THE FIRST BAPTIST CONNECTION October 2020

News and Updates for our Family in Christ

Find us on-line at: fbcbloom.org; youtube.com/fbcbloomfield; or facebook.com/groups/fbcbloom On-line giving is available here: Tithe.ly



Updated guidance for those gathering in-person at FBC:

- <u>Please</u> wear a face covering for worship as a gift of love to those around you. Exceptions include:
 - o Children under age 5 in worship services.
 - o Worship service leaders and Sunday school teachers only while leading/teaching.
 - o All children's SS classes while in SS classrooms.
 - o Outdoor gatherings.
- Please observe social distancing when possible and move conversations outdoors.
 - o Sanctuary seating is every-other-row. Please allow six feet between families/households.
 - o No food or drink is available in the narthex.
- <u>Please do not</u> attend if you or someone in your immediate household has symptoms of COVID-19 or has recently tested positive.
- An offering box is available in the narthex but is not being passed during the service.
- The nursery rooms are only open for changing diapers and nursing.

We encourage anyone who is unable to attend in-person to participate online:

- Links for live worship services are posted weekly at Facebook.com/groups/fbcbloom.
- Recorded worship services are available to the public at YouTube.com/fbcbloomfield.



BIRTHDAYS

1^{st}	Jeff Hughes	8 th	Bob Holt	14^{th}	Jean Burcham	25 th	Wyatt Shirley
3^{rd}	Norm Sullivan	9 th	Rex Kirchoff	18 th	Rodney Roark	29 th	Zachary Hudson
	Trey Shirley	11^{th}	Steve Ham	19 th	Nancy Brinson		Brixton Groomer
4 th	Bob Templeton		Delene Weeks	22 nd	Jackie Vandeventer	30 th	Daytona Hudson
6 th	Joe Burcham	12 th	Noah Lombardi	24 th	Brenda Nichols		
			Alan Brown				

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ANNIVERSARIES

9th James & Heather Malone 11th Steve & Kathy Ham 12th Charles & Mary Jane Parker 18th Jeff & Teresa Coffin 20th Brenda & Randy Flanagin

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The Witmers in Thailand

Due to the high costs of publishing and mailing a newsletter, the Witmer family has made the difficult decision to stop hardcopy distribution. They will use email and social media for newsletter updates. If you would like to receive the email updates, please email them at witmer@internationalministries.org.



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.



Blessing Box Needs

Our Blessing Box ministry is in need of hygiene and cleaning items. We also try to stock diapers and wipes. Locally, the Dollar General and CVS have \$1 aisles for toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, dishwashing soap, laundry detergent etc. If it is more convenient for you, donations may also be made by check or through on-line giving at Tithe.ly Thank you for your prayers and support. Any questions call Cheri Graf 812-384-8980.



FLC Quilt Auction Going On-line

The Family Life Center's Annual Quilt Auction will be on-line this year. The auctioneer, WB Auctioneer Service, is donating their services to the ministry. The auction will be on their web site, their FB, our FB as a link, HiBid and Auction Zip. Proceeds will benefit family financial assistance fund. This fund is used to help families with things such as gas to doctor appointments, copays for life sustaining medications, minor car repairs...etc.

October 9-10 – Quilt view days at FLC

October 12 – Auction ends

October 16 – Buyer pick-up @ FLC

It is an exciting time within the ministry. FLC is adjusting to meet the world changes. We are committed to direct services of distributing food, clothes and making relationships. This year's Quilt Auction is dedicated to Stephanie Thomas. She was the driving force in this outreach. Our loss is Heaven's gain. She may even critique the tapestry in the Throne room.



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

Bloomfield Firs 500 Lincoln Dri Bloomfield, IN		1	October 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	3
				6:30 Deacons		
4 Communion	5	6	7	8	9	10
			9:00 Bible Study			
	6:30 Trustees			6:30 Church Council		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
			9:00 Bible Study			
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
			9:00 Bible Study			
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
			9:00 Bible Study			

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

Reoccurring Weekly Activities @ FBC
Mondays:
Tuesdays:
Thursdays:

<u>Deacon of the Month</u> *Kathy Ham*

<u>Trustee of the Month</u> *Bob Templeton*

Usher of the Month

Greeters of the Month