

WEST HENRIETTA BAPTIST CHURCH

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AUGUST 2021

HAPPINESS

A hearty welcome to this page and my prayer is that the Lord Jesus will grant you His grace and peace today. This article is a reflection on happiness, so at the beginning, please reflect on the following three questions:

- Are you a happy person?
- What makes you feel happy?
- What are 3 most important things for you to be happy?

Sonja Lyubomirsky describes happiness as “the experience of joy, contentment, or positive well-being, combined with a sense that one’s life is good, meaningful, and worth while” (2007). It is a reality that some people experience more unhappiness than happiness. These are people who most times just lack joy. While depression and other psychological diseases are certainly a clinical illness and should not be minimized, the following are factors that contribute to unhappiness:

- We worry, and it creates inner turmoil.
- We hold on to grudges and find it hard to forgive those who offend us.
- We harm ourselves by carrying negative energy—shun pessimism.
- We compare ourselves to others---playing the internal comparison games.
- We choose to be happy only when all our dreams come true.
- We have not discovered our God-given purpose in life.
- We are lonely.
- We are too proud to share with others our vulnerabilities or needs.

I find it incredibly interesting that when Jesus began His earthly ministry, when he began to teach, his first teaching was about happiness. He saw that people’s deepest desire was for happiness. For Jesus, happiness is an inside job; it begins inside us, in our hearts, and it is that kind of happiness that He came to give. I invite you to note the context Matthew sets for us, and then listen for the keys to happiness Jesus reveals in the Beatitudes (Matt. 5:1-9):

- *Happy are the poor in spirit---Happy are those who are dependent on God (Psalm 51:17 & James 4:10).*
- *Happy are those who mourn---Like Jeremiah who wept over the spiritual emptiness/sinfulness of his people.*
- *Happy are the meek or gentle.*
- *Happy are those who hunger & thirst for righteousness (Psalm 63:1).*
- *Happy are the merciful---those who never return evil for evil.*
- *Happy are the pure in heart---refusing to join others in sin (Colossians 3:1-11).*
- *Happy are the peacemakers (James 3:18).*

For Jesus, happiness thrives on an eternal perspective. However, for many, the reality is that happiness is transitory, fleeting, and circumstantial. We discover that happiness too often depends on the conditions or people around us. That may be so, but as Christians we should not allow unhappiness to have dominion over us. There are so many films and songs about happiness.

(Continued on page 3)

Glory of Gardens

By Evy Lynn Shoots

*Gardens Fill our World
Father knew it would please all
Right throughout the year.*

*Seeing the blooming
Absolutely glorious
Growth victorious!*

*Nature has a way
Of thanking our Father God
For a fertile sod!*

*Crystal waters flow
Down the hillside far below
Where some blooms will show.*

*Our Country fills with wonders
Which we all appreciate
And anticipate.*

*Some trees grow so tall
They spire into the heavens
As Churches for all!*

*Praising when praying
We are always conveying
What a wonder God is!*



August 1st Communion Sunday

Invocation: TBA
Scripture: Steve Wenthe
Offering: TBA
Greeter: Roberta Miller
Fellowship: Roberta Miller

August 8th

Invocation: TBA
Scripture: Loretta Hirschman
Offering: TBA
Greeter: Roberta Miller
Fellowship: Kathy Gosnell

August 15th

Invocation: TBA
Scripture: Anne Greco
Offering: TBA
Greeter: Roberta Miller
Fellowship: Laurie & Steve Wenthe

August 22nd

Invocation: TBA
Scripture: Virginia Chase
Offering: TBA
Greeter: Roberta Miller
Fellowship: Roberta Miller

August 29th

Invocation: TBA
Scripture: Joyce Shutts
Offering: TBA
Greeter: Roberta Miller
Fellowship: Leanna Shirley

Thank you for joining us as we worship post-COVID, and understanding for the following restrictions.

EVERYONE will socially distance & attendees must wear masks if not fully vaccinated.

Gloves, masks, and sanitizer are available. The area is sanitized before each event.



