

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
500 LINCOLN DRIVE
BLOOMFIELD, IN 47424

Rev. Nathan Brooks, Pastor
Brenda L. Nichols, Secretary

The First Baptist Connection

NOVEMBER 2013

News and Updates for our Family in Christ

FBC sermons are now available online! Please visit our church website, fcbloom.org, and click on "Featured Media." Sermon recordings are listed there by date, title, and Scripture text

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November 2013

Birthdays

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 st Brady Miller | 17 th Liz Brooks |
| Maggie Doane | Matthew Clapp |
| 4 th Nolan Hughes | 18 th Christina Coffin |
| 6 th Tena Doane | Cole Thompson |
| 7 th Nathan Brooks | 20 th Kaya Campbell |
| 8 th Trent Lunberry | 21 st Andrew Weeks |
| 9 th Randy Flanagin | 23 rd James Malone |
| 10 th Mary Jane Parker | Mike Stoner |
| 12 th Mylee Manuel | 27 th Lyndsey Coffin |
| 13 th Marilyn Dallaire | 29 th Anne Ellis |
| 16 th Brad Ellis | 30 th Sara Ross |
| Charles Porter | |

Prayer Concerns

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| <p><u>On-Going Prayer Concerns</u> Bright Beginnings Daycare and Preschool Nancy Cummings – cancer Albert DeGott – cancer Jonathan Kirchoff – continuing chemo (Rex & Lois' grandson) Peace seeking in Iraq & Afghanistan</p> <p><u>Homebound</u> Roberta Neill</p> <p><u>Parkview Village - Odon</u> Betty Baker</p> <p><u>Missionaries</u> Tyler & Georgene Lunberry in India American Baptists around the world</p> |
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Anniversaries

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| 16 th Don & Virginia Hendrix |
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FINANCIAL REPORT

August 2013 Offering Totals:

| | |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| General Fund..... | \$22,654.86 |
| Food Pantry..... | \$620.00 |
| Deacon's Fund..... | \$321.00 |
| Wittmer Offering..... | \$455.00 |
| Decorating Committee..... | \$200.00 |

Year to Date Offering Totals (Aug. 2013)

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| Budget Requirements | \$474,127.23 |
| Actual Receipts..... | \$451,547.61 |
| Actual Expenses | \$465,012.26 |

FBC News & Activities

Trivia Bowl – November 9

The Greene County Literacy Coalition will be hosting a Trivia Bowl on Saturday, November 9. The Bowl begins at Noon at the Saron Church in Linton. The cost is \$20 per person/\$80 for a team of four. All money raised will stay in Greene County to help the Literacy Coalition. For more information call 384-4125 and ask for Beth. You may also email the coalition at literacy@bloomfield.lib.in.us.

Love Feast – November 10

It's that time again for our annual Love Feast. As Christians it is a time to celebrate the blessings Christ has given us. We invite you to come fellowship with us on November 10 @ 6:00pm in the Christian Life Center. Please circle the date on your calendar!



LOVE FEAST

The Social Committee will furnish the turkey and drinks. Sign-up sheets for the main dishes will be coming through the Sunday school classrooms. If you haven't signed up for one of the main dishes, please bring a vegetable or dessert. They are needed and appreciated.

Thank you for your participation in making this meal possible.

Betty Miller
Social Committee Chairperson

White Christmas – December 2013



White Christmas

The Food Pantry Team will be filling boxes of food providing Christmas Day pancake breakfast and ham dinner to families in need. If you know someone who would like to receive a basket of food, please have them call the church office, 384-8459 no later than December 6.

The boxes will be packed with food, and the potatoes and fruit will be bagged on Friday, December 20 starting at 9:00am. If you would like to help prepare the boxes on Friday; please contact Georgia Flinn or Sharon Terrell for additional information.

White Christmas distribution will be Saturday, December 21 from 9:30am to 1:00pm. The Boy Scouts will help with distributing the boxes on Saturday.

If you would like to help support this ministry of our church, please consider a financial donations utilizing the envelopes provided in the pews.

