

First Baptist Church of Central Square

701 North Main Street, Central Square, NY 13076

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Prayer Concerns: Smith family, Bernadette Lynch, Frank VanBuskirk, Morris Reels, Gagnon Family, Joan Brown, Melody Clark, Ken Gleason, Bob Chamberlin, Bobbi Biddle, Pat Harrington, Dee Albrecht, Jeannie VanHoevan, Major Family, Maxine Tubbs, Susan Fenton, Helen Webb, Wiebe Family, our schools, our nation, and our military.

Birthdays:

Jessica Shanahan 5	Daisy Ayre 11	Cheryl Shanahan 18
Braedon Woolson-Smith 25		Helen Webb 26

Anniversaries:

Diana & Ed Baxter 6	Margaret & Mark Heitmann 11	Genie & Marcus Rotundo 28
	Carol & Bob Chamberlin 29	

Mystery Member:

May's Mystery Member is **Alexander Springer!** His favorite color is green, he hates spaghetti, but like mac and cheese, and he is a foster parent to goldfish Rebekah is unable to care for.

June's Mystery Member likes to quilt, is a wonderful cook, and they rescue pit bulls. Can you guess who this is?

Witness Articles

Please send anything you would like published to the email Kahminder@gmail.com by June 24th.

Pentecostal Sunday

June 4th is Pentecostal Sunday. We are asking people to bring in a *RED* live plant to decorate the sanctuary, and then Diana Baxter will be planting the flowers around out church.



Upcoming Events

June 4

Memorial Service for Bruce Herrick (4pm)

June 10

The Glad Ringers Hand Bell Choir (7pm)

June 11

The Glad Ringers Hand Bell Choir (after church) then brunch!

June 12

Women's Society Meeting (11am)

June 15

Paint Night

June 25

Graduation Sunday

***Next Council Meeting is
June 21st, 2017 at 6pm.***



Free Lunch

June's Free Lunch will be Dinosaur Pulled Pork Sandwiches, Cole Slaw, Potato Chips, & Strawberry Shortcake!

There will not be a formal Free Lunch in July and August this year. If there is a need for a free lunch those months, a box lunch will be available on July 25th and August 29th. **Those will need to be ordered one week prior by contacting Cheryl Backman @ 315-668-2230 and will be available for pick up those days between 11:30 am - 1 pm. at the Church.** Thanks.

AB Women Update

Save the Date

AB Women will be hosting their very first Paint Night!!! It will be Saturday July 15th beginning at 4:30. The cost will be \$40/person and will include your painting project, beverages, and snacks! It's going to be a lot of fun!! More details to follow in coming weeks! Any Questions please contact Misty DeFalco.

Memorial Service

Memorial Service for Bruce Herrick will be held at the church on June 4th at 4pm.

Arguing With Children Can Be Risky

In a grade school lesson, a teacher was explaining a little bit about whales. A little girl in class piped up and said: "I just learned that Jonah in the bible was swallowed by a whale." The teacher said it was physically impossible for a whale to swallow a human because even though it was a very large mammal its throat was relatively small. The girl said: "I am sure Jonah was swallowed by a whale." The teacher reiterated that a whale could not swallow a human; that it was physically impossible. The little girl replied: "My Sunday school teacher told me Jonah was swallowed and she would not lie to me." A bit perturbed by this, the teacher proclaimed: "That is a "story" from the bible, it is not factual, and I will not argue with you." After a little thought, the girl responded: "Well, when I get to heaven, I will ask Jonah". Now challenged, the teacher spouted: "What if Jonah didn't go to heaven?" Not at all daunted, the girl quipped, " ok then you ask him."

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Prayer Shawl Ministry is going strong. We continue to meet once a week for fellowship and prayer as we knit or crochet our shawls and blankets. We need is everyone's help in letting us know who might be in need of a prayer shawl, lap robe, or blanket. Anyone that is ill, facing surgery, grieving, or just needs comforting and knowing someone cares. It can be a neighbor, friend, family member, or yourself. Please contact Cheryl at 315-668-2230. In my absence for the month of May I will leave the shawls with Randi. You may contact her for help during this time.

