

The First Baptist Connection

December 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

INSIDE...

| | |
|--|-----|
| Birthdays & Anniversaries..... | 2 |
| Prayer Concerns..... | 2 |
| Financial Report | 2 |
| 2 nd Fridays @ First Baptist..... | 3 |
| FLAMES | 4 |
| FBC News & Activities | 5 |
| 2014 Thanksgiving Challenge..... | 6 |
| Bright Beginnings Update | 7-8 |
| A Note from Pastor Nathan..... | 9 |
| Calendar | 10 |

Sound System

| | |
|------------------|----------------|
| 7 th | Paul Schmidt |
| 14 th | Braden Hudson |
| 21 st | Tyler Nickless |
| 28 th | Eric Moody |

Prayers

| | |
|------------------|----------------|
| 7 th | Bill Hudson |
| 14 th | Randy Flanagin |
| 21 st | Bob Templeton |
| 28 th | Kathy Ham |

Children's Worship

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

| | |
|------------------|---|
| 14 th | Betty Miller |
| 21 st | Sarah Riggins & Tasha Hudson |
| 28 th | Sandy Clark, Janet Schmidt & Andrew Templeton |

December 2014

Birthdays

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 3 rd Jeff Coffin | 18 th Virginia Hendrix |
| John Cummings | 19 th Shawn Hughes |
| 5 th John Bailey | 20 th Paul Stewart |
| Rachel Katchmar | Liz Dyer |
| 6 th Leslie Ayers | 22 nd Brandt Hudson |
| 11 th Carolyn Sullivan | 24 th Sue Eccles |
| 12 th Lois Kirchoff | 28 th Donna Miller |
| 13 th Betty Dean | Mark Mullins |
| 15 th Lydia Hunter | 29 th Bruce Porter |
| 16 th Caleb Schmidt | |
| 17 th Steve Clark | |
| Tony Resler | |

Prayer Concerns

On-Going Prayer Concerns

Bright Beginnings Daycare and Preschool
Steve Buccola
Janice Holt
Tyler & Georgene Lunberry
Mary Jane Parker
Kay & Don Pierce
Peace seeking in Iraq & Afghanistan

Homebound

Roberta Neill

Parkview Village - Odon

Betty Baker

Missionaries

American Baptists around the world

Anniversaries

| |
|---|
| 17 th Scott & Becky Dayhoff |
| 18 th Bruce & Carla Porter |
| 26 th Alan & Janet Brown |
| 31 st Richard & Brenda Nichols |

FINANCIAL REPORT

OCTOBER 2014 Offering Totals:

General Fund..... \$20,143.07
Food Pantry..... \$170.00

Year to Date (as of October 2014)

Actual Receipts..... \$473,217.43
Actual Expenses \$511,587.27
(includes Bright Beginnings)
Remodel Expense \$46,955.01

Join us for:

**The
Jesus
Tour**

2nd Fridays

@ Bloomfield First Baptist

(500 Lincoln Drive)

December 12—"The Grand Entrance"

Come—follow the star and find GREAT JOY!

TOUR BEGINS @ 6:30 PM! Pick up @ 8:30 PM!

(Registration @ 6:10 PM)

Children ages 3- 6th Grade welcome!

(3 years olds must have an adult stay with them.)

PARENTS: Please join us in the sanctuary at 8:15 PM for a special nativity presentation and a time for caroling!



Youth Happenings!

FRUITFUL LIVES ADORING THE MERCIFUL EVERLASTING SAVIOR
"HIS WORD IS IN MY HEART LIKE A FIRE." JEREMIAH 20:9

Need a little help wrapping your presents?

The FBC youth will be happy to wrap your Christmas gifts for a donation on Wednesday night, December 10! Bring us your presents while we help set up the Fellowship Hall for White Christmas.



Wednesday, December 3 – we will pack boxes for the Young People Away during FLAMES.

Wednesday, December 10 – We will help set up for the White Christmas box distribution during FLAMES.

Sunday, December 14 – Cantata @ 6:00

Sunday, December 21 – Caroling – meet at church at 5:00

Wednesday, December 31 – New Year's Eve Party, 7pm-Midnight, CLC

RETREATS!!

