

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
500 LINCOLN DRIVE
BLOOMFIELD, IN 47424

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

The First Baptist Connection

FEBRUARY 2014

News and Updates for our Family in Christ

*FBC sermons are available online! Visit our website @ fbcbloom.org, and click on "Featured Media."
Sermon recordings are listed there by date, title, and Scripture text*

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February 2014

Birthdays

6th Mark Clapp
9th Casey Porter
11th Kay Pierce
12th Nancy Sullivan
15th Tasha Campbell
17th Rosie Allgood
20th Mike Canty
Nancy Cummings
Angie Speer
21st Mark Flinn
Sharon Terrell
22nd Danielle Richardson
23rd Sherry Weeks
25th Gary Sullivan
27th Paula Bartlett
Betty Miller

Anniversaries

14th Earl & Joann White
Ron & Jeanette Riggs
16th Steve & Kathy Ham
17th Shawn & Brad Hughes

Prayer Concerns

On-Going Prayer Concerns

Bright Beginnings Daycare and Preschool
Cheri Campbell – Guillain Barre Syndrome
Nancy Cummings – cancer
Albert DeGott – cancer
Janice Holt – cancer
Peace seeking in Iraq & Afghanistan

Homebound

Roberta Neill

Parkview Village - Odon

Betty Baker

Missionaries

Tyler & Georgene Lunberry in India
American Baptists around the world

FINANCIAL REPORT

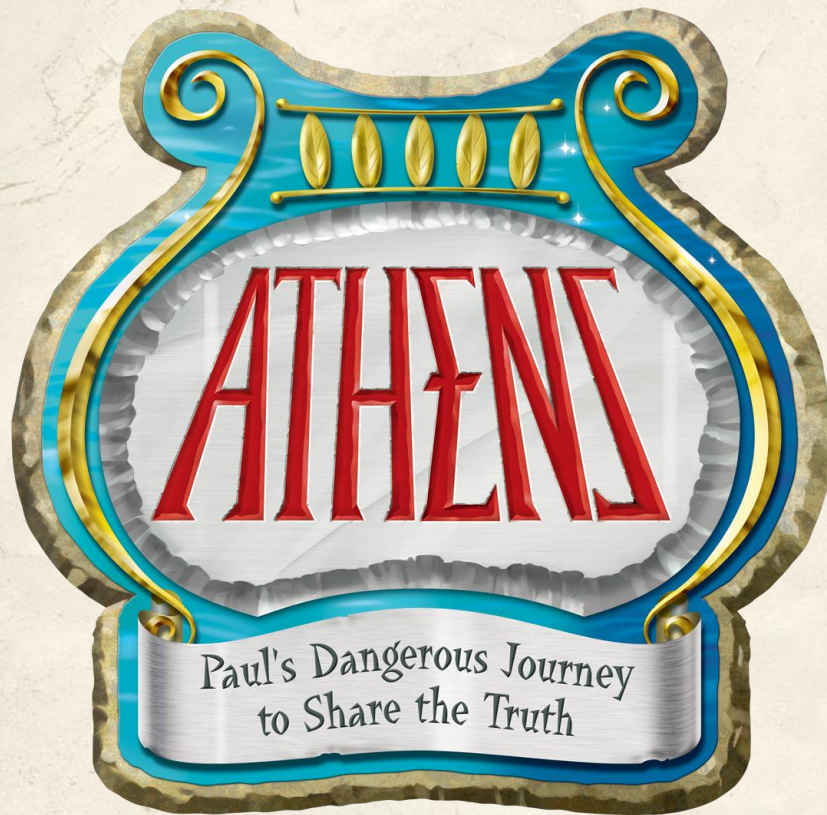
December 2013 Offering Totals:

General Fund.....	\$24,902.01
Food Pantry	\$933.90
One Great Hour of Sharing	\$725.00
World Mission Offering.....	\$436.00
Operation Christmas Child	\$39.00
Campus Outreach	\$213.00
Deacon's Fund.....	\$50.00
Mission Trip to El Salvador.....	\$605.00
White Christmas.....	\$594.00

Year to Date Giving (December 2013)

Budget Requirement.....	\$633,596.50
Actual Income	\$622,439.67
Actual Expense.....	\$394,202.74

Bloomfield First Baptist First Friday!



