# THE MAIN ARTERY

# SEPTEMBER 2021

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Pastor Luke Beattie







# <u>September Events:</u>

**Ladies Bible Study -Thursdays at 7 PM** Ladies Bible Study in the Mizpah room. A devotional study of Ephesians called "The thoughts we think, The words we speak." by Proverbs 31 Ministries. There will be no Bible study on September 16<sup>th</sup> due to the church council meeting.

**September 12th-** Sunday School Opening and Luncheon. Nursery scheduled to resume.

Remember when - The Sunday School Theme verse for 2011-2012 was "Praise be to you Lord; teach me your decrees" Psalm 119:12 (NIV). It also was on the cover of 2011 Annual Report. The Sunday School Committee members were Jeannette Farr-Superintendent, Jesse Marsh- Assistant Superintendent, Tabitha Reed-Treasurer.

September 16 – Thursday - Church Council Meeting

**September 18** – Free Clothes & More (10AM-Noon)



# **Birthdays**

September	
1	Anna Kalivoda
9	Doug Johnson
16	Jessica Carl
23	Ed Pease

Highlights from the June Church Council Meeting - Submitted by Recording Secretary, Beth Blakeney

COVID restrictions are loosening up which means the Church can hold more gatherings! Coffee Hour will be held July 11th, August 15th and Sept 12 and we will be welcoming back The Dunnemans for their homecoming concert on August 8th. Mark your calendars!

The Sunday School committee is working hard on coming up with a different program for our kids when they come back to join us this fall. Keep the committee in your prayers during this process!

### MISSIONS REPORT by Diane Runion

# MISSIONS NEWS BANDERA FAMILY CHRISTMAS- September breadbox recipient

With the heat we've been experiencing lately, it's nice to think of Christmas. The Bandera Family has been working along with a myriad of volunteers to provide a Christmas dinner on the day to over 3,000 people in Binghamton, Endicott, and Norwich in various locations. Those who can't make it to the dinner can have it delivered. They serve more than 150 turkeys and close to 10,000 cookies. Volunteers say they'll never forget the interactions with the people they serve. Those who are served benefit by having someone with whom to eat and some wouldn't even have a Christmas meal otherwise. This event has been going on for 30 + years and shows agape love to all who come and all who serve.

If you wish to donate, write a check to Main Street Baptist Church, notated for September Breadbox or use the small envelope in the pew racks for cash. Want to volunteer? Go to the Bandera Family Christmas website to sign up.

#### **UPDATE ON MOSES AGAPITO**

Moses had planned on returning to South Sudan and Uganda to see his family and to further help the school which he had helped build and fund. He hopes to further a ministry, in future, to identify and assist young men who are currently in refugee camps and who love Jesus to become pastors. Unfortunately, Covid worries are keeping him from flying home at this point. He had asked his church family to help him take masks and first aid kits back home and by donation, over 500 adult masks were given to him as well as over 50 youth masks. Two first aid kits and some clothing were given in addition. Please pray for him and for his family. There's an amazing story to the masks: One store was selling paper masks for 75% off. A week later after they had been purchased, the price went back up. God's provision for sure.

#### PAUL'S PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH – EPHESIANS 3: 14-19

"For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith – that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God."

#### THE CHOSEN

The Chosen is a crowd-funded made for TV movie about the Disciples and Jesus' work through and in them. The second season has recently been completed. There's a lot we don't know about the backgrounds of the individual disciples that Jesus called, so there's a Biblical context of the people and events of the Gospels portrayed. Today's vernacular is used. Each season has 8 episodes lasting 40-45 minutes each and it is a well acted, well presented, and has historical and cultural bases. You can go to www.the chosen.com to get the app or see season 1. DVDs can be ordered as well on that site, or can be purchased at Parable in Johnson City. An interesting view is on Mix-Grafted, a review by 2 messianic Jewish men. You can see parts of season 2 on that site ( highly recommended – episodes 2 and 8).

#### FREE CLOTHES AND MORE

1. We are welcoming donated clothing for our clothing room that is in good condition, clean, and seasonal. We can use clothes for fall and winter, especially men's clothing, clothing for children, underwear and socks and shoes for adults and kids. We have quite a few women's clothes at present but will take them and look them over for need. Winter coats are especially "hot", so to speak. All items are looked over and if we don't need them we take them to Project Concern in Chenango Bridge or to Thrifty Shopper where they serve the community at low cost. All the ones we give out are free to the public. Donations can be put in the clothing box near the door to the chapel in the ramp entry. If you have large amounts of clothing to donate, please check with Bob Larnerd or Diane Runion as to where to put them.

Please note that our own people can take a look for needed items in the room at the foot of the stairs going down to the Mizpah room each Sunday, or fill out the sheet found on the card table in the sanctuary for sizes needed and we will try to assist in this endeavor.

