

First Baptist Church
17 South Street Cuba, New York 14727
585-968-1531



Good News Letter

Palm Sunday - Sunday, April 14
Maundy Thursday - Thursday, April 18
Good Friday - Friday, April 19
Easter - Sunday, April 21



Holy Week

Rev. Lynn A. Sullivan, Sr. Pastor
rev.lynn.sullivan@gmail.com

Rev. Alexandra Freer, Associate Pastor
Revfreer@cubafirstbaptist.org

Maghen Beck, Secretary
sec@wny.twcbc.com

<http://cubafirstbaptist.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/cubafirstbaptist/>

<https://faithlife.com/cubafirstbaptistchurch/activity>

I have a song in my head that won't go away – "Monday, Monday" by the Mamas and the Papas. Do you know it? It goes like this:

"Monday, Monday, so good to me

Monday mornin', it was all I hoped it would be

Oh Monday mornin', Monday mornin' couldn't guarantee

That Monday evenin' you would still be here with me . . ."

There are about five other verses, but I will not bore you. As I was singing it around the house (on Monday, of course!) I was brought up short. I suddenly realized I was actually singing "Maundy, maundy . . ." Well, that's funny, I thought. Maybe not!

You see, we have been journeying through the season of Lent and Holy Week will soon be upon us. I am looking forward to 6:00 p.m. on Thursday evening, April 16, when we will gather for a light meal, a meaningful program (still in the planning stage!) and communion. What is Maundy Thursday, you ask?

The word *maundy* is derived from the Latin word, *mandatum* which means commandment. On Maundy Thursday Christians commemorate Jesus' last supper with his disciples. This was the time that Jesus taught his followers about humility in foot washing and gave them a new commandment to love one another (John 13). This was the night that Jesus was betrayed and arrested. Maundy Thursday is all about Jesus preparing his disciples for his leaving.

No wonder I was singing. The lyrics to "Monday, Monday" are all about a loved one's leaving. In a way, I had already connected with the important biblical story that our Maundy Thursday service will commemorate.

As I think about this I realize that it is so important to connect with the gospel story again and again, to remember how much it cost our Lord to suffer and die for us, to receive his all-surpassing love and to model his great humility and love for one another.

"Maundy, maundy, so good to me . . ."

May God richly bless you as you complete your Lenten journey and celebrate the fullness of God's love through the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ this Easter!

In Christ's love,

Pastor Lynn

Grief Support Group

The April meeting of the group will be held on **Wednesday, April 3 at 1:00 p.m.** in the church lounge. Of course we're hoping for good weather, but should the day present itself with bad conditions, please contact Claudia Little before heading to church.



There are times in everyone's life when an event or loss begins to impact their lives. It may be a recent happening, or one from months or years ago. Grief is the reaction your body, heart and mind experience when things change, and it becomes tough to function, as you want. This group is an excellent source of support and offers an opportunity to share (or not). Many times, knowing that others are experiencing similar feelings and symptoms is a comfort and the first step back to the new you. Confidentiality is a high priority, and attendees are encouraged to relax in the comfort of others who may be able to relate to your situation.

Gatherings last about an hour and all are welcome (from within the church AND the community). Should you have an interest in attending, but not available during the day...an evening group will be considered.

From the Sunday School Superintendent and Youth Leader - Bill Beck

We are excited to share some great opportunities for your young people to fellowship and grow in their faith. Please mark your calendars for these exciting events. As the events get closer check your bulletin and online for more details.

- The **Bunk with Beasts** overnight trip to Seneca Park Zoo is coming Saturday, April 13. Remember that we will need to leave Cuba at 3:00 p.m. to check into the zoo on time. Children only need bring overnight supplies for one day, please no air mattresses (the zoo will not allow us to bring them in). Dinner and breakfast will be provided during our stay. Youth may bring a camera to share pictures and money for the gift shop. We hope to arrive back to Cuba on Sunday, April 14 between 12 noon - 1:00 p.m. This trip is open to all youth in grades 3 - 12. The cost for this trip is \$30 per child and \$32 for adults, assistance is available upon request. If you have missed the registration deadline give me a call and we may be able to squeeze you in. For any questions or comments contact Bill Beck 585.307.4792 or email zarofnascar@yahoo.com.
- In May, we will hit the river again for a **canoe and camping trip**. We will be visiting Bryan Schoeffler on the weekend of May 17 - 19 for a day of canoeing and fun. This trip is open to youth in grades 6 - 12 and the cost is \$25 per child. We can accommodate families who wish to attend, please contact Bill Beck for details. **Registration deadline for this trip is Sunday, May 5**, you can find all paperwork in the court or on our website. Canoe space is limited so don't delay.
- Friday through Sunday, August 2 - 4, **Camp JYC** will celebrate 36 years of ministry with our annual camping retreat. Open for any youth completing grades 2 - 6 and limited opportunities for teen leaders this weekend retreat has become a foundation of the children's ministry at First Baptist. We look forward to another great year of camping, songs, games, food, and growing in our faith. This year's theme will be "Under Construction" as we learn about how Jesus is building us up to do great things.

