

# CHRISTIAN CARRIER

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December 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: [fbcman-pastor@twcny.rr.com](mailto:fbcman-pastor@twcny.rr.com)**

## ***From Your Pastor***

On Sunday, November 25<sup>th</sup>, **Melissa Buskey will be baptized** at the 11 a.m. service. It is a wonderful moment when one steps forward to publicly proclaim her faith in Jesus Christ. Plan to be present to rejoice with and support Melissa.

In December, we celebrate the **season of Advent**. In this season as we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus and remember what God has done, we also look forward to what God is yet to do.

I will focus on several scriptures from Isaiah and Matthew. The prophecies of Isaiah will challenge us to imagine what dramatic things God is yet to do. Can you imagine a world without war? A place where “lion and lamb” (the powerful and powerless) lay down (live peacefully) together?

The stories from Matthew help us realize ways God has already fulfilled his promises. We read verses such as “All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:...” (1:22) “Jesus answered them, ‘Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, ...’” (11:4-5)

Faith calls us to live between the promises of God and the fulfillment of those promises. In this season we realize that God has acted, is acting and there is still much God has promised to do.

In a world where war, poverty, scandal and corruption are almost accepted as natural, where is our hope? where do we place our trust?

### **December worship services:**

#### **Sunday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>**

Sermon: “What Do You Expect?”  
Read: Isaiah 2:1-5 and  
Matthew 24:36-44.  
We’ll observe the Lord’s Supper.

In the evening will be the FM churches Lessons and Carols service.

#### **Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup> –**

Sermon: “How is Your Vision?”  
Read: Isaiah 11:1-10 and  
Matthew 3:1-12.

#### **Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup> –**

Sermon: “Recognizing New Life!”  
Read: Isaiah 35:1-10 and  
Matthew 11:2-11

Joyful Sounds Choir Christmas musical “When Jesus was Born.”

In the evening our church Christmas Program: “Broadcasting Christmas”.

#### **Sunday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> –**

Sermon: “God’s Surprises!”  
Read: Isaiah 7:10-16  
Matthew 1:18-25

#### **Sunday, December 30<sup>th</sup> --**

“Blessings Sunday”  
Read: Isaiah 63:7-9  
Matthew 2:13-23  
Consider how God has blessed you in 2007. Share with your church family.

Faithfully,

Pastor Leon

## IN THE CHURCH FAMILY

### PRAYER REQUESTS

#### Recent Prayer Requests:

**Ruth Costello** – fell on Thursday, Nov. 8th and is in Stonehedge Health & Rehab. Ctr., Room A13, 331 Russell St., Chittenango, NY 13037 (687-7255).

**Mr. & Mrs. Syracuse** – both have cancer – requested by Ana Corona

#### Please Pray for:

Virginia Noble	Wanda Baker
Kermit Breed, Jr.	Al Parker
Loretta Beuchert	Licia Swain
Mary Jane and Russell Davis	Connor
Donna, Joyce McCartney's sister	
Joe Malloy	Mike Handzel
Richard Fuller and his wife, Fran	
Barbara, Carol Davenport's sister	
Virginia, Carol Davenport's aunt	
Florence Cowles, Barbara Brace's mother	
Martin Short	The Buskey family
Abigail & Ruth, Dorcas Ambrosio's sisters	
Jon Perry, Dave Knaebel's friend	

~ ~ ~

*I would like to thank all of you for continuing to pray for my sister, Loretta. She had her second lung surgery Monday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, and everything went very well. Praise God! -Elaine LaFollette*

~ ~ ~

*"To My Church Friends ~ Another year almost gone. Thank God for giving me the health and health and pleasure of a great life. Not that I'm getting younger or more able, but He has blessed me with the greatest Church family in the world. Flowers are still blooming, no frost as of yet. My love and prayers for every one of my Church family. -Edith Laning*

~ ~ ~

Please call the Church Office (682-8941) with any prayer requests or praises by Wednesday morning. Thank you.



