

72 Ambrose Street, Rochester, NY 14608; Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
www.lakeavebaptist.org; Phone: 585-458-5765; Fax: 585-458-5766; Email: lakeavebaptistchurchoffice@gmail.com

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

10:00 am: Worship for All, Sunday School for Children and Youth (Communion first Sunday of every month)

11:15 am: Fellowship

11:45 am: Adult Education

12:30 pm: Myanmar Worship Service

MAY WORSHIP AT A GLANCE

Sunday, May 5, 2019

10:00 am: Worship and Communion for all; Children & Youth Sunday School Classes

11:15 am: Fellowship

11:45 am: Adult Education

12:30 pm: Myanmar Worship Service

Sunday, May 12, 2019: Mother's Day

10:00 am: Worship for all; Children & Youth Sunday School Classes

11:15 am: Fellowship

12:30 pm: Myanmar Worship Service

Sunday, May 19, 2019:

10:00 am: Worship for all-Guest preacher Anton Flores Maisonet; Children & Youth Sunday School Classes

11:15 am: Fellowship

11:45 am: Adult Education with guest speaker Anton Flores Maisonet.

12:30 pm: Myanmar Worship Service

Sunday, May 26, 2019

10:00 am: Worship for all; Children & Youth Sunday School Classes

11:15 am: Fellowship

11:45 am: Adult Education

12:30 pm: Myanmar Worship Service

COMMUNITY AID FUND (FORMERLY THE FELLOWSHIP FUND)

Currently, our Community Aid Fund is quite low and needs to be replenished through your generosity. This fund is used to support emergency needs in our local community. We encourage you to help out if you can. If you contribute with a check please write "Community Aid Fund" in the memo of the check.

YOUR PASTOR'S ARTICLE



Easter Sunday 2019 was one of the most moving worship experiences for me in past years. As a pastor, events like Christmas and Easter are largely work events. I am thinking of the services to be written, the sermons to be prepared, and the various logistical details that need to be attended to. It is often difficult

to settle in to the meaning of these profound events in the life of the faith until the "high holy days" are in the rearview mirror. Then, after taking a deep breath, I am able to spend that time reflecting on what has taken place, and the importance of those experiences for my life and my faith.

This year was different, and I can attribute it to a group of kids from our Myanmar community. On Easter Sunday (and again in the Myanmar service), I had a chance to see this group dance as they acted out the story of Holy Week (from crucifixion to resurrection) along with some incredibly well chosen music. Maman (their Sunday School teacher) helped them prepare this dance and rehearsed it – though I was told only three times which amazes me to this day. They were so filled with commitment and passion as they danced it was almost impossible not to be swept up in the power of the moment. I am so appreciative of their hard work, and for sharing the story of Easter with us ... in a new way.

As adults, we become familiar with the stories of the faith. We learn who did what when, and even have some sense of why things happened the way they did. It is easy to experience events like Easter as a purely "head" kind of thing, where we let the meaning of it be an academic experience. The dance helped me, and from what I hear, others, allow the story of Easter to become more of a "heart" experience.

We say at LABC that we have so much to teach our children, but also so much to learn from them. This was again another experience for me where the children have so much to share with all of us in the LABC family, if only given the opportunity to do so. I am so glad that Maman asked me to incorporate the young people into the Easter Sunday service.

My hope is that as we move through the year to come, that we will allow the stories to not simply resound in our heads, but to resonate with our hearts. As we learn together, study together, worship together, and praise together, may we all allow the Spirit of God to settle into the very depths of our being, and transform us as the only the Spirit can.

And may we also remember that each of us, no matter the age, ability, gender or language, have something to share to the community. Let us use our giftings to the good of our church community as we grow together.

Blessings,
Michael



It seems that a plastic bag ban in NYS is just a small way of dealing with a very big

problem, but it is a start! Here are some eye-popping statistics about plastic:

--In the past 10 years, more plastic has been produced than in the whole of the last century

--about 50% of the plastic we use is single-use, so it gets thrown away

--billions of pounds of plastic can be found in swirling convergences in the oceans—the largest is the Great Pacific Garbage Patch in the north Pacific; this floating mass of plastic is twice the size of Texas.

--the average cost of bottled water is \$7.50/gallon while the cost of tap water is \$0.04/gal.

--plastic chemicals can be absorbed by the body—for example, 93% of Americans over age 6 Test positive for BPA (a plastic chemical).

