

The First Baptist Connection

December 2015

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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Sound System

6 th	Paul Schmidt
13 th	Braden Hudson
20 th	Mark Kirkman
27 th	Eric Moody

Prayers

6 th	Brad Ellis
13 th	Randy Flanagan
20 th	Paula Bartlett
27 th	Tonya Hudson

Children's Worship

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

13 th	Betty Miller
20 th	Janet Schmidt
27 th	Sandy Clark

December

Birthdays

3 rd	Jeff Coffin	18 th	Virginia Hendrix
	John Cummings	19 th	Shawn Hughes
5 th	John Bailey	20 th	Paul Stewart
6 th	Rachel Katchmar		Liz Dyer
	Leslie Ayers		Rachel Clapp
11 th	Carolyn Sullivan	22 nd	Brandt Hudson
12 th	Lois Kirchoff	24 th	Sue Eccles
13 th	Betty Dean	28 th	Donna Miller
15 th	Lydia Hunter		Mark Mullins
16 th	Caleb Schmidt	29 th	Lori Beth Hudson
17 th	Steve Clark	31 st	Bruce Porter
	Tony Resler		Dave Larr

Prayer Concerns

On-Going Prayer Concerns

Bright Beginnings Daycare and Preschool
Steve Buccola
Charlie Farmer
Tyler & Georgene Lunberry
Mary Jane Parker
Kay & Don Pierce
Peace seeking in Iraq & Afghanistan
American Baptist missionaries

Lyons Health & Living Center

Betty Baker
Roberta Neill

Anniversaries

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

1st Fridays

@



1st Baptist

Obeying **GOD**

Registration @ 6:00 PM

Dinner, Games, Bible Story, & More @ 6:15 PM

Pick-up @ 8:30 PM

500 Lincoln Dr.

812-384-8459

Call the church by 12:00 PM Thursday to schedule transportation!

AGES 4-12 (3 YR. OLDS WELCOME WITH AN ADULT)

Friday, December 4

Mary, Joseph, & Elizabeth Obey

"This is love for God: to obey his commands."

—1 John 5:3a, NIV '84

FBC News & Activities

Bloomfield Hometown Christmas – December 6



Bloomfield Hometown Christmas, sponsored by the Bloomfield Chamber of Commerce, will be held on Sunday, December 6th from 1-6 on the square. Come out and enjoy a wonderful holiday afternoon. Many of the area businesses will be open with holiday specials. Local restaurants and churches will have a variety of food and drinks for sale. Santa and Mrs. Claus will be there to visit with the children. There will be carriage rides and live music throughout the day.

Kingdom Kids will be performing on the courthouse steps at 5:00. The rest of our church family is invited to come sing Christmas carols following the Kingdom Kids!



Bloomfield First Christian Church
Corner of Spring & Jefferson
Will show the movie WAR ROOM
Friday, December 11th @ 7pm
Everyone welcome
Free movie, popcorn and soda!!
(Please use the Spring St. entrance)



Christmas Cantata – December 13



The First Baptist Church annual Christmas Cantata will Sunday, December 13 at 6:00pm. The program will be in three parts, starting with instrumental pieces featuring our pianist Yunkyung Kim and fellow IU Jacobs School of Music students. This part of the program will include works by Hayden and Christmas favorites from Tchaikovsky. Following that will be several Christmas songs from our delightful Kingdom Kids Choir. Then, the Adult Choir will present the cantata, "Emmanuel-Celebrating Heaven's Child." The cantata will include solos from Jason Nicholson and Sharon Terrell, with narration by Pastor Brooks and Sandy Clark.

There will be a reception immediately following in the Fellowship Hall which will consist of a wide selection of tasty delights and a time of fellowship. As in the past, this program will be a blessing as we celebrate Christ's birth. Please plan to attend, along with your friends and family and join us as we musically celebrate our Savior's birth!

Christmas Eve Service – December 24



Our annual Christmas Eve service will be Thursday, December 24 at 6:00pm. Everyone is invited to join us for communion and a special time of worship and praise.

On-going Food Pantry Needs:

Tomato juice	Ramen noodles	Spaghetti-o's	Canned green beans
Boxed cereal	Canned corn	Mac & Cheese	Jiffy mix
Spaghetti sauce	Beef ravioli		

Hoops for Him - 2016

The 2016 Hoops for Him Basketball Program will be held at the Bloomfield First Baptist Christian Life Center beginning January 23 and ending March 12, 2016. Any boy or girl age 4 through 6th Grade is invited to participate. Session 1 for Preschool and Kindergarten age kids will be 9:00-10:00am, Session 2 for Grades 1-3 will be 10:00-11:30am, and Session 3 for Grades 4-6 will be 11:30am-1:00pm each Saturday. The season will conclude with an Awards Banquet on March 12th at 6:00pm. Sign-up forms are available at the church office.



Many volunteers are needed every Saturday to lead each session, coach the kids, work the concession stand, and provide devotions. Please prayerfully consider how you can help make our 6th season successful. Contact Eric Moody (email eric.moody@navy.mil or text 812-227-0700) if you are willing to assist.

Open Arms Christian Ministries

Open Arms shares the story of Jakob. Jakob was a young boy who suffered physical abuse at the hands of his mother. Just 3 days after being placed in foster care his father signed a Voluntary Termination of Parental Rights. In his own words Jakob tells that he was a very troubled youth and was in and out of foster homes. Jakob talks about being placed in his last foster home and that they never gave up on him. He says that *"coming into the Open Arms family has given me a family that loves me for who I am, not what is expected. More than that, I have received an extended family and support system with everyone connected to Open Arms. Thank you just doesn't seem to be enough to say, but I am forever grateful for being shown that I am worth fighting for and knowing that you all believe in me."*

Open Arms is in need of a few items: a new small griddle, pots, pans, baking pans, hampers, laundry baskets, hair products of all kinds, cleaning supplies, towels, washcloths, dish rags, new games, crafts, 10 small plastic containers for each girl to store their hygiene products in, cough drops, and chap stick. Items may be dropped off at Open Arms located across the highway from the Greene County fairgrounds.

BRIGHT BEGINNINGS

DAYCARE NEWS

Thank you to all who made our pumpkin roll fund raiser a success.

Christmas is coming soon and Bright Beginnings Daycare will be celebrating with our annual "Happy Birthday Jesus" party on December 22. There will be lots of fun, crafts, and food. I asked some of the children what Christmas means to them and what they are asking for this year...

3 to 5 year olds:

Chloe- Christmas is snow. She wants a horse, blocks, Legos and clothes.

Keaton H.-Christmas is chocolate with trees and sprinkles. He wants a vacuum cleaner and a water slide and a toy and that's it.

Deklan- Christmas is Santa Claus brings presents to everybody. He wants a megabot, Leonardo, bumble bee, playdough thing that makes sparkly string.

Savanna- Christmas is snow. She wants a Paw Patrol toy with a robot dog, the badge that goes on your shirt and the pony and that's it.

Wyatt- Christmas is you go downstairs eat dinner give Santa cookies and open presents. He wants a big 4 wheeler, and a truck, firetruck, a big monster truck, a tow truck, a skateboard, a Lego set, and that may be it.

Ozaiah- Christmas is we go to bed and Santa Claus comes. He wants a snowman, a transformer, and a yo yo. That's it.

Nathan-He wants a blue giraffe.

Gannon- Christmas means Santa gets you toys and a lot of presents under the tree before he sleeps. "I have a Christmas list and it's sent already, O.K."

Avalyn-Christmas means Santa, he gives us presents, getting some toys makes you happy. Jesus wants my Mommy to get baptized but I cried. She wants a Doc McStuffins ball, Jesus loves us. Sleeping beauty.

Bryce- Christmas means getting presents. He wants cards and dinosaurs. He said "I don't want so many things."

Emmi-Christmas means Santa Claus gives us presents. Jesus' birthday. She wants a flute that blows tickets out, a teddy bear that comes with the flute, and a dolly. A pink dolly that has a rainbow bow on her head and a blue skirt.

Emily- Christmas means Santa Claus comes and we eat turkey, we always eat turkey, they're good for your tummy. God, Jesus' birthday. That's it. She wants "a puzzle for mamaw and papaw's cause we don't have any. That's it."

