

THE WITNESS

The Monthly Newsletter of the First Baptist Church of Central Square

“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.”

Rev. Bud Adams, Pastor
Lynn Bort, Moderator

Cindy Cuny, Secretary
Sharryl Baker, Church Clerk

Cindy Cuny, Witness Editor
Victor Vrooman, Organist

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



Mystery Member of the Month

Our April mystery member is Mavis Cooter. She was preparing to move to New England and her son thought it help if she could drive there.

Our mystery member for June is someone who volunteers some of their free time with SOVAC to provide emergency care to those in need. Do you know who this person is?



Prayer Concerns

Please keep these members and friends in your prayers: Mavis Cooter; Alice Silva; Joe Silva; Bob Abel; Penny Faulter; Ken Bird; Sharryl Baker; Stewart Smith; Jackie Willmer; Jan Rogacki; Fred Schaff; Hazel Schaff; Arlene LeBeau; Eva Kairis; Peter Bailey; Peggy Sue Ashby; Patrick Bort; our missionaries; our nation; and our denominational and local church leaders.

Verse of the Month



“I will be swift to bear witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired workers in their wages, the widow and the orphan, against those who thrust aside the alien, and do not fear me, says the Lord of hosts.”

Malachi 3:5

Men’s Breakfast



Our Men’s Breakfast will return to its usual first Saturday the month, **June 5th at 8:00**. This is open to all men regardless of age. And if you’re planning to bring a friend, just leave a message at the church office so our cooks know what to expect.

Along with a hearty meal and great fellowship, we will have a time of reflection as we consider one of Jimmy Carter’s Sunday school lessons.

Prayer for June

God of the rich and the poor, God of the high and the lowly, God of all people, we pray today that you would stir in all of our hearts the desire to see your kingdom come in the relationships between us. May we responsibly address the disparities we see and seek the restoration of all who are marginalized. Amen.

BOARD MEETINGS JUNE 8TH

Our Board of Trustees will meet at 6:00 on Tuesday, June 8th, and our Diaconate and Christian Ed boards will meet at 6:30. Our Executive Committee will then meet at 8:00.

Deadline for Witness Articles

Please have all articles for the Witness in to the church office by **June 24th**.

Children's Day

Arguably, the greatest test of a congregation is how it addresses Jesus' Great Commission to make disciples. To use a more accurate interpretation, his charge to us is to lead others into becoming apprentices of Jesus. We are presented with children so we might learn how to go about this work of making apprentices.

On **Sunday, June 13th**, we will get a glimpse of the progress we are making with our children as they fully participate in leading us in our time of worship. Please keep in mind, though, that leaders can only lead to the extent that their constituents resist digging in their heels.

So as we gather on that day, it isn't a time to be entertained. It is an opportunity to allow yourself to be lead by children.

To Your Health



The use of alternative treatments for diseases and for general overall health is growing in popularity and it seems some are fairly effective. But a rigorous study conducted at the Anderson Cancer Center in Houston and reported in *Journal of the National Cancer Institute* indicates that using shark cartilage to treat small-cell lung cancer had no effect. "The extract had no effect on the progression of the patients' cancer, their tumors didn't respond differently to treatment and they didn't live any longer than patients not receiving extract."

This was a disappointment because earlier studies with mice gave encouraging results. But, as it turns out, not for humans.

As reported in "Shark Cartilage Doesn't Appear to Help Lung Cancer", Rachel Ehrenberg, Science New Online, May 26, 2010.

Baptist News

We have known the American Baptist organization that coordinates mission work in the United States and Puerto Rico as National Ministries for many years. As of May 4th, it is now known as American Baptist Home Mission Societies.

The press release reads, in part: "[executive director Dr. Aidsand F. Wright-Riggins III] made the announcement as the organization unveiled a new logo during worship at Mariner's Temple Baptist Church in New York City. At the site of Mariner's Temple on April 27, 1832—when it was known as Oliver Street Baptist Church—a number of Baptists attending the Sixth Triennial Convention of the General Missionary Convention of the United States of America for Foreign Mission recessed to the nearby Mulberry Street Baptist Church to found The American Baptist Home Mission Society."

