

Wearing of the Green



It ought to come in April,
Or, better yet, in May
When everything is green as green-
I mean St. Patrick's Day.

With still a week of winter
this wearing of the green
seems rather out of season –
it's rushing things, I mean-

But maybe March is better
when all is done and said:
St. Patrick brings a promise,
a four-leaf-clover promise,
a green-all-over promise
of springtime just ahead!

By: Aileen Fisher



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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

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“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

Lynda 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; Mavis Cooter; Arlene LeBeau; Stewart Smith; Phyllis Smith; Ray Olin; Helen Webb; our missionaries; our nation; and our denominational and local church leaders.

Verse of the Month



Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; His love endures forever.

Pslam 118 verse 1

PRAYERS FOR MARCH

Dear Lord,

Help us to be thankful for all the things you have given us. Remind us that your love is the greatest of all. That we are also always loved by you. Amen



MEETING NIGHT

Christian Ed	March 3rd	11:15
Trustees	March 10th	after church
Deacon's	March 12th	6:30
Executive	March 17th	after church



WITNESS ARTICLES

All articles for the April Witness are due in the church office by March 20th. Please write an article and submit it! Thank You

Birthdays

For March



Ron Wing - 20 Lynda Heer - 23

Lizzy Rotundo - 27

HEALTH TIPS!



Welcome back! This month is one of the three months that's hardest to lose weight because most of us like staying inside and curling up with a good book or watching TV. Here are some easy ways to make the most of it; house clean, do the deep down cleaning that's not done on a regular basis. It will cause you to bend, stand, and lift and most of all it gets you off the couch. Then when spring hits your spring cleaning will be done. Again you will be healthier and keep the weight off. Then get outside and enjoy the good weather instead of being in the house cleaning!

***Till Next Time ***

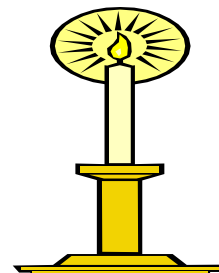
Anniversaries



Rich & Dale Mizerski - 25

Pam & Jim Edick - 26

New Acolytes

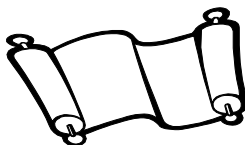


We now have four children interested in serving as acolytes. An acolyte is part of the worship 'team' lighting candles at the beginning of the service, and at the end of the service, extinguishing the candles and taking the flame down the aisle into the vestibule. Acolytes must be 8 years of age or older and will serve on a rotating schedule just like worship and youth leaders. We're planning to have training sessions in March, which will be announced ahead of time.

Rich Mizerski
Board of Deacons

Constitution Review committee

Update



At the Annual Meeting it was suggested that an outline of what a One-Board Church Organization Chart might look like. An attempt will be made by yours truly to research that. I don't know if I'll have it by our Church Council meeting in April, but I'll try. If there is anyone who knows of any church using this system, I'm sure the Committee is open to that input. Additionally, if you have thoughts about our existing Constitution, then please let anyone on the committee know. Thank you!

Don Haury...for the
Constitution Review Committee

Members are: Randi Driesen, Linda Heer,
Mark Heitmann, Joan Haury and
Don Haury

The Five Finger Prayer



Thumb- Pray for those closer to you.

Pointer Finger- Pray for those who point the way.

Tallest Finger – Pray for those in leadership

Ringer finger – Pray for those who are ill or trouble

Pinky – Pray for yourself.

MOVIE NIGHT



Our movie night list:

Our next movie night is March 3rd at 7:00pm at the church. The title of the movie is “**Fireproof**” See you there!

March 10th “**Courageous**” at church 7pm

(Please bring a snack to share!)

Prayer Ideas!



Start each morning with an attitude of gratitude; no matter what, the circumstance's can splash joy over the rest of the day.

Sometimes the smallest word or most unlikely gesture of kindness is all that's needed to turn a hurting heart toward the light of god's love.

