

**First Baptist Church  
2008 Annual Report  
Presented at the Annual Meeting  
January 25, 2009**



**First Baptist Church  
DeWitt Park, P.O. Box 254  
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### *Cabinet*

This has been a very active and challenging year for the Cabinet. As evident from the agenda of our Annual Meeting, change is afoot! Members will vote at this meeting on proposed changes to the FBC Constitution and By-Laws, will vote on a large expenditure to make the church building more accessible, will be informed of plans and progress on conversion of the Historic Room into a small chapel, and will hear an overview and update on an individual who has received considerable support from FBC. All of this, and more, passed through the Cabinet during the course of 2008. The main tasks performed by the Cabinet this year include the following:

- Appointed a committee to revise the FBC By-Laws and Constitution. The results of this committee work will be voted on at our Annual Meeting on January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2009.
- Appointed Debbie Allen to Chair a committee to transform the Historic Room into a small chapel. The recommendations of this committee will be presented at our Annual Meeting on January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2009.
- Appointed Janet Cottracia as the Chair the Parable of Talents Committee.
- Awarded the Jensen Scholarship to Ashley Martinez.
- Met with the Board of Worship and Christian Concern and the Children's Education Committee (from the Board of Education) on July 13<sup>th</sup> to discuss the "quiet table" in the sanctuary and how best to foster the spiritual development of children, both in the sanctuary and in the classrooms.
- Designated "Bring a Friend to Church" Sunday as Nov. 9<sup>th</sup>.

- Voted to join in the concern of the Ithaca Reform Temple Tikkun v'Or regarding the use of torture. Since September, we have displayed a banner on our FBC building that reads:  
*"Torture Harms All of Us"*.
- Approved the Paternity Leave proposal constructed by the Pastoral Relations Committee for Pastor Rich as he and Renee and Owen anticipate the arrival of their new baby.
- Approved a joint service with the First Congregational Church, which was held Jan. 4<sup>th</sup> 2009 with Pastor Rich delivering the sermon and a combined choir providing music.

I am honored to have served as Moderator of FBC for three years, and I am delighted that Andrea Mooney is willing to stand for election to this position. I look forward to continuing to be an active member of this very special congregation!

***Respectfully submitted by Linda K. Nicholson, outgoing Moderator***

## *Board of Worship and Christian Concern Annual Report for 2008*

In 2008 the Board of Worship and Christian Concern carried out activities in the areas of worship, such as arranging for communion and ushers and enhancing the beauty of the worship service through the Flower Committee. We also carried out activities in the area of Christian concern, such as participating in the outreach projects of the church (Circle of Care, Giving Tree), and special projects such as the Christmas breakfast and the Maundy Thursday dinner and service.

One of the privileges of the Board is to welcome new members to our community, and this year we were thrilled to welcome Margaret and Michael Cook, Dick Fielding, Laura Ward and Amy Aittama, Tim and Julie Dean, Sun Kim, Susan Maydar, and Shella Chace.

Additionally, the BWCC spent some time this year, and plans to spend more time next year, delving into the mission support that First Baptist provides. As a church, we contribute to a number of institutional and individual missions, and we are constantly faced with requests from additional organizations and agencies for financial support. We would like to be more aware of the ways our mission and outreach funds are used, and to be more mindful in our contributions. To that end, the BWCC already has a line item for the Zambian Children's Fund in its budget and will consider next year whether we want to add other recipients, such as Andre Thera's church in Mali and the Volminks' work in South Africa.

Tim Dean worked with Olan Mills who photographed church members so as to create a new church directory.

The committee responsible for revising the Constitution asked the Board to consider dividing into two boards, but the BWCC decided at this time it did not want to do so.

For next year, the Board plans to continue its look at the mission donations of First Baptist, and to consider whether First Baptist would be interested in joining the Alliance of Baptists. The Board also hopes to engender more enthusiasm for providing greeters on Sunday morning as well as ushers.