In addition to food donations, Christmas wrapping paper would also be appreciated. The FLAMES youth group wraps the boxes for us.



Sunday School

Starting the first Sunday in January 2014 our Sunday School Children's groups will be re-organized. The Nursery, with Cheri Campbell and Debra Hudson, will teach new born babies through two years of age. When children turn 3 they can transition to Judy Stahl's class as they are ready. Judy will teach children age 3 through Kindergarten. Ann Ellis will teach 1st through 3rd grades. Paula Bartlett and Kathy Ham will teach 4th through 6th grades.

We encourage parents to consider Sunday School attendance a priority for parents and children. Teaching your children about God is a daily task of parents. The lessons and relationships are built upon each week in the church family. Blessings from God are here. Do not miss them.

Children's Worship is BACK!

Children's Worship will begin the 2nd Sunday of January. Children's Worship will be available on the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Sunday of each month. The 1st and 5th Sundays of the month the Children will remain in the Sanctuary with their family. Betty Miller, Sarah Riggins and Sandy Clark will teach a Sunday each Month. Helpers are needed to assist with the children. Contact Sarah Riggins if you are able to commit to helping one time every other month. The worship will be structured for 4-year-olds to 4th grade children. Three year olds can transition in when they are ready. Children's Worship compliments the Sunday School program is not intended to be instead of Sunday School.

Ladies Retreat – Coming Soon...

We are excited to let all the ladies of our church family know about a special retreat we will be hosting on Saturday, January 18, 2014. This retreat will be similar in style to an Emmaus Walk. Debra, Charlotte, and I attended a "Hearts in Service" retreat last August in Brown County. The H.I.S. team decided to take the show on the road, so we have booked our church for this date.

Tentatively, the event will be from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Please save the date and invite all your friends and family. We want to pack our sanctuary. In addition, the men of our church will be showing us agape love by preparing a delicious luncheon. Can it get much better than that, ladies? There will be more information coming in the December newsletter with a registration form and more. Stay tuned.....

BRIGHT BEGINNINGS

DAYCARE NEWS

We are all so thankful for everything that God has done and provided for us. Thank you to all who made our pumpkin roll fundraiser a success again this year.

We were talking about Thanksgiving and what we are thankful for. Here are some of the things our children mentioned...

- 4 year old Erick said he loves God and you can't see him cause he is in your heart and he loves his cousin and his friend here, he likes Giraffes and he saw Ms. Erin at the parade and she gave him candy bars and he likes monkeys too. He said he loves God and windmills.
- 5 year old Samauryion said he wanted to thank God for giving him a bed that he could sleep on, for toys, stuffed animals, movies and books. He also wanted to thank God for his Mom and Dad.
- 5 year old Dylan wanted to thank God for having a good morning and that he wants to be a firefighter when he grows up and help people. He also wanted to say he loves Braxton, Samauryion and Raigan.
- 4 year old Lola said she is thankful that God prays for her and for Mom and Dad.
- 4 year old Raigan wants to thank God for Mommy's and Daddy's cause they like to do everything for us so they take care of us. She also wants to thank God for giving us everything he needs us to do.
- 3 year old Leighton wants to thank God for toys. When I asked anything else he said "just those".
- 3 year old Emmi said "Mommy, I am thankful for Mommy first I'm thankful for Daddy too. Mommy and Daddy took me to the Zoo. I went to Mamaw's and Papaw's house. I think that's all."
- 4 year old Tera is thankful for God being nice.
- 5 year old Sophia is thankful for her baby sister her parents and people.
- 2 year old Braylon is thankful for "God is in the Zoo, God is walking at the boat, God is going home. He is thankful for Jesus. He said God was falling out of the boat in the storm. (His class had just had their Bible story ☺).
- 4 year old Isabella said she is thankful for Diego cause Diego helps everybody. She is also thankful for costumes and for us and that's all.
- 2 year old Adalyn is thankful for (whatever she saw in my office) a Giraffe, a baby giraffe, anybody, plants, flowers, roses, butterflies, bumblebee, letters, elephant, leaf, monkey and trash. ☺
- 3 year old Johni Lynn said she is thankful for her baby doll, animals, a pink bunny and a white bunny too, Mommy and Daddy and "I don't like caterpillars" she is thankful for pumpkins, Daddy has an orange pumpkin, and she likes flowers.
- 4 year old Cohen said he is thankful for God making him a card and he is going to give God a new card with him and God on it.
- 2 year old Lily said she is thankful for Mom, Dad and brother, her cousin and her potty. ☺
- 5 year old Braxton said he is thankful for Grandma and Grandpa and Daddy and Mommy and the twins.
- 5 year old McKenzie said she is thankful for Uncle Seth, the doll from John and Gabe for her birthday and then she said "I don't know what else to say." ☺
- 3 year old Madison said she is thankful for games at her house on the bottom shelf where Mommy keeps her books. She is also thankful for Mommy, Daddy, Stormy, Dylan, Peyton and Clinton.
- 4 year old Mason said he is thankful for giving people hugs, for having people to play with because he loves them, he is thankful for his Dog and then he said "I don't know anything else." ☺

