

# WEST HENRIETTA BAPTIST CHURCH

1815-2017

## THE LINK



"Living with Violence in our Society"

March 2018

*Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ (Phil. 1:2)*

I have been thinking about how violent we have become as a nation when bullying in schools has become a drop in the bucket compared to frequent occurrences of mass shootings in our schools, colleges, night club, movie theater, military base, mall, workplaces, concert in the park, workers' end of year luncheon, and church services. Sadly, we have reached the point where we can't send a loved one to school, to church, to work, a social gathering, shopping at the mall or the movies without concern that they could get gunned down by a deranged person with guns. My conclusion is that gun violence in America has reached critical proportions.

The root of violence reaches deep into society, tapping into such complex conditions as poverty, family failures, hopelessness, and mental illness. Each episode of gun violence triggers "knee-jerk" calls for legislation and quick fixes. Our politics is so divisive that it seems like our state or federal legislators might not be able to provide our nation with meaningful legislations to protect us from senseless gun violence. As a clinical person, I am particularly concerned that owing to the frequency of school shootings, children may experience anxiety, fear, a sense of personal risk, and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). If a good number of our students already have learning problems, what will be the findings the next time a major relevant study is undertaken. The well-being of our children in school is under siege. It seems like, as a nation, we have lost or are about to lose the moral high ground to scold other nations about their violent behavior.

As Christians, we must address the issue of violence in our society. It's not too late for Christians to make a difference by our word and deed. We live in a fallen world (Genesis 3), and even those who love and serve the Lord Jesus Christ are not exempt from violence against us. Many of the victims of gun violence in the aforementioned incidents were Christians. We live by faith and we know that God watches over us and keeps us safe (Psalm 46:1), but we must do the following: Talk honestly about our own feelings with family members regarding the rise of violence. Discuss safety procedures that are in place at our child's school, our workplace and church. Create family safety plans for places and events we visit.

Pray for people we know who have destructive ambitions or tendencies.

Pray for those who have been desensitized to the value of life and the loss of life.

Pray for law enforcement, criminal justice, mental health professionals, and educators.

Pray for actual and potential victims.

Pray for actual and potential aggressors that God might change their plan and intent.

Finally, we need to understand that violence is the result of a pathology of the soul. Perpetrators of violence, especially at the current magnitude are morally bankrupt and spiritually sick. They fail to recognize or accept that violence against human beings is wrong because human beings are made in the image and likeness of God. There is a worth, a value, a dignity to every human life, and that makes selfish and wanton violence a moral offense.

Let the Bible speak: In the Sermon on the Mount Jesus said, "**You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, do not murder, and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment.**"

Your Pastor, Rev. Dr. Peter E. Grinion

# Worship Servants

## March 4

**Invocation:** Leanna Shirley  
**Scripture:** Mike Shirley  
**Offering:** Leanna Shirley  
**Kids' Moment:** Clara White  
**Greeter:** Joanne Wilbert  
**Nursery:** BOCE  
**Fellowship:** Mary Bailey

## March 11

**Invocation:** Val Bandemer  
**Scripture:** Dan Scurlock  
**Offering:** Valerie Bandemer  
**Kids' Moment:** Leanna Shirley  
**Greeter:** Joyce Shutts  
**Nursery:** BOCE  
**Fellowship:** Val Bandemere

## March 18

**Invocation:** Betty Heisig  
**Scripture:** Joyce Shutts  
**Offering:** Betty Heisig  
**Kids' Moment:** TBD  
**Greeter:** Pat Floyd  
**Nursery:** BOCE  
**Fellowship:** Leanna Shirley

## March 25

**Invocation:** Leanna Shirley  
**Scripture:** Don Peoples  
**Offering:** Leanna Shirley  
**Kids' Moment:** Children w/ Palms  
**Greeter:** Pat Floyd  
**Nursery:** BOCE  
**Fellowship:** Brunch - Board of Christian Ed.

## Poetry for Lent



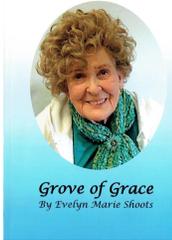
### Poetry of Prayer

Sweet poems of praise  
 Are birthed through life's days;  
 Not one should remain  
 Unspoken in pain.

