

## ***Hey Kids, Now that's funny!***

Knock Knock  
Who's there?  
Beets!  
Beets who?  
Beets me!

Knock Knock  
Who's there?  
Frank!  
Frank Who?  
Frank you for being my friend!

Knock Knock  
Who's there?  
Wooden shoe!  
Wooden Shoe who?  
Wooden you like to hear another joke!

Knock Knock  
Who's there?  
Luke!  
Luke who?  
Luke through the key hole and you can see!

### **One Liners:**

- \*Why do bees hum? Because they don't know the words.
- \*Why do birds fly south for the winter? Because it's too far to walk.
- \*Why did the man throw the butter out the window? Because he wants to see butter fly.
- \*Where do cows go with their friends? The mooooovies

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**September 2013**  
**Back To School**  
**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

Church Office hours: Mondays & Tuesdays from 9:00-12:00

Phone Number 315-668-2138

[www.fbc-cs.com](http://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 JULY & JUNE**

Dear Lord,

We try so hard to do what is right and yet we fail to always do the right thing. Give us guidance and love to search for answers in you! That maybe we will do better going to you. Amen.

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## **MEETING NIGHT**

|              |                            |       |
|--------------|----------------------------|-------|
| Trustees     | September 8 <sup>th</sup>  | 11:30 |
| Deacons      | September 10 <sup>th</sup> | 6:30  |
| Christian Ed | September 8 <sup>th</sup>  | 11:00 |

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## **Verse of the Month**



“This is what the Lord says: Maintain justice and do what is right, for my salvation is close at hand and my righteousness will soon be revealed. \* Blessed is the man who does this, the man who holds it fast, who keeps the Sabbath without desecrating it, and keeps his hand from doing any evil.”

Isaiah 56:1&2

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## **WITNESS ARTICLES**

All articles for the October Witness are due in the church office by September 20<sup>th</sup>. Please write an article and submit it! If you need an idea, just ask.

## ***Birthdays***

For September



|                  |    |                  |    |
|------------------|----|------------------|----|
| Paul Ayre        | 02 | Mavis Cooter     | 02 |
| Susan Fenton     | 08 | Joan Haury       | 08 |
| Jack Chesebro    | 08 | Bruce Herrick    | 20 |
| Beverly Mitchell | 22 | Carol Chamberlin | 23 |
| Lynn Bort        | 24 | Janet Bettinger  | 25 |



***And Many, Many, More!***

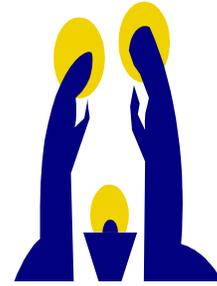
None for this month!

## ***Sunday School Teachers Needed!***



Prayerfully consider becoming a Sunday school teacher, or sub, as we would like to have a younger class as well! We need assistance with junior church too!

## ***Prayer Ideas!***



If we thank God for all the good things, we wouldn't have time to complain about the bad.

Laughter is contagious...start an epidemic!

Laughter is a shock absorber that eases the blows of life.

Bumper Sticker: Blessings Happen!

Opportunities to do good are everywhere, but they're sometimes fleeting. Don't miss the chance to be angelic!

The secret of joyful living is celebrating something every day. No matter how insignificant it may be.

## ***Women's Breakfast!***



Randi Driesen would like to have a breakfast in October for all the women! Here are the two dates you have to choose from: October 19<sup>th</sup> or 26<sup>th</sup>.

Please call her at 345-4891 or church office at 668-2138. Please leave a message as to which day you prefer! Please do this quickly so we can plan for however many may show up!

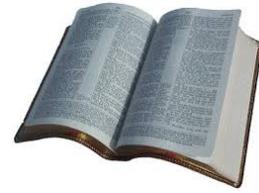
## **College Students addresses**

If you would like to write or send cards.  
They appreciate it!



Benjamin Springer  
Lincoln Ed. Center  
85 Sigourney Street  
Hartford, CT 06105

## **Bible Study change!**



Tuesday morning bible study is changed to Tuesday afternoon at 1:00pm. Hope to see you there! This first bible study starts September 10<sup>th</sup>. Please mark your calendar for this change!

## **Pastor Search Committee**



Wow, it has been a year already? We can't believe it has been that long. So what have we been doing? I know some think we are sleeping on the job, (just kidding), but we have filled out over 30 pages of forms to see if we match anyone. There was some delay due a couple of pages that were missing. We have completed them and now we are just praying and waiting to see what the good lord has to give us. We have been in contact with our association, and there were a couple of pastors she thought we would see, but they must have been selected by another church in the area. We still believe that the lord will send our church the right pastor as he has over the years as we have needed one. So please keep us in prayer.

