



Tower Topics

The monthly Newsletter of First Baptist Church of Mansfield, PA

July/August 2011 - Vol. XXXVIII #7

Rev. Steven C Case

<http://www.firstbaptistchurchmansfield.com>

FREEDOM IN CHRIST

“Now the Lord is the spirit; and where the spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.”

As I was sitting at my desk and pondering what I would write for this summer newsletter, it occurred to me that we as a people will be celebrating another birthday of our freedom in July. I pondered this celebration for awhile and reflecting back on my history; political science and religion courses, I came to the conclusion that in honor of our freedom from Great Britain, I would deal with our freedom in Jesus Christ.

According to the Apostle Paul, true liberty is not the freedom to do as we like, it is the power to do as we ought. Paul is referring to the freedom from sin that each of us has been given through Jesus Christ. We are free only when our capacities for giving and loving are released through devotion to something or someone greater than ourselves.

Artists find freedom in devotion to their art. Craftsmen find it when their powers are released by the vision of what they are seeking to create. Most of all, we find freedom through love for others whose welfare we seek to enhance. Paul sees the true purpose of liberty in the service to others. ‘You are called to freedom, brethren; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love be servants of one another’ (Galatians 5:13). This is not only the purpose of liberty, but its safeguard. We are a free people by the grace of God and by accident of birth. We are a free people in Jesus Christ because of the love of God and communion with the Holy Spirit. As we celebrate our national freedom on July 4th, let us also celebrate our religious freedom in Jesus Christ. To love, love and be God’s children.

SHALOM
Pastor Steve

**Mansfield Area Food Pantry
771-Lot 1 Lambs Creek Road
Mansfield, Pennsylvania 16933**

The **Mansfield AREA Food Pantry** is an emergency food service. It is a non-profit, all volunteer charity. A household member fills out a self-declaration of need form and shows proof of address in order to receive food.

The **Mansfield AREA Food Pantry** provides for the following townships: Bloss, Covington, Hamilton, Jackson, Liberty, Richmond, Rutland, Sullivan, Union and Ward. Boroughs or municipalities include: Arnot, Blossburg, Covington, Liberty, Mansfield, Mainesburg, Millerton, Morris Run, Ogdensburg, Roseville, and all others within the named townships. This covers about 1/3 of the county.

The pantry is open every Wednesday morning from 9:30 until noon. It is located on Lambs Creek Road in Mansfield, just beyond the Kingdom building.

We are serving an average of **58** families each week: an average of **232** different families each month, which is about 780 individuals each month. Families (households) may not be served more than once a month.

Numbers for the month of April 2011 are as follows:
227 households, 240 children, 435 adults, 122 elderly=797 individuals.

We have noticed a slight decrease of household numbers, and an increase in individual numbers. (larger households)

**Our representatives to the board are:
Rose Benson & Mary Ellen Hoar**

\$\$\$ - May 2011 Gifts to First Baptist - \$\$\$

Operational expenses: 6,535.29

Expenses for May excluding mission outreach: 8,246.72

May deficit: 1,711.43

Mission gifts for May totaled 903.75

Building Fund total \$ 7,464.04

Thank you for your continued support.

SEEDS OF HOPE PARTNERS REPORT

SOHP has been very active the past few months meeting the needs of families in Tioga County. One of things that we do in August is set up a free clothing give-away for families in need at the NYPUM Building over in Wellsboro. Our SOHP members have been scouring the countryside for yard sales with used clothing in good condition and we ask the folks if when their yard sale is over, would they like to donate the rest to us. This brings in many items just in time for the children to go back to school. Volunteers are needed to sort, fold and put the clothing out on tables over at the building August 15-17th. Volunteers are also needed to help with the two day event, August 18th & 19th. If you can spare a day or a few hours to help, please contact Sue Wilber, Rose Benson or Sylvia Sumner for more details. Maybe we can get a crew to go over and help! Remember the scripture in Matthew about helping the least of these!

First Baptist Celebrates 168th Anniversary



The Cake!

Committee:
Sue Wilber &
Mary Ann Walker
with Pastor Steve Case



Saying Goodbye to
Hingrid Kujawinski
Interim Choir Director
& Organist

Prayer List

Richard Smith (Mary Webster's son-in-law), Joe Bielski, Bill & Joan Berresford, Rev. Charles Mercer, Sherry & Butch Miller (Ruth's Powlison's sister & brother-in-law, Ruth Powlison, Ashley McCormick, shut-ins, those in our Armed Forces, and many unspoken requests.

