





# A Note from Pastor Nathan

*The heavens declare the glory of God.  
The earth is the Lord's and everything in it.  
[He] stretched out the heavens and laid the foundations of the earth.  
He spoke and it came to be; he commanded and it stood firm.  
Ps. 19:1; 24:1; Isa. 51:13; Ps. 33:9 (NIV 1984)*

I was driving home from Bloomington today and asking the Lord what to write for this newsletter article. What word do we need to hear? As I was thinking, I saw the beginnings of brilliant color among the trees. A few are already in full hue; many more are just barely hanging onto their green shades. Blue sky abounded. The next few weeks will be gorgeous.

One of the pleasant side effects of this pandemic is that I've done more things outside than I would have otherwise. I say this as a person who enjoyed the outdoors already. Some events, like Wednesday Morning Bible Study (live at 9 a.m. weekly on Facebook.com/groups/fbcbloom and archived there for viewing later), have moved outside in an effort to be safer given the circumstances. But there are many other things that I am choosing to do outdoors, not because of the coronavirus, but because of the extra appeal nature has during this volatile year.

Creation reveals deep things about God to us. Many of you have already experienced this. Even if you haven't, I invite you to become more deliberate about going outside *simply for the purpose of encountering God*.

"Nathan," you may object, "you're a little late. It is *October*. The weather is getting chilly! It will soon be too cold to go outside." This reminds me of a story I've probably told you before.

Liz and I were watching *Good Morning, America* several years ago and the reporter (in a comfortable, New York studio) was interviewing a resident of International Falls, Minnesota, (live and outside) on an extremely cold winter morning. The reporter asked, "How do you all survive up there, where the weather is so bad so much of the time?" Without missing a beat, the hardy Minnesotan quipped, "There's no bad weather, only bad clothing."

Wear a jacket, then! Or find a coat or sweater or whatever you prefer. If it's super cold, don't linger outside as long. But do it when you can. Deliberately find time, even as the months grow colder, to get outside and plant yourself there, at least for a few minutes. Go for a walk. Sit on the porch. It will be good for your soul.

I recognize that mobility is a challenge for some, and that others may be confined to a health facility. In that case, I urge you to find a window, or someone who can help you move to a window, preferably an open window.

Soak it in. Breathe the air. Listen to the birds. Feel the breeze. Behold the beauty. Be still, and wait for God.

All of us have been wounded in some way by this tumultuous year. God is our great Healer. There is some healing that happens only when we quiet ourselves in God's presence and wait.

"In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength..." Isaiah 30:15

"Be still, and know that I am God..." Psalm 46:10

"Martha, Martha, you are worried and upset about many things, but only one thing is needed..." Luke 10:41-42

"My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God?" Psalm 42:2

Grace and peace,

Nathan

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

|              |         |              |  |
|--------------|---------|--------------|--|
| Sound System | Prayers | Nursery Care | Children's Worship<br>(2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Sundays only) |
|              |         |              |  |

|  |
|--|
| <p><b><u>Reoccurring Weekly Activities @ FBC</u></b></p> <p><b>Mondays:</b></p> <p><b>Tuesdays:</b></p> <p><b>Thursdays:</b></p> |
|--|

|   |
|---|
| <p><b><u>Deacon of the Month</u></b><br/> <i>Kathy Ham</i></p> <p><b><u>Trustee of the Month</u></b><br/> <i>Bob Templeton</i></p> <p><b><u>Usher of the Month</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Greeters of the Month</u></b></p> |
|---|