

SAVE THE DATE – MAY 19-20, 2017

Save the Date. On May 19 and 20, 2017, the Capital Area Baptist Association will present the program, *Healthy Congregations*. The Lombard Mennonite Peace Center will lead this program which is for clergy and congregants specifically designed to improve people's capacity to calmly articulate what they think and value, and to act on that basis, while staying in active relationship with those who may disagree.

This is another important growth opportunity for our church. In our church's profile, we acknowledged that we have a history of being uncomfortable in dealing with conflicts. This workshop helps congregations develop approaches to discussing differing views while preserving the fellowship within the church. The program consists of two segments. The Friday segment runs from 7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. The Saturday segment starts at 9:00 a.m. and concludes at 4:30 p.m. The cost will be for the workbook, \$20, and a small hospitality fee for snacks, meals, and beverages. There will be more details coming – but for now – save the date!

CARE CORNER

Please pray for continued opportunities to invite people to faith and new people to fellowship in the church.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS **MARCH**



"If Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless, and so is your faith."

Paul wrote those words to his friends at the church of Corinth. They are powerful words intended to shock his readers to understand the significance of the resurrection on Easter morning. If Jesus did not rise from the dead, then all the talk about the forgiveness of sin, eternal life, the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, and so for and so on is all useless babble. Christianity is wholly dependent upon the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me will live, even if he dies." The death and resurrection of Jesus would thus become the supreme act of God's love and our source for hope now and for all time. Paul wrote triumphantly, "Christ has indeed been raised from the dead...so in Christ all will be made alive."

We are now engaged in a series of sermons following Jesus on the road to Easter morning to celebrate His resurrection. We are following that road through Jesus' first sermon which is laden with blessings from God. Please do not miss the opportunity to reflect on Jesus' words and His desire to see you blessed. (It really is alright to slow down a little bit and take the time to be with Christ.)

Peace,

Pastor George

PS – If you missed a church service during our current series you can always listen or read the message online at:
<http://www.lathambaptist.org/sermons>

SCHEDULE OF MAJOR EVENTS FOR MARCH

	<p>Monday, March 6 - We will serve a community meal and distribute personal care items at TAUM in Troy at 6:00 pm.</p>
	<p>Saturday, March 11 at 10:00 a.m. – Join us for our third meeting of Mission Team Building for a workshop with Mike Saccocio, Executive Director, Schenectady City Mission.</p>
	<p>Wednesday, March 15 & 29 – The LCBC small group will meet with dinner and bible study. Dinner at 6:00 pm and study at 7:00 pm. Please join.</p>
	<p>Saturday, April 1 at 9:00 a.m. – Join us for our final meeting of Mission Team Building.</p>
	<p>Monday, April 3 - We will serve a community meal and distribute personal care items at TAUM in Troy at 6:00 pm.</p>

UPCOMING MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

We have a few mission opportunities coming in the next few months.

- “Twice Fed” Ministry at the backstretch of Saratoga Racetrack will begin again in late April. Every Monday evening, a different church in the area will serve a meal to the backstretch workers and lead a short worship service. We will be provided the opportunity to serve a couple of times this season.
- “Twice Led” Ministry is an outreach to the women of the Saratoga Racetrack. Women from CABA churches and the backstretch gather every Wednesday evening to quilt, sew, and knit. This has been a wonderful outreach and time to share the gospel message.
- Forts Ferry Elementary School Summer Program – This summer we will again have the opportunity to help families of our neighbor school who will not have access to free breakfast and lunch. Just a reminder about 22% of all the children at Forts Ferry school receive free or reduced price meals.
- Forts Ferry Elementary School Back-to-School – We have an opportunity to help children in need get ready for school. This summer we will be looking to collect and buy some back to school supplies for children in need.

Our mission statement is “Centered in Christ; Serving Our Community.” Becoming part of the community and finding those opportunities to share God’s love is a call on each of us.

NEW MEMBER CLASS

On March 4, 2017, we held a class for four prospective members to LCBC. We are working through the process to have these individuals join the church. If you are interested in baptism and/or membership to the church, please contact Pastor George. Membership in an active Christian community is an important part of our faith walk.