

The Visitor



Our Region Offering

The American Baptist Churches of New York State 2017 Regional Offering



Stories engage us because they bring to the surface what we already know, or hoped for but is not readily apparent to us because their truth has not yet taken form in our minds. Stories tap into the deeper wisdom of intuition born of experience.

The deepest truths come clothed in stories. Great stories form the core of our faith. "Abram left, as the LORD had told him." "And Moses said, 'Here, I am.'" "In the sixth month, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town of Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph." "And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us." "I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem coming down out of heaven." Christians, and the Hebrews before us, have always been great story tellers because we have such fantastic stories to tell. We narrate God's loving work in our world and in our lives.

When we hear what God *has done* in the lives of others and retell what God has done in our lives, we can envision what God *can do*. Our stories plot our future by remembering what God has already done. In the Hebrew Bible, to remember is to believe and to forget is unbelief. Amnesia is a form of atheism in Hebrew thought. Our stories break open to us what is possible under God's grace. So stories, more than facts or argument, move us to action. Therein lies their power.

Our worship services, our Bible study groups, our Sunday School classes, our youth group meetings, and our prayer circles all are places where we tell and retell our faith stories and the stories of others. We do this not because we are mired in the past but because these stories embolden us for the future. Our congregations are story-telling families.

Our Regional Offering supports ministry in our churches. Our world needs to hear how our personal stories have swept up into God's saving story in Christ. The Region works to ensure that there are faithful, courageous congregations in upstate New York to continue the reciting of God's great story in Christ.

In the Region offering materials this year, you will hear some of the stories that the Region ministry is fostering among us. They are great stories because they are a part of the greatest ever told: "God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ." (2 Corinthians 5:19)

James Kelsey

Executive Minister, ABC/NYS

We will receive our Region Offering at Tabernacle throughout August. Please use the enclosed Region Offering Envelope to give generously in support of our ministry with ABC/NYS.



Pastor's Page



Listening for God's Music

A favorite story of mine is about a photograph that was taken by the late Yousaf Karsh who was famous for taking pictures of some of the world's celebrities: Winston Churchill, Mother Teresa and Albert Einstein to name a few.

The photograph was the only one Karsh ever took of a person's back; the back of Pablo Casals in a small French Abby in 1954. He wrote that while he was setting up his equipment, Casals, arguably the greatest cellist who ever lived, began playing his cello. Karsh said he was so enthralled by the music he almost forgot why he was there. So he took the portrait of Casals with the little bald-headed man bent over his cello, frozen in time against a plain stone wall of the chapel. Karsh said he did it to capture the loneliness of the truly great artists and especially this artist living in exile.

Years later, when the por-

trait was on exhibition at the Museum of Fine Art in Boston, an elderly man went day after day and stood for long periods of time in front of the portrait. The curator of the museum noticed him and one day when his curiosity got the best of him, he tapped the man on the shoulder and asked why he stood so long before the picture. The man, with obvious irritation, turned on the curator and said, "Hush, young man! Can't you see I am listening to the music!"

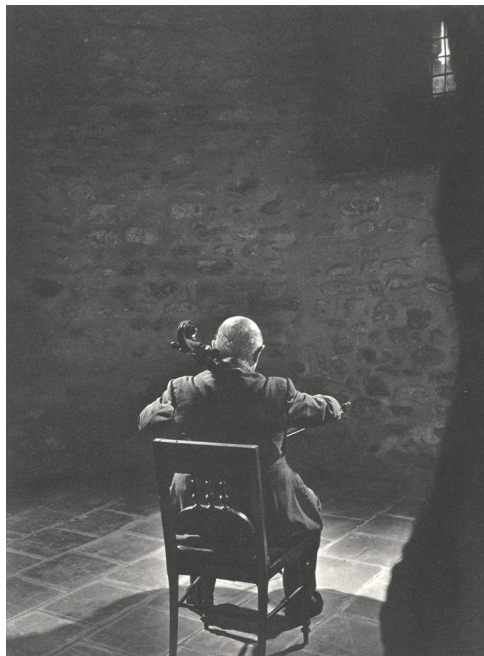
The portrait was so vivid that the man looking at the picture could hear the music. Thinking of that story this Pentecost season, I am reminded of the early church after its Pentecost in-

ception. It was a fellowship of believers from many different backgrounds who joined together with the message of God's love, not letting differences get in the way, just loving the Lord and each other, encouraging each other, supporting each other and putting each other's wishes ahead of their own, so that I think if we were there, we might say in the midst of it all, we hear "God's music."

Of course, there was only one Pentecost but In the short time I have had the privilege of serving as your interim pastor, I have sensed something akin to that. There is a love, connectedness, genuine interest in each other from the young to the old. Karen, Euros, long-time members and new members. To sum it up there is a wonderful bond in the Lord and it is so refreshing that if one listens closely enough, one might hear "God's music."

Blessings,

Pastor Richard



A portrait of Pablo Casals in the Abbey de Cuzxa in Prades 1954. Taken by Yousuf Karsh.





The Pastor Is Away

Pastor Richard is away until Thursday, July 6. Should you need pastoral care while he is away, please call Associate Pastor Rev. Daniel Calvin San. You may also call the church office or Gwen De-ragon, chair of the Worship and Witness Ministry Team, who will put you in touch with a neighboring pastor who will be on-call.



Tammy will be on vacation the following Thursdays:

- | | |
|-----------|-------------|
| * July 13 | * August 3 |
| * July 20 | * August 10 |
| * July 27 | * August 17 |
| | * August 24 |

Youth Group Food Sale and Car Wash



Join us *on Saturdays, July 15 and August 19, from 9:00 a.m. till 4:00 p.m.* to enjoy some great food and have the TBC youth wash your car(s)! This is one of their major Fund Raisers for this year so we hope to see you come out and support our youth! For more information, or to donate supplies, please speak with Olive San or Karen Dunne.



Church School Picnic 2017 at Sherrill Brook Town Park, New Hartford



Congratulations to our Youth who were baptized and became church members on June 4, 2017



*Elizabeth Nyein, Lay Lay Mar,
Ka Yu, Htoo Bra Ya, May Baw,
Ku Sellar, Tir Kyart Oo, Paw
Bluet Ser, Paw Mu Lwee, Lion
Ban, and Hser Moo Paw.*



Congratulations to Tabernacle's 2017 College Grads!



*Say Mer
Jewel Isaac
Lanetta
Christal Bell*

Congratulations to Tabernacle's 2017 High School Grads!

*Paw Nay Tha Yu Wah
Elizabeth Nyein
Laylay Mar
Isabella Moo
Rayni Thahtoo
Eh Htoo Chey
Eh Leh Sher
Htoo Dee Dee*



*Kayu Sha Doh
Bat Poe Moo
Shel May
Hsa KaPru Moo
Tamla Paw Kyet
Ro Men
Mula Htoo
Che Snow*



ABMen NYS Men's Rally 2017 at Keuka College*

Our 85th Year ~ Aug 11-13 , 2017

August 11 @ 4:00 pm - August 13 @ 4:00 pm

The theme of AB Men NYS Conference 2017 is:

"There is nothing magical about Salvation."



"A man named Simon lived in the city. For quite a while he had practiced evil magic there. He amazed all the people of Samaria. He claimed to be someone great. And all the people listened to him, from the least important of them to the most important. They exclaimed, "It is right to call this man the Great Power of God!" He had amazed them for a long time with his evil magic. So they followed him. But Philip announced the good news of God's kingdom and the name of Jesus Christ. So men and women believed and were baptized. Simon himself believed and was baptized. He followed Philip everywhere. He was amazed by the great signs and miracles he saw." (Acts 8: 9-13 NIRV)

Magic verses miracle. One is of man; the other is of God!

The resurrection of Jesus Christ was not some illusion intended to fool the people. It was not some conspiracy of robbing the grave and taking the body of Jesus away to a hidden location. The Resurrection of Jesus was a miracle by God. A miracle for the world, the victory over sin and death for everyone who believes on Jesus. The son of God, who died for our sins and was risen again on the third day. The cross held no magical powers, it held our Savior and it took gifts of love and sacrifice of Christ for all people. The miracle came on the third day, not magic, but a miracle. Even Simon, the powerful magician, once he began to follow Phillip; saw great signs and miracles and believed on the Gospel of Jesus and was baptized. The power of the Good News is the true Divine Power and is the Greatest Power of all. Magic is of man, miracles and Salvation is of God through Jesus Christ our Savior!

Saturday Banquet Speaker:

DAVID A. KILPATRICK, PHD

Dr. Kilpatrick is an Assistant Professor of Psychology at the State University of New York College at Cortland and a New York State Certified School Psychologist with the East Syracuse-Minoa Central School District. An expert and experienced clinician who excels in reading assessment and intervention, Dr. Kilpatrick has conducted over 1000 student evaluations for reading difficulties and disabilities.

