

First Baptist Church of Central Square

September 2020

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

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



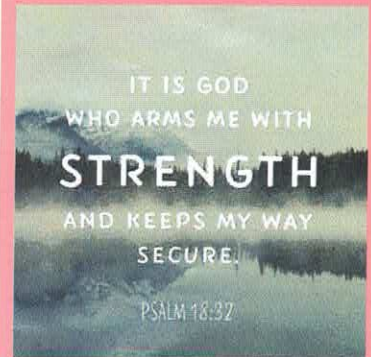
Upcoming Events

Birthdays:

Paul Ayre 2
Susan Fenton 8
Jefferson Duryee 11
Landon Desrosiers 12
Angela DeFalco 12
Carter Rich 13
Bev Mitchell 22
Carol Chamberlin 23
Lynn Bort 24
Janet Bettinger 25
Dakota DeFalco 26
Harper Long 28
Nate DeFalco 30
Brody Shanahan 30

Anniversaries:

Jessica & Matt Shanahan 28



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

Tithes

Please have offering ready when you come into church or mail to
Attn: Cherie House
P.O. Box 476
Central Square, NY 13036

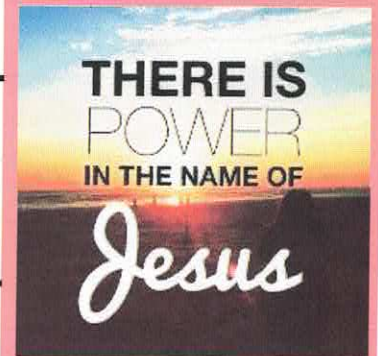
2020 Missions

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 or by scheduled drop off.

Covid Update

We are OPEN! Come join us on Sunday mornings while following all safety guidelines. For those who are choosing to stay home still,

Follow the link below to the sermons!
<http://www.fbc-cs.com/media.htm>



"Tears are prayers too.
They travel to God when we can't speak."
-Psalm 56:8

Trustee Updates

No updates.

Diaconate Updates

No Updates.

Christian Education Updates

No Updates

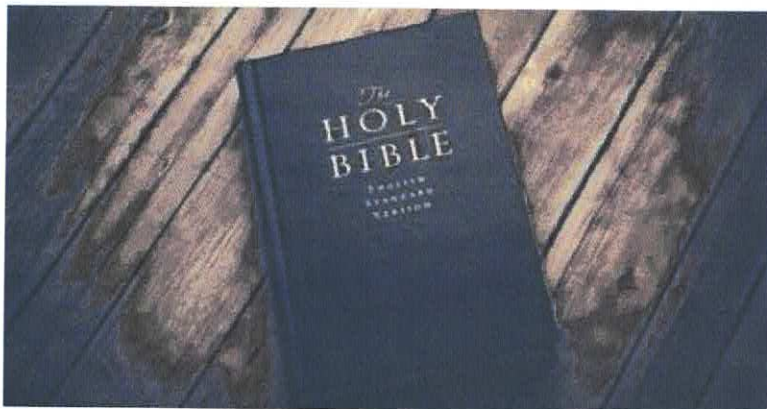
AB Women

Unfortunately we will not be holding our Annual Trunk-or-Treat due to the uncertainty with Covid Precautions and where they may be at that time. We are hoping to be able to meet in person for our Women's World Day of Prayer in November, but may have to resort to a Virtual or Hybrid devotion. We will update as the time grows closer!

TWO TUESDAY'S BIBLE STUDY:

Beginning September 15th at 7:30pm join us in our FB Room for our new Virtual Bible Study! Two Tuesday's will meet bi-weekly, our first study is "Running on Empty." Participants are welcome to order their own study, or wait for the material to be uploaded and sent in advance via email. Contact us if you are interested so we may get you all the information you need!

ABWOMEN.FIRSTBAPTIST@GMAIL.COM



Attached Documents

Please read a piece of history by our own historian, Delores Olin. I usually transcribe her work, but her beautiful writing is something I think all should enjoy. Please check back next month for a list of all pastors of the First Baptist Church!

Come near
to **GOD**
and he will
come near
to you.