We are encouraging students to sign up for Winter Retreats at Indian Creek Baptist Camp! All retreats listed here are held in the lodge, with separate dorm rooms for boys and girls, and indoor bathrooms. The lodge is all inclusive, so they won't have to go outside if it's bad weather! The church will pay half the cost for these. The price is \$70, so you pay \$35 and the Youth Ministry fund will pay \$35. Since the registration is online, you bring the payment with you when you drop the kids off on Friday. We're trying to get a group to go together, so we can share rides. Let me know when your student has registered, and I'll get a check from the church for all our campers. <http://www.campindiancreek.com/#/retreats-and-events/>

Jr. High Students: December 12-14, 2014 – Real You (6pm Fri-2pm Sun)

What do others see when they look at you? Do you think they like what they see? What do you see when you look in the mirror? Do you like what you see? Who are you really? Do you act differently at school than you do at home? How about at church compared to school or home? Which one is "The Real YOU?" We will discuss these questions and more, as well having a fantastically fun time meeting old friends and making new ones. We will have some fun games, good food, and some serious discussion. Make sure you join in on this great week-end!!!!

High School Students: January 2nd - 4th, 2015 – All In (6pm Fri-2pm Sun)

What does it mean to be sold out? Can you give yourself totally to one thing? Are we the Christians we say we are? This week-end we will be exploring what it means to go "All In" within our Christian life. If you are ready to grow in faith, gain spiritual strength in your or just learn more about Jesus and what it means to follow Him, come join us! Start the New Year off right, enjoying friends, God, and fellowship while we grow together.

Seniors & College Age: Campus Ministry retreat with Ball State & Purdue, January 23-25, 2015

Meet current students and see how Campus Ministries will benefit your college years. See how to get plugged in and make the most of your time at college. "Bridging the Gap" (only \$30 total, the youth fund will pay your way) 9pm Fri-11am Sunday

Women's Retreat, Junior & Senior High ladies included, February 20th-22nd, 2015

What is your Identity? Daughter, sister, friend, teacher, mother athlete, speaker, role model, artist, businesswoman... Leave those roles behind and join us for a weekend of identifying and exploring our identity in Christ. Your true identity. What did He make you to be? Register today and join a large group of other women for a weekend of fellowship, friendship, and deeper understanding of our identity in Christ. (6pm Fri-2pm Sun)

News & Activities

Upcoming Sunday Evening Services

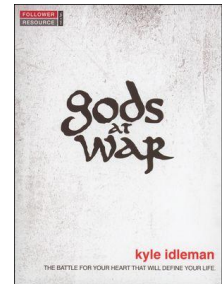
December 7: Paul's Final Days (Acts 20-23, 27-28, Ephesians 1-6, 2 Timothy 1-4)

December 14: *Cantata* @ 6:00

December 21: *Caroling* @ 5:00

December 28: The End of Time (Revelation 1-5, 19-22)

Coming in January: Gods at War: Defeating the Idols that Battle for Your Heart



Christmas Cantata – December 14



The First Baptist Church Christmas Cantata is December 14 at 6:00 PM. The program will begin with a segment instrumental music, including solo piano, a piano-cello duet, and selections from The Nutcracker. This will be followed by the Kingdom Kids Choir. The adult choir will then perform "Were You There on That Christmas Night?" A reception will follow in the Fellowship Hall. If you were able to experience last year's program, you know that this year's will be another blessing. Invite your friends and family and join us as we celebrate Christ's birth!

Caroling – December 21

Let's all gather at the church at 5:00 on Sunday evening, December 21, to go caroling. This is a great time to join with our church family to spread Christmas cheer to others. We always have a special evening!



Ladies Retreat – January 24

FBC will host the 2nd annual "Hearts in Service" Retreat on Saturday, January 24th, 2015 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Bill Hudson will be preparing a delicious luncheon for us. Plan to join us for music, prayer, drama, and fellowship. More details to follow. Save the date!

Valentine's Dinner – February 14

On Saturday, February 14, 2015 the Youth will host their fundraising Valentine's Dinner. You will be served salad, lasagna, bread and desserts in a glowing atmosphere. Support the youth and enjoy a nice dinner out at the same time!

Thanksgiving Challenge 2014

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

DECEMBER



COUNT 1000 GIFTS

SHARE THE GIFTS: #1000GIFTS
FACEBOOK.COM/ONETHOUSANDGIFTS
COUNT 1000 GIFTS IN 2012
AND ENTER TO WIN NIKON D90
@ANNVOSKAMP.COM

AND LET THE PEACE OF CHRIST
RULE IN YOUR HEARTS, TO WHICH
YOU WERE CALLED IN ONE BODY;
AND BE THANKFUL. COLOSSIANS 3:15

- | | | | |
|------------------------------------|-----|-----|---|
| 3 GIFTS WHITE | 1. | 17. | 3 GIFTS FROSTED |
| 3 GIFTS BRIGHT | 2. | 18. | 3 GIFTS MIRACULOUS |
| 3 GIFTS SHINING | 3. | 19. | 3 GIFTS MANGER-SMALL |
| A GIFT CIRCLING, CROWNING, CRAFTED | 4. | 20. | 3 GIFTS ANGELIC SONG |
| 3 GIFTS SILVER | 5. | 21. | 3 GIFTS LIT |
| 3 GIFTS SWEET | 6. | 22. | A GIFT WITH REJOICING, WONDER, PRAISING |
| 3 GIFTS FROM YOUR SAVIOR | 7. | 23. | 3 GIFTS STARRY |
| A GIFT HUNG, HELD, HEARD | 8. | 24. | 3 GIFTS HUMBLE |
| 3 GIFTS UGLY BEAUTIFUL | 9. | 25. | 3 GIFTS IN LUKE 2 |
| 3 GIFTS UNFRAMED ART | 10. | 26. | 3 GIFTS IN CHRIST |
| 3 GIFTS ICE COLD | 11. | 27. | A GIFT FOUND, SHARED, SAVED |
| 3 GIFTS BERRY RED | 12. | 28. | 3 GIFTS LINGERING |
| 3 GIFTS STRIPED | 13. | 29. | 3 GIFTS OF HOPE |
| 3 GIFTS STAMPED | 14. | 30. | 3 GIFTS REMEMBERED |
| A GIFT GOLD, SCENTED, BENT LOW | 15. | 31. | 3 GIFTS ANTICIPATED |
| 3 GIFTS BETHLEHEM-UNLIKELY | 16. | | |

© 2012 ANNVOSKAMP.COM

BRIGHT BEGINNINGS

DAYCARE NEWS

The children were all excited about the snow. Me? Not so much. ☺ They could not wait to get home and go sledding and all the fun stuff snow brings.

Our annual "Happy Birthday Jesus" party will be on December 18th. We will have lots of goodies and crafts. We want to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and ask that you please stay safe and remember why we celebrate Christmas.

As I asked each of the children what they wanted for Christmas I got so excited when they could tell me what Christmas really means. I look forward to being a part of sharing the meaning of Christmas with them over the next Month.

Here are some of the responses I received:

2 year olds

Bryce – wants a yellow car.

Wyatt – wants presents. I asked what kind of presents he said "Christmas." After talking awhile he looked at me put his hands up and said "Ho Ho is going to bring presents O.K.?"

Nathan – wants "a present, a really big dinosaur, a little monkey, chickens, just little ones. Birds fly in the air not on the ground. I like duckies."

Tennlee – wants a choo choo.

3 year olds

Avalyn – Wants baby dolls and more dolls.

Aviana – Wants a Teddy Bear and that's all.

Jonah – "A big truck. I told you I was getting a big truck and a big animal that starts with a J like a big Giraffe.

Lane – Wants a lot of trains.

Keaton – Wants a dog, a real dog, a superman toy and a jack in the box.

Adalyn – Wants a unicorn and that's all.

Lily – Cause Christmas is always special to you. Santa brings presents, one for my brother and a queen Elsa baby doll. You always listen to your Mom.

Kaydance – wants a new pony and a new baby doll.

4 year olds

Angela – "We celebrate Christmas "cause it's Christmas." She wants presents and a boutique. Doc McStuffin thing and all the stuff that goes with her, and a baby la la loopsy.

Braylon – Wants a cross bow and a race track with a loop de loop.

Johni Lynn – Wants Monster High dolls cause she doesn't have any, and a baby that cries, a toy one.

Austin – Wants a slide and that's it.

Freya – Wants a pony not a real one.

Ella – Baby Jesus was born on Christmas, she wants a stuffed animal.

