



The Bell Tower

April 2024



BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAYS

- 1st Barb Stoner
3rd Kelsey Moody
Jeffrie Porter
4th Cheri Campbell Graf
Gabe Brown
6th Sylvia Pischel
Lora Kutch
15th Adