

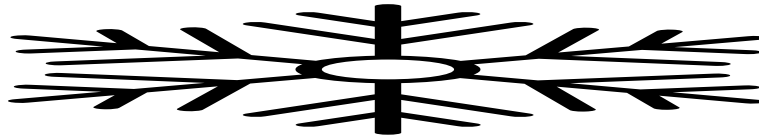
THE MAIN ARTERY

JANUARY/ FEBRUARY 2021

Main Street Baptist Church 117 Main Street Binghamton, NY 13905 607-723-0031

E-mail MSBaptistChurch@outlook.com Website: www.mainstreetbaptist.net

Luke Beattie - Pastor Jan Kliewer-Choir Director William Lawson - Organist



CALENDER

January 3 Epiphany Sunday

January 6 – Traditional Date of Epiphany

January 16 – Free Clothes & More (10am – 12pm)

January 21 – Church Council Meeting

February 17 – Ash Wednesday

February 21 – First Sunday of Lent

February 24- Annual Church Business Meeting

⦿ EPIPHANY ⦿

“Epiphany means "manifestation" or "appearance." The season of Epiphany lasts until Ash Wednesday and serves as a bridge between Jesus' birth and his passion. Epiphany is rich with the symbolism of light brought into the world through Jesus Christ—such symbols as stars and candles. Epiphany marks the close of the twelve days of Christmas. Today in many western churches Epiphany primarily celebrates the coming of the wise men and is often observed on the Sunday closest to January 6th. In some countries Epiphany is called "Three Kings Day" and gifts are exchanged. As we think of the wise men traveling to see Jesus and returning to tell others, let us be reminded of our own mission to share the Good News with people “

- From the January/February 2014 Artery

BIRTHDAYS

January

3—Bryan Wark
12 – Tammy Giovinazzo
16—Eric Runion
25—Margaret Fassett
28 – Dorene Aleccia
29 – Naomi Beattie
30 – Eliza Beattie & Hannah Farr

February

3 – Maryanne Kotylo & Toby Lyon
4 – Gordon Blakeney & Florence Grivas
8 – Jesse Galli
15 – Debbie Carl
24 – Gretchen Dunneman
25 – Wanda Carl



Sales from the Pease Tree Sale were \$3891. “Thank you to all who bought trees and to those who helped plant”. - Ed Pease
Thank you to Ed and Priscilla as the proceeds go to the church



Thank you for the very much for the unexpected Christmas gift. I appreciate all the opportunities the Main Street Baptist has given me as secretary, historian, and librarian. – Teresa

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

JOB SEARCH: Think about your gifts and interests and pray about being involved:

1. Prayer Chain participant - would pledge to faithfully pray for people and situations as they arise until resolved. We could use 1 or 2 more. Call Diane if interested.
2. Coordinator for Free Clothes and More - would need to secure volunteers for the packing process and the Saturday program once a month. Would need to check quantities of items to alert the shopper as to need. Would work with the Mission Committee for funding and oversight. Call Diane Runion for further details.

MOSES AGAPITO

Moses has made his home with us temporarily, his home being in South Sudan, Africa. As you may know, this area has figured prominently in the news over the last 15 years or so because of tribal fighting and refugees fleeing the wars, and famine and floods. A little over a year ago he returned to help in building a school and had a miraculous return to the States without having had to buy a single ticket.

God is leading him to return and help identify young Christian men who have a calling to be pastors. These men would need to be fluent in English, Swahili, and Arabic and would have completed high school. Moses, along with other Christian leaders in the area would help them to get an education in the seminary in Northern Uganda (a neighbor to S. Sudan). Others who haven't achieved education beyond grade school and don't have the language requirements, can be trained to go from house to house proclaiming Jesus. Many would go back to the refugee camps to minister.

So, what are the difficulties to accomplishing this?

1. tribalism
2. varying social practices
3. little access to health facilities (clinics and trained staff needed)
4. material needs such as clean water, clothing for those in the camps, laptops for students and pastors
5. famine, flooding, pandemic

Your mission committee and pastor will talk further with him as he identifies his role more fully. Please pray for him and for the people of S. Sudan and Uganda, and for the good news of the Gospel to be received.