Respectfully submitted:

Board of Worship and Christian Concern: Bill Abeles, Julie Dean, Tim Dean, Barbara Fry, Susan Eymann, Tina Hilsdorf, Mark Klammer, Andrea Mooney, Louise Mudrak, Amanda Ufford

## ***Board of Christian Education***

The work of the Board of Christian Education is focused on broadening and deepening the Christian experience for people of all ages. We are dedicated to sponsoring programs and activities that support social justice, spiritual growth, fellowship among all participants, understanding of the Scriptures as well as engagement with other religious traditions and practices.

Members of the Board of Christian Education for 2008 included: Renee Rose (secretary), Debbie Allen (co-chair), Lil Barron, Jan Butler, Carol Fleming, Lynn Glase, Jud Kilgore, Dick Fielding, Kris Scott (ex-officio), Tony Cotraccia, Josie Zanfordino (chair).

For the past year a major initiative was started that increased the involvement of the children in our worship service. By enacting this change our congregation made a commitment that has fostered an increased understanding of worship. The children's participation in our service and their comprehension of their Seasons of the Spirit Sunday school program has served to keep them involved and interested. For over a year now our congregation has supported a schedule which has Sunday morning service at 10:00 a.m., followed by children's and adult education activities 3 Sundays every month at 11:30 a.m.

### ***Nursery***

Nursery care was lovingly provided by Carol Fleming throughout this year both during worship and the following education hour. Because of continued growth, a subcommittee was formed in late spring to work toward dividing the nursery area into two rooms. One room having materials appropriate for infants to two years of age and the adjoining room with materials for two through preschool. Curriculum and books were purchased this year. Rolling shelving was found and refurbished. Some materials have been located and reworked. These are stored in the Music Office during the week and, when work is completed on this project, all will be moved to the two rooms each Sunday morning. Over the weekend the Daycare will store some of their equipment in the Music Office to free up the needed space in the second room. This fall the Board of Education began requesting additional volunteers to help Carol Fleming implement this new division and program.

### ***Church School***

This year on recommendation from the children's subcommittee, the following format was adopted: Children K-2nd grade were invited to take a sermon sack and use the sanctuary children's table after children's time during worship. Children 3rd grade and up were invited to take a sermon sack and activity sheet and sit with their families during the worship. Preschool children were invited to join with those already in the sanctuary for Children's Time and then return to the nursery. Church School was held after the service and again began downstairs with snack and then music led by Janet Cotraccia. Through the spring, all our children then met upstairs using the multiage ecumenical Seasons of the Spirit curriculum. This fall the children were divided into two classrooms and more age specific curriculum from Seasons of the Spirit was purchased. Julie Costie, Lou Carlucci and Meg Gillard remained the primary teachers for the younger classroom. Tony Cotraccia and Josie Zanfordino taught the older children. "Church School 'round the Table" was discontinued on Brunch Sundays.

Other activities during the church school year included the Third Wednesday of the Month family dinners, weeklong summer Peace Camp and our Easter Hunt led and organized by Kris Scott. Janet Cotraccia again organized the Children's Christmas Pageant. The annual December "Parent's Nite Out/ Advent Activity" was cancelled due to snowfall.

### ***Josie Zanfordino***

Board of Christian Education Chair

## ***Board of Trustees***

The Trustees continued the work of protecting our church's physical and financial assets. Our beautiful but OLD building continues to provide challenges. Repairs were made to toilets and rock holes in stained glass windows. The Trustees sponsored the traditional spring and fall work days, where many people helped polish, scrub, paint railings and change storm windows. The carpets were also cleaned this year. Thanks to Rich Barron, new signs were made for inside and outside the church, directing visitors to key locations. An energy audit was also completed. Plans for utilizing this report will be discussed in 2009.

Bill Phelan and Judy Kennison have submitted a grant that may assist with the cost of major repairs to the tower roof. It is the aim of the Trustees to have this work done in 2009.

