



AT FIRST BAPTIST

DAN MCDOWELL
Senior Pastor

SUE NEELY VANBRUNT
Minister of Music

ROBERT FAULDS
Organist

PENNY SOROKES
Church Secretary

MILLARD COOK
Asst. Pastor Senior/Adult Ministries

BRUCE LAVERTY
Director of Family Ministries

MICKI ELLIS
Audio Visual Specialist

BONNIE KETTLE
Financial Secretary

JERRY NUTT
Custodian



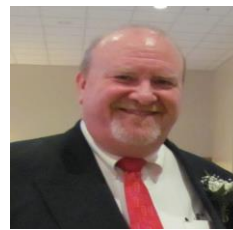
RALLY DAY ON 15TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SEPTEMBER 11 TRAGEDIES

We invite all of our members to wear red, white and blue as we rally for a new school year on 9/11. The theme for this year is "I Pledge Allegiance to the Lamb" and the scripture "Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom." (2 Corinthians 3:17) It will be a day filled with patriotic music, the presentation of Bibles to our third graders, recognition of our wonderful teachers and presentations by each of our teachers about the classes they will hold this fall. Our fellowship time will be special as well. Don't miss it!



PUT YOUR HEART INTO IT!

This will be the theme of the 2017 Stewardship Campaign which will be launched in September. Our Boards of Missions, Christian Education, Trustees and Diaconate will share their visions for the coming year in September and in October our music, radio room and fellowship committees will also share their goals for the coming year. Commitment Sunday (the deadline to turn in your commitment cards) will be on November 6.



PASTOR DAN AND TERRI ANNOUNCE THEIR DEPARTURE

On August 7 Pastor Dan informed our congregation that he and Terri will be moving to Long Island where Dan will assume the pastorate of the Huntington Baptist Church.

Pastor Dan and Terri came to our church in June of 2002 after a nine year pastorate at the First Baptist Church of Medina. Their three daughters (Laura, Deborah and Sarah) all graduated from Olean High School and are now college graduates. Laura is a St. Bonaventure alum!

In our congregation the pastor has devoted significant effort to the revitalization of our youth and children's programs (through the recruitment of Joy Doerr, Rob Grimes and Bruce Laverty), the merging and blending of our worship time, the move to an FM station for our radio broadcast and the creation of our bell choir. He also sings periodically in the choir and teaches newcomer classes.

Pastor Dan is known throughout the community for the religion articles he writes for the Times Herald on the Friday edition of the church page as well as his leadership in organizations like the Greater Olean Association of Churches, Genesis House and the Rotary Club. He has also been active as a sports official and in the Barbershop Harmony Societies in Olean and Salamanca.

A farewell celebration will be hosted by the church for the Pastor and his family following worship on Sunday, October 16. Mark it on your calendar now!

**“WAIT AND SEE!
FINDING PEACE IN GOD’S
PAUSES AND PLANS”
2-DAY WOMEN’S CONFERENCE
AT FBC – OCTOBER 7 & 8!!**

The FBC Women’s Ministry Team is excited to offer a 2-day conference at First Baptist Church! You may have enjoyed Women of Faith events or maybe you haven’t been able to participate in those trips for some reason....but now you can get a taste of those experiences with an opportunity right here in your own church!!



Author and national speaker Wendy Pope from Proverbs 31 Ministries will be returning as our featured speaker for this event with her theme based on her new book “Wait and See : Finding Peace in God’s Pauses and Plans.” Every

woman struggles with times of waiting – for a spouse, a child, a job. Wendy guides readers to focus on the Person of their faith rather than the object of their wait drawing on the story of King David who was anointed king nearly twenty years before he took his throne. Wendy will speak on Friday evening and again on Saturday afternoon. Workshops on Saturday morning and afternoon will be led by area women who are involved in ministry: Rev. Megan Cusumano (Unequally Yoked Relationships); Corinne Hooten (It’s Worth the Wait); Sue Neely VanBrunt (From David’s Pen -To Where I’ve Been Psalms and songs to keep you calm); Rev. Marie Meeks; Rev. Kim Rossi; Rev. Paris Maine; Deb Wuethrich (Christian Writing); Penny Sorokes (Essential Oils of the Bible). Ticket pricing includes both days of the event, worship, workshops, Fellowship Time on Friday evening and Saturday morning as well as a soup/sandwich lunch Saturday afternoon. The Early Bird ticket price is just \$45 with the price increasing to \$55 after September 25. Tickets will be available in the church office beginning September 1.

Mark your calendars! Invite your Friends and Family!! You don’t want to miss this exciting opportunity to learn and grow in the Lord!

**“WALKING BY FAITH – LESSONS
LEARNED IN THE DARK”**

A fall Bible Study beginning
Monday, September 12 @ 6:30 p.m.

“Walking By Faith” is written by Jennifer Rothschild who, at the age of fifteen, confronted two unshakable realities: Blindness is inevitable ... and God is enough. Now this popular author, speaker, and recording artist offers poignant lessons that illuminate a path to freedom and fulfillment. With warmth, humor, and insight, Jennifer shares the guiding principles she walks by and contrasts the evidences of walking by faith and walking by sight while encouraging participants to take risks and give God control. This 7-week study will be led by Jodie Martin and meet in the Board Room at FBC.

The Wednesday Afternoon Ladies Bible Study will resume on September 14 @ 1:30 p.m. with a study of 2 Timothy. All are welcome!!



**SEPTEMBER BOARD MEETING
SCHEDULE**

Tuesday, September 6 @ 5:30 pm -

Board of Christian Missions

Monday, September 12 @ 5:30 pm- Board of
Christian Education

Tuesday, September 13 @ 6:30 pm – Diaconate
@ 7 pm – Trustees

Tuesday, Sept. 27 @ 10:30 am – Advisory Council



Our church financial secretary, Bonnie Kettle, will issue giving statements this month for the third quarter of 2016. If we miss you somehow, please contact Bonnie and she will get you your summary for you.

Is your pledge up-to-date?

The Family of God



We extend our Love and Sympathy to Ken Wallace and his family on the loss of June Wallace on July 29. June was a member her at FBC for 39 years and her memorial service was held here on August 4; and to the family and friends of Mildred Montgomery who went Home to be with her Lord on July 31. "Millie" was a long time member here at OFBC before her move to Lansdale PA to be closer to her family. Her memorial service was held on August 3.



We are accepting pictures for our Military Wall of Honor. If someone in your family or circle of friends is currently serving in a branch of the US Military, please bring a picture (up to 5x7) and address for the bulletin board in the lobby so that we can put a name with a face to offer a more personal prayer for safety and send a card or note of thanks to them. It is important that we don't forget those who are allowing us the freedoms that we enjoy every day.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY thru THURSDAY

9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Morning Devotions approximately 9:15 – 10:00

(Note: There is no secretarial staff on Monday. The pastoral staff's schedule can sometimes be unpredictable due to visitations, emergencies, etc.

If you stop by on Monday and find "nobody home", we ask for your patience and understanding. We will do our best to be here during posted office hours.)

Sunday Worship: 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School/Life Recovery: 11:00 a.m.

PHONE: 372-5151

FAX: 372-5152

EMAIL: oleanfbc@verizon.net

WEBSITE: oleanfirstbaptist.com

FACEBOOK: [oleanfirstbaptist](https://www.facebook.com/oleanfirstbaptist)

THANK YOU'S

Thanks to all the staff and members who called, sent cards or said a prayer .I am so glad I had so much support while in and after I got back home from the hospital, thanks for everything. Dave Anderson

Heart-felt thanks to our church family for your prayers, calls, visits, and many cards during Larry's recent hospital stay and recuperation. Thanks to our pastors and so many faithful brothers and sisters in Christ. Your kindness will always be remembered. In Christian Love, Larry & Beverly Firth

Thank you for your recent generous donation which enables Genesis House to continue ministering to temporarily homeless people. Linore Lounsbury

