

THE FIRST BAPTIST CONNECTION

News and Updates for our Family in Christ

Find us on-line at: fbc bloom.org; youtube.com/fbc bloomfield; or facebook.com/groups/fbc bloom

On-line giving is available here: [Tithe.ly](https://tithe.ly)

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Services and Operations @ FBC

- Full livestreams of our worship services will be available only by clicking on a direct link posted on our church's Facebook page: facebook.com/groups/fbcbloom. (A fresh link will appear each Sunday around 9:00 a.m. and go live at 10:30 a.m., EDT.) After editing, archived versions of every service will be available to the public at youtube.com/fbcbloomfield. Friends and family of FBC are encouraged to join our Facebook group so that you can continue to enjoy our full worship services live online.
- Wednesday Morning Bible Study will meet BOTH in person AND live on Facebook. Those joining us at the church will meet outdoors under the canopy at the main entrance. Please bring your own chair, or you may use one of the benches already there. (If weather necessitates we will socially distance with masks in the sanctuary.)
- ANY person entering the CLC/daycare spaces, during daycare hours, will have their temperature checked at the door.
- The Food Pantry remains open during normal hours as a drive-thru operation: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 9-11 a.m. and Tuesday evenings from 4:30-6 p.m.
- The church office will remain closed for the time being.

One Great Hour of Sharing - Coronavirus

To help American Baptist Home Mission Society assist those affected by COVID-19 across the United States and Puerto Rico through One Great Hour of Sharing, you may make checks out to First Baptist Church with "OGHS-COVID Recovery" on the memo line. One hundred percent of donations go to relief efforts; no dollars are retained for administrative costs.

BIRTHDAYS

4 th	Mary Puntney	10 th	Barb Frye	12 th	Nikkie Romans	25 th	Braden Hudson
7 th	Bert Terrell		Charlie Cardinal	14 th	Kylee Moody	31 st	Willow Foxworthy
8 th	Sandy Mead		Ozaiah Clouse	18 th	Gavyn Romans		

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ANNIVERSARIES

4th Ron & Shelia McBride

Chris & Erin Wilson

14th Derek & Mandy Rollison

27th John & Mary Bailey

A Note from Pastor Nathan

Understand this, my dear brothers and sisters: You must all be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry. Human anger does not produce the righteousness God desires.

James 1:19-20, NLT

We all have a deep desire for things to be right. While we may have different ideas about what exactly “right” means, I think this is a God-given desire. We read it in Micah 6:8. We recite it in the Pledge of Allegiance. It is a good thing to want liberty and justice for all.

When “right” isn’t happening, we may find ourselves getting angry. There is nothing necessarily wrong about being angry, although anger can manifest in destructive ways (Eph. 4:26-27). Anger may be a good sign, if I am angry about something that is truly wrong in the sight of God.

But anger itself does not produce righteousness. *The road to righteousness actually starts with listening.* Be quick to listen, James implores us. That is how the pursuit of God’s righteousness begins.

Consider the value of listening in a sharply polarized world. I don’t personally know what it is like:

- To be black in America;
- To serve as a law enforcement officer;
- To suffer with severe COVID-19 illness or to lose a loved one to that illness;
- To be a public health official, governor, or president;
- To struggle with my gender identity or sexual orientation;
- To serve on the Supreme Court;
- To be a member of the news media.

Obviously, I have chosen to name groups of people who are at the center of current controversies. I have opinions about these matters; maybe you do as well. But as I think about my opinions, I find that I know very little about what life is actually like for the people most deeply affected by these issues.

Listening might help me to understand another person’s perspective. Listening might not prompt or require me to change my mind, but it just might shape my heart. I might gain new appreciation for the person with whom I disagree. I might grow in humility regarding my own perspective. It might be that listening isn’t as much for the forming of my mind as for the shaping of my heart. I might become more grateful for my situation in life, and develop more compassion and empathy for those whose lives are harder than mine.

And in my listening, I might hear God. All people are created in God’s image. All people are people for whom Christ died. As I listen to people who are valuable to God, I might catch a fresh glimpse of God’s heart, for them and for me.

So as our Lord Jesus exhorts us, let’s consider carefully how we listen (Luke 8:18). There might be a book to read, a film to watch, a conversation to initiate, in which I can deliberately listen to someone whose life experience I know very little about.

In our listening, the Holy Spirit might speak. And we might become better equipped to “do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with our God” and to “love our neighbors as ourselves.” It might begin with listening.

Grace to you, and peace.

Nathan

Bloomfield First Baptist Church 500 Lincoln Drive Bloomfield, IN 47424			AUGUST 2020	Pastor's Cell: 812-381-8459 Church Office: 812-384-8459 Bright Beginnings Daycare: 812-384-0400 Bright Beginnings Preschool: 812-384-2647		
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Communion	3	4 6:30 Trustees	5 9:00 Bible Study	6 6:30 Deacons	7	8
9	10	11	12 9:00 Bible Study	13 6:30 Ch Council	14	15
16	17	18	19 9:00 Bible Study	20	21	22
23	24	25	26 9:00 Bible Study	27	28	29
30	31					

Sound System	Prayers	Nursery Care	Children's Worship (2 nd & 4 th Sundays only)

<p align="center"><u>Reoccurring Weekly Activities @ FBC</u></p> <p>Mondays:</p> <p>Tuesdays:</p> <p>Thursdays:</p>

<p align="center"><u>Deacon of the Month</u> <i>Bill Hudson</i></p> <p align="center"><u>Trustee of the Month</u> <i>Bert Terrell</i></p> <p align="center"><u>Usher of the Month</u></p> <p align="center"><u>Greeters of the Month</u></p>
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