

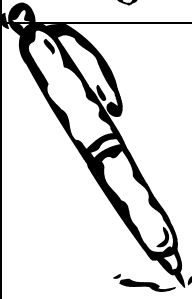
The Village Voice



VOL XII NO. IV

April 2008

From the Pastor....



Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the measure of faith God has given you. Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man's gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith. If it is serving, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach; if it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously; if it is leadership, let him govern diligently; if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully (Romans 12: 1-8).

Dear Church Family,

Throughout April we will be studying how God

uses people to build his church and we shall see that positions and places of responsibility in life are graciously given to us by Jesus Christ. There was no World Court that elected Moses and gave him power over Pharaoh, nor some Nautical Society that supplied Noah with the needed specifications. And certainly, neither Jew nor Gentile had reason to believe Paul would make a great Christian, nor would they have selected fisherman, a tax collector, etc. to turn the world upside down with power (would great war generals like Patton or MacArthur have commissioned a man like Gideon!).

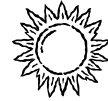
But this is exactly the pattern we see in Scripture. It is God who exalts us, and it is his great pleasure to do so! He loves to confound the strong with the weak, the wise with the simple, the proud with the humble, all of Hell with the person of faith. Jesus Christ rules the nations. Cannot the Emperor do with his children what he wishes; must God first gain permission from the world?! As we read in Revelation, "And to the angel of the Church of Philadelphia, write: 'The words of the holy one, the true one, who has the Key of David, who opens and no one shall shut, who shuts and no one opens'".

We are trusting that the Lord will so stir us, and supply huge mountains of confidence and faith, that we may seize the opportunities that lie before us and advance his kingdom on earth. May God's grace and strength be upon us!

Much love to all in Christ,

Pastor Richard

Cazenovia Village Baptist Church



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We are Praying for:

Dustie Tenney, Mary El-Amir, Ellen Clarke, Carol Bentley, Janice Dell, Elizabeth Mansfield, Marcia Parker, and Rosemary Strohl. Please remember these, and others who come to your mind, in your prayers throughout the weeks ahead.

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New Secretarial Office Hours



Grace will be in the Church office on **Fridays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.** If you need to contact her any time during the week please use her personal email address, gracejevans@yahoo.com or call her at 662-3973.

If you have any questions regarding the newsletter or would like any items included in next months issue please email Grace at gracejevans@yahoo.com

Cheerful Notes



It is my hope that all of you have by now noticed around our church the posters announcing the performance of the *REQUIEM* by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756 – 91) to be given by the Syracuse Chorale on Sunday, April 6, 2008. That is today! If you are reading this column at church or right after, you still have time to drive to Most Holy

Rosary Church, 111 Roberts Avenue on the West Side of Syracuse and hear this wonderful work...Mozart's last and unfinished... accompanied by the Syracuse Symphony and conducted by yours truly. We are singing the Central New York premiere of the recent completion of Mozart's work by Harvard Professor, musicologist, and piano virtuoso, Robert D. Levin, a most wonderful man!

When I think on the magnitude of Mozart's genius, I am reminded of a remark I heard long ago in a speech by President John F. Kennedy to a top "think tank" of his day: "When I look about the room, I am in awe of the collective genius gathered around me in this place. I dare say that in all American history there has not been this magnitude of brain power in a single room since Thomas Jefferson sat alone in his study at Monticello!" JFK could have said the same thing about Mozart as he sat alone, composing or playing the keyboard, or one of the many other instruments he had mastered before he reached the age of 18. He was simply light years ahead of all of his peers in composing and performing! And his *REQUIEM* might be the greatest of all of his marvelous works.

When the 35-year-old Mozart died in the early morning hours of December 5, 1791, after singing, though bedfast, through all of the completed sections of the *REQUIEM* along with some colleagues, he left the work unfinished. But in less than three months later, a completed score of the *REQUIEM* was delivered to its anonymous commissioner. Mozart had received the commission to compose the work in July of 1791, from a mysterious "Gray Messenger." The messenger paid half of the commission in advance, but insisted upon guarding his patron's anonymity. The composer had already accepted another commission to compose an opera, *La Clemenza di Tito*, for the coronation of King Leopold II as King of Bohemia. Mozart completed the opera in 18 days and conducted at its premiere in Prague on September 6th.