For all trips and events, please contact me, 585-307-4792 or zarofnascar@yahoo.com, with any questions or concerns about eligibility and funding. Thank you and we look forward to seeing you soon!

Kids in the Kitchen



The next session will be on **Friday, May 10, 3:15 - 5:00 p.m.** There will be an "international flair"! We'll be making a few dishes from our friends across the world. Don't miss this one. Children from our church AND the community in grades 3 - 12 are welcome. Younger kids are also welcome with an adult partner.

Any adults willing to help? Please sign up in the court, or contact Claudia Little (585-968-3061). Helpers would need to arrive at church by 2:30 p.m. for instructions.

This has been so much fun – spread the word!

The American Red Cross blood drive is in GREAT need of volunteer hosts/hostesses at the Cuba First Baptist church donation site. Volunteers work in teams of two for 2 hour shifts (12:30 - 2:30, 2:30 - 4:30, and 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.) once every eight weeks. Training is provided. It's an easy way to help with an important cause. Next blood drive will be Thursday, May 9. Please call Ann Gross (585-968-2773 or 585-610-7464) to volunteer. Thank you.



American Baptist Women's Ministries News



March started off a busy time for the women of CFB. Between the Rummage Rooms, Table Ministry, White Cross and just the week-to-week responsibilities we accept.....it's a hard working group. In April, we'll be providing breakfast for the men, facilitating a celebration of life meal, participating in Lenten activities and of course....soon after you receive this – we'll be having the Spring Market. All of these events require not just financial support, but also physical, mental and spiritual support. Regardless of where you are in your life journey, we encourage everyone to be involved or to get involved in something here at Cuba First Baptist. There is nothing better than the feeling you get when you help others, and support the Christian life of your church.

The rummage rooms report brisk sales but they are always looking for people to work on Friday or Saturday mornings, or to help sort on Tuesdays. Please contact Melody Hayward or Claudia Little for more information. There is also a huge need for all types, sizes and gender gently used clothing. These may be dropped off anytime at the south street door. Any donation is welcome, with the exception of electronics. Time to clean out those closets, dressers and cupboards! We have so many in the community in need, please share.

We will have at least 4 attending the ABWM of NYS convention. Please keep them in prayer as they travel and experience a wonderful opportunity with sisters in Christ from all across NYS in Syracuse (April 26 - 28).

The group voted to continue to support the "School Break Bags" that will offer extra foods for families struggling with food needs during the school recesses such as Thanksgiving, Christmas, mid-winter and Easter breaks. Anyone interested in contributing to this project could do so by giving cash or check to LaVerna Stohr (checks payable to: Cuba First Baptist Church. Memo – ABWM school break bags). A huge thank you to all of those who have already helped make this possible.

Tired of leftovers? Why not take home some containers from the kitchen and use up those surpluses? Just fill the container (freezable items only please), label, date and return to the church kitchen. These are frozen and delivered to church family who may need a little boost or are experiencing a rough patch in their lives. The Table Ministry continues to grow and reach out, but if you are aware of those who might benefit from this program... please contact Claudia Little, Mary Searle or any member of the ABWM.

The next meeting of the ABWM will be on Sunday, May 5 at 12:15 p.m. We'll be enjoying a lunch and brief meeting. Kids are welcome!

Spring Market - Saturday, April 6 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

NEEDED for the Not Your Every Day Bake Sale: pies, cakes, cookies, heat and eat entrees, candies, preserves, breads, soups and anything else that you love to make. Items should be at the church by 8:30 a.m. on the 6th or may be dropped on Friday, April 5 between 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Anyone who might be willing to work at the event could sign up in the church court.





ABWM SPRING MARKET

SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Plans are in full swing for the Spring Market, Craft and Vendor show. Again this year there will be a full gambit of crafts and distributors. Each year, we add a new vendor who offers something new and this year will be no exception.

We will also be having the Soup and Side Luncheon from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. Take-outs will be available. At only \$5 per meal, how can you resist?

The Not Your Everyday Bake Sale will run from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m., offering all kinds of baked goods, candies, heat and eat entrees, preserves and more. Be sure to save some time to visit before you leave! (Great way to take home dinner or a treat)

Anyone interested in furnishing items for the lunch or the bake sale should see Claudia Little. All donations are gratefully appreciated. Monies earned from this event go towards allowing women to attend the NYS convention, and towards the support of the church.



