



FBC Witness

The Monthly Newsletter for the First Baptist Church of Central Square New York

A member of the American Baptist Churches USA

Church office hours Tuesday thru Friday 9 am till 4:00

For appointments call 315-668-2138

Visit our website @ fbc-cs.com

Lynn Bort, Moderator

March 2016

Edition 1: 2016



Please keep in your prayers:

Ken Bird, Smith Family, Jacob House
Scott Heer, Roxanne Spink
Donnie O'Neil, Frank VanBuskirk , Victor Vrooman
Nate Herendeen,
Our Men and Women of the Armed Services

March is here. That means spring is around the corner. The flowers will be out and warm sun will help all of us out of winter gray.

The choir will present the annual Easter Cantata on Easter Sunday, March 27th. It is an event most of us look forward to.

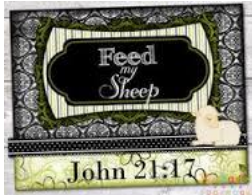
If you have information or an article to contribute to the newsletter, please send it to me at markheitmann@glo9@yahoo.com. I need to have all information by the 20th of each month. I will send out email once I get all of the names of the chairpersons. Each month we will highlight a board or committee so everyone will know what they do for our church.

Thank you,
Mark Heitmann



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSAIES

Linda Heer March 23
Elizabeth Rotundo March 27

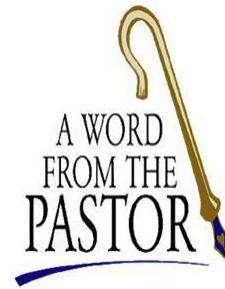


Our Free Lunch will March 29, 11:30 till 1pm
Please let your friends know it will be a Chili. Ask
someone who might need a ride to join you. Any
questions ask Cheryl Backman or Maggie Heitmann.



St. Valentine Dinner

I would like to thank all who came out in the storm for
this event. We had 37 reservations WOW!!! We all had
fun and enjoyed a good meal and the desserts were
GREAT!! No two were alike. I was not able to judge
which one was best so we might need to have each
person do it again and bring it in on a Sunday for the
church to decide.



Psalm 119: 2 reads, "Happy are those who keep his
decrees, who seek him with their whole heart." I wonder
how many of us can say that we seek God with our whole
heart? That means with all that we are, and every ounce
of our being. That is a lot, I know, and yet that is exactly
what God desires, all of us.

We are in the Lenten season, a time where we are
supposed to give something up in order to help us think
about the sacrifice Jesus made. The problem becomes,
that often our focus becomes that habit we try to break
ourselves of or what we are sacrificing instead of THE
SACRIFICE. That is part of the reason I have never given up
coffee for Lent. I love coffee. But, I am not sure the world
can handle me without coffee. I am so afraid I would be
so focused on my lack of coffee that I would fail to reflect
on the sacrifice Christ made, at least in the way Christ
deserves; my whole heart.

What do you give your whole heart to in your life? It is a
difficult question to answer. Athletes often give all of
themselves to their sport. Not only do they have to
sacrifice their time for practice, missing family
celebrations and important events, but they also have to
focus on their nutrition. Their mental attitude is just as
important as their health. If one thing is off, then they
don't perform as well.

It isn't really any different with our relationship with
Christ. If we fail to give our whole heart, then we often
find ourselves feeling as though something is missing in
our life. That is because it is. Maybe for the remainder of
the Lenten season you could try adding something to your
life. Set aside a few minutes every day for quiet time, and
seek God with your whole heart every day.

See you in church. Grace and peace be with you all.

Pastor Meg



Easter Trivia-

Have you ever wondered who decides when Easter occurs each year? The Book of Common Prayer is where I came across my answer. Easter Day is always the Sunday after the full moon that occurs on or after the full moon that occurs on or after the spring equinox on March 21, a date which is fixed in accordance with an ancient ecclesiastical computation, and which does not always correspond to the astronomical equinox.” That date could fall anywhere between March 22 to April 25. There you have it, your Jeopardy answer. I prefer the answer that any child could offer: Easter comes on a different day every year, but always on a Sunday.

Prayer Chain 2016

- Pastor Meg 668-2138 (church)
Deloris Olin 668-2719
Carol Chamberlin 676-7461
Lynn Bort 317-3864
Genie Rotundo 675- 8646 (home) 952-5427 (cell)
Cheryl Backman 668-2230
Lynda Heer 668-1166
Dail & Rich Mizerski 675-3271

Anyone who feels they have a situation that needs the power of prayer may call for help from our telephone prayer chain group. Please start with Pastor Meg, but if she is unavailable, leave a message and call Delores Olin. The prayer chain participants will call the next person on the list. If that person is unavailable, they will leave a message and continue down the list until they speak to someone in person. To prayer chain participants: Thank you so much for your prayer support and belief in the power of prayer!

Church Board News

Meetings

- March 5th- 9:30am- Constitution Review Committee Work day
March 8th- Diaconate Meeting
March 6 – Trustee meeting
March 13- Executive meeting



Easter Cantata:

Lynn and her team picked another winner for the Easter Cantata. If you would like to join us, extra voices are always welcome. We are having practice after church each Sunday. Lynn also said she is still looking for few actors. If you always wanted to be on stage let Lynn know.



There will not be a Junior Church Lesson Easter Sunday. The children are encouraged to enjoy the services with their families.



Board of Christian Ed welcomes you to Movie Night!
March 6th beginning at 6:00pm

We will be showcasing **WAR ROOM**

There will be an alternative movie shown in the meditation room for the children.
Be sure to bring snacks to share!! We'll see you then!!



AB Women's Annual Soup On Sunday

Join AB Women on March 6th as they raise funds for their annual missions. Following Services the Women will provide soup, bread, and dessert! YUM!! This is a great time for fellowship, and we encourage you all to join us!!

Our History corner

We asked Delores Olin to give us a history lesson each month. Therefore, here is our lesson:

Through the Eyes of Peter Woodin
Gazing down over Oswego County at the churches he started, he is shaking his head. There's Hannibal Community Church merged with the Presbyterians and Fulton also joined them. Caughdenoy is a Methodist town. That church in California he has no idea what happened out there. Smiling, he looks down on the First Baptist Church of Central Square still a vital part of the community and is still on going. It was weathered its ups and downs ever since he built it and completed in June 1845. He remembers some of the parishioners, a relative of Marion Chesebro her grandfather gave the lumber to build the main church building which is still the same one today.

I have seen 30 pastors go through that front door over the years not to mention many interim Pastors. I have seen two Pastors serve twice they could not get enough of our little church.

There have been many changes to the church over the years mostly to improve on what we built. It still is a good looking building in the town.

I still wonder how many descendants are from the original group still attends and how many have we helped to find the way to god through our doors?

This is the first part with many more next few months so if you like this let Delores know.



The 2016 First Baptist True Beauty Project

will be held in April. I am looking for adult volunteers to partner with the youth two Sundays in a row. You will get to know each other, discover something beautiful about your partner, and make T-Shirts together. The second Sunday you will be photographed in your T-Shirts and present your discoveries to the church during Children's Time. It's a great way to share God's Love for us just the way he created us! It's also a way to gain a mutual respect between the generations in the church! If you are interested please contact me by either email: mistydefalco@crouse.org or phone/text: 315-935-6267. As of right now I need 6-8 adults!! ☺



Senior Appreciation Day will be celebrated May 15th!!
Mark your calendars and plan on staying after services to honor our seniors and enjoy fellowship and cake!!