



“May your Blessings out number  
The shamrocks that grow and may  
Troubles avoid you where ever you go”

**First Baptist Church**  
701 N. Main Street  
PO Box 476  
Central Square, NY  
[www.fbc-cs.com](http://www.fbc-cs.com)  
fbc.central.square@juno.com  
(315) 668- 2138

**March 2014**  
**Happy Saint Patrick's Day!**  
**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

[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; Mavis Cooter, Ken House, Stewart Smith, Phyllis Smith, Helen Webb, our missionaries, our nation, and our denominational and local church leaders.

## **PRAYERS FOR MARCH**

Dear Lord,

Teach us to be patient and loving throughout the whole year. When we are faced with evil let us not engage with it but walk away. We ask this in your name.

Amen



## **MEETING NIGHTS**

Deacon's	March 11th	6:30
Trustees	March 9th	after Church
Executive	March 16 <sup>th</sup>	after Church



## **Verse of the Month**



Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord and shun evil. This will bring health to your body and nourishment to your bones.

## **WITNESS ARTICLES**

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

## ***Birthdays for March***



Nancy Tharp	01
Linda Heer	23
Lizzy Rotundo	27

## ***Anniversaries***



Dail & Rich Mizerski - 25

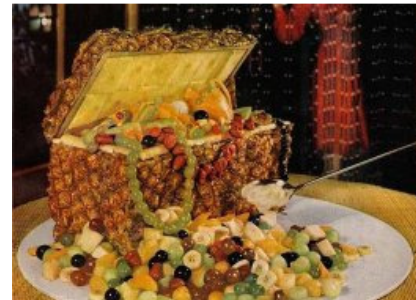
## ***3 Characteristics that make God - God***



3 Characteristics that make God – God

1. Omniscience = He is all knowing
2. Omnipresent = He is everywhere at the same Time
3. Omnipotent = He is all powerful

## ***Let's Welcome Weight Watchers to our Buildings***



Remember if you come to church on Tuesday nights you will see people in the building. Weight Watcher's meets from 5:30-6:30. They said they may run over a little but for sure by 7:00 they will be out. How much fun is that! If you would like to lose some weight, I'm sure they would love to have you. Check out the picture; it's a pineapple box with all kinds of fruit in it! Cool right?

## ***Soup on Sunday***



March 16<sup>th</sup> after church we will have soup. The AB Women put this on and only ask for a donation which goes towards missions. Please plan to attend. It's cold out and it will warm you up, plus the soup is homemade. See you there!

## ***Easter Egg Hunt***



April 13<sup>th</sup> the AB women are going to have an Easter egg hunt for the children after church on Palm Sunday. They would like donations of plastic eggs and candy. Donations are due April 6<sup>th</sup>.

## ***The women are having a breakfast called Fling into Spring***



All women are invited so please come join the fun and eat delicious food on March 22<sup>nd</sup> here at church at 9:00 am.

## ***Easter Cantata***



Yes it's time to ask if anyone would like to sing in the Easter Cantata this year. We need to have lots of voices so please consider singing with us. Practices are Tuesday night at 6:00 and Sunday after church. We have started practicing so please come join us. The name of the Cantata is "Where Love and Mercy Meet." Sounds very inspirational. This will be presented on April 20<sup>th</sup> during church instead of a sermon.

## ***AB Women's Meeting***



On April 8th at the church at 11:00 am we will be making plans for the Easter Egg Hunt please come and help with the plans.

## ***March 2014 Holidays and not so holidays***

We are getting closer and closer to spring!!

### March 3: National Anthem Day

The Star Spangled Banner is the national anthem of the USA. It was written by Francis Scott Key. National Anthem Day celebrates this song, and the rich history behind its creation. Many people think the Star spangled banner was written during the Revolutionary War. It was actually written during the war of 1812. (1812-1814). In August 1814, the British army detained Dr. William Beanes as a prisoner of war. He was a friend of Francis Scott Key. On Sept 13, 1814, Francis Scott Key and a US negotiator boarded the British vessel to negotiate his release. But then Francis Scott Key was detained that day along with the negotiator. They were held until after the attack on Fort McHenry, which guarded the harbor and city of Baltimore.

Key watched from the ship as the fort was bombed. The next morning, he was ecstatic to see that the American flag was still flying over Fort McHenry. This historic event inspired Francis Scott Key to write our national anthem. This song became official on March 3, 1931.

