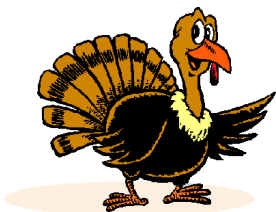




First Baptist Church
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November 2014
Happy Thanksgiving
This is your copy of The Witness
We wish God's Blessings on



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

[Info@fbc-cs.com](mailto:info@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

Megan Biddle, Pastor

Linda Heer, Church Clerk

Cindy Cuny, Church Secretary

Victor Vrooman, Organist

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; Janet Bettinger and family, Ken Bird, Mavis Cooter, Ken House, Stewart Smith, Phyllis Smith, Stephen Springer, Helen Webb, Mike White, our missionaries, our nation, and our denominational and local church leaders.

PRAYER FOR NOVEMBER

Dear Lord,

Thank you for today. May you go before me and lead me. I pray that I would allow your Holy Spirit to guide me today and that I would be a light to others. May your light shine through me and may your love bless those around me. I pray that I would be patient, kind, and considerate. I pray that your character would flow from me as I put others first. Use me as a vessel for your glory. -Amen

VERSE OF THE MONTH



No, dear brothers and sisters, I have not achieved it, but I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us.

(Phil 3:13-14 NLT)

MEETING NIGHTS

Christian Ed	November 2 nd	after church
Trustee's	November 9 th	after church
Deacons	November 11 th	6:30

WITNESS ARTICLES

All witness articles for December are due by November 20th. All boards should submit an article and any members who would like to put an article in. If you need help with a topic just ask.

Birthdays for November



Cindy Cuny – 14 Alyssa Brooks – 19
Merrill House – 24 Chris Ayre - 27

Turkey Dinner



On November 8th from 4-7 we will be having a turkey dinner. We need donations of food and lots of hands to help us out. Please let Mark Heitmann know if you can help out or if you have any questions about it call 668-8004. Sign-up sheets are in the fellowship hall. Prices are as follows: Adults \$9, Children 5 to 12 \$7, children under 5 free.

BLOOD DRIVE



On November 3rd we will be holding a blood drive with the Red Cross from 1:30 – 6:30. Please call the 1-800-RED-CROSS to make your appointment. You could be saving a life.

Day Light Savings Ends



Make sure on Saturday, November 1st to turn your clocks back. This way you won't be late for church. Oh yes, you get to sleep an extra hour! Enjoy it!!!

Fellowship Hour



January – Deacons
February - Executive
March – Trustees
April – Christian Ed

Anti-bullying



It has been brought to my attention that we are having issues with bullying. I made those present at the council meeting aware, and conversation has begun with Genie's help, in Junior Church. We will not tolerate bullying of any type toward children or adults. We will be working to adopt an anti-bullying statement, and make it available on the website as well as available in writing. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the church office.

Pastor Meg

Pastor's Corner



Pastor's Corner-

In service on October 19th, my challenge to everyone was to dream, pray, and keep the faith. This was born out of my trip to the denominational biennial event in Utica. At the biennial, we were all encouraged to dream and to write our dreams down, and then share them with God by putting them up on a board, similar to what we did in service. It did not feel finished to me. That is why I added the extra steps. Oh sure, we can dream of grand things for the church, but what good does it do if we cannot turn those dreams into reality. Can God grow the church, absolutely? Can it be a welcoming and loving church that does not exclude anyone, I have no doubt. If I doubted the possibility, then there would be no purpose in working hard with our community, or in coming to church week after week. I cannot make the church grow, but I can lead you in that direction.

If the church grows, it is because God has blessed us, and we are doing something right, all of us, not just one of us. My goal is not to grow a megachurch, but to love each and every person God places within our church walls.

How can I help? I am so glad you asked. The first thing you can do is pray. Pray without ceasing. Tell God about your dreams, and ask what you can do to turn those dreams into deeds. Believe that you can accomplish your dreams with God's help. Don't forget that prayers are answered, but not always in the manner we want them answered, and that it is in God's timing, not ours. Dream, pray, keep the faith; keep me updated. If God is moving in your life, if your dreams are becoming a reality, share your joy with me, and certainly the rest of the congregation. We want to rejoice with you too. See you in church!

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Meg

Carry In Luncheon



On November 16th we will be having a carry in luncheon after church. Please bring a dish to share. After we eat the Trustees will present the faith proposal.

Looking Ahead



December 6th Craft show from 9-4. We will have a food booth and baked goods. We will need help with it. Please call Mark Heitmann for more information at 668-8004.

December 21st will be the Christmas Cantata "Light Looked Down" by Marty Parks. This will take the place of the service that day.

Pastor Meg's Installation



On November 23rd at 3:00 will be Pastor Meg's installation service here at the church. Please come celebrate with her.

A note from the Secretary



We are nearing the end of the year. I will be working on a new directory. You will find an old directory out in fellowship hall. Please make changes to it if your address changed or phone number maybe your e-mail address. If you're not in the directory and would like to be just let me know. Thank you for your help!!!

Nominating Committee Needs Your Help

The Nominating Committee is beginning their work for the 2015 officers/church boards and church committees. We have positions open in every area. We need you. Please prayerfully consider how you can serve your church and speak with one of the folks on the nominating committee.

Nancy & Don Flower
Courtney Cuny
Genie Rotundo