Thank you very much for choosing me as this year's scholarship recipient. I am very honored to have been selected. The church community and family at Olean First Baptist have helped me through some of my toughest times, and they have also provided some of my greatest memories. I am very grateful for this scholarship to assist in funding my college expenses and help me begin the path to my career. After my graduation from Olean High School, I will be attending St. Bonaventure University to major in Biology and minor in Spanish. This scholarship will help me achieve my goals and in my endeavor of fulfilling my dream of becoming a dentist. I will be sure to let you know about my progress in college! Thank you for this amazing gift, and I am very honored to have received this scholarship. Proverbs 18:15 – The heart of the prudent getteth knowledge; and the ear of the wise seeketh knowledge." Nicholas Sanders

We here at Community Action would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your kind and generous donation of office space for the Co-Facilitation of domestic violence groups. Catt. Co. Community Action is an anti-poverty organization dedicated to helping people and changing lives. As you may or may not know, all of the donations that we receive are used to ease the conditions of poverty and violence and give new opportunities to low income people in Cattaraugus and Allegany Counties. Thank you for your kind consideration. Angel Fisher, Executive Assistant

Dear friends from Olean. Greetings from Baja Mexico! We have recently received word of your \$100 donation that has been credited to our support at International Ministries. Thank you very much. In Christ, Tim Long

A SONG FOR THE SEASON

Starting this fall, I would like to challenge our congregation to learn some new songs! Over the year, we will be introduced to six new *Songs for the Season*. Each will be presented a few times by our Senior Choir as well as other soloists, instrumentalists or musical groups like the In One A-Chord bells, 3:16 praise & worship team or Kid's Choir. By the close of the season, the congregation will be able to raise their voices in a new song of faith. There are a multitude of wonderful songs that we have loved for years and so many newer ones that we are learning to love the more that we sing them. It will be great to add a few more to our services! We'll start the year with a *Song for the Stewardship Season*, "Where Your Treasure Is" by Marty Haugen. This is a wonderful reflection of the scriptural text from Luke 12:22-34 where Jesus is teaching His disciples about giving and not worrying. I think you will leave worship services singing the chorus: *Where your treasure is, there your heart shall be
All that you possess shall never set you free
Seek the things that last, come and learn of me.
Where your treasure is – your heart shall be.*

'Sing'cerly, Sue Neely VanBrunt, Minister of Music

A LOOK BACK AT SUMMER MUSIC 2016

We hope you enjoyed the worship music this summer. Many of you enjoyed a summer full of hymn favorites in worship. If you did not hear one that you especially like, drop a note in the office and we'll try to use it in an upcoming service. A big 'thank you' goes to those who prepared music for our summer services this year: *Jack Ellis, Penny & Jim Sorokes, Casey DeGroff, Matt Sage, Yvonne Perry Clark, John Ross, Karen & Cara Goodwin, Mike Schultz, the Olean Enchanted Mountain Barbershop Chorus, and the Hootens*. We also appreciate *Grace Thurston, Penny Sorokes, and Bob Faulds* and for their weekly management of the piano and organ. And while we're saying thanks, we include our audio technicians *Dave Anderson, Paul Geise, and Darlene Selph*. What a great job they always do in providing our sound and radio coverage of the music!

Sue Neely VanBrunt and the Music Committee

MUSICAL MINISTRIES RETURN TO FALL SCHEDULE

As you read this, you may still be enjoying a relaxing summer day! But, it won't be long until the leaves begin to turn and we return to our fall schedules! At Olean FBC, September means the return of the *Senior Choir* and the *In One A'Chord Handbell Choir* to worship. If you like music, enjoy good fellowship and want to have some fun, won't you consider being part of these choirs this year?

The Senior Choir meets every Thursday at 7:00 pm to prepare their worship music. Singers aged 12-92, who can sing melody as well as those who can read parts are invited to join. You are welcome to sit through a rehearsal and see if it's for you! Come to the first fall rehearsal on **Thursday Sept 8th** and give it a try!

If you enjoy the bell selections and can find your way through a piece of music, the Bell Choir might be the avenue for you. Talk with director, Bob Faulds this week about the possibility of ringing or at least seeing what it's all about during one of their **7 pm Wednesday** rehearsals.

The only requirement for participation in these ministries is your willingness to share the musical talent God has given you!