A variety of personnel issues were discussed including mileage allowance for pastor, policies regarding comp time and sick leave for the church secretary. Judy K. and Pastor Rich had several meetings with church custodian, Rebecca Cynoske, to clarify communication.

The issue of housing a person in the church was discussed. As a policy issue, the Trustees indicated that we should not house people in the church building.

After an All Boards Meeting in August of this year an Accessibility Committee was formed consisting of Bill Abeles, Rich Barron, Lou Carlucci, Steve Hillsdorf, Judy Kennison, and Curt Ufford. Several resolutions based on the committee's work will be presented at the annual meeting.

***Submitted by Judy Kennison***

***Board of Trustees:***

***Rich Barron, Helen Freeman (Secretary), Bill Fry, Steve Hilsdorf, Judy Kennison (Chair), Dan Lamb, Tony Lister, Bill Phelan, Marlene Sack, and Curt Ufford.***

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## ***Finance Secretary Report***

### 2008 Program Pledges

Total # of pledges	57
Completed pledges	27
Completed plus extra	12
Uncompleted	18

### 2008 Building pledges

Total # of pledges	24
Completed pledges	12
Completed plus extra	3
Uncompleted	9

***Respectfully submitted,  
Marlene Sack***

## *Pastor*

It seems like only yesterday that I was moving into the Pastor's Study in the church, and yet it has been nearly two years! And what wonderful and hopeful two years they have been.

This past year has afforded us numerous events to celebrate. Our church family has grown with the welcoming of new members Michael and Margaret Cook, Tim and Julie Dean, Susan Madar, Sun Kim (now living back in Korea) and Shella Chace. We have participated in the dedication of four lovely girls: Addie, Bay, & Kai Aittama and Ava Caughey-Lee. We also said goodbye to Dick Carr who passed away in January. Dick was a good friend to FBC Ithaca and he and his wife Eleanor were the founders of the first PFLAG group in Ithaca.

We have witnessed consistent growth in our children's Sunday school program; so much so that we now have two classes educated by a team of excellent, committed teachers who take great joy in teaching our kids! Our diverse and inspiring Christian education options for adults have continued to challenge and inform our journeys as the people of God.

Throughout the past year our church hosted a wide variety of inspiring and moving events. The YOFFI Sock Hop in February was a very successful fundraiser for GIAC and a great opportunity for some of us to show off our excellent dance moves. In March we played host to Rep. Maurice Hinchey as he addressed concerns about the continuing US initiated violence in Iraq. On April 6th we were privileged to have Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School President Rev. Dr. Eugene Bay serve as our preacher. We then hosted a group of local CRCDS alumna/i the following day.

On Good Friday, we hosted the community service at which the retiring pastor of St. Paul's United Methodist Rev. Rebecca Dolch preached and Jennifer Lawrence Birnbaum conducted a unified choir representing several churches. Also in April, the Youth of FBC under the leadership of Tony Cotraccia participated in the World Vision 30 Hour Famine. This educational and spiritual event is designed to raise awareness of world hunger and hunger related issues.

Our incredibly unique and wonderful float for the Ithaca Parade was designed and created by Bill Abeles and several members of the congregation participated by proudly carrying a portion of the church/mission mosaic for all to see. As in years past, Kris Scott organized and conducted another successful Peace Camp this Summer, drawing a host of children from the congregation and the community.

The Parable of Talents under the direction of Janet Cotraccia put on a very successful talent night, Harvest Dinner and silent auction and, as always, with Andrea Mooney at the helm, a fabulous garage sale.

Other highlights from 2008 include: the annual picnic at Taughannock Falls State Park, our participation in Ithaca's annual Crop Walk, and welcoming ABC missionary Deliris Carrion-Rosa for dinner in October. Deliris recently completed many years of service in a Christian school in El Salvador, and shared with us her moving story of care for our sisters and brothers to the south. Several Wednesday evenings this year featured dinners for the families of our Sunday school children, organized by Kris Scott (thank you Kris!).