DAYCARE NEWS - continued

- 3 year old Sophie wants to thank God for her costume, for penguins, for stuff and for a bear.
- 3 year old Gwenavere said "I would like to thank God that I love him".
- 5 year old Keirington said "I love God" She is thankful for Mommy, Daddy, Mamaw, Papaw, Easton, Isaac, Emma, Audrey, Naomi, Carson, Sydney and Kenzie.
- 5 year old Wyatt said he wants to thank God for presents and for presents for brothers and sisters.
- 8 year old Mikey said he is thankful for Family, Friends, dogs, cats, all the art stuff, his house all the meat that God provides, and the people who build 4-wheelers and huge awesome trucks, legos, toys, the world and America. He is also thankful for Uncle Herman's cows.
- 8 year old Abby is thankful for her horse, her bird, and her 2 favorite crabs, her Mom and Dad, her Sister, her teacher, and friends. She is also thankful for her Daycare cause everyone is nice here, she is thankful for her 2 cadet teachers Kyle and Ashton, she is thankful for bees, butterflies, and everything that the Lord has given us.
- 7 year old Jaden said he is thankful for Candy, pumpkins, his neighbors, cats, dogs, cars that goJ, and his family.
- 10 year old William is thankful for Turkey, potatoes, deer and for all meat.
- 7 year old Jordan said he is thankful for trees, leaves, all the stuff he likes, pumpkins, decorations, people and for everything Thanksgiving is, he is thankful for Mom, God, Jesus and Gran Gran cause she is the cook, for everybody, for having God and holidays, Amen.
- 4 year old Benjamin is thankful for a baby turtle, his Grandma, his big brother, a baby Giraffe, a bag, and a picture of a big Giraffe.
- 4 year old Matthew said he is thankful because he is always doing things right by helping God and doing stuff that is right for him. He is thankful for his Mom Dad and Sissy.

Please continue to pray for us as we teach and learn from our Children.

Tammy Kirkman
Daycare Director

PRESCHOOL NEWS

Preschool is getting off to a great start! Both classes have covered the letters A-F. We have been discussing colors and shapes and are doing a lot of counting. The children are working on recognizing and practicing their names. We have been sharing many stories which coincide with the letter of the week. During the month of October, the Bloomfield Fire Department visited us and shared information about how we can stay safe. Plus, we got to see the fire trucks which were a big hit! On October 31 and November 1, the classes celebrated with a fall harvest party. We did many crafts and games and enjoyed having the parents help. We are looking forward to our Thanksgiving Feast in the CLC building at 11:30a.m. on November 26.

Blessings,
Mrs. Farmer and Miss Katie



Youth Happenings!