NEW DISPLAY IN THE CABINET IN THE NARTHEX BY OUR HISTORIAN GARTH BROKAW:

THE LAKE AVENUE PLAYERS TAKE TO THE STAGE

In 1925 the Young Women's Class presented a play titled, "Romance Hunters". About the same year or earlier another presentation was made, "A Mock Trial" but we do not know who produced this play. In 1926 the Business & Professional Girl's Class presented two plays, "A Case of Suspension" and "Prexy's Proxy". In 1928 the Lake Avenue Players was organized as an experiment in a "new activity of church life". One could surmise (operative word being, surmise) that the "girl's classes" stage productions planted the seed for the formation of the Players. The purpose of the Players was, "to provide still another interest in the lives of Lake Avenue members and to give clean entertainment as well as exemplification through the great religious

dramas". Most of their productions were comedy, mystery and religious drama although heavier on the two former.

Perhaps the first production by the Players was "Dulcy" presented in January 1929. The Players became a formal entity within the church structure, meeting regularly, and having officers. They also had captains for all the functions that go into a stage production, coaching, staging, scenery, properties, costumes, make-up, music and publicity. By the 1933-34 season (October through May) they produced ten plays, two and three acts. The last record we have of the Players is minutes from their October 28, 1952 meeting in which they discuss the Christmas pageant they will produce for that year.

The current display is a first installment representing the years 1925 to 1935. The thirties seem to have been the peek years for the Players. At another time we will mount another display that represents 1936-1952. This display will only run for the remainder of April and through the month of May. Please stop by and take a look.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Thank you!

•The following letter was received from Cameron Community Ministries:

"To the people of Lake Avenue Memorial Baptist Church, On behalf of Cameron Community Ministries, I would like to thank you for the donation you recently made to our organization. Because of your contributions, we continue to be able to provide hope through emergency services, engagement, education, and empowerment to the people in our community. Again, we thank you for helping us succeed in our mission and we hope for your continued support. Sincerely, Jennifer Muniga, Executive Director, Cameron Community Ministries."

•**Norma Stoneham has settled into her new home in Massachusetts.** If you wish to send her

good wishes, her new address is 24 Mall Road, #209, Burlington, MA 01803.

•Please keep in your prayers **Margaret "Peg" Witmer** as she continues to struggle with ongoing health problems. Peg would enjoy notes and cards from the members of this church. Her address is Peg Witmer c/o St. John's Home, 150 Highland Ave. Rm. 201, Rochester, NY, 14620. Also please keep **Larry Witmer** in your prayers as he continues to care for his wife Peg. His new address is 45 Meadowbrook Road, Rochester, NY 14620-3029.



With a Grateful Heart

I am so filled with thanksgiving for my church family at Lake Avenue Baptist. Not only have I felt the support of your prayers and your hugs when I do manage to get to church (ahem), but I was overwhelmed by the amount of time and energy LABC folk put into making sure the Celebration of the Region and Installation on Saturday, April 13, was a phenomenal event. Although I'm loathe to risk missing thanking someone, I do want to specifically highlight a handful of people with whom I worked directly and really went above and beyond to make sure it was a great day:

•Lee Foster had to put up with not being able to get full information about what he would be expected to do until just a couple of days before the service but handled it with grace and aplomb. His gifts and skills were a wonderful addition to the day!

•Ken Setera did double-bulletin-duty that week and found a beautiful bulletin cover, plus managing the myriad changes we had to make even after he had everything already laid out.

•My good friend Hkadin Lee--who received a special gift from God of some Fisher students at the last minute--did an amazing job handling the reception, and my thanks also go to her friends who helped her in the prep and serving of the day. Thanks for the "Burmese flair!"

•And, of course, there's Pastor Michael, who not only re-built my Dad's cross and attended to the many logistical details that were involved, but also served as my pastor through the process, keeping me from devolving from the stress.

It was a day of surprise and joy for me, and I am still treasuring the memories. What is most significant to me, however, is the number of people who commented to me afterwards, "I didn't realize what a talented and committed region we had!" Exactly

my goal for the day, and I'm so glad that LABC played such a significant role in helping me spread that message.

Thank you, thank you, and many times thank you. God continues to use you mightily.