Church Officers

Reverend
Meg Biddle

Moderator
Lynn Bort

Church Clerk
Rebekah Springer

Treasurer
Elizabeth Rotundo

Financial Secretary
Grace Fuller

Christian Education Facilitators

Roxanne Spink
Carol Chamberlin
Jillian Biddle

Trustee Facilitators
Randi Driesen
Don Flower
Cherie House

Diaconate Facilitators
Rich Mizerski
Penny Faulter
Cheryl Backman



Pictured Above: Kurt Brown, father of Harrison Brown the young man killed last week!! Praise to our knitters, what many hearts it touched!!

Diaconate Update

Check back next month!

Trustee Report

The bell ringers from Columbus, Indiana will be here on Saturday June 10. We will have a picnic dinner for them including foods made in CNY, ie: Hoffman's coneys & hot dogs, Gianelli sausage, and salt potatoes. They will perform in our church starting at 7 pm.

PLEASE invite your friends and neighbors!

After their concert, we will invite the congregation and guests to our ice cream social; serving Byrne Dairy and Perry's Ice Cream, both made in CNY. If you can't make it Saturday night, they will again do a concert at our 10 am Church Service Sunday June 11. We will serve them brunch after church. We are still looking for fresh ideas of things to do Sunday afternoon. They will be served dinner at the Mallory Weslyn Church Sunday evening, and then they will do another performance at their church.

The important thing I want to emphasize is to PLEASE be there for at least one, if not all, of the bell ringers concerts June 10 and June 11. This is truly an honor to have the bell ringers from Pastor Meg's home church travel this distance to "ring" for us!

Adam's Suit

A little boy opened the big and old family Bible with fascination, and looked at the old pages as he turned them. Suddenly, something fell out of the Bible, and he picked it up and looked at it closely. It was an old leaf from a tree that had been pressed between the pages.

'Momma, look what I found,' the boy called out.

'What have you got there, dear?' his mother asked.

With astonishment in the young boy's voice, he answered: 'I think it's Adam's suit!'

"He said "Love...as I have loved you." We cannot love too much."
— Amy Carmichael

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.

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

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

God promises a safe landing, not a calm passage.

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

Sunday School/Church

School History

By Delores Olin

Part 2

Children have always participated in presentations at morning worship and vacation church school.

Extra Note: The church library was established in 1966 by Bertha Harrington and ster Codner.

Personally, I have taught Nursery, Middlers, and now Adult. How about you join us for a good study and sharing of God's word? I only lead, we all share, and enjoy fellowship too!



Christian Education Facilitators Update

The Christian Education Facilitators held their first meeting of the year on April 30th. Carol Chamberlin will be assuming responsibility for our mission offerings starting with the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering in June. Roxanne L. Spink will continue as chairperson. On May 3rd Jillian, Aubrey, and Alaina gave the ladies in our church bookmarkers in honor of Mother's Day. We recognized all the women in the church because of the "Motherly" role they provide our youth. May 21st we held our annual "Senior Appreciation Day." Those in attendance enjoyed a carry-in luncheon and fellowship. We owe the older members of our church a debt that we can never repay and hope that this small display expresses our gratitude. Children's Day will be June 4th. Rebekah Springer has planned a program for the youth which will, as in past years, provide an important message from our young people. June 25th we will be combining our Graduation Sunday with Teacher Appreciation / Recognition Sunday. This year's graduates include Alexander Springer, Victor Vrooman, and Rebekah Springer. If we have forgotten anyone please let us know as soon as possible. We are considering not having Sunday School for our young people in the fall. The Adult class will continue. Junior Church would become the place for lessons previously covered during Sunday School. Last year there was no interest in camping or VBS so we have not made a plan for these activities this year. We discussed organizing a special day for our youth sometime during the summer. If anyone has any suggestions for this youth activity please feel free to share. Planning for 2017 continues and we encourage anyone with ideas or suggestions to contact any of the Christian Education Facilitators.

The Visitor

One day, a man went to visit a church. He arrived early, parked his car, and got out. Another car pulled up near him, and the driver told him, "I always park there. You took my place!"

