

THE FIRST BAPTIST CONNECTION

February 2019

News and Updates for our Family in Christ

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BIRTHDAYS

9th Casey Porter
Jason Nicholson
11th Kay Pierce
12th Nancy Sullivan
13th Janet Schmidt
20th Mike Canty
21st Sharon Terrell
23rd Sherry Weeks
25th Gary Sullivan
Wesley Porter
27th Paula Bartlett
Betty Miller

PRAYER CONCERNS

On-Going Prayer Concerns
Bright Beginnings Daycare and Preschool
Jerry & Jean Boyer
David & Lydia Hunter
Tyler & Georgene Lunberry
Charles & Mary Jane Parker
Betty Sullivan
Hearthstone (Bloomington)
Charlotte Humerickhouse

ANNIVERSARIES

14th Earl & Joann White
16th Steve & Kathy Ham

A Note from Pastor Nathan

February is a month for celebrating presidents, although you will find a variety of viewpoints regarding exactly whom we are honoring, and when! The federal holiday, “Washington’s Birthday,” is observed on the third Monday of the month, on which Washington’s actual birthday (February 22) ironically never falls. People commonly refer to that Monday holiday as *President’s Day* or *Presidents’ Day* or *Presidents Day*, with the apostrophe moving depending on one’s interpretation! Does the day honor Washington and Lincoln (born February 12)? Washington and Jefferson? Washington alone? Or is it a day for honoring *all* of our presidents? Today I write about two.

I recently finished reading *John Adams*, David McCullough’s biography of our second president. One of the more perplexing aspects of Adams’ life was his relationship with Thomas Jefferson. We are rightly grateful for both of these men and their tremendous contributions in the birth and infancy of our nation. Early on, they worked closely together and became good friends. Then, for decades they were sharply at odds and wouldn’t associate with each other. Only in the final years of their life was their correspondence and friendship renewed.

The story is a lot more complicated than that. I am glad that the two men were reunited in the end. Yet I cannot help but wonder what benefits Adams and Jefferson – and the nation – might have enjoyed if the two men had at least maintained open communication throughout those intervening years. There were many moments when each might have benefitted from the other’s perspective. But the divide persisted. And so much of it was driven by political agendas, third parties, and outright misunderstanding. I wonder what might have been.

When the Lord Jesus returns I believe there will be great weeping, and not just the weeping of those who angrily reject the King to the end. There will also be weeping among the people of God, tears of remorse and reunion. We will confess sins. We will offer forgiveness. We will be reconciled with each other. We will say things like, “I’m so sorry.” Not one of the countless grudges we hold against one another will endure. No strong personalities will be able to remain at odds. No personal offenses or wounds will be deeper than the overwhelming love and presence of Jesus. There will be tears and hugs, relief and peace.

The obvious impulse is, why not get started now? If reconciliation is the final reality, why not invite the Holy Spirit to help us mend relationships today? Why not ask for the Lord’s help to release old wrongs and confess foolish words and deeds? Why not ask for the grace to forgive? The resentment is not accomplishing anything. The reunion might be a great blessing for the Kingdom. And imagine the joy!

“If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus...” Philippians 2:1-5 (NIV’84)

Not that I have already obtained all this. Maybe neither have you. But we press on. *Holy Spirit, help us!*

Grace and peace,
Nathan

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February
2019

Pastor's Cell: 812-381-4189
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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	2 9:00 Hoops for Him
3 Communion	4	5 6:30 Trustees	6 9:00 Bible Study	7 11:00 Cottage Prayer Group 6:30 Deacons	8	9 9:00 Hoops for Him
10 8:30 Fellowship Breakfast 9:00 Kingdom Kids	11	12	13 9:00 Bible Study 7:30 Pastoral Relations	14 11:00 Cottage Prayer Group	15	16 9:00 Hoops for Him
17 12:00 Congregational Meeting	18	19	20 9:00 Bible Study	21 11:00 Cottage Prayer Group	22	23 9:00 Hoops for Him
24 9:00 Kingdom Kids	25	26	27 9:00 Bible Study	28 11:00 Cottage Prayer Group 6:30 Ch Council		

Reoccurring Weekly Activities @ FBC

Sundays: 6:00 p.m. FLAMES - CLC
Mondays: 6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts - FH
Tuesdays: 6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts - FH
Thursdays: 6:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast
11:00 a.m. Cottage Prayer Group
6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts - FH
6:30 p.m. Gideons (3rd Thurs. each month) - FH

Deacon of the Month

Bob Weeks

Trustee of the Month

Eric Moody

Usher of the Month

Charles Porter

Greeters of the Month

Norm & Nancy Sullivan

Sound System

3rd Paul Schmidt
10th Braden Hudson
17th TBD
24th Eric Moody

Prayers

3rd
10th
17th
24th

Nursery Care

3rd Sandy Clark
10th Karla Pruett/Calvin Myers
17th Michelle & Ivy Foxworthy
24th Stephanie Henry

Children's Worship

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

10th Betty Miller
17th Janet Schmidt
24th Kim Schulte