Join the choir!

POSITIONS OPEN: Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass – no others need apply.

PHYSICAL QUALIFICATIONS: Must be able to carry light musical notes part way across the church. Must have sufficient vision to see director twenty feet away.

EXPERIENCE: No application accepted from persons who have not sung, hummed or whistled in the tub or shower.

WAGES: Satisfaction and joy in God's service.

FRINGE BENEFITS: Social Security – we promise you the security of social fellowship with other members of the choir.

HOURS: Sunday mornings with occasional opportunities for overtime (at above mentioned wages).

VACATION: Missed rehearsals and church services are primarily a matter of conscience and ability to return the glares and pointed remarks of the director and other choir members.

RETIREMENT: No particular age, but it is generally determined by prayer, printed notes getting too small, notes too high, church too hot (or cold), or organist unable to play the notes you sing.

REHEARSALS: Once a week except in the summer.

APPLY: By attending next rehearsal.

Cristiano Rizzotto
on Facebook 



The Law That Solves Problems

“Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy

neighbour, and hate thine enemy. But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;” (Mat. 4:43-44)

“There ought to be a law.” How many times have you said that? When we get hurt we think somebody should have protected us. But the problem we face is that man's laws cannot change man's heart and all too often has little to no effect on man's actions.

However God's law takes a completely different approach. Gal. 5:4 says “For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.” You desire to see a group changed, change an individual. To change an individual you change a heart. To change a heart you must introduce them to the loving heart of the Lord Jesus Christ. II Cor. 5:17 “Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature; old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”

It is only by the law of love that we will be able to solve the problems in our relationships, our homes, our church, our community, our country, and our world. So let us look at who we are love.

I. Love The Lord

This is the first command. Luke 10:27 “Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind...” If we fail here we have no hope of being able to love the other three groups people that God will command us to love.

To love God with all that we are and all that we have is an all-consuming love that will consume each hour of each day. Not just one hour of one day per week. Rather we recognize the place of grace that we dwell in and can only respond in love and worship.

II. Love The Brethren

“By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples if ye have love one to another” (John 13:35) Do you want the world to know that you are truly a Christian? Then show love to your brothers and sister in Christ. This involves far more than a causal greeting on Sunday morning. You must desire to interact with their lives. To get to know them well enough to see a need and then do what you can to fill

that need. Giving yourself away to help another brother.

Each month we sing “Blest be the tie that binds”. That is to be our mutual love for Christ and our love for one another.

III. Love Thy Neighbor

Mat. 19:19 “Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.” Mat. 7:12 “Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men do to you, do ye even so to them...” This is an area that most of have far more head knowledge than heart knowledge. We know that whoever God brings into our presence is our neighbor. We know that we are to treat these people with love. Yet in our daily practice, all too often, our actions show something completely different. That bad driver, that unresponsive waiter, or that annoying sales person they are not my neighbor. God could not expect me to show them love, could He? Again we know the answer now we must ask Him for the power and grace to do it.

IV. Love Your Enemies

Mat. 5:44 “But I say unto you Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you and persecute you.”

In this one verse the Lord covers all types of enemies. Those that attack or wound us with the tongue. They curse you. Then there are those that attack the emotions with hate. And lastly He shows us those that physically attack for they despitefully use you and persecute you.

Yet no matter which type of enemy it may be we must ask ourselves “what is to be my response?” We are to love them. We are to be a blessing to them. We are to pray for them. Without a doubt the most powerful weapon we have is prayer.

By our acts of love toward our enemies God will bring conviction upon them. We are told that in both Prov. 25:21-22 and Rom. 12:20 which says “Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head.” This is not saying do good so they will be judged rather that by our good deeds they shall feel the conviction of a judgment that they deserve. And hopefully from that they will seek repentance.

So as we see a world that is so filled with hate may we go forth and be the light of love to this dark world.

~Pastor Millard



FROM THE PASTOR'S HEART....

It was the summer of 2002. 9/11 was still fresh on our minds and the war on terror was barely under way. My family was still wrapping things up in Medina, organizing a yard sale and packing up for the move. Terri and the kids would not arrive here permanently until August, when we were able to move into the first home we ever owned..... Thanks to you.