-James 4:8



THE GIANT
IN FRONT OF YOU IS NEVER
BIGGER
THAN THE
GOD
INSIDE OF YOU

*Faith it does
not make
... THINGS EASY ...
It makes them
possible*
Luke 1:37

From the Pastor

Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland. Isaiah 43:18-19

This is one of my favorite scriptures. It reminds me that God is always working, even when we don't notice. Isaiah's writings to the children of Israel came at a bleak period of their history. They are in captivity, they have lost everything they thought they would keep forever, and they were home sick for the land and the blessing God had promised them.

It brings to mind the last six months. As we were traveling the road of our norm, suddenly it seemed, we were in the midst of a pandemic, in a desert wasteland. Only those of us over 100 years old had ever experienced something that affected all of our lives with so much upheaval. We were dismayed at the rush to buy toilet paper and cleaning supplies until the stores were cleaned out and unable to replenish.

AHHH good times! Not really. But certainly something that will be talked about for years to come, I think.

When bad things happen, people often ask, "Where is God? Why is He allowing this to happen?"

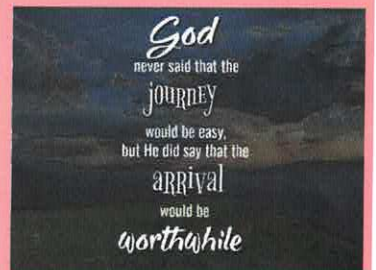
God has been working as always, and bringing order to chaos. We find ourselves adjusting, not without complaining, but adjusting none-the-less. People, God's people, regardless of denomination or religious practice have been pitching in to help those in need because He has put in their hearts to feed the hungry and clothe the naked. Ministries of all kinds have managed to continue. Churches that were forced to close their doors found new ways to bring the Word to people. The good news is that more people are tuning in and "attending" church. Will they make it back into the building to worship in person?? Only time will tell and Only God Knows.

Here at First Baptist, with a skeleton crew, along with countless other churches around the country, online services were offered. There have been technical difficulties for many of the churches, including ours, but I'm confident that God is watching and working. Thank you for your patience and understanding. We will continue to record the worship service for those who are not comfortable enough to attend church and those that are homebound. Now we're hearing from organizations and ministries of all kinds that are holding meetings and gatherings online. Things are different and it doesn't seem like it will ever be the same. It's a new thing!

We are meeting again in our sanctuary, It's a little different but the Holy Spirit is still in this place. Slowly the cushions are being returned to the pews as a small group cleans and disinfects them. Maybe they don't need disinfecting but as long as they are being shampooed, why not? Thank you to those who have undertaken this task.

In this newsletter, you should find information about the ABC NYS 2020 Biennial. It will be online over a four-day period. Starting at 7:00pm on Wednesday, October 14th and continuing Thursday and Friday also at 7:00pm and finishing up on Saturday the 17th at 9:30am for the Business

From the Pastor



WHEN WE PUT
OUR PROBLEMS IN
GOD'S HANDS,
HE PUTS HIS
FACE IN OUR HEARTS.

