

First Baptist Church of Central Square

December 2024

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

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

Birthdays:

Alexander Springer 8
Stephen Springer 8
Heather Bettinger 12
Ed Baxter Jr 15
Shaylee Woolson-Smith 15
Hannah DeFalco 23
Stewart McLain 25
Joshua Heitmann 26
Dale Bort 27
Nicholas Heitmann 31
Nathan Heitmann 31

Anniversaries:

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

Watch Past Services

<http://www.fbc-cs.com/media.htm>

Sunday School

Adult Sunday School will resume in 2025.

Christian Education

The Christian Education Facilitators have not met in person but continue to work on our 2024 projects. White gift requests will be ready to be picked up by December 8th, if not sooner, and must be returned by December 17th. We also need the names of all of our young people, those 18 years old or younger, who will be attending church on December 22nd so that we can be prepared with gifts for them. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Diaconate Updates

Holiday Season is at Mid-Term. Members and friends of First Baptist Church are anywhere from surgeries to free lunches to music presentations to welcoming new friends to family gatherings to worship opportunities and SO MUCH MORE!

Your Diaconate continues to meet, pray, keep in touch, welcome all, provide assistance when and where needed, deliver meals from our dinner opportunities, prepare communion and more. We're continuing to ask for ongoing prayers for Maggie, one of our own, for successful therapy as she returns to good health.

Finally, a huge celebration at Christmas for the Birth Date of our Lord and a Thanksgiving of Many Blessings including over 120 community neighbors and our members and friends enjoying the Thanksgiving Free Lunch/Dinner meal. Thank God for continuing to support our efforts to be more "Alive in '25!!"

God Bless Us All
Your FBC Diaconate



Food Pantry - holiday food fixings

Missions -
White Socks for Men
Hats, mittens, gloves

Dec 24
Christmas Eve Service



FBC Giving Tree
Take a leaf...fill a need!

There are many little items that keep our church functioning and clean. Please stop by the table and grab a leaf to help support us financially.

Most items are probably a duplicate item on your shopping list!

If you are unable to stop by and grab a leaf or two and still want to support our fundraiser you can give any monetary amount by mailing it to the church:

First Baptist Church of CS
PO Box 476
Central Square, NY, 13036
Attn: Cherie House/Money Tree Fundraiser

These funds will be used for larger projects that the Trustees are working on.

Trustee Updates - Please give to the Christmas Offering.

Women's Group - No Update

Mission Committee

The mission committee is pausing on white socks and is now accepting hats and gloves for the month of December.

From the Pastor

*"A voice of one calling in the wilderness,
'Prepare the way for the Lord,
make straight paths for him.'" Isaiah 40:3*

Prepare for the Holy Birth. Prepare for the Holy Return.

We prepare for parties, for gift giving, for that one special day of the year that most of us love to celebrate. Unfortunately, we sometimes need to be reminded of "the Reason for the Season".

We sometimes forget that everyone doesn't look forward to the day. At times, we even forget to be joy-filled, become grumps and leave our attitude of gratitude at home. Tsk, tsk.

People far more organized than me, start preparing in January. Maybe we should all begin to prepare early on. But maybe not for the Holy Birth but instead, for the Holy Return. How prepared am I for that very special day? How prepared are you?

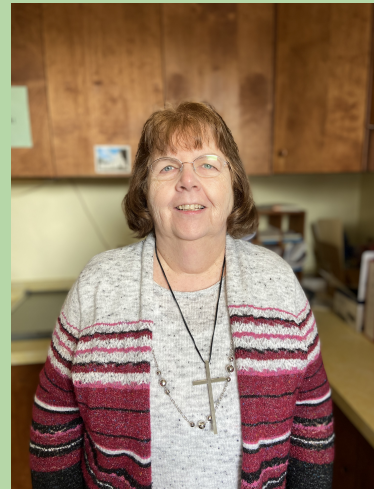
I've never noted the scripture where Jesus said, "Hey, don't forget my birthday is coming!" Just in case you're not aware; He never said that. He is far more interested in us joining Him at the resurrection of the last day to be in heaven with him. We spend much time discussing heaven and spending eternity there.

Humans decided to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Don't get me wrong. I love celebrating Christmas as much as anyone. It is told in detail in the Gospels, so why not? But we, as Christian followers of Jesus, need to be mindful that there is more to our story.

