THE FIRST BAPTIST CONNECTION July 2018

News and Updates for our Family in Christ

Visit our website @ www.fbcbloom.org



Vacation Bible School!!



Join us July 22-26 to learn more about God's ultimate playbook. He wants us to join His team, train hard, celebrate salvation, and encourage one another. Get in the spirit today with Game On! VBS.

July 22-26 from 6:00-8:30pm - dinner @ 6:00

Sunday, July 22 – Registration begins at 5:45



BLOOMFIELD LIBRARY ANNEX BOOK SALES: The Library has a large selection of donated spiritual themed books for sale. There are tables at the Annex, across from the Court House, if you want to sit and browse through them in comfort. Hardbacks are \$1; Paperbacks - 50 cents. Tuesdays and Wednesdays - 10:00 am - 1:00 pm; Thursdays - 1:00 - 4:00 pm.

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Let's Pray For Our Schools Sunday August 5th at 1:00











On Sunday, August 5th, starting at 1:00 PM, White River Baptist Church, in conjunction with the Central Greene County Ministerial Association, will be hosting our annual community time of prayer for our schools. Soon our schools will be back at full swing. Each year we gather at White River Valley High School and Bloomfield High School to pray for students, faculty, staff, and administration. This is a community event, and thus we

urge all of our Greene County Churches to join us. As we do each year, we will begin at WRV, near the flag pole at 1:00. When we are done, we travel over to BHS as we continue to pray. Although time will not allow us to travel to Linton, Shakamak, and Eastern Greene, we do intend to pray for them as well as any private, home school, and college students. Afterwards, we will meet at the Bloomfield DQ for some fellowship time. Please make sure to invite your church and friends to join us in this much-needed prayer.



BIRTHDAYS

3 rd	Eric Moody Rob Rollison Donald Sullivan Jean Resler Alex Weeks	24 th 25 th 26 th	David Doane Kathy Ham Bill Hudson Alex Malone Brady Hughes
7 th	Alex Brown	28^{th}	Kinley Moody
11 th	Bob Weeks		Keaton Wilson
14 th	Alicia Henry		

PRAYER CONCERNS

On-Going Prayer Concerns

Bright Beginnings Daycare and Preschool
Jerry & Jean Boyer
David & Lydia Hunter
Tyler & Georgene Lunberry
Charles & Mary Jane Parker
Charlie Stahl
Betty Sullivan

Hearthstone (Bloomington)

Charlotte Humerickhouse

ANNIVERSARIES

6th Mike & Barb Stoner 18th Steve & Kay Allen 23rd Charlie & Judy Stahl

A Note from Pastor Nathan

But our citizenship is in heaven. Philippians 3:20

"Jesus Christ is Lord." Our confession implies ultimate allegiance. If Jesus is my Lord, then Caesar is *not* my Lord. Nobody else is my Lord. Only Jesus.

This does not mean that we are a rebellious people. Scripture repeatedly calls us to respect our authorities even when we are treated unfairly (consider Titus and 1 Peter). But our allegiance to Jesus is absolute. No one can serve two masters. If anyone beckons me to do something contrary to the Lord's will, I must say no.

At least that is how it is supposed to work. I am a work in progress, as you are. The Lord has great grace with us, for which I am thankful. Learning to follow one Master in a world with many would-be-masters is a difficult journey. It is possible to for us to claim Jesus as our Lord while actually serving other lords instead.

This is especially true politically. Jesus appeals to both liberals and conservatives. People of all backgrounds and ideologies have found things they like in the teaching and person of Jesus. On the other hand, people of all backgrounds and ideologies have found things they do *not* like about the teaching and person of Jesus. In every crowd, Jesus has fans and detractors alike.

If my chief allegiance is to a political movement, I will tend to pay more attention to the teachings of Jesus that support my party's ideas, but pay less attention to the teachings of Jesus that challenge my party's ideas. I will naturally begin to think and act as if Jesus were on my side. This is how our political rhetoric becomes so heated and condescending. If my cause is God's cause, then my opponent must be doing the devil's work!

It may well be that the particular political issue which you are most passionate about is in fact consistent with the witness and momentum of Scripture. I am not encouraging you to become dispassionate about that issue. But the teachings of Jesus challenge every political movement, just as His teachings challenge every human heart. When I am off in my thinking or in my ways of carrying out my thinking, I need His rebuke. So do you.

Jesus might be whispering to us among the shouts of our political opponents. In our zeal for being right, we are prone to overlook any truth that might be hidden in the midst of a competing perspective. Our culture loves clichés and overstatements. We lack subtlety and nuance. We make blanket condemnations and wholesale endorsements with little regard for the complexity of controversial issues. All of this stems from and perpetuates a chronic lack of good listening.

But good listening is essential to good citizenship. We are citizens of heaven. The Lord of that realm is unleashing His kingdom on earth, through us. He commands us to love our enemies and to pray for them. This love and prayer necessitates an effort to understand my enemies. I might need to watch my enemy's favorite cable channel, or read my enemy's editorial, or give thought to my enemy's posts on social media. I might not be able to take for granted my friend's assessments of my enemy. I might need to try to understand my enemy on my enemy's own terms. I might need to cultivate empathy for my enemy's personal experiences.

Success does not mean that I must change all of my political views to align with the person I disagreed with; even then, I would simply be switching sets of political enemies. Success, rather, is that my heart begins to soften toward those with whom I disagree. I begin to see them as human beings, loved by God, people for whom Christ died. I begin to "love my neighbor as myself." That, I think, would be victory. *Lord, help us!*

Grace and peace, Nathan **First Baptist Church** 500 Lincoln Drive Bloomfield, IN 47424

July 2018

Pastor's Cell: 812-381-4189 Church Office: 812-384-8459

FAX No: 812-384-8982 **Bright Beginnings Daycare: 812-384-0400**

Bright Beginnings Preschool: 812-384-2647

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Communion	2	3 6:30 Trustees 6:30 Bible Study 6:30 & 7:40 Softball	4	5 6:30 Deacons	6	7
8	9	6:30 Bible Study 6:30 Softball game	11	12	13	14
15	16 6:30 Softball	6:30 Bible Study 6:30 Softball game	18	19	20	21
²² Va	cati	on Bi	ble \$	Scho	o III	28
29 6:30 CGCMA Songfest @ Tulip	30	21				

Deacon of the Month Jeff Coffin

Trustee of the Month Bert Terrell

Usher of the Month Debra Hudson

Greeters Maryanne Snow

Reoccurring Weekly Activities @ FBC

Mondays: 10:00 a.m. Enhanced Fitness - FH Wednesdays: 6:15 p.m. FLAMES - CLC

Cub Scouts - FH 6:30 p.m.

6:00 a.m. Thursdays: Men's Breakfast

10:00 a.m. Enhanced Fitness - FH

Tuesdays: 6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts - FH 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts - FH

> 6:30 p.m. Cottage Prayer Group 6:30 p.m. Gideons (3rd Thurs. each month) - FH

Sound	System

1st Paul Schmidt

8th Braden Hudson

TBD 15th

22nd Eric Moody

29th Eric Moody

Prayers

1st

8th

15th 22nd

29th

1st

8th

15th Marlen Flynn

Nursery Care

22nd

29th Sherry Weeks

Children's Worship

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

8th Betty Miller

Janet Schmidt

22nd Kim Schulte