

#### THE MAIN ARTERY

March 2025

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

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Let us know; let us press on to know the Lord; his going out is sure as the dawn; he will come to us as the showers, as the spring rains that water the earth." Hosea 6:3 (ESV)

## **February Church News**

February 15<sup>th</sup>, Ladies Valentine Tea, the ladies of MSBC gathered in the Mizpah Room for a Valentine's Tea. The ladies enjoyed a variety of teas, coffee and hot chocolate with a delicious assortment of sweet treats. The lovely decor added to the festive atmosphere. Ladies brought their own special teacups and shared why the cup was special to them. It was a wonderful time of fellowship. Special thanks to our bakers Diane Runion, Gail Welter, Tabatha Reed, Tammy Giovinazzo, and Margaret Fassett. Thank you to Cindy Petito for setting up and decorating the room. Most of all a Big THANK YOU to Our Gracious Lord for getting everyone home safely after the snow started.

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March	
2	Abigail Farr
5	DLouisa Ford
7	Ronald Beere
10	Margaret Kotylo
16	Peggy Bennett
22	Timothy Reed
22	Marty Carl
25	Roger Marsh
25	Natalie Hessler
26	Anna James
27	Thomas Reed Jr.

March 12th, Ladies' Luncheon, 11:30AM at the Park Diner.



March 16th, Coffee Hour.



March 20<sup>th</sup>, First Day of Spring.

March 23<sup>rd</sup>, After Church, covered dish and dessert auction. All proceeds will go to the boiler fund. Sign ups will be 3/9 &3/16.

March 25<sup>th</sup>, Pastor's Book Club, 10AM, in the Green Room. St. Patrick's Confession & Letter to Coroticus.

Address Change:

Maryanne Kotylo

5883 Pecan Chase

Benbrook, TX 76132

#### MISSION NEWS

CLEMMERS: Here's an update on the situation that they've been experiencing in Goma, DR of Congo. Militias have been warring with the UN forces and government soldiers to take over Goma where they minister, as it is a mineral-rich area, and finally, they broke through and conquered the city. There has been a lot of fighting and danger. Many

civilians and soldiers have been killed and bodies placed in unmarked graves. Bill and Ann Clemmer were told to evacuate to Rwanda nearby and they did for awhile. Things are a bit better, allowing them to return to Goma during the day, then going back across the border at night. Bill has been helping at HEAL Africa which has been overwhelmed with those injured in the fighting, and Ann has been working with displaced people and a two year old boy who has lost his parents recently. They are looking for other relatives of his to raise him. The Sunday School people are preparing lessons for their classes that are encouraging and faith-building. God is still at work there among his people. Please pray for safety for the Clemmers and for the people of Goma. Also, pray for those who are perpetrating violence that they may be led to faith in Jesus through the love shown by the Christians there.

#### LETTERS FROM GRATEFUL FOLKS

"Dear Missions Committee.

Such amazing generosity – and after all these years-is heart-warming. It's good to be remembered, and we hope your memory of us is that we loved you, as we still do and always will. Love never ends. We enjoy looking back, and also looking forward to the day when we will all be together permanently.

With Thanksgiving to you and for you, Pastor and Peggy."

(As a former pastor, the Bennetts receive money from our congregation at Christmas time, thanking them for their service to us. They are in our mission budget.)

"Thank you so much for including our ministry in your Mission budget! Wow! 40 years of church membership and 32 years of music ministry. God has blessed us greatly through your love, Reg and Gretchen Dunneman"

(they also sent a newsy letter about their continued music ministry, the damage their village sustained from hurricanes Helene and Milton, and about their family. They cite Psalm 89:1. "I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever. With my mouth will I make known Thy faithfulness to all generations'. They all, "We may not sing forever but we are still singing. 41 times this year".)

#### THANKSGIVING IS YEAR ROUND

Your Mission Committee is grateful on many fronts:

We thank you for your support of local, national, and world-wide ministries through the years, both for your prayers for us on the committee, and for various mission efforts. We also thank you for the financial gifts that show your heart for missions and your generosity.

We have functioned as a unit for many years, and now say a special "Thank You" to Anna James who elected to step down to allow for some new blood to be voted in. She has been a vital part of our group which includes, Amanda Svoboda, Diane Runion, and Phylis Finch. We also thank Pastor Luke for sitting in on our meetings, and giving his input as needed. This is being submitted before the annual meeting, but we also thank Nathaniel Allen for being willing to join us on the committee after being voted in at the Annual meeting.

We are grateful for the opportunity to support so many efforts of dedicated missionaries to proclaim Christ as Lord, and to provide for the needs of peoples here and around the world.

To God belongs all glory and praise for what has been accomplished through you, through the committee, and through mission-minded efforts that He has brought about for His kingdom.

### Isaiah 43:1b -3.

Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you, for I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.