

# First Baptist Church of Central Square

701 North Main Street, Central Square, NY 13076

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**Prayer Concerns:** Dee Albrecht, Courtney & Nathan Balch, Bobbi Biddle, the Biddle Family, Joan Brown, Melody Clark, the DeLong Family Nancy Flower, the Fuller Family, Pat Harrington, Erin Knighton, Christa Koagel, Bernadette Lynch, Leighton Merritt, Dave Nelson, Donnie O'Neill, Helen O'Neill, Mickie Pellman, Carolee Perez, Gordan Tollman, Frank VanBuskirk, Helen Webb, our schools, our nation, and our military.

## Birthdays:

Paul Ayre 2	Susan Fenton 8	Landon Desrosiers 12
Bev Mitchell 22	Carol Chamberlin 23	Lynn Bort 24
Janet Bettinger 25	Dakota DeFalco 26	Nate DeFalco 30
	Brody Shanahan 30	

## Anniversaries:

	Jessica & Matt Shanahan 28	
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## Mystery Member:

October's Mystery Member was born in South Carolina. They used to be in a Barbershop Chorale, they were in the United States Army Reserves, and they married their high school sweetheart. Can you guess who this is?

## Free Lunch

Free Lunch will resume on Tuesday September 26th from 11:30am - 1pm. The menu will be: BBQ Pulled Chicken Sandwiches, Coleslaw, Corn on the Cob(if available), chips, and dessert. We hope to see you there. Bring a friend, neighbor, or family! All are welcome.

## Witness Articles

Please submit all articles by September 23<sup>rd</sup> to [Kahminder@gmail.com](mailto:Kahminder@gmail.com)



## Upcoming Events

### September 9

Annual Women's Retreat (1pm)

### September 10

Pastor Meg's Last Day

### September 16

Fall Paint Night (4:30pm)

### September 26

Free Lunch

### September 28

Opiod Presentation

## \*Next Council Meeting is September 17<sup>th</sup> at 11:15am\*

As many of you know, September 10<sup>th</sup> is Pastor Meg's last day with us. We are incredibly sad to see her go but are excited for her new opportunities in Illinois.

We will always be praying for you and never forget that you will always have a family here in Central Square.

Please join us after church on September 10<sup>th</sup> to say our final Goodbye to Pastor Meg!



## **AB Women Update**

### Fundraising for Randi

This fundraising adventure will benefit Randi Driesen's upcoming Mission to the Dominican Republic! This is Randi's second Mission trip there! Randi is part of the Medical Team that will leave January 8th and return the 18th.

"I will be flying into Santo Domingo the capital of Dominican Republic. From there we take an old school bus to the village of Las Colinas, near the city of San Pedro. We will be staying there in the compound. The construction team will be helping to build a new medical clinic in Las Colinas! Every day the medical staff will be going out to the "bateys" which are small villages of Haitian sugar cane workers. We will see children, men, women of all ages. Each nurse will have an interpreter, and we will prescribe medicine. There will be 2 doctors with us, when we have questions, and a pharmacist. We have someone handing out glasses if we see this is an issue. We start the day at the bateys between 9 and 10 am, break for lunch, then continue, the day generally ends around 3-4 pm. When we get back to the compound (the bus takes us back and forth), we have the rest of the day to help get the health kits made up and also help the pharmacist get her medications ready. Last year we saw 1200 people in 7 days! Crazy right?!! We can go to church every morning at 6 am if we want, Tues and Thurs evening is church, And Sunday morning and Sun evening is church. When I say there is so much happiness and singing and praising God in the church. I would not be exaggerating! The two Sunday afternoons we went to the beach. We went to a baseball game one evening. (baseball is the DR's big sport). We had time on a Sat afternoon to go sightseeing, and we visited the church and hospital this same group help build in the 80s and 90s. You can tell I loved this place, and so look forward to going again!"

We hope you join us in supporting Randi and her mission. The amount of people that are helped by this kind of outreach is staggeringly impressive! Please make checks payable to AB Women.

All donations can be mailed to:

AB Women of First Baptist Church  
PO Box 476  
Central Square, N.Y. 13036

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact Misty DeFalco at (315)935-6267-Call/Text or by email: [mdefalco2004@gmail.com](mailto:mdefalco2004@gmail.com)

### Fall Paint Night

On Saturday, September 16<sup>th</sup> beginning at 4:30 the AB Women will be hosting a second paint night! It will be 40 dollars per person. Please sign up with Misty DeFalco at [MistyDefalco@crouse.org](mailto:MistyDefalco@crouse.org) beforehand please!

## **Church Officers**

Reverend  
Meg Biddle

Moderator  
Lynn Bort

Church Clerk  
Rebekah Springer

Treasurer  
Elizabeth Rotundo

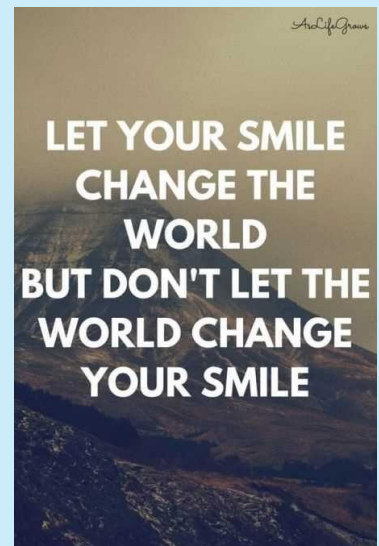
Financial Secretary  
Grace Fuller

## Christian Education Facilitators

Roxanne Spink  
Carol Chamberlin  
Jillian Biddle

Trustee Facilitators  
Randi Driesen  
Cherie House  
Diana Baxter

Diaconate Facilitators  
Rich Mizerski  
Penny Faulter  
Cheryl Backman



## AB Women Continued...

### Annual Retreat

You're cordially invited to the AB Women's Annual Women's Retreat. It will be on Saturday, September 9, 2017, beginning at 1:00pm in Fellowship Hall. Please bring a dish to share. We will begin with some fellowship and lunch before we begin the meeting around 1:45-2:00. ALL Women are invited!! Membership is not required!! Any Questions/Comments/Concerns feel free to contact Misty.

### **Opioid Presentation**

On September 28, a speaker will be coming to our church to present on the opioid epidemic in our community. Please share and spread the word!

### **Updates on Building Use**

The building is about to get busier this fall, and I wanted you all to be aware. As of September, the following groups will be using our fellowship hall.

- Girl Scout Troop #100871 will be here 2 Fridays a month, from 3:30- 5:30 pm. They will host a Community Thanksgiving dinner here on November 18th, and all of the profits will be donated.
- Young Life will continue to use the Fellowship Hall one Friday evening a month.
- Weight Watchers is here every Tuesday evening.
- The Women, Infant, Children's (WIC) Program is here the third Wednesday of every month from 9am-4pm, and quarterly on Mondays from 11-7.

### **Bottle Drive Fundraiser**

Want 6 or 7 Cents For Your Bottle & Can Return? Roll The Dice For A Chance At 6 or 7 Cents per 300 Pieces, then tell them you want some, or all of your cans and bottles donated to the First Baptist Church of Central Square! Take your returnables to **Vern's Return** located at: **5501 Bartell Road Brewerton, NY** (Closed Wednesday & Sunday). If you are unable to get them there, contact Cherie House or Rebekah Springer and we will find a way!

### **Christian Education Facilitators Update**

Sunday School for Adults will be starting on September 10<sup>th</sup>! The class will be lead again by Delores Olin. While this class will be geared to adults, young adults and teens are also welcome!

Respectfully submitted,  
Roxanne L. Spink, Christian Education Facilitator Chairperson  
Carol Chamberlin  
Jillian Biddle

### **Diaconate Update:**

No Update.

## History of the Ladies Auxiliary By Delores Olin

A note in the ministers writing dated 1904 - 06 said the ladies raised \$500 for the stained glass windows, also noted that the ladies bought the flower urns for the altar.

The earliest recorded minutes for the ladies auxiliary is 1908, with mentions of the Thimble Party. They made aprons, tore rags, and made rugs, followed by business meetings 1909 - 10, noted as auxiliary meetings.

Most meetings were followed by the "Motto of the Day" which may be noted in upcoming Witness at times!



## Motto of the Day # 1

Keep on trying.  
If you've tried  
and have not won,  
never stop for crying.  
All that's great and  
good is done.  
Just be patient trying.

## Trustee Report

First, we want to welcome Diana Baxter onto our Trustee Facilitator Team! Second, with the help of Andrea, our bookkeeper, we have found an individual who is checking if our cold alarm system can be "revived" and used! If possible, this would be a greatly lower cost for our church. Keep Praying!

## Donations

If you find yourself in Walmart, help our church by donating a needed cleaning supply! Anything helps!

One gallon Distilled water

Spic and Span refill bottles (2 or 3). Cathy refills her bottle

2 pk. of the 10X Lysol clean and fresh toilet bowl cleaner

Furniture polish (Cathy gets at the Dollar Tree)

