

The Visitor



Meet Our Interim Pastor



Tabernacle Baptist Church welcomes Rev. Richard Burke as our Interim Minister. For nearly thirty years, Rev Burke served as pastor in the New York City Metropolitan area. He spent 22 years at the First Baptist Church of New York City and six years as pastor of the First Baptist Church, Bronxville, New York. In addition, he hosted a weekly radio broadcast, "A Voice from Broadway" on WOR-radio for 17 years.

Following his ministry at First Baptist Church, NYC, he managed a volunteer pastoral care hospital visitation program for the HIP Insurance Company Foundation in the greater New York City area.

Prior to becoming a pastor, he held a range of educational positions, including assistant professor of speech and theater, as well as Director of Student Activities and Campus Ministries at Baptist colleges in the Midwest. In addition, to his college and seminary training, he holds a MSED degree in Pastoral Counseling.

Since retiring from the Bronxville church, Rev. Burke has served as interim minister in four American Baptist Churches: First Baptist Church, Penn Yan, New York; Scarsdale Community Baptist Church, Scarsdale, New York; Huntington Baptist Church, Huntington (Long Island), New York; and The First Baptist Church of Redlands, California.

When not serving in an interim capacity, he resides in Pompano Beach, Florida. When asked about coming to Tabernacle Baptist Church, he said he is very excited about this opportunity, not only because he enjoys interim ministry very much but also because of the long history of Tabernacle Baptist Church and the special opportunity of serving with Karen people. Having had an interest in the ministry of Adoniram Judson in Burma and the history of Christian witness in Burma. he feels blessed to be here.

Meaningful Messages for Today



April 2
Last Sunday in Lent
Communion
Do I Need a Shepherd?

April 9
Palm Sunday

April 16
Easter Sunday

April 23
The First Sunday after Easter

April 30
The Second Sunday
after Easter

**The Deadline to submit
an article for the
May Visitor is
Sunday, April 16**

Pastor's Page

The Grace of Lent

As a boy growing up in Sunday School at a Baptist church, I was told Baptists don't observe Lent. I was never told why but I suspect it was an anti-Catholic thing. The attitude, "Whatever they do, we don't do," is such an unhealthy way to decide how we practice our faith.

In recent years, I have begun to feel that the Lenten season is very important in preparing us for Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter, the most important events in the Christian church.

We spend so much time preparing for other events in our lives so why not spend some concerted preparation time in what we call the Lenten season?

But the question is: "How do we prepare?" A story I read gave me some new insight.

A teacher announced to her adult Sunday School class that it had dawned on her that in all the years she had been teaching the class, the class had never discussed Lent. The teacher then gave a background on the history of Lent and followed it with a question, "What do you think about Lent?"

One member of the class said: "Mostly I think Lent is a time of giving up some-

thing, making some kind of sacrifice." Another said, "I think Lent is about repentance. It is a time to rethink your life and then rededicate your life to doing God's will."

Others in the class agreed that Lent is about repentance and said that they could do better in living their lives for the Lord and that Lent helped them think about that.

The teacher then asked, "What is true repentance?" A member of the class replied: "It is being sorry for what you have done wrong and promising to change."

The teacher let the discussion go on for several minutes. Then she said, "Well, I disagree totally about your thinking. I have been repenting all of my life but it has never done me any good. Each year, we say we are sorry for our sins and promise we can and will do better but most of us don't do better."

She went on, "It seems to me my promises are just like straw in the wind. This year I am not going to promise that. Instead, I am going to confess to the Lord that I can't do better and I am going to tell the Lord, I don't have the power to change. I am going to ask the Lord for His grace and strength to make me into what He wants me to be. In other

words, I am going to ask the Lord to do for me what I can't do for myself. True repentance means to me—turn away from leading my life under my power and turning it over to the power of God." (This story is from "Lectionary Tales" by Richard Jensen.)

***"TRUE
REPENTANCE MEANS TO
TURN AWAY FROM
LEADING MY LIFE
UNDER MY POWER AND
TURN IT OVER TO THE
POWER OF GOD."***

The apostle in writing to the churches of Asia Minor as recorded in the book of Ephesians said, "I bow my knee before the Father.....that He would grant according to his riches in glory, to be strengthened with power through the Spirit in the inner man."

So often we try to change ourselves which only leads to frustration and a defeatist attitude instead of asking God to help us by His grace. May this Lenten season help us to focus on God's Grace.

Pastor Richard



WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE INCLUDED
IN TABERNACLE'S
PICTORIAL DIRECTORY?

Dear Church Family,

Do you know all fellow Tabernacle Baptist Church members or staff by name? If not, we are excited to announce that we have scheduled for Lifetouch Church Directories to prepare a new pictorial directory for TBC! It will contain individual, family, and generational (grandparents, daughter, son, etc...) photographs of our members and staff. It will also feature updated addresses and phone numbers and candid pictures of our church activities.