Emmi – It's Jesus' birthday. I want a new flashlight and a tractor for Nathan (her brother ☺) and a toy giraffe.

5 year olds

Adam – On Christmas you get presents and I want blue presents and that's all.

Benjamin – It's Jesus' birthday. I want a toy on Mario Cart 8 game and a 4-wheeler and why do you like Giraffe's so much is it because they have long necks?

Ryan – Wants a airplane and a baby tiger, it's a toy.

School age (6-12 years)

Justin – “Christmas is Jesus’ Birthday and sometimes they stay home and sometimes they go to both Grandma’s. We wake up to see if Santa has come yet. We wake up every couple of hours until he comes.” When I asked what he wanted for Christmas he said “I haven’t even thought of that yet”.

Gabe – Christmas is ‘to honor Jesus’ Birthday and getting presents and playing in the snow that’s basically what it means to me. I’m just trying to get everybody to stop using God’s name in vain it is so annoying everybody at my school does that I say why can’t you just say gosh. The first thing I want is a launcher nerf gun with a giant missile basically like a tiny nerf missile and a mind craft set.

Samauryion – “Christmas means that you can have fun and it’s Jesus’ Birthday and you get presents. He wants a dinosaur set and slime games that make slime snacks.” I guess I was making a face because he quickly added “which are gummies.”

Sophia – Christmas means to spend time with her family and it’s not just about getting presents it’s about spending time with your family and it’s Jesus’ Birthday. She said she is not sure what she wants for Christmas yet.

Abbie – Christmas is about spending time with her family, her friends and it’s Jesus’ Birthday. She wants “snacky cups, an Anna Princess dress from frozen, a stuffed animal rabbit and a hot hues, it’s a thing that clips in your hair and you run it down and it could be green, purple, pink and blue, well that’s all I remember”.

Jordan – Christmas is that you get toys and it’s Jesus’ Birthday and it’s a holiday that you celebrate. He wants a lego helicopter and maybe a dog.

Jaden – Christmas is Jesus’ Birthday, getting toys, sleeping and playing with toys. He wants a Yogi Ferrell outfit.

Toby – Christmas means seeing his family, Jesus’ Birthday, sharing and getting presents. He wants a Pokémon game.

Emma – Christmas is Jesus’ Birthday it’s when he was born and getting presents. She is not sure what she wants yet.

Chase – Christmas is Jesus’ birthday, a time of family, opening presents and going to people’s houses and they give you presents too. He wants a soccer ball.

Maddie – Christmas is Jesus’ Birthday, presents, watching Christmas Movies and playing in the snow and making cookies that look like Santa. She wants a “kind of like a phone but it’s an iPod. And a dolphin tail book.”

Zachary – Christmas means to celebrate Jesus’ birthday and to be kind to people. He wants video games and a dirt bike.

Thank you for your prayers and support of this very important Ministry,
Tammy and staff

BRIGHT BEGINNINGS

PRESCHOOL NEWS

This month we have continued through the alphabet to the letter Kk. We have also been finishing up assessments on our colors and shapes. We have now covered all the colors and shapes and are having a great time recognizing them in the world around us. We have shared the Bible stories of Isaac, Joseph, and The New King (baby Jesus). We have been working a great deal on our fine and gross motor skills and having a good time playing with our friends. On Friday, November 21st, we celebrated the Thanksgiving season with a feast for all the family to enjoy. The children sang songs and recited poems for their families, and then we said grace and shared some great food. We had approximately 190 in attendance which made for a great celebration

Blessings,
Mrs. Farmer and Ms. Katie

A Note from Pastor Nathan

Brothers, if someone is caught in a sin, you who are spiritual should restore him gently. But watch yourself, or you also may be tempted. Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. If anyone thinks he is something when he is nothing, he deceives himself. Each one should test his own actions. Then he can take pride in himself, without comparing himself to somebody else, for each one should carry his own load.

Galatians 6:1-5 (NIV 1984)

As we roll into December we continue to look at passages mentioned in our church's definition of membership. So far we have read Jesus' instructions in Matthew's Gospel about *what* to do when a matter of offense arises between us and another person. This excerpt from Galatians deals with *how* to go about that interaction.