Sandy Hasenauer, a daughter of LABC (and Executive Minister of ABC/RGR)

THANKS FROM OUR WORSHIP AND MUSIC COMMITTEE

Susan Maybeck, Chair

The season of Lent and Holy Week are past and now we move into the season of Easter - celebrating and appreciating the new life and hope that is represented in the Resurrection. But before we go forth into this new season, I want to reflect on what has lead up to it.

Worship and Music are central in our gathering together as a community on Sundays and during Holy Week. And it takes an entire church community to bring worship to life.

We had a variety of preachers sharing the message: Michael, Simon, Marian, and myself. The choir outdid itself with marvelous, spiritual music on Sundays and Good Friday. Thanks to the leadership of Lee and the support of our choral scholars, Gabriel, Ken, Julia, and Alex. Various groups provided special music that was very moving: the African Singers, the Good News Choir, Burmese singers, young and younger. Our kids enjoyed an Easter egg hunt thanks to Austin and all the teachers. Easter brunch was fabulous and efficiently served. Thanks to Soe Win and her many helpers for the beauty of the flowers and the delicious meal. Then there are so many contributors behind the scenes: Hkadin who translates, ushers who greet, flower arrangers, banner makers, donators who bring flowers and food. And a shout out to Ken who produced such beautiful and complete bulletins each week.

It does take our entire community to share the meaning of Lent and Holy Week and Easter in worship. Thanks to you all for being part of our worshipping community!

ECUMENICAL COOPERATION IN ROCHESTER 100 YEARS AND BEYOND

THE 28TH ANNUAL FAITH IN ACTION CELEBRATION DINNER, JUNE 4, 2019

The dinner will take place at the Burgundy Basin Inn, 1361 Marsh Road, Pittsford, NY on Tuesday, June

4th. The gathering will be at 5:30 pm followed at 6:00 pm with dinner and program. The guest speakers are Sr. Barbara Moore, Ecumenical Teacher and Leader and Rev. Michael Ford, Pastor, Lake Avenue Baptist Church. The Lake Avenue Baptist Church honoree for this year is Ken Setera, our church office manager. The cost is \$40.00 per person or \$60.00 per patron. The dinner choices are boneless stuffed chicken breast, vegetarian lasagna or sirloin of beef with mushrooms (salad and dessert are included). For special diets call GRCC-FIAN at 254-2570. The deadline to reserve your seat is May 20, 2019. If you plan to attend please fill out the reservation form and indicate your dinner choice and mail it or deliver it to the Lake Ave. Baptist Church office along with your check. Please make out your check to "Lake Avenue Baptist Church" and indicate GRCC-FIAN in the memo of the check. Reservation forms will be available at the Welcome Center of the church.

A NOTE ABOUT SUNDAY, MAY 19TH WORSHIP AND ADULT EDUCATION



On May 19th we are privileged to have as our guest preacher and leader for Adult Education **Anton Flores-Maisonet**. Anton Flores-Maisonet is the cofounder of Casa Alterna, a Christian missional community based in Georgia and comprised of U.S. citizens and Latin American immigrants. In 2006, Flores-Maisonet left his tenure-track faculty position at a private college to follow a call to a life of solidarity with newcomers from Latin America, especially unauthorized and unwelcomed immigrants. Anton is a past chair of the steering committee of Christian Peacemaker Teams. He has also served on the boards of directors of DOOR (a ministry of Mennonite Mission Network) and Jubilee Partners and has taught courses at the Central America Study and Service program (CASAS) of the Latin American Anabaptist Seminary (SEMILLA) in Guatemala. We hope you will be able to attend this special service and adult education opportunity.

Lara’s Library Linkups

LOCAL COMMUNITY NEWS OF INTEREST

May Events for Kids at Brighton Memorial Library:

**(2300 Elmwood Ave. Rochester, NY 14618
585-784-5300)**

- **National Screen Free Week:** Monday, April 29-Sunday, May 5; The library is giving up their screens for entertainment this week! The two Internet computers and iPad in the Children’s Center (let someone know if you need one for homework) and the two iPads in the Discovery Room will be turned off. Instead, they’ll have puzzles and games available for use.
- **Library Learning Lab: Life in the Genesee:** Friday, May 3 at 10:30 am; Discover the relationship between our local waterways and the animals that live there with the Seneca Park Zoomobile and at the library’s multimedia centers filled with hands-on learning activities, for pre-K through 12th graders and their caregivers. Stop at the Children’s Center, or call 784-5300 (option 1), to register. **Parents, this is a great way to expose your kids to Creation Care!!!**

May Event for Teens at Brighton Memorial Library

- **Practice ACT:** Saturday, May 18 from 10 am – 2 pm; presented by Chariot Learning; open to grades 9-12; Stop at the Info Center, or call 784-5300 (option 2), to sign up.

