

WEST HENRIETTA BAPTIST CHURCH

1815-2015

THE LINK

FEBRUARY 2015



CHRIST'S LOVE IS FREEING

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

February is upon us! The cold and the snow have been our constant companions thus far. Scripture tells us there is One that sticketh closer than a brother, and I come to tell you that He is more faithful and constant than bad weather. I was born and raised in Philadelphia, and although I've been in Rochester for some time, the winter weather here can still be a real challenge for this Philly girl!

The month of February is when we celebrate Valentine's Day, the day of love. Often, we mark the day with corny sentimentality. We give in to our culture of commercialization spending millions to buy cards, candy, and other gifts...but sometimes our attitudes and actions the other 364 days of the year don't measure up. I'm just saying...

I think Valentine's Day is a great opportunity to thank God for

God's unconditional love. So many of us have lived the experience of feeling unloved by others, and even believing that because we experience hardship and trials, that God does not love us...which is a lie!! To live as if we are not loved by God is a limitation, for truly we were created to be loved!

It's time to accept the freeing love of God, expressed in Christ. All other love and relationships are possible for us because it already exists in God. For God is love.

As we approach Valentine's Day, may we gain some understanding of the true nature of God's love. God loves us all, every person that has ever lived...even those who we feel are not deserving of that love! Remember the words of John 3:16, "For God so loved the world...." But each of us must choose to live in relationship with God that we might experience that love daily, intimately.

May we clothe ourselves each day in the garments of God's love, and may that love permeate our hearts and lives as we interact with family, friends, and those we don't know.

Happy Valentine's Day!

By
Pastor Jill

FEBRUARY BICENTENNIAL EVENT

THE NEXT BICENTENNIAL EVENT WILL COMBINE NEW AND OLD. AN ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE (THE NEW) WILL REVIVE THE FAITH OF OUR ANCESTORS (THE OLD.)

YOU'RE INVITED!

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READ US ON THE WEB

WHBAPTIST.ORG

IT'S OUR NEW SITE!



FEBRUARY LECTIONARY

Feb. 1: Deut. 18:15-20, Ps. 111, I Cor. 8:1-13, Mark 1: 21-28

Feb. 8: Is. 40:21-31; Ps. 147:1-11, 20c; I Cor. 19:16-23; Mark 1:29-39

Feb. 15: II Kings 2:1-12, Ps. 50:1-6, II Cor. 4:3-6, Mark 9:2-9

Feb. 22: Gen. 9:8-17, Ps. 25:1-10, I Peter. 3:18-22, Mark 1:9-15



Feb. 1 - Don VanDoren
Feb. 5 - Amy Sugrue
Feb. 8 - Charles Heisig
Feb. 10 - Drew Bixby
Feb. 12 - Elaine Vandermeid
Feb. 14 - Della VanDoren
Feb. 16 - Jessica Tasciotti
Feb. 19 - Kathleen Serianni
Feb. 19 - Jacob Teeter
Feb. 21 - Lee Covill
Feb. 23 - Andrew Gress
Feb. 23 - Joanne Wilbert
Feb. 27- John Miller

FEBRUARY'S GLAD SERVANTS

SERVE THE LORD GLADNESS: COME
BEFORE HIS PRESENCE WITH SINGING.

PSALM 100:2

Greeter: Marti Faiola

Children's moment: Clara White

Scripture readers:

Feb. 1: Lynne Stewart

Feb. 8: Leanna Shirley

Feb. 15: Joyce Shutts

Feb. 22: Connie Voss-Necaster

Nursery helpers:

Debbie Covill
and Jasmine Morse

Fellowship hosts:

Feb. 1: Marti Faiola

Feb. 8: Loretta Hirschman

Feb. 15: Joyce Shutts and
Anne Greco

Feb. 22: Valerie Bandemer

Student history readers:

Feb. 1: Colin Chase

Feb. 8: Devonnie Buskey

Feb. 15: Jasmine Morse

Feb. 22: Isaiah Buskey



CHOIR PRACTICE

7 p.m. Wednesdays

*

MEN'S BREAKFAST

7 a.m. Tuesdays at Peppermints Restaurant

*

PRAYER MEETING

9 a.m. Saturdays

*

BICENTENNIAL CMTEE.

3 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 17

*

MARCH LINK DEADLINE

Sunday, Feb. 15

(Items go to Bonnie Healy.
bonniehealy@yahoo.com)

*

ASH WEDNESDAY

Feb. 18, 2015

Time not yet set

*

Incoming board chairs:

Please submit
monthly meeting times
for publication in *The Link* and whbaptist.org.

