

We Thank Thee

Ralph Waldo Emerson

For flowers that bloom about our feet,
For tender grass so fresh and sweet,
For the song of bird and hum of bee,
For all things fair we hear or see,
Father in heaven, we thank Thee.

For blue of stream and blue of sky,
For pleasant shade of branches high,
For fragrant air and cooling breeze,
For beauty of the blooming trees,
Father in heaven we thank Thee.

For this new morning with its light,
For rest and shelter of the night,
For health and food, for love and friends,
For everything Thy goodness sends,
Father in heaven, we thank Thee.

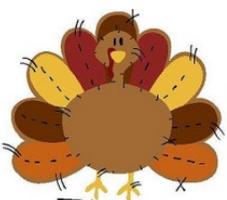
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November 2013

Be Thankful!

This is your copy of *The Witness*

We wish God's blessings


Happy Thanksgiving



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 NOVEMBER

Dear Lord,

Let us remember that no matter how tired we may feel we must continue to help wherever we can. Doing good is more important than any amount of sleep that we could ever get. Give us strength to carry on even when we are at our weakest.

Amen.

MEETING NIGHT

Trustees	November 10th	11:00
Deacons	November 12 th	

Verse of the Month



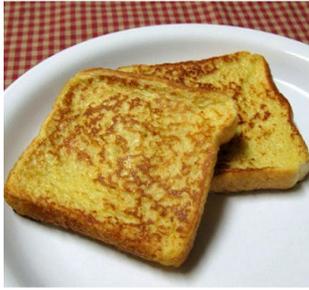
“Do not love sleep or you will grow poor: Stay awake and you will have food to spare.”

WITNESS ARTICLES

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

Proverbs 20:13

Men's Free Breakfast



The Men's Breakfast will be November 2nd at 8:00am here at the church. We will be having comedian Dan Kulp with us that day, so we will be taking reservation only! So, get those reservations in by October 31st. The women of the church will be making the breakfast. Any women willing to help please call the office and leave a message so we know who will be helping with that.

Women's Give Thanks Breakfast



The Women's Give Thanks Breakfast will be on November 9th here at the church at 9:00. All women are invited. Please plan to attend! If anyone is willing to help, please contact Randi Driesen at 345-4891.

Looking For Painters



We are looking for those who enjoy painting. Our hallways in the church are in need of new paint. Remember, this includes taking railings off walls and possibly patching walls in some areas and then painting them. It's a big job and may take several people to help! Please contact Cindy Cuny in the office at 668-2138 and let me know. Thank you.

A note From The Office



We are looking for more greeters. Right now we have a very limited amount of people to greet. I'm trying to make it so that no one has to do it more than once a month, but it's difficult without more people. Please consider being a greeter. Let me know if you would like to be a greeter! Leave a message in the office or call and leave a message.

Thank you.

Senior Appreciation Luncheon



On November 3rd we will be having a luncheon for all seniors after church. This is put on by the board of Christian Ed. We will need deserts, so please bring one if you can. Please plan to attend. It will be a fun time!

Crafters Needed



We will be having a Craft Show on December 7th from 9:00 – 4:00. In order to do this we need many crafters, so please get the word out. Have them call the church at 668-2138. They can leave a message with their name and phone number so we can get back to them. We only have 17 tables but, we will accept any who bring their own! (\$25 for our tables and \$20 if they bring their own.) The church will be doing a food and baked goods booth. We will need lots of help. Please call Margaret Heitmann for more details at 668-8004, or Cindy Cuny at 668-2805.

Looking For More Bass Singers



We are looking for more voices with a bass tone for our Cantata. If you know of anyone who would like to sing in our Cantata please have them call Lynn Bort at 317-3864. Consider how much better they will sound with more basses. We would be delighted to have everyone.

A Huge Thank You to ALL



I would like to thank all of you for honoring me for all I do last month, but the fact is it's not just me that does a lot up here at the church. Several of us do. So, this is my thank you to all of you! For all the time you spend here and all the phone calls and meetings, the time and money you donate. It's a beautiful thing. Many of us don't hear thank you enough, but the fact is that each and every one of you is as important as the next. This is my thank you to each and every one of you! That's how a church works together! It's not just me! God Bless each and every one of you!

Church Secretary,
Cindy Cuny

Parents Night Out!



We are planning another Parents Night Out for November 29th from 6 to 10. Alex Springer suggested that we do this again. In order to do so, we need volunteers to help Alex watch these children. This gives parents a chance to get their Christmas shopping done without the children. If you feel that you are able to help, please contact Margaret Heitmann at 668-8004. This is a way to reach out in our community, so please consider helping! Last time it went well and parents enjoyed being able to buy gifts without their children.

Day Light Savings Time Ends



Remember to set your clocks back! We actually get a one hour of extra sleep time. Oh yeah! Don't forget or you will be early to church. This happens on Saturday **November 2nd** before you go to bed.

A Little Humor!



Those Church Ladies

A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will follow.

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be "What Is Hell?" Come early and listen to our choir practice.

Please place your donation in the envelope along with the deceased person you want remembered.