FRUITFUL LIVES ADORING THE MERCIFUL EVERLASTING SAVIOR

"HIS WORD IS IN MY HEART LIKE A FIRE." JEREMIAH 20:9

American Baptist Youth Fall Retreat - November 8-10th

The ABY Fall Retreat will be held November 8-10 at Camp Camby in Camby, IN. The theme is "I Am: Finding ourselves in who God is" with the focus on Isaiah 43. Building Nations will be the worship band. We will participate in identity groups, and support NightLight Ministries.

We will meet at the church at 5pm on Friday, November 8. We will return around 1pm on Sunday afternoon. Students need money for two fast food meals on Friday night and Sunday afternoon. All other meals will be taken care of. There will be snacks available to purchase, and jewelry for sale for the MoonLight Ministries if students want to bring spending money.

We have to take bedding and towels, and warm clothes to be outdoors for activities during the day, and campfire at night.

No Youth Group on Wed. Nov. 27th

El Salvador Mission Trip

We are very excited about this mission trip! We have 6 youth and 6 adults signed up to go May 25-31st. We will be staying at the Youth With a Mission compound and helping at the Casa de Mi Padre orphanage in San Salvador. Please pray for the planning process, for travel safety, for communication skills, and for our witness to others about Christ's love for them.

FLAMES Christmas Dinner, Mission Trip Fundraiser

The youth will host a Christmas dinner after church on Sunday, December 1st as a fundraiser. We'll feature a variety of soups and homemade breads and we hope you'll plan now to support our endeavors. We'll have a winter wonderland set up in the CLC to kick off the Advent season.

A Note from Pastor Nathan

The other day I was on the phone with a loved one who asked me if I had ever had a certain experience. When I said that I had not, she told me how sorry she was for me that I had not yet had that experience and told me that she really hoped I would have it someday.

For the purposes of this article, the nature of that specific experience is unimportant. I assure you it is rather trivial. All that matters is this: it was something I had wanted, something the Lord had shown me was really not very important, and something that I pretty much had come to terms with; I was now fairly content without it.

But then this loved one told me how much she wished I could have had – or would in the future have – this experience. She was very sincere and I appreciate that sincerity. But I began *wanting* it again! And I began *feeling sorry for myself* for not having had it! Woe unto me, for I have not _____!

I wonder if you can relate to this. Insert anything in that blank above that you have longed for but have not yet received. Isn't it easy to begin entertaining greed and self-pity? "I really, really, really want _____!" "Poor me, for I have not received _____!"

Shortly after this phone call the Lord began bringing to my mind other experiences – some similar, others quite different – that I have been privileged to enjoy. The Lord has blessed me with so many good and wonderful gifts in my life. And I began to feel very thankful.

This led to repentance from the previous attitudes. Who am I to complain against the Lord for not giving me _____? (And for that matter, not giving it to me *yet*; he may yet give it! My greed is so often presumptuous.) Even if I never receive _____ I am truly grateful for the thousands of other gifts the Lord has given me.

It is November, which brings with it Thanksgiving. The day will come on the calendar regardless of whether the attitude is cultivated in our hearts. But the practice of thanksgiving is actually *necessary* and *redemptive*. Gratitude rescues us from the depths of greed and other sinful dispositions.

But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or **of greed**, because these are improper for God's holy people. Nor should there be obscenity, foolish talk or coarse joking, which are out of place, **but rather thanksgiving** (Ephesians 5:3-4, *NIV 1984*, emphasis mine).

To practice thanksgiving is to run in the opposite direction of greed and other vices. Thanksgiving saves me from self-absorption. Extending to God gratitude for my daily bread (11,308 days of it, as of this writing), and for his abundant blessings beyond daily bread, puts God back on the throne and me humbly back at his feet.

My encouragement to you is this: be intentional about giving God thanks for all that He has given you. Don't just do it once, on one day; make it a regular, continual practice (Eph. 5:20). Ask the Lord to help you make thanksgiving a constant element of your life. We pray for patience, humility, wisdom, courage; why not also pray for gratitude?

Happy thanksgiving! And enjoy the holiday, too.
Grace and peace,
Nathan