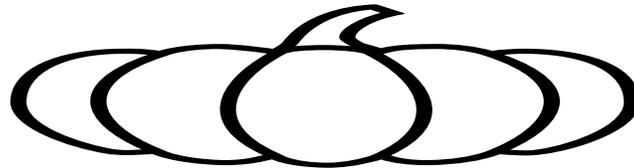


THE MAIN ARTERY

OCTOBER 2021

Main Street Baptist Church 117 Main Street Binghamton, NY 13905 607-723-0031
E-mail MSBaptistChurch@outlook.com Website: www.mainstreetbaptist.net
Pastor Luke Beattie



October Events:

Ladies Bible Study -Thursdays at 7 PM Ladies Bible Study in the Mizpah. There will be no Bible study on October 21st due to the church council meeting.

October 2 – Lamb to Loom 10-2

October 16 – Free Clothes and More 10Am-noon.

October 17 – Coffee Hour

October 20 - Friends Helping Friends at Boscov's
(See Insert)



Birthdays

October	
11	Tony Klenchik
11	Isabella Ferenczi

Many Happy Birthday wishes to Isabella on her 103rd birthday.



October Anniversaries:

October 21 - Pastor Luke & Jennifer Beattie
October 24 - Dan & Margaret Fassett



MISSIONS REPORT by Diane Runion

Missionary Updates:

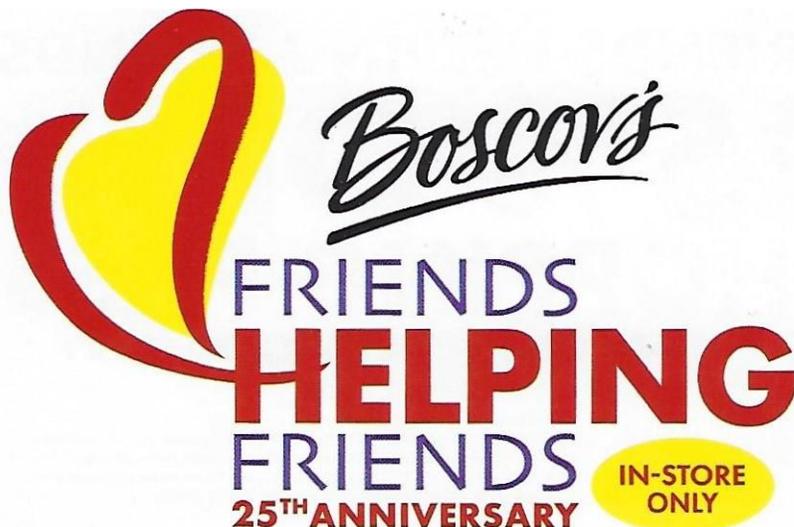
Moses Agapito – We are awaiting news from Moses that he arrived in Uganda without incident and is now able to reunite with his family. He has been working in the U.S. to earn money to assist his family and to raise money to help pay teachers in a school he helped build. In addition, he will be exploring ways to minister to his people. His wife has had serious health issues but is somewhat improved. Please pray for his family and his upcoming ministry in whatever way God leads.

Marcus and Rachel Leman are in France with their family for immersion lessons in French. He continues to do some Bible translation into heart languages, working as a consultant remotely.

Ann and Bill Clemmer Ann Clemmer has returned to Goma, Congo to continue their work thereafter, having had to evacuate the area because of volcanic eruption and earthquake. Because of the poverty caused by the natural disasters, parents often can't support their children and many are left homeless, orphaned, or abandoned on the streets. They are largely shunned and ignored. Many such children from toddlers to teenagers come to the Sunday School at the Clemmers' church. The teachers' hearts are full of compassion and they meet needs as able, talk with them, counsel them, and love them. Every one of these children is valued by a God who loves them as individuals and will never ignore or cast them away. A copy of the email is on the bulletin board in the entry.

Bill left for Yemen recently as part of an effort to bring emergency health and food relief to the thousands displaced by the civil war. Estimates are that over 400,000 children may die of starvation just this year. Please pray for the relief efforts in Goma and in Yemen. Also, this a very volatile world area where there is much unrest and tribalism. Pray for the safety of our missionaries and for the people of the two countries and that God would bring many to faith in Himself.

SAMARITAN'S PURSE, (U.S. DISASTER RELIEF) is the focus of our Breadbox Offering for October. As you know, our country has been rocked by hurricanes, floods, fires, and tornados in this last year. Samaritan's Purse works internationally to help in natural and man-made disasters, but our focus will be on what they are doing in the States. The organization mobilizes and equips thousands of volunteers to provide emergency aid and were lately on the job in Louisiana after hurricane Ida, in Tennessee after the flooding, and at the Dixie fire site in California. If you wish to donate, please put cash in the small envelopes that are in the pew racks or write a check to Main Street Baptist Church, notated October breadbox.