### March 4: Hug a GI Day

The origin of this day is unknown.

The men and women in our armed services deserve our thanks and appreciation. GIs perform an invaluable service to our country. They risk their lives for our freedom, and to keep us safe. A simple hug is a small thanks for this vital service to our country.

### March 5: Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent.

March 9: Daylight Savings Time begins. "Spring Ahead"

### March 12: Girl Scout Day

On March 12, 1912 Juliette Gordon Low started the 1<sup>st</sup> Girl Scout group in Savannah, Georgia with 18 girls. It became a national organization, and was chartered by the US Congress on March 16, 1950. Today there are millions of girls involved with Girl Scouts.

### March 15: Ides of March

This is the first day of the Roman New Year. It also marks the first day of spring in the Roman calendar. On this day in history, Julius Caesar was warned by soothsayers to "beware of the Ides of March". He did not heed the warning. Julius was stabbed by Marcus Brutus on the Ides of March in 44 BC.

### March 16: Freedom of Information Day

March 16 is the birth date of James Madison, the 4<sup>th</sup> president of the US. He is recognized as the "Father of the Constitution" and the chief author of the Bill of Rights. Freedom of information and individual rights were very important to James Madison.

### March 17: St. Patrick's Day

This is in honor of the Patron Saint of Ireland. St. Patrick brought Christianity to the Emerald Isles in the 400s AD. It is a day to celebrate Irish history, ancestry, tradition, and customs.

Erin Go Braugh means "Ireland Forever"

Over 34 million Americans are of Irish descent. This is about 9 times the population of Ireland!

Everyone is a little Irish on St. Paddy's Day! Just check out "Tipp Hill" on that weekend!

### March 20: Spring begins! Yeah!!

March 20: International Earth Day is always on Vernal Equinox; not to be confused with US Earth Day. This day was founded by John McConnell of Davis City, Iowa in September 1969. He proposed this to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. He then gained support from then UN General Secretary U Thant, who signed an Earth Day Proclamation on March 21, 1971.

This was initiated to make inhabitants of earth aware of their responsibility to care for our planet, including environmental and natural resources.

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## FINDING THE EXIT OFF THE FAILURE TURNPIKE

Harvard business professors, Gary Hamel and C. K. Prahalad wrote about an experiment conducted with a group of monkeys. Four monkeys were placed in a room that had a tall pole. At the top of the pole was a bunch of bananas. Each time a monkey climbed the pole to reach the bananas he was doused with a bucket of cold water. After several attempts, they all gave up.

Then the researchers replaced one of the original four monkeys with a new monkey. When the new monkey tried to climb the pole, the other three grabbed him and pulled him to the ground. After being dragged down several times, he, too, gave up trying.

After a while another of the original monkeys was replaced with a new monkey until all the original set had been replaced. None of the new monkeys had been doused with water but they continued to pull the new monkeys down and not allow them to climb the pole. None of the monkeys would climb the pole or allow others to climb it, but none of them knew why. (This story is from John Maxwell's book, Failing Forward)

Failure is often something that we have to unlearn, more than something that we have to avoid. Yet we often "buy into" the idea that we will fail because the cards are stacked against us. In spite of the fact that we celebrate the grand victory of Christ over sin and death, we too often allow sin and the fear of death to gain a victory over us.

Failure is not what happens "to" us; it is what happens "in" us. In the same way the victory of God is not something that happens "to" us from outside ourselves, it is something that happens "in" us when we become a new person in Christ.

### SIGNS TO THE EXIT:

Karl Menninger: "Generous people are rarely mentally ill."

Victor Borge: "Laughter is the shortest distance between two people."

Zig Ziglar: "You can get everything in life you want if you help enough other people get what they want."

Helen Keller: "Security is mostly superstition; it does not exist in nature..."

Don Marquis: (famous procrastinator – when asked how he got his work done) "Oh, that's easy, I just pretend that it is yesterday's work."

Joe Griffith: "A goal is nothing more than a dream with a time limit."

Jesus Christ: "Behold, I am with you always, even to the close of the age."

It is not God's plan to leave you on the road to failure.

"It is God who makes us ... sure of our life in union with Christ; it is God himself who...has placed his mark of ownership upon us, and who has given us the Holy Spirit in our hearts as the guarantee of all that he has in store for us." (II Corinthians 1:21-22)

Trust in God to help you find the exit from the failure highway. That exit always leads to the **thruway of thanksgiving**.

Pastor John