~ ~

Grace Chege would like to thank all of you for your prayers for her niece, She is doing much better! Praise God!

~ ~ ~

Since my house fire on December 21st, God has been taking such good care of me through His people. My church family has "been there" for me in so many ways that I can't help but feel blessed. There have been challenges, and there are more to come, but I know that the Lord is faithful and will continue to give me what I need when I need it. I can't imagine going through this alone, and I'm so thankful that I don't have to. Thank you!

God is good - all the time. -Mary Schwarz

~ ~ ~

Prayer request or praise ~ call the church office (682-8941) by Wednesday morning.

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
Walfre Merida
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

You are very special to us, and we want to remember your special dates. Please contact the church office if you have additions to our Birthday/Anniversary list.

Unity Fellowship

Unity Fellowship will have a luncheon meeting starting at 12 noon at the church in the chapel on February 28th. Entertainment will be provided by ventriloquist Larry Brennan following lunch featuring homemade soups.

There is no need to bring anything but yourself, and you can expect a nice lunch and great entertainment. This event is for all both young and old. Come and have a good time of fellowship on a winter's afternoon. Call Erm Ferris at 682 - 9054 for information.

March Newsletter items due: Monday, February 16th

You may email the items to: fbcman@twcny.rr.com or place them in the secretary's mail slot. Thank you☺



IN THE CHURCH FAMILY (Cont'd)

MISSION NEWS

"Bring your blanket and tell your story" ~ **February 8th is the Blanket Sunday** Promotion. Do you have a special blanket?? Does that blanket have a special story?? On **Sunday, February 8**, we will be talking about blankets and how special they are. It's Blanket Sunday and we'd like you to bring that special blanket and share your story. Of course, not everyone will be able to share their story that day, but we'd like to take time to share a few "short" stories. Come wrap yourselves in the warmth of a blanket of love - celebrate Blanket Sunday on February 8.

The Mission Board would like to extend their thanks to everyone who has so generously supported all the special projects over the last couple of months. You are all so appreciated for your contributions of items, time, money, and yourselves to: Operation Christmas Child, the Samaritan Center Christmas hat, scarf, and mitten tree, to the Samaritan Center for donations of time and books, to the Rescue Mission of extra donated items, to the Refugee families for all the holiday food and gifts, to RMMO to support our retired ministers and missionaries (surpassed our goal of \$1,200-\$1,358 was given to the RMMO), to the FM Food Pantry, and for your regular pledge to all the other local missions and most of all your prayerful support of all that we do. Our church family is so generous and we so appreciate everything you have done during this holiday season. May God bless all of you in 2009. Your Mission Board

~ ~ ~

FM Food Pantry - items need are canned soup (not tomato), canned fruit, baked beans, pasta sauce, toilet paper & cookie mix. Place items in grocery cart by elevator.

ABW MINISTRIES

A White Cross Work meeting is scheduled for **Monday, February 9, 10 am** in the Chapel. The committee consists of Ruth Ware and Annette Andrusyszyn. Please bring a bag lunch. Dessert will be provided. Fifty (50) bandages will be rolled for hospitals in the Congo.

An ABC/NYS morning coffee/luncheon will be held on **Sat., March 14**. Greg Short is our chef. Morning coffee, dessert and beverages will be provided by ABW Ministries.

A 3-week Lenten Bible Study will be held beginning **Monday, March 23, March 30, and April 6th at 10:30 a.m.** This will take place in the Church Library followed by a soup luncheon in the Chapel. The Bible study leaders will be Cindy Mapstone, Myrna Benedict and Gail Carlsen. Committee: Olga Schmidt, Shirley Mapstone, and Ruby Pfohl.

Scholarships are available to High School Graduates and continuing College students from American Baptist Women's Ministries through the ABW Ministries Scholarship Fund. Applications are available in the church office.

Due date: **March 1st**

We need more UPC codes found on the back of a variety of Campbell's products. These labels go to Springbrook to buy materials for the schools, etc. There is a box for UPC codes and cancelled stamps in the Narthex. We have not been able to find a place for our cancelled stamps at this time; suggestions are welcome.



FEBRUARY WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday, February 1 – Communion Sunday

Sermon: “Come to the Table”
Read: I Corinthians 11:23-32

Sunday, February 8 – Blanket Sunday

Sermon: “Time to Pray”
Read: Mark 1:29-39

Sunday, February 15

Sermon: “The Fast I Desire”
Read: Isaiah 58

Sunday, February 22

Sermon: “Seeing With New Eyes”
Read: Mark 9:2-10

Ash Wednesday, February 25

6 p.m. - “Lenten Supper”
7 p.m. - Lenten Learning Experiences

Pastor Leon will begin a series of Wednesday Lenten Learning Experiences focusing on the preaching themes of healing. Watch for more information.