On a personal note, I have thoroughly enjoyed our Monday evening Bible study. This year we have considered the books *The Heart of Christianity* by Marcus Borg and *Everything Must Change: Jesus*,

*Global Crises*, and a *Revolution of Hope* by Brian McLaren and the study of several biblical books including a twenty two week close reading of the book of Revelation.

I have also had the privilege to speak at numerous public events in the community including a press conference in March held by the Tompkins County Workers Center in front of the Hilton Garden Inn downtown, bringing to light the violation of the rights of the Hotel's housekeeping staff, the May Day Rally on the Commons decrying the treatment of immigrants by the US government, a dinner held at the Women's Community Bldg. sponsored by the Tompkins County Worker's Center honoring the labor of hotel workers in our community, the annual TCWC Labor Day picnic at Stewart Park, where I shared the stage with the amazing local band Thousands of One. I also had the privilege to give a talk on what it means to be a Baptist at Longview and had the honor of conducting Sunday afternoon services at Alterra, Long View and McGraw House. I also had the pleasure of meeting Rev. Billy when he came to Ithaca in April.

As we embark on a new year of life at FBC Ithaca together, it is my prayer that God will reveal new avenues for service and engagement with each other and the community as we continue to do justice, love mercy and walk humbly with God.

***Peace,  
Rich***

## ***Program Associate***

As Program Associate, the past year presented many opportunities to again be a part of many programs and events that involved sharing our congregation's vision of God's inclusive message of love and peace.

Working with Liz Wilkinson, Meg Gillard, Lou Carlucci and Debbie Allen our congregation was able to once more provide a place of labyrinth meditation in our sanctuary for all in the Ithaca community. During Lent, I redesigned the interactive Prayer Path of St. Paul's in London to fit in the alcove beneath the Christ Window. In late December, we again laid down the forty foot diameter candlelit replica of the Chartes Cathedral Rose labyrinth for the "Path of Prayer Walk into the New Year" Both were well attended. Other arrangements in the sanctuary included those for the Children's Table, the Third February Sock Hop Benefit, All Saint's, Christmas Eve and the Finger Lakes Community Orchestra.

This year I again created the curriculum and led our fourth weeklong Peace Camp for four to eight year olds. "Following the Star" added yet another layer of story and meaning to some of our most easily recognized constellations from Draco our trash eating dragon to Cepheus' our house shaped shelter. As a way of showing our caring for others, the group purchased mosquito nets through "HisNetsMinistry" to shelter some children in Africa from malaria.

In an outreach that the Board of worship and Christian Concern have given their support to, I have continued throughout this past year to organize and furnish accompaniment as needed for bimonthly Protestant worship at Alterra's Sterling House. Through this, I have continued to meet with wonderful new people and clergy.

Working alongside the Board of Education and the children's subcommittee, I was able to facilitate the changes in classroom set up again this fall as our program expanded, weekly replenish the children's table and sermon sack materials and prepare the materials for our Church School teachers and continue to assist our acolytes and teach as needed. With the children's subcommittee this fall, I have begun pulling together the equipment needed to begin a two program Nursery Area. This past year with the help of Lou Carlucci and Julie Costie I have continued to host the Third Wednesday of the Month family dinners.

This year it was again a great joy to have Janet Cotraccia continue to provide a musical segment for church school and coordinate the Christmas Pageant. It was delightful to have Lou C., Meg G., Julie C., Tony C. and Josie Z. teach so faithfully. I am again thankful for Carol Fleming and Ashlee Martinez who made our Nursery such a welcoming place and for all those who volunteered at the Children's Table

Whether changing bulletin boards, reframing posters, helping with displays, preparing the Easter Hunt or the pageant costuming, this last year was full of variety. Thanks to all who offered their ideas and encouragement, shared their time and gave impetus to all that has gone forward.