### PRAISES

*"To the members of the congregation, it is with profound joy that I send to you my book. It's my Christmas gift to you. This month of December, Leon is going to visit me. I will give it to him then. It will truly be good to see him again. The book puts to rest some uncertainties in my mind concerning my father's service in the army. It has been said that writing is good for better mental health. It was very therapeutic for me. When I read what I had written, I felt peace, the peace of God which leads to all understanding. Merry Christmas to each one of you, Fred Goddard."*

~ ~ ~

*For those of you who remember Harold and Bette Wetzel, Harold called the Church office and said that his wife, Bette, passed away June 30, 2006. He wanted each of you to know what a wonderful religious institution the First Baptist Church of Manlius is and to wish each of you God's blessings.*

### DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Birthstone – Turquoise/Flower – Narcissus

- |     |                  |
|-----|------------------|
| 3.  | Bill Davison     |
|     | Jessica Haase    |
|     | Gary Johnson     |
| 7.  | Linda Tessier    |
| 10. | Michael Binder   |
| 16. | David Kerwin     |
|     | Erin Kerwin      |
| 17. | Courtney         |
|     | Shevchuk         |
| 18. | Nancy Albanese   |
| 19. | Micah Granata    |
| 20. | Marjorie Lincoln |
| 21. | Jason Morales    |
| 24. | Pauline Cole     |
| 25. | Jean Gaudio      |
| 28. | Virginia Noble   |
| 29. | Steven Ware      |

### ANNIVERSARIES

- |     |                        |
|-----|------------------------|
| 4.  | Cindy & Mark Mapstone  |
| 12. | Carol & George         |
|     | Davenport              |
| 22. | Shirley & Bob Mapstone |



**THE MASTER'S TOUCH CHORALE CONCERT**

**is coming to:**

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

**Saturday, December 1st  
7:30 p.m.**

**in the Sanctuary**

*You don't want to miss out on this beautiful concert.  
Come and hear the joyful sounds of Christmas.*

*A reception in the Chapel will follow the  
performance.*

~ ~ ~

This is ABW's Christmas gift to all of you.

The Committee consists of:

Jill Doss, Sally Lyon & Janet Norris





## **JOYFUL SOUNDS CHOIR**

Will be presenting a short, musical play in 3 scenes called “*When Jesus Was Born.*” Speakers are Allison Butler (Child 1) and Lucy Shephard (Child 2); Prophet from the Old Testament – Kelsey Mapstone; Mary – Joanna Butler; Joseph – Christopher Oley; Three Wise Men – Richard Spradling, Will Shephard, and Ross Goodwin. Other choir members have speaking parts. Special rehearsal is planned for Sunday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> after church in the Sanctuary. It is important that all choir members be in attendance at all rehearsals from now until the performance, **Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup> during the 11:00 a.m. Worship Service.** The choir will also participate in the evening performance on December 16<sup>th</sup> with the adults.

### **January Newsletter**

**Items Due:  
Monday, December  
17th**

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



### **FINANCIAL NOTES**

This is your friendly reminder to submit all donations for 2007 to the church no later than **Monday, Dec. 31, 2007.** All bank deposits will be made on December 31<sup>st</sup>. Thank you for your assistance in this matter. –Carole Guynup, Financial Secretary and Barbara Richardson, Treasurer



### **OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD**



Thank you all so much for the shoe boxes you contributed for Operation Christmas Child. We collected **64 boxes!** Thanks goes out to Colleen Guynup for doing such a great job in organizing and promoting this worthwhile cause to make so many children happy this Christmas.

### **Pastor Leon's**

### **Office Hours:**

**Tuesday-Friday:**

**9:00-Noon**

**Email: [fbcman-](mailto:fbcman@twcny.rr.com)**

**[pastor@twcny.rr.com](mailto:pastor@twcny.rr.com)**



### **ABW MINISTRIES**

- Fruit plates for our special Church members will be packed and delivered on **Sunday, Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>.** Committee: Ruth Ware and Annette Andrusyszyn. We are still collecting UPC codes on the back of Campbell's products and also cancelled stamps (with at least 1/4" border) to be sent to Rev. David Vila to benefit his Spanish ministry. There is a box in the Narthex for both items. Blanket Sunday will be held February 10<sup>th</sup>. JoAnn Mostar is in charge.

# REMEMBER with LOVE

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# GIVE with GRATITUDE

December 2007

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Just before Christmas in 2006, Betty June Walker received an RMMO Thank You check and wrote this note: “The check couldn’t have come at a better time—when I needed to reorder my medication. I also had other expenses I had not counted on. What a blessing to know that I am remembered by American Baptists and that God continues to bless every day of my life. Although my husband, Lester, has been gone three years, we enjoyed serving the Lord together in West Virginia for over 40 years.”

Betty June’s heartwarming note helps us appreciate the importance of the Thank You check to over 3,000 American Baptist ministers, missionaries and their widowed spouses. The check says: We as American Baptists have not forgotten you; we are grateful for your ministry; we care about you.

Thank You checks, as well as emergency financial assistance, are made possible by the contributions of American Baptist congregations to the annual Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering (RMMO). Through the RMMO we are called to *Remember with Love, Give with Gratitude*.

I invite you to join me in making a generous contribution to the RMMO when we receive during the month of December.

Your gift makes a difference.

Sincerely,

Your Mission Board

Jean Lynn Buskey, Jill Doss, Sally Lyon,  
Shirley Mapstone and Tom Shephard

# Sunday School News

**Adult Sunday School Options**  
9:45 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.



Choose between four classes:

- 1) "What's So Amazing About Grace?" ~ Leader: Ellen Everly (Chapel)
- 2) Adult Journeys ~ Leader: Erm Ferris (Library)
- 3) Bible Study ~ Room 207 (next to the choir room)  
Contact person: Jill Doss
- 4) Bible Study ~ Room 206

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All classes, adult & children's are invited to a special intergenerational Sunday School event on:

**December 23 @ 9:45 a.m.**

Come to the chapel for a unique Christmas experience:

- participate in an interactive story about the birth of Christ,
- learn about Christmas symbols and create a banner
- commit to being aware of God's presence in our lives



Be a part of our church family working along side of each other & get to know one another better. Share some holiday refreshments!

Don't have a regular Sunday School class - join us!

First Baptist Church, Manlius, presents

# BROADCASTING CHRISTMAS

By Marti Suddarth



Directed by Mary Schwarz

Revisit the days of 1940s-era radio drama!

The story told on WJOY radio. "Miss Placed" (Melissa Buskey) seeks a Gumshoe's (Christopher Oley) help in finding Christmas. They go to a toy store, to a deli in search of figgy pudding, and to a holiday party. Finally they stumble upon a church's simple Christmas pageant performance where they find Christmas - the baby Jesus in a manger.

Additional cast members include  
Kyle Short, Carol Davenport, Bob Mapstone & Jill Doss.  
Various musical performances.

**SUNDAY DECEMBER 16, 2007**  
**6:00 pm**

Everyone, friends, family, neighbors, co-workers, are invited  
to fellowship & enjoy some refreshments  
immediately following the performance.



# Mission News!!

## WORLD MISSION OFFERING



Thanks to all of the wonderful people of First Baptist Church - adults to youth to children! Not only did we reach our goal of \$2,000, we exceeded it by \$373.19!! WOW, you are awesome and your Mission Board thanks you for **s t r e t c h i n g**

to and reaching beyond the goal. Think of all those individuals our missionaries will reach for Christ because of your generosity and faithfulness. May God richly bless each and every one of you! The Mission Board: Jill Doss, Sally Lyon, Jean Lynn Buskey, Shirley Mapstone, Tom Shephard

## **Retired Ministers & Ministry Offering**

The Retired Ministers & Ministry Offering (RMMO) will take place during December. The Mission Board has set a goal of \$1,000 for this offering. This special offering benefits, as the name implies, retired ministers and missionaries. The money raised is an offset to their salaries; and from personal comments from a few retired ministers we know, it is extremely helpful to them. This is your special way to say thank you to those who have served the Lord so faithfully over the years.

## **Ministry Opportunity**

The Mission Board is looking for an individual(s) who would be willing to be a **point person** for the **Wheels for the World**. We believe there are many people at First Baptist who will support this ministry with physical help, but we need a leader. The job will include: 1) being contacted when someone donates a chair and leaves it at the church. 2) see that the chair is delivered to storage. 3) when we have collected enough wheel chairs, make arrangements for chairs to be shipped to Wheels for the World.

We believe our biggest problem of storage space has been helped by Community Covenant Church (located on Pleasant Street) offering to help store these wheelchairs.

If you are interested in this opportunity and would like to help this ministry develop, please contact a Mission Board member.

**Bloodmobile** - On Saturday, November 17<sup>th</sup>, First Baptist Church hosted the blood drive and 58 pints of blood were collected. We exceeded our goal by 13 pints! Thank you to all who helped out that day, especially Shirley Mapstone for organizing this worthwhile event.

**CROP Walk Update** – The new total collected for CROP Walk is \$1,420.00!!

## TRUSTEE REPORT

We have several projects in the works during the next few months.

–We are replacing the gym windows and adding storm windows. This should help save energy costs. George Oley might be able to use some help so call him if you are available.

–George is also going to work on the King's Kids entranceway. This will help eliminate some of the ice problems that we have every winter.

–As the Four for the Lord Campaign is finishing up, we will be taking the Parking Lot line off our financial report. The dollars left owing will be subtracted out of our Parsonage Fund as we already agreed to use that money for whatever was not donated. If you still have some of your pledge left to pay or want to contribute more, please note that it is for the parking lot and it will be added to the Parsonage Fund.