May Event for Adults at Brighton Memorial Library

- **Sunday Serenades: Panloco Steel Pan Duo:** Sunday, May 5 from 2-3 pm; Enjoy a concert of steel drum music.

**LAKE AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH
SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FOR THE
2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR**

Applications for the 2019-2020 Lake Avenue Baptist Church Scholarships for college studies, for vocational school, for American Baptist affiliated colleges or Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School or other recognized seminary are currently being accepted. The applications can be obtained at the Welcome Center in the Narthex or by contacting the church office at 458-5765 or emailing the office at lakeavebaptistchurchoffice@gmail.com. The deadline date for submission will be Friday, July 19, 2019. If you have any questions please contact the church office. Scholarship recipients will be announced by mid-August.

COMMUNITY EVENTS OF INTEREST

● **On Thursday, May 9 at 7:30 pm Third Presbyterian Church on East Ave. and Meigs St. will present the Schola Antiqua of Chicago in a concert entitled "Sounds of Faith in Medieval Jerusalem."** The Schola Antiqua is an acclaimed early music vocal ensemble led by Eastman musicology professor, Michael Alan Anderson. This program features sacred music including Georgian and Armenian hymns, Sufi devotional music and Jewish, Christian, and Muslim calls to prayer. The performance offers a rare opportunity for the Rochester community to share in a rich experience with a mix of music of many faiths all emanating from medieval Jerusalem. GRCC is among the co-sponsors of this event. The cost is \$10.00 general admission, \$5.00 student admission with ID, and children under 13 free. Tickets can be purchased at the door or at www.thirdpresbyterian.brownpaper tickets.com.

● **FREE Youth Mental Health First Aid Course offered by the Finger Lakes Performing Provider System and Delphi Drug and Alcohol Council.** The course is hosted by the University of Rochester's Office of Mental Health Promotion. This course teaches people how to help an adolescent who is experiencing a mental health challenge, substance use disorder, or is in crisis. There will be hands on activities and practice, training in how to utilize a 5-step action plan, typical adolescent behavior vs. potential warning signs, overview of local mental health resources and other supports, a manual with information on all topics in the course, and 3 year YMHFA Certification upon completion of the training. Location is the Welcome Education, and Resource Center, Room G.9266 in the Department of Psychiatry's Office of Mental Health

Promotion, 300 Crittenden Blvd. This course will take place on Saturday, May 18 from 8:30 am to 5:30 pm and you must attend the entire session. To register contact Jenny_hernandez@urmc.rochester.edu

● **Calling all people of all faiths to unite in protecting God's creation!**

If you are concerned about the world we are passing on to those who are following us, you are invited to an Interfaith Climate Summit that will help translate anxiety into faithful, hope-inspiring action. On Sunday afternoon, May 19, you can join with people of all faiths in sharing inspiration and prayers for God's Creation in different voices. Then engage in workshops to learn current best practices for recycling, handling food waste, creating a community garden, making buildings more sustainable, and engaging people in actively drawing down greenhouse gases. The information will be useful for individuals, households and faith communities. There will also be a workshop by and for youth.

This Interfaith Climate Summit will be held Sunday, May 19, at Greece Baptist Church, 1230 Long Pond Rd. (just north of W. Ridge Rd.), Rochester, NY 14626. Registration and tabling begin at 1:30 p.m., and the program is 2:00-5:00. The event is sponsored by the Rochester Area Interfaith Climate Action. You can register without charge at www.RAICA.net. Childcare is available upon registration.

Now is the time for people of faith to rise to this global challenge together, lead by example, and become agents of hope that inspire others to follow. We invite you to bring others with you who can be part of this growing movement to protect this planet that has been entrusted into our care

Church Moderator: Laura Tubbs

Church Staff: Sr. Pastor: Michael Ford; Music Educator, Chancel Choir Director, & Organist: Lee Foster
Refugee Coordinator: Hkadin Lee; Director of Youth and Children's Ministry: Austin Pettigrew
Myanmar Christian Fellowship: Pastor Simon Kui; Church Accountant: Bonaventure Moulogho
Office Manager: Kenneth Setera; Custodial Services: Lloyd Cuyler

