

# *The First Baptist Connection*

## October 2021

News and Updates for our Family in Christ

Visit our website @ [www.fbcbloom.org](http://www.fbcbloom.org)

### BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES

#### BIRTHDAYS

1 <sup>st</sup>	Jeff Hughes
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Norm Sullivan Trey Shirley
4 <sup>th</sup>	Bob Templeton
6 <sup>th</sup>	Joe Burcham
8 <sup>th</sup>	Josiah Rice
9 <sup>th</sup>	Rex Kirchoff
11 <sup>th</sup>	Steve Ham Delene Weeks
12 <sup>th</sup>	Alan Brown Noah Lombardi
14 <sup>th</sup>	Jean Burcham
18 <sup>th</sup>	Rodney Roark
19 <sup>th</sup>	Nancy Brinson
24 <sup>th</sup>	Brenda Nichols
25 <sup>th</sup>	Wyatt Shirley
29 <sup>th</sup>	Zachary Hudson Brixton Groomer
30 <sup>th</sup>	Daytona Hudson

#### ANNIVERSARIES

9 <sup>th</sup>	James & Heather Malone
11 <sup>th</sup>	Steve & Sandy Clark
18 <sup>th</sup>	Jeff & Teresa Coffin
20 <sup>th</sup>	Brenda & Randy Flanagan
27 <sup>th</sup>	Michael & Lindsey Sullivan

*We encourage anyone who is unable to attend worship in-person to participate online:*

1. Links for live worship services are posted weekly at [Facebook.com/groups/fbcbloom](https://www.facebook.com/groups/fbcbloom).
2. Recorded worship services are available to the public at [YouTube.com/fbcbloomfield](https://www.youtube.com/fbcbloomfield).

#### ***Blessing Box Needs***

Our Blessing Box is a resource for those who need items not available in the Food Pantry. Please consider donations of sunscreen, paper products, hygiene items, cleaning supplies, and baby items. Monetary donations are also appreciated. Thank you for supporting this ministry. Any questions can be directed to Cheri Graf @ 812-384-8980.

#### ***Tithes and Offerings***

We have three simple options for giving tithes and offerings:

1. Give online at [fbcbloom.org](http://fbcbloom.org).
2. Mail a check to the church at 500 Lincoln Drive.
3. Place tithes in the Giving Box in the Narthex.

### ***Kingdom Kids Choir Resumes***

Kingdom Kids Choir will resume on Sunday, October 10<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary. Practices will be on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month. Our plan this year is to sing during the Christmas Program in December and during the worship services on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month (beginning in January 2022). We will also share our music at the Nursing Homes and other local events.

If you have a child who is Kindergarten – 6th grade and would like to participate, we'd love to have them join us!! Please contact Brenda Flanagin at [flanagins@outlook.com](mailto:flanagins@outlook.com) or (812) 381-0051 with any questions.

### ***Love Feast Silent Auction***

The World Mission Offering will be received during November. Once again, we will hold a silent auction at our Love Feast. On the Sunday before the Love Feast, tables will be set up in the Narthex to display items or papers that describe the item for the auction. Everyone is encouraged to participate in this fun event! In the past, we have had Christmas decorations, baked goods, crafts, handmade items, oil changes, babysitting and more.....think outside the box. Contact Cheri Campbell Graf for more information 812-384-8980.

### ***Operation Christmas Child***

The First Baptist Church in Linton will once again be a drop off point for Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes. The National Collection Week will be November 15-22 according to Tammy Hart, volunteer coordinator from FBC Linton. She will be giving me more specifics as soon as they are available. I plan to pick up 75 boxes from her the first week of October. For those interested in participating, I will have boxes available in the Narthex. See Cheri Campbell Graf (812-384-8980) for questions.