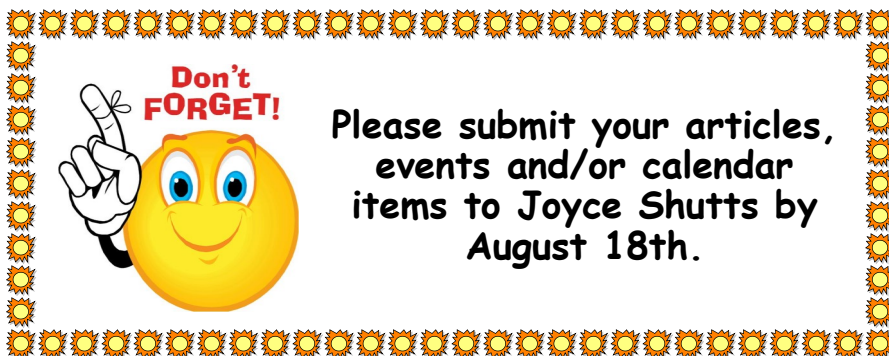
(Continued from page 1)

Bobby McFerrin's song, "Don't Worry, Be Happy" is one song that comes to mind. In addition to Jesus' keys to happiness, the social science literature is replete with steps to happiness, but given the limited space allowed for this article, I suggest the following:

- Surround yourself with positivity
- Learn to forgive
- Savor life's joy
- Do what you love and keep tabs on things you feel blessed to have
- Enjoy the present and don't live in the past
- Nurture relationships
- Develop strategies for coping with life's challenges
- Do not carry grudges or negative energy

My prayer is that you find the secret of true happiness...a happiness that withstands the ups and downs of life, the storms and trials that inevitably come our way. I pray for happiness that lasts, which no discouragement, no frustration, no grief, no failure, and no bad weather can destroy.

Submitted by Rev. Dr. Peter E. Grinion, Pastor



Prayer Group
Saturdays at 9:00 AM

Bible Study
Cancelled for the month of August

Trustees Meeting
August 13 at 10:00 AM

Deacons Meeting ~ TBA

Board of Christian Education Meeting ~ TBA

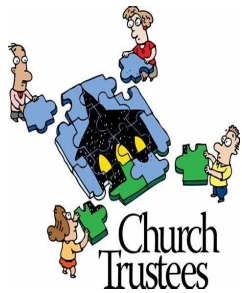
Cabinet Meeting ~ TBA

LINK Articles
for September due to
Joyce Shutts ~ August 18



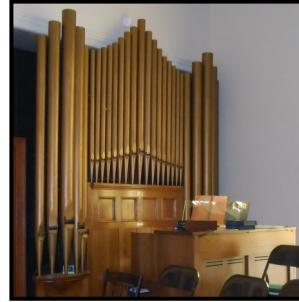
Aug. 4 ~ Evie Scott
Aug. 6 ~ Beverly Bixby
Aug. 6 ~ Thisie Schisler-Do
Aug. 10 ~ Evy Shoots
Aug. 10 ~ Joyce Shutts
Aug. 14 ~ Sharon Scurlock
Aug. 28 ~ Jim Harper

FELLOWSHIP NEWS



Steve Wenthe and John Miller are working diligently to repair and maintain the Church building.

There is a senior citizen square dancing club. It will start on August 5th on Thursdays from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm.



Help!! Organist Needed

West Henrietta Baptist Church is looking for an organist for our Sunday Worship, Choir Practice and additional services throughout the year.

The candidate must work with the Pastor and our Choir/Music Director.

If you know of anyone who would fit in well in our historic Church playing hymns/related music on our Allen Digital Organ, please call the Church at (585) 334-0497 and leave a message for Sharon Scurlock. The position is open now.



First Post-COVID Fellowship Hour July 4th

July 4th marked the occasion of Fellowship resuming. It was really good to be able to do it again post COVID. Thank you to all who prepared it.

Please sign up on the flyer on bulletin board by stairs up to Nursery or if called to take a Sunday.



Recipe for Happiness

- 4 Cups of Love
- 2 Cups of Loyalty
- 3 Cups of Kindness
- 4 Cups of Understanding
- 5 Cups of Faith
- 1 Barrel of Laughter

Take love and loyalty and mix it thoroughly with faith. Blend with kindness and understanding. Sprinkle abundantly with laughter.

FISH / RHAFT, Inc.

Serving Residents in the Rush-Henrietta Central School District

Major Needs:

Instant Mashed Potatoes
Instant Minute Rice
Crackers
Hamburger Helper
Hot Chocolate Packages
Jellos & Puddings
Peanut Butter
Canned Chicken, Tuna, Beef
Macaroni & Cheese Dinner
Baby Food/Formulas
Beef Stew
Canned Hash
Chili
Cereals - Hot and Cold

Packaged Foods:

Sugar
Jelly
Ketchup/Mustard
Noodles
Cake/Muffin Mixes
Canned Fruits, Vegetables, Soups
Fruit Juices

Personal Care Products:

Soap
Toilet Paper/Tissue
Toothbrushes/Toothpaste
Deodorant
Shampoo
Diapers

FISH and RHAFT continues to need our help and support. Please remember them as you do your grocery shopping and drop the item(s) off in the Church kitchen. If you have any questions, please call Laurie Wenthe. Thank you!