ONE DAY ONLY - OCTOBER 20, 2021 SHOP 8AM - 11 PM

HELP FREE CLOTHES AND MORE
PLUS GET A DISCOUNT WHEN YOU SHOP!

You can donate to our outreach by purchasing a shopping pass and using it at Boscov's on October 20th.

The \$5 goes directly to us to fund buying toiletries, paper goods, and cleaning agents to be distributed for free once a month.

You will save 25% on most purchases on that day. The passes are available until October 17th.

See Diane Runion if you would like to purchase one.

SCRIPTURAL PRAYER FOR OUR COUNTRY-

Psalm 85 is a Psalm that people prayed in Bible times for the land of Israel, but it is still timely in 2021 for our own country and its people. We are called upon to “humble ourselves and pray, seeking God's face and turning from sin, then God will hear from heaven and forgive our sin, and heal our land.” (II Chronicles 7:14) Proverbs 14: 34 states that “righteousness exalts a nation”. Are you ready to take the challenge and pray this prayer each week?

CLOTHING ROOM

Thank you to all who have been supplying us with clothing. You have been very faithful. However, we have two rooms full of clothes at present and we are inundated. Please hold off for a month or two, then, I'm sure we can accommodate more. Winter coats are the exception. Another need is for folks to help sort clothing. Everything is looked over before we store it or put it out in our clothing room. Can you help? Let Diane Runion or Phylis Finch know.



Church History from Long Long Ago -1521

In some Protestant denominations the last Sunday in October is celebrated as Reformation Sunday. This commemorates Martin Luther's posting of his 95 Theses in 1517 which would put the Protestant Reformation and the split with the Roman Catholic Church in motion. One of the many changes the reformers made was the reduction of number of sacraments from 7 (baptism, penance, communion, confirmation, matrimony, Holy orders, and anointing the sick) to just 2 (baptism and the Lord's supper). The rationale being only those two were specifically commanded in the Bible.

Not all agreed with Martin Luther's view. On October 11, 1521, England's King Henry the VIII was given the title *Fidei Defensor* (Defender of the Faith) by Pope Leo X for his work *Assertio Septem Sacramentorum* (The Defense of the Seven Sacraments) in response to Martin Luther. This of course, was prior to Henry VIII breaking with Rome (and the subsequent plundering of Catholic monasteries & churches). In the library we have several books and DVDs regarding the Protestant Reformation from both points of view.



More Recent Main Street Baptist Church History

Protestant ire was sparked in America on October 20, 1951, when President Harry S. Truman nominated World War II General Mark W. Clark to be the first US Ambassador to the Vatican. The Vatican was considered to be an ally in the fight against the communism threat being felt throughout the globe. At this time, the US military was involved in the Korean Conflict fighting against the communist north. In other parts of the world, millions would perish under the Communist regimes of Stalin (Soviet Union) and Mao (China).

While this danger was being acknowledged, some protestant denominations were alarmed about a potential constitutional violation of church and state.

Though it may be noted the First Amendment of the US Constitution does not specifically contain the church & state separation language but rather says *“Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof...”*. One must remember the historical backdrop of the document. For example, in colonial times, certain states such as Virginia, required colonists to support the Church of England whether they belonged to it or not.

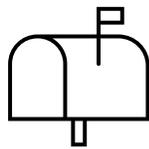
Our Pastor and former lawyer, Rev. Gordon Brownville was opposed to the Clark nomination. In the evening service of October 21, 1951, the Binghamton Press quoted him as saying “ From the standpoint of our constitutional government, in which separation of church and state is a cardinal principle, such representation is undemocratic and always has been opposed by Protestant groups everywhere”. “ This is not an issue which involves anything of intolerance but does demand a vigorous protest by every freedom -loving American”. General Clark would end up withdrawing his nomination.

It would not be until 1984, when President Ronald Reagan and Pope John Paul II established diplomatic ties that William Wilson became the first US

Ambassador to the Vatican. Incidentally, the funding issue was come up during confirmation process.

To show how things have changed, in our library we have Peggy Noonan's John Paul the Great and John Paul II's Rise, Let Us Be On Our Way . Both books were donated by Peggy Bennett, wife of our former Pastor Timothy Bennett.

Source: "Baptist Ministers Call Ambassador to Vatican Unconstitutional Setup"
Binghamton Press [Monday] October 22, 1951, Pg. 5.



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