Our next home will (like in Medina and the other congregations I served) be a parsonage and I am happy for that since houses on Long Island are way above my pay grade. But I have loved the experience of home ownership and I am hopeful (whenever our house on 508 W. Sullivan Street sells) that the equity we have built there during our 14 years in Olean will prove to be a blessing as we start to look toward retirement in ten years or so.

It has been an interesting journey for us (meaning you, me and my family) over these years. Bringing Joy Doerr, Rob Grimes and the Lavertys on staff (not to mention Micki), getting our website and Facebook pages in shape, finding our way through the lawsuit filed against us in 2003, the celebration of our 175th anniversary as a congregation, the merging and blending of our worship services, the forming and reforming of our praise teams, the rewriting of our bylaws and downsizing of our boards, the crèche controversy in our community and so much more.

I never really supervised a staff until I came to Olean, and what a staff I inherited! How could anyone fail with people like Sandy Schultz and then Penny Sorokes managing our office, Sue Neely Van Brunt and Bob Faulds in charge of our music program, Jerry Nutt keeping our property in order and the people I mentioned in the paragraph above ministering to our young people as well as Pastor Alex Freer working in a variety of different areas. It has been a true privilege to partner with each and every one of them.

When I think back over the ground we have covered together since 2002 it is almost overwhelming. We could talk about the bus ministry that we successfully launched and eventually lost 5 years later due to electrical and structural issues in the vehicle, the Vacation Bible School programs we used to cohost with St Mary of the Angels and St. Stephens parishes, and then launched on our own... the "Trunk or Treat" program Rob launched here and the Harvest Party that Bruce began which took that ministry to a whole new level as well as the other outreach programs Bruce and Carole have launched...

And of course there were all those cantatas during Christmas and Easter seasons. Decorating for Christmas is always special... this church is always so festive looking during the Christmas season and during Holy Week!

These are the warm memories I will take with me as I start my new adventure on Long Island. Those and the wonderful friendships we have enjoyed with so many of you over these years. We have shared meals together both at church and in our homes. I have been there with many of you when you laid loved ones to rest and for several others when you or your children were baptized or united in marriage. I can't tell you what an honor it is to be a part of sacred moments like those. Thank you for inviting me.

I recently had the opportunity to attend a seminar on interim ministry. It gave me insights into the opportunities and the challenges that you have ahead of you as a congregation. The coming year (and possibly more) will be a critical time of transition for this congregation and for those who step forward to lead the church through the search for a new pastor. In the absence of a pastor some churches find themselves in destructive power struggles. I don't expect that to be the case here but there is never a time more important than when you are between pastors to pull together and encourage one another.

By the time this transition is over many of you will find yourself yearning for closure and the stability of a new permanent presence in your pulpit. The search committee will feel the pressure of that yearning while at the same time recognizing that the wrong choice can be disastrous. The scriptures tell us to "wait upon the Lord" which can be a very uncomfortable thing to do. But it is vital. The only place you will want to be is firmly within the will of the Lord.

Every church in town wants to grow larger and younger and we are no exception but in a community that is losing population, gaining new churches almost every year and struggling economically, not to mention fighting a cultural trend among young families to avoid church, the challenge of reaching younger people has never been greater. It will take concerted efforts to stretch the church in ways it is rarely willing to stretch in order to communicate to those folks in a way that inspires and motivates them.

Our leadership will have to welcome new people – people who do not belong to families that have been in this church for generations – into leadership with them. That will not be easy but with God's help you can do it. Pray for one another. Pray for the forming of the search committee. And I will pray for all of you!

~Pastor Dan

THREE BRIDGES GOSPEL TRIO- BE SURE TO CATCH THEM NEXT TIME!

When Three Bridges Gospel Trio stopped by Olean First Baptist on Saturday, Aug. 6, the performance was even better than the first time. Founder Elliott McCoy, tenor Jeremie Hudson and lead, Shannon Smith personally greeted audience members as they arrived, eager to make new friends in Olean. How often do concert-goers see that?