News from David and Michelle Heed

The Dad got bit by a big black snake. He died on the way to the hospital. It is believed that Mom died from a curse because the hospital did not see anything physically wrong with her. Four kids are left behind. That was two years ago. Here we have another orphan story. The Grandma, "Hawa," took in her four (4) grandkids. We were able to help her get startup money for selling corn kernels. She doesn't have another relative to help her, so instead of selling at the market, she sells it out of her house; that way, she can still watch the kids. She says that there are plenty of customers that come by her house. Thank you for helping her and for praying for her.



10 Blessings of God:

I have a Home.

I ate today.

I have a good heart.

I wish good for Others.

I have water to drink.

I am content.

I am trying to be better.

I have a Dream.

I have clean clothes.

I'm Breathing.

(Amen)

Be Positive
Be Happy

1 Peter 4:10:

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms."

It's Exciting—We are helping build the 100th Josanna Habitat Home

Here is a quote from Ethel Duble who is FCCH Faith Build's contact as well as contact for Flower City Habitat Rochester. "What an absolutely wonderful "Thrivent-Harvest Home Faith Build Blessing/Golden Shovel/Wall Raising Ceremonies" we had on July 13! It was great to have you there along with others from the Coalition plus the Associate Pastor, Third Presbyterian. We couldn't have asked for a more wonderful gathering in support of this house build. I know everyone enjoyed meeting Natasha who is truly excited to begin work on her house as well as get to know us." The pictures represent the wall raising, the Groundbreaking Prayer/Blessing, and the folks that Gretchen Young and I meet with; Tom Gillett (in blue shirt) and Tom Riggs (in red).

Another special part of being involved with building the 100th home in the Josanna neighborhood. Sadly the 14 year old was shot and killed in the driveway of his Whitney Street home by a stray bullet from a drug dealer.

Joyce Shutts





Old friend, you've been a great logo and we thank you for your service. But it's time for a fresh look.

Introducing our new ABCRGR Logo!



A New Look for a New Time

We've been through a lot in the last couple of years and it felt like it was time to symbolize a revitalized future with a fresh logo. I want to give my heartfelt thanks and appreciation to Leslie Lee of Greece Baptist Church, our very own and very talented graphic designer. She has given us a logo that expresses so much in so few lines and colors!

The beautiful thing about art is that it doesn't need explanation. But it does carry the possibility of interpretation. So I'm going to interpret our new logo--not explain it--here. But as I do so, I do so hoping you will also ponder how you may be able to interpret it in light of your experience of our region as well.

The symbol on the left, the flower, begins as homage to our home-base city of Rochester, NY: Rochester has an historical nickname of "The Flour City" due to its early years as a flour production center on the Erie Canal. In contemporary times, that became "The Flower City" as the Lilac Festival became world-famous.

To me, however, this flower doesn't brand our region as "Rochester" only. It begins there just as our region did, but it goes so much further, just as we do.

If you'll notice two things about the flower image in the logo, you'll see first that the flower petals are different colors, representing our diversity as an association. The flower petals also have little points on them looking like the points of the compass. So to me the logo represents our region in so many ways--even in the way our association began at home-base and has spread in all directions!

(Continued on page 7)



We are thrilled to share we have selected a new Executive Director to lead Cameron into its next chapter! Please welcome Olivia Kassoum-Amadou.

As the new Executive Director of Cameron, Olivia brings more than 20 years of non-profit management and leadership experience. She has worked extensively with children, youth, and families. As a community leader, Olivia has worked for equal access to food, healthcare, affordable housing, and education in underserved communities.

Previously, Olivia worked as a Chief Strategy Officer for the Arc of Chemung-Schuyler, where she increased grant funding for their business and industry division, creating jobs for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. As Executive Director for the Association of the Blind and Visually Impaired of Northern NY, Olivia established a vision rehabilitation center for individuals living with low vision or who were legally blind. In her role as Executive Director of Community Connection Outreach Center in North Carolina, Olivia began the first street-outreach program in the country targeting youth and adults with prevention information on HIV/AIDS.