Braylon-Christmas means I want presents. Jesus' birthday. I want to go sledding on Christmas cause it's fun. He wants a race track and a car.

Leo- "A hot wheel set with a ninja turtle that transforms into a ninja turtle layer. I'm done."

Keaton W.-Christmas means-Fun, we get presents from Santa. He wants "hungry hungry hippos I forgot the rest of the games but it's still on my Christmas list."

Ayden- Christmas means snow and Santa's coming. You go play out in the snow. He wants "some of them I don't remember but my Mommy remembers, hocky stuff, Santa already knows."

Ellie-Christmas means I get a toy, I get some shirts, some puters. She wants "toys, puters, some puter chips that you can put in your head."

Adalyn E-Christmas means I get a lot of presents, my party has a little tea-party and my Mom can come. I can play with my friends. Jesus' and my birthday is on Christmas. She wants "a Pegasus you can put on your hand and it flies. There's this unicorn that moves with wings and I want this kinda thing and it's cool it's like headphones and you can listen to music and I think that's all."

BRIGHT BEGINNINGS

DAYCARE NEWS - continued

Jonah-Christmas means you get toys, it has snow. Santa usually brings us candy but I don't think he does that anymore. He wants "The only thing I'm missing is a moose, a tiger tiger, a screaming death it's a dragon, and a walrus."

Abram- Christmas means Santa Claus, candy, I'm in my bed and he's here but I don't like him in my bed. He wants "a cat in my bed, a toy that rolls down and I can open it and I can see it."

Noah- Christmas means getting presents. He wants "Christmas presents. My Mommy will buy."

School age:

Jaden-Christmas means family traditions, toys, Jesus' birthday and food. He wants an I.U. jersey, a basketball and a Lego set.

Jordan-Christmas means Jesus' birthday, toys, you should not just pick toys...you should pray for your Grandma if she's hurt or something. He wants Legos, an iPad, and a DSI game system.

Justin- Christmas means a lot of stuff, Jesus, God pretty much anything that involves Christian stuff. It is not all about toys; it's about families getting together. Brothers and family. He said he basically already has everything.

Gabe- Christmas means presents, Jesus' birthday, and seeing family. He said he already has a list but can't remember it. The thing he does remember is a dart zone scorpion mini gun.

Jarred- Christmas means Jesus' birthday, a holiday where snow comes down and some of your wishes come true. Presents, the day where you celebrate Jesus' birth, we pray and other stuff. He wants a HDTV and an Xbox and Xbox games.

Stephanie-Christmas means it's a joy that Jesus is born. I'm happy he was born we wouldn't be here without him and all of the presents he gives us. She said she already has all of her Christmas present list; it's a lot of stuff.

Adalyn F.- Christmas means a lot to me it means giving to others, being kind, helping others, if someone is down cheer them up, helping animals, and about Jesus and God. It is especially because we celebrate Jesus' Birthday. She wants a zoomer kitty and a zoomer dog, and a mego thing that is a robot.

Adam- Christmas means he likes to open presents, Merry Christmas to Santa. He wants a vacuum cleaner, Legos, dogs and scissors.

Ben- Christmas is about Jesus' birthday and getting presents. He wants a toy power ranger.

Zachary- Christmas means the celebration of Jesus' and God's birthday and having fun with your family and friends, having fun with the new toys we have cause it reminds me of Jesus' and God's birth. He wants a remote control dune buggy like Grandpa's real dune buggy, and a B.B. gun.

Johni- Christmas means a fun holiday, Santa comes, you get to put up a Christmas tree. She wants a snackie, an elf toy, a pet horse, a snowman and for the snow to stay forever.

Chase- Christmas means spending time with your family, God's birthday, having fun, you get free presents, giving others presents so they can have fun too. He wants money and new shoes.

Angela- Christmas means you get a lot of toys from Santa. A Holiday a Christmas Holiday. Jesus' birthday. She wants "Shopkins and a shopkin ice cream truck. I'm thankful for my Mamaw cause she gave me some jars shaped like circles and I can make snow globes for my cousins."

