

The First Baptist Connection

August 2016

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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Nursery Care

7 th	Nancy Beall & Marlen Flynn
14 th	Laverne & Miriam Rollison
21 st	Chris & Erin Wilson
28 th	John & Mary Bailey

Sound System

7 th	Paul Schmidt
14 th	Braden Hudson
21 st	Mark Kirkman
28 th	Eric Moody

Prayers

7 th	Brenda Flanagan
14 th	Casey Rice
21 st	Tasha Hudson
28 th	Braden Hudson

Children's Worship

(2nd, 3rd & 4th Sundays only)

14 th	Betty Miller
21 st	Janet Schmidt
28 th	Sandy Clark

August 2016

Birthdays

4th Mary Puntney
7th Bert Terrell
8th Ashley Neill
10th Barb Frye
14th Kylee Moody
16th Megan Keown
17th Teresa Clapp
18th Aaron Campbell
21st Peggi Blakley
25th Braden Hudson
Nancy Larr
28th Mike Toon
29th Nancy Kinder
Bobbie Weeks

Prayer Concerns

On-Going Prayer Concerns

Bright Beginnings Daycare and Preschool
Jerry & Jean Boyer
David & Lydia Hunter
Tyler & Georgene Lunberry
Mary Jane Parker
Kay & Don Pierce
Peace seeking in Iraq & Afghanistan
American Baptist missionaries

Bloomington Nursing & Rehab

(120 E Miller Road, Bloomington)
Steve Buccola

Glenburn Nursing Home

Charlie Farmer

Owen Valley Health Campus

(W State Road 46, Spencer)
Charlotte Humerickhouse

Lyons Rehab Center

Nancy Canty

Anniversaries

4th Ron & Shelia McBride
Chris & Erin Wilson
8th Mike & Nancy Canty
14th Derek & Mandy Rollison
27th John & Mary Bailey

FBC News & Activities

Upcoming Congregational Meeting – August 11 @ 6:30

We have another Church Congregation meeting rapidly approaching that needs your participation. Major items we will be reviewing and voting on are the updates to our Church Constitution and Handbook. The changes are intended to reflect the changes in our organizational structure over the past five years so that our documents reflect how we conduct ourselves as an organization and our practices reflect what we have documented, along with deleting much of the duplication in the two documents. As a result both documents are noticeably shorter than before. Brenda Nichols will have a copy of the two revised documents for you to review the second week in August before the Congregational meeting that Thursday. It will be great if we can come together that Thursday night with more than a minimum quorum, having already read the proposed documents, so that we can discuss and vote to approve them.

Southern Indiana Men's Conference – August 20, 2016

FBC will host the 5th annual Southern Indiana Men's Conference on Saturday, August 20. The free event runs from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. and includes lunch. The conference will provide sessions of worship and preaching. Speakers include:

- Steve Connor, IU Football Team Chaplain and former NFL player
- Joshua Sullivan, Co-Director of Be Real Ministries
- Mark Thompson, Pastor of First Baptist Church, Brazil, Ind.
- Nathan Brooks, Pastor, FBC Bloomfield

All men are welcome and encouraged to bring a friend to this free event. If you have questions, please see Pastor Nathan.

BRIGHT BEGINNINGS

We have had a fun filled summer but, the Children are ready to go back to school and see their friends. Our school age children have been learning the ten commandments, Psalm 23 and how to use a Bible.

One of our 9 year olds told his caregiver that he went to STEM Camp this summer and they had some gloves that were "really awesome" and he really wanted a pair. Another child at the camp told him to just take the gloves..."they have plenty and no one will know." Our student said he remembered the Bible lessons and told the other child that would be stealing and one of the Ten Commandments says you should not steal. We are so excited to be a part of teaching that child as well as the rest of our children here.

We will continue to have devotions and prayer time before the children get on the school bus each morning. Please remember to pray that our children will be safe and that they can take what they learn here at daycare into their classrooms and teach others about Gods love.

I am so grateful for the opportunity to be a part of a job where I can be free to talk, teach and show Gods love to these Children. Happy 14th Birthday to Bright Beginnings Daycare.

Blessings,
Tamra D. Kirkman

A Note from Pastor Nathan

Jesus gives us two relationships to cultivate: love of God and love of neighbor. Here are some suggestions for cultivating your relationship with God. These aren't tricks to get God to speak to us; rather they are means of opening ourselves up to the God who is already working in our lives.

Find a time when you can meet with God, daily. My experience is that first thing in the morning is best. You may not have great quantities of time but you can give God quality time. This might start as a discipline – something you make yourself do – but eventually it will become something you want to do.

This involves pruning. If you ask, God will point out things in your life that are taking more time than necessary. “Lord, show me what I can eliminate, reduce, or do more efficiently so that I can spend better time with You.” He will answer that prayer.

What do you do with this time? Have your Bible with you. I also recommend keeping a journal. Writing out your prayers requires more intentionality than speaking, and can help keep your mind from wandering. Your journal is a great place to write down new verses or other impressions the Spirit makes on your heart.

You might consider using a “devotional” book as a starter for your quiet time. Many authors have written daily guides with scripture readings and reflections. There is a great spectrum of quality and depth here, and not every author will connect with you. Pray that the Lord will lead you to a good fit, and ask friends for ideas. I have personally appreciated the works of E. Stanley Jones, who has written several daily devotional guides. Also beneficial to me was *Strength for Service to God and Country*, issued to service members during WWII.

Have a scripture reading plan (a daily devotional book might provide this). You might read through a book of the Bible. You might read the whole Bible in a year. I recommend just enough structure to give you a starting point, but just enough flexibility to follow the promptings of the Spirit. One pastor said, “We don't read the Bible to finish; we read the Bible to change.” Another said we read to be *formed*, not just *informed*. Let the Spirit interrupt your reading to make you focus on a particular verse or phrase. Let Him stop your reading plan and move you to a different part of scripture or a different devotional guide. Let Jesus be Lord of your reading.

Memorize scripture. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly. Store up God's word in your heart. You can probably memorize better than you think. Start by memorizing one or two new verses a month. Work your way up to longer passages, chapters, or maybe even entire Bible books. When you exercise your memory muscles they will grow stronger. Eventually you may get enough material memorized that your memory work itself can provide daily starting points for your quiet time for a season. Let the Spirit set your pace. Find a regular opportunity to review your memory work. A memory partner would be wonderful to have as well.

Develop some organized plan for prayer. You might start with the bulletin prayer list. Or draw a diagram of your neighborhood and pray for each household. Write a short list of names to pray for – maybe include those who sit next to you at church, or people in your life who are hard to love. You might try having a prayer focus for each day – your immediate family, friends in ministry, the persecuted church, our government officials, etc.

I have found it helpful to begin my quiet time by listing three things I am thankful for. Kneeling in prayer also helps get me in the right posture spiritually. Sing a hymn or praise song. I especially do this if I am in the car on a long drive. Any walk or car ride can be a time of meeting with the Lord if you are intentional about it.

These are only recommended avenues for connecting with God. Not all of these suggestions may work well for you. But I urge you to give something above a try. If you have other ideas, let me know. We can learn from one another in this area. Come near to God, and He will come near to you.

Grace and peace,
Nathan

First Baptist Church
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Bloomfield, IN 47424

**August
2016**

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 6:30 Trustees	3	4 6:30 Deacons	5	6
7 Communion	8	9	10	11 6:30 Congregational Meeting	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20 Men's Conference
21	22	23	24	25 6:30 Church Council	26	27
28 6:30 Songfest @ Bloomfield UMC	29 6:30 Preschool Open House	30 6:30 Preschool Open House	31			

Deacon of the Month <i>John Cummings</i>	Trustee of the Month <i>Braden Hudson</i>	Usher of the Month <i>Braden Hudson</i>	Greeter <i>Sue Sanford & Virginia Hendrix</i>
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<u>Reoccurring Weekly Activities @ FBC</u>			
Sundays: 8:00 a.m.	Handbell Practice	Wednesdays: 10:30 a.m.	Enhanced Fitness - FH
		6:15 p.m.	FLAMES - CLC
Mondays: 10:30 a.m.	Enhanced Fitness - FH	Thursdays: 6:00 a.m.	Men's Breakfast - Dairy Queen
6:30 p.m.	Cub Scouts - FH	10:30 a.m.	Enhanced Fitness - FH
6:30 p.m.	Choir Practice	6:30 p.m.	Boy Scouts - FH
Tuesdays: 6:30 p.m.	Girl Scouts - FH	6:30 p.m.	Gideons (3 rd Thurs. each month) - FH
6:30 p.m.	Cottage Prayer Group		

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