The trio showcased their talents and strong voices that blend perfectly, with harmonies that build and soar like a glider on the wind. They also had the crowd clapping and tapping their feet with songs they have made hits, such as “A Little Song Coming On,” and one recorded by Kenny Rogers, “Love Lifted Me.”

I got chills as they sang, “Satan and Grandma,” reminding us of the spiritual battle we face as Christians and how we must remain faithful on the battlefield. Another goose-bump moment was the musicians’ all-out rendition of “To God Be the Glory,” when their voices climb to a God praising crescendo. It was like riding a glass elevator to the top of a skyscraper. You can enjoy the view all the way up, but, wow! When you reach the top, it was well worth the ride.

Some of us were especially appreciative of how this group recognized local and community members, especially those in the military.



They dedicated “Unknown Soldier” to all who served, and especially World War II veteran and Purple Heart holder, our own Mel Cunningham and Captain Glenn Lemaster, in the US Army ROTC program at St. Bonaventure.

It was inspiring to everyone when Elliott had veterans in the audience stand for recognition.

The group also zeroed in on one of our own young members, Leah O’Dell, calling her “Sweet Leah,” and to her pleasure, dedicated, “Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego” to her and Lemaster’s wife and friend, both from Germany.



What’s most pronounced about Three Bridges is not only their genuine affection for those they sing for and desire to meet and interact with, but the way they minister to the audience, sharing the gospel message and their own personal witness between songs. They shared a hopeful message: God has a plan for your life and a good plan for your next step. And they boldly shared the Good News of Jesus Christ.

“We love your church and we love your pastor,” they told the audience, which included several first-time visitors as well as OFBC folks. This concert was impromptu, but the Three Bridges members seem to enjoy Olean and meeting all the people here. I hope they will come back and give us an opportunity to spread the word to more in the community so others can enjoy this fabulous group next time.

—Review by Deb Wuethrich

Life is an Echo

A man and his young son were walking on a mountain trail when the boy tripped on a rock and twisted his ankle. “Ahhhhh!” he screamed in pain.

“Ahhhhh!” came a distant reply from the mountain. The startled boy shouted back, “Who are you?”

“Who are you?” replied the voice from the mountain.

This made him angry, so he shouted, “You’re a big coward!”

“You’re a big coward!” was the reply.

The puzzled boy looked at his father and asked, “Dad, what’s going on?”

“Son,” the father replied. “Listen to this.” He then shouted, “I admire you!”

“I admire you!” answered the dad.

“You are wonderful!” shouted the dad.

And the voice replied, “You are wonderful!”

The father turned to his son and explained, “People call that an echo, but it’s really life. Life always gives back to you what you give to it. Life is a mirror of all your actions. If you want to be loved, give love. If you want respect, give respect. If you want people to be patient with you, be patient with them. This rule of nature applies to every part of our lives.”



A PEEK INTO A LIFE OF 'GRACE'

By Deb Wuethrich

Long-time OFBC member Grace Thurston remembers how she and her husband, Gene, helped cut a dedication ribbon in the current church. "We also helped turn the upstairs into a children's department, painting and such," said Grace. "It's been a long, fun time here."

Grace celebrates 60 years at OFBC, coming first to the old stone church in 1956. She was hired as Director of Christian Education in July and took on the role in September. A native of Elizabeth, Pa., near Pittsburgh, Grace had already lived an exciting Christian life before arrival. She'd graduated from the Baptist Institute for Christian Schools in Philadelphia which trained young adults specifically for Christian education.

After college, she was part of the American Baptist Youth intern program, a federal program with Forrest Fordham, sharing the gospel in different churches across the country. That work included evangelism experiences in the inner city of Philadelphia.

Grace later worked at Children's Hospital in Pittsburgh as assistant to the purchasing agent and got to see the wonders of the Salk vaccine at work. "Some children were very sick with polio and some died, but it was a miracle to see others who could walk fine after treatment," she said.