Mozart then furiously worked on a revision of his greatest opera, *The Magic Flute*, completed it, and conducted its premiere on September 30th. On October 7th, he completed his *Concerto in A* for Clarinet. From October 8th through November 20th, he composed the motet, *Ave Verum Corpus* (our chancel Choir sings it as *Jesu, Word of God Incarnate*), and worked on his final horn concerto and the *REQUIEM*. In his exhausted state, he became convinced that

the mysterious Messenger had come to warn him of his own mortality and that he was indeed composing the work for his own death. Concerned with this morbidity, Mozart's wife, Constanze, hid the *REQUIEM* score from him and forbade him to work on it for a few weeks. When he resumed work on it in mid-November, he became ill and took to his bed. His friend and student, Franz Xaver Süssmayr, sat at his bedside and took dictation of the score from the composer, whose hands were too swollen for him to be able to use a pen. Süssmayr was one of the singers at Mozart's bedside on the afternoon of December 4th, when Mozart broke into uncontrollable sobbing while singing the beginning of the famous *Lacrimosa* movement. He died less than twelve hours later.

In dire need of money to support herself and her two young sons, Constanze asked several noted composers to complete the *REQUIEM* so that she could collect the balance of the commission. Each composer, after briefly working with Mozart's score, felt unequal to the task. Mozart's students Freystädler and Eybler filled in some of the orchestration, but it at last fell to Süssmayr to actually complete the score. Constanze gave him scraps of paper on which Mozart had sketched ideas for the unfinished portions of the Requiem, many of which Süssmayr discarded in his haste. He was able to imitate Mozart's handwriting and rushed to meet the February deadline imposed by the Messenger. Süssmayr forged Mozart's signature on the title page of the finished score and gave no indication that he had composed any part of it. After the delivery of the score, Mozart's widow set about to destroy her husband's unused sketch leaves.

Constanze Mozart was not content with the fee she received from the Messenger and had two copies of the *REQUIEM* made for her own use. She sold one to King Friedrich Wilhelm II of Prussia, and in 1799, she sold the other one to publishers Breitkopf & Hartel of Leipzig. Learning of this pending publication, the anonymous patron, Franz Count von Walsegg, finally revealed himself. The Count confessed that he had commissioned the work in honor of his late young wife, Anna, and had passed it off as his own composition at her memorial service. With that confession a great controversy arose, fueled also by a letter to the publishers from Süssmayr, who claimed that he had composed three of the movements of the work himself.

The ensuing controversy has continued for the more than 200 years that the Mozart *REQUIEM*, in Süssmayr's completed form, has been performed to great acclaim in the great concert halls, cathedrals, and churches of the world.

Cheerful notes is continued on page 6

Monthly Volunteer Schedule

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

- 6- Roxy Spano
13- Sylvia Hopkins
20- John Dickerson
27- Pastor Dickinson

WORSHIP LEADER

- 6th- Jan Parker
13th- Carl Bentley
20th- Cheryl Baldwin
27th- Bill Brady

USHERS

- 6th- Foster Evans & Marian York
13th- Will Lamb & Jeff Dinard
20th- Stephen & Philip Dickerson
27th- Sara & Don Mitchell

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



- 3- Bill & Ruby Brady
6- Cheryl Baldwin
9- Glynn & Marti Cook
14- Raquel Huckans
27- John & Raquel Huckans
29- Sara Mitchell
30- Lucy Higgins

Church Calendar

Every Sunday: Join us for our
Worship Service at 10:30 a.m.

Every Tuesday: A Bible Study at 1pm
at the Carriagehouse Apartments

Every Thursday: Choir Rehearsal,
7:30 p.m.

Every Friday: Secretary Office Hours,
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Wednesdays April 2nd, 9th, and
23rd: Please join us for a Bible Study
at the Church, 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday April 16th: All Boards
Meet at 7:00 p.m.

*The Lord is Faithful and just and
able to do far more abundantly than all
we are able to ask or think...*

Looking for a holiday to celebrate this April ?

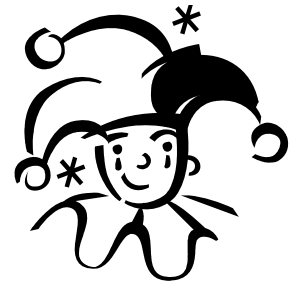
(Also know as Humor Month, Frog Month, and Kite Month)

How about these?

- 1st- April Fools Day
- 3rd- Find-a-Rainbow Day
- 10th- National Sibling Day
- 16th- Eggs Benedict Day
- 18th- Pet Owners Day
- 20th- Pineapple Upside Down Cake Day
- 23rd- William Shakespeare's Birthday
- 26th- Hug a Friend Day



Shakespeare



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The Board of Christian Education did not submit a report this month.

TRUSTEES BOARD

Prior to assembling separately, all Boards discussed the current leadership structure as laid out in the By-Laws. The concern is that the current structure is clearly designed for a much larger congregation, and we are struggling to fill seats with people who are regularly available to participate. Consequently, many of the Boards do not have a quorum for decision-making each month. While no decisions were made, this is a topic for discussion in upcoming meetings. Once we split into individual groups, there were 5 members present on the Board of Trustees. The Board reviewed the church financials and determined that we are in good shape overall. We



continue to run a bit ahead on income and a bit behind on expenses so we are still on track to hit a balanced budget by year end. It was mentioned the lease in the Parsonage is due and the Board voted unanimously to leave the rent as is in light of all the work that the Hopkins' do for the church. Greg will generate a new lease for signature in the next week or so. The Board discussed the memorial dollars available and an appropriate

use. Raquel is going to work with Martha Daggett to update the parlor using money from the Mather memorial fund, and Greg and Cheryl will look into upgrades to the sound system to use up the Sterns fund. Both families will receive appropriate recognition for their gifts. Finally, the Board reviewed the repair to the back door by Bill Brady (thank you Bill!) and, with the time remaining, the men fixed the room divider that was coming off the track in Darling Hall.

MISSIONS BOARD

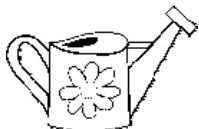
The Mission Board met March 26, 2008 with Lucy Higgins and Janet Lamb present. Lucy opened with prayer. The previous month Janet and I concentrated on coupons; so we did not have any official business meeting.

Communications: We found, from a letter from the Madison Baptist Association, that they pray for a different church within the association each week with a twelve week rotation through all of the known and perceived needs of each church. That means that four times a year, the congregation served by the Rev. Robert K. Town, prays for our church, pastor, and our ministry together. This is special to us. This is really a caring gesture that all the churches in Madison county be prayed for, and God will supply. Our board will be sending the annual dues for our church which a dollar per member.

The First Baptist Church of Earlville would appreciate a donation toward replacement of their stained glass windows. We tabled this until next month. A 15 year old student from Cazenovia High School, Ben Spangler, will be a People to People Student Ambassador traveling to China. There were 40 students selected throughout New York State. Ben has been selected to represent Madison County and Central New York. The People to People organization was founded By Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1956. He believed that if people from different cultures come together in peace and friendship, so eventually would countries and people of the world. Ben is responsible to learn about China's history, economy, geography, politics, and culture. He is studying these in school. He is learning the Chinese language at home on his own time. The mission of People to People is to seek and promote worldwide peace. We thought it would be nice to have him share with our congregation. Lucy will contact him on this matter. For next month we will again consider a gift to Military Ministry for Rapid Deployment Kits.

Janet has sent coupons out to military bases, and Lucy sent soup labels to Springbrook. Please remember to have the bar code on the soup label as that is how they redeem them. Thanks for your continued clipping and cutting. Lucy too items to CAZ Cares. Please keep bringing non-perishable foods and toiletries. Coffee is always needed. Jello and pudding comes to mind, also. Thanks. We welcome our treasurer, Charlie Pace back from Mertyl Beach. Hopefully he brought back some warmth You generously gave \$290.00 for the RMMO offering these two months. Thank you sooooo much! We will vote to add some from our treasury, also. In April, we are asking you to generously support the America for Christ offering. Janet Lamb will be telling you more.

Respectfully submitted, Lucy Higgins for Ann Berlew



*"I wandered lonely as a cloud
That floats on high o'er vales and hills,
When all at once I saw a crowd,*

*A host, of golden daffodils;
Beside the lake, beneath the trees,
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze."*
- William Wordsworth, [*Daffodils*](#)

DIACONATE BOARD

The Spring meeting of the Madison Association in on April 6th at 6:30 p.m. at Oneida Baptist Church.

There was a discussion about this Sunday's congregational lunch\meeting. We need to be thinking about how to encourage church growth. We also need to consider ways to encourage our college ministry and outreach.

Continued considerations from February:

Jamie Evans was considering pursuing licensing as a lay pastor. He has learned that this would require over 200 hours of course work. Plans for this pursuit are on hold for the immediate future although Jamie will continue to gather more input.

Pastor Dickinson has been reading a polity book on American Baptists and has learned that "licensing" is a term that is not the equivalent to a prerequisite to be a pastor. As he reads more, we will become more informed about the requirements for lay leadership.

As regards pastors from nearby churches filling in for Richard, if needs be, for funerals: Barney Freeborn is readily willing to help us. We have not yet heard back from Dan Maxfield in Chittenango. This led to a discussion regarding fees to be paid for a pastor and\or an organist. We believe we know Warren's fee, but will check with him as he is not here tonight. Sara Mitchell will contact Brian Tait to see if there is a "going rate" (no pun intended) or if he knows more about what a minister should receive. Tune in next month...

Respectfully submitted,
Sara Mitchell

CHEERFUL NOTES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

In spite of many errors that musicologists and composers, such as Brahms, agreed that Süßmayr had committed in his hurried completion, it seemed that history had decided to accept the version that was delivered to Count Walsegg as definitive. But musicologists and lovers of Mozart's music continued to speculate about how the *REQUIEM* would sound if Mozart had lived to finish it.


Then, in 1960, musicologist and Mozart expert Wolfgang Plath discovered some previously unknown sketches for the *REQUIEM* in a collection of Mozart manuscripts in the Berlin Staatsbibliothek. The sketches, which had likely escaped Constanze's destruction because they were bundled with sketches for *The Magic Flute*, were genuinely in Mozart's hand. The most important sketch indicated that the aforementioned *Lacrimosa* was to end in an "Amen" fugue.

This discovery gave the noted Mozart scholar Robert Levin the final clue he needed to complete his own solution to the mystery of the unfinished *REQUIEM*, which he had pursued since he graduated from Harvard *magna cum laude* in 1968, writing a thesis titled *The Unfinished Works of W. A. Mozart*.

With the Plath document in hand, Levin reconstructed the "Amen" fugue and also corrected many of the errors in voice leading and instrumentation found in the historic completion of the *REQUIEM*, while still respecting the overall work that Süßmayr accomplished in the stressful period following Mozart's untimely death. The resulting Levin completion is breathtaking, and it will perhaps become, after 200 years, the definitive version of Mozart's unfinished *REQUIEM*.

It should be of great interest to Christians to learn that virtually all of Mozart's works in the last few months of his life had deep spiritual significance and spoke to his faith in God and his belief that he would be among those redeemed by Jesus Christ in heaven. But that is material for other columns, and perhaps even a book, in future years. For now, it is my hope and prayer that those of you who listen to Mozart's *REQUIEM* will receive a great measure of the blessing that God has showered on us who have studied it, assimilated it, and prepared it for today's performance. In the immortal words of another giant among composers, Johann Sebastian Bach, *Soli Deo Gloria!*

From Your Minister of Music,
Warren Ottey



Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him and he will make your paths straight.