***Kris Scott,***  
***Program Associate***

## ***Music Coordinator- Organist/Pianist***

### **Music Report for 2008**

Christopher Morgan Loy, Organist/Pianist

Providing music at First Baptist Church continues to be a pleasure and an opportunity to share special piano works for the services. Learning and presenting the music each Sunday augments my spiritual life and I hope that the music imparts a soothing atmosphere to the congregation.

Our choir has been singing well and with increased enthusiasm. The rehearsals are pleasant and work gets accomplished with enjoyment. Jennifer Lawrence Birnbaum has submitted the choir report that lists the anthems.

During the year there were several guests who provided offerings. Some of these guests were members of the congregation.

David Caughey and the New Creation Singers continued to provide music on a regular basis. I am grateful for their contributions. He has submitted his own report on their repertoire and services.

YFOFFI has been a delightful addition to the service when they perform. Their brand of music gives variety to the worship.

Listed under separate attachment are the offertories I presented in 2008.

I submit this to conclude my report. (A detailed record of each Sunday's musical activity has been kept and may be seen on the church website at [www.firstbaptistithaca.org/music.html](http://www.firstbaptistithaca.org/music.html) or you may request a copy of the list from church office staff.)

***Respectfully submitted,  
Christopher Morgan Loy  
Organist/Pianist***

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### ***The New Creation Singers***

The New Creation Singers enjoyed another year of providing music in the acoustic folk and contemporary genres at First Baptist, contributing our music to the Sunday morning worship services about once every six weeks. This year we also had several opportunities to incorporate members from the choir into an expanded group on several occasions, and also participated (with members from the choir) in the Living Waters Association Choir Fest, held at First Baptist Church of Corning in April. After the combined choir/NCS offering of *Through these Hands* in November, it was suggested that members of the congregation would like for us to teach them some of these songs so they could sing along, as hymns. We'll try to find a way to do some of that in the coming year.

I am grateful to all the members of the group who worked so hard in rehearsals and in Sunday Services this year. Early in the year our long-time pianist/vocalist, Katherine Rosenberg, married, moved to Homer, and began attending the United Methodist Church in Cortland. Happily, Kris Scott has taken over our piano accompaniment and Danny Scott has been playing (and singing) bass most of the year. And, of course, Marlene Sack and Liz Wilkinson continue to contribute. We also express our thanks to all the members of First Baptist for their continued moral support of our music ministry.

***Dave Caughey***

*Current Officers and Elected Church Board Members*

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

2009	2010
Lil Barron	Renee Rose
Lynn Glase	Dick Fielding
Debbie Allen	Tony Cotraccia
Jan Butler	

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

2009	2010
Tony Lister	Marlene Sack
Bill Phelan	Judy Kennison
	Steve Hilsdorf

BOARD OF WORSHIP AND CHRISTIAN CONCERN

2009	2010
Barbara Fry	Tim Dean
Andrea Mooney	Julie Dean
Louise Mudrak	Bill Abeles
Tina Hilsdorf	Amanda Ufford

Nominating Committee:

*Rev. Rich Rose, Jud Kilgore, Louise Mudrak, Helen Freeman, Lynn Glase*

Elections to be held January 25, 2009 for incoming nominees.  
(Please see accompanying nominee ballot)

Thank you to all who faithfully served on a board in 2008  
and who have finished their term.

