

Welcome!

We are so glad you are here! Please take a moment to complete the guest card located in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate or give it to a staff member as you leave. More info is available in the foyer. If you have questions about our church, feel free to visit our welcome center. Someone will be there to help you!



The History of Memorial Day

Memorial Day, originally called Decoration Day, is a day of remembrance for those who have died in service of the United States of America. Over two dozen cities and towns claim to be the birthplace of Memorial Day. While Waterloo, N.Y. was officially declared the birthplace of Memorial Day by President Lyndon Johnson in May 1966, it is difficult to prove conclusively the origins of the day.

Regardless of the exact date or location of its origins, one thing is clear— Memorial Day was borne out of the Civil War and a desire to honor our dead. It was officially proclaimed on 5 May 1868 by General John Logan, national commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, in his General Order No. 11. "The 30th of the May, 1868, is designated for the purpose of strewing with flowers, or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion, and whose bodies now lie in almost every city, village and hamlet churchyard in the land," he proclaimed. The date of Decoration Day, as he called it, was chosen because it was not the anniversary of any particular battle.

On the first Decoration Day, General James Garfield made a speech at Arlington National Cemetery, and 5,000 participants decorated the graves of the 20,000 Union and Confederate soldiers buried there.

The first state to officially recognize the holiday was New York in 1873. By 1890 it was recognized by all of the northern states. The South refused to acknowledge the day, honoring their dead on separate days until after World War I (when the holiday changed from honoring just those who died fighting in the Civil War to honoring Americans who died fighting in any war).

It is now observed in almost every state on the last Monday in May with Congressional passage of the National Holiday Act of 1971 (P.L. 90-363). This helped ensure a three day weekend for Federal holidays, though several southern states have an additional separate day for honoring the Confederate war dead: January 19th in Texas; April 26th in Alabama, Florida, Georgia and Mississippi; May 10th in South Carolina; and June 3rd (Jefferson Davis' birthday) in Louisiana and Tennessee. (usmemorialday.org)

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your pastor. If you should ever need me, please call.

— Bro. Larry

Connect

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Attendance 05/17/15

Morning

Sunday School218
Guests6
Contacts98
Worship Attendance254

Evening

Sunday Bible Study44

Weekly

Men's Bible Study14

Livestreaming of our services
coming soon!



It is our desire for every person to become a disciple of Jesus Christ who loves God and people. We believe this happens best in a biblical community in which people are learning God's Word, sharing the good news of Jesus Christ, ministering to each other, and serving together. At FBC, **Sunday School** allows you to connect with people in a similar season of life as you seek to live a lifestyle that looks more and more like Jesus. Join us on Sundays at 9 a.m. to find a class that is right for you. For more info, pick up a Sunday School brochure in the vestibule or outside the church office. Questions? Call 205-625-3191 or email Cindy at cindy@oneontafbc.org.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

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First Baptist Church
exists to demonstrate
the love of Christ
in our community and
our world through worship,
evangelism, discipleship,
missions, and ministry.



First Baptist Church OF ONEONTA

Finding God in Life & Community

Sunday May 24, 2015

