

THE MAIN ARTERY

JANUARY FEBRUARY 2023

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

January & February Events

BIRTHDAYS

January	
12	Tammy Giovinazzo
25	Margaret Fassett
29	Naomi Beattie
30	Eliza Beattie
30	Hannah Farr

February	
3	Maryanne Kotylo
3	Toby Lyon
4	Gordon Blakeney
4	Florence Grivas
15	Debbie Carl

January 8 – Coffee Hour & Bake Sale after church.

Sign up for the Ham Luncheon.

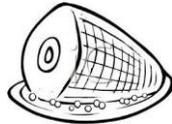
January 10- 10 Am Sunday School Book Club discussion of On the Incarnation by Athanasius- Green Room.

January 15 Sign up for the Ham Luncheon

January 19 6:30 PM Church Council

January 21 Free Clothes & More 10AM-Noon

January 22 – Ham Dinner Luncheon.



JANUARY 22 - HAM LUNCHEON FOLLOWING THE MORNING CHURCH SERVICE

Ham, Deserts and Drinks will be provided.

Please bring a dish to pass. Donations are welcomed.

AND - At no extra charge - You will be treated to entertainment by the Deaconess Committee as they “Ham It Up”!!!!

There will be a Deaconess at the back of the church taking reservations on January 8TH & 15th.

From the Mailbox



Dear Church Family,

We greatly appreciate your generous gift to us. It reminds us of what we need no reminding of - namely, with what kindness you provide for our family's needs over all our years of ministry. Our sense of connectedness with you remains through our daily thoughts and prayers. We miss Main Street always, never more so that during Advent season. Our gratitude exceeds our words.

God Bless MSBC.

Love in Christ,

“Pastor” and Peggy Bennett

To Main Street Baptist - Thank you for the Christmas gift and cookies. Your kindness and generosity are appreciated. – Teresa Luckert

Church News

♪ The Hymn Sing took place on December 11th.

♪ Despite the bad weather, Christmas caroling around the parsonage occurred on December 16th. There were approximately 44 participants. Thank you to Jennifer Beattie for arranging the event.

🌲 *The Pease Christmas tree sales were \$ 4638. Thank you to those who shopped at the farm and to the many over the years who planted trees. – Ed and Priscilla Pease. Many thanks to Ed and Priscilla for their very generous donation again this year!*

✝ Charles Maxson. Marcia and Thomas Weyant are the newest members to Main Street Baptist. They were baptized on December 11 and received the Right Hand of Fellowship on December 18.

🕊 \$225 was raised from the Pie & Sweet bread sale on November 26th. The funds went to Free Clothes & More.

🍪 The Deacons & Pastor Luke delivered cookies (made by the Deaconess Committee) on Saturday December 10th.



MISSIONS MINUTES FROM DIANE RUNION

LETTER FROM THE DUNNEMANS (EXCERPTS)

Dear Friends,

We thought you would want to know that Reg and I are well and enjoying our semi-retirement (in between our continuing music ministry programs). By the time you read this letter, we will have sung over seventy times in 2022.

(They report on several visits to relatives and friends after the lifting of COVID concerns)

This summer we were the song leaders at the Odosagih Bible Conference for the twelfth year in a row. The conference's 100th anniversary summer was a wonderful time! At the Bible conference we get to live in our country coach RV which was our traveling home for over 600k miles. Now it is our permanently parked summer home. We released our new collection of songs entitled "How Can I keep From Singing?" Who would have dreamed that Reg and I would have recorded three cassettes and twelve CDs?

Son Tyler and Natalie Daffinee have relocated to Mt. Lebanon, PA just west of Pittsburgh. Mason and Master Sergeant Jennifer Daffinee have thoroughly enjoyed the first year of Jennifer's three-year assignment at the Ramstein Air Force Base in Germany. We hope to visit them in the spring.

Reg and I are singing four or five times each month for monthly seniors meetings in large churches and in smaller churches who invite us for worship concerts. I enjoy weeding community gardens three or four mornings a week here at 11 Villaggio. On Friday afternoons I volunteer at the Loving Hands Ministry Thrift Shop and organize their books. On Thursdays Reg is a docent at the Sarasota Antique Car Museum.

As you read this letter, we will be on our way to Stratford, Ontario for Christmas and New Years with family. May the Lord continue to bless you as you love Him and serve Him. Emmanuel! God is with us!

Reg and Gretchen

COMMUNITY OUTREACH – HATS, SCARVES, AND MITTENS

Starting the first week in January, you can bring in donations of hats, scarves and mittens to be placed outside for our neighbors to take to help keep themselves warm. We've already had a pretty good taste of winter, so we can understand that those who have to walk or take public transportation during the cold months would benefit from just such a thing. The donated items can be for men, women, or children and will be labeled as such and placed in plastic bags to keep them from the elements. One of our members, Tom Reed, made a rack last year on which to place them to be displayed outside our church. This will continue through the month of January, and a basket will be available in the entry to accommodate your gifts. Please note a picture and article in the Binghamton Press about the donated goods which is on the mission board in the entry.

