

First Baptist Church of Central Square

April 2020

701 North Main Street
P.O. Box 476
Central Square, NY 13036

www.fbc-cs.com
315-668-2138
fbccsny@gmail.com

Birthdays:

Jon DeFalco 1
Nancy Flower 3
Vanna Rich 14
Rich Mizerski 20
Stewart Smith 24
Kathy Myers 26
Atreyu DeFalco 29

Anniversaries:

Nancy & Don Flower 2
Kristen & Jeffery Desrosiers 20

Please submit witness articles and prayer requests to
fbccsny@gmail.com

Tithes

While we are not having church together, you can still send in your offering via mail. Help our church get through this storm together. Please mail it to

Attn: Cherie House
P.O. Box 476
Central Square, NY 13036

2020 Missions

In an effort to target our mission works, we will now have monthly specific offerings. In **APRIL**, we will be collecting **CEREAL!** Also, Divine Mercy's food pantry is in need of canned fruits and vegetables, macaroni and cheese, tuna fish, pork and beans, cereal, canned and boxed pasta. Please leave it on the parsonage porch or drop it off to the food pantry Tuesday & Thursday 9am - 12pm, Wednesday 6pm - 8pm, and Saturday 10am - 12pm.

Closure

Our church will remain closed for church services until we are given the okay to open back up by the government. We hope that people stay inside and stop the spread of Covid-19. Many current and past sermons can be found on our church website. Please use this resource to lift you up when you are feeling down.

Trustee Updates

No updates.

Diaconate Updates

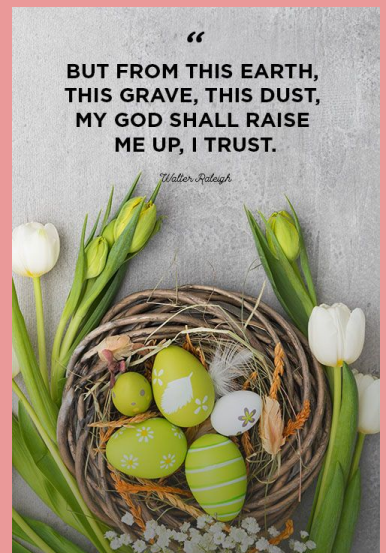
Please notify any member of the diaconate if you have needs.



Upcoming Events

April 6

DEAR GOD,
PLEASE KEEP MY
FAMILY, FRIENDS, AND
LOVED ONES SAFE.



Christian Education Updates

We will be having a VBS with the Community Church and Universalist Church. If you would like to participate, please see Rebekah.

Covid-19: A Prayer of Solidarity

For all who have contracted coronavirus,
We pray for care and healing.

For those who are particularly vulnerable,
We pray for safety and protection.

For all who experience fear or anxiety,
We pray for peace of mind and spirit.

For affected families who are facing difficult decisions between
food on the table or public safety,
We pray for policies that recognize their plight.

For those who do not have adequate health insurance,
We pray that no family will face financial burdens alone.

For those who are afraid to access care due to immigration status,
We pray for recognition of the God-given dignity of all.

For our brothers and sisters around the world,
We pray for shared solidarity.

For public officials and decisionmakers,
We pray for wisdom and guidance.

Father, during this time may your Church be a sign of hope,
comfort and love to all.

Grant peace.

Grant comfort.

Grant healing.

Be with us, Lord.

Amen.

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From The Pastor

When the men were returning home after David had killed the Philistine, the women came out from all the towns of Israel to meet King Saul with singing and dancing, with joyful songs and with tambourines and lutes. As they danced, they sang;

“Saul has killed his thousands, and David his tens of thousands.”

Saul was very angry; this refrain galled him. “They have credited David with tens of thousands,” he thought, “but me with only thousands. What more can he get but the kingdom?” And from that day on Saul kept a jealous eye on David.
1 Samuel 18:6-9

This event happened right after David killed Goliath. Saul was jealous of the attention people were showing David, a young, brave, attractive man/boy. This attention caused Saul to mistrust David.

Have you ever felt jealous when someone you know received the attention you felt you should have gotten? As a child? As a teenager? As an adult? Have you experienced mistrust?

God expects us to be the bigger person; to forgive and forget; over and over and over. Jesus said seventy times seven times. I’m thinking that’s a lot of forgiving, especially if it’s the same person that needs forgiving. At what point do you give up on them? I believe the answer is never. But boy, it’s a hard thing to do.

During this time of reflection, is there a personal relationship you need to reflect on? What can you do to improve that relationship? What can you do to reestablish the trust?

This is the beginning of Holy week. We have time on our hands to reflect not only on our personal relationships but on what Jesus went through that final week. The parade on Sunday morning was exciting. The crowd was shouting cheers of Hosanna. They were joyous and celebrating their liberation; at least that’s what they believed. But did you note that Jesus cried. In the midst of all the joy and excitement – He wept. Luke 19:41 *“As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it”* He looked at Jerusalem and saw its future. I can’t help but wonder if that was the only thing going through his mind at that moment. The stress of knowing all that was ahead in the next week must have weighed heavily. I don’t think he wanted to die and leave everything he knew and loved on earth behind. At Gethsemane he prayed *“if possible may this cup be taken from me.”* Matthew 26:39 He wasn’t looking forward to all that would happen, but he accepted God’s will.

We face many challenges in our lives. We are the blessed ones. We can accept God’s will because we have Jesus in our corner. We can draw on the strength and courage of the one who died for us.

As you spend the next week reflecting and remembering, praying and giving thanks, sing Hosanna’s for the day of resurrection is upon us. We are forgiven. So let’s remember to forgive seventy times seven times and more if we have need, so the world around us will know

He lives and He lives within our hearts.

Praying you have a blessed Easter. We shall be meeting together soon to worship our Lord and Savior as one body of Christ.

Love to all, Pastor Lilly



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This is your copy of *The FBC Witness*:

