



The Announcer

The Newsletter of the First Baptist Church of Hamilton, New York

Founded in 1796, First Baptist is an American Baptist Church with an ecumenical congregation.

First Baptist is the "Mother Church" of Colgate University and Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School.

Volume 55
August 2019

From Your Pastor ...

FBC Office Hours:
Mon-Fri 9am—12 noon

Rev. William Stoklosa,
Pastor

315-824-2780

Summer
Worship Service
10:00 am

Regular Worship Hour
Starting on Sep. 8th
@ 10:30 am



First Baptist Church

Sat., August 24th
8:30 am-1:00 pm

Jess and I have been here only a couple of months, but so much has happened! We have met so many wonderful people at First Baptist and in the surrounding community. We have enjoyed our first 4th of July parade in Hamilton, our first trip to Chittenango Falls and Green Lakes, and have enjoyed some fabulous music and coffee hours at First Baptist. I have also been very impressed by the spirit of cooperation I have encountered among the local clergy in Hamilton, and the way they have welcomed Jess and I with open arms into the community. The summer has been wonderful, but we are looking forward to even more excitement in the fall.

We are kicking off our Fall Schedule on September 8th (worship moves to 10:30 AM with Sunday School at 9:30). Inside you can read the details about all the opportunities we have for fun and service on the 8th. I am extremely excited about the children's sermon series we will start that morning, revolving around the stained glass windows in the church. It will be a wonderful way for children to connect with the ways that our church building points to the One whom we worship. My sermon series will also be focused on the scriptures written on the stained glass (most of which are Jesus' statements about himself). It will be a great chance for people of all ages to learn more about what the One in whom we find our identity had to say about his own identity.

It will also be a great chance to draw from the riches of our church's past as we seek to discern what God is calling us to do, as the Mother Church of both "Town and Gown," in the future. I am so grateful for our church's past. Our church was instrumental in the founding of Colgate University, an institution which profoundly shaped my life, and our church also helped send out missionaries who inspired me to be an American Baptist. Being part of such a historic congregation is incredibly exciting for me, and I am even more excited to be part of the new things that God will do through this congregation in the future. I hope that you will join me in this adventure, both on Kickoff Sunday and beyond.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Bill Stoklosa



Come meet our new Pastor and his wife... 2

Kick Off Sunday Tailgate Party 3

Our Memorial Stained Glass Windows 4

Summer Supplemental Food Hamilton Food Cupboard 4

"Interwoven Hearts" An Interdenominational Women's Bible Study 5

Friendship Club 5

Red Cross Blood Bank 5

Set a lunch date with the Stoklosas... back page

Men's Breakfast

Madison Baptist Church 2019 Dinner Schedule

August 2019

***Come meet our new Pastor,
Rev. William Stoklosa and his wife Jessica...***

We have been waiting for Pastor Bill and his wife Jessica (Jess) and they arrived just a few days before he preached his first sermon, *Why Not Rather Be Wronged*, on Sunday, June 16th. There was a lot to unpack, plan and do that first week, but they are finally settled in the parsonage on Lebanon Street. Over the summer they have gotten to know a lot of us through conversations, meetings, and weekly Sunday afternoon lunches.



They came from Ava, Illinois where Pastor Bill was Senior Pastor at the First Baptist Church of Ava, Illinois since 2013. Jess is a special education teacher with Madison/Oneida BOCES. They were married in 2014, have two dogs (Charlee and Tessie) and have family on both sides from the Buffalo area. So they are coming home in a manner of speaking, as Pastor Bill graduated from Colgate in 2010 where he was a recipient of the Charles A. Dana Award for superior academic achievement and leadership. Pastor Bill then received his Master of Divinity from Princeton Theological Seminary in New Jersey.

Some fun facts:

- They enjoy hiking and look forward to exploring the trails around Central New York.
- When he was younger Pastor Bill wanted to be a paleontologist and study dinosaurs.
- Their favorite vacation was going to Vancouver and Alaska.
- Jess is a trained weather spotter and loves meteorology.
- They are huge fans of the Buffalo Bills (but Patriots and Jets fans are still welcome at First Baptist).

Some of you have not had the summer to get to know Pastor Bill and Jess yet. We invite you to come celebrate their arrival and welcome them back to Hamilton and to *First Baptist Church of Hamilton*. Come celebrate with us on Sunday, September 8th at the *Kick Off Sunday/Tailgate Party – Invite One!*

August 2019

Kick Off Sunday/Tailgate Party – Invite One!



Sunday, September 8, 2019

September marks the ninth calendar month and is the time of year we associate with *new beginnings*. At *First Baptist of Hamilton*, we celebrate the upcoming year by formally welcoming our new pastor, William Stoklosa and his wife Jessica (Jess) back to Hamilton (Pastor Bill graduated from Colgate University in 2010) as all of us begin a new year together in ministry.

We've been busy over the summer planning for the fall and preparing the *Kick Off Sunday/Tailgate Party–Invite One!* event for the entire congregation to welcome us *all* back from our summer activities.

Kick Off Sunday – Sunday, September 8, 2019:

We are challenging the entire congregation to *Invite One!* Invite just one family/person to join us for Kick Off Sunday.

Adults @ 9:30: Come catch up with your friends, enjoy a cup of coffee and piece of coffee cake as we share our fall plans and introduce *The I AM's Statements of Jesus* as written in the Gospel John.

Worship @ 10:30: Orientation to the Sanctuary (Celebration of the *I AM's* Stained Glass). Beginning Sunday, September 8th at 10:30am. Pastor Bill will introduce *The I AM's of Jesus – Who is Jesus*; an 8-week Sermon Series.

Children @ 9:30: Children and youth get to build a giant temple out of everyday objects. We are challenging all the kids to *bring a friend to church*. Every child that comes will receive a special prize.