Through earlier contacts, Grace was led to OFBC where she said church members always made sure she was well taken care of while she lived on Fulton Street. "Mel Cunningham's wife's mother, Mrs. Silloway, and her Silver Cross class and the older women in the Burden Bearer's group always made sure I had what I needed," Grace said. She was working hard, putting 400 people through Sunday School each week, and had also joined the choir. Grace also played piano. It was in choir that she met

Gene Thurston, who had come to Olean from Oneida, NY, following a job at Line Material. They found music was a common interest, as Gene was also a barbershopper for many years.

"He was one of five brothers who served in World War II. Gene was in the Air Force, a tail gunner on B-54s," said Grace. "They were all in open action and they all came back. They were healthy boys; their mother fed them Ovaltine and meat and potatoes." At one point, someone at church told Gene he should take her to the train station in Bradford for her visits back home. After one trip to a Christian Education conference in Green Lake, Wisconsin, Gene picked her up. "He said he missed me the whole time I was gone," she said. They dated, then were married in 1958.

Both were very active at OFBC, with board and music involvement. Grace said Gene reached his 50 years with the choir before she did. "Gene had to be 15 minutes early for choir to make sure the right music was laid out and get his robe on," she said. They both viewed music as a way to commune with the Lord. Grace even developed a music program for the YMCA. The couple raised three children, Kevin, Barbara and Janice. There are now several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

One of Grace's biggest challenges was losing Gene to cancer in 2007. It comforts her that funds given in his memory were the basis of the OFBC Bells Choir after Bob Faulds approached her with the idea. "I was delighted," she said. "I wanted to be a part of it and still play three small bells."

Grace is a cancer survivor herself, the disease causing leg neuropathy from the radiation, requiring a cane. It might have slowed her down, but she's still on a mission. She keeps up with choir and volunteers with a sewing group at Olean General Hospital, crafting Boo Boo Bears and fleece throws. She invites others to join her in various activities. She's also a prayer warrior on the OFBC prayer chain.

"Most of my life, I've just done things the Lord wanted me to do and that's where I wanted to be," Grace said. "I don't do anything for personal acclaim. I do things to encourage others and share the gospel."



FBC WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Upcoming Events

♥ October 7-8: Wait
and See! 2-Day

Conference with Guest Speaker Wendy Pope
from Proverbs 31 Ministries

♥ December 10: Annual Ladies Christmas Party

MEMBERSHIP STATUS

According to our Church By-Laws (see below), there are three classifications of membership at Olean First Baptist: Active, Associate, Non-Voting. The Church Clerk is responsible for notifying the Diaconate annually on the status of members who do not qualify as “Active Members”. The Diaconate then contacts those members (via letter) to make them aware that they may be placed on the “Non-Voting Member” list. Caregivers do make an effort to contact these folks and try to return them to full membership status; however we don’t always have current addresses and contact information which can make it difficult (if not impossible) to reach them. If you or someone in your family have not been attending worship regularly, aren’t involved in serving the church, and aren’t giving to our local and wider mission effort, then you may receive a letter from the Diaconate in the next few months. This DOES NOT mean that you are no longer a member at Olean First Baptist Church. Until you ask to have your membership moved or terminated, you will ALWAYS be a member here....you will simply be moved from an Active Member status to a Non-Voting Member status. You can reactivate your Active Membership status at ANY TIME by simply fulfilling the requirements of an Active Member and notifying the Diaconate that you would like to be returned to full membership.

MEMBERSHIP (Olean First Baptist By-Laws)

B. STATUS

1. Active Member

An Active Member is one who is faithful in living out the spirit of the church covenant, regularly attending church services and activities (time), serving according to one’s talent and ability (talent), and contributing to its local and wider mission (treasure).

2. Associate Members

If there are those who do not wish to transfer membership from their home church, they may participate as non-voting members of FBC/Olean for an indeterminate period of time by coming forward during worship at the time of invitation, and subsequent recommendation of the Diaconate and the Pastor.

3. Non-Voting Member

A Non-Voting Member is one who fails to lend support through time, talent or treasure for an extended period (at least one year), and will by action of and notification by the Diaconate be placed on a Non-

Voting List. The Diaconate will make an active effort to return the Non-Voting member to full fellowship, which may occur at any time on recommendation of the Diaconate.