EAGER FOR ADVENT – from the pen of Marcus and Rachel Leman

“Christ, having appeared once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.” (Heb. 9: 28 ESV)

-Christ will appear a second time! In these times of great uncertainty, let this lightning bolt of truth hit with its full power. Take heart the King is coming.

- Christ bore the sins of many! This is our hope but also our purpose- making known that forgiveness of sins is possible: “Come to the coming King and be pardoned.”
- Christ is worth waiting for! Eagerly. Eagerly waiting. Not just waiting for the pain to be over. Not just waiting for justice to be done. Eagerly waiting for him. He is our treasure, what we seek, the gift under the tree, the sweet dessert baking in the oven; wait for HIM, eagerly.

Please pray for the path to be made clear for their transition to a French language school for immersion into the French language for the family in preparation for going to Ethiopia in ministry. They are grateful for our prayer and monetary support in partnership with them.

JANUARY BREADBOX

Human Trafficking has become a multi-million dollar enterprise around the world including in our country. Men and women, boys and girls are sold as slaves; exploited, dehumanized, abused. There are many groups that try to help prevent this practice by dismantling trafficking rings, helping people to be independent financially as a deterrent, identifying, freeing, and providing healing in every way from the trauma incurred. Send Relief, an organization under the umbrella of the Southern Baptist Convention helps by increasing awareness , praying for the victims and advocating for them, and by providing funding to combat this travesty.

If you wish to contribute, please write a check during January made out to the church and notated for the January breadbox. Cash can be placed in the offering plate in the breadbox envelope. Thank you.

THE DUNNEMANS sent a Christmas card to Pastor Luke and to the church family. It says, “ Thank you for your continued prayers and support for us personally and for our ministry. Thank you for your recent gift to us. It was very timely and we are very grateful. See you in the spring?”

Dear Missions Committee and Church family,

We thank you for your exceedingly kind and generous gift to us. It warms our hearts to be remembered by our loved ones in the Lord. Time hurries on but does nothing to diminish our deep attachments and wonderful memories. We are content and God provides but there remains, and likely will remain, the feeling of being away from home.

Our sons and their families are well, with our 7 grandchildren ranging from 17 to 5 and one more on the way. By Covid standards we have been relatively active in church and with Andrew's family, just 10 minutes from us. This is a beautiful area and there's no snow to shovel, but you can't beat the Christmas season in Binghamton. Our thoughts turn to the sacred atmosphere of the church sanctuary and to the worship and music and to the solemn joy of celebrating the birth of Christ our Savior. We are with you in spirit and pray for you daily with thanksgiving.

May the new year find us all faithful to the truth that Jesus is the sovereign Lord of heaven and earth. Amid appearances to the contrary let us not lose our assurance that his will for us is good and will prevail. And may the grace of his presence in our lives bring us peace, come what may. And someday Christ will come again and put things right.

Love,
“Pastor” & Peggy

Rev. Timothy Bennett was Pastor at Main Street Baptist from January 1982-October 2017. The longest serving minister in our history.

HISTORY NEWS

Not even two years old and Memorial Baptist Church (now Main Street Baptist) started off the new Year of 1891 without a Pastor. Rev. E.A. Johnson had tendered his resignation on December 26, 1890 to take effect January 1, 1891. It would not be until June 25, 1891 when Rev. Frank A Health of West Acton, Massachusetts became our next minister.

✂ Good Advice & Reminders submitted by Bob Larnerd

1. If you open it, close it.
2. If you turn it on, turn it off.
3. If you unlock it, lock it up.
4. If you break it, admit it.
5. If you can't fix it, call someone who can.
6. If you borrow it, return it.
7. If you value it, take care of it.
8. If you make a mess, clean it up.
9. If you move it, put it back.
10. If it belongs to someone else, get permission to use it.
11. If you don't know how to operate it, leave it alone.
12. If it is none of your business, don't ask questions.