After Worship: Join us for a *Tailgate Party* after worship. Bring a potluck dish to share, lawn chairs or blanket and we'll provide the rest. Winner of Raffle will be announced.

Two challenges:

1. If you would like to donate art/craft supplies for teachers to use in the elementary grades we are looking for craft sticks, glue sticks, Q-tips, cotton balls, buttons, foam shapes or letters, yarn, felt, Model Magic, chenille stems, toothpicks, wooden dowels, pom poms, etc. A donation box will be in Narthex on Sept. 8th.
2. We challenge EVERYONE to wear their favorite NFL jersey or school colors!

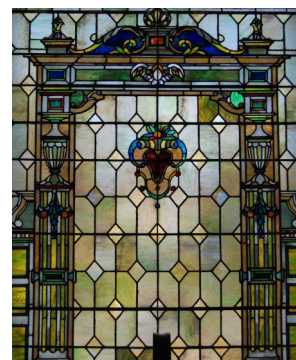
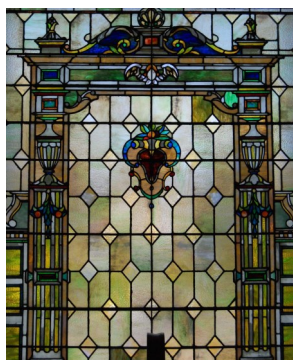
We will be promoting the event at Farmer's Market on Saturday, August 31st and September 1st. Stop by and submit your name in the Raffle. Prizes include Colgate Football Tickets!

August 2019

Our Memorial Stained Glass Windows

Joan Prindle, Church Archivist

We are going to feature one of the Stained Glass Windows in each of the future Announcers. Each window was a gift of a First Baptist Church family, and cost \$3,427.06.



I Am the Bread

Gift of Alonzo Peck and Family

Alonzo Peck, son of Josiah and Elizabeth Peck, was primarily a business man. Pecksport, named for his family, was an important point for shipping agricultural products on the Chenango Canal. This location had a cheese factory, storehouses, an ice house, and a milk station. Mr. Peck had storage space on Eaton Street. In addition, he owned large tracts of land in the area. He was one of the founders of the Bank in 1853 and became a vice president in 1865.

Mrs. Sophie Peck Smith donated the money for this beautiful window.



Summer Supplemental Food Hamilton Food Cupboard

First Baptist friends are asked to donate peanut butter & jelly and fruits & veggies (apples, oranges, carrots & celery) throughout the summer months to the Hamilton Food Cupboard to ensure lunches for children that have received them during the school year and may not always have regular lunch time during the summer.

**Please place your food donations in the box provided on the bench outside the church office.
Thank you.**

*This effort is being sponsored by the
Hamilton Interfaith Service Committee.*

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Hello All,

I wanted to reach out and say thank you for the generous donations for the summer lunch program. Everything has been going great—we are serving 80-90 kids per week and everyone is pleased and grateful for the extra food.

We are now looking ahead a bit and will be looking for some school supplies and backpacks for our kids. Supplies that are needed would be folders of assorted colors, binders (one inch or two inch), pens, pencils, pink erasers, pencil boxes, colored pencils and crayons.

Thank you again for your support.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Collins
Hamilton Food Cupboard

**Reminder, we are also collecting
school supplies for the Cupboard!**

August 2019

Interwoven Hearts

An Interdenominational Women's
Bible Study

Fall Semester Study:
(beginning **September 5, 2019**)



Here and Now... There and Then **by Beth Moore**

A twelve-week study on the book of Revelation. Beth has researched multiple commentaries and perspectives and translated them into laymen's terms and applications to help us gain an understanding of this intriguing book of the Bible.

Thursday 9-11am
(child care available)
or

Thursday 6:30-8:30 pm

First Baptist Church
Broad St. Hamilton, NY

To sign up for either study
Call Meg Parfitt
At (315) 794-2141

Friendship Club

This September the Friendship Club will be putting together "Birthday Bags" for the Food Cupboard. We'd appreciate it if you would help us by donating the following birthday items:



- cake mixes
- cans of frosting
- paper plates
- napkins
- plastic silverware
- birthday candles

You can put donations in the birthday bag on the bench outside the church office.

Many thanks, Friendship Club

NEXT FRIENDSHIP CLUB MEETING

The Friendship Club will meet Monday afternoon, August 26th at the church from 3-5 to decorate and pack birthday bags for the Hamilton Food Cupboard. Call Holly Bisselle if you need a ride at 315-824-3235.



Red Cross Blood Bank
First Baptist Church
Fellowship Hall
11:30 am—5:30 pm
Wed: Sep. 4th & Nov. 6th

The Announcer is the Newsletter of

First Baptist Church

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Set a lunch date with the Stoklosas . . .

“One thing Jess and I would like to do with our church family is have lunch with a different family after Sunday worship service each week to get to know everyone a little better.”

This would be a “dutch treat” lunch date — Pastor Bill and Jess would pay for the two of them and each family would pay for their own lunch.

A sign-up sheet has been placed in the church fellowship hall for each family to select a date of their choice to join Pastor Bill and Jess for lunch. We hope to have everyone take up this invitation for a one-on-one lunch date.

Men's Breakfast

Third Saturday
of the Month
September 21st



Great food, fellowship, and inspiration
from God's Holy Word.

MADISON BAPTIST CHURCH 2019 DINNER SCHEDULE

Adult \$10 /10 & under \$6 Age 5 & under — FREE
(take-outs available)

Serve Time: 4:30 – 7:00

Monday — September 9 — Italian Buffet

Monday — October 14 — Harvest Dinner

First
Baptist
Church



Sat., August 24th

8:30 am-1:00 pm