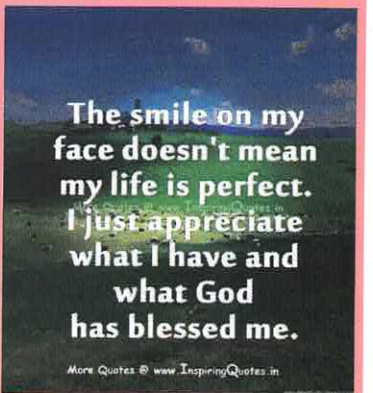
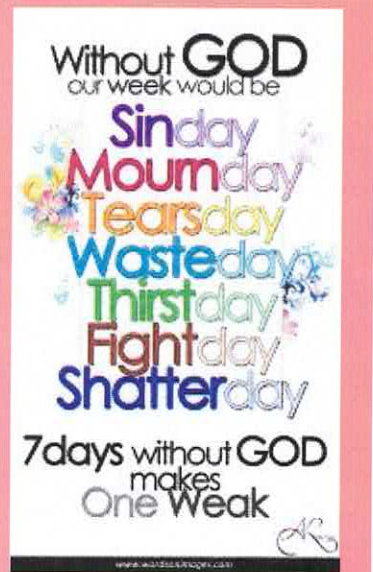
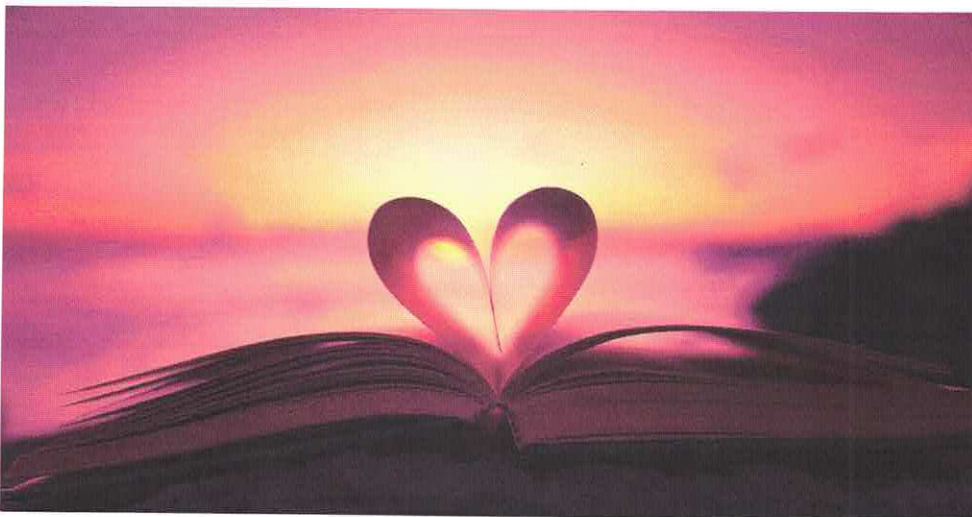
Meeting, Closing Worship and Communion. It will be different but if you have never attended this is a great opportunity to check it out. Once you register (a \$20 registration fee is required to cover expenses) I'm told you will receive a bag of popcorn to snack on while tuning in. (Not sure if it's popped or not!) I'll be interested to see how it all comes together. Somehow there is a way to do break out workshops. My good friend, Aunt Maude, (aka Joyce Camp) will be there for a time of fun and frivolity. I'm really hoping to have some of you "attend" with me.

Then on October 25th at 2:00pm, the Iroquois Association will be meeting for the Annual Meeting, also via the internet. There is no registration fee for this one. We will be looking at what we have learned about ministry during this time of crisis and how we can use what we've learned in moving forward. We will also be voting on new Bylaws, election of new officers and because we have to, presenting the budget for the next fiscal year. Our Executive Minister, Jim Kelsey is expected to present closing remarks.

God is doing a new thing. We can enjoy the ride or fight the changes, it really doesn't matter to Him, He will still do it His way. (Hmmm is He from New York, New York?)

To God Be the Glory, Great things He has done!

Blessings, Pastor Lilly



Do you know what happened 175 years ago?

A minister, Rev Peter Woodin came to this area because he thought it was suitable for more Christian work, resulting in building First Baptist Church which was founded June 25, 1845 with 23 baptized believers.

The 150th Anniversary was celebrated June 24, 1995. The Rev George Spencer was our pastor and Rev Holland Maughan, a former pastor, was a member of congregation.

At this time a new addition was added and remodeling of the building. The A B Girls was organized by Ruth Spencer and Pat Harrington.

Rev Dr Jim Carlson followed Rev Spencer; a praise band was organized.

Next was Rev Joseph Adams (Bud to all of us). We enjoyed concert in the park, worship and picnic at Taft Bay Park, the 9-11 Services, Vision Community, small groups, bereavement group and much more.

The Rev Dr John Sharp brought many programs to our church like "Frank 'n' Treat", youth projects, Men's Breakfasts and movie night.