1 Box Swiffer brand refill dusters (Cathy says this is the best kind to get as there is no waste)

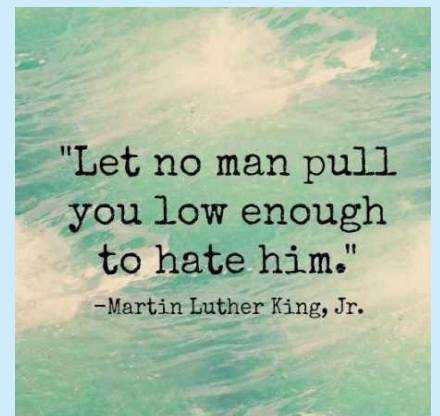
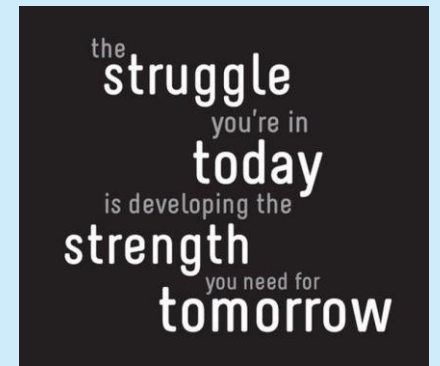
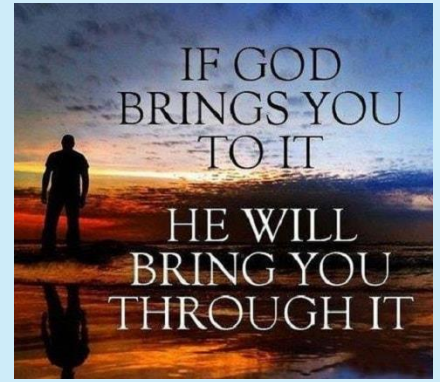
Liquid hand soap refill for bathrooms.

## False Beliefs

As a man was passing the elephants, he suddenly stopped, confused by the fact that these huge creatures were being held by only a small rope tied to their front leg. No chains, no cages. It was obvious that the elephants could, at any time can break away from their bonds but for some reason, they did not.

He saw a trainer nearby and asked why these animals just stood there and made no attempt to get away. "Well," trainer said, "when they are very young and much smaller we use the same size rope to tie them and, at that age, it's enough to hold them. As they grow up, they are conditioned to believe they cannot break away. They believe the rope can still hold them, so they never try to break free." The man was amazed. These animals could at any time break free from their bonds but because they believed they couldn't, they were stuck right where they were.

Like the elephants, how many of us go through life hanging onto a belief that we cannot do something, simply because we failed at it once before? Failure is a part of learning. We should never give up the struggle in life. You Fail not because you are destined to fail, but because there are lessons which you need to learn as you move on with your life.



## From the Reverend

Dear Friends,

As most of you are aware, I have resigned from my position as pastor. I have accepted the call from the Federated Church in Carlinville, Illinois. I am writing this to you from my new home. My new congregation is American Baptist and Presbyterian (PCUSA) that federated over 60 years ago. Carlinville is about four hours from my parents and Andy's parents. They are a mission focused congregation, meaning that serving God in the community is the primary focus of the church. I am looking forward to the opportunities that are ahead, and hopefully far less funerals.

I want to take this moment to say how grateful I am for the opportunity to serve the Lord in Central Square. Thank you for laughing with me, and sometimes at me, when I tried to liven things up with services like Holy Humor Sunday. For the lemon cookies for Jacob, teaching Jillian to knit, and loving Aubrey, I thank you all. To those who prayed for me and my family, who supported me through 31 funerals, sat in the pews during my installation, ordination, listened to the good sermons and the bad ones- you kept me going, and made my ministry matter.

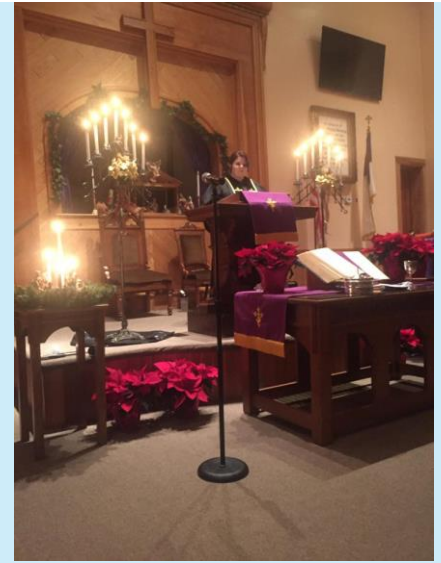
As you move forward, please know that my reasons for leaving were out of concern for the church. Most churches are not growing. We are all fighting one another for the same people. I have watched as this church has changed, and in some ways the change has been wonderful, but the finances of the church have suffered. If something did not change, we would run out of money trying to pay my salary, and I could not let that happen. In my opinion, after much prayer and consideration, the best option was for me to find another church to serve.

I am sad to leave, but I am joyful about God's plans for me. Please continue to pray for me, and my family, as I will pray for all of you. Be honest with one another. Show the community how much this church has changed- love them, be authentic, and invite them to be a part of something greater than themselves.

Above all else- love God and love others.

May God's Grace and Peace be with you always,

Pastor Meg



Say yes  
to new  
adventures