## **Membership Clerk**

As of December 31, 2008 -- Total Membership is 149

### Received in 2008

#### *By Letter of Transfer*

Michael Cook	March 23, 2008	First Baptist Church, Newton, NC
Julie Dean	March 23, 2008	Myers Park Baptist Church, Charlotte NC
Tim Dean	March 23, 2008	Myers Park Baptist Church, Charlotte NC

#### *By Christian Experience*

Margaret Cook	March 23, 2008
Susan Madar	June 8, 2008
Sun Kim	June 8, 2008
Shella Chace	December 21, 2008

**Yearly Gains 7**

### Losses in 2008

#### *By Death*

Richard Carr	January 22, 2008
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#### *By Letter of Transfer*

Byron Breese	May 14, 2008	Plainfield Community Church, Plainfield, New Hampshire
Angela Radka	May 19, 2008	First Baptist Church, Painted Post

#### *Transfer Revealed*

Susan Eyster	2003	Cornell Episcopal Church, Ithaca, NY
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#### *Dropped by Request*

John Legge	March 30, 2008
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#### *Dropped (no response)*

Dan Age	May 15, 2008
Jennifer Eyster Bradley	May 15, 2008
C. C. Chu	May 15, 2008
Leaf Coleman	May 15, 2008
Kathy Cook	May 15, 2008
Judson Kilgore Jr	May 15, 2008
Trevor McDowell	May 15, 2008
Gary Price	May 15, 2008
Linda Price	May 15, 2008
Rick Reed	May 15, 2008
Lois Sessions	May 15, 2008

**Yearly Losses 16**

**Submitted by: Linda Caughey**

## *Minutes of the Annual Business Meeting Sunday, January 27, 2008*

The meeting was called to order at 11:30 AM by Linda Nicholson, Moderator.

### **L. Nicholson gave the Cabinet report.**

In the report she reported on the welcome to First Baptist's new Pastor, Reverend Rich Rose, his wife Renee and son Owen. Rev. Rich has begun to lead the Church in a new direction encouraging us to be involved in local justice programs.

- During the year we celebrated Linda Caughey's 17 years of service to the church as secretary.
- A new secretary, Beth McGee, was welcomed to the church office.
- Connection was made with St. John # 5 Faith Church in New Orleans.
- Time was spent in seeking a suitable schedule for Sunday School, Adult Education and Service.
- A year trial of 9:30 AM, Adult and Childrens' Education. 10:00 AM Choir rehearsal 10:30 AM service
- was established.
- "Bring a friend" to church event was held on October 28th.
- An All Boards meeting was held on October 25th to discuss the best use for the money left by Nell Mundy.
- Jennifer Lawrence Birnbaum was hired as Choir Director.

Rev Rich Rose spoke about the Tompkins County Workers Center and suggested that FBC could become a Partner Organization with the TCWC. Andrea Mooney proposed and Shella Chase seconded the motion that the First Baptist Church in Dewitt Park become a Partner Organization with the Tompkins County Workers Center.

Discussion followed: Were other churches involved? Yes.

Would Rev. Rich Rose be a liaison? Yes

A vote was called for.

Passed.

Unanimous

## **BOARD REPORTS**

### **Board of Christian Education**

This report was given by Lou Carlucci, Chairperson.

- Lou Carlucci spoke of the responsibility of the Board for the education hour of the adults and the children.
- The Board initiated the proposed time change and facilitated the earlier education hour for Children and Adults. Children attended the church service. In June 2007 the congregation voted to return to the original time for education and the service. The children did not leave the service to attend Sunday school but were able to be quietly active with Activity Bags and an Activity Table at the back of the sanctuary for use after Children's' Time
- A new curriculum Season of Spirit had been purchase and adopted in the September. This was proving very successful.
- Adult Education covered many subjects.
- The Youth had participated in the American Baptist Convention in November 2007. They had also collected winter clothing and acted as baby sitters for a "Parents Night Out."

L. Carlucci thanked all the people on the Board for their hard work.

### **Board of Trustees.**

- Both Bill Fry and Tony Lister were out of town so the report was given by Rich Barron.
- The Trustees had been busy during the year maintaining the building for the use of the congregation and other people who use the church.
- The Sanctuary carpet had been cleaned; painting was done in the Community Room; ceiling repairs done in the Music Room and the furnace serviced and repaired.
- Prepared for and passed the fire inspection.
- On the personnel side the Trustees had assisted in the hiring of the new church secretary and choir director.
- Services in the office were updated; high speed Internet, new copier and new computer were installed.
- Anticipated projects for 2008 include the repair of the tower roof and the inside structure.
- Arrange for an energy audit.
- Question was raised about the status of the handicap accessibility. A small committee will be formed to work on this project.