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### **Quotable Kids....**

- A Mom was excited to show her two year old daughter a picture of a reindeer. The child looked at it and said "looks more like a moose to me."
- A 3-year-old walked in to daycare one day and told his caregiver "We are not in the red truck today 'cause it has tissues."

# A Note from Pastor Nathan

One evening in early June, lightning struck a tulip poplar tree on the hillside north of the church. That beautiful tree, which had been around since about 1900, began to die. When the tree was cut down in November it left a striking vacancy on the landscape outside my office window. All that remains is a great stump.

The stump is a perplexing reminder of two things: how wonderful that tree was, and how impossible it is to bring it back. Many of us have similarly tantalizing reminders of precious people who have died. All sorts of things bring them back to our memory. Those reminders, like the stump, are bittersweet.

Perhaps the holidays provide more “stumps” than other times of the year. For some of us, our Christmases will never be the same because of the built-in reminders of those whom we have lost. The traditions of the season provide several reasons for joy, but also many sources of sorrow. Lord, help us to be sensitive and compassionate toward one another. Not everyone’s Christmas is merry. And that is okay.

But the stump also reminds me of one of my favorite preachers: Isaiah. In his day the people of God had effectively been reduced to a stump because of their sin. And to those people, our gracious God offers hope:

*A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him—the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD—and he will delight in the fear of the LORD. He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears with his ears; but with righteousness he will judge the needy, with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth. He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth; with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked. Righteousness will be his belt and faithfulness the sash around his waist. The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and a little child will lead them. The cow will feed with the bear, their young will lie down together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox. The infant will play near the hole of the cobra, and the young child put his hand into the viper’s nest. They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples; the nations will rally to him, and his place of rest will be glorious. (Isaiah 11:1-10, NIV, 1984).*

This Branch is of course our Lord Jesus Christ, the One who has made resurrection and new creation possible. We eagerly anticipate the healing of our bodies and of God’s broken world. He comes to make His blessings flow, as far as the curse is found!

And so as we encounter stumps this Christmas season – whether actual wood in the ground or the events that expose our pain – let us respond with compassion and hope. We have compassion on one another as we grieve. We place our hope in the Christ of Christmas, who has acted decisively to heal it. Come, Lord Jesus!

Merry Christmas!

Nathan

First Baptist Church  
500 Lincoln Drive  
Bloomfield, IN 47424

## DECEMBER 2015

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<br>6:30 Trustees | 2         | 3<br>6:30 Church Council            | 4<br>6:30 FF@FB                                                                                     | 5        |
| 6                                                  | 7      | 8                  | 9         | 10<br>6:30 Deacons                  | 11                                                                                                  | 12       |
| 13<br>8:30 Fellowship<br>Breakfast<br>6:00 Cantata | 14     | 15                 | 16        | 17                                  | 18                                                                                                  | 19       |
| 20                                                 | 21     | 22                 | 23        | 24<br>6:00 Christmas Eve<br>Service | 25 CHRISTMAS<br> | 26       |
| 27                                                 | 28     | 29                 | 30        | 31                                  |                                                                                                     |          |

**Deacon of the Month**  
*Jeff Coffin*

**Trustee of the Month**  
*Eric Moody*

**Usher of the Month**  
*Charles Porter*

**Greeter**  
*Brad & Anne Ellis*

### Reoccurring Weekly Activities @ FBC

**Sundays:** 6:00 p.m. REVIVE - Sanctuary

**Mondays:** 10:30 a.m. Enhanced Fitness - FH  
6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts – FH  
6:30 p.m. Faithful Workouts – CLC

**Tuesdays:** 6:00 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<sup>rd</sup> Thurs. each month) – FH

### Sound System

6<sup>th</sup> Paul Schmidt  
13<sup>th</sup> Braden Hudson  
20<sup>th</sup> Mark Kirkman  
28<sup>th</sup> Eric Moody

### Prayers

6<sup>th</sup> Paul Schmidt  
13<sup>th</sup> Braden Hudson  
20<sup>th</sup> Mark Kirkman  
28<sup>th</sup> Eric Moody

### Children's Worship (2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays)

13<sup>th</sup> Betty Miller  
20<sup>th</sup> Janet Schmidt  
27<sup>th</sup> Sandy Clark