

Lake Avenue Baptist Church, 72 Ambrose Street, Rochester, NY 14608
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Lake Avenue Baptist Church

E-MAIL:

lakeavebaptistchurchoffice@gmail.com

OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Friday
10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

SUNDAY SCHEDULE:

10:00 am: Worship for all, Sunday School Children & Youth (Communion every first Sunday of the month)
11:15 am: Fellowship
11:45 am: Adult Education
12:00 pm: Karen Worship
Burmese Worship

CHURCH MODERATOR

Tom Argust

CHURCH STAFF

Sr. Pastor
Michael Ford

Associate Pastor
Debbie Bennett Reynolds

Music Educator, Chancel Choir
Director and Organist
Lee Foster

Gospel Spirits Director and Pianist
Isobel Davies

Refugee Coordinator
Hkadin Lee

Karen Lay Pastor
Day Chit

Burmese Lay Pastor
Simon Kui

Office Manager
Ken Setera

Custodial Services
Lloyd Cuyler

CHURCH CALENDAR: To see the most up-to-date calendar of church events please visit the Lake Avenue Baptist Church website at www.lakeavebaptist.org.

Our Pastor's Article

This past Sunday we as a congregation full of family and friends had the privilege of sharing in the musical “Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat.” Our youth did an absolutely outstanding job, though I will leave their accolades to another article. What I wanted to share in my article is the power of how “Joseph” came into being, and to fruition.

It started with an idea. In a conversation between our Music and Worship Committee and our Music Educator, Organist and Chancel Choir Director, Lee Foster, the idea was broached about doing some sort of a play or musical. Lee jumped on the idea and was off and running. Before too long he had chosen “Joseph,” acquired the scripts, and developed a basic plan to take the play from the page to the stage.

Lee raised the possibility with our youth, and interest was certainly piqued. It didn't take our youth many rehearsals before they were hooked. Schedules made it difficult for all of the youth who started rehearsals to be available up until the final production, but many of our young people had an opportunity to be part of the play at various points along the way.

Though Lee was absolutely the driving force behind the musical, it was not a one man endeavor. There were so many other people involved, from music to driving, from costumes to sets, parents and other volunteers helped out along the way. Lee engaged people in various ways, allowing people to be part of the production.

The end product was absolutely outstanding! We were all blessed to be a part of it.

The reason I am so quickly recounting the undertaking of this musical production, is because that is how church works! Let me explain a little bit.

It starts with an idea. Someone feels called or compelled to do something specific in the church. When that idea is floated out to others, it gets traction. Sometimes ideas do not get the traction they need, and they are effectively shelved for another time, but they are always somewhere in people's minds for another day. The ideas that do get the traction they need start off slowly.

People are engaged with the new idea and make a decision about whether they can get involved, or more importantly, want to get involved. All things are not for everybody, and they do not need to be. There are enough things going on at LABC for people to pick and choose what they feel called to be involved in. The musical engaged many people, and some only for a short time, others for the duration.

Ideas in church do not need to be done independent from everything else that takes place. In fact, they really can't be, because all things do in large and small ways impact others. From volunteerism to time usage, from space allocations to people's individual time commitments, activities in church impact others. We all have to work together to make sure things work out as well as they can. All activities in church need us to make a commitment to work together.

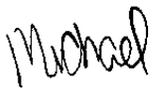
And there will be setbacks. There are times when ideas do not work the way we hope they will for a number of reasons. The challenge is to learn from those setbacks and move forward.

Finally, ideas in church have a life cycle. The youth could not continue to rehearse forever. They would lose their interest. The space might get very busy and become difficult to share each week. Our other choirs would again start up and compete for people's time and attention. For so many reasons all ideas must come to fulfillment, and then we move on to other things. These are not "deaths" of one idea, but rather new beginnings of other new, and old, things that are either begun or resurrected.

This is church. Ideas, engagement, support and involvement, and resolution. Lee and our youth demonstrated through "Joseph" how we as a church must act as we work, grow, and play together.

Thank you so much to Lee, the volunteers, and our youth, for putting together such an outstanding presentation. But also thank you to Lee and all involved for showing us how we as a church can take on new ideas, work together, learn from our struggles, and celebrate our successes. May God continue to bless our ministry together as we continue to serve God and glory in God's presence.

Blessings,



LABC WORSHIP FOR SEPTEMBER

Sunday, September 4, 2016: 10:00 am: Worship & Communion for all; Summer Sunday School for children and youth; 11:15 am: Fellowship; 12:00 pm: Karen Fellowship Worship, Myanmar Christian Fellowship Worship. We collect our Fellowship Offering.

Sunday, September 11, 2016: 10:00 am: Worship for all; Sunday School for children & Youth; 11:15 am: Fellowship; 11:45 am: Adult Education; 12:00 pm: Karen Fellowship Worship and Myanmar Christian Fellowship Worship.

