

First Baptist Church of Central Square

701 North Main Street, Central Square, NY 13076

www.fbc-cs.com T: 315-668-2138

Prayer Concerns: Ken Bird, Melody Clark, Jacob House, Frank VanBuskirk, Donnie O'Neil, Nancy Flower, Richard Alberry, Michelle Heitmann, Bev, Mitchell, Gagnon Family, Steve Pumphrey, Roxanne Spink, Men and Women, and those unspoken.

Birthdays:

Diana Baxter 2	Roxanne Spink 4	Delores Olin 4
Lily Woolson-Smith 9	John Zelesnik 11	Rebekah Springer 13
Vesta Lewis 16	Rachel Fuller 18	Aliza Shanahan 31

Mystery Member

June's Mystery Member: Lynn Bort

August's Mystery Member loves quite a few things! They love Zumba, their crazy grandkids, volunteering, and especially loves their church family. Can you guess who it is?

Church Secretary:

Christa has asked for anyone who has a project for her, question, or simply wants to talk to please email her at cjibson11@twcnny.rr.com and she will get back to you quickly.

Witness Articles

Please send anything you would like published to the email Kahminder@aol.com by August 26th!



Upcoming Events

August 5

Young Life Group 6:30 pm, @
Mallory Wesleyan Church

August 7

Taft Bay Picnic (10:30am)

August 30

Free Lunch (11:30 – 1:30)



Bible Study

Beginning September 15th we will have a Thursday evening Bible Study starting at 6:30pm. Everyone is welcome to attend. This will be an informal setting so everyone feels welcome, no matter where you are with your faith journey. Come, ask questions, bring friends.

Sermon Series

We will be beginning a sermon series discussing what it means to identify ourselves as a "Christian." Each week we will explore this topic using a different letter spelling out the word, Christian. Week one- Caring, Compassionate, Christ-follower. Start thinking of what you might use to describe yourself now. Invite someone who needs to hear what it means to be loved without limitations to come with you. We will begin August 14th.

Meeting

The American Baptist Churches of New York State Biennial Meeting will be in Liverpool at the Holiday Inn on November 4th and 5th. Cost is \$40. Please let Pastor Meg know if you would like to attend. There is a \$5 discount if a group of 5 or more registers at one time.

Volunteers

We are in need of worship leaders and greeters. Please see Pastor Meg if you are willing to help.

Board of Christian Education Update

Vacation Bible School:

With a heavy heart, we have decided to cancel VBS this summer. We will try again next year.

School Supplies:

We have put a box in the fellowship hall to collect school supplies for the schools in our district. Please donate what you can so we can help our community! Shout out to Aubrey Biddle for decorating the box!

Junior Church:

Volunteers are needed to staff Junior Church. Please sign up on the sign-up sheet in fellowship hall.

Roxanne L. Spink, Board of Christian Education Chairperson
Misty DeFalco, Sunday School Superintendent

Free Lunch

This month's Free Lunch will take place on August 30th. They will be serving Pulled Chicken Sandwiches, Cole Slaw, Corn on the Cob, and Peach Crisp. Bring a friend!

Church Officers

Pastor

Meg Biddle

Moderator

Lynn Bort

Church Clerk

Available

Treasurer

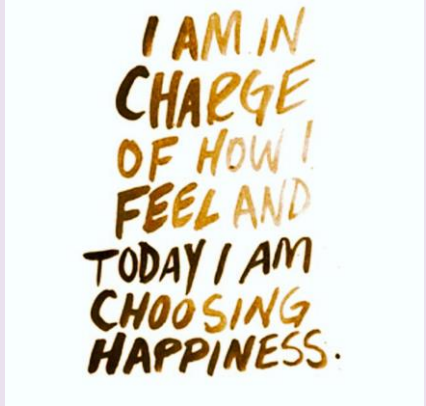
Elizabeth Rotundo

Financial Secretary

Grace Fuller

Sunday School Supt.

Misty DeFalco



I AM IN
CHARGE
OF HOW I
FEEL AND
TODAY I AM
CHOOSING
HAPPINESS.



WHEN *life* GETS
TOO HARD TO STAND,
kneel

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Well, nobody guessed what their new name, "JUG" meant. Let's try again this month! They have decided to add a letter now though. The new acronym is "JUGG!" Can you guess what it means?

Smiling in Storm

A little girl walked to and from school daily. Though the weather that morning was questionable and clouds were forming, she made her daily trek to the elementary school. As the afternoon progressed, the winds whipped up along with thunder and lightning. The mother of the little girl felt concerned that her daughter would be frightened as she walked home from school, and she herself feared that the electrical storm might harm her child.