If you have any questions on these or other topics for the Trustees, please call me. Thanks. Jo Ann Mostar



## UNITY FELLOWSHIP



Come join Unity Fellowship's New Year's Eve Party! It will begin on **Monday, Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 p.m.** We will meet in the Chapel for appetizers, and there will be a Progressive Dinner and Game Night (Bingo/Bunko). The committee consists of: Art and Shirley Mapstone, Guynup, Ware, and Richardson.



**Youth Help Out with Thanksgiving Dinner**  
**November 18, 2007**

*You're invited - Please come!*  
**Family Craft Night**

**Tuesday, December 6, 2007  
5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. in the Gym**



**Bring the kids to make crafts for  
Christmas gifts or decorations!**

**It's easy, it's free, and we'll even feed  
you a hot dog and dessert supper!**

**Where: First Baptist Church - Gym  
408 Pleasant Street, Manlius, NY**

**Phone: 682-8941**



***All are welcome - ages 0 - 100!!!***

# Youth News

Merry Christmas!



**December 2nd** is not only the 1st Sunday of Advent, it is also our FBC Youth Group Christmas Party! Meet at the church @ 6:00 pm and bring a sock (yes, you read correctly...a clean sock preferably) and come celebrate Christmas with us!

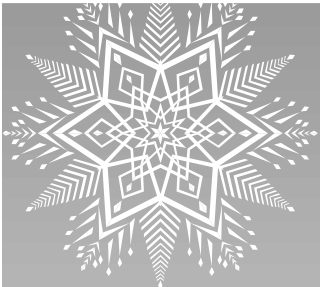
Do you know the Christmas story? What town was Jesus born in? Who were his parents? You may want to study up since we'll have a myth buster exam. Do you know the story as well as you think?? Come and find out! As usual, we'll have festive games, crazy antics and some yummy food. What were you supposed to bring???



**December 16th** is our church-wide Christmas play, there is no youth group that night. See you at the play!

**Christmas Break:** We're looking at having a Winter activity, keep an eye out for it!

## Cut out to invite your friends to our Christmas Party:



You are not going to want to miss this Christmas Party!

Don't forget to bring a (preferably clean) sock.

Any questions, contact Christy.

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First Baptist Church  
408 Pleasant St.  
Manlius, NY 13104

[www.firstbaptist-manlius.org/youth](http://www.firstbaptist-manlius.org/youth)

*Youth Christmas Party*

Date: Sunday, December 2, 2007  
Time: 6:00 pm–7:30 pm @ FBC Manlius  
Who: Any youth in grades 6th–12th

*Please join us at First Baptist, Manlius for our 1st Annual Youth Group Christmas Party.*

*There will be:*

- \*\*Festive Christmas Games\*\**
- \*\*Christmas Goodies\*\**
- \*\*Christmas Story Myth Buster\*\**
- \*\*Some crazy Christmas Fun\*\**

Contact person: Christy Brownell, 663.7188  
[brownell.cm@gmail.com](mailto:brownell.cm@gmail.com)

## We want to send 'FBC Manlius Love' to our College Students!



Please help the youth gather goodies to send to our college students. If you are unable to purchase items, we will accept donations to offset the mailing cost. Please place your donations in the box near the Library by **December 2nd**.

*Examples: Ramen noodles, post-its, pens, hot cocoa, crackers, microwave popcorn, gum, etc.*

**Website:** [www.firstbaptist-manlius.org/youth](http://www.firstbaptist-manlius.org/youth)

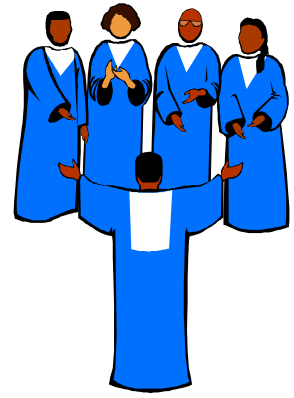
**Any questions, contact a member of the Youth Team:** Christy Brownell, Jillian Everly, Pastor Leon Oaks-lee, Rosey Oaks-lee, George Oley, Tom Shephard, & Kathie Shevchuk.

**If you know of a College Student, please contact the church office with his/her name and school address. Care Packages will be mailed December 3rd.**

## **ADVENT LESSONS AND CAROLS**

**Immaculate Conception Church  
In Fayetteville**

**Sunday, December 2, 7:00 p.m.**



*This is a community event consisting of choirs from our area churches. A full choral majesty will be provided for all to enjoy.*

*Our own Pastor Leon Oaks-Lee will be participating in this event!!*

*A reception by Immaculate Conception Church and other area churches will follow the concert.*

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## **COMMUNITY NEWS!**

*You are cordially invited to:*

**Christ Church 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Mart  
Saturday, December 1, 2007  
9:00 – 3:30 p.m.**

*407 East Seneca Street, Manlius, NY 13104*

**Brunch 10:00 – 2:00 p.m. \$5.00**

*Start your Holiday shopping early....*

*Collectible Wooden Ornaments*

*Crafts by Terri*

*Crystal Jewelry by Lin*

*Baked Goods*

*Pottery by Pat*

*Alpaca Goods from Springfield Farms*

*Luminaries to light your way to the New Year*

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**CALENDARS FOR 2008** - are needed for residents in nursing homes and adult care facilities. Calendars may be dropped off through Jan.15th at the Fayetteville or Manlius libraries. For information, call Diane at 637-6632.