After Rev Sharp we had guest speakers until end of 2018 when Lillian Sabal came, then 2020 is now full time pastor. She has put great effort into trying to keep things active, as has several of the congregation, to strengthen our church programs.

but it has been difficult - and - then came the corona virus that put a stop to everything until presently we are again trying to get our Church active once more.

Because of the "shut down" we were unable to celebrate this special anniversary. However it should be remembered and hopefully put new strength in our membership to rebuild and add new programs - and - of course, it's never too late to celebrate, but most of all be aware of this wonderful history and be thankful to God for all these many years and be ever alert to ways of keeping this church going to continue to spread the love and teachings of God for the present and future of First Baptist Church of Central Square.

On your mark, get set, GO! Mark your calendars for Wednesday, Thursday and Friday nights and Saturday morning October 14 - 17, 2020, for this year's ABCNYS Biennial: **Bold Truth, Gracious Action!** We will have worship services and special events with a unique blend of people from all over the Region.

Our special guests feature two amazing presenters:

The Rev. Dr. Eddie Cruz, National Coordinator of Congregational Mission and Discipleship from our own ABHMS will speak on *The Civility Challenge: A Biblical Response to Acting Badly*. Here is what you may hear from his own unique perspective:

"There is plenty of rancor in America today. Left vs. right. Extremes vs. moderates. So perfidious are the positions and the language, some have predicted a coming Civil War - not between states, but between beliefs and dogmas. One thing I cannot wrap my brain around is the "Well, he/she started it," justification for acting badly. From a Christian and biblical standpoint, there is simply no rationalization with this mindset. None."

Dr. Richard Mouw, Professor of Christian Philosophy at Fuller Theological Seminary and a leading authority in the area of Convicted Civility. Here is an excerpt from his book Uncommon Decency: Christian Civility in an Uncivil World:

"This is what civility comes to, finally: an openness to God's surprises. When that openness marks our lives, we have learned patience-along with the flexibility and tentativeness and humility and awe and modesty that will inevitably come to the patient heart. And since none of this is possible without a clear sense of who we are, and to whom we belong, the patient heart will also be a place where convictedness has found its home."

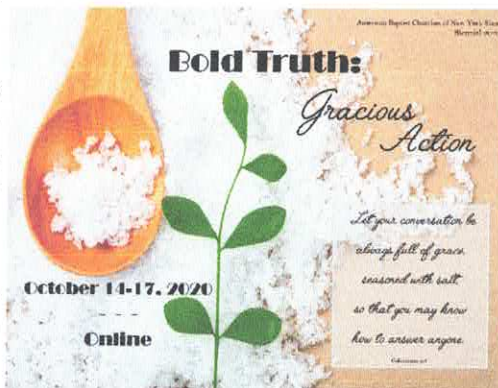
On Thursday night Dr. Mouw and Rev. Dr. Cruz will be joined by Ruth Fox, International Ministries Global Coordinator for Education; and Dr. Kathy Moore, a leader in the Creation Justice Network. They will offer live-stream workshops focusing on their area of expertise in light of our theme on Civility.

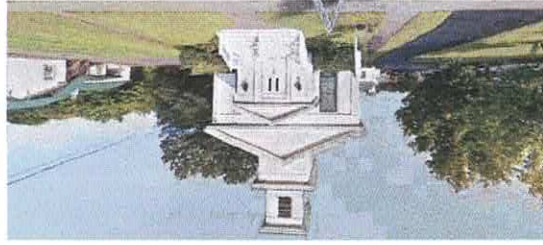
Friday evening will bring an element of fun to the event with the humor and wit of Joyce Camp, followed by Mission Table Chatrooms to help us chat with one another about: Building Usage/Repurposing, Serving Families, Sunday School, and Community Service and how these ministries have all been affected by the Covid 19 pandemic.

Saturday morning we will conclude with our Business Meeting: highlighting the state of the Region, new pastors, and election of officers to the Region, followed by closing worship and communion.

Don't miss this opportunity to participate in a ABCNYS Biennial like no other in history! "Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone." (Colossians 4:6) Amen.

Faithfully Submitted,
The Rev. Wendy Depew Partelow
Chairperson, ABC/NYS 2020 Biennial Committee





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