Pot - Luck supper, Sunday at 5:00PM – prayer and medication to follow.

Low Self Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7PM. Please use the back door.

Weight Watchers will meet at 7PM at the First Presbyterian Church. Please use large double doors at the side entrance

Carry In Lunch For Faith Proposal



November 17th after church is a carry in lunch. Please bring a dish to pass, and your own table setting. Then, following our lunch, they will present the faith proposal.

Some national Holidays and Some not so National or Traditional!

All Saints Day Friday November 1, 2013: This Christian Holiday honors and recognizes all of the saints of the Christian Church, many of which were martyrs. The church sets this day aside to celebrate over 10,000 recognized saints.

Tuesday November 5th: Election Day. By an act of congress in 1845, the first Tuesday following the first Monday in November was designated Election day for future presidential and other elections.

November 7th Bittersweet Chocolate with Almonds day: It is not a national day! But we all know that chocolate is a vegetable, made from cocoa beans, and almonds are good for us as it helps to improve our cholesterol levels. So, therefore, it is good for us!

Monday November 11th: Veterans Day. This special day honors all members of the Armed Forces who served this country. They served and fought to protect us to keep our country safe, and to preserve our way of life.

Chicken Soup for the Soul Day, November 12th: chicken soup as long been seen as a remedy for colds, flu's, and just about anything that ails you. And you can only find it in mom's homemade chicken soup!

Sadie Hawkins Day: November 13th. This holiday originated from Al Capp's "Lil Abner" cartoon in the 1930's. The mayor of dog patch was desperate to marry off his ugly daughter. So, he created Sadie Hawkins day in which a race was held and all the single men were given a short head start. Then all the single women, including the mayor's daughter, chased the boys. If a girl catches her man, he had to marry her.

November 13th: World Kindness Day. This encourages us to be kind to other; it is intended to "build a kinder and more compassionate world". Be kind to family, friends, neighbors, and this kindness will rub off on others and generates even more kindness in our world.

Sunday November 17th: World Peace Day. This also encourages us to be kind to others and teach them to be peaceful. We need to let our country's leaders know we support peace and world harmony.

Third Thursday of the month, which this year is Nov. 21: Great American Smokeout Day. The American Cancer Society encourages all smokers to give up the "butt" today. Join millions of other Americans and take a big step to a happier, healthier, and longer life. You can do it!!!

Wednesday, November 27: Hanukkah begins at sundown.

Thursday, November 28th. The first Thanksgiving was celebrated between the Pilgrims and the Indians in 1621. The fall harvest was a time for celebration and it was 3 days affair. It was also a time of prayer, thanking God for a good crop.

After the first Thanksgiving, the observance was sporadic and almost forgotten until the early '1800's and was celebrated in September or October. In 1941, Congress made it a national holiday and set the date as the fourth Thursday in November. We still give thanks to God, for the things he has bestowed upon us and our great nation.

And then there is Black Friday, the day after Thanksgiving. This kicks off the holiday sales!

(All the former from "Holidays Insights")

FOURTH AND ONE

Here we are already a month into the football season. People have donned their team colors and nervously await the outcome of each game. In a tight contest, we have often seen two teams which are teetering on the edge of victory (or defeat), making desperate choices. The ball is on the fifty-yard line. The clock is down to the two minute warning. It's fourth and one. Punt? Or go for it?

If they punt, the outcome of the game lies in the hands of the defense. If they go for it, there is a risk that they will come up short giving the other team a chance to score. If they go for it and get the yard, they have a fresh set of downs and a chance to sew up the game with a TD or field goal. Either way there is a significant risk.

David Romer, University of California, has studied this choice and determined that teams that "go for it" on 4th and one are more likely to win the game. Why is this? Romer sees it as an "attitude thing" for two reasons. (1) Almost always the fans want to go for it, and the yelling of the fans can be a powerful plus, especially for the home team. (2) There is a big difference between "playing to win" and "playing not to lose". Romer and others have discovered that fear of failure is often the primary cause of failure. Writers in areas of sports, finance, and faith have determined that risk is the path to victory.

They are not talking about the blind foolishness that Yogi Berra suggested: "When you come to a fork in the road, take it." Rather they were talking about the studied and wise decision based on both logic and faith. This is the kind of choice that Robert Frost implied:

"Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—
I took the one less traveled by,
And that has made all the difference."

The cross was 4th and one for Jesus. He knew that His Father would not fail him, even when the outcome seemed uncertain. What did he have to go on but the fact that His Father had always been faithful. Likewise, as people, as a church, as a nation, we face uncertain times. In many ways we are down to 4th and one. Yet, like Jesus, we are called on to remember the times God has been faithful, trust the power of the Holy Spirit, and follow the example of Christ in taking the next step. We need to survey the situation and lay it in the hands of God. With the crowd cheering, in the tension of the moment, and trusting in God, we need to go for it on 4th and one.

As the church looks for resources to help build the Kingdom of God, seeks a new pastor, searches for people to join the fellowship, and prays for the transforming power of God to be set loose in our midst, we give thanks for the faithful spirit of love and ask for God to empower us for his works right here in Central Square.

Pastor John