Following the roar of thunder, lightning, like a flaming sword, would cut through the sky. Full of concern, the mother quickly got into her car and drove along the route to her child's school. As she did so, she saw her little girl walking along, but at each flash of lightning, the child would stop, look up and smile. Another and another were to follow quickly, and with each, the little girl would look at the streak of light and smile.

When the mother's car drove up beside the child, she lowered the window and called to her.

"What are you doing? Why do you keep stopping?"

The child answered, "I am trying to look pretty; God keeps taking my picture."

May God bless you today as you face the storms that come your way.

What God Won't Ask

God won't ask what kind of car you drove; He'll ask how many people you drove who didn't have transportation.

God won't ask the square footage of your house; He'll ask how many people you welcomed into your home.

God won't ask about the clothes you had in your closet; He'll ask how many you helped to clothe.

God won't ask what your highest salary was; He'll ask if you compromised your character to obtain it.

God won't ask what your job title was; He'll ask if you performed your job to the best of our ability.

God won't ask how many friends you had; He'll ask how many people to whom you were a friend.

God won't ask in what neighborhood you lived; He'll ask how you treated your neighbors.

God won't ask about the color of your skin; He'll ask about the content of your character.

God won't ask why it took you so long to seek Salvation; He'll lovingly take you to your mansion in heaven and not to the gates of Hell.

Through the Eyes of

Peter Woodin

By Delores Olin

A continuation...

Reverend Baker is a busy guy! He does everything from the preaching business, to gardening, to doing farm work for his parishioners in need. A bequest was used to remodel the church parlors and build a garage to replace the stables where the horses were kept during worship. Hey! An electronic clock is now in the sanctuary. It was purchased by the boys class – better to time those sermons the Baker children wiggle through. Now warm hearts and bodies – two new furnaces were installed. The dining room ceiling was raised and the floor lowered. Do you hear the baby cry I bet that's baby Jack baker born in the parsonage.

Look for more next month!



STORMS
DON'T
LAST
FOREVER.

From The Pastor

Grateful. That is how I would currently describe myself. On July 17th, I was officially Ordained. It was a beautiful service, and I am so thankful for all those who were able to come and share the day with me. Thank you to all of you who participated in the service, and by bringing food, drink, flowers, those who decorated, those who served our guests, for all of you who sent cards, and for those who have prayed for me along the way. Your love and kindness has not gone unnoticed.

As many of you know, my parents were not able to be here for my Ordination Service. My dad had developed an infection in his foot that was not responding to antibiotics, and as a result, had to have his big toe amputated. He is improving. Life has changed for him; he will no longer be able to be a school bus driver as he has been for the last 10 years since retiring from his factory job. He has to slow down, and he has to use crutches to get around for a while. Slowing down and resting is not something my dad does well. He used to race stock cars every weekend until I was about four years old. My mom made him quit when one of the guys he raced with every week was killed in an accident on the track. He sold the car and bought a motorcycle. That was a safer option, right?

My dad has suffered a broken collar bone when his horse got spooked, and threw him off. He lost a finger at work when a woman turned on the machine he was working on despite a sign, "Closed for repair." This was back before OSHA was involved in every aspect of safety one could imagine. What I noticed the first night I saw my dad get up from his chair was how skinny his arms and legs now are. Those arms used to be muscular and quite strong, but no longer. I know, we all age. None of us can change it, but it hardly seems to be fair that we go from babies, completely dependent on our parents, to our parents that depend on us.

Since we only get some many trips around this earth, I am determined to find joy in all situations. I got to spend some time with my parents, my grandmothers, my nieces and nephew, visit my pastor from my former church, and meet a new family member. Jacob got really tired of going from house to house just to talk and take pictures, but I loved it. I did not love the twelve hour trip each way in the car, but I am so grateful that I was able to go to Indiana; thank you. I was also glad to return home, where I belong, and feel peace about it.

I am reminded of a quote by one of my favorite authors, Barbara Brown Taylor, "With a limited number of years to do whatever it is that we are supposed to be doing here, who has time to stop?" As we get older, and learn lessons that life has to teach us, as we become less anxious about who we are, and where we are supposed to be, I think stopping becomes much easier. It is easier to, "Be still and know that I am God," (Ps. 36:10) when we are confident that the One who knows us, who loves us, who created us, and who calls each and every one of us by name is there with us every step of the way. Grace and Peace,
Pastor Meg



Perhaps
this is the
moment for
which you
have been
Created.
Esther 4:14

Shine
through
me,
Lord