## **Rummage Sale**



## **September 13 & 14<sup>th</sup>**

**Hours:** Friday            1:00 - 7:00  
          Saturday            9:00 - 2:00

Please plan to help! We will need help setting up and baking for the sale. The more helping hands we have, the faster things get done. If you have any questions Linda would be glad to answer them. 806-7565(cell)

## ***AB Women's Retreat!***



The A B Women's Retreat will be Saturday, September 7, 9:30 at Genie Rotundo's home. Please bring a dish to pass for the luncheon following the meeting. There will be devotions, sharing, and planning for our directions for the 2012-13 year. All women are invited. If you need directions or assistance please call Delores Olin at 668-2719.

## ***Music Note***



We are still looking for donations for our new digital piano. The trustee's were able to purchase it, but we should try to help to recover the cost. It cost the church \$6000. We have received some donations, but still not all of it. We recently were sent \$1000 that was put into the piano fund but we could still use your support. So if you can, please send what your heart and the lord wants you to and help us out.

## ***Apple Fest - Making Half moons!***



Please plan to help on September 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>. The week of we need bakers and donations to make them. Here are a few items we are looking for: eggs, baking soda and powder, milk, and frosting: chocolate & vanilla. Money donations are welcome so we can purchase what we need. For more information, call church office and leave a message. (668-2138)

## ***Trustee's Update***



We have been very busy bees this summer. We were able to get the Fellowship Hall re-painted. This was done by the Zumba gals. They painted on the hottest Saturday in July. I would like to thank them. I also need to thank both Genie and Marcus for they also helped the Zumba gals. God Bless them all.

We also had the floors redone in the fellowship hall and the hallways. We are in the process of getting the Nursery floor done.

The Parking lot will be done soon or already done by the time you all read this. So see, we are really working and preparing our house for a new leader and old man winter. That is not to say we still need other items on our work list done.

If anyone likes to paint, the nursery needs a handy person or people.

Will be having the cleanup day in the fall, so if anyone can come out and help, we would love to have you. Even if it is only for an hour. We will have day care for that morning to help the younger families to lend a hand. This church is not just a building that we attend on Sunday, but it is the center for our faith so with your help it will be the center for children's children too, so come on out and help. If your think you are not able to do the work, send snack or a donation to help with cost of the day. Remember this is our CH..CH. What is missing?? (U R)

Thank you. God bless each and every one of you as much as he has blessed me by meeting each of you.

## ***Remembering 911 !***



Twelve years ago our country came under attack. As with any other major catastrophic event, we will always remember where we were at the time and what we were doing.

So much has happened since that day in September 2001 when it seemed our world stood still. But our great nation has persevered, and with God's blessing, will continue to do so.

Please pray always for our country and our leaders. Especially pray for our military who keep us safe.

## ***On Going Changes!***



Please come and look around the church and see what is different. You might be surprised on what is different. But most of all just come and enjoy the word of the Lord and get reacquainted with your fellow Christians. Remember, one grain of sand is really small, but a bucket can build a brick, and a brick can help build a house, so won't you help build our house stronger? Bring every grain you can and make our house even stronger in the Lord's name.

## ***Constitution Week***



This year constitution week will be September 17-23. Did you know there were 39 signers of the constitution? The oldest signer was 81. Do you know who that was? George Washington presided over the convention, but was he able to sign?

Delegates from 12 states met in Philadelphia in May 1787 at the constitutional convention. Rhode Island was the only state in the original 13 who did not send any delegates. Due to delays, the writing of the constitution did not commence until July 24, 1787, and was completed September 12, 1787. Delegates drafted, debated, and redrafted articles of the new constitution in less than 100 days!

A constitution embodies the fundamental principles of a government. All laws, executive actions, and judicial decisions must conform. The constitution is the creator of the powers exercised by the departments of government. Many of the writings for the constitution were brought over from England and further developed through the practices of 1 ½ centuries in the colonies and early state governments. Its roots are deep in the past and its endurance, obedience, and respect it has won are mainly the result of the slow growth of its principles.

On February 2, 1790, the Supreme Court was organized and held its first session. Our government under the constitution became fully operative at this time. The work of many minds, the constitution became fully operative at this time. The work of many minds, the constitution stands as a model of cooperative statesmanship and the art of compromise.

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL RECAP



At VBS we were privileged to minister to 24 children from our church and the surrounding communities. We heard several positive comments from the children as they left our building including: “that was fantastic” or “I really didn’t want to come, but I am so glad that I did.”

Thanks go out to all those who helped in any way to make this a special event for the children. A special thank goes out to the following folks for their timeless energy and dedication to this project: Mark Heitmann as the Director and King for the day & Sir Gavin’s games master with Royal Apprentice Amber Eisinger, Margaret Heitmann was our maiden crafty lady with Aaliyah Ripley as her Royal Apprentice, Maggie Heitmann was the official cook and her Royal Assistant Rachel Fuller. The teachers for the Chronicles included: Misty DeFalco and Courtney Cuny for the 3-5 age group, Theresa Borayi & Christine Porter for the 6-8 group, Bonnie Wilson –Smith & Randi Driesen for the 9-10 group and Genie Rotundo, Grace Fuller & their Royal Apprentice Sarah Uschold for the 11-12 age group.

Maggie & Rachel set the scene for fun snacks & lunch which included: Dragon nails, Dragon tongue and Dragon scales. “The term dragon was most likely another name for dinosaurs, and we know that from Scripture that dinosaurs, which were land animals, were created by God on Day Six of the Creation Week (about 6,000 years ago) and lived with people (God made people on Day Six, too). So it is reasonable to think that there were still some surviving dinosaurs (dragons) during medieval times, that would make for some pretty interesting real encounters between knights and dragons” (Cook’s Kitchen p. 13). Lunch featured mini pizza shields. Shields were an important part of the knight’s armor. They protected him from fire-tipped arrows the enemy would send his way. Our pizza shields were a reminder to be on guard against attacks from our spiritual enemy.

Cindy Cuny was the official baker and made dozens of kingdom cookies which so related to the theme of the God’s kingdom (light) and the Satan’s kingdom (darkness). A very special thank you goes out to Cindy for all her baking treats.

Our Crafty maiden, Margaret Heitmann made two dozen feather pencils for the children to take home as reminder of way people had to write in medieval times. She and Aaliyah along with the teachers helped the children decorate and craft their own crowns, shields & Jester puppets throughout the day.

Theresa Borayi along with her children did a fantastic job making banners that decorated both the grand hall and the entrance ways. All of the team worked together to make the beautiful castle backdrop that decorated the “Learn a lot Chambers. Christine Porter was the master sword balloon maker & taught all of us how to do it.

The Kingdom Chronicles theme has just begun and set the foundation for Sunday School Rally day and Junior church lessons to begin in the fall. Kids be prepared for some more fun times!!!

## **WHAT I DO IN PRIVATE IS MY OWN BUSINESS**



- ◆ “It doesn’t hurt anyone but me.”
- ◆ “It’s my life; I can do with it as I please.”
- ◆ “Go for the gusto and forget about the consequences.”

We have all heard these kinds of statements. We may even have said them ourselves.

One of my “over the road” trucker friends gave me a pamphlet from the “The Trucker’s Chapel”. In it Chaplain Joe says, “These statements are simply not true.” In his monthly article, Chaplain Joe tells how he had been hooked on pornography until God freed him from this addiction. He had seen it destroy people, marriages, families, and churches. It has even led some to take their own lives.

Chaplain Joe, reminds his readers that “the thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy” (John 10:10a) Satan is out to steal the joy in your life and to kill the spiritual life within you. If Satan cannot kill you, he will make you ineffective as a Christian witness, or as a Christian father, mother, or friend. After you have given in to Satan, he will drown you in guilt and further deplete your energy for doing good.

Because pornography can interfere with God’s plan for your life and turn you toward a destructive path, it affects everyone around you. A clear and beautiful mind becomes a twisted and defensive mind. Wholesome joy which might have been shared is covered over by the smut that always lingers from pornography.

The good news is that God wants to free us from all wrong so that our scarlet sins become whiter than snow. (Isaiah 1:18) For this reason Jesus came to preach freedom to the oppressed, sight to the blind, and healing for the broken hearted. “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness!” (I John 1:9)

In some of the towns where I have served the town councils have tried to find ways to hinder the establishment of “adult entertainment” stores. Usually these establishments come in without the invitation of the resident population and bring with them a very unsavory traffic. The social cost of damaged people and families, added police, and a moral smudge on the community makes the presence of these places a high cost and zero return kind of business.

It has been noted that communities that work to build barriers to these types of businesses have frequently been successful in preventing them from coming into the area. For this reason I encourage you to contact your town council and see what has been done to keep the area free of these “adult entertainment” stores. Encourage your leaders by standing with them as they work on this issue. Pray for strength in the churches and in the groups around town that there might be a commitment to a morally wholesome community.

Pastor John