

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, Donnie O'Neil, Nancy Flower, Pat Harrington, Nick DeSantis, Libby Abbott, Bob Chamberlin Jr., John Alberry, Melody Clark, Camille Victoria, Frank VanBuskirk, Grace Fuller, Michelle Heitmann, Service Men and Women, and those unspoken.

Birthdays:

Daisy Ayre 11

Braedon
Woolson-Smith 25

Helen Webb 26

Anniversaries:

Diana & Ed Baxter 6



Margaret & Mark
Heitmann 11

Genie & Marcus
Rotundo 28

Carol & Bob
Chamberlin 29

Mystery Member

May's Mystery Member: John Zelesnik

June's Mystery member is someone who takes pride in doing the church offering every Sunday. They have a talent for drawing and can usually be spotted in a green shirt. Can you guess who this is?

Church Secretary:

Our new secretary, Christa, is doing a wonderful job and has asked for anyone who has a project for her, question, or simply wants to talk to please email her at cgibson11@twcny.rr.com and she will get back to you quickly.



Upcoming Events

June 12

Children's Day

June 19

Father's Day

June 19

Pancake Breakfast 8am - 12

June 28

Free Lunch (11:30 – 1:30)



Witness Articles

Welcome to the updated Witness! Hope you enjoy the new format. The more updates you have the better! Please send anything you would like published to the email Kahminder@aol.com by June 27th!

More Important News

Board of Christian Education Update

School Supplies Needed:

The Board of Christian Education is also exploring ways to support youth in our community. A school supply donation box has been placed in the Fellowship Hall to allow members of the congregation and others to bring in pencils, pens, colored pencils, crayons, notebooks, etc. that can be distributed to schools throughout our school district.

Children's Day:

On June 12th, the children are excited to take over services! They have had a busy year and are excited to share with all of you! Following services, cupcakes will be provided for the congregation! We look forward to seeing you! It's sure to be entertaining!

Vacation Bible School:

VBS is coming up faster than you'd believe! We will be needing volunteers in all sorts of areas! Please sign up in Fellowship Hall if you're willing! If you have any questions please contact Misty DeFalco at mdefalco2004@gmail.com or (315)935 – 6267. It will be a Safari theme.

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

Trustee Update:

The Trustee's have decided to host a Pancake Breakfast to benefit the general fund of the church. It will take place Sunday, June 19th, from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Adult's: \$5.00

Children ages 5-12: \$3.50

Children 4 and Under: FREE

Please see the Board in Fellowship Hall for donations they will be needing. If you are interested in donating your time, please contact Nate or Randi.

What God knows
about me is
more important
than what others
think about me.

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Church Officers

Pastor

Meg Biddle

Moderator

Lynn Bort

Church Clerk

Treasurer

Elizabeth Rotundo

Financial Secretary

Grace Fuller

Sunday School Supt.

Misty DeFalco

Through the Eyes of Peter Woodin

By Delores Olin

Gazing down over Oswego County at the churches he started, he's shaking his head. There's Hannibal Community Church merged with Presbyterians, and Fulton also joined them. Caughdenoy is a Methodist town. That church in California, he's not sure what happened there.

Smiling, he looks down on the First Baptist Church of Central Square, still a vital part of the community – weathered ups and downs ever since he built it – completed in June 1845. He remembers some of the parishioners, a relative of Marion Chesebro that contributed lumber.

Let's see, there have been 30 pastorates including many interim pastors. Two pastors served twice.

There have been many changes, mostly all improvements, keeping that original building looking very good.

He's wondering how many descendants of that ministry are attending there now.

During D. D. Owens ministry, the first time, the kitchen was added. He served again later for one year.

It was while A. E. Knapp ministered as a student that the church had its first ordination.

Looks like from 1892 until 1904 it was business as usual with exceptions of 1900 – 1902 when Reverend had a large number of new members.

How he's enjoying the stained glass windows and new pews installed during Reverend Weinhouer's ministry. Again he is wondering how many of this congregation know any of the people the windows memorialize.

To be continued....

Free Lunch

This month's Free Lunch will take place on June 28th from 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. The menu is Chicken Salad, Potato Salad, Rolls, Pickles, and Strawberry Shortcake! Everyone is welcome!

The Trouble Tree

She hired a plumber to help her restore an old farmhouse, and he had just finished a rough first day on the job: a flat tire made him lose an hour of work, his electric drill quit, and his ancient one ton truck refused to start. While she drove him home, he sat in stony silence. On arriving, he invited her in to meet his family. As they walked toward the front door, he paused briefly at a small tree, touching the tips of the branches with both hands. When opening the door, he underwent an amazing transformation. His tanned face was wreathed in smiles, and he hugged his two small children and gave his wife a kiss. Afterward, he walked back to the car. They passed the tree, and her curiosity got the better of her. She

The Bible in 50 Words

God made.
Adam bit.
Noah arked.
Abraham split.

Jacob fooled.
Joseph ruled.
Bush talked.
Moses balked.

Pharaoh plagued.
People walked.
Sea divided.
Tablets guided.

Promise landed.
Saul freaked.
David peeked.

Prophets warned.
Jesus born.
God walked.
Love talked.

Anger crucified.
Hope died.
Love rose.

Spirit flamed.
Word spread.
God remained.



asked him about what she had seen him do earlier. "Oh, that's my trouble tree," he replied. "I know I can't help having troubles on the job, but one thing's for sure; those troubles don't belong in the house with my wife and the children. So, I just hang them up on the tree every night when I come home and ask God to take care of them. Then in the morning, I pick them up again. Funny thing is," he smiled, "when I come out in the morning to pick 'em up, there aren't nearly as many as I remember hanging up the night before."

From The Pastor

Let's face it, the church has changed and will continue to do so. I wonder what those who organized this church back in 1845 imagined this place would become? Fewer people now participate in worship of any kind, and society seems to have become preoccupied with other things. On Sunday morning, we can see baseball fields alive with activity, while the pews have more and more empty spaces. It is easy to become discouraged. I spoke with a local pastor this week who fears her church will be the next one to close, and I found myself wanting to weep. For many congregations, the trajectory does not look good ten years from now.

Reggie McNeal makes an important distinction between the church and church culture. He writes, "The death of church culture as we know it will not be the death of the church. The church Jesus founded is good; it is right. The church established by Jesus will survive until he returns." McNeal equates the current "church" in North America to that of an expression of civil religion, and part club where religious people can hang out with other religious people whose politics, worldview, and lifestyle, for the most part, match theirs.

As the church continues to evolve, I believe it is more important than ever to live our faith. No, you do not have to put the W.W.J.D. bracelet on your wrist, or have the bumper sticker that reads, "In case of rapture this car will be abandoned." Be kind to one another. Be a help to those in need. Volunteer. Learn to knit, and make prayer shawls. The way you live your life, your words, your attitude, your actions will be noticed by others.

Look for God in the changes that occur. God is the architect of the future that keeps invading our well-settled present. Change is not our enemy; it is the disturbing presence of God completing what God began so long ago when a group of unwanted immigrants journeyed from slavery in Egypt to life in a land of promise. Remember, they wanted to turn around and go back, even if it was to the security of life that was lived in slavery. God has been in the business of change for a very long time. Trust in God, and watch for those God moments where you are reminded that you are not alone in this, it makes the journey more joyful.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Meg