Friday, February 7, 2014

6:30 – 8:35 pm

Registration at 6:15

Supper at 6:30

Parents: Please join us! We have a class just for you!

FBC News & Activities

Tip Off For Kirchoff! – Thursday, February 6



As most of you know, Johnathan Kirchoff has endured several surgeries, procedures, and radiation and cancer treatments since his diagnosis of brain cancer. Although currently in remission, he will more than likely be on a chemo pill for the rest of his life. In an effort to help with the rising medical bills, Terre Haute North High School will host a benefit basketball game for Jonathan at 7:00 in the Terre Haute North Gym. All proceeds raised will go directly to helping Jonathan with his expenses. You may also help by visiting our Facebook page: [Facebook.com/TipOfffor Kirchoff](https://Facebook.com/TipOffforKirchoff) or our online auction: 32auctions.com/jonathankirchoffbenefit.

First Friday Parent Night – February 7

All First Friday parents are invited to join us for First Friday on February 7 for “Parent Night.” Parents are invited to come and eat the opening meal with their children. Then, when the kids are dismissed to the rest of their activities, parents will remain in the fellowship hall with Pastor Nathan to talk about “making disciples” at home. Things like First Friday and Sunday school and church are important, but the number one place children learn how to follow Jesus is at home. During this informal time together we will...Dig into the Bible together; identify challenges and opportunities; share ideas and resources; and pray for our families



Golf (fore) the Library! – February 8

The Bloomfield Public Library is hosting 19 holes of Putt-Putt inside the Library on Saturday, February 8th, from 10am-6pm. It's \$5 a person to play, or \$15 for 4 people. There will also be a silent auction, a golf costume contest, and a golf cart decorating contest.

Valentine's Dance – February 14

A Valentine's Dance will be held in the CLC on Friday, February 14th from 7-9 pm. Come try some ballroom dancing as a fundraiser! Dance instructor Ann Conner will be on hand to give lessons in Waltz, Foxtrot, and Swing. Donations of \$10 a couple will go to the Mission Trip to El Salvador.



Children's Library



The Sunday School children have decided they would like to start a children's library in the 4th 5th and 6th grade class room. There are two temporary shelves ready for books. Does your family have any Christian Children's books, movies, or CD's that you would like to donate? The Children are discussing the rules for lending the books. If you have books or book shelves you would like to share. Talk with Paula Bartlett (384-4274) or Sandy Clark (ssclark75@sbcglobal.net / 384-3257)

Sign Team

Would you be interested in helping change the church sign? The Sign Team uses a monthly rotation to change the sign. If you're interested, you would join the monthly rotation and be expected to come by the church once a week to change the sign to keep it up to date. It takes about a half hour each time. If interested, please talk to Tasha Hudson or Sarah Riggins.

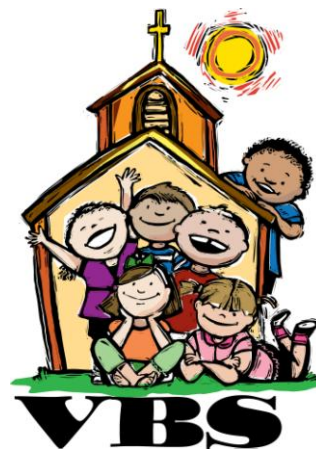
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL – DIRECTOR NEEDED

Could God be calling you to be the VBS director this year? Please pray about it! Vacation Bible School is an important ministry where the church body comes together to present the Gospel and God's love to the children of our community. There are 4 main decisions the VBS director has to make:

1. Which curriculum to use.
2. What the dates and times will be.
3. How to divide the budget.
4. Ask key players to take charge of a specific area.

These decisions do not have to be made independently. Ask for input! Ask someone else to read over curriculum with you. Ask your friends when their kids are going to camp, or check out ball schedules to determine when a good date would be. Here are some of the areas to delegate to other leaders: • Food • Music • Bible Story • Games • Crafts • Advertising • Registration • Decorations

VBS could look different this year. Maybe instead of a 5 day VBS, you would choose to do a one day –all day Saturday Bible School. Maybe VBS would be one hour every Friday at the Feed the Children Summer Program. Maybe you have another idea! VBS is a one-time ministry. You do the planning up front. Everyone comes together to make it happen. When it's over, you walk away. No more commitment. If you feel God leading you to one of the areas listed above, please tell the deacons where you are willing to volunteer. We are asking you to prayerfully consider how God is seeking to use you for VBS this year. Please tell a deacon by Feb. 25th if you hear God calling you to VBS.



