

THE LINK

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November 2014

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

It's November, and the year is quickly coming to a conclusion but not before we pause to thank God for the blessings of the year. While that is great, and I'm looking forward to spending time with my family and friends, the truth is that as Christians we ought to live lives that are brimming over with thankfulness each and every day. God has been so good!

I love this prayer by Howard Thurman. May it's words resonate with you.

Today, I make my Sacrament
of Thanksgiving.
I begin with the simple things of my days:
Fresh air to breathe,
Cool water to drink,
The taste of food,
The protection of houses and clothes,
The comforts of home.
For all these I make an act of Thanksgiving
this day!

I bring to mind all the warmth of humankind
that I have Known:
My mother's arms,
The strength of my father
The playmates of my childhood,
The wonderful stories brought to me from
the lives
Of many who talked of days gone by when
fairies and giants and all kinds of magic held
sway;
The tears I have shed, the tears I have

seen;

The excitement of laughter and the twinkle
in the eye with its reminder that life is good.
For all these I make an act of Thanksgiving
this day.

I finger one by one the messages of hope
that awaited me at the crossroads:

The smile of approval from those who held
in their hands the reins of my security;
The tightening of the grip in a simple
handshake when I feared the step before
me in darkness;

The whisper in my heart when the
temptation was fiercest and the claims of
appetite were not to be denied;
The crucial word said, the simple sentence
from an open page when my decision hung
in the balance.

For all these I make an act of Thanksgiving
this day.

I pass before me the main springs of my
heritage:

The fruits of labors of countless generations
who lived before me,

Without whom my own life would have no
meaning;

The seers who saw visions and dreamed
dreams;

The prophets who sensed a truth greater
than the mind could grasp

And whose words would only find fulfillment
In the years which they would never
see;

The workers whose sweat has watered
the trees,

(continued on page 2)

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The leaves of which are for the healing of the nations;
The pilgrims who set their sails for lands beyond all horizons,
Whose courage made paths into new worlds and far off places;
The saviors whose blood was shed with a recklessness that only a dream could inspire and God could command.
For all this I make an act of Thanksgiving this day.

I linger over the meaning of my own life and the commitment to which I give the loyalty of my heart and mind:
The little purposes in which I have shared my loves, my desires, my gifts;
The restlessness which bottoms all I do with its stark insistence that I have never done my best, I have never dared to reach for the highest;
The big hope that never quite deserts me, that I and my kind will study war no more, that love and tenderness and all inner graces of Almighty affection will cover the life of the children of God as the waters cover the sea.

All these and more than mind can think and heart can feel, I make as my sacrament of Thanksgiving to Thee,
Our Father, in humbleness of mind and simplicity of heart.

WHATS HAPPENING IN NOVEMBER at the West Henrietta Baptist Church!

CHOIR PRACTICE:

Wednesdays at 7 pm..

MEN'S BREAKFAST:

Every Tuesday at 7 am at the Peppermint.

MORNING PRAYER:

Every Saturday morning at 9 am.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

For December will be November 16.

From the Trustees: The proposal to purchase the land for a parking lot has been abandoned due to the high price.

Thanks, Steve



We're making history!

Recognize anyone in the picture below? Chances are you will. As the church's 2015 bicentennial nears, *The Link* is printing a photo each month that includes one or more individuals who still attend at least occasionally. Enjoy identifying friends and family – and maybe yourself!

Last month's mystery photo featured Loretta Hirschman. The little girls with her were Elizabeth Hirschman, Loretta and Don's granddaughter, and Ashley Dubois, Connie and Jim Harper's granddaughter. Both girls are now 19-year-old college students.



Keep guessing!
Our bicentennial is coming!

November BIRTHDAYS:

1st: Darnel Ashford
2nd: Susan Reesen
5th: Leanna Shirley
6th: Betty Heisig
7th: Janet Estey
8th: Lonnie Schultz
10th: Laurie Wenthe
13th: Maurice Stewart
20th: Harold Page
Rick Pires
24th: Debbie Covill
26th: Michael Musham
Ian Gress

Faith In The World Lecture

Diana Butler Bass—Christianity after Religion

November 2 & 3, 2014

Sponsored by St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Episcopal
Diocese of Rochester, Asbury First United Methodist
Church. For more information call 271-2240 or
email at www.stpaulsec.org.

November VOLUNTEERS:

GREETERS:

Barb Miller and/or Barb Zima

FELLOWSHIP HOST:

2nd: Kathy Juby
9th: Lynne Stewart
16th: Joyce Shutts & Anne Greco
23rd: Dan & Sharon Scurlock
30th: Leanna Shirley

CHILDREN'S MOMENT:

For the month of Nov. Pastor Jill

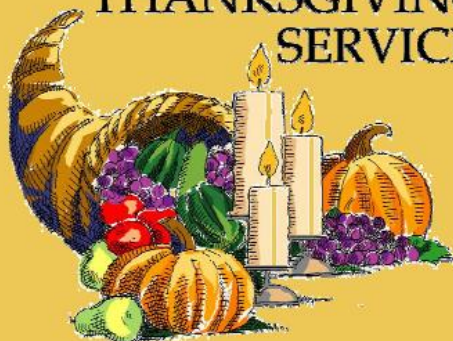
SCRIPTURE READER:

2nd: Joyce Shutts
9th: Connie Voss
16th: Valerie Bandemer
23rd: Don Peoples
30th: Steve Wenthe

NURSERY HELPER:

Debbie Covill

**COMMUNITY
INTERFAITH
THANKSGIVING
SERVICE**



**November 25, 2014
7:00 PM**

**West Henrietta Baptist Church
5660 West Henrietta Road**

2014 WHBC Retreat:

West Henrietta Baptist Church launched its yearlong bicentennial celebration at the annual WHBC Retreat held Saturday, October 11 at the church and Maplewood Cemetery. Participants heard the stories of Elizabeth Eby McFarlane and Mellicent McNall Fenner MacFarlane uncovered by Historian Bonnie Healy. Wives of the Rev. J.C. M(a)cFarlane, an early 20th century WHBC pastor, these women's lives are keys to the

church's past. her singing of "Grace". Morning in a sanctuary photo collection one lunched on Deacons Kathy

In the Maplewood of Elizabeth As a bagpiper

the grave of Mellicent MacFarlane whose roots run to the church's first pastor and its first deacon. She was also a McNall, a Fanner, a Remington and a Martin, all early church families. A rousing medley performance by Mary's Gang ended the day as the birthday cake was cut. Anyone who has not received a copy of Mystic Sweet

Communion, the magazine which explores who the members of the Elizabeth McFarlane Memorial Class were, should see Bonnie. Be sure to take a look at the photos, artifacts and maps still on display.



Evie Scott added inspiration with "On Eagle's Wings" and "Amazing participants also searched for history scavenger hunt and enjoyed the assembled by Roberta Miller. Every-scrumptious soups made by Juby and Mary Bailey. afternoon, those able traveled to Cemetery to find the marked graves McFarlane Memorial Class members. played, a brief memorial was held at



As the next event in our bicentennial celebration, the West Henrietta Baptist Church will host this year's Community Interfaith Thanksgiving Service at 7 p.m., Tuesday, November 25. Our interim pastor, the Rev. Dr. Jill Bradway, will be giving the message, with people of other faiths participating as well. Please bring a donation of nonperishable food and/or monetary offering for Rush Henrietta Area Food Terminal. This service is a wonderful way to connect with our neighbors in gratitude to God and unity of spirit.