

Lighting the Way

The First Baptist Church of Owego, N.Y.

Volume 16 Issue 7

March 2010

Regretfully the World Day of Prayer scheduled annually for the first Friday in March will no longer be held in Owego. A meeting was held on Feb. 20 and it was decided to not participate in this program until new leadership comes forward.



March 28 Palm
Sunday

April 1 Maundy
Thursday

6 PM — Joint service and Agape meal at Memorial Park Baptist Church.

April 2 Good Friday

— Noon-3 PM Main Street Baptist Church, Binghamton (Broome-Tioga Baptist Association service).

7 PM Owego United

Methodist Church. Rev. Parrish Bridges will bring the message.

April 4 Easter Sunday

7 AM SonRise Service at Owego Treadway Inn.

8:30 AM A SonRise **Breakfast** at Abide in the Vine Fellowship. (in the old Washington Gladden School near Owego Bowl).

10:00 AM Morning Worship

Food safety course needed

In order to have our Adam's Rib, BBQ chicken, Soup 'n Bread Bowl, etc. we are required by the Tioga County Health Department to have **someone who has passed a food safety course on duty at all times when open.** A food safety course is being offered for non-profits on **March 19, 8 AM to 12 noon, Tioga Central High School, cost \$21.00** (will be reimbursed). Certification will be good for 2 years.

Right now only Doug Murray has taken the course and he can't always be available to be at a particular food event. We need a couple of other people to also be certified..

Applications and fees must be returned to the Tioga County Environmental Health Office, PO Box 120, 1062 State Route 38, Owego, NY 13827 at least one week prior to the scheduled date of the course. Pre-registrations is required! Due to limited seating, no walk-ins will be accepted.

Other dates for course but cost \$42.00: October 18 and December 6 at the Tioga County office Building, 56 Main St., Owego.

Applications on church bulletin board in Fellowship Hall.

Living stations of the cross

“The Living Stations of the Cross” will be presented by the youth of St. Margaret Mary's of Apalachin on **Friday, March 19, at 7:00 PM** in our sanctuary.

For 30+ years this production has been under the direction of Mr. Terry White. This drama was last presented in our church five years ago and was very well received.

Get ready for Easter!
Come and be blessed by this youth production!

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The Lord's Prayer

As of the publication of this Article, we are about mid-way in our Sunday Morning Messages on "The Lord's Prayer." God is doing a special work in my life and, I trust, in yours. A recent point on the calendar is the first of this year when I began preaching on Holy Spirit. The work has been continuing through a book by Jim Cymbala, "Fresh Wind, Fresh Fire" – which ties in with our theme/motto this year, "A Fresh Wind In 2010!" – and the DVD study by him that we are using Sunday evenings. A booklet by Haddon Robinson on "The Lord's Prayer" and some older recorded sermons by Larry Lea on the same theme are also currently being used by God in my life – as well as a 1994 recorded sermon by Jim Cymbala. Brother Cymbala is the Pastor of The Brooklyn Tabernacle – a Church that has grown from 20 to 10,000+ in the 35+ years that he has been there. God is, indeed, at work in my life! Praise His Name! AND – I am sensing He is working in a new way in the Ministry of the historic First Baptist Church of Owego.

Here is what I want YOU to do – I shared this at the end of the first Message on Holy Spirit:

- Pray for me.
- Pray for yourself.
- Search the Scriptures
RE: Everything you are hearing and receiving so

you can see first-hand that it is all true and from God.

- Be in our morning services every week!
- Be yielded to Holy Spirit.
- Look for surprises from God!

And now, I have been adding this at the end of the Messages on "The Lord's Prayer:"

- LISTEN! I want you to Pray this Prayer every day – starting today if you haven't previously started. Pray It slow – real slow – and see what happens. Millions say It every Sunday, but very few ever really Pray It. Join the few. Learn to Pray this Prayer. Learn to Pray as Jesus taught us to AND – watch what happens.