Notice *to whom* this passage is addressed: "you who are spiritual." That adjective – spiritual – has to do with empowerment. Paul has just contrasted life "by the flesh" with life "by the Spirit." Are we working on our own strength and selfish desires, or are we operating according to the Spirit's power and guidance?

This is a good question to ask about anything in life, but it is particularly important when if we are preparing to have a conversation with someone about sin. The world does lots of confrontation, but often times that confrontation in itself is sinful: we go to put somebody in her place, to show a guy how wrong he was, to make ourselves feel better, etc. "In the flesh," it is all about power, humiliation, or revenge.

Paul calls us to go "in the Spirit" – gently, watchfully, and humbly. Each of us is subject to temptation and prone to fall. So, when we talk to our brothers or sisters about their sins, we go as those who have also and will also need those conversations about our own sins.

At this point we often take the passage in the wrong direction. "I have sinned, so who am I to talk to so-and-so about sin?" We justify saying nothing in the name of "nobody's perfect." But it is easy to use this false humility as a cover up for fear. Which of the prophets was without sin? Yet all of them were called to confront God's people about sin.

I have never particularly enjoyed it when someone has pointed out my sin. Perhaps you feel the same way. But we all have benefited from that correction. Though painful, a well-intentioned rebuke often serves to stop us from going in the wrong direction and help us to go in a better direction. We humans *need* correction. The conversation in 2 Samuel 12 was unpleasant for David, but Psalm 51 reveals how grateful he was for it.

And so this is a matter of love, especially as brothers and sisters in Christ. We are being transformed into the likeness of Christ. The intent of the "body of Christ" is that others would look at us and see Him. We need one another's accountability for this, don't we? And that accountability itself – the way it is offered – must also reflect the love of Christ.

So, let's pray for discernment and courage, that we might be willing vessels of needed accountability to one another. Let us also pray for humility and grace, that we might be vessels of love and not hate. The Lord has called us to this, so He will help us, by His Spirit.

Not that we've already obtained all of this, or have already been made perfect, but we press on to take hold of that for which Jesus Christ took hold of us.

Grace and peace,
Nathan

First Baptist Church
500 Lincoln Drive
Bloomfield, IN 47424

**December
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 6:30 Church Council | 5 | 6 |
| 7 2 nd Sunday of Advent | 8 6:30 Trustees | 9 | 10 White Christmas Prep/Set-up | 11 White Christmas Prep/Set-up | 12 6:30 2 nd Friday @ 1 st Baptist | 13 9:30 White Christmas Distribution |
| 14 3 rd Sunday of Advent 6:00 Cantata | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 6:30 Deacons | 19 | 20 |
| 21 4 th Sunday of Advent 5:00 Caroling | 22 | 23 | 24 Christmas Eve 7:30 Christmas Eve Service | 25  | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | |

| | | | |
|--|--|---------------------------|--|
| Deacon of the Month <i>Bill Hudson</i> | Trustee of the Month <i>Greg Flinn</i> | Usher of the Month | Greeters <i>Bob Templeton & Tonya Hudson</i> |
|--|--|---------------------------|--|

Reoccurring Weekly Activities @ FBC

| | | |
|--------------------|------------|--|
| Sundays: | 6:00 p.m. | Campfire - Sanctuary & FH |
| Mondays: | 10:30 a.m. | Enhanced Fitness - FH |
| | 6:30 p.m. | Cub Scouts - FH |
| Tuesdays: | 6:30 p.m. | Choir Practice |
| | 6:30 p.m. | Girl Scouts - FH |
| | 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 |
| | 6:30 p.m. | Boy Scouts - FH |
| | 6:30 p.m. | Gideons (3 rd Thurs. each month) - FH |

Sound System

| | |
|------------------|----------------|
| 7 th | Paul Schmidt |
| 14 th | Braden Hudson |
| 21 st | Tyler Nickless |
| 28 th | Eric Moody |

Prayers

| | |
|------------------|----------------|
| 7 th | Bill Hudson |
| 14 th | Randy Flanagan |
| 21 st | Bob Templeton |
| 28 th | Kathy Ham |

Children's Worship
(2nd, 3rd & 4th Sundays)

| | |
|------------------|---|
| 14 th | Betty Miller |
| 21 st | Sarah Riggins & Tasha Hudson |
| 28 th | Sandy Clark, Janet Schmidt & Andrew Templeton |