Each individual or family will select a pose for the directory. For your convenience, you will be able to view your portraits within minutes from being taken. You will have the opportunity to order additional portraits, if desired.

Each individual participant or family will receive a FREE:

- 8x10 portrait
- AND Pictorial Directory.

For your appointment, please plan on being here for one hour. The dates and times when Lifetouch will be here to photograph are:

Wednesday,	May 17	1:30 p.m. - 8:40 p.m.
Thursday,	May 18	1:30 p.m. - 8:40 p.m.
Friday,	May 19	1:30 p.m. - 8:40 p.m.
Saturday,	May 20	10:00 a.m. - 4:40 p.m.

Sign-up on Sundays after each service, beginning Sunday, April 2 - May 14 in Thorn Chapel.
We suggest that you sign-up as soon as possible to secure a preferred date and time. Please sign up for your picture appointment no later than May 14 or you will not be included in the directory.

Tom Deragon
Gwen Deragon



Lifetouch
CHURCH
DIRECTORIES
AND PORTRAITS



American Baptist
Women's
MINISTRIES



American Baptist Women's Ministries and AB Girls of NYS Convention 2017

Theme: "Investing in God's Resources...." Ephesians 4:1b

April 28-30, 2017

RIT Conference Center

5257 W. Henrietta Road Henrietta, NY

Keynote speaker: Rev. Sandra Hasenauner, Associate Executive Director, American Baptist Women's Ministries.

Bible Study Leader: Reverend Tamara R. Jackson, Pastor of the First Baptist Church of Syracuse.

Questions? Contact Claudia Little at claudialittle7@icloud.com (585-968-3061)

or Pat Robinson at jrobinson91@stny.rr.com (607-859-2923)

Registration and information packets are available in TBC's church office. .

Please see or call Tammy, in the Church Office at 735-7534



In Loving Memory of

George L. Vetter
June 12, 1937 – January 6, 2017

Mee Lone
May 20, 1948 – March 4, 2017



ARE YOU GRADUATING?? If you are graduating from High School or College in 2017 please let us know ***no later than May 14, 2017*** –



We would like to include your name in our graduate recognition, which will be held in June. High School graduates are asked to provide your name and a recent picture. Please give the picture to Say Wah Htoo or Olive San.

**Church
Cleanup**



***All are welcome
to join us!***

**Sunday, April 1
10:00 a.m.**

***All are welcome
to join us!***



Annual Youth Group Retreat

The annual Youth Group Retreat is coming up on **May 19 -21st at Pathfinder Lodge!** This year's speaker is Rev. Michael Ware from Webster Baptist Church. Cost will be \$20.00 per person (the church will pay for the rest of the cost). Please contact Karen Dunne or Say Wah Htoo to register and make payment. ***Registration is due by no later than Sunday May 7, 2017.***



In Loving Memory

We extend our Christian sympathy to the family of Thomas Watkins who passed from this life to the next on Thursday, February 23, 2017. Thomas was an active member of Tabernacle Baptist Church for over 60 years. He served the church as a member of the Diaconate Board, Superintendent of the Sunday School, and many other committees and boards. Please hold his wife, Shirley and family in your prayers.

We extend our Christian sympathy to the family of Duayna Kopiel who was called home to Jesus on Thursday, March 9, 2017. Duayna was an active member of our congregation for over 50 years. She will be greatly missed. Please hold her husband, John and their family in your thoughts and prayers.



Easter Lilies and Tulips Order Form



Each year at Easter time, our Church is decorated with tulips and lilies usually given as memorials. To order a plant (\$8 each) in memory of a loved one, please complete this form and return it to the church office with full payment *by Palm Sunday, April 9*. Checks should be payable to **Tabernacle Baptist Church**. You may place the completed form and payment in the offering plate or in the marked envelope in the church office or mail to the office at **13 Clark Place, Utica, NY 13501**.

I enclose \$_____ for _____(##) Red Tulips _____(##) Yellow Tulips _____(##) Lilies

TULIPS given by: (please print Name and Phone Number)

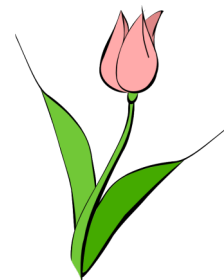
In Loving Memory of _____

LILIES given by: (please print Name and Phone Number)

In Loving Memory of _____

Check one:

- ☐ I will take my plant(s) after the Easter Sunday services.
- ☐ I am willing to deliver plant(s) to shut-ins.
- ☐ My plant may be given to a shut-in after the Easter services.