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*Give thanks to the  
Lord, for He is good.  
His love endures  
forever.*



PSALM 136:1, NIV

# A NOTE FROM PASTOR NATHAN

*But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed.*

Luke 5:16 (NIV 1984)

Jesus was surrounded by needy people and overwhelming demands. He frequently withdrew for communion with His Father. Jesus invites us into this same relationship with Him, “Abide in Me, and I will abide in you” (John 15). Romans invites us to be transformed by the renewing of our mind, with the Holy Spirit being our transformer (Rom. 8:6; 12:2). We need regular rhythms of meeting with Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

It is my sense that many of us are weary right now, for various reasons. We need fresh rhythms of connecting with the Lord. Here are a few suggestions...

Have a plan. It does not need to be complicated. But if you know, “Right now I’m reading through Mark’s Gospel,” or, “Each day I am reading Psalm 107,” then when you get up in the morning, you can read what you’re ready for. As a pastor once said, “We don’t read the Bible to finish; we read the Bible to be changed.” The Lord may catch your attention with a verse or phrase. Stop there. Pray on it. Leave a bookmark. Pick back up tomorrow.

Start a Bible reading plan, and follow it, with the qualifications above in mind. You don’t have to read every passage listed for every day, and if you miss a day, you can pick back up where you left off. There is no falling behind if your goal is just to connect with God today. If you missed yesterday, start back again today. No regrets. Let’s move forward!

Use a hymnal for daily reflection. If you need help finding an old hymnal, we have some in the church library you could borrow. Flip through and stop on a hymn you like. Read or sing the words. Do another hymn the next day. You don’t have to hit all of the hymns, but stop and soak in the one the Spirit leads you to. Pray about what He brings to mind.

Go on a daily walk with God. Go with a scripture or hymn in your heart. Sing the song or repeat the verse as you walk. I have found exercise to be a great venue for scripture memory, and a great opportunity to listen for God’s voice.

As long as I brought it up, memorize scripture! Start small. Figure out some plan for reviewing what you’ve learned. I keep a list in the medicine cabinet. I review a few each morning and then walk the dog. Redeem your exercise time.

Use an audio Bible! There are formats for whatever technology you are using. This works great if you’re commuting, exercising, or doing chores. Worship music can also be great for this. I’ve got tape cassettes of sermons from long ago, and at least two devices that can still play them! The stuff we listen to in the background of life shapes us.

Find a quality devotional book, with daily scripture readings and short reflections. Warning: some reflections are light and flaky! But many are substantive, especially those that were written long ago. Wise saints have written stuff down. I can recommend a few if you don’t know where to start.

Start a prayer journal. Write down what God is up to in your life. Use it for confession, or thanksgiving, or for noting what God has brought to mind in your scripture reading or singing or praying.

Pray the Lord’s Prayer every morning. Do it on your knees if you can. Pray it slowly if you like. Let the Spirit bring to mind specifics when we pray things like, “Your will be done,” or, “as we forgive those who sin against us.” The very flow of that prayer can be used by God to touch on a variety of things going on in our hearts and lives. You can do this with other scripture passages, too. Take Psalm 136 and personalize it, for example. Or pray Psalm 139:23-24.

If you are weary, burned out, or feeling flat in your spiritual life, pray about a fresh rhythm for meeting with God. You don’t have to do all of the things listed here. I have never done all of these at the same time! I have started and stopped different habits in different seasons. But find something. *We will seek Him, and we will find Him, when we seek Him with our whole hearts (Jer. 29:13)!*

Grace and peace,  
Nathan

First Baptist Church  
500 Lincoln Drive  
Bloomfield, IN 47424

October  
2021

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
				30 6:00 Noodle Making Party!	1 <b>Apple Festival</b>	2
3 Communion  2:00 Apple Festival Parade	4  7:00 Choir Practice	5  6:30 Trustees	6  9:00 Bible Study	7  6:30 Deacons	8	9
10  8:30 Fellowship Breakfast 9:00 Kingdom Kids	11  7:00 Choir Practice	12	13  No Bible Study	14  6:30 Church Council	15	16
17  9:00 Kingdom Kids	18  7:00 Choir Practice	19	20  9:00 Bible Study	21	22	23
24  9:00 Kingdom Kids	25  7:00 Choir Practice	26	27  9:00 Bible Study	28	29	30
31  9:00 Kingdom Kids						