Yard Sale Donations – May 3



As you prepare to do some Spring Cleaning, please consider donating items to a yard sale to benefit the Mission Trip to El Salvador. The yard sale will be held Saturday, May 3rd during the town-wide sale at Jean Resler's property on Spring Street, just south of Dairy Queen. Items can be donated the night before, and unsold items will be taken to the Family Life Center.

El Salvador Mission Trip – May 25-31

A Mission Trip to El Salvador is scheduled for May 25-31, 2014. 16 people will be traveling to volunteer in an orphanage in San Salvador. The Mission Team: Bryan Able, Daniel Able, Rosie Allgood, Cheri Campbell, Sandy Clark, Braden Hudson, Debra Hudson, Monica Hudson, Tasha Hudson, JR Ross, Mary Puntney, Andrew Templeton, Taylor Templeton, Andrew Weeks, Delene Weeks, Bob Weeks.

El Salvador is near to our youth's heart because of their friend Vanesa, who passed away this past April. We are partnering with La Casa de mi Padre (The House of my Father) and staying on the Youth With a Mission compound. This trip will cost about \$1,111 per person. Please pray for the planning process, for travel safety, for communication skills, and for our witness to others about Christ's love for them.

Women's Community Bible Study Returns in June!

Save the Date, Ladies: Women's Community Bible Study is coming back to First Baptist this summer on Tuesday nights, June - July, from 6:30-8:30p. Mark your calendars and stay tuned for further details!





Youth Happenings!

FRUITFUL LIVES ADORING THE MERCIFUL EVERLASTING SAVIOR

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

Ski Trip! – February 26

The youth group is going skiing on Wednesday, February 26. We will leave right after school and be home around 10pm. The cost is \$15 per person, and you will need money for dinner as well. The \$15 needs to be turned in by February 19th to reserve your spot. If you are interested in joining the youth on the ski trip, please talk to Tasha!



Aluminum Cans



We also want to ask for all your aluminum cans! We receive money for aluminum cans from the Greene County Recycling Center. You can deposit them in our bin marked "Baptist Youth" outside the Recycling Center office door. Or you can bring them to the church, or call us for a pick up! The money from these cans will go to the Mission Trip.

BRIGHT BEGINNINGS

PRESCHOOL NEWS

Preschool has been continuing on thru the alphabet, so far we are to the letter O and have been working on our numbers and counting. This last month has been a bit of a hit and miss due to the weather but we have worked around this by moving some plans. The weather has helped us with great discussions of the winter season which we have been sharing lots of stories to go along with the season. We are preparing for the upcoming season and it cannot get here soon enough. We are looking forward to the spring season and getting to go back outside to the playground. Along with the spring coming close, we are preparing with working on assessments with the children.

Blessings,
Mrs. Farmer and Ms. Katie

DAYCARE NEWS

We will be talking with the children about love and what it means to love each other, about God's love for us and what it means to show love and how we know we are loved. I asked some of the children what they think and here are their responses;

- ❖ 3 year old Braylon said love means "Jesus."
- ❖ 3 year old Emmi said "love means I love you."
- ❖ 3 year old Adalyn said love is "kiss." She said God's love is "boys stuff even Tigers."
- ❖ 3 year old Johni Lynn said love means "love you, Daddy, friends, Mommy, Casey, Chelsea and nobody else." She said God's love means "he loves us."
- ❖ 3 year old Madison said love means "love your people and that's it." She said when asked about God's love "I love God and Jesus."
- ❖ 4 year old Cohen said that love means "my Mommy and Daddy, my brother and sister, my cat and dog, my Grandma and Papa, Thanksgiving chicken, some days I eat dry corn and I love my Grandma and Papa, I have 2 Papa's." He said about God's love: "I do love him and Jesus, I love Mary and I think that's it."
- ❖ 4 year old Ben said Love means "you have valentines day, it means you can go play with him, you can go play outside whenever you want to, you can bring a toy but no guns cause there's no shooting." He said God's love is "you can do stuff whenever you want to".
- ❖ 4 year old Ryan said love means "Mommy, her love me, I love Daddy, I just love everybody." He said God's love means "he loves Moms and Dads and everybody."
- ❖ 3 year old Leighton said love means "my Mommy, Daddy, my brothers that's all." He said God's love means "God loves me."
- ❖ 4 year old Isabella said love means "that I love you, that you love to give hugs, great kisses from Nana, you give kisses to your family, be's nice, kisses to my brother makes him happy." She said God's love means "God loves me to be nice, God loves birthday cakes and presents and he also loves." She then broke out in song and sang Jesus loves me.
- ❖ 5 year old McKenzie said love is "Thinking about Jesus and giving Valentine cards. She said God's love is "He knows everyone in the whole world. He made everyone and he loves everyone even though some people don't know him he still knows them."
- ❖ 4 year old Mason said Love means "We care about someone. We play with someone. We share our toys. We play with each other and we make presents for them. We let people borrow our toys." He said God's love is "he cares about us. We love God. That's it."
- ❖ 5 year old Matthew said Love is, "when you're happy looking at people, that makes people feel good. Jesus' love is he loves us every morning and every night. When we get mad at each other God still loves us. When I laughed at somebody she laughed a little bit and loved me a little bit but when I said sorry she loved me a lot."
- ❖ 5 year old Braxton said Love is "you love somebody, like hugs, special things, and a lot of things." God's love means "he loves us all."
- ❖ 4 year old Raigan said love is "you love your parents, you love God and we love our family, we love our dogs and everybody even our family." She said God's love is "he does everything for us."
- ❖ 5 year old Kierington said love is "I love my Mommy and Daddy. I hug them. I love Mamaw and Papaw and Emma and Isaac and Keaton and Easton." She said she loves God.





- ❖ 4 year old Erick said love is "You love somebody, My Mommy." He said he loves God.
- ❖ 4 year old Lola said love is "you love your parents, love your aunts, love your mamaw and papaw, you could love flowers." She said loving God means "you love him all the time."
- ❖ 5 year old Sophia said love means "That you love somebody and you never stop loving them." She said "God never stops loving us".
- ❖ 5 year old Samauryion said love means "Loving your Mommy. He said God's love means "loving People. '
- ❖ 4 year old Tera said love is "You love someone. If you love something you want to keep it. She said everybody loves God.
- ❖ 5 year old Dylan said love means "You love someone, you have to be kind." He said "God loves all of us." He knows this "cause Braxton told me that".
- ❖ 5 year old Jennifer said Love is "you love someone"
- ❖ 6 year old Zachary said love means "I love my Mommy and my Daddy. I love my cousins, I love how we can get along and love this Daycare cause it's so fun, and I love my little brother and I love all the kids I play with." God's love means "I love how God helps us. He helps us do a lot of cool stuff. He did a lot for us like building buildings and made us have a good day."
- ❖ 7 year old Jaden said love is "I like my marbles and all my toys. I like to spend the night at my cousins".
- ❖ 7 year old Jordan said love is "Hearts, Brothers, Mom. Sharing and helping." He said God's love is "He likes everybody".
- ❖ 10 year old William said love is "Love means like when you love somebody or you like somebody" God's love means like God made us, he loves us."
- ❖ 8 year old Emma said "Love is you should love God cause he gave us this Earth. He gave us parents so we could be safe" God's love is "he watches over us."
- ❖ 9 year old Justin said love is "something you like about someone. I really don't know much about that" He said God's love is "that it can never end."
- ❖ 6 year old Toby said love is "You like your Mom and Dad." He said God loves everybody.
- ❖ 10 year old Paige said love is "Where you think of people you like, that's family sometimes." God's love is "that he likes everybody and everything."
- ❖ 8 year old Abby said love is "caring, for other people and treating others nice." She said God's love never ends.
- ❖ 8 year old Mikey said love is "even when I'm a brat sometimes my Mom still loves me." God's love is "he loves everybody."
- ❖ 7 year old Wyatt said love is "Family, my sisters." God's love is "he loves us, he loves everybody."

We will exchange Valentines on Friday Feb 14th and have a special snack. We will be making Valentines for Jesus.