Please also submit a short paragraph summarizing meetings for publication in *The Link*.

Reunited and it feels so good



Clara White, center, received the right hand of fellowship for the second time on Sunday, Jan. 11. Clara, dubbed "Rev. Clara" by Pastor Jill, belonged to the church before her seminary days "a long time ago." She is pictured here with outgoing Moderator Betty Heisig, left, and Pastor Jill Bradway.

WHBC kids do make a difference

They change lives with purchase of livestock for poor and hungry



Isaiah:
Ace Scripture reader

Be the change you want to see — Mahatma Ghandi

This Advent Season, the youth of WHBC were the change we want to see. They collected \$200 for Heifer Project and used it to purchase livestock that will strengthen poor farmers for years. Working with Leanna Shirley, they decided to spend \$120 to buy a sheep, \$60 to buy three rabbits and \$20 to buy a flock of chicks that will become many flocks producing eggs and meat.

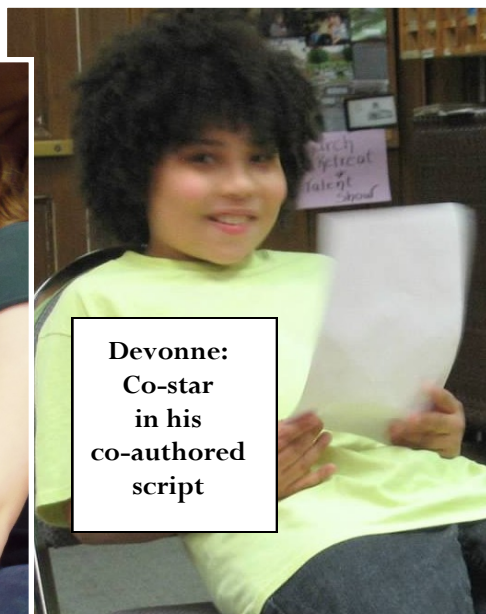


Darnell:
Diamonded-studded hugger

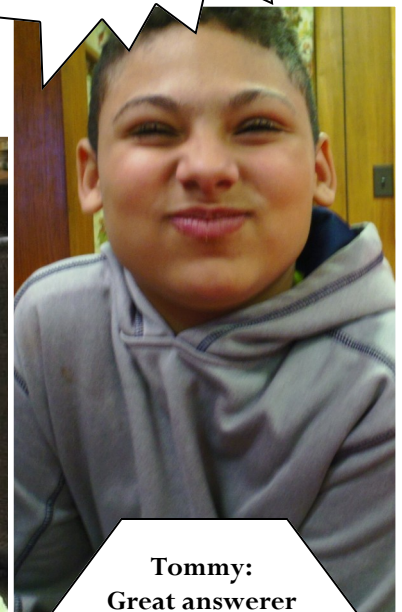
Founded in 1944, Heifer Project International is a sustainable development organization that works to end hunger and poverty and protect the earth. Through livestock, Heifer has helped 15.5 million families in more than 125 countries improve their quality of life and move toward greater self-reliance. Heifer helps build strong communities because each project participant passes on the gift of their animal's first female offspring, training in its care and in sustainable agriculture, to another family in need.



Jasmine:
Nursery worker and bell ringer



Devonne:
Co-star in his co-authored script



Tommy:
Great answerer during children's moments

SOMETHING WEIGHING YOU DOWN?



Maybe the 2Bs at WHBC are 4U

Better Bodies is a new weight loss/healthy eating group organizing at West Henrietta Baptist Church under the leadership of Marti Faiola.

An expert Weight Watchers leader, Marti will use her skills to help participants overcome one of the toughest challenges facing 21st Century American Christians: Achieving

bodies that reflect the life, beauty, wholeness and power Christ has given us.

The first meeting will be held at **10:30 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 31**. The group will then choose an agreeable meeting time.

Skinny, chubby or in between, all are welcome to join to grow in their Christian walk.

...I URGE YOU...IN VIEW OF GOD'S MERCY, TO OFFER YOUR BODIES AS LIVING SACRIFICES, HOLY AND PLEASING TO GOD — THIS IS YOUR SPIRITUAL ACT OF WORSHIP.

ROMANS 12:1
(NIV)

Now we're really cooking... SO LET'S PARTY

OK, OK, we got the message. Given the dearth of recipes submitted for the bicentennial cookbook, we find we're not so interested in another church cookbook. Been there. Done that. Grandma was a great cook, but who eats that way anymore? Furthermore, who cooks that way?

It seems a great church tradition has faltered in our bicentennial year, but we mourn not. Another idea has bubbled to the top and sits on the front burner.

Our focus has shifted from the yummys to slender tummies, anyway, so instead of collecting recipes from dear crumbling books or cherished, dusty boxes, we are going to collaborate in collecting our own knowledge of health and spiritual life. A book will result, but that book will be our gift to each other and to the future, not a reminder of past eating habits we are unable to resuscitate.

Our collaboration will begin with an Idea Party to be held at **1:30 p.m.**



Saturday, Feb. 7, at Bonnie Healy's house. Everyone is welcome. It's agenda is ambitious. At this party, we will brainstorm and confess our secret health and housekeeping tips and favorite verses of comfort and guidance. By party's end, we will have written down enough gems for Ginny Chase to compile our recipes for living in the 21st century.

Just to give a few possible examples to start the brainstorming: This book will tell which essential oil cures a head-

ache, what castor oil can do for your hair, why a person with hemorrhoids never need have bags under her eyes, what coconut oil does for the teeth, what cure for a burning mouth also cures hiccups, which Psalms best ease the nerves. Who wouldn't want to read such a book?

Now, we are still interested in certain recipes. To multi-task our bicentennial efforts, we are asking each guest to bring a plate (not a huge tray, please) of a favorite, preferably easy, hors d'oeuvres. Please also bring the recipe on a 3x5 card. (It's OK if the recipe card says, "One frozen box of coconut shrimp warmed according to box directions and served with cocktail sauce. We like them too.") This "testing table" will help in the selection of hors d'oeuvres to serve at the open house to be held at the church before the Sunday, Sept. 20 bicentennial banquet booked at the RIT Inn and Conference Center.

The Christmas we shared



Gifts



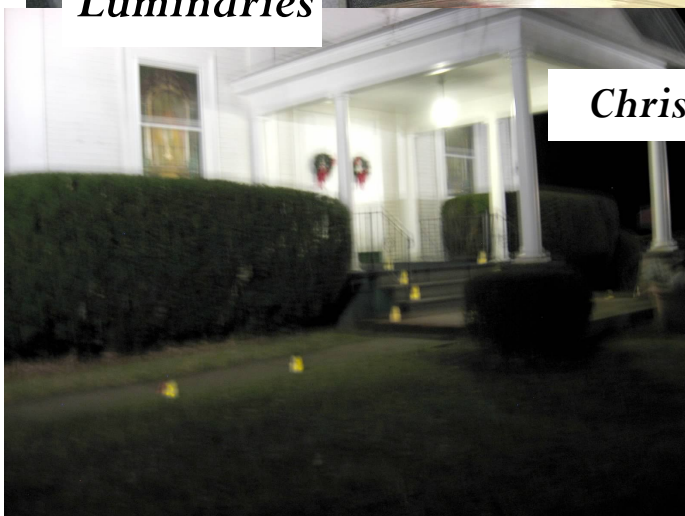
Charades



Luminaries



Busgarassy Gruff skit



Christmas Eve





February's Prayer Calendar

Pastor Jill Bradway asks that we start a prayer calendar for persons listed in our directory. Please do pray.

Feb. 1	Darnell Ashford	Young Christian attending a Rochester high school
Feb. 2	Greg Babcock	Non-attender with chronic illness
Feb. 3	Mimi Babcock	Greg's wife, the late Carol Love's younger sister
Feb. 4	Valerie Bandemer	Busy, willing young deacon
Feb. 5	Bev Bixby	Former organist adjusting to retirement and husband's health
Feb. 6	Charles Bixby	Former WHBC pastor who faithfully attends despite failing health
Feb. 7	Linda Becker	Non-attender with serious health issues
Feb. 8	Ray Bliss	Virginia's husband with health concerns
Feb. 9	Virginia Bliss	Longtime faithful member now in her 90s
Feb. 10	Jill Bradway	Interim pastor leading congregation at challenging time
Feb. 11	Flo Braker	Jim's talented wife and a chronic pain sufferer
Feb. 12	Jim Braker	Retired ABCUSA pastor who still shepherds us
Feb. 13	Devonne Buskey	Sixth-grader battling kidney disease and trying to keep up in school
Feb. 14	Isaiah Buskey	Seventh-grader working hard at sports and academics
Feb. 15	Tommy Carpenter	Boy belonging to Debbie Covill's warm "non-biological" family
Feb. 16	Colin Chase	High school junior and athlete who just got his driver's license
Feb. 17	David Chase	Returning reliable trustee
Feb. 18	Ginny Chase	BOCE member dealing with mother-in-law's terminal cancer
Feb. 19	Nancy Chase	David's wife
Feb. 20	Debbie Covill	Grandma who mothers both her own and other people's children
Feb. 21	Lee Covill	Debbie's husband preparing for retirement
Feb. 22	Stephanie Dexter	African American member who attends infrequently but joyfully
Feb. 23	Joe Dispenze	Non-attender
Feb. 24	Patricia Dispenza	Non-attender
Feb. 25	Carol DuBois	Jim and Connie Harper's daughter
Feb. 26	Annette Eney	BOCE member and current snowbird
Feb. 27	Stan Eney	Former trustee and current snowbird
Feb. 28	Judy Evra	Longtime attender

More to come next month

Annual Meeting Held

A pot luck dinner and annual meeting were held Sunday, Jan. 18. Highlights of the meeting included the passage of an \$86,751 budget, election of officers, a unanimous vote to increase Pastor Jill's hours, and a vote to refer the question of hiring a part-time administrative assistant to the church cabinet. Retiring moderator Betty Heisig received a standing ovation for her 15 years of faithful leadership.

The meeting followed an old-fashioned roll call on Saturday. Dan Scurlock spoke on church history, and members shared as Sharon Scurlock called the roll.



Who's who in 2015...

Moderator: Joanne Wilbert

Clerk: Barbara Miller

Assistant Clerk: Sharon Scurlock

Treasurer: Steve Wenthe

Assistant Treasurer: Dan Scurlock

Financial Secretary: Laurel Heisig

Asst. Financial Sec'y: Daniel Gress

Sunshine: Barbara Zima

Link Editor: Bonnie Healy

Ushers/greeters: Undetermined

Fairport Baptist Home Delegates:

Betty Trim and
Kathleen Serianni

Ordination Council Delegates:

Rev. Jill Bradway and
Lynne Stewart

ABC/RGR Delegates:

Leanna Shirley and
Lynne Stewart

ABC/RGR Women:

Della Van Doren and
Christine Statts

RHIL Representative: Lynne Stewart

Greater Rochester Community of Churches: Lynne Stewart

Historian: Bonnie Healy

Board of Deacons

Kathleen Gosnell (2016)
Marti Faiola (2016)
Valerie Bandemer (2017)
Connie Voss-Necaster (2017)
Leanna Shirley (2018)
Clara White (2018)

Board of Trustees

John Miller (2016)
Don VanDoren (2016)
Daniel Gress (2017)
Anne Greco (2017)
Steve Wenthe (2018)
David Chase (2018)

Board of Christian Education

Valerie Fogarassy (2016)
Roberta Miller (2016)
Annette Enedy (2017)
Virginia Chase (2017)
Michael Shirley (2018)
Gretchen Young (2018)

Council

vs.

Cabinet

The Advisory Council includes elected church officers and chairs of boards and standing committees who review all important matters before presentation to the church.

The Cabinet includes pastor, moderator, and the three board chairs. At the call of pastor or moderator, it serves as the pastor's advisory committee.

CENTENNIAL WAS A TWO-DAY CELEBRATION

The following was written by Church Clerk E.E. Sherman in Volume 2 of the Church Roll and Record Book 1.

Centennial Services Feb. 24-25, 1915

The West Henrietta Baptist Church having been organized Feb. 25, 1815 celebrated its One Hundredth Anniversary on Feb. 24-25, 1915 in the church. Wednesday evening services were held consisting of organ prelude, doxology, invocation by Rev. Alex Mackenzie, hymn by congregation, responsive reading, anthem by choir, scripture by Rev. D.B. MacQueen of Batavia and prayer followed by singing. Address by Rev. Harry Greensmith, a former pastor. Closed by singing and the benediction.

Anniversary Day Feb. 15, 1915

Afternoon service at Two-Thirty. Praise service led by Rev. D.B. MacQueen. Prayer and scripture reading followed by a very inspiring and helpful address by Rev. J.C. MacFarlane of Newark, N.Y., a former pastor.

Followed by a testimonial meeting which was a splendid meeting and very much enjoyed by those present. Many of the former members of the church were present and enjoyed the meeting.

At Six o'clock, The Ladies' Aid served supper to nearly three hundred in the Sunday School Room.

At Seven Thirty, the meeting was called to order by Rev. J.C.

WEST HENRIETTA BAPTIST

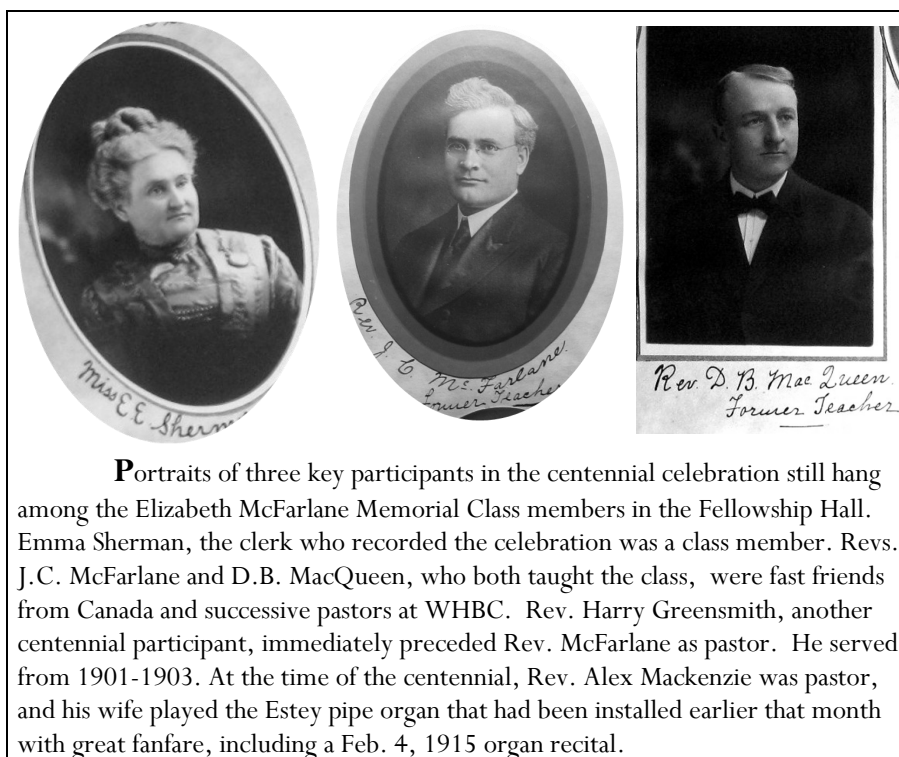
5660 West Henrietta Road
West Henrietta, NY 14586

Phone: 585-334-0497
E-mail: church@whbaptist.org

Scripture for Feb. 25, 1915 came from Paul's letter to the Philippians

...THIS ONE THING I DO, FORGETTING THOSE THINGS WHICH ARE BEHIND, AND REACHING FORTH UNTO THOSE THINGS WHICH ARE BEFORE, I PRESS TOWARD THE MARK FOR THE PRIZE OF THE HIGH CALLING OF GOD IN CHRIST JESUS.

PHILIPPIANS 3:13B-14 (KJV)



Portraits of three key participants in the centennial celebration still hang among the Elizabeth McFarlane Memorial Class members in the Fellowship Hall. Emma Sherman, the clerk who recorded the celebration was a class member. Revs. J.C. MacFarlane and D.B. MacQueen, who both taught the class, were fast friends from Canada and successive pastors at WHBC. Rev. Harry Greensmith, another centennial participant, immediately preceded Rev. MacFarlane as pastor. He served from 1901-1903. At the time of the centennial, Rev. Alex Mackenzie was pastor, and his wife played the Estey pipe organ that had been installed earlier that month with great fanfare, including a Feb. 4, 1915 organ recital.

MacFarlane. Opened by singing "Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus," "Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me," "In the Hour of Trial." Organ prelude Mrs. Alex Mackenzie organist, followed by congregational singing, "Crown Him Lord of All." Scripture reading by Rev. J.C. MacFarlane, Philippians 3rd. Vocal solo, Rev. Donald B. MacQueen, "I've found a Friend to Guide Me, So May You." Prayer by Rev. H. Greensmith of Hilton. Anthem by choir—"Praise Ye the Father," Announcements and offering. Vocal solo Arlene Markham. Reading of church history by Rev. Alex. Mackenzie which was very interesting, followed by singing "Faith of Our Fathers." An address by

Rev. Donald B. MacQueen of Batavia, his subject was "Moral Leadership."

He said there was a Revival of Religion abroad in the land. Church should lead in Moral Leadership. Church should take the lead because of power, more strength, history and organization. The church is the purest democracy on earth. Man needs physical, intellectual and spiritual help. The church must sacrifice and serve. Men should render service instead of hold services.

Meeting was closed by singing and benediction.

E.E. Sherman, Clerk