Shut-Ins

Iris Berguson, Evelyn Henninger, Omer & Betty Sumner

July 2011 - Tentative Preaching Schedule

July 3rd

*Genesis 24:34-38, 42-48, 58-67, Romans 7:15-25, Matthew 11: 16-19
“*A Double Reminder*”

July 10th *Psalm 25; Romans 8:1-11; Matthew 13:1-9, 123

“*Remembering the Words*”



July 17th

Psalm 139: 1-12, 23-24; Romans 8:12-25; Matthew 13:24-30: 36-43
“*Who Knows Us?*”

July 24th - *Guest Speaker--Rev. Detlef Huckfeldt*

July 31st - *Guest Speaker*

August 2011 - Tentative Preaching Schedule

August 7th

Guest Speakers— Rev. Ben E. Nevin, Jr & Ben B. Nevin

August 14th

Guest Speaker— Richard Becker

August 21st - Romans 12:1-8; Exodus 1:8-2-10; Matthew 16:13-20

“*Exercising Our Spiritual Gifts*”

August 28th * Romans 12:19-21; Exodus 3:1-15; Matthew 16:21-28

“*Developing Healthy Attitudes: Relationships*”

*** Sermon Text**

Please

Save these Dates

for September & October!

- The *All Church Picnic* will be held on
September 11, 2011

- The *Tioga Baptist Association Annual Meeting*
will be held at First Baptist Mansfield on
October 9, 2011

- **October 14-16, 2011** is the *Mission Blitz*
Youth Activities

Outflow activities within the local communities
Sunday afternoon rally and workshops at FBC Wellsboro

Fellowship List for July 2011

Please check the list below for your name.

If you are unable to serve on your scheduled week, **please find a replacement for that date.**

Thank you for your help!

July 3

Main Street Greeter: Robbie Garrison

Sherwood Street Greeter: Fran Garrison

Ushers: Mike Hill & Gary Mortimer

Hosts: Judy Bott & Sue Wilber

July 10

Main Street Greeter: Mary Webster

Sherwood Street Greeter: Sylvia Sumner

Ushers: Mike Hill & Gary Mortimer

Hosts: Cliff & Marilyn Wiles

July 17

Main Street Greeter: Brenda Rumsey

Sherwood Street Greeter: Joyce Bixby

Ushers: Mike Hill & Sylvia Sumner

Hosts: Richard & Nancy Becker

July 24

Main Street Greeter: Nancy Dart

Sherwood Street Greeter: Sam Garrison

Ushers: Mike Hill & Sylvia Sumner

Hosts: Lee & Mary Ellen Hoar

July 31

Main Street Greeter: Bruce Dart

Sherwood Street Greeter: David Garrison

Ushers: Mike Hill & Gary Mortimer

Hosts: Bob & Dorothy Smith

July Birthdays & Anniversaries

July 4 - Cory Wiles

July 7 - Ben B. & Sarah Nevin (A)

Fellowship List for August 2011

Please check the list below for your name.

If you are unable to serve on your scheduled week, **please find a replacement for that date.**

Thank you for your help!

August 7

Main Street Greeter: Dorothy Smith

Sherwood Street Greeter: Sue Wilber

Ushers: David & Robbie Garrison

Hosts: Harry Hagar & Sylvia Sumner

August 14

Main Street Greeter: Faye Hotelling

Sherwood Street Greeter: Rose Benson

Ushers: David & Robbie Garrison

Hosts: Jim & Miriam Cummings

August 21

Main Street Greeter: Ruth Powlison

Sherwood Street Greeter: Lee Hoar

Ushers: David & Robbie Garrison

Hosts: Lee & Mary Ellen Hoar

August 28

Main Street Greeter: Ann Aumick

Sherwood Street Greeter: Diane Case

Ushers: David & Robbie Garrison

Hosts: Diane Case & Mary Ann Walker

September 4

Main Street Greeter: June Rudy

Sherwood Street Greeter: Marcia Hill

Ushers: Mary Ann Walker & Sylvia Sumner

Hosts: Bruce & Nancy Dart

August Birthdays & Anniversaries

Aug. 3 - Mike & Karen Lemasters (a)

Aug. 5 - Danielle Van Gheem

Aug. 8 - Rosemary Cleveland

Aug. 9 - Jon Clark

Aug. 21 - Tom Sumner

Aug. 25 - Ben & Anne Nevin (a)

Aug. 26 - Billy Rathbun

Please visit our website to see our calendar!

<http://www.firstbaptistchurchmansfield.com/calendar.htm>

First Baptist Church of Mansfield, PA
North Main & Sherwood Streets

Sunday Morning Worship is at 11:00
Holy Communion is observed the first Sunday of the month