2. WOULD YOU LIKE TO DONATE \$5 TO HELP US PURCHASE ITEMS FOR FREE CLOTHES AND MORE?

In return, you would get a 25% off shopping pass good on most items at Boscov's

Department store (Friends Helping Friends) on one day only, October 20<sup>th</sup> from 8AM to 11PM. Now you can raise donation money while also getting needed items. If there are 20 of you who would sell 20 shopping passes to friends, neighbors and co-workers, our outreach would be raising \$2000 to help our community with toiletries, paper products and cleaning agents each month. We will have the passes available on Sunday the 12<sup>th</sup> of September for you to pick up. The donation comes directly to us, not through Boscov's. Thank you for considering this. Contact person - Diane Runion

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# From the Church History Files – Looking back at September 2001 and September 2011. Submitted by Teresa Luckert

Afghanistan and hot or rainy weather are frequent topics in the news recently. Memories of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on the United States and the September 2011 flood resurface. Here is a look back at those events through the pages of our church records.

Prior to the start of the September 16, 2001 Sunday morning worship, Pastor Timothy Bennett requested the congregation refrain from applause. Just several days prior on Tuesday September 11<sup>th</sup>, terrorists using commercial airplanes struck the World Trade Centers (New York City) and the Pentagon (Washington, D.C) killing close to 3,000 people.

Because of this tragic event, Main Street Baptist's morning worship service was adjusted to reflect the solemn occasion. At this time, the church was still using the Hymns for the living church book.

The Hymn of Adoration "Holy Father, Great Creator" (#6) was replaced by "God of Our Fathers" (#526). {Incidentally, in our new hymn book Worship & Rejoice "God of Our Fathers" goes under the name of "God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand" (#728)}. The responsive reading "The Holy City" (#654) (from Revelation 21) was changed to "Faith and Confidence" (#601) (from Psalm 27).

A Prayer for the Nation was said by Pastor Bennett followed by the Church Choir singing "A Prayer for Our Country" by Frank Cunkle. Instead of the church singing the favorite hymn "God the Omnipotent", former choir member and Tri Cities Opera singer Cynthia Clarey sang "O beautiful for spacious skies".

The October Breadbox offering was designated for "relief efforts for the New York City and Washington D.C Disasters areas". The money went to the American Baptist's One Great Hour of Sharing. (Main Street Baptist belonged to the American Baptist Denomination back then).

The December 2001 Main Artery Mission page told how the funds were being used:

"Your Denomination through One Great Hour of Sharing has provided active financial help supporting relief efforts in the wake of the terrorist attack.

\$10,000 has been given to assist American Baptist Churches of New York in providing for families impacted by the attack;

\$4,500 to Church World Service to support grief counselling ministries; and \$5,000 to Church World Service to support assistance programs for the increasing number of Afghan Refugees.

Our church recently gave \$227.00 through the October breadbox offering".

## The Floods of September 2011

Ten years later, September 11, 2011, fell on a Sunday. The church bulletin noted *Today is the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of 9/11. We remember those whose lives were lost in this terrible tragedy. Let us remember in prayer all their families.* 

In addition, there was another prayer request for "Families that have been affected by the area flooding"

On September 08, 2011, a rainstorm caused massive flooding locally. The September 9th, 2011, Binghamton Press & Sun Bulletin paper featured an article titled "Binghamton- 30% of city's residents forced to evacuate" which noted approximately 15,000 people in Binghamton were evacuated.

The floods were also addressed in several of our church committee's 2011 reports. Here is a look back-

# 2011 Property Committee Report:

"This year was marked by extreme fluctuations in our weather, bringing heavy snows, high temperatures and the worst flooding on record. Thanks be to God, the church and parsonage were spared from major damage. We have been blessed to be able to continue all the services and various activities at our location without interruption. Many of our own church family and friends were not so fortunate" (The Property Committee consisted of Marty Carl, Bob Larnerd and John Runion)

### **Deacons Committee 2011 Report**

"Through the very generous and spontaneous donations of our congregation, we were able to distribute some financial support to more than 12 of our church family that were impacted by the flood, last September. (Submitted by Doug Tucker, Chairman)

#### Missions 2011 Report

"Binghamton underwent a great trial this summer with the flood around the area. The First Baptist Church of Owego was hit very badly by this flood and is currently not able to use their building. As a church we were able to donate to them to help them rebuild the church and also donate money to allow Rev. Terry [Steenberg] to go back to Tanzania. We were also able to donate funds to many people who had flood damage to their houses and we were glad to be able to help them in any way we could". Submitted by Justin Ford, Missions Committee Chairman.

The 2011 Benevolence Report submitted by Amanda Svoboda noted: \$619.00 was given to Flood relief.
\$1,000 was given to 1st Baptist Owego for Flood Relief.