

Welcome to First Baptist Church of Manlius
Second Sunday of Advent
Sunday, December 9, 2007 ~ 8:30 a.m.

Our worship leaders this morning include:

Our Praise Team Leader, Mary Schwarz and the Praise Team
Our Music Director and Accompanist, John Spradling
Our Pastor, Rev. Leon Oaks-Lee

Scripture Focus

Matthew 3:1-12

John the Baptist Prepares the Way

¹In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the Desert of Judea ²and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near." ³This is he who was spoken of through the prophet Isaiah:

"A voice of one calling in the desert,
'Prepare the way for the Lord,
make straight paths for him.' "

⁴John's clothes were made of camel's hair, and he had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵People went out to him from Jerusalem and all Judea and the whole region of the Jordan. ⁶Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River.

⁷But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to where he was baptizing, he said to them: "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? ⁸Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. ⁹And do not think you can say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. ¹⁰The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹"I baptize you with water for repentance. But after me will come one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not fit to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. ¹²His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor, gathering his wheat into the barn and burning up the chaff with unquenchable fire."

Sermon

"How Is Your Vision?"

Pastor Leon Oaks-Lee

ABOUT THIS MORNING

- Guests are invited to sign the guest book or fill out a visitor card.
- Hearing devices are available. Ask one of the greeters.
- **Greeting:** Sally and Bill Lyon

PRAYER AND CARE

Prayer Needs:

Please call Dave Knaebel at 569-0581 to contact the prayer chain.

**In Case of
Emergency:**

If you or anyone you know is in need of food in times of sickness or family emergency, please notify Shirley Mapstone at 682-8169.

Caregiver in Action:

This week please keep Beth Greene in your prayers, as well as her Caregiver, Shirley Mapstone.

Rev. Leon Oaks-Lee, Pastor
John Spradling, Music Director
Joyce McCartney, Organist
Elaine LaFollette, Secretary
Michael McCartney, Custodian
Kathie Shevchuk, Ministry Coordinator
Shirley Mapstone, Joyful Sounds Director
Mary Schwarz, Praise Team Director
Wendy Mapstone, Playschool Director
Marge Edwards, King's Kids Director



Join God's Soldiers for Christmas
Everyone is welcome!
TODAY, Sunday, December 9, 6 – 8:00 p.m.

ABOUT THIS MORNING

- Guests are invited to sign the guest book or fill out a visitor card.
- Hearing devices are available. Ask one of the greeters.
- **Greeting:** Kelly Griffin
- **Ushers:** Keith Butler and Harry Cole
- **Child Care:** Greg Short

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Christmas Caroling, Games, Refreshments, Gifts! Meet **6:00 pm** at FBC for neighborhood caroling ~ dress warmly. At **6:30** we will go to East Side Manor for more singing, refreshments, games, and gifts! **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! 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, memory boards, nail clippers, and other small items. ? – call/see Barbara Brace, 682-6270.

ADOPT-A-FAMILY

FBC is adopting a family of 10 for Christmas! This means that we will provide this family with gently used clothing, games, and toys for school-aged children. Can you help?

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| Arianna - age 10 (size 12) | Teracienna - age 9 (size 10) |
| Michael - age 8 (size 10) | Alicia - age 6 (size 6) |
| Stanley - age 5 (size 6x) | Anthony - age 4 (size 5) |
| Elizabeth - age 2 (size 4T) | Olivia - newborn |
| Stanley - Dad (size 32x32 pants, x-large top) | |
| Kim – Mom (size medium/large sweats) | |



Please place your **unwrapped** gift in the "Adopt-a-Family" box in the Narthex. We will be wrapping these gifts during the Sunday School hour on Sunday, December 16th. Thank you. If you have any questions, please call Wendy Mapstone at 416-3374.

"HEAD-TO-TOE TREE"

Do you have any new or gently-used gloves, mittens, hats, scarves, or socks? If so, please bring them to church and hang them on the "Head-to-Toe" tree located in the hallway by the Chapel entrance. We are collecting them for people in need to help stay warm this winter. Call Barbara Brace at 682-6270 if you have any questions.

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 Contact persons: Al Dominy & Mark Mapstone

*

All classes, adult & children's, are invited to a special intergenerational



Sunday School event on:

Sunday, 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!

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

Monday, December 24th

- 5:00 p.m. Children's Service**
7:30 p.m. Family Service
11:00 p.m. Candlelight Service



PRAYER REQUESTS

Jim and Pat Holloway – Jim is Darlene Endy's father and is dying of lung cancer.

Ruth Costello – is now in Loretto, Fahey Rehabilitation Center, 700 E. Brighton Ave., Room 375, Syracuse 13205. Her phone number in her room is 671-1730.

Please Pray for:

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

PRAISES

It is always good to read what is going on in Manlius and learn that the WMO exceeded its mark this year! Congratulations and THANKS SO MUCH for what that means for the missionary force. Also, a big Happy Anniversary to Bob & Shirley Mapstone. Blessings, Mayra Bonilla

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

JOYFUL SOUNDS CHOIR

Next Sunday, Dec. 16th, 11 am, 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. It is important that all choir members be in attendance at all rehearsals from now until the performance. The choir will also participate in the evening performance on December 16th with the adults. Next (dress) rehearsal: Sat., Dec. 15, 9:15 a.m. in the Sanctuary.