Youth News

Youth Group meets the 1st & 3rd Sundays

6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

For youth in Grades 6th - 12th

Upcoming Events:

February 1st - **Special Time!!!** We'll be meeting directly after church for fun and games! Bring your own lunch and we'll start our activities at 1:00pm.

February 15th - Youth Group. Normal Time. Normal Place. Abnormal Events.

New 30 Hour Famine Dates coming! Stay Tuned!

Chris was lucky. He got to eat breakfast this morning. A brown and white mushy breakfast will be the only meal he'll eat today. And in Zambia, where almost half the population - more than 5 million people - is hungry, Chris is blessed to have that mush.



But some kids won't get anything to eat—all day. And you won't see them on the TV or hear their stories on the radio. In fact, before this day is over, 26,000 children under age 5 will die because of hunger, disease and poverty.

14,000 of them will die from causes linked to malnutrition alone. Today... tomorrow... and the next day... *That's one every seven seconds.*

But here's the good news. Students at First Baptist, Manlius are choosing to make a difference. They are getting ready to take part in World Vision's 30 Hour Famine. They're going to raise money by not eating for 30 hours so that kids like Chris can eat every day.

In the coming weeks you'll hear more about the 30 Hour Famine. So here's where YOU come in: please pray for the Famine participants, and then prayerfully consider how you can offer your financial support to help save kids' lives.

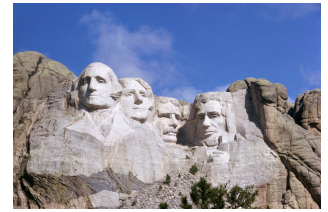
Youth Team: Christy Brownell, Jillian Everly, Pastor Leon Oaks-lee, Rosey Oaks-lee, George Oley, & Tom Shephard.

Calling all parents of Junior & Senior High youth!



Saturday, February 7th 6:00pm

Please join us in the Chapel for fellowship, fun & feedback. It's been a while since the Youth Team has checked in with you as a group. What a great way to have a night out with other adults! Meal will be provided. Any questions, please talk with a Youth Team member.





FEBRUARY 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 - Communion Sunday 8:30 am <u>Worship</u> 9:45 am <u>Sunday School</u> 11:00 am <u>Worship</u> 12:15 pm <u>Ministry Support Comm. Mtg.</u> 12:15 pm <u>Youth Group</u>	2 6:30 pm <u>Diaconate Board Meeting</u>	3 6:30 pm <u>Trustees Board Meeting</u>	4 6:30 pm <u>Youth Team meeting</u>	5	6 9:30-11:30 am <u>Stay 'n Play (gym)</u>	7 9-3 pm <u>Nehemiah Team Workshop in Norwich</u> 6:00 pm <u>Get together for parents of Jr./Sr. High Youth (chapel)</u>
8 - Blanket Sunday 8:30 am <u>Worship</u> 9:45 am <u>Sunday School</u> 11:00 am <u>Worship</u> 12:15 pm <u>Missions Board</u>	9 10:00 am <u>ABW White Cross Meeting (chapel)</u>	10	11 7:00 pm <u>Executive Committee meeting</u>	12	13 9:30-11:30 am <u>Stay 'n Play (gym)</u>	14 Valentine's Day 
15 8:30 am <u>Worship</u> 9:45 am <u>Sunday School</u> 11:00 am <u>Worship</u> 6:00 pm <u>Youth Group</u>	16 President's Day 	17	18	19	20 No Stay 'n Play today – School Break	21
22 - Joyful Sounds 8:30 am <u>Worship</u> 9:45 am <u>Sunday School</u> 11:00 am <u>Worship</u>	23	24	25 Ash Wednesday 6:00 pm <u>Lenten Supper</u> 7:00 pm <u>Lenten Learning Experiences</u>	26	27 9:30-11:30 am <u>Stay 'n Play (gym)</u>	28 12-2:30 pm <u>Unity Fellowship (Chapel)</u>

Events Coming in March

Monday, March 23, 30 & April 6, 10:30 a.m. – ABW Lenten Series
Wednesdays, 6 p.m./Lenten Supper; 7 pm/Lenten Learning Experiences

www.firstbaptist-manlius.org

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

**NON-PROFIT
ORG.
US POSTAGE
PAID**

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

Address Service Requested



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.