** If you are interested in attending, please see
Pastor Richard for a registration form.*



Infant and Child Dedication Service



As a congregation we have been blessed to have many babies and young children in our midst. One of our Baptist traditions is to periodically have a dedication service in which we thank God for the gift of infants and young children. *We are planning to dedicate infants and children during the 10:00 a.m. English Language Worship service on Sunday, July 16. If you would like to dedicate your baby, young child or children to the Lord, please speak with Pastor Richard or Pastor Daniel by Sunday, July 9.* You may also call the church office at 735-7534. *Please make certain to provide us with the child's name, date of birth and the parents' names.*

TBC Building Restoration to Begin

On the second week in August, the scaffolding will be erected and work will begin on our Davidson Tower of Refugees. This is very exciting news for Tabernacle!!!! The renovations may cause some disruptions but will not interfere with entrance to the church.

Thank You for your Generous Contributions!

A huge thank you to ALL Tabernacle women who contributed so generously to our recent letter. We exceeded our goal of \$1700 by over \$500. This is extraordinary!! We have never done this before. It is all due to the generosity of everyone who contributed. This will enable us to continue to support all the ministries of American Baptist Women including White Cross which supports our missionaries all over the world. Again, thank you so very much.



Janet Barnes, Chair Tabernacle Women's Ministries.

Summer Midweek Prayer Meeting and Bible Study

Beginning Wednesday, July 19, at 6:00 p.m., we will have a weekly Wednesday evening Prayer Meeting and Bible Study. Pastor Richard will be conducting a study of the New Testament Book of Mark. All are welcome to attend.

Women's Worship Service

Beginning, Sunday, July 16, at 5:00 p.m., the women of TBC will be conducting a Women's Worship Service on the *third* Sunday of each month.



Marilyn Hess, Pastor Myo Kyaw, Jean Marie Glatt, Matt Walter, Rosemary Gagnon, Elsie Olsen, Wilbert "Bill" Roberts, Sally Riesenberger, Kevin Baum, and Philip Dubyna. Please pray for refugees from Syria, the Karen people in refugee camps, and internally displaced persons within Burma.

The Deadline for Church Scholarships Applications is Sunday, July 2

The deadline for eligible college students to apply for church scholarships is Sunday, July 2. College applications are available in the Christian Education office - please see Karen Dunne or Say Wah Htoo.





July/August 2017

Services, Meetings, Special Events and Deadlines

<i>Karen Women's Group Prayer and Bible Study</i>	<i>Saturdays, 10:00 a.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>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>Women's Worship Service</i>	<i>Third Sunday of Each Month, 5:00 p.m.</i>
<i>Gar Nay Too Wedding</i>	<i>Saturday, July 1, 10:00 a.m.</i>
<i>Church Scholarship Application Deadline</i>	<i>Sunday, July 2</i>
<i>Office Closed for the 4th of July</i>	<i>Tuesday, July 4</i>
<i>Graduation Party for Isabella Moo</i>	<i>Sunday, July 9, 5:00 p.m.</i>
<i>Worship and Witness Ministry Team meeting</i>	<i>Sunday, July 13, 12:30 p.m.</i>
<i>Youth Food Sale and Car Wash</i>	<i>Saturdays, July 15, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.</i> <i>August 19, 9:00 to 4:00 p.m.</i>
<i>Infant and Child Dedications</i>	<i>Sunday, July 16, 10:00 a.m.</i>
<i>Women's Worship Service</i>	<i>Third Sundays, beginning July 16, 5:00 p.m.</i>
<i>Summer Prayer Meeting and Bible Study-Wednesdays, beginning July 19, 6:00 p.m.</i>	
<i>Pastoral Search Committee Meeting</i>	<i>Thursday, July 20, 6:30 p.m.</i>
<i>Vacation Bible Study and Summer Camp at TBC</i>	<i>Mon., July 31 – Sat., August 5</i>
<i>Church Cleaning Day</i>	<i>Saturdays, July 8 and August 5, 10:00 a.m.</i>
<i>September Visitor Article Submission Deadline</i>	<i>Sunday, August 20</i>
<i>Women's Worship Service</i>	<i>Sunday, August 20, 5:00 p.m.</i>
<i>Caring Corner</i>	<i>Saturday, August 26, 7:30 a.m.</i>





Tabernacle Baptist Church
13 Clark Place
Utica, New York 13501

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**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

Pastor Daniel
315-790-4449

Church Office
315-735-7534

TABERNACLE BAPTIST CHURCH

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

CONTACTS

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Pastors' Email

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Pastor Daniel associatepastor@tbcutica.org
theylar@gmail.com