Youth News

Thank you!

The youth would like to send a huge Thank You to everyone who donated goodies for the College Care Packages. The boxes headed out on Monday, December 3rd.

Our College Students: Cami Alvarez, Michael Binder, Liz Brace, Lindsey Morningstar, & Amanda Shevchuk

**Youth Group meets
1st & 3rd Sundays!**

Upcoming Events:

**December 16th: Church Play.
No Youth Group. See you at the play!**

**December 30th: New Years Eve Eve
Party @ Weedsport Baptist
(More info to come...)**

2008 Calendars



Only \$7.00

The youth have ended their Calendar Sales, but we still have some left! If you have not ordered one yet, please see Christy Brownell or Kathie Shevchuk.

A New Youth Newsletter has been sent out. If you did not receive one, please let Christy know. You are not going to want to miss out on our

Awesome Youth Group Activities coming up!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ABW MINISTRIES – Fruit plates for our special Church members will be packed and delivered **TODAY, Sunday, December 9th**. 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 10th. JoAnn Mostar is in charge.

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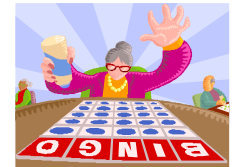
CALENDARS FOR 2008 - are needed for residents in nursing homes and adult care facilities. Calendars may be dropped off through Jan.15th at the Fayetteville or Manlius libraries. Please call Diane at 637-6632 if you have any questions.

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UNITY FELLOWSHIP

Come join Unity Fellowship's New Year's Eve Party! It will begin **Monday, Dec. 31st, 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.

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COME ONE - COME ALL

HIGHLAND FOREST TRIP - Don't miss the Annual Highland Forest Trip on Sunday, **January 20, 2008** at 7:00 p.m. at the Lodge. There is no school on Monday! **All ages** gather in the cozy, fireplace-heated lodge for an evening of games, food and fellowship. Horse drawn sleigh rides cap off an evening of pure delight for those adventurous to go out in the cold. Be sure to dress warmly. Bring a favorite board game or puzzle and be prepared to teach young and old alike the game. We have the lodge until 11:00 p.m.

Bring your favorite chili, soup or stew to share. Desserts and munchies are also welcome. Beverages will be provided.

If you have any questions, please contact Kathie Shevchuk at 682-8678
Invite your friends and neighbors - all are encouraged to attend:)

CALENDAR

TODAY, SUNDAY, December 9th ~ Second Sunday of Advent

- 8:30 a.m. Worship Service/Pastor Leon Oaks-Lee is preaching
- 9:45 a.m. Adult Education and Sunday School
- 11:00 a.m. Worship Service/Pastor Leon Oaks-Lee is preaching
- 6:00 p.m. Church Christmas Caroling with God's Soldiers until 8:00 p.m.
- 6:00 p.m. Trustees Board meeting

MONDAY, December 10th

- 6:15 p.m. Diaconate Board meeting

TUESDAY, December 11th

- 6:30 p.m. Nehemiah Team meeting in the Library

WEDNESDAY, December 12th

- 7:00 p.m. Executive Committee meeting

THURSDAY, December 13th

- 6:30 p.m. Basketball in the gym

FRIDAY, December 14th

- 9:30 a.m. Stay 'n Play 'til 11:30 am (for moms/dads with their tots in the gym)

SATURDAY, December 15th

- 9:15 a.m. Joyful Sounds (dress) rehearsal in the Sanctuary
- 10:00 a.m. Dress rehearsal for the Christmas Play in the Sanctuary

SUNDAY, December 16th ~ Third Sunday of Advent

- 8:30 a.m. Worship Service/Pastor Leon Oaks-Lee is preaching
- 9:45 a.m. Adult Education and Sunday School
- 11:00 a.m. Worship Service ~Joyful Sounds Program
Pastor Leon Oaks-Lee is preaching
- 6:00 p.m. Christmas Play in the Sanctuary

Pastor Leon's Office Hours:
Tuesday-Friday, 9:00 a.m.-Noon
Email: fbc-m-pastor@twcny.rr.com

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.



The Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering (RMMO)

Administered by The Ministers and Missionaries Benefit Board

Does Your Gift Make a Difference?

Yes, it does! In 2006 Sophia Stephenson of Delaware, Ohio, along with over 3,000 other retired ministers, missionaries and their widowed spouses, received a Thank You check from the Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering (RMMO). Sophia (86), the widow of Rev. James Stephenson, wrote: "I want to express my heartfelt appreciation for the Thank You check. I have had a lot of medical expenses this year and the check has helped me pay some bills. God bless you."

RMMO donations are taken the month of December.
Our Goal: \$1,000.

Thank You!

2008 CALENDARS – are from Schepp Family Funeral Homes and are in the Narthex for you to take home.

2008 ENVELOPES – are available in the Narthex.

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 31st. Thank you for your assistance in this matter. –Carole Guynup, Financial Secretary and Barbara Richardson, Treasurer