The visitor went inside for Sunday School, found an empty seat, and sat down. A young lady from the church approached him and stated, "That's my seat! You took my place!" The visitor was somewhat distressed by this rude welcome, but said nothing. After Sunday School, the visitor went into the church sanctuary and sat down. Another member walked up to him and said, "That's where I always sit. You took my place!" The visitor was even more troubled by this treatment, but still said nothing. Later, as the congregation was praying for Christ to dwell among them, the visitor stood, and his appearance began to change. Horrible scars became visible on his hands and on his sandaled feet. Someone from the congregation noticed him and called out, "What happened to you?"

The visitor replied, "I took your place."

- Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. -1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Dakota's Mission

A big "Thank you!" to everyone who donated books or money toward Dakota's Mission! It has all gone to a great cause! "Dakota's Mission 2RE@D" has donated 20 books to the Ronald McDonald House, 25 to Madison Irving Pediatrics, and today 117 books along with 16 coloring books and crayons were donated to Crouse Prompt Care! (That's a grand total of 178!) Some will stay in their 12 exam rooms, the coloring books and crayons will help keep kids occupied in the waiting room, and the rest will find homes with patients! Dakota's next goal is to donate 100 books as well as coloring books and crayons to Central Square Urgent Care! Please keep the donations coming!



From the Reverend

On Monday, May 22, thousands of young people attended a concert in Manchester, England. Some of them were accompanied by their parents, while others had arranged to meet them inside the arena when the concert finished. The pop singer's fan base, girls, mostly teenagers. The venue that could seat up to 21,000 people was filled with families. A suicide bomber set off an explosion near the end of the concert leaving at least 22 people dead, 59 injured, and 13 missing. This is horrible. This is tragic, but it is becoming the norm. We become outraged and horrified by the senseless violence, and demand that something be done, but there is no resolution.

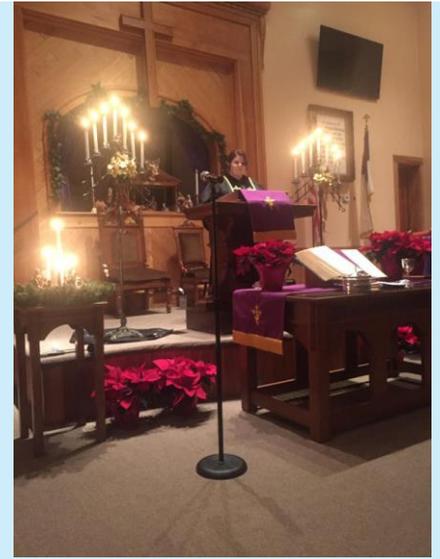
What do we say? How do we react when violence and tragedy is all consuming? I needed to go to the grocery store, and I asked Jillian if she had a preference on which one we went to. Her response was, "Which one are we less likely to get blown up at by some crazed person out to kill as many people as possible?" First of all, if you know my daughter, you are well aware that her response is not out of character for her. Second, as her mother, I know that she is finding everything going on in the world these days disturbing. She might be a teenager, but all of this stuff is weighing on her.

There has been a common held belief by many that the best thing to do in situations where anxiety and grief are present, is to say nothing, or to change the subject. I disagree. In situations where trauma has occurred, even though it did not occur in this country, the best thing any of us can do is make others feel safe. Experts say that while we should not force anyone to talk about their feelings, we should encourage our children and grandchildren to do so. Even though I am not a relative, there are children my first-grade group that I volunteer with that talk to me about what is on their minds. Sometimes it happens at lunch or in the middle of making an art project. These kids talk because they feel safe around me. Often, I do not have to respond at all; I sit and listen.

When I was a kid and we would hear about horrible things happening in other countries, my mom always told me not to worry, because it would not happen here. Unfortunately, that is not the case. It is just a matter of time, which saddens me. My daughter worries about which grocery store to choose, and if she should go to Destiny to pick out her dress for the 8th grade dance, because there will be large crowds there. I assure you, she is not the only one. My job is to make her feel as safe as possible, and to reassure her that I will do everything I can to keep her that way.

What do we as Christians do when something like this happens? We pray. Hopefully, we are already praying, but if not, pray for our world, our nation, our churches, our military. Public transportation came to a stop that night, so people in Manchester opened up their homes to strangers who could not get home, even if all they could offer was a sofa and a cup of tea. Kindness in midst of chaos. I am left to wonder if we would respond the same way if tragedy occurred in our midst.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Meg



FAITH
is like Wi-Fi,
it's invisible but
it has the power
to connect you to
what you need.