"The name represents the joining of the organization founded in 1832 with the Woman's American Baptist Home Mission Society (founded in 1887) in 1955 and the eventual assimilation of the Baptist General Tract Society, founded in 1824, along with The American Baptist Education Society, founded in 1888, through the absorption of Educational Ministries in 2003. Board President Dr. Clifford Johnson says, "By doing ministry as American Baptist Home Mission Societies, we honor the various threads of our history."

The entire press release can be accessed at www.abhms.org and clicking on the "News Room" link.

"Any crime against humanity is a crime against God who made humans in God's own image."

- Rev. Jeremiah A. Wright Jr., from a sermon he gave at Howard University

CAMPING SEASON IS UPON US

If you've heard this before, it's worth hearing again. And if not, get ready for some interesting news about church-sponsored camping. About 70% of all people who are involved in ministry had a significant experience at a church camping program that impacted their life and steered them toward ministry work.

It wouldn't be much of a stretch at all to say that many other people had significant experiences at a church camping program. They may not have become involved with traditional ministry work, but when a person's life is touched by an experience with God, they become different people. And, after all, isn't that what becoming a follower of Jesus is all about?

For you, your children, your relatives' children, and even for adults there are many opportunities for camping this year. And, it's a great way to make your dollars go a bit further than if you were to stay in some stuffy hotel someplace.

For more information, please consult the information on our bulletin board. Or contact Grace Shetler or Pastor Bud.

AB Women's News



Coming up:

August – (date to be announced) Scriba picnic.

GRADUATION SPECIAL

Although we have only one graduating senior this year, Rachel Fuller, we are planning a special type of service on **June 27th** that is intended to be instructive and appealing to *all* who are graduating. So if you know of any graduates of any kind, invite, cajole, bribe, or do whatever it takes (short of kidnapping) to have them be your personal guests that Sunday.

Following our time of worship, we will have a reception to honor all the graduates who are with us that day. And we will present each graduate with a special gift. (Maybe kidnapping will be OK.)

SUMMER SCHOOL

Because of the interest expressed following Pastor Bud's short presentation on the history of Christian movements at our April Church Council, he will conduct monthly sessions on the last Sunday morning of the month during the Summer months. These discussion sessions will start at 9:00 and end at 9:45. The schedule is:

June 27 History of Church-State separation
July 25 Emergence of New Testament writings
Aug 29 Constantine's shaping of the church

Please add your name to the sign-up sheet that will be posted in Fellowship Hall throughout the month preceding these sessions so we can plan our coffee and doughnuts accurately.

LUNCH BUNCH



Our Lunch Bunch will again gather for lunch and great fellowship on **Tuesday, June 8th at 11:45** in Fellowship Hall. Please come if you are able to take part in the delicious meal and heart-felt fellowship.

Save the Date

If you have children, or your neighbors have children, or your children have children, or your friends have children, convince them to **save this date: August 14th**. Why? Our VBS program is scheduled for that day from 10 to 2 at Goettel Park with the theme being Jonah and the Whale. As last year, our Church Picnic is scheduled for the following day, August 15th. Will Oneida Lake be in danger of having a whale surface that day?

Church Key Inventory

Book Study



The Board of Trustees would like to compile a list of who has keys to the church building and what doors they are for (ie: fellowship hall door, side door, etc.) If you were not able to be with us on Sunday, May 23rd when the sign-up sheet was available, please contact Don Haury, Chair of the Board of Trustees, and let him know what key(s) you have. He can be reached at 668-6245 or e-mail at: dhaury@twcny.rr.com.

Thank you!

Who is Lulu Fleming?

The challenge is still open to be the first to read a great article about Lulu and submit a description of her for our Summer Witness. You can find that article in the Winter 2010 issue of International Ministries newsletter, On Location which can be found in the reading rack in Fellowship Hall.

HEALTHY KID SNACKS

Here's another nutrition tip for those who care for youngsters from nubites, the newsletter of Nutrition Matters.

