

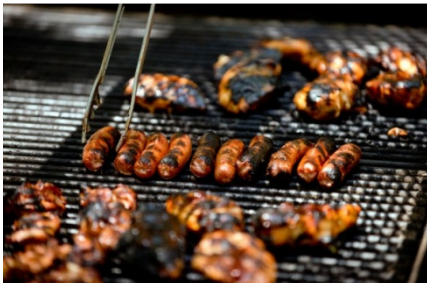


Now that's beautiful! Family together spending quality time together. Remember this summer to take time out and spend some time with the family making memories and having fun. That's how it should be. Make every moment count. Don't let time slip away and leave you with absolutely no memories. Be creative and have fun outside.

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July/August 2014

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



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

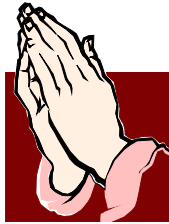
Victor Vrooman, Organist

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; Pastor Bud Adams, Mavis Cooter, Ken House, Stewart Smith, Phyllis Smith, Helen Webb, and our missionaries, our nation, and our denominational and local church leaders.

PRAYER FOR JULY / AUGUST

Dear Lord,

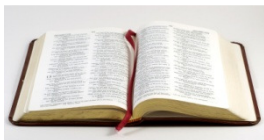
Give us reminders to thank you for all we have and all the good in our lives. Make us put you first in our lives. Make us stronger in doing this we ask this in your name.

Amen.

MEETING NIGHTS

No meetings till September unless one is needed, you will be notified by your chairperson in that case.

VERSE OF THE MONTH



Praise the Lord. How good it is to sing praises to our God, How pleasant and fitting to praise him!
Psalm 147: 1

WITNESS ARTICLES

All articles for the September Witness are due in the church office by August 20th. Please write an article and submit it! If you need an idea, just ask.

Birthdays for July



Ian Brooks – 7 Grace Fuller -10
Don Flower – 15 Genie Rotundo – 17
Katie Rotundo – 23 Patrick Bort – 27
Cherie House -31

Anniversaries for July



Lynn & Dale Bort -5
Kay & Stephen Springer - 20

Blood Drive



**American
Red Cross**

The Red Cross will be here July 31st from 1-6. This will be open to the public as well as for our church. We need volunteers to help out that day. Please contact the church secretary and let her know. Donations of cookies and orange juice are need too

Birthdays for August



Diana Baxter – 2 Roxanne Spinks - 4
Delores Olin – 4 John Zelensnik - 11
Rebekah Springer – 13 Vesta Lewis - 16
Rachel Fuller – 18 Freda Lawton – 20
Aleza Jo Shanahan – 31

Anniversaries for August



None

Church Service and Picnic



Taft Bay Park

Our annual picnic and service by the lake is August 10th. The service starts at 10:30 then after the service is the picnic. Everyone is invited! Please bring a dish to share and your own table service and a chair to sit on. Meat will be provided but, remember to bring your own drink. See you there.

July / August 2014 Health News

Bones provide structure, protect organs, anchor muscles, and store calcium and weight bearing exercises to build strong bones and optimize bone mass.

Peak bone mass refers to the genetic potential for bone density. By the age of 20, the average woman has acquired most of her skeletal mass. A large decline in bone mass occurs in older adults, increasing the risk of osteoporosis, and a deterioration of bone tissue. Osteoporosis leads to an increase in bone fractures, typically in the wrist, hip and spine.

Some of the risk factors for osteoporosis include those who are females, Caucasian, post-menopausal women, older adults, small in body size, eating a diet low in calcium, physically inactive.

Calcium is a mineral needed by our bodies for healthy bones, teeth, and for proper function of the heart, muscles, and nerves. Our bodies cannot produce calcium; it must be absorbed through food. Good sources include: dairy products, dark green leafy vegetables, calcium fortified foods, almonds. Vitamin D also plays a role in healthy bone development as it helps in the absorption of calcium.