Betty Francis Memorial Scholarship

The family of Elizabeth (Betty) Edwards Francis established a scholarship in her memory to continue Betty's passion for teaching and her involvement in the church.

Priority will be given to a **high school senior** who is an active, baptized member of Cuba First Baptist Church planning to pursue a career in teaching or ministry and has at least a "C" average or 2.0 GPA.



The Poelma Service Scholarship

(Established by Delores and Jim Cross in honor of Larry and Linda Poelma)

- a graduating Cuba-Rushford Central School Senior from First Baptist Church who has provided Service to our Church and Congregation.
-
- An individual, regardless of age, from the First Baptist Church family studying at a college, taking an on-line course or beginning the educational process by attending G.E.D. classes.
- The Scholarship Committee may recommend someone in the community who has provided service to First Baptist Church, Cuba Library, Cuba Memorial Hospital or the Village of Cuba, providing all Scholarship Committee members agree.

All applications will be available from the Office in March and are due Wednesday, May 1.

HOLY WEEK



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday - Sunday, April 14 - 8:30 a.m. Men & Boy's Breakfast (RSVP at 585-968-1531, or sec@wny.twcbc.com, or in the Court), 10:00 a.m. Worship

Maundy Thursday - Thursday, April 18 - 6:00 p.m. Program, meal, and Communion

Good Friday - Friday, April 19 - 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Prayer Vigil in the Lounge

Easter - Sunday, April 21 - 10:00 Easter Worship Service (no Jr. Church or small groups)



Holy Week Community Witness Cross Project
2019 Significance of Holy Week Colors



Purple Palm Sun. through Maundy Thurs.

Palm Sunday Luke 19:28 – 40

- Jesus arrives in Jerusalem

Maundy Thursday Luke 22:7 – 8, 14 – 20

- The Last Supper

Traditionally purple, representing both royalty and penitence, is used during Advent and Lent. The 40 days of Lent recall Jesus' own 40 days of fasting and prayer at the beginning of His ministry. Lent is a season of reflection preparing our lives for the great news of the Gospel, delivered anew each Easter.

Black Good Friday and Saturday (Easter Eve)

Good Friday (when Jesus was crucified) and Easter Eve (when Jesus lay in the tomb before the resurrection) are days of special significance when we recall Jesus' death and burial. You can read the account of Jesus' crucifixion in all four gospels.

White Easter Sunday

We are Easter people whose lives are transformed through Jesus by means of the Holy Spirit. The story of Jesus' resurrection is told in all four gospels. Matthew 28, Mark 16, Luke 24, and John 20.

2019 Dates / Directions for Your Holy Week Community Witness Cross

1. Place the cross in front of your house on **Palm Sunday (April 14)**
 - a. Choose the location where it will best witness to your neighborhood and community.
 - b. Gently hammer the 4-foot section into the ground and tighten the 2-foot section with the wing nut.
 - c. **On Palm Sunday (April 14)**, drape the purple cloth on the cross signifying the coming of Easter.
 - d. **On Good Friday (April 19)** place the black cloth on the cross signifying the death of Christ on the cross. This should remain through Saturday evening.
 - e. **VERY EARLY Easter Sunday morning (April 21)**, place the white cloth on the cross signifying the resurrection of Christ.
2. Pray for the message of the cross to be a witness to your neighbors and your community.
3. Take your cross down the day after Easter and store it for use next year.

If you are in need of a cross and/or fabric, they will be available in the Court beginning March 31 for a \$5 donation.

Musings of a Church Mouse

It's hard to believe that spring is here (kind of). I can smell different smells outside, but I pretty much stay in. It seems safer that way, plus there are soooo many things to see right in my wonderful church.

One Wednesday, I was surprised to find people in the fellowship hall. I understand it was Ash Wednesday (the beginning of lent – I learned that last year). They were very quiet as they read quietly and prayed. They also had little cups of ashes that they could make a cross on their hand or wrist. I saw a couple people found this to be very moving. After the quiet time, they had a meal of soup and bread together. A simple meal, probably like what the people who followed Jesus might have had. It was wonderful. I really hope they do it again next year.

The choir is back rehearsing on Thursday nights! I missed the laughter and foolishness (don't tell Nettie I said that)...they have such a great time and they seem to be one big family. I'm glad they didn't come out in the winter when it was stormy, but this is one more reason to celebrate the beginning of spring.

With the end of the snow, I realize I won't be seeing my friend, Guy Mann, who has been shoveling the sidewalks this winter. He's here faithfully every time it snows. I think he's going to mow, too, so maybe I'll catch a glimpse of him. He's very nice and hasn't scared me at all. He sure does a good job.

As I write this, I am aware that the kids are coming to the kitchen again soon. I really look forward to those days. I can't wait to tell you what they did this time.