Sunday, September 18, 2016: 10:00 am: Worship for all; Sunday School for Children and Youth; 11:15 am: Fellowship; 11:30 am: Adult Education, Conference Room; 12:00 pm: Karen Fellowship Worship and Myanmar Christian Fellowship Worship.

Sunday, September 25, 2016: 10:00 am: Worship for all; Sunday School for Children and Youth; 11:15 am: Fellowship; 11:30 am: Adult Education; 12:00 pm: Karen Fellowship Worship and Myanmar Christian Fellowship Worship.

LABC FALL 2016 ADULT EDUCATION SCHEDULE

September 11: Coming Together: a time of reflection and sharing.

- September 18: Our church historian, Garth Brokaw, will share a presentation of photos and stories about the life and work of Dr. Marcena Ricker, founder of the Fairport Baptist Home and long-time member of LABC.
- September 25: Worship Forum led by Michael Ford.
- Oct. 2-Nov. 6: "Embracing the Prophets" a 6 session video series by Dr. Walter Bruggemann, a prominent OT scholar, explores the OT prophets and helps us draw connections between Israel's sociological, economic, and spiritual status and America today.
- Nov. 13 & 20: Stewardship Emphasis.
- Nov. 27-Dec.18: Advent Bible Study.

MID WEEK ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY

As we prepare to move into the fall season at LABC, we are excited about once again offering a mid-week adult education opportunity. Each Thursday, beginning on **Thursday, September 15, 2016 at 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.** all who are interested are invited to gather in the conference room for a time of study and fellowship.

This fall, we will be doing a book study on Dietrich Bonhoeffer and will be using one of his works as a starting point for what will be wonderful conversation. Please join us. If you can't make it every week, don't fret. We will provide a schedule of readings so you are welcome to pop in when you can.



One of the greatest gifts that we as pastors have is the joy of providing pastoral care to the people who call LABC home. The challenge that we have is that keeping aware of the needs of the congregation can become somewhat complex. We need your help!

If you notice people who have not been in church for an extended period of time, please let Pastor Michael or Pastor Debbie know. If you know of someone who has been in hospital/nursing home/rehabilitation, please let us know. If you know of someone who is going in for a medical procedure (or if you are yourself!) please let us know. Chances are pretty good that we already know many of these things, but by knowing we have more eyes and ears out there, it helps to ensure that people don't slip through the cracks. It means that we are all able to care for those in our congregation so that they know they are loved!

The only caveat ... please respect people's privacy. If you are aware that people have asked you not to share any information, please honor that request. Also, please don't share information publicly unless you have permission (i.e. please don't put in prayer requests for the sharing of our prayer celebrations and concerns time in worship unless you have permission, and even then please don't be too descriptive so that we can honor people's privacy).

Thanks again for helping your pastors care for our LABC family!



Did you know that LABC is a busy place? It is! We have a number of our own groups using the building on a regular basis, plus a lot of other groups that use our space for meetings, gatherings, and from time to

time, special events. Although we ask people to clean up after themselves, there are times when there are messes left behind. We need everyone to help keep LABC clean and tidy. We do employ custodial services, but if we each do our little part to help tidy up our building it makes our custodial services that much more effective, because they can spend their time on the bigger jobs that LABC needs to have done on a regular basis.

Ways you can help:

1. If you see garbage, pick it up and throw it in the trash containers
2. If you have recycling, put it in the recycling containers

3. If you see people throwing garbage on the ground, politely remind them that we have a number of trash containers in the building and ask them to put garbage in them

Together let's keep our building clean and tidy, and do our part for our earth, a gift from God that has been entrusted to our care!



The Mission Committee of LABC is sponsoring a time for voter registration and information on Saturday, September 10 beginning at 10:00 am in the social hall. You can come in at any time between 10:00 am and 12:00 noon. If you are a new citizen

who is not registered, friendly faces will be here to help you with the process. If you are already registered, but want more information, more friendly faces will answer your questions. We will have sample ballots and will help with understanding the process. Please spread the word to your friends and neighbors!

DO YOU SING?

In the shower? Outdoors? In the car? In church? Anywhere? Did you sing in a group once upon a time? The Chancel Choir is about to resume singing in worship. We would really like to have additional voices, whether you once sang or would

like to try out singing with a lively, fun group. Anyone in grade 9 through any age is welcome to join the Chancel Choir. Unsure about your music reading ability? I will be glad to assist your learning. You can email me at bfoster1@rochester.rr.com or call me at 544-0378 (Home) or 455-2063 (Cell) or. We have some really fun, exciting new music for the new season. **We need YOU.** Our first rehearsal is Wednesday, **September 7 at 7:30 in the sanctuary.** Lee Foster



●**In Memoriam:** We also remember long time member **Jim Wandling** who passed away peacefully at the age of 102 on Thursday, August 25. The family is planning a memorial service for sometime in September.