I see "The Lord's Prayer" as a series of declarations about God:

"Our Father"

→ God is our Creator;

"Which art in Heaven"

→ God is on His throne and is all-knowing;

"Hallowed be Thy Name"

→ God is Holy;

"Thy Kingdom come"

→ God is the one and only true potentate;

"Thy Will be done in earth, as it is in Heaven"

→ God is sovereign, God is the absolute ruler with

absolute Authority;

"Give us this day our daily bread"

→ God is our Provider;

"And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors"

→ God is our Sanctification, our Righteous-ness, our Justifier, our Justification;

"And lead us not into temptation"

→ God is our Shepherd;

"but deliver us from evil"

→ God is our Deliverer;

"For Thine is the Kingdom, and the Power, and the Glory, forever"

→ God is King, God is Almighty, God is Glorious, God is Eternal! Amen!

Truly Pray and make these declarations and then – LISTEN!

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Lighting the Way

First Baptist Church
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Owego, NY 13827

607-687-4394
e-mail: fbcowego@verizon.net
<http://www.fbcowego.org>

Church Staff

Rev. G. Terry Steenburg Pastor
David Berry Choir Director

Organist
Rebecca Hernandez Administrative Asst

Church Office opens: Mon.-Thurs. 10:15 a.m.

Daisyanna Fritz Newsletter Editor
607-748-2798 dzyfritz@hotmail.com
Deadline for letters and articles is the
third Sunday of the month.

Rodger Fritz Moderator

*Cassandra Lorraine Giguere
and
Benjamin Robert Ciranowicz*

*Invite you to share in their joy
as they are united in marriage*

May 8, 2010

6:00 PM

*First United Methodist Church of Endicott
53 McKinley Avenue
Endicott, New York*

*Please respond by April 1, 2010 to
Rev. G. Terry Steenburg
if you can attend a
Cocktail and Hors D'oeuvre Reception*

8:00 PM at

*The Links At Hiawatha Landing
2350 Marshland Rd.,
Apalachin, New York*

[Ben is Pastor Terry's step son]



Plan for Baptist Youth Fellowship activities on the first and third Sundays each month from 12 to 3 PM. Look for updates on our bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall.

On Friday, March 19—7 PM experience “The Living Stations of the Cross”. The youth from St. Margaret Mary’s Church in Apalachin will be doing this dramatic presentation. You are invited to fellowship with them over pizza and soda after their production.

We really want the youth to be able to attend this event. Parents! Please be sure to make the time to bring your youth or to contact Marilyn (624-1001) or Dianna (731-1511) to make arrangements for transportation.

Souper Bowl of Caring

Food items gathered were:
48 items for The Saints
38 items for the Colts. These food items plus \$10.00 were split between the Tioga County Rural Ministry and Open Door Mission’s food pantries.

Watson Homestead Retreat

Seven youth and two adults attended and were inspired at the youth retreat over President Day weekend. It was a totally awesome experience for a totally awesome group!

Lord’s Prayer

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– ***watch what happens!*** I double-dog dare ya’ to do this! “When the Son of Man comes, shall He find [this kind of] Faith on the earth?” (Luke 18:8) This kind of Faith – this kind of Praying – just won’t quit – it won’t cry “uncle!” Come on Church, let’s do it!

God Bless!

- Pastor Terry ☺

I wish to thank all of you for your prayers, well wishes and caring during my surgery and time of recovery. The surgeon indicates that in another month or so I should be about 100%!

The gifts, cards, visits were great and the meals were so helpful and enjoyed by both Joe and I.

Bless you all,
Norma Brown-Langevin

Thomas' Travels and Haiti updates

By Sally Guydosh, ABW Missions

News from Bill Thomas

In his journal, Thomas' Travels, dated March, 2010, Bill Thomas communicates that he has been invited to be the evangelist at the annual Kinshasa, Congo, Christian rally. The annual rally takes place on New Year's Eve. The 80,000 seat stadium attendance varies between 40 and 60,000. The meetings are transmitted by radio and TV to a viewing audience that could reach into the millions. Two thousand trained counselors will be trained to be on hand for those who respond. Bill needs to raise \$12,000 for this event. He has raised \$5000 in a matching fund. He also asks for prayers and support.