First Baptist Church is mandated to have a balanced budget. In 2007 the budget was \$5536.87 deficit. To cover this deficit money it is proposed that money be taken from escrow.

This proposal was put out to the vote.

Passed.

Unanimous.

### **Report from the Board of Worship and Christian Concern**

Report was given by Andrea Mooney.

This Board has two major responsibilities:

- a) to maintain and support the daily and weekly worship activities of the church
- b) to coordinate and nurture the church's outreach efforts both globally and locally.

- The Board coordinates weekly ushers, doorstep reception in the summer and monthly communion
- The Board makes sure that the Sanctuary is set up for Sunday service with flowers or appropriate decoration.
- The Board coordinates First Baptist's participation in the Kitchen Cupboard and other special activities such as Adopt a Cow program. Crop Walk, the Giving Tree, book collection for Reading Partnership and maintains the Circle of Care.
- The BWCC organized the reception following the installation of Rev. Rose. They also welcomed three new members into the church.
- As part of their global outreach efforts the Board has continued to support Love knows no Bounds
- ( New Orleans Project), Mariam's care and the Zambian Children's Fund.

In the year 2008 the BWCC would like to incorporate more church members as greeters on Sunday mornings, recruit new members, assist in various outreach projects and continue working with the staff and Pastor to efficiently use the time allotted for worship service.

### **Report from Rev. Rich Rose.**

Rev. Rose expressed his thanks to the congregation for the wonderful welcome he received in February 2007. He highlighted several events of the year; his installation service, his first outdoor baptism done in Cayuga Lake; representing the Church at the American Baptist Church's Biennial in Washington, DC and having the privilege of speaking at a LGBT rally at Cornell. It is Rev. Rich's hope that FBC will seek new avenues of engagement, advocacy and care in 2008.

Linda Nicholson thanked Rev. Rose for his report. She stated that it has been a wonderful year for working with Rev. Rose.

- She reiterated that there are some suggestions at the end of the Cabinet report which will be approached during 2008; namely
  - a). should FBC join the Alliance of Baptists?
  - b) The Nell Mundy bequest: how to best spend this gift
  - c) St. John # 5 Baptist Church in New Orleans: should FBC become a Sister Church?
- A question was raised about the Nell Mundy bequest. L. Nicholson explained that there had been an All Board meeting to brainstorm ideas. The Trustees had made a list of necessary improvements to the church.
- A question was raised about how the money needed to offset the 2007 deficit was moved over. This was explained that it was a part of the decision of the Board of Trustees.

### **2008 Budget.**

- Curt Ufford explained the 2008 budget.
- The budget includes a 3% increase for the staff, just over the 2.54% cost of living rise in 2007.
- Property maintenance has gone up slightly.
- Question asked if it is possible to allocate money for the Tompkins County Workmen's Center. Curt Ufford explained that there has to be an income for this before there can be an expense. This is possible if someone will donate \$200. This could/would come under WCC Mission outreach.
- Question raised about utilities. Much depends on the weather. There will be an energy audit.

A vote was called for on the Budget.  
Passed.

### **Nominations.**

- The slate of nominations was accepted as printed.
- Nominations were called for from the floor.
- Danny Scott and Bill Abeles will go onto the Board of Worship and Christian Concern..
- Dick Fielding will go onto the Board of Christian Education.
- Andrea Mooney accepted the nomination for Vice Moderator
- Tony Cotraccia was nominated for the Board of Christian Education.
- Curt Ufford stated that he is looking for an assistant Treasurer

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned at 12.45 PM

Minutes respectfully submitted by Liz Wilkinson, Recording Clerk