●We continue to keep in our healing prayers **Sidney Blythe** who is recuperating from a recent illness in the rehab section of the Episcopal Home.

●Our continued prayers for **Than Sein** and her family as they continue to care for her in her illness.

●We keep in our prayers **Khatom Lamai-Sorreles'** mother who lives in Burma and who is very ill. We also pray for safe travel for **Khatom** who is currently in Burma visiting her mother and family.

●Please keep **Vern Thayer** in your healing prayers as he deals with recent health issues.

●We extend our sympathy to the family of **Michelle Lopez** as they mourn the passing of her Aunt Paula.

●Congratulations to **Seng Ja** and **Awng Mai** on the celebration of their wedding on Saturday, September 3, 2016.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR LABC SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS!

The LABC Scholarship Committee recently met and after reviewing this year's applications, we were able to offer awards for the upcoming 2016-17 academic year to these individuals:

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|---------------------------------|---|
| Ms. Aye Yi Chan | Rochester Institute of Technology (Accounting) |
| Mr. Simon Aung Kui | Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School (Theology & Pastoral Care) |
| Ms. Aye Mon Chan | Monroe Community College (Accounting) |
| Ms. Silver Law | Nazareth College (Biology) |
| Mr. Bonaventure Moulougo | Rochester Institute of Technology (Accounting) |

The prayers & best wishes of our congregation go with these worthy students as they begin studies this year in pursuit of their future professional goals.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

●**In Memoriam:** We remember long time church member **Judy Eysvogel** who passed away on Wednesday morning, August 24, 2016. We extend our condolences to John and Peter Eysvogel and their family as they mourn her passing.

We would like to encourage members and friends of LABC to consider a contribution to our church's scholarship fund so that we can continue to provide partial financial assistance to individuals in our congregation who might be pursuing higher education or other short-term vocational training/study opportunities. Thank you!

(LABC Scholarship Committee - Don Beech, Bill Gibbs, Debbie Bennett Reynolds)



A New Season Begins

Sunday, September 11th

On Sunday, September 11, we will kick off our new year in Sunday School for all ages. We hope you will make a commitment to be a regular participant in Sunday School this year! You will have a good time and you will grow in your Christian discipleship and your relationships with others.

We have a great team of teachers, and we are so grateful for the commitment they make. Please prayerfully consider if God is calling you to join in our ministry of Christian education in some way. Whether you feel called to help teach children and youth, plan and/or lead adult education, coordinate and plan youth activities, or help distribute snacks, we want to use your gifts. Please talk to Pastor Debbie if you are interested.



Saturday, September 17th from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. in the Church Social Hall

On Saturday, September 17th, at 2 p.m. Nurture & Care Committee is planning a Ladies Tea: a special time of fellowship for women and older girls (age 9 and up). We want to get to know each other better, share cultural traditions, and have a time of worship together. If you have special food or drink from your culture, please bring some to share.

AMERICAN BAPTIST WOMEN'S MINISTRIES AND KACHIN BAPTIST WOMEN'S DEPARTMENT HOST WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP EXCHANGE.

Valley Forge, PA: American Baptist Women's Ministries and the Kachin Baptist Women's Department of Kachin Baptist Convention, Myanmar, hosted a women's leadership exchange in 2016. In April 2016 Rev. Sandra DeMott Hasenauer, associate executive director of American Baptist women's ministries, and Hkadin Lahtaw Lee, member of Lake Avenue Baptist Church, Lake Ave. Baptist Church Refugee Coordinator, and ethnically Kachin were keynote speakers at the Kachin Baptist Women's Conference in Namti, Kachin State, Myanmar. Hasenauer and Lee brought greetings from American Baptist Women's Ministries and American Baptist Churches USA, as well as from Kachin Baptists in the United States. Additionally, they led a time of biblical reflection and Rev. Hasenauer preached. There were over 6,000 Kachin Baptist women at this event, including many who have been displaced from their homes and are living in temporary camps due to continued military action and conflicts with drug traffickers. Hasenauer and Lee had visited several Kachin IDP camps in 2014 and were reunited during this conference with one of the women they met during that visit.

This past July, two women in leadership in the Kachin Baptist Women's Department of the Kachin Baptist Convention attended "3D: Dwelling, Discovering, Discipling" the national event for women and girls in Washington, D.C. sponsored by American Baptist Women's Ministries. They also participated in the conference and after-event, "How, Then, Shall We Lead, Leadership Capacity Development", led by Rev. Sandra Hasenauer.

AB Women's Ministries Executive Director Virginia Holmstrom noted the significance of this leadership exchange. "During a mission encounter to Myanmar in December 2013 American Baptist women had a remarkable prayer meeting with Kachin Baptist women. We Americans listened to the tragic stories of our Kachin sisters who described fleeing for their lives when military soldiers set their homes, villages, and churches aflame." The meeting resulted in continued communications, support, and advocacy for the Kachin IDPs in Burma.