April

Services, Meetings, Special Events and Deadlines

<i>Piano Lessons</i>	<i>Saturdays, 8:30 a.m.</i>
<i>Karen Women's Group Prayer and Bible Study</i>	<i>Saturdays, 10:00 a.m.</i>
<i>Violin I Lessons</i>	<i>Saturdays, 3:20 p.m.</i>
<i>Karen Choir Practice</i>	<i>Saturdays, 4:00 p.m.</i>
<i>Karen Language Class</i>	<i>Saturdays, 4:00 p.m.</i>
<i>Youth Praise and Worship Team Practice</i>	<i>Saturdays, 4:00 p.m.</i>
<i>Youth Meeting</i>	<i>Saturdays, 6:00 p.m.</i>
<i>Violin II Lessons</i>	<i>Saturdays, 6:00 p.m.</i>
<i>Chancel Choir</i>	<i>Sundays, 9:00 a.m.</i>
<i>English Worship Service and Sunday School</i>	<i>Sundays, 10:00 a.m.</i>
<i>Karen Worship Service</i>	<i>Sundays, 11:15 a.m.</i>
<i>Trumpet Practice</i>	<i>Sundays, 11:30 a.m.</i>
<i>Church Cleaning Day</i>	<i>Saturday, April 1, 10:00 a.m.</i>
<i>Worship and Witness Ministry Team Meeting</i>	<i>Sunday, April 2, 12:30 p.m.</i>
<i>Palm Sunday Service</i>	<i>Sunday, April 9, 10:00 a.m.</i>
<i>Ministry Coordinating Council Meeting</i>	<i>Sunday, April 9, 12:30 p.m.</i>
<i>Stewardship Ministry Team Meeting</i>	<i>Sunday, April 9, 6:00 p.m.</i>
<i>Maundy Thursday</i>	<i>Thursday, April 13</i>
<i>Win Family Thanksgiving Service and Celebration</i>	<i>Saturday, April 15, 10:00 a.m.</i>
<i>Easter Sunday Service</i>	<i>Sunday, April 16, 10:00 a.m.</i>
<i>May Visitor Submission Deadline</i>	<i>Sunday, April 16</i>
<i>Faith Nurturing Ministry Team meeting</i>	<i>Sunday, April 23, 12:30 p.m.</i>

Thank you from Pastor Richard



When I arrived on Friday afternoon to begin serving with you as your interim minister, what a welcome I received. Mike Dunne met me, gave me a tour of the wonderful church building and then took me to the parsonage. I was so pleased to find the parsonage, not only ready for me to move in but also equipped with all the basic supplies and more that I will need . Thank you to Mike and Karen Dunne, David Tomidy and the church family members, including the Karen Youth that did all of the preparation. Great job ! Of course, the heartfelt reception of all who were here on Sunday and the wonderful Karen luncheon made me feel very welcome. I am looking forward to the opportunity of serving with you here Tabernacle Baptist Church.



ReStock the ReStore!

Are you doing spring cleaning? Or, buying new furniture? Please consider helping The Oneida County Habitat ReStore (494 French Road in Utica) by donating items you no longer need or want to our "ReStock the ReStore" donation drive.

Donations may be dropped off at the ReStore from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Tuesdays and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesdays through Saturdays.

Habitat staff and volunteers will be on site to accept donations. If donors have large items they cannot bring in themselves they can schedule a pickup by calling 315-624-9010.

Accepted Donations:

Appliances

Large Furniture (Dressers, Dining Room Tables, Coffee Tables, Bedroom Sets, etc.)

Sofas & Chairs (free of stains & odors)

Vanities & Toilets

Brand New Windows & Doors

Kitchen Cabinets

Ceiling Fans

All Lighting (Ceiling, Floor, Table)

Sets of Glass or Ceramic Dishware

Framed mirrors, Pictures, Picture Frames, Paintings

Tools (Hands & Power)



Support Your Local Habitat, Donate to ReStore!

[315.624.9010](tel:315.624.9010)

494 French Rd. Utica, NY





Tabernacle Baptist Church
13 Clark Place
Utica, New York 13501

Nonprofit Org.
US POSTAGE
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Marcy, NY
Permit No. 289

April
2017



**Tabernacle Baptist Church
Sunday Worship**

10:00 a.m. English Service
11:15 a.m. Karen Worship

Office Hours

Monday through Thursday
8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Closed on Fridays

**In Case of
Emergency,
please contact:**

Pastor Richard
315-864-8438
954-933-1834

Church Office
315-735-7534

TABERNACLE BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Richard Burke	Interim Pastor
Rev. Daniel Calvin San	Pastor
Rev. Dr. James V. Davison	Pastor Emeritus
Karen Dunne	Minister of Christian Ed.
Michael W. Moore	Minister of Music
Say Wah Htoo	Christian Ed. Associate
Tammy Daly	Administrative Secretary
Lewis Olivadese	Assistant Sexton
Michael Dunne	Assistant Sexton

CONTACTS

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Website	www.tbcutica.org