

First Baptist Church of Central Square

701 North Main Street, Central Square, NY 13076

www.fbc-cs.com T: 315-668-2138

Prayer Concerns: Bob Chamberlin, Joan Brown, Shetsky Family, Nana, Smith Family, Melody Clark, Cheyenne Hughes, Rejina Moore, Frank VanBuskirk, Jeannie VanHoevan, Ken Gleason, DeFalco Family, Morris Reels, Gagnon Family, Joan Brown, Alberry Family, Bobbi Biddle, Helen Webb, Dee Albrecht, Muna, Andy Biddle, Tarbell Family, Henry Heer, our nation, our military.

Birthdays:

Nancy Flower 3	Rich Mizerski 20	Jenny Rude 22
Stewart Smith 24		Atreyu DeFalco 29

Anniversaries:

Nancy & Don Flower 2		Kristen & Jeffery Desrosiers 20
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Mystery Member:

March's Mystery Member: Roxanne Spink

April's Mystery Member aspires to be a comic book writer someday, plays trumpet, and their favorite food is spaghetti. Can you guess who this is?!

Witness Articles

Please send anything you would like published to the email Kahminder@gmail.com by April 26th.

Free Lunch

This month's Free Lunch will take place on April 25th from 11:30am - 1pm. The menu this month will be Maggie's Macaroni and Cheese, Hot Dogs, Rolls, Vegetable (to be decided), and Cookies.

There will be no Free Lunch in May due to Memorial Day Holiday weekend.



Upcoming Events

April 1

Community Prayer Breakfast
(10am @ West Monroe Fire
Station)

April 7& 21

Young Life (6:30)

April 12

Council/Congregational
Meeting (7pm)

April 14

Good Friday Service (6:30)

April 16

Easter Cantata

April 25

Free Lunch (11:30-1)



P.S. If you see Roxanne and John, wish them a happy 15 year anniversary of living together and impacting each others lives for the better!



Holy Services

We will offer the following services at our church:

Palm Sunday, April 9th- 10:00am.

Good Friday, April 14th- 6:30pm.

Easter Sunday, April 16th- 10:00am.

AB Women Update

The AB Women are looking for cotton sheets to make bandages. They can be any color and print as long as they are clean and cotton! Please put them in a plastic bag, label the bag, "Sheets for Bandages," and put them in the Sunday School Superintendent room.

Young Life

Young Life Youth Group is a non-denominational group for those ages Middle School- High School. It is for those who are churched and non-churched. Homeschoolers are also welcome. All meetings begin at 6:30pm, pizza, snacks, and awesome door prizes are always provided. All are welcome!

April 7th- Our Church

April 21st- Mallory Wesleyan

Save the Date

We will have a brunch on April 9th after Worship to celebrate the upcoming wedding of Liz & Ryan.

Save The Date

On Sunday, April 30, Interfaith Works will be joining us during our worship time. Interfaith Works helps with settlement of refugees in our area, as well as promoting unity in a time of religious and cultural diversity. I hope you will join us for a time of sharing and conversation.

URGENT - Hosts Needed

On June 10th and 11th the "Glad Ringers" Hand Bell Choir from Columbus, Indiana will be visiting New York to perform a concert or two for us. Your help is needed! There will be approximately 18 ringers visiting, and we need to house them Saturday night, June 10th. If you would be willing and able to provide a bed or couch for a couple of ringers, please let Pastor Meg know asap. Your only requirement for this adventure, is to offer a bed and a bite to eat Sunday morning. These folks are people that I know and love from my home church, and I know you will enjoy spending time with them! Call me, see me at church, or e-mail me at mbiddle@anderson.edu if you have questions or if you would like to offer space in your home.

Dakota's Mission

Dakota DeFalco is still collecting new and gently used books. He has been donating these books to doctor's offices so that children can receive a book to take home. Please donate what you can.

Church Officers

Reverend
Meg Biddle

Moderator
Lynn Bort

Church Clerk
Rebekah Springer

Treasurer
Elizabeth Rotundo

Financial Secretary
Grace Fuller

Sunday School Supt.
Misty DeFalco

*Be brave
enough
to ask
for help.*

Suicide Prevention Hotline
Call 1-800-273-8255

Crisis Text Line
Text: "CONNECT" to 741741

Prayer Shawl Ministry

We continue to meet weekly for knitting and fellowship. We would like to thank Steve Springer for all his help behind the scenes and his beautiful crocheted blankets and shawls. As always, we would welcome anyone who would like to help us out with this blessed ministry.

We also need everyone's help by notifying us of anyone that may be in need of a prayer shawl or lap robe. It doesn't have to be someone in our Church or even in our community, we have sent them all over the country!