Jesus came, He saw, He loved and He conquered. Hallelujah! Amen. It's in our hands now. Come to Him, see Him, Love like He loved and win others for Him. Amen

Have a Merry Christmas and blessed New Year.
Pastor Lilly

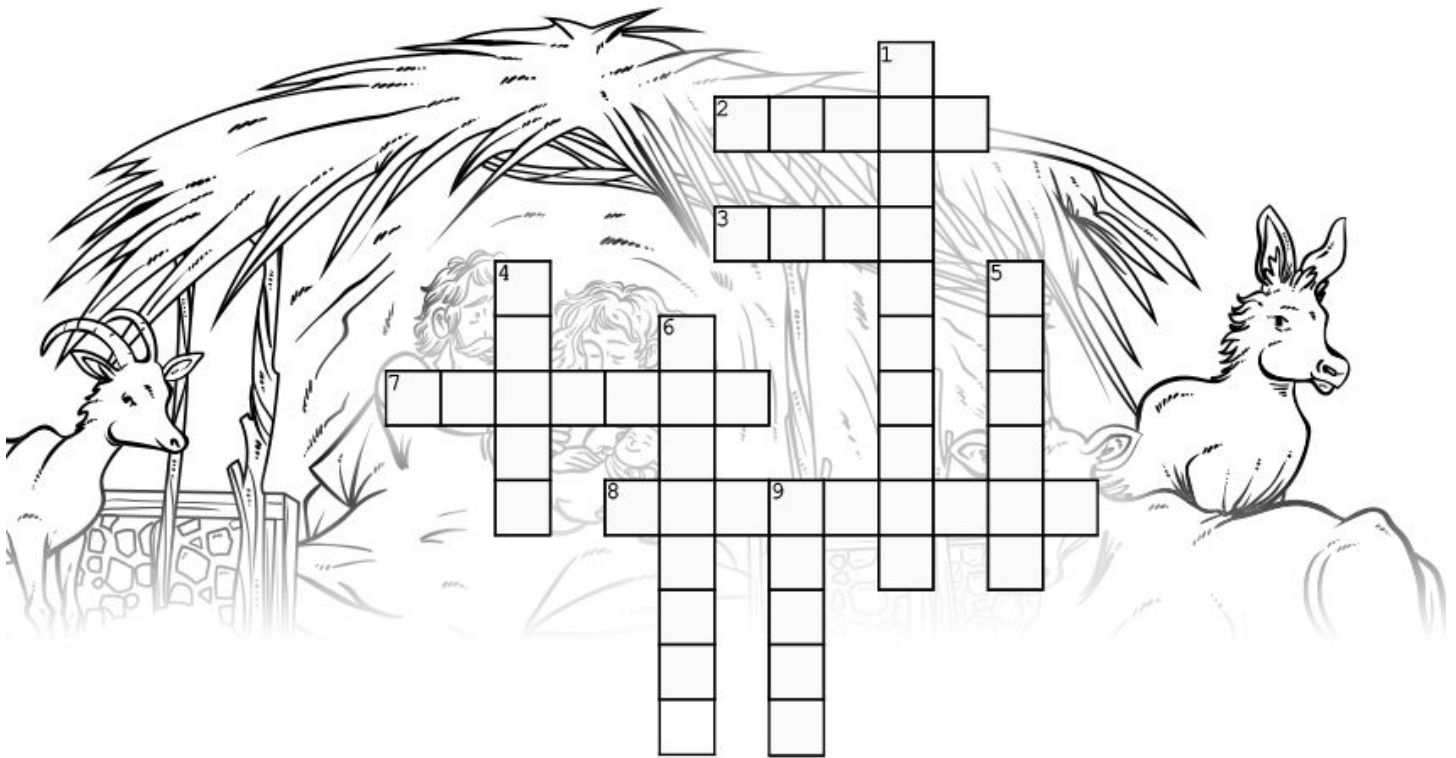
From our Pastor



JOURNEY OF THE WISE MEN

A CHRISTMAS STORY

Matthew 2:1-12



Across

2. King _____ was greatly disturbed by the Magi's news of a new King.
3. The Magi went through Jerusalem asking, "Where is he who has been born king of the _____?"
7. The Magi declared, "For we saw his star when it rose and have come to _____ him."
8. What city did the Magi find the new-born King, Jesus?

Down

1. When the Magi at last found the young Messiah, they fell on their faces and _____ Him
4. The Magi were convinced that the bright light in the sky was a sign of the Messiah's _____.
5. Secretly, the wicked King did not want to worship Jesus; he only wanted the wise men to discover where He was so he could have Jesus _____.
6. The Magi are also known as _____.
9. You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your _____.



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This is your copy of *The FBC Witness*:

