

Come to the Manger



*Third Sunday of Advent
Sunday, December 14, 2008*

*Worship Services ~ 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School & Adult Education ~ 9:45 a.m.*

*First Baptist Church of Manlius
408 Pleasant Street, Manlius, NY 13104
(315) 682-8941
www.firstbaptist-manlius.org
fbcman@twcny.rr.com*

*Welcome to First Baptist Church of Manlius
Sunday, December 14, 2008 ~ 8:30 a.m.
~ Third Sunday of Advent ~*

Our worship leaders this morning include:

Our Praise Team Leader: Mary Schwarz

Our Pastor: Leon Oaks-Lee

Scripture

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

¹The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners, ²to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn, ³and provide for those who grieve in Zion—to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the Lord for the display of his splendor.

⁴They will rebuild the ancient ruins and restore the places long devastated; they will renew the ruined cities that have been devastated for generations.

⁸"For I, the Lord, love justice; I hate robbery and iniquity. In my faithfulness I will reward them and make an everlasting covenant with them. ⁹Their descendants will be known among the nations and their offspring among the peoples. All who see them will acknowledge that they are a people the Lord has blessed."

¹⁰I delight greatly in the Lord; my soul rejoices in my God. For he has clothed me with garments of salvation and arrayed me in a robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom adorns his head like a priest, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. ¹¹For as the soil makes the sprout come up and a garden causes seeds to grow, so the Sovereign Lord will make righteousness and praise spring up before all nations.

Sermon Come to the Manger - Part III "The Work of Waiting"

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:** Jo Ann Mostar

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 Ada and Ken Phelps in your prayers as well as their Caregivers, Harry and Pauline Cole.

Rev. Leon Oaks-Lee, Pastor
Joyce McCartney, Music Director/Organist
Elaine LaFollette, Secretary
Michael McCartney, Custodian
Mary Schwarz, Praise Team & Joyful Sounds Director
Wendy Mapstone, Playschool Director
Marge Edwards, King's Kids Director

Welcome to First Baptist Church of Manlius
Sunday, December 14, 2008 ~ 11:00 a.m.
~ Third Sunday of Advent ~

Gathering Time

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude "Sheep May Safely Graze" –Bach
Joyce McCartney

Lighting the third Advent Candle

Scripture (Responsive) from Psalm 126

Leader: When the LORD brought back the captives to Zion,
we were like men who dreamed.

People: **Our mouths were filled with laughter,
our tongues with songs of joy.**

Leader: Then it was said among the nations,
"The LORD has done great things for them."
The LORD has done great things for us,
and we are filled with joy.

People: **Those who planted their crops in despair
will sing with joy at the harvest,
Those who went off with heavy hearts
will come home laughing, with armloads of
blessing.**

Singing O Come, O Come, Emmanuel No. 169
(Third verse)

Lighting the Candle Prayer The Brace Family

***Songs of Praise** See Insert

Family Prayers (Joys and Concerns)

Offering
Offertory "Creator of the Stars of Night" –David Paxton
Advent Choir

***Doxology and Dedication of Offering** No. 382

Special Music "An Advent Prayer" -Pote
Advent Choir

****Children's Time** "What is Christmas All About?" 4th and 5th grades
Teachers: Barbara Brace and Darlene Endy
Students: Morgan Mapstone, Christopher Oley,
Cheyenne Platten, Will Shephard and Selena Short

Special Music "Ave Maria" Lexi Dominy

Scripture **Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11** Page 1157

Sermon **Come to the Manger**
Part III "The Work of Waiting"
Pastor Leon Oaks-Lee

***Hymn of Response** *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates* No. 239
(verses 1, 4 & 5)

Postlude Praise Ye the Lord of Hosts from "Christmas Oratorio"
Joyce McCartney –Saint-Saens

*If you are able, please stand.

**All 4 and 5 year olds are welcome to go with Mrs. Guynup following the Children's Time. All children in 1st through 6th grade are invited to join the rehearsal of the Joyful Sounds Choir under the direction of Mary Schwarz.

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:** Carol and George Davenport
- **Ushers:** Greg and Kyle Short
- **Child Care:** Ann Morales

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Thank You for Supporting our Sanctuary Projection System



We have made good progress toward the purchase of a digital projector (to be located in the balcony), and a retractable screen (to be located at the front of the sanctuary).

With donations to date we are able to move forward with contracting to order and install the projector and screen.

If you would like to make a donation to the final costs to complete this project, label your gift, "Projection System" and direct it to our Financial Secretary.

As of 12/7/08: **\$8,780.46** has been given.

Items for the January newsletter are due **no later** than **Monday, December 15th**. Please email all articles to fbcman@twcny.rr.com or place in the secretary's mail slot. Thank you for being prompt during this busy production season ☺

Calling all k – 5th graders!

Need some cool Christmas gifts to give to some special people? Come and make some! Pizza arrives at 5:00, and we will make crafts/presents from 5:30 – 6:30. Bring a gift bag or two to take your surprises home!



**God's Soldiers
Pizza and Presents
Event**



AWAY FROM THE MANGER

An Advent Musical



First Baptist Church, Manlius

Tonight, December 14, 2008

6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

(Snow Date: December 21st)

Reception to follow in the Chapel

*There will be wise men, shepherds, and others
-- but not quite like you remember them!*

*Featuring a cast of talented
First Baptist adults, youth, and children*

~ ~ ~

*Based on the play by Elizabeth M. Topp
Music & lyrics by Sally Beske
Produced by special arrangement with
Contemporary Drama Service
PRAYER REQUESTS*

Recent Prayer Requests ~

Tom Conley – a 17 year old, Chittenango youth just diagnosed with cancer.

Please Pray for ~

Wanda Baker	Kermit Breed, Jr.	Loretta Beuchert
Mike Adams	Virginia Noble	Ruth Costello
Courtney H.	Ann and Gene Spradling	Connor
Russell and Mary Jane Davis	The Nehemiah Team	Marian Pollock
Florence Cowles, Barbara Brace's mother	Virginia, Carol Davenport's aunt	
Marilyn Fowler Mills	Zulauf	Levi and Paige
Peggy, Marg Kerr's sister and Peggy's son, Greg		Michael McCartney

Do you have a prayer request or praise to share?

Please call Elaine in the Church office (682-8941) by Wednesday morning.

Sam's Club memberships - The church is allowed eight memberships; five are spoken and paid for. Each membership costs \$35 and includes an additional card for a household member. The advantage to joining with the church is access to the store earlier in the day than ordinary members, purchasing for the church tax-free and no tax on the membership. Tell Barbara Richardson immediately if you would like one of the three remaining memberships (632-4384 or 656-3480).

A plea from the treasurer - Please use the reimbursement forms when requesting money from the church account and have the appropriate approvals. I do like to have the receipts but not just circled and scribbled on. And if you are purchasing for the church, please take advantage of our tax exempt status. Elaine and I both have the forms. Thanks Barbara R.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING - Sunday, December 21, 6:00 p.m.

Everyone (young and old alike) are invited to join in singing carols to our homebound members and our neighborhood. We will return to First Baptist for hot drinks and the warmth of fellowship. This event is being hosted by our Jr. and Sr. High Youth.



CALENDAR

TODAY, December 14th ~ Third Sunday of Advent

8:30 a.m. Worship Service/Pastor Leon is preaching
 9:45 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Education
 11:00 a.m. Worship Service/Pastor Leon is preaching
 12:15 p.m. Advent Choir Rehearsal
 6:00 p.m. Christmas Play

WEDNESDAY, December 17th

7:45 a.m. Staff Christmas Breakfast
 9:30 a.m. Stay 'n Play for moms/dads & tots in the gym 'til 11:30 am
 5:00 p.m. God's Soldiers in the Chapel until 6:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, December 18th

6:30 p.m. Basketball in the gym until 8:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, December 19th

10:30 a.m. Playschool Christmas Program in the Sanctuary

NEXT SUNDAY, December 21st ~ Fourth Sunday of Advent

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 12:15 p.m. Advent Choir Rehearsal
 6:00 p.m. Christmas Caroling

ADVENT CHOIR REHEARSALS – We will be rehearsing for Christmas Eve after the 11:00 a.m. worship service today and Deceember 21st.

<p align="center">Pastor Leon's Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday, 9:00 – Noon Email: fbc-pastor@twcny.rr.com</p>
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

2009 OFFERING ENVELOPES

The 2009 offering envelopes are here and in the Narthex. Please take yours home with you. Thank you for your contributions to First Baptist.

ABW MINISTRIES NEWS

Fruit Plates will be packaged and delivered **today, December 14th** during Sunday School by Ruth Ware and Annette Andrusyszyn for our special Church members.

Scholarships Available to High School graduates and continuing College students from American Baptist Women's Ministries through the ABW Ministries Scholarship Fund. Applications can be found on the secretary's desk in the church office. They are due March 1st.

We would like 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. Rev. Vila's stamp ministry has been discontinued due to his death; however, we will continue to collect cancelled stamps and will find another outlet for them.

ABW Ministries wishes to thank all who have contributed to our budget "request." If you would care to donate, we would appreciate your help.