We can all strive to do 30 minutes of moderate physical activity 3-5 days a week. Or we can get crazy and exercise every day!

CDC.go

July 2014 Traditional and not so Traditional Holidays

July 4, 2014. Independence Day. The 4th of July is the birthday of our nation. Thomas Jefferson led a committee that crafted the declaration between June 11-28, 1776. Even though it was not signed by all representatives from the 13 colonies until August 1776, it was made official when John Hancock, President of the Continental Congress, signed it. Today we celebrate and enjoy the freedom that comes with this event.

July 20, 2014. National Ice Cream Day. What is better on a hot day than an ice cream cone? In 1984 President Ronald Reagan proclaimed July as National Ice Cream month and National Ice Cream Day as the third Sunday in the month.

July 23, 2014. National Hot Dog Day. It's summer after all, and we will celebrate one of America's favorite sandwiches. Origin of Hot Dog Day: who knows and who really cares? Just enjoy, and have an ice cream cone for dessert.

July 27, 2014. National Parents Day. In 1994, President Bill Clinton proclaimed the fourth Sunday in July as National Parents Day. Celebrate the family structure and family values, not only for our children, but for the nation. Kids, this is a special day to honor your mom and dad! Maybe you could treat them to a hot dog and ice cream cone!!

Holiday Insights

August 2014 Holidays

August 3, 2014. Friendship Day. It is the first Sunday in August and is a day to nurture relationships, old and new. Contact some old friends; call them, email them, text them. Then catch up to some of your current friends. Perhaps you can even make some new friends today. Put your spirit into this, and have a great day!

August 27, 2014. Global Forgiveness Day. This day was created and sponsored in 1994 by the Christian Embassy of Christ's Ambassadors. It is dedicated to evoking the healing power of forgiveness worldwide. Do you know anyone that needs your forgiveness?

The rest of August holidays are too bizarre to mention!

Holiday Insights

This wraps up one year of listing the monthly traditional and not so traditional holidays. I hope everyone enjoyed them.

***Do You Know Of anyone who
could use a visit or phone call?***



Please contact Cheryl Backman at 668-2230. She loves to go visit and talk and cheer people up. This could be a member, family, or even Friends. Just give her a call Cheryl would be delight to go and visit most anyone. She was just baptized here at our church and this is what Cheryl likes to do for outreach to help our church. Please be supportive of her.

***Baptism Sunday
Last Month***



We want to welcome both Cheryl Backman and Andy Spry as they have found Christ in their life and are living as Christ would have them. It was a beautiful and touching to watch them get baptized. Everyone should take time to get to know both of them and you will see how wonderful they both are.

Collecting Bibles



Andy Spry is collecting bibles for young people. If you have any old or new easy to read for the younger group please let Andy know. He is helping Eric Svereika with his ministry to bring the young people closer to God. These young people have no bibles and are always very appreciative when someone is able to give them one of their own. Pray about this and see if you're able to help out.



Our congregation has been blessed recently with two notable and wonderful events. On Sunday, June 8th we witnessed Cheryl Backman and Andy Spry publically proclaiming their faith in the Lord at their baptisms, and on the following Sunday, our congregation unanimously voted them in as the newest members of First Baptist. Our church tradition is to honor new members at the following communion Sunday, when they are first to be served communion and then personally welcomed by the congregation with the hand of Christian fellowship. Please join us then, on communion Sunday, July 6th to welcome Cheryl Backman and Andy Spry. Our time of fellowship after church will be in their honor, hosted by the Board of Deacons.

The Huge Announcement!



Dear Friends and Members of First Baptist of Central Square,

Have found our new Pastor.

Her husband is a stay at home dad so she can dedicate herself to her calling as a pastor. Her name is Pastor Megan Biddle. She will be with us on July 20th. We will hold a church meeting and vote after the service that day. There will be much more to come in the next few weeks. Each member and friend of the board will be at a luncheon on Saturday at 12:00 and the pastor to meet Pastor Megan and her family. We will have a covered dish dinner for the whole church Saturday night. She will then preach for us on Sunday morning. We will contact the board heads as to what we would like each to help us with. Praise God that we really feel that this person is the right fit for us. Thank you for all of your prayers and concerns for us this past two years. He has our prayers answered all of them and more. The picture above is not a picture of Pastor Megan Biddle.

The Pastoral Search Committee,
Mark Heitmann, Janet Bettinger
Co-Chairman's

Vacation Bible School



Vacation Bible School will be held on Friday, August 8 from 6-8pm, Saturday, August 9 10-1 and conclude on Sunday, August 10th at the church picnic.

We will be holding weekly meetings throughout the next 6 weeks to familiarize the team with the theme: "Son Treasure Island". This is a fun filled island adventure to introduce God's love for us through his son, Jesus Christ.

We could use YOUR help in all areas:

- Preparing Decorations
- Teaching Bible Stories
- Planning & serving food & Snacks
- PRAYER SUPPORT

Our next meeting will be Monday, June 30th, if you cannot come please call Genie Rotundo at 675-8646. We will be determining at that meeting the best time to hold for the month of July.

Thank you everyone for your support in the **outreach mission** to the children of our community.

Sunday School Superintendent,
Genie Rotundo

AB Women's Luncheon



AB Women welcome you to
Join us for a Lunch & Learn

Saturday, July 19th

Shannon Bigelow will be our guest speaker!! She's an English Teacher at Mexico High School. She'll be discussing the **"True Beauty Day"** that she organized and they now celebrate annually. Learn what it could mean to our youth today and what values it teaches. Get inspired to make a difference in the community!

Lunch will be served at 11:00

Followed by the presentation; monetary donations will be donated to the **"True Beauty Day"** celebration.

Please contact Misty DeFalco

@ 935-6267 or Cindy in the main office if you will be attending so that we know how much food to make.

"A THREEFOLD CORD IS NOT EASILY BROKEN"

These words are from Ecclesiastes 4:12. Even though they tell a truth about how to make a strong rope, their real intent is to tell us about the value of people working together. When we work with someone else, we tend to stay on task; we come up with better ideas; and we usually enjoy the work more. So powerful is this reality, Jesus taught that where two or three are gathered in His name, he would be in their midst. And he said that if only two agree about what they ask, God will hear and do what they ask. (Matthew 18:18-20)

Some time ago, at a Midwestern county fair, a contest was held to see which draft horse could pull the heaviest load. One horse pulled a sled with

a load of 4500 pounds. It was the winner and champion. The second place horse managed to drag the load of 4000 pounds.

When the contest was over, one horse owner suggested that it would be interesting to see how many pounds the top two horses could pull together. When the animals were harnessed together they were able to pull 12,000 pounds! Together they had pulled 3500 more pounds than the total of their individual best pulls.

Sometimes it just seems easier to do things by ourselves. We have our system down pat. Other people might not do it like we do it. It takes a while to train someone else. There are lots of reasons why we go it alone. It may not be our style to "bond" with other people. When we think about it, it might have been easier for Jesus to be a "do it yourselfer". After all, when the cards were down, his disciples abandoned him. They never seemed to understand him. They were frequently at odds over who was the greatest. I wonder if Jesus' words on cross, "Father, forgive them for they know not what they are doing", might have been addressed to his followers on any number of occasions. Never the less, Jesus called us to work together.

- ✓ He spoke of himself as the vine and us the branches. (John 15:5)
- ✓ He said that the love with which the Father has loved me will be in my followers. (John 17:26 paraphrased)
- ✓ Following his resurrection, when Jesus talked with Peter on the shore, he asked him to "feed his sheep". (John 21:17)

The church cannot grow stronger unless its people grow deeper. Deeper means stronger in fellowship, wider in service, richer in love, and more eager to share the Word with others. Doing this with others creates a strong cord which cannot be easily broken.

Pastor John