The present is what slips by us while we're pondering the past and worrying about the future.

St. Patrick's Day Dinner



This year we will have a St. Patrick's Day Dinner. We will be having corn beef and cabbage. This dinner is for the whole family. The price is \$5.00 per person, \$3.00 for children under 12, and children under 5 are free. It is for our members and friends and will be held on March 17, 4 to 6. This is in place of our Valentines dinner. There will be advance tickets out soon. Ask a trustee for them.

Cleaning basement



There will be a **Basement clean out** March 2nd at 9 am. If any committee has anything in the basement, they will need to be there or mark it before that date. **If not marked it will be disposed of.**

The Word:



I would like to say thank you to Don Haury for all his years of service on our board. He will be missed by all. I do have his number so if I need him, I can still call. Thanks Don and God Bless for all you have done.

We had our first meeting after the annual meeting to elect our officers. The Co-Chairmen are Mark Heitmann and Nate Defalco, Secretary is Cherie House. So if you need us, our numbers are in the church directory.

The trustees are looking ahead for the summer. We would to know of anyone who would like to help in the mowing of the church and parsonage lawn. We would like to have your name and when you are able to do so. Pastor Tharp has already volunteered to mow for December and January and half of February. But, could not agree to any other months at this time. I would like to thank him for such a fine job so far. If you also would like to join the team let us know. We will be making our choice at the next meeting.

Easter Offering



The Special Easter Offering - The Trustees decided that 75% of it will go to help cover the replacement of our front door. We also had a letter from the ABC/NYS camping fund to ask for extra help this year. The board voted to send 25% of the collection for camping. Can you please help us in the support this important project.

Organ Broken



We are also taking out the Organ from the sanctuary. It was determined that it is no longer usable in its present condition. We are going to store and use it for a trade in. We are still taking donations for a replacement.

Search Comm.



We will be meeting soon and hopefully we will hear from Valley Forge. We have heard that there are two Pastors who are interested in our Church. We are not giving out their names, but we hope to hear more about them soon. God really has blessed us with this and we hope that one of them will fit into our church family for many years. As we know more we will pass it along.

Men's Breakfast



All men are invited to a breakfast to be held Saturday, March 9th at 9:00 AM at Good Golly's restaurant. Rev. Tharp has arranged for Harold Files, from Rochester, to describe his "Pet Project" for Personal Energy Transportation. He has as a mission project making the parts that go into the three wheel bikes used by the handicapped. I'm sure you've seen men in competition with these on TV. Join us for fellowship and to see how one man is making a difference for those in need. Let Rev. Tharp, Don Flower, or Rich Mizerski know if you can attend.

Spring Clean Up



The spring clean up will be May 4th at 9am. We will be done by noon. We will feed you if you help. As God said, many hands make the job easier and faster, so help us make his home ready for the summer.

Junior Church Notes



During the month of February, the children have been looking in-depth into the Bible verse in Galatians 5:22-23 ‘But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.’

For some background on this verse, I referred to the commentary In Life applications Study Bible and it read; “The Fruit of the Spirit is the spontaneous work of the Holy Spirit in us.” The Spirit produces these character traits that are found in the nature of Christ. They are the byproducts of Christ’s control, we can’t obtain them by trying to get them without his help. If we want the fruit of the spirit to grow in us, we must join our lives to his (see John 15:4-5). We must know him, love him. Remember him and imitate him. As a result, we will fulfill the intended purpose of the law to love God and our neighbors.

Which of these qualities do you want the Spirit to produce in you? I think it is a good lesson for all of us, and I hope you will ponder that question as we work with your children on these objectives!

At the completion of this 3 week study the student’s will be able to:

1. Recite the memory verse (see above)
2. Express ways to demonstrate the fruits of the spirit.

Please do all you can to help your children understand the importance of these characteristics and how they can begin to demonstrate them in their everyday lives. These traits will truly make God smile.