UNITY FELLOWSHIP

Unity Fellowship for December will be on **Wednesday, New Year's Eve, December 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 is Art and Shirley Mapstone, Guynups, Wares, and Richardsons. **All are invited.**

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!

TONIGHT, December 14, 6:00 p.m. – "Away from the Manger" Play
Next Sunday, December 21, 6:00 p.m. – Christmas Caroling
Sunday, January 18, 6-10:00 p.m. – Highland Forest Trip!!

MISSION NEWS

The Mission Board has reviewed the latest budget and payment schedule for Missions, and it appears that we are somewhat behind in the giving. We understand everyone is being extra careful with finances in this tough financial climate, but we'd like to encourage you, if you are able and the Lord lays it on your heart, to fulfill your pledges to the Mission 2008 budget. We thank you and pray for each of you as you complete your pledges for 2008. Blessings from your Mission Board ~ Jill Doss, Shirley Mapstone, Sally Lyon, Tom Shephard, Ann Morales, and Jean Lynn Buskey



TWO WAYS TO REACH OUT THIS CHRISTMAS



(1) A Christmas tree outside the chapel - Don't miss it! There is a **mitten, scarf and hat tree** set up outside the Chapel. We are collecting boys, girls, men's, and women's mittens, scarves, and winter hats for the Samaritan Center **through the 15th of December.** Your contribution will help keep someone warm for the winter!

(2) A Christmas Welcome to a Refugee Family – We are collecting gifts for a refugee family that has arrived in Syracuse recently. This will be a way to support our Karen Baptist brothers and sisters in their new homes. See center of bulletin this week for items and help needed.

FM FOOD PANTRY

Here is the list of items needed at this time for the FM Food Pantry. Please place in the shopping cart by the elevator ~ thank you☺

**Canned Soup (not tomato), Canned Fruit, Baked Beans,
Pasta Sauce, Toilet Paper & Cookie Mix**

SAMARITAN CENTER

Come and volunteer on Wednesdays!! We begin at 3:00 p.m. and are out by 5:00 p.m. Call Tom Shephard for details (655-8448).

RMMO

The Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering (RMMO) will be taken during the entire month of December. A goal of **\$1,200** has been set. As of 12/7/08, we have received **\$315.00.** RMMO envelopes are located in the pews for your convenience.

Youth News

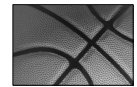
Youth Group meets the 1st & 3rd Sundays

6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

For youth in Grades 6th – 12th

Upcoming Events:

December 21st 6:00 – 8:00pm: Caroling with the church family! Bring your family, invite your friends & let's share some Christmas cheer with others! We'll end with festive games & snacks at the church.



Playing a winter sport? The Youth Team wants to know if you play sports so we can put your schedule on the bulletin board and come watch! Let Christy know.

Thank You

The youth would like to thank everyone who donated items towards the College Care Packages. They were sent off this past week to the following college students: Amanda Shevchuk, Rob Doss, Doug Barber, Cami Alvarez and Michael Binder.

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

Questions or Comments for the Youth Team?

Email us at FBManliusyouth@gmail.com



Maggi and Jessi working in the Youth Room. Stop upstairs & see the progress that has been made.

The Mission Board invites you to.....

Help welcome two Karen Burmese Refugee Families!

Ways you can help:

- _____ donate dollars toward a family gift: An Afghan for their living room, a bag of oranges and rice.
- _____ bake a couple dozen cookies for the family gift.
- _____ donate one of the following gifts for the children in these families:
 - _____ infant boy – blocks, pull toy, age-appropriate puzzle.
 - _____ 2½ year old boy – building blocks, magna-doodles, trucks.
 - _____ 10 and 12 year old girls - Jump ropes, soccer ball, puzzles, books, etch-a-sketch, colored pencils and sketch pad.
 - _____ 14 and 17 year old girls – Soccer ball, card games, purse, bath and beauty products (no makeup), CD player, electronic hand held game (Bop- it, Yahtzee, Simon, etc.), Drawing/Sketch Pad and colored pencils, and Art kit.
- _____ Help wrap gifts and/or shop for gifts not donated.
- _____ Help deliver the gifts by December 21 or 22.

If you can help in any of these ways, contact Jill Doss at jadoss@twcny.rr.com or call at 687-5409 (leave a message).

There are slips posted on the bulletin board today, Sunday, Dec 14th, showing items not donated or tasks we will need help with.

ITEMS NEED TO BE BROUGHT IN NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19TH AND DROPPED OFF IN THE CHURCH LIBRARY.

Thanks and God bless you all!