Board of Christian Education Update

The Board of Christian Education will be collecting money for the America for Christ Offering this month,
Roxanne Spink, Board of Christian Ed Chairperson

Pancake Dinner

The church raised \$208 dollars on the pancake dinner on March 24th. Thank you to all who made this dinner possible! We look forward to hosting another pancake meal in the next few months!

Pork Dinner Edit

Maggie Heitmann would like to share that she and Mark Heitmann were the hosts that put together this fundraiser. She would also like to thank all those that helped make this dinner possible!

Trustee Report

As I mentioned in the March Witness, we have purchased a dishwasher for the parsonage. Vellas in Constantia decreased the cost from \$380 to \$350. To keep everyone aware of the money we have needed to spend: The price for plowing has been \$700, and the latest bill is \$550. Randy House is giving us a very good price of \$50 per plow. We also have paid Jerome Fire Equipment \$73 for their yearly inspection of fire extinguishers and having to fill 3 of them. There are carpenter ants in the parsonage. If anyone knows of an exterminator, please give Randi or Meg his name. We are currently looking for host families for the bell choir. Let Randi know if you are willing to assist. We may be using a lodge at Vanderkamp. The dates are June 10 and June 11. We are considering a bookkeeper to assist Liz with the treasurer role. Liz is looking forward to an extra hand. Once we interview someone, this will of course come before the congregation for approval.

Lily Order

It's time to order Easter Lilies! Orders will be taken

- Sunday April 2nd
- Sunday April 9th

Please fill out the form and give it to Dail Mizerski.

Make checks payable to Dail Mizerski. Please call 315 675 3271 with any question.

Mission Reminder

We are still collecting "Health Kits" to be sent to areas in our country that have experienced a disaster and folks have lost their home and possessions. These kits are given to them in shelters as many of them only have whatever was on their bodies. Please do not ADD anything to the following list. Toothpaste will be added by the Church World Service as this is a dated item. If you have any questions regarding the kit or the program please contact me either at church or by calling me at 668-5370. The deadline for this program will be **April 15th**.

MISSION PROJECT HEALTH KITS

The health kits will be used by Church World Service to meet the needs of those who have been misplaced due to hurricanes, flooding, nor-eastern, or other national disasters. Many of which are in our own area.

Please include the following:

- **One hand towel (Approx. 16" x 28")**
 - **One washcloth**
 - **One wide-tooth comb**
 - **One nail clipper**
- **One bar of soap (bath size) in wrapper**
- **One toothbrush (in original packaging)**
 - **Six (6) band-aids**

DO NOT ADD ANY OTHER ITEMS!
Place these items in a gallon plastic zip-lock bag.

"To believe is to care...To care is to do"

I am also collecting eye glasses (with or without case) including readers, hotel size toiletries, and single package toothbrushes. Thank you for your help in these projects for our sisters and brothers who are without basic needs.

- Nancy Leamon

IMPORTANT

There will be a Congregational meeting April 12 at 7pm to vote in new roster for new constitution. Please be there.

My Window

By Delores Olin

Sitting by my dining area window

I can see my neighbors come and go.

- and the changing seasons bringing their glory.
Each one with its very special story.

Spring buds, then green leaves on the trees.
More birds, sunnier, bluer skies, and busy bees.

Summer, open windows, warmer longer days and many a sound
Chirping birds, barking dogs, music and motor noises all around.

Sitting by my window I eat a meal, do church work, write a letter, pay
a bill
Play a game, solve a crossword, watch TV, gaze at the world so still.

Dream dreams, see God at work, remember, plans and appreciate
Feel the job of beauty, sorrow of losses and enthusiasm for
opportunities to create

I have seen many birds, deer, wild turkeys, squirrels, rabbits, neighbor
cats and dogs
All kinds of vehicles, runners, walkers, and folks on their "jogs."

Children's voices, folks outside everywhere
Green lawns to mow, flowers in bloom, delicious fresh air

Fall arrives with cooler days, colorful leaves to drop
School buses, honking geese, watching nature's growth come to stay.

Winter's scene is often a gloomy sight
Bare tree, lots of clouds, not much light

First snowfall brings beauty to the barren land so gray
Cleansing the landscape and brightening the spirits and the day.

It's not a window, small by most measures
But that window always brings me many pleasures

Come, share my window and my view of the world; have a cup of
tea
See God at work through people, birds, and animals and all the
natural beauty you see.

Ice Cream

Last week, I took my children to a restaurant. My six-year-old son asked if he could say grace. As we bowed our heads, he said, "God is good. God is great. Thank you for the food, and I would even thank you more if mom gets us ice cream for dessert. And liberty and justice for all! Amen!"

