

It's summertime! So, make time for family and friends. Enjoy going to the beach or maybe a picnic at the park. Go camping or take a car ride and see the beauty of our area. Go get ice cream at the ice cream stand. It's fun and it's time to spend lots of time together having fun. After all, we never spend enough time with our families. So get out there and make wonderful memories for both you and your children. Have an enjoyable summer.



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July/August 2013

This is your copy of *The Witness*
We wish God's blessings



THE WITNESS

The Monthly Newsletter of the first Baptist Church of Central Square

Church Office hours: Mondays & Tuesdays from 9:00-12:00

Phone Number 315-668-2138

www.fbc-cs.com

“Our mission as a church is to share and respond to God’s love for each person by welcoming all. Together, we can return God’s love by becoming witnesses and followers of the teachings of Jesus Christ throughout our daily lives. We allow these things to help us become new people in Christ.”

Lynn Bort, Moderator

Linda Heer, Church Clerk

Victor Vrooman, Organist

Cindy Cuny, Church Secretary

Cindy Cuny, Witness Editor

News and Upcoming Events about our Community of Faith

Notices Concerning Our Affiliated Denomination – The American Baptist Churches in the USA

Information to Help Live a More Fulfilled Life

PRAYER CONCERNS



Please keep these members and friends in your prayer; Bob Abel; Diana Baxter; Mavis Cooter; Grace Fuller; Ken House; Stewart Smith; Phyllis Smith; Ray Olin; Helen Webb; our missionaries; our nation; and our denominational and local church leaders.

PRAYERS FOR JULY & JUNE

Dear Lord,

We turn to you for love and support with each new day. We thank you for your blessings that you have given to us. Help us to put you first each and every day.

Amen



MEETING NIGHT

Meetings will not be held during the summer. If there is a need to meet you will be notified by e-mail or phone. See you in September.



Verse of the Month



“But blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, whose confidence is in him. He will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream. It does not fear when heat comes; its leaves are always green. It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit.”

Jeremiah 17: 7 & 8

WITNESS ARTICLES

All articles for the September Witness are due in the church office by August 20th. This gives you all summer to come up with an article. Good Luck! Please write an article and submit it! Thank You!

Birthdays

For July & August



July

Bob Abel	3	Ian Brooks	7
Jill Gillette	8	Grace Fuller	10
Don Flower	15	Genie Rotundo	17
Katie Rotundo	23	Patrick Bort	27

Cherie House 31

August

Diana Baxter	2	Roxanne Spink	4
Delores Olin	4	Ray Olin	8
John Zelensnik	11	Rebekah Springer	13
Sarah Bailey	13	Vesta Lewis	16
Rachel Fuller	18	Freda Lawton	20

Aleza Jo Shanahan 31



And Many, Many, More!

July

Lynn & Dale Bort	5
Kay & Stephen Springer	20

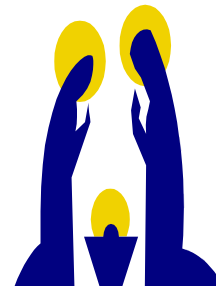
HEALTH TIPS!



Look, I can't say it enough. Your health is really important. So, start eating only three meals a day. Make the portions you eat smaller than you usually do. Stop Eating a lot of sweets, use your snacks as a way to eat good foods such as fruit veggies, and many other good healthy foods. Save those treats for once a month. You can do it! Otherwise you will make your risk for Heart disease, Strokes, and Diabetes go sky high! Keep moving, we talked about it last month. This is so important! Go crazy and exercise. Have fun with it! Never give up! Your health is counting on you!

***Till Next Time ***

Prayer Ideas!



Looking at the bright side of life will never cause eye strain. We should all live as though someone is writing a book about us. The secret to surviving is not in ignoring or denying the problem, but in learning to cope with it. Pray as if everything depended on God and work as if everything depended on you.

All we can take with us to heaven is what we leave behind in the lives we touch.

Psalms 23 (abbreviated version) the Lord is my shepherd.....and that's all I need.

***Hear Ye! Hear Ye!
Your presence is requested for
a Royally Fun Time at VBS***



And You're Invited!

August 10th - Starts at 9:00 and goes until 1:00. Please contact Genie Rotundo at 675-8646 if you would like to help out. We can reach out together to the children of this community. Please consider helping.

***Please Add New Address to
your Directory***



New Address:
Peggy Sue Ashby's
11 Williamstown, ct. Apt. 6
Cheektowaga, NY 14227

Christian One Liners



Don't let your worries get the best of you; Remember,
Moses started out as a basket case.

Some people are kind, polite, and sweet-spirited
Until you try to sit in their pews.

Many folks want to serve God,
But only as advisers.

It is easier to preach ten sermons
Than it is to live one.

The good Lord didn't create anything without a purpose,
But mosquitoes come close.

When you get to your wit's end,
You'll find God lives there.

People are funny; they want the front of the bus,
Middle of the road,
And back of the church.

Opportunity may knock once,
But temptation bangs on the front door forever.

Quit griping about your church;
If it was perfect, you couldn't belong.

If a church wants a better pastor,
It only needs to pray for the one it has.

We're called to be witnesses, not lawyers or Judges.

God Himself doesn't propose to judge a man until
he is dead. So why should you?

Some minds are like concrete
Thoroughly mixed up and permanently set.

Peace starts with a smile.

I don't know why some people change churches;
What difference does it make which one you stay home
from?

Be ye fishers of men. You catch 'em - He'll clean 'em.

Stop, Drop, and Roll won't work in Hell.

Christian One Liners Continued

Coincidence is when God chooses to remain anonymous.

Don't put a question mark where God put a period.

Don't wait for 6 strong men to take you to church.

Forbidden fruits create many jams.

God doesn't call the qualified, He qualifies the called.

God grades on the cross, not the curve.

God loves everyone,

But probably prefers 'fruits of the spirit' over 'religious nuts!'

God promises a safe landing, not a calm passage.

He, who angers you, controls you!

If God is your Co-pilot, swap seats!

Prayer:

Don't give God instructions, just report for duty!

The task ahead of us is never as great as the Power behind us.

The Will of God never takes you to where the Grace of God will not protect you.

We don't change the message, The message changes us.

You can tell how big a person is By what it takes to discourage him/her.

The best mathematical equation I have ever seen:

1 cross + 3 nails = 4 given.

If this blessed you in a profound way today, Share it with a few friends to bless them!

I bet someone else will LOVE it too.

There is no greater treasure than a good friend!

Jesus Loved Parties



As I was reading John chapter 2, it dawned on me that the wedding at Cana was the first event that Jesus shared with his disciples. I wonder how many leaders, spend time gathering their followers for the mission of transforming the world and defeating evil and the first thing they do is say, "let's go to a party."

Cana was close to Nazareth, where Jesus lived. It was about a two hour walk, or an hour and $\frac{3}{4}$ on a fast donkey. It is likely that Joseph and Mary had friends or family there. These weddings were sometime week long affairs and usually the whole (little) town was invited. The fact that Jesus was invited is not odd, but it might have been a bit unusual that he brought these twelve other guys with him. In any case, people loved having Jesus around, and he loved being around people. In fact he loved people so much that he gave his life for them. (John 3:16)

Bob Kaylor, senior editor for "Homiletics", a magazine written for preachers by preachers, tells about going to parties which are largely secular affairs. When people find out he is a preacher, he usually gets one of the following responses: "I haven't been to church for along tie, because....." He says that he has done several confessions next to the bean dip. The second response is, "I don't like organized religion". To this he says, "Oh, you would like our church it is very unorganized".

In the long run, loving people is not about elaborate organizations, or newsletters, or bulletins, or business meetings, or any of the numerous other time takers that occupy our "religious lives". It is really about the new wine o the Holy Spirit that Jesus radiated everywhere he went. It is about taking time to pray with an inmate at the county jail, or laying a healing hand on the shoulder of a depressed or grieving person. All of us are impacted in some way by the tension in the Middle East, and how it tends to spill over into places like the Boston Marathon and the nightly news. People are hurting because the future seems clouded and threats and danger abound. Yet it was in this very context that Jesus did his ministry. He taught the ways of peace. He offered himself as the "Way". He gave the Holy Spirit as the continued presence of his Peace (John 14) He was heralded as the "Prince of Peace". (Isaiah 9) The world needs believers in Christ to know the truth and be the truth.

In 1963, I had the joy of traveling to Beirut, Lebanon. With a tour made up of youth and older people. We spent a week at the Baptist World Alliance in the Sportive Citee. The people there were gracious and kind and eager to have us there. Many were Islamic and yet welcomed us to their beautiful city. It saddens me to see it made into a war zone. I urge you to pray for peace in that land and in the other affected areas.

Jesus knew that life was not a party. Neither are we to ignore the evil that destroys the goodness of life. Whether it is the disaster of a tsunami or cancer, or the misguided sinful war mentality which dogs our history, we are called to stand in the harmony of Christ's new wine of the Spirit. We are called to be people of truth and healing.

Let us not lose sight of the call which Christ makes to us to go into all the world, the preach, teach, and baptize in his name and make disciples of all nations. (Matthew 28) We dare not lose sight of this amidst towering organizations and entangled arguments. Jesus said, simply, "Follow me". Heaven is waiting to throw a party in honor of those who do.

Pastor John