

the

LINK

Our purpose is to bring people to Jesus
Christ as we love, learn and live the
word of God.

FEBRUARY 2025



Contact Us!

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FBC Food Collection:

February—Vegetables

March—Tuna

April—Soup

In This Issue

- ⇒ Is Anyone Still Hungry?
- ⇒ Hearts and Holidays <3
- ⇒ Women on a Mission!
- ⇒ Did You Know?

Souper Bowl Sunday is February 9

Soup is one of the all-time comfort foods for most of us- especially in the long cold winter months! Noodle soup, vegetable soup, split pea soup, what could be better? While shopping for your own soup ingredients, whether homemade or ready to eat, please remember to pick up extras for our neighbors at FISH.

The Super Bowl may be happening on February 9 without our Bills, but SOUPER BOWL for FISH is still happening with your support. Please bring cans or boxes of soup, noodles, rice, vegetables, broth, dried beans, barley, or other soup ingredients, crackers and CASH for our **Souper Bowl Sunday, February 9.**

Let's fill our FISH barrel to overflowing with SOUP. Thanks.

Welcome to the Tea Party February 16

Another February event for the First Baptist family is the annual Valentine's Day Tea, this year to be celebrated on February 16 after the worship service. Tea, mini sandwiches, pastry hearts, cookies and more sweet treats will be served. We have an assortment of china tea cups and saucers for your use and a varieties of teas too. Everyone is invited. We could all use a little more love!

Thank you to those of you contributing goodies, and thanks Lendra for continuing this tradition.

Spaghetti Dinner and Basket Raffle

It's Coming soon! The date's been set. Mark your calendars... Thursday, March 27th.

We'll need your help to make it the great success it always is. Help in the kitchen, setting/ clearing tables, serving food, baking cakes and brownies. And it's never too early to start creating baskets for the raffle.

Sign-up sheets will be out soon. So, mark your calendars, start creating baskets for the raffle, sign-up to help prepare/ serve delicious dinner but, most important... bring an appetite and the desire to win a basket or five.



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Bill
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JEFF
KEANE

"No, Dolly, I looked online and THIS is what a heart's s'posed to look like."

Mark your March Calendars- March 8

Our first sewing event for Helping Hands 4 Haiti will be Saturday March 8 . We will be doing all the steps needed to assemble clean delivery (birthing) bags for Haiti, which means much help from people with all kinds of skills will be needed. More news will be forthcoming, but please reserve the date and volunteer to help.

Did You Know?

That we open our doors to various community groups? One of the groups that meets in our church is a local chapter of Modern Quilt Guild of Western New York. We meet on the third Saturdays of the month from 11:00 am – 1:00 pm. Our group of quilters lean toward modern but also incorporate traditional styles in our quilts. Our skills range from beginners to experienced quilters. We believe that anyone who wants to quilt is welcome. Joy is the goal. Perfection is not a requirement, no judgement here. We make quilts for family, friends, ourselves, and charity. If you want to find out more information about the group contact Kathryn Smith.

Recently we had an all-day sew in the Fellowship Hall. Over twenty women gathered on a snowy Saturday to quilt. Some were members and others came to sew and check out our guild. We had tables set-up for sewing, cutting, and ironing board ready to press. Members brought delicious food to nourish us while we sewed. We laughed, sewed, learned, and shared. It was a wonderful day. Thank you to the church's Maintenance crew who helped us set up the tables. We are so grateful that First Baptist has allowed us to meet in the Fellowship Hall. Here are a few pictures of our day.



Pastor's Thoughts

February: A Month to Walk in Faith and Love

As we enter February, a month often associated with love, let us be reminded of the greatest love of all—the love of Jesus Christ. His love is unconditional, unwavering, and eternal. In this season, may we draw closer to Him, embracing His grace and reflecting His love to those around us.

1 John 4:9-10 tells us:

"This is how God showed His love among us: He sent His one and only Son into the world that we might live through Him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins."

God's love is not based on what we do, but on who He is. No matter where we've been or what we've faced, His love remains constant. This February, take time to rest in His presence and remember that His love is more than enough to sustain you through any trial.

February marks a transition—a time between the start of the year and the promise of the coming of spring. It's a reminder that new beginnings are always possible with God. Isaiah 40:31 encourages us:

"But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."

If January felt overwhelming or if you feel like you've already fallen behind on your goals, don't be discouraged. God is not limited by our timelines. He renews our strength and gives us fresh grace each day. Trust in Him and keep moving forward with faith.

February is known for Valentine's Day, but beyond romantic love, it's an opportunity to reflect Christ's love to the world. Jesus calls us to love one another just as He has loved us (John 13:34).

Here are some ways to share His love this month:

☛ **Encourage someone** with a kind word or a heartfelt prayer.

☛ **Serve others** by meeting a need, whether big or small.

☛ **Forgive freely** as Christ has forgiven you.

☛ **Spend time with God** in prayer and Scripture, drawing closer to Him.

When we show love to others, we reflect the heart of God and become His hands and feet in the world. No matter what this month holds, be assured that God is working behind the scenes for your good. Romans 8:28 reminds us:

"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose."

If you're waiting for a breakthrough, hold on to His promises. If you're facing uncertainty, trust in His plan. He is faithful, and His timing is perfect.

Winter's Love

The world is quiet, covered white,
As winter speaks in soft, still night.
Yet in the cold, a steady grace
Reminds us of His warm embrace.

Through frosty winds and frozen air,
His love remains, a constant prayer.
In every flake, in every sigh,
He calls us close, He draws us nigh.

On Valentine's, we lift our hearts,
In quiet ways, His love imparts.
A simple truth, through every year,
That perfect love is always near.

The quiet dawn, the stillness deep,
In winter's hush, our hearts will keep
A steady trust, a faith so sure,
That love in Christ will still endure.

Though seasons change and winds may blow,
His love is firm, like winter's snow.
A constant in the fleeting years,
A shelter from our doubts and fears.

So let this winter's silence show
The truth we hold and always know:
In love, we walk, in love we stay,
His grace our guide, each step, each day.



The First Baptist Church of East Aurora
591 Porterville Rd/ East Aurora NY 14052

Please Pray For...

Rose Gassman*
Tim Lowrey*
Christie Carson*
Ken Furnier
Elna Houqland
Preston Smith*
Tom Heineman*
Darlene Murphy*
Ed Hausauer
Tony Consentino
Allison Nowak
Robert Heineman
Heidi Teton*
Matt Roberts
Eric Miller*
Zachary Gallson
Sheldon Webster
Carol Wirth
Joshua Maston

Taylor Bauman*
Donte King
Bev Able
Stephanie T
John Kenny*
Randy Smith*
Steve Miller*
Brenda Nickerson*
Dave Stolzenberg*
Kendall Johnson Smith*
Karl Baue
Titus Weaver
David Erb
Ward Brunning
Robert Novick
Adam Kampf
Maryann McFadyen
Brett Begley
Pastor Gary*
Carm Bauser
Patrick Hoagan

Bev Crosno
Karfen Kloc
The Allen Family
Carol Cotton*
Gabby Gilbert

*Indicates illness

Happy February Birthday!

2/1—Jason 'Jay' Vorhis

2/6—Heather Majewski

2/7—Faith Gallson

2/28—Ray Hartmann

Happy First Anniversary to
Jason & Abigail Vorhees