I'm not sure you all are aware of the comings and goings of the Alfred Counseling service here at church. Way back in November, they started having appointments in the little choir room. They brought in some pretty furniture and it's quite cozy. You should check it out if you haven't already. Well anyhow, since the first of the year, the number of people coming and going has really gone up. As I understand it, this is for people who might need a little support from people who have been trained to help. Now, quite often I see as many as 20-25 appointments every week. They come and go quietly and don't cause any trouble at all. I like Tina. She is very nice and I think it must be easy for people to talk to her. I hope you all get to meet her someday.

For those of you who wonder where I live. I have a nice little "apartment" in a warm and cozy place. I do keep it ever so neat, just in case I have visitors. So far...no one has come, but I'm thinking that might be ok too. It's hard to believe but no everyone "loves" mice. I understand... I'm not wild about cats.



As always, thank you for allowing me to be a part of your family. It's an honor and a privilege to be here, Your humble church mouse

The Rummage Rooms are in need of spring and summer clothing for all sizes and ages but they especially need men's clothing (all kinds and sizes) and women's pants. If you have any clean, gently used clothing; please drop them off any day at the south street entrance. The Rummage Rooms are always in need of household items (no electronics or upholstered items, please), too. Please consider sharing those unused clothing and household items in your house. You will not only be cleaning out those shelves and closets, but you will be helping others as they go about their lives, attend school, go to work or seek employment. We ARE the Hands and Feet of Jesus. **The Rummage Rooms are open every Friday and Saturday from 9 a.m. - 12 noon.**

Our **Food Pantry** is low and needs to be restocked so please keep the Food Pantry in mind as you shop. Don't know what to get? Here is a list of what we need; peanut butter, jelly/ jam, instant potatoes, pasta, pasta sauce, ramen noodles, macaroni & cheese, cereal, hamburger helper, canned soup, canned pasta, canned fruit, canned chicken, tuna fish, canned vegetables, rice, paper products, toiletries (shampoo, bath soap, toothpaste, deodorant), and laundry detergent.

If you would like to give a monetary donation, please make checks payable to "Cuba Food Pantry" and mail to North Park Wesleyan Church Attn: Pastor Megan Cusumano 32 Spring St. Cuba, NY 14727. Thank you!

Prayer Requests:

Prayer Requests Esther Knapp, LaVerne White, Eric Goldthwait, Marge Strahan, Minnie Case **Continuing Prayers** Char (Joan Hayes's mother), Betty Parker (Luanne Perry's mother), Mike Edwards (Marie Lewandowski's nephew), Bruce Sheldon, Colston & Hannah Hillman's baby, Amelia (Sue & Kim Hillman's son, daughter-in-law and new granddaughter) Sheila & Duke Burnett, Rod Cady, Rick Kelly, Luke Fries, Bert & Mickie Tidlund, Betsy Hubbard, Linda Goldthwait, Martha Miller, Candy Parish (Nettie's sister-in-law), Sandy Lathrop, Bob & Sandy Beard, Keith and Vyrna Brown (Kim Gleason's parents), Susan Stoddard (Sallie Miller's sister) **Other** all those affected by the terrorist attack in Christchurch, NZ, all those impacted by the historic flooding in the Midwest and Heartland, each person affected by the devastating Cyclone Idai in South Africa **Sympathy** Our deepest Christian sympathy is with the family and friends of Don White who passed on Wednesday, March 20, especially with his son and daughter in law, John and Nettie White

Remember in Care Facilities

Cuba Memorial Hospital - Gene Case
Batavia VA - Dennis Chamberlain
Eden Heights - Helen Swift, Betty Parker
Highland Healthcare (Wellsville) - John Hoagland
Livingston Cty. Center for Nursing & Rehab. - Katie Hamilton
Manor Hills (Wellsville) - Elva Gross, JoAnne Hoagland
Pines (Olean) - Connie Battistoni
Brompton Heights (Williamsville) - David Halstead

Special Interest Missionaries

David and Joyce Reed, IberoAmerica and Caribbean
Dan and Sarah Chetti, Lebanon

***All those serving in the military, police, and firemen.**

***All those in and outside of our congregation who may not be listed but need the healing power of the Spirit.**



April Birthday's

11 - Megan Ahrens, 12 - Kody Pierce, 13 - Lee Stewart, 16 - Alice Resch,
17 - Cindy Colley, 21 - Sandy Beard, Coleman Searle

Happy birthday to you all! May God's blessings be yours this year and always.

** There are no listed anniversaries in April*

How do you receive your Newsletter? Online? Post? It contains important information and articles every month and we want to make sure it is convenient for you to obtain and read. If you wish to change how you receive your Good Newsletter, please contact the church secretary in person, at 585-968-1531, or at sec@wny.twcbc.com. Thank you!