News from American Baptist Missionaries in Haiti

Kristy Engel a pediatric nurse practitioner and International Ministries (IM) missionary in the Dominican Republic (DR), and Vital and Ketly Pierre, IM missionaries in Nicaragua have been overseeing medical care for Haiti earthquake victims not served by any other groups. Rotating teams composed of volunteer professional medical personnel from the U.S. and elsewhere travel from the DR each week to Port-au-Prince. Temporary clinics are set up in schools and

church buildings. Word-of-mouth advertising is initiated by school principals or church leaders 24 hours before each team arrives. Once a treatment place is established different teams go to the same location until Haitians are equipped to provide care. When that occurs, teams under Kristy's supervision are sent to other critical neighborhoods.

IM missionary **Stephen James, M.D. and his wife Nancy**, a registered nurse, requested prayer support as they left their home in the north of Haiti to return to Port-au-Prince. Their plans included helping to prepare a place belonging to IM's mission partner, the Convention of Baptists in Haiti. When teams soon arrive, during the rebuilding phase, they will be assured of a safe place to stay.

Adalia Schellinger-Gutierrez, M.D., an IM missionary in Mexico, devoted a week in early February as one of a 30-member rotating team. She says, on just the first day we were able to see 527 patients who were so grateful for the care they received. As American Baptists, we have a long mission history in Haiti and have avenues for providing food, water and medical supplies as we team up with our Haitian sisters and brothers.

Pray for our IM missionaries and staff who are laboring to

bring help in the name of Jesus to the people of Haiti.

First Baptist Church, Owego, sent over \$1100 to provide support for the work of missionaries **Dr. Steve and Nancy James**. A total of \$303,000 has been given to International Ministries in response to the January 12th Haiti earthquake

Excerpts from a letter of Dr. Steve and Nancy James Missionaries in Haiti

Dear Friends,

While providing acute trauma care to earthquake victims for over a week in the Leogane area, near the epicenter, I was receiving increasing information from my Haitian partners that the health centers in the north were swelling with earthquake victims who had left Port-au-Prince seeking refuge with family and friends in the north. Touring the devastated capital city towards the end of the week and meeting with several international relief organizations and medical first-responder groups in the city, I was impressed with the international response to the disaster.

We returned to the **Cap Haitian** area on 1/23/10. We visited and worked with our medical colleagues in four community health centers. I found

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Haiti

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the health centers had swelled in patient volume, in some cases to 6 times their normal size. This volume is currently starting to diminish though the needs of the health centers will likely remain greater than the pre-earthquake needs. The Port-au-Prince relocated population will likely stay in the north for many months if not years to come.

In addition to the follow-up medical trauma needs of the relocated population from Port-au-Prince, I thought I would share with you a few glimpses of what we experienced this week in the north.

In the Danda Health Center, we found little colostomy patient Rose-Guerlande and her grandfather doing well. We helped insulin-dependent diabetics continue to receive insulin and monitor their needs. This includes helping a pregnant insulin-diabetic in her 6th month of pregnancy make plans to move to Cap Haitian for her last 3 months to try to receive the best care (repeat C-Section) for her and her baby.

In Bayeux Health Center, we were able to help the man with leprosy. He had stopped taking his leprosy medicines for the past three weeks as the medicines made him nauseated on days when he could not find anything to eat. As we provided funds for him to eat daily, we stressed with him how important it was not to miss a day of medicines and

networked with the staff to monitor him closely with home visits through the village health workers.

It was a joy to see little congenital heart patient, Emerson and his father. Nancy fit Emerson with a new protective Velcro vest that a lady from Maine had sent, so he can be protected when he plays soccer with his friends.

In Ebenezer Health Center, as we rehydrated a severely dehydrated woman with AIDS, praying and counseling her. We were able to suture back an almost completely amputated index finger in a 7-year-old boy, using this opportunity to teach the two doctors tendon repair technique.