Along with the laughter from the other customers nearby, I heard a woman remark, "That's what's wrong with this country. Kids today don't even know how to pray. Asking God for ice cream! Why, I never!"

Hearing this, my son burst into tears and asked me, "Did I do it wrong? Is God mad at me?" As I held him and assured him that he had done a terrific job and God was certainly not mad at him, an elderly gentleman approached the table.

He winked at my son and said, "I happen to know that God thought that was a great prayer." "Really?" my son asked. "Cross my heart."

Then, in a theatrical whisper he added (indicating the woman whose remark had started this whole thing), "Too bad she never asks God for ice cream. A little ice cream is good for the soul sometimes."

Naturally, I bought my kids ice cream at the end of the meal. My son stared at his for a moment and then did something I will remember the rest of my life. He picked up his sundae and, without a word, walked over and placed it in front of the woman.

With a big smile, he told her, "Here, this is for you. Ice cream is good for the soul sometimes."



From the Reverend

What is the most difficult thing you have ever had to do? It is not usually something you have to think about. I have buried grandparents. I had to tell my father that his best friend died in a farming accident. Saying goodbye to my parents before moving to New York, was difficult, but I knew I would see them again. The most difficult thing I ever did was stand beside the bed of a child when she found out that the cancer treatments were not working. I stood there holding back my own tears while everyone else fell apart, and then discussed death with a child who would die nine days later. I don't ever want to do something that difficult again, but I know the reality of life is that I probably will.

Dying is easy, it is living that is difficult. Okay, dying was not an easy thing for Jesus. Can you imagine? Stripped of your dignity, spat upon, beaten, and crucified, naked on a Roman cross. The process of death, for Jesus, for many people is quite difficult, and in some cases, painful. But Jesus was not born just to die, because Jesus is not just anything. Jesus was born to live. Jesus was born so that we all would have the opportunity to live a life that never ends; because for those of us who are followers of the Way of the Christ, eternity begins now. There are those who fail to live in the first place. Why? Imagine all the things you could do for God if you were not afraid that you would fail. Stop sitting around and dreaming dreams, try doing something new. So what if it does not work out the first or second time, God does not put limitations upon us. How many inventors were successful the first time they attempted to make something new? Colonel Sanders (KFC) attempted his recipe 1009 times before his chicken was finally right. Thomas Edison made 10,000 attempts before finally creating the lightbulb.

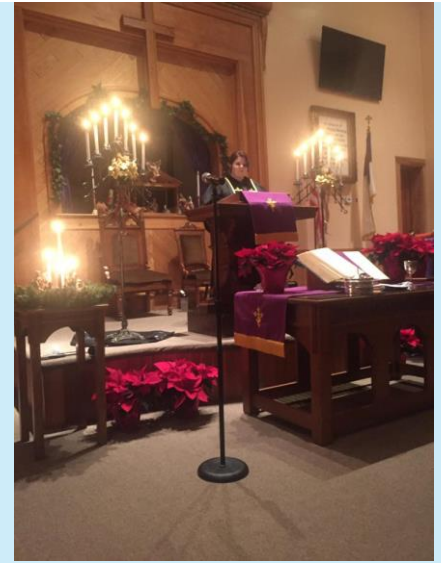
In life, we are all going to fail. We will get it wrong, and when we do, we should just keep going. Do something different instead. Yes, that program worked ten years ago, but the world is a very different place now, and it failed. Do something else. We can't accomplish anything if we don't ever attempt something. We could be known as the church of failure, and that might actually be a good thing. Everyone knows what failure feel like. Everyone knows what rejection feels like, so why not be somewhere you fit right in.

It doesn't matter what you do in this life, as long as you do it for the glory of God. Jesus would have been considered a failure by many standards today, and yet he overcome death. The grave could not hold him. There is no condemnation for attempting great things for Christ. The condemnation comes when you fail to live your life in order to please God, and show his love to others.

What would you do for God, what good could you accomplish, if you could not fail? What is stopping you?

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Meg



People are often unreasonable and self-centered
FORGIVE THEM ANYWAY
If you are kind, people may accuse you of ulterior motives
BE KIND ANYWAY
If you are honest, people may cheat you
BE HONEST ANYWAY
If you find happiness, people may be jealous
BE HAPPY ANYWAY
The good you do today may be forgotten
DO GOOD ANYWAY
Give the world your best and it may never be enough
GIVE YOUR BEST ANYWAY
for you see, in the end it is between
YOU AND GOD
It was never between you and them anyway
-Mother Teresa