Bean Tortilla – Spread refried beans on a soft corn or whole wheat tortilla. Sprinkle with shredded cheddar cheese. Heat in microwave for a minute and roll it up. [Then eat.]

Musical Notes



If you have been worshipping with us in recent months you will have noticed that more people are becoming participants by offering their musical abilities. This is what Sunday is intended to be – our community at worship.

Many of you know who Steven Curtis Chapman is – a highly gifted and accomplished Christian musician. As is often the case with successful people, Steve's wife is also very gifted, as a musician and a writer.

Annie Chapman has authored a book entitled Letting Go of Anger which one of our members has read and benefitted from Annie's very helpful insights. Because anger is a human emotion we all are afflicted with and very few people are more than dimly aware when their own anger flairs how dangerous and harmful they become to others, we will use this book for a summer book study

Our Web Site

Our web site is up and operational. To take a look, go to www.fbc-cs.com. We're still making adjustments and will have new pages to add as time goes by. Please keep in mind the primary purpose of this is to connect with those who are not involved with any church.

We will be posting pictures from recent youth events and other activities that may be attractive to people who think they might be curious about who Jesus really is. Please speak with Pastor Bud if you have suggestions.

Pastor Bud Gone

Pastor Bud and Tanya are planning to be on vacation starting **June 13th through June 26th**. They expect to be traveling to Atlanta, Tennessee, and Missouri to visit friends and family.

"To take usury for money lent is unjust in itself, because this is to sell what does not exist, and this evidently leads to inequality, which is contrary to justice."

*Thomas Aquinas,
Dominican friar and theologian (1225-1274).*

WIC

Most of you know that the WIC Program, which is offered through the Oswego County Opportunities, Inc., uses our Fellowship Hall and classrooms one Wednesday per month and an extra Monday every three months. Throughout Oswego County, they serve 3,700 clients at 13 different sites, including ours. You may already know that they help mothers learn many important items about promoting and maintaining the health of their children. But you may not realize the many other ways they benefit the young mothers in our community. Here are just a few:

The average monthly benefit to each consumer is \$75 via food checks redeemable at local grocers for nutritious items such as milk, cheese, eggs, cereal, whole grain bread, brown rice, fruits & vegetables, baby food, peanut butter, peas, beans, and juice. [This brings in over \$2 million per year to the county.]

Coordinates health and dental care.

Provides an extensive breast-feeding program that offers peer counselors, Certified Lactation Counselors, and hospital grade electric pumps.

Provides checks that allow 1800 households to purchase fresh produce at local farmer markets through the Department of Agriculture's Farmers Market Program, which brings in an additional \$43,000 to the county.

Promotes healthy lifestyles by working with families to increase consumption of fruits and vegetables, increase physical activity, and decrease screen time.

Friends of Deegan

In just a two short weeks, the Friends of Deegan will be hold a benefit in our Fellowship Hall on June 12. They are asking for donations for a silent auction as well as donations to fill gift baskets along with the baskets themselves.

Many people have taken on a personal project of putting together a complete basket. Below are some suggestions of basket themes, and you can consult last month's Witness for the types of items that might be appropriate for each theme.

Donations will be accepted through June 11 and can be given to Jill Gillette, Kay Springer, Mark Heitmann, Margaret Heitmann, or any youth member.

The benefit, which will also include a dinner, will help offset the burdensome costs associated with Deegan Funke's cancer treatments. This is a wonderful opportunity for the community around us to join in our ministry.

Gift Basket Ideas

Fishing Basket, Homemade Stuff Basket, Kids activity baskets, Camping basket, BBQ basket.

Directory Update

Please make these updates to your directory:

Bruce Herrick

6112 Cobblestone Drive, Apt. Q-12
Cicero, NY 13039
288-4891

Lynn and Cindy Cuny

Courtney Cuny
133 Camic Road
Central Square, NY 13036

The God who made us what we are knows what we desire to be and waits with infinite patience while we become what we can. We, on the other hand, know that whatever we need to become all that we can be, this same great and loving God will supply. For all of that, we are thankful. From that gratitude grow love and commitment, faith and trust, wonder and worship.

-Joan Chittister, from her book The Liturgical Year