Olivia holds a BA from Bennett College and two master's degrees, one in Rehabilitation Counseling from Winston-Salem State University and one in Health Care Management from Troy University. In her spare time, Olivia enjoys reading, cooking, relaxing with family, and volunteering on community projects.



(Continued from page 6)

Third, of course, you'll notice the center of the petals forming a cross. There's a clear cross right in the center. But there's a secondary cross formed by the white space between petals that have points directing our eyes towards the cross. So at the same time as our flower expresses our geographic spread it also expresses our centeredness in Christ. Mind you, that directionalism can go both ways--we are both centered in Christ and spread out geographically...or *because* we are centered in Christ, we spread God's lovingkindness through the world.

I could go on about my interpretation of the colors, the font, the placement of the acronym and the full name of the region. But I feel like I've probably already planted too many of my own interpretations in your mind. I invite you to spend time appreciating our new logo and reflecting on what you feel it says about our region; even more importantly, what do you feel our region says to the world?

In Christ's name,
Sandy

Rev. Dr. Sandra Hasenauer
Regional Executive Minister
American Baptist Churches of the Rochester/Genesee Region

The Master's Hand

Wishing to encourage her young son's progress on the piano, a mother took the small boy to a Paderewski concert. After they were seated, the mother spotted a friend in the audience and walked down the aisle to greet her. Seizing the opportunity to explore the wonders of the concert hall, the little boy rose and eventually explored his way through a door marked "NO ADMITTANCE".

When the house lights dimmed and the concert was about to begin, the mother returned to her seat and discovered that her son was missing. Suddenly, the curtains parted and spotlights focused on the impressive Steinway on stage. In horror, the mother saw her little boy sitting at the keyboard, innocently picking out "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star". At that moment, the great piano master made his entrance, quickly moved to the piano, and whispered in the boy's ear, "Don't quit, keep playing".

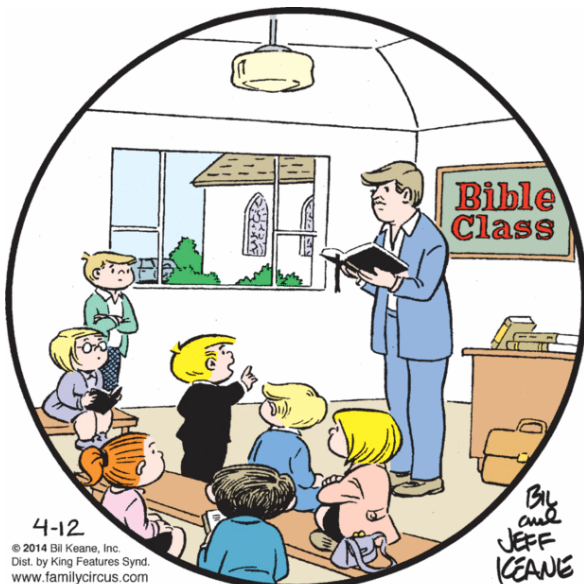
Then leaning over, Paderewski reached down with his left hand and began filling in a bass part. Soon his right arm reached around to the other side of the child and he added a running obligato. Together, the old master and the young novice transformed a frightening situation into a wonderfully creative experience. The audience was mesmerized.

That's the way it is with God. What we can accomplish on our own is hardly noteworthy. We try our best, but the results aren't exactly graceful flowing music. But with the hand of the Master, our life's work truly can be beautiful. Next time you set out to accomplish great feats, listen carefully. You can hear the voice of the Master, whispering in your ear, "Don't quit, keep playing". Feel His loving arms around you. Know that His strong hands are playing the concerto of your life. Remember, God doesn't call the equipped, He equips the called.

~ Author Unknown ~

God's Little Acre

DID YOU KNOW???



"It would've been quicker if Paul just posted his letters to the Corinthians on his Facebook page."

1. The Holy Bible has been translated into 2,018 languages, with countless more partial translations, and audio translations.
2. Moses contributed the most books to the Old Testament. He wrote the first five books of the Bible, referred to as the Pentateuch; the foundation of the Bible.
3. The Bible was written over a period of some 1,500 years, from around 1450 B.C. (the time of Moses) to about 100 A.D. (following the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ).
4. The Bible was printed in 1454 A.D. by Johannes Gutenberg who invented the "type mold" for the printing press. It was the first book ever printed.

BibleResources.org