BREADBOX OFFERING FOR JANUARY

SEND RELIEF is an organization that is multi-faceted, but we will designate our offering gifts for their efforts in fighting human trafficking. Under Send Relief, there are several urban ministries who serve those who have been trafficked for sexual or labor

exploitation, or who ,because of their homelessness and poverty are vulnerable. In these centers and safe homes, victims are helped to heal. There are many efforts to alleviate poverty by providing basic needs of food and clothing, protection, educational training, and adequate medical treatment. Job opportunities and job readiness training helps to build confidence and breaks the cycle of oppression and codependency. It is a long and painful process and churches and Christian organizations partner with Send Relief to be the hands and feet of Jesus. If you wish to donate, please write a check to Main Street Baptist Church, notated for the January breadbox or place cash in the small envelope in the seat back and place it in any offering plate.

GOLDEN NUGGETS

“When we think of greatness we point to the one who gives the orders.
When God thinks of greatness He thinks of the one who obeys the orders.
When we think of greatness we look at the head table.
When God thinks of greatness He looks at the servers.”

Dr. Jack Hyles

BOOK REVIEW

“The Church Behind the Wire” by Barnabas Mam is a story of faith in the killing fields of Cambodia. “Barnabas Mam's conversion to Christianity (from Buddhism), coincided with the rise of a notoriously deadly regime. One of only 200 Christians to survive Pol Pot's genocidal campaign, the author proceeded to become the foremost evangelist and church planter in Cambodia.”

Because of the content of the story, it is difficult to read, but it shows God's interventions in Barnabas' life and in the life and in the history and future of his country.
It will soon be on the turntable in the entry.

FREE CLOTHES AND MORE

At Free Clothes and More on Saturday, the 17th, we served 59 families and were able to also give out canned and non-perishable food that had been donated by 2 of our members, many Christmas decorations, winter coats, and kids toys and games and books. Thank you for your many fine donations that give tangible helps to people in our community. There is considerable need out there. The objective is for our neighbors to see and experience the love of Jesus: We want to mirror Him.

Some of the needs we have at present:

Men's small and extra-large tops

Men's smaller waisted slacks, especially 32 waist.

Women's small tops

Kids clothing especially toddler, and small boy and girl clothes

Shoes and boots for all

Socks and underwear for all.

Winter coats for all

Help to sort and replenish clothes for Free Clothes and More

Prayer: for the people whose apartment building is to be condemned, for God's provision in funding this enterprise, for those experiencing job cuts in the area.

History & Library News

In January, many churches focus in on the plight of human trafficking. Main Street Baptist has had programs in the past, such as “Breaking the Chains” that included insight from various speakers. As noted in Diane’s mission column, the breadbox for January will go to Send Relief . In the library, we have the DVD, *Amy Carmichael: Mother to the Motherless*. Amy was an Irish missionary in India at the turn of the 20th century. She was instrumental in rescuing young girls from becoming temple prostitutes. Her Dohnavur Fellowship Mission also cared for abandoned babies. Unfortunately, infanticide was still being practiced. The video has commentary from Elisabeth Eliot. They also talk to women who grew up at the mission. Some of whom were taken in as babies and have remained there for many decades to help others.

With a new year beginning (which means the Church Annual meeting will be coming up soon) here is a look back a relevant topic from September 1983. The following was written by our then Pastor, Timothy Bennett (1982-2017).

Commitment

“If I may be permitted to quote myself (and I may -this is my space), “the paradox of faith and works is solved as soon as we consider that faith commits a person to do something namely to receive and follow Jesus Christ.

Our hearts know this well, and the vows entailed in baptism, church membership, and the church covenant reflect our Christian instincts. But other instincts enter into the whole picture of our selves. For every heart-compulsion to respond to the Word of God by a concrete expression of obedience, there is a powerful urge of the opposite sort, fashioning an array of convincing excuses for avoiding any substantial commitment.

Let this be a matter of self-evaluation for all members of this church: we have publicly signified our newness in Christ and thus our oneness with his Body, the Church; we have voluntarily promised our attendance, service and giving to this church; we have bound ourselves to fulfilling Christian duties in our families and in our vocations

Our Lord taught us to let our “yes” be “yes” and our “no” be “no. As to commitment to the church there should need to be no more than the gentle reminder of our own promises (made under no compulsion except that of the Spirit in us) in order to stir us to rededication.

Now would be a good time to renew our vows to reinstate to a place of priority our Christian instincts. With a new and very active season of church life upon us won't you consider that the integrity of your confession of Christ is dependent upon your service to him and his church?”

Rev. Bennett