Please remember us in your prayers.
Bright Beginnings Daycare staff and children

Thanksgiving Challenge 2014

The 2013 Scripture Memory is wrapping up and the 2014 Thanksgiving Challenge is beginning. This year, I (Liz) am challenging First Baptist Church to take on the discipline of giving thanks every day during 2014. The guide we will be using is called "The Joy Dare," a free resource from Ann Voskamp's blog (<http://www.aholyexperience.com/>). You can download your copy from Ann's blog, pick up the entire guide for the year from the library counter during December/January, or refer to the newsletter for that month's categories. Every day, the guide will give you three things within a certain category for which to give thanks. For example, "3 gifts red" or "3 gifts in Christ" or "3 hard eucharisteos" (things hard to give thanks for). You will do this exercise individually, though Nathan will use it from time to time in our Sunday morning prayer time. I encourage you to make it part of your daily prayer time, perhaps even getting a gratitude journal to write down your thanksgivings. If you do this faithfully, at the end of the year, you will have listed over 1000 gifts you are thankful for! And don't stop there. Add more than just the three a day – seek to give thanks for everything, as Ephesians 5:20 tells us. The Lord has used this to change my outlook on life, and I am praying that the Lord will do the same for FBC. Jesus, replace our entitled, complaining, discontent hearts with gratitude for the grace you give us daily. To Your great glory!

COUNT 1000 GIFTS IN 2012
SNAP A PHOTO OR RECORD 3 GIFTS/DAY
ON ONTHOUSANDGIFTS.COM/GET-THE-APP/

FEBRUARY



COUNT 1000 GIFTS

SHARE THE GIFTS #1000GIFTS
FACEBOOK.COM/ONTHOUSANDGIFTS
COUNT 1000 GIFTS IN 2012
AND ENTER TO WIN \$1000 D90
@ANNVOSKAMP.COM

GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD
FOR HE IS GOOD: HIS LOVING
KINDNESS ENDURES FOREVER.
1 CHRONICLES 16:34

<p>3 GIFTS RED</p> <p>3 GIFTS ON PAPER</p> <p>3 GIFTS FOUND IN WRITING</p> <p>3 GIFTS FOUND WHEN BENT DOWN</p> <p>A GIFT STITCHED, HAMMERED, WOVEN</p> <p>3 GIFTS FOUND OUTSIDE</p> <p>A GIFT AT 11:30 AM, 2:30 PM, 6:30 PM</p> <p>A GIFT BROKEN, FIXED, THRIFTED</p> <p>3 SURPRISE GIFTS –UNEXPECTED GRACE!</p> <p>3 TIMES YOU HEARD LAUGHTER TODAY</p> <p>3 GIFTS IN WORKING</p> <p>3 HARD EUCHARISTEOS</p> <p>3 GIFTS BEHIND A DOOR</p> <p>3 WAYS YOU FEEL THE LOVE OF GOD</p> <p>A GIFT IN LOSING, FINDING, MAKING SOMETHING</p>	<p>1. 16. 3 GIFTS IN SHADOWS</p> <p>2. 17. 3 GIFTS FOUND GIVING/SERVING</p> <p>3. 18. 3 GIFTS ON PAPER</p> <p>4. 19. 3 GIFTS THAT WERE 'PLAN B'S</p> <p>5. 20. A GIFT AT BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER</p> <p>6. 21. 3 GIFTS WHITE</p> <p>7. 22. 3 GIFTS THAT CHANGED TODAY</p> <p>8. 23. A GIFT OF TIN, GLASS, WOOD</p> <p>9. 24. 3 GIFTS BEFORE 11 AM</p> <p>10. 25. A GIFT WORN OUT, NEW, MADE-DO</p> <p>11. 26. 3 GIFTS SEEN AS REFLECTIONS</p> <p>12. 27. 3 UGLY-BEAUTIFUL GIFTS</p> <p>13. 28. 3 GIFTS FROM THE PAST – THAT</p> <p>14. HELP YOU TRUST THE FUTURE</p> <p>15. 29. A GIFT DULL, SHIMMERING, CLEANED</p>
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A Note from Pastor Nathan

Hope in a Who

Sometimes life seems to fill up with suffering. Hardships are always happening around the world, but there are seasons where the particular pain around us seems to be too much.

In our pain it is natural to ask, “Why?” Technically, we have lots of answers. We can explain why something is happening in terms of medicine, history, or physics. The Bible generally explains why suffering exists in the world and in the lives of Christians. On paper, we have answers.

But when the pain is *our* pain, or *my* pain, and when that pain is *now, present, ongoing*, very few of those answers are of much help to us. The “why” answers can never quite meet our pain or heal it.

Think about the story of Lazarus, from John 11. Here is a man Jesus loves. Jesus loves his family, too. But when our Lord hears Lazarus is sick, He waits for two days. By the time Jesus arrives, Lazarus is dead. The family is devastated. In the minds of the onlookers (and the readers), the “why” questions are raging.

As the story unfolds, Jesus Himself provides two answers that I suspect were rather unsatisfying to His listeners at the time. The first: this has happened for God’s glory (11:4). The second: this has happened for your benefit, so that you might believe (11:15, 42). These are nice answers, Jesus, but our beloved Lazarus is dead. *Why?*

If Martha’s comments are any indication, these are people who believe in a resurrection of the righteous at the last day (11:24). They’ve read the prophets. They have future hope. But they are still bothered about “why.”

Why didn’t you come sooner? *Why* couldn’t you prevent this? Those are the questions implied (11:6, 37). Maybe Jesus isn’t *able* to heal Lazarus. Maybe Jesus doesn’t really *care*.

Both objections are answered definitively. When Jesus sees Lazarus’ dead body, he *weeps*. The Lord who *waited* when He could have intervened now *weeps* at the very tragedy He apparently could have prevented.

Stop right there: whatever suffering we are going through, Jesus is waiting with us, weeping with us! This is not a harsh master but a tenderhearted Lord who takes no delight in the pain of His people. Though it might *seem* that Jesus doesn’t care, He weeps! Because He loves!

After praying, Jesus calls to the dead man, and Lazarus comes out alive! So the second objection is also answered. Jesus *does* in fact have resurrection power with which to shatter our greatest enemy at any time.

In the midst of this story of suffering and pain, with swirling questions about “why,” God presents us with a Who: Jesus Christ. He is the ultimate deliverer who will save His people from all of our trials, even death (11:25-26). In the meantime He looks upon our suffering with great compassion, and weeps with us.

The LORD is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit. A righteous man may have many troubles, but the Lord delivers him from them all” (Psalm 34:18-19, NIV, ‘84).

While we wait for the promised end to all suffering, we find a Who that gives peace when the “whys” cannot. His name is Jesus. When we are filled with pain and sorrow, we find comfort in this One who weeps with us and who will deliver us. Thanks be to God!

Grace and peace,
Nathan

First Baptist Church
500 Lincoln Drive
Bloomfield, IN 47424

February
2014

Pastor's Cell: 381-4189
Church Office: 384-8459
FAX No: 384-8982
Bright Beginnings Daycare & Preschool: 384-0400

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5 9:00 BBB	6 6:30 Church Council	7 6:30 First Friday	8
9 8:30 Fellowship Breakfast	10 6:30 Trustees	11	12	13 6:30 Congregational Meeting	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27 6:30 Deacons	28	

Deacon of the Month	Trustee of the Month	Usher of the Month	Greeters
Georgia Flinn	Greg Flinn	Debra Hudson	Sue Eccles & Shelia McBride

Reoccurring Weekly Activities @ FBC

Sundays: 6:00 p.m. Campfire - Sanctuary & FH

Mondays: 10:30 a.m. Enhanced Fitness - FH
4:30 p.m. Enhanced Fitness – Kumetus
6:15 p.m. Zumba – CLC
6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts – FH

Tuesdays: 6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts - FH
6:30 p.m. Choir Practice
7:00 p.m. Cottage Prayer Group

Wednesdays: 10:30 a.m. Enhanced Fitness – FH
6:15 p.m. FLAMES - CLC

Thursdays: 6:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast - Dairy Queen
10:30 a.m. Enhanced Fitness - FH
6:15 p.m. Zumba – CLC
6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts - FH
6:30 p.m. Gideons (3rd Thurs. each month) – FH

Sound System

2nd Paul Schmidt
9th Braden Hudson
16th Tyler Nickless
23rd Eric Moody