Despite these clinics being very poor and struggling to keep supplies on their shelves, they all had made the decision to offer free care and free medicines to the patients that were coming each day, at a financial sacrifice for the love of Jesus to the poor and needy. Our Haitian brothers and sisters reaching out sacrificially to their people in need inspired us deeply.

We returned to the earthquake area this past week where we helped in networking with relief groups working and providing food and medical supplies where needed.

Thank you for all you are doing to help Haiti and all of us.

In His love,
Steve and Nancy James

Mission trip ...all ages

Would you like to help prepare Camp Pathfinder (Cooperstown) for their summer ministry?

You'll be doing clean-up, fix-up, repair, etc.

This Work Trip will be held June 20—26, 2010. Cost is \$100 and includes room and board and some materials for the work you'll be doing.

If this peaks your interest, come to an organizational meeting on March 16 at 7:00 PM, Memorial Park Baptist Church.

[Trip foreman: Pastor Marlene
Trip coordinator: Pastor Terry]



Periodically we want to remind you of our policy on the Supervision of Minors on church property.

“No pre-school or school-age individual shall be allowed on church property nor in any of the buildings without immediate supervision of a parent, guardian or other appointed supervising adult.”

—Board of Managers (2006)

Congratulations

Dr. Elias Chakupewa (Elias to us) formally received his doctorate degree in Uganda this week and sends his thanks for our prayers and support.

Thank you

Dear First Baptist Church,

Thank you for your gift of \$200 to the Congregation Mashiach Yisrael [Port Crane, NY] in the year 2009. Thank you for your generosity to us and God.

Women's Circle groups

You are invited to participate in American Baptist Women's Ministries. Each woman is encouraged to participate according to her own needs, interests, and gifts as led by the Spirit of God.

Inasmuch Circle meets Wednesday, March 10 10 AM in the Spot program: Nicaragua devotions: Cynthia Halstead

Sunbeam Circle meets Wednesday, March 10 1:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall program: Paula Slavy Hostess: ?

Owego will host the New York State American Baptist Women's & Girl's Gathering at the Treadway. This might be the last chance that it will be so close to us. Great speakers, music and workshops...Attend all of it, or some of it—whatever will work for you. Copies of Registration form, Workshops and other information will be on the Bulletin Board in the Fellowship Hall. Reservations must be in by April 2, 2010.

Women & Girls' State Gathering American Baptist Women's Ministries of NYS "Women...Destined For God's Purpose"

April 16—18, 2010
Owego Treadway Inn

A.B. G.I.R.L.S. grades 7-12 invited

Special Guests:

- Friday night Keynote speaker—Rev. Carol Holtz-Martin and Pianist Hornrette Washington.
- Ice cream Social—gift from Springbrook
- Special gathering for A.B.G.I.R.L.S.—Xtreme Team
- Saturday & Sunday—Bible Studies with Rev. Vera Miller
- Saturday—Victoria Goff, National Ministries

Costs of ABWomen & Girls

Registration: Full time—\$15.00 Part time—\$10:00
(send to ABWM Registrar — after 4/2/10 add a \$5.00 late fee)
Hotel Room & Meals: Single — \$210.00
Double—\$140.00 per person
Triple — \$110.00 per person
Quad — \$ 99.00 per person

A.B.G.I.R.L.S. are \$20.00 less on Room Rates

[Hotel Registration to be sent with your church Tax Exempt form and church check directly to Treadway Inn.

All registrations due by **April 2, 2010** to both ABWM Convention Registrar & Treadway Inn.

CONVENTION MISSION PROJECT The Fairport Baptist Home

Here are suggestions that the Residents could use: knee socks, thigh-high stockings, knee-high stockings, men's socks, jewelry, comb & brush set, hair accessories/decorations, deodorant, cologne, after-shave lotion, shaving cream, lotions, bath powder, nail kit, stationery, puzzle books, jigsaw