

THE FIRST BAPTIST CONNECTION

May 2019

News and Updates for our Family in Christ

Visit our website @ www.fcbloom.org

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BIRTHDAYS

5th Piper Hughes
7th Gracie Hudson
Cannon Roark
8th Marlen Flynn
9th Mandy Rollison
13th Monica Hudson
16th Samantha Groomer
26th Jason Brown
29th Derek Rollison
30th Betty Sullivan
31st Meredith Pittman

PRAYER CONCERNS

On-Going Prayer Concerns

Bright Beginnings Daycare and Preschool
David & Lydia Hunter
Tyler & Georgene Lunberry
Charles & Mary Jane Parker
Betty Sullivan

Hearthstone (Bloomington)

Charlotte Humerickhouse
Jean Resler

ANNIVERSARIES

11th David & Shannon Dean
12th Paul & Ginger Stewart
14th Skyler & Emily Pittman
21st Laverne & Miriam Rollison
24th Braden & Tasha Hudson

Senior Recognition – May 26

Please join us as we celebrate our graduating seniors: Julie Hudson, Max Terrell, Sydney Terrell, Malea Toon, and Gabby Weeks. We will have a lunch following worship on Sunday, May 26th.

Let's Go Camping!

Church camp season starts in June! Registration and payments for Indian Creek and Tippecanoe may now be completed online at abcin.campmanagement.com/enroll. Hardcopies of the forms are available on the library counter.

VBS is just around the corner!

VBS will be July 7-11. Our theme is "Miraculous Mission" and uses an outer space setting to emphasize God's plan to send Jesus to save us. Volunteers are needed! Please see the sign-up sheet going around the Sunday School classrooms, or talk to Tasha Hudson.



Let's Go F.I.S.H.-ing!

You are invited to participate in F.I.S.H. (Fellowship in Someone's Home) this summer! Each FISH group consists of about 3-4 households from FBC who get together once per month throughout the summer (June, July, August).

FISH groups typically share a meal together and rotate who hosts each month. The goal is to build relationships, have fun, and pray for one another. Please sign up by Sunday, May 12. Groups will be assigned and you will hear from your June host about setting a date. Sign-up sheets are available on the church library counter and in the adult Sunday school classrooms. If you cannot host or bring food, please sign up anyway. This is a great opportunity to get to know one another better. If you have questions, please ask Pastor Nathan or Jeff Coffin.

Bright Beginnings is Hiring

Bright Beginnings Daycare is looking for energetic, dependable and friendly people who have a love for children. We are currently hiring for caregiver positions and kitchen staff. Please call 812-384-0400 x11 for questions or to request an application for the daycare positions.

Bright Beginnings Preschool is currently taking applications for the Assistant Teacher position in the Tuesday and Thursday class. Please call 812-384-0400 x28 for questions or to request an application for the preschool position.



Schedule of FBC Anniversary Celebrations in 2019

Sunday, June 30 – Celebrating 40 Years of Ministry from Lincoln Drive Facility

Sundays, September 1, 8, and 15 – Preliminary 150th Celebration Events

Sunday, September 22 – 150th Anniversary Celebration

Sunday, September 29 – Day of Prayer for the Next 150 Years

Please join us and invite others to participate in these celebrations of God's great faithfulness!

If anyone is interesting in carpooling, please see Cheri Graf.

A Note from Pastor Nathan

When Job's three friends, Eliphaz the Temanite, Bildad the Shuhite and Zophar the Naamathite, heard about all the troubles that had come upon him, they set out from their homes and met together by agreement to go and sympathize with him and comfort him. When they saw him from a distance, they could hardly recognize him; they began to weep aloud, and they tore their robes and sprinkled dust on their heads. Then they sat on the ground with him for seven days and seven nights. No one said a word to him, because they saw how great his suffering was.

Job 2:11-13 (NIV '84)

In recent months, I have attended two seminars focusing on the topic of grief. A few of you were able to participate in these events with me. Both gatherings were well attended. It is evident that many people sincerely want to help those who are grieving but don't always know what is best to say or do. I offer to you some of the below observations as we all seek to be God's healing instruments in the lives of those we love.

1. It is better to focus on *being present* and *listening well* than "what to say." Job's friends started out well (above) when they showed up and listened and cried with him. They did worse when they started talking!
2. A grief counselor who presented one seminar said she continues to make mistakes. *The risk of loving those who are grieving requires a willingness to make mistakes and learn.* None of us always says the perfect thing.
3. Some clichés minimize the feelings of the grieving person. For example: "*At least* he's in a better place." "*At least* she's not suffering." But the grief may still be great! Offer empathy; don't force your perspective.
4. Tell the truth! "I'm so sorry." "We are praying for you." "We love you." Those statements are honest, loving, and they don't attempt to fix anything. Express love to the person in ways appropriate to him/her.
5. Don't defend God. God can handle any person's anger. It is more blessed to listen than to teach theology.
6. Tears are good! This idea of "being strong" during times of grief is foolish. It is healthy to weep together!
7. Be sensitive that the bereaved person's relationship with the deceased may have been different than yours was. Your grief of a good relationship lost might be their grief for a relationship that never was very good.
8. You and I may understand loss, and we may have suffered very similar losses, but we *never* know exactly how someone else feels. Therefore, we must *not* say, "I know exactly how you feel." We simply don't know.
9. Express care and listen well in the months and years following a person's loss, not just in the days after the funeral. Give the gift of a safe space to vent or tell stories. Storytelling can be healing for the grieving person.
10. Give the bereaved person the gift of choices. S/he did not get to choose that the loved one died. But s/he can choose what activities to participate in, which conversations to have, and when. Be gracious and patient.

I'm interested in hearing from you. If you are walking through a journey of grief, what has been helpful? What has been hurtful? We can learn a lot from one another by sharing stories. If you are seeking support for your grief journey, please let me know. There are a few resources I might be able to point you toward, if helpful.

We take great comfort that our Lord Jesus entered into our world of suffering and pain. He is *God with us* in the midst of sorrow. He is close to the brokenhearted. I pray that, wherever you are in your journey, you would sense His closeness and compassion as you read these words. Jesus loves you so very much.

Grace and peace,

Nathan

First Baptist Church
500 Lincoln Drive
Bloomfield, IN 47424

May
2019

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 9:00 Bible Study	2 6:30 Deacons	3	4
5 Healing Service	6	7 6:30 Trustees	8 9:00 Bible Study	9 6:30 Congregational Meeting	10	11
12 Mother's Day Baby Dedication 8:30 Fellowship Breakfast 9:00 Kingdom Kids	13	14	15 9:00 Bible Study	16	17	18
19	20	21	22 9:00 Bible Study	23	24	25
26 9:00 Kingdom Kids 12:00 Graduate Luncheon	27	28	29 9:00 Bible Study	30	31	

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

Cheri Graf

Trustee of the Month

John Bailey

Usher of the Month

John Bailey

Greeters of the Month

Sound System

5th Paul Schmidt
12th Braden Hudson
19th TBD
26th Eric Moody

Prayers

5th Fred Hart
12th Jennifer Moody
19th Jennifer Moody
26th Jennifer Moody

Nursery Care

5th Sandy Clark
12th ***Need Volunteers!!***
19th Michelle & Ivy Foxworthy
26th Stephanie Henry

Children's Worship

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

12th Betty Miller
19th Janet Schmidt
26th Kim Schulte