Join God's Soldiers for

# Christmas Caroling!

Everyone is welcome!

- What?** Christmas Caroling, Games, Refreshments and Gifts!
- When?** Sunday, December 9, 6 – 8:00 PM
- Where?** Meet at 6:00 FBC for neighborhood caroling.  
Dress warmly!  
At 6:30 we will go to East Side Manor for more singing, refreshments, games, and gifts!
- Who?** Everyone is welcome to join in this event, which is being sponsored by FBC's K – 5 kids, God's Soldiers. We can use all of your voices!
- Bring?** Each participant is asked to bring 2 wrapped "Dollar Store" gifts. One will be for an exchange among all participants, and the other will be for the East Side Manor residents. Suggestions include lotions, pens, notepads, toiletries, word search puzzle books, emory boards, nail clippers, and other small items

Watch for more information in the church bulletins!  
Questions? Call Barbara Brace, 682-6270.

## DECEMBER 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>The Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering (RMMO)</b>						<b>1</b> <b>7:30 pm</b> <u>Master's Touch</u> <u>Chorale:</u> <u>Sanctuary</u> <u>Reception:</u> <u>Chapel</u>
<b>2</b> 8:30 am <u>Worship</u> 9:45-10:45 <u>SunSchool</u> 11:00 am <u>Worship</u> 12:15 pm <u>Ministry</u> <u>Support Comm.</u> 6:00 pm <u>Trustees</u> 6:00 pm <u>Youth</u> 7:30 pm <u>Lessons</u> <u>&amp; Carols/I.C.</u>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 6:30 pm <u>Christian</u> <u>Education</u> <u>Board Mtg.</u> (Church Office)	<b>5</b> 6:30-8:30 pm <u>Basketball</u> (gym)	<b>6</b> 5:30-7:00 pm <u>Craft</u> <u>Night</u> (gym)	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> 8:30 am <u>Worship</u> 9:45-10:45 <u>SunSchool</u> 11:00 am <u>Worship</u> 12:15 pm <u>Missions</u> 6:00 pm <u>Caroling</u>	<b>10</b> 6:15 pm <u>Diaconate</u> Church Office	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 7:00 pm <u>Executive</u> <u>Comm.</u>	<b>13</b> 6:30-8:30 pm <u>Basketball</u> (gym)	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 10:00 am <u>Dress</u> <u>Rehearsal</u> (Sanctuary)
<b>16</b> 8:30 am <u>Worship</u> 9:45-10:45 <u>SunSchool</u> 11:00 am <u>Worship</u> 6:00 pm <u>Christmas</u> <u>Play</u>	<b>17</b> <u>January</u> <u>Newsletter</u> <u>Items are due</u>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 6:30-8:30 pm <u>Basketball</u> (gym)	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> 8:30 am <u>Worship</u> 9:45-10:45 <u>Sunday</u> <u>School</u> 11:00 am <u>Worship</u>	<b>24</b> <u>Christmas</u> <u>Eve: 7:00</u> <u>pm Family</u> <u>Service</u> (Pastor Leon) 11:00 pm <u>Candlelight</u> <u>Service</u> (Rev. John Buskey)	<b>25</b> <u>MERRY</u> <u>CHRISTMAS</u>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 6:30-8:30 pm <u>Basketball</u> (gym)	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> 8:30 am <u>Worship</u> 9:45-10:45 <u>No Sunday School</u> 11:00 am <u>Worship</u>	<b>31</b> 6:30 pm <u>Unity</u> <u>Fellowship'</u> <u>New Year's</u> <u>Eve Party</u> (Chapel)					

[www.firstbaptist-manlius.org](http://www.firstbaptist-manlius.org)

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

**NON-PROFIT  
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US POSTAGE  
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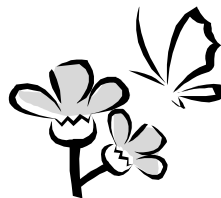
**Rev. Leon Oaks-Lee, Pastor**  
**All the Believers, Ministers**

**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.