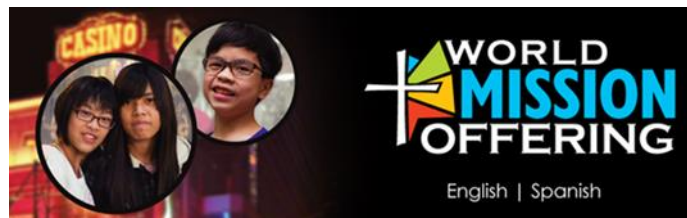
CREATIVE WAYS TO GIVE!!

Would you like to give more to missions? Do you use a credit card? Perhaps you are unaware of an American Baptist Credit Card through Christian Community Credit Union that gives to missions. Each time you use the credit card, the fee the business must pay goes to the CC Credit Union. This fee is used for missions. You can also earn CU rewards to spend on the items offered in stores.

Some of the missions of CCCU are:

- Building new churches
- Digging wells in areas in need of clean water
- Sending medical supplies to missions
- Responding to natural disasters
- Scholarships for students
- Helping keep Mission Aviation Service able to transport missionaries and supplies from Florida to Central America
- Loaning money to churches hit by disasters

In 2015 this ministry gave \$240,000 to missions and ministries from the many people using this ABC card. If you would like to be a part of this program, look over the flyer on the mission bulletin board (located near the HeBrews Café). Pastor Dan and Terri use this card as does Rita Wymer. We are pleased with the service they give.



The World Mission Offering will be collected during October. During the month we will gain deeper understanding of International Ministries and how others are blessed through our giving to WMO.

Please give prayerful consideration to your contribution to this special offering.

MISSIONARY NEWS FROM TIM AND PATTI LONG

**SUMMER 2016 --
BAJA, MEXICO**

Dear friends from Olean,

We will let the pictures do the talking this summer as we celebrate the end of yet another academic year here in our northwest corner of Mexico.

On June 18th, we had a grand time with eight graduates from the Seminary's four year program and another six who received certificates of study.

The day before was "Cuentacuentos" Day at the Monte Horeb School where the kids celebrated children's books.



"Cuentacuentos" Day at the Monte Horeb School where some of Patti's students acted out "Se venden gorras" (Caps for Sale)

Because of your prayers and financial support we are able to continue our cross-border mission work.

Muchas Gracias!!

Tim has taken to writing short posts on his Facebook page on a regular basis. He will be glad to "friend" anyone interested in following some of our ministry more closely. Facebook name: Tim Long



2016 Graduates -- Seminario Teológico Bautista 'Dios con Nosotros'

Missionaries Tim and Patti Long
Tlong16168@aol.com; pattilongs@aol.com



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Randy Samuelson
- 2 Shelly Woods
- 4 Jodie Martin
Rachel Green
- 5 Sharyn Garey Hornburg
Elise Katzenstein
- 8 Dave Anderson
Matthew Buckley
Paul Geise
- 9 Jackson Green
- 13 June Turek
- 14 Hannah Collins
- 19 Larry Selph I
- 20 Louise Croft
- 22 Sheila Faulds
Ashley Putt
- 23 Cheyenne Peck
- 24 Molly DiCapua
- 25 Lisa Hennig
- 27 Sheila Milton
- 28 Donna Buckley
- 29 Linda Kennemuth



We wait for the blessed hope –
the glorious appearing of our great
God and Savior, Jesus Christ

Titus 2:13, NIV



Please let us know in the office
when you plan to fly south for
the winter months so that you'll
continue to receive your church
mailings and we won't incur fees
for returned mail.



SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 4 Paul & Jamie Geise
- 12 Jim & Yvonne Perry Clark
- 16 Paul & Lindsay Cummings

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**INFORMATION AND ARTICLES FOR THE  
 OCTOBER EDITION OF  
 AT FIRST BAPTIST  
 ARE DUE TO THE  
 CHURCH OFFICE BY  
 THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15.  
 THE NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE  
 WILL MEET AT 1 PM  
 TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27  
 TO PREPARE THE NEWSLETTER  
 FOR MAILING**



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