Let them press their way,  
 Soul strength as we pray  
 Through tangles of times  
 To calm our heart climes.

Let God bear that care,  
 His verses show where  
 He shelters His own  
 With love ever known.

His Words offer strength  
 To reach any length;  
 Where His arm extends,  
 God's grace never ends.



*All the earth shall worship  
 you and sing praises to you.  
 Psalm 66:4*  
 --Evy Shoots, Poet  
 \*\*\*\*\*

*Marshall was one of our poets. He and  
 Evy Shoots shared a kinship in their use  
 of the English language.*

### The Greatest Love

The greatest love is from above.  
 He loved us first and gave us thirst  
 To embrace one another.  
 We are all reaching



To obtain His teaching.  
 Working together can  
 be fun,  
 Coming together will  
 make us one.  
 --Marshall Smith,  
 1996



And attend!!

### Men's Breakfast

7 a.m. Tuesdays at Peppermints

### Prayer Meeting

9 a.m. Saturdays

### Bible Study

10 a.m. Wednesdays

### Choir Practice

6 p.m. Wednesdays

### Deacons' Meeting

10 a.m. March 9

### Advisory Council

March 19

### LINK submissions due:

March 18



March 7 - Connie Necaster  
Edo Frenkel

March 13 - Brayden Morse

March 14 - Dan Gress

March 17 - David Chase

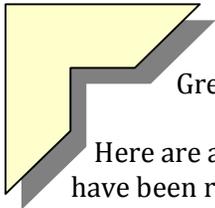
March 20 - Mark Heintz, Sr.

March 21 - Rebecca & Ryan Hirschman

March 23 - Dorothy Greer

March 25 - Dylan Pires

March 26 - Sharon Gress



**Moderator's Corner:**  
Greetings from your Moderator,

Here are a few thoughts and ideas that have been rumbling around in my mind.

During the Advisory Council in September 2017, there was a discussion about the revised Constitution and a Procedural Manual to go with it. During the Annual Meeting on January 21, 2018, we voted to adopt the constitution. There was a discussion about the Procedural Manual and the urgency for each Board and committee to be working on their specific Procedural Manual. Hopefully at the next Pastor's Cabinet we will discuss a time line for finishing this task.

A vital part of life within any church is improving communications between the Congregation, Boards, and Pastor. To implement this, there is now a two month calendar posted on the bulletin board outside the Office. It is essential that articles and information for The Link and Sunday's Bulletin are submitted in a timely fashion to the person(s) who will be publishing it. Due dates for both The Link and the Bulletin will be posted on the Church Calendar.

I am looking forward to working with Pastor, the Boards and the Church. Please do not hesitate to speak with me about any ideas you may have.

Yours in Christ's Work,

*Clara*



All events and activities requiring extensive use of the Fire Dept. Parking Lot require prior notification to them.

**MISSIONS**

The Love Offering collected for the January and February Noisy Offerings were the sum of \$64.48 and \$74.75. During the month of March we will take up the collection for the America For Christ Offering. This Offering is one of our four main Offerings and envelopes will be provided each Sunday in the bulletin to provide you with the opportunity to contribute. The Mission Committee prayerfully seeks to raise at least \$500.00. We can only achieve this goal with your continued support. Each Sunday a presentation will be made by one of the members of the mission committee about the purpose of this mission. Our March Noisy Offering will go to the Coffee Connection local Organization. Our next mission committee meeting is scheduled on March 15, 2018 at 1:00 pm, here at the church. Thank you again for your continued support and generosity.

--Mission Committee

**Meet the Deacons for 2018**



Pastor Grinion installed the Deacons and our Moderator on Sunday, Feb. 4. They are: (L to R) Anne Greco, Clara White (Moderator), Betty Heisig, Valerie Bandemer, Pastor, Leanna Shirley. Absent: Marti Spaker

In an attempt to keep everyone informed of all details of our Church activities & other events of interest, we will post them on the bulletin board near the nursery stairs. The Board will also contain information & the latest news for our Missions activities.



# Upcoming Events to take notice of:

## Special Services:

- March 18 - Women's Sunday
- March 25 - Palm Sunday; Brunch provided by Board of Christian Ed.
- Maundy Thurs. 7 pm; Light meal prior.
- April 1 - Easter



Order your Easter plants for the Easter Sunday Service between now and Palm Sunday. See Anne Greco to place your order. She will need to know who the flowers are in memory or honor of.

*Saturday,  
March 10th*

Change your clocks when you retire Sat. night. Also, change your smoke & carbon monoxide detector batteries.



Time to Spring Ahead

It's time for some fun & fellowship!!



Join us to paint this cute Spring canvas picture, Sat., March 10, 10:30 am to approx. 12:30 pm in our Fellowship Hall. Cindy Ashley accompanied by her husband, Jim will instruct us.

Cost is \$15, and she provides all supplies. Sign up in the Fellowship Hall or by contacting Joyce Shutts, 334-0114, email: rjshutts@gmail.com.

## Craft & Vendor Fair

SATURDAY

10 - 3



Along with the Craft & Vendor Sale and Raffle, we will be having a Baked Food Sale. We are looking for donations. Here are some suggestions Evie got from a friend who has put on some successful Baked Food Sales.

Peanut Butter Balls (aka Buckeyes) - Bag of 6 \$1.25 or 12 \$2.50

Chocolate Chip Cookies - Bag of 6 \$1.25 or 12 \$2.50

Big Cookies - Individually Wrapped \$.50 each

Quick Breads - Individually Wrapped \$1.75 each

Whole Pies - Individually Wrapped \$9.00 for 9" pie

Cake Slices - Individually Wrapped \$1.50

Brownies - Wrapped 6 \$2.00 or 12 \$4.00

There are many other items that could be made. Don't forget this will be St Patrick's Day so you could get creative and make green treats.

Please have everything wrapped and priced before bringing to church. Items should be dropped off Friday, 3/16, or early Saturday, 3/17.

Please contact Joanne Wilbert if you have any questions.

## Farm to Table Brunch at Coffee Connection Greenhouse Cafe

2271 East Main Street. Rochester

Sat., Apr. 14 at 11 a.m.



You are invited to join us for a community gathering with friends, food, and local farmers. Enjoy live music while sharing great food with great friends. For questions contact:

(585) 270-8603, kathrynpoweski@gmail.com. RSVP here.



### ABC/RGR News

Two committees are at work in the American Baptist Churches/Rochester Genesee Region. An eight-member search committee of clergy and lay members was announced at the Jan. 28 delegates meeting held at the Baptist Temple. The committee will seek a successor for Regional Executive Minister Rev. Alan Newton, who plans to retire in September. Rev. Newton said he is busy organizing information for the next executive director. He and his wife Gail plan to move to Rhode Island.

The second committee is seeking a name to replace Rochester Genesee Region as RGR no longer represents a geographic area. Churches across the country are joining as local organizations oppose their stands on issues.

“Soul freedom is becoming a precious commodity in Baptist groups,” Rev. Newton said at the meeting. Churches in New Jersey and West Virginia are currently seeking membership. A motion to re-name the region “Respect, Godly Justice, Reconciliation Network of Transforming American Baptists (RGR Network) failed at the September meeting.

Via Skype, Rev. James Crosby, a pastor of the region’s newest member, Crescent Hill Baptist Church, in Louisville, Ky., reported on their ongoing efforts to improve relations between black and white churches. Church leaders lunch together regularly, invite speakers, and read and discuss relevant books. They also strive to introduce white shoppers to black businesses and support Simmons College, a black college undergoing revitalization.

The next delegates meeting will be held at 3:30 p.m. Sunday, June 3 at a yet to be determined church. Leanna Shirley and Bonnie Healy serve as delegates for WHBC.

### Search Committee Asks For Input

The American Baptist Churches of Rochester-Genesee Region is in the process of searching for a new Executive Minister. The search committee responsible for recommending a candidate to our region board would like to receive your input regarding this position. Please take a few moments to complete the survey at the following link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ABCROCSC>.

Feel free to contact the search committee at [RGRExecSearch@gmail.com](mailto:RGRExecSearch@gmail.com).



Crop Walk will be **Sunday, May 6**. Start thinking about forming a team and getting sponsors. More details soon.



Pastor’s messages are admonishing us to realize that our blessings and salvation are given freely through God’s Grace. He is encouraging us to reflect prayerfully on this fact throughout the Lenten season.

*God’s Grace Rewrites Our Lives.....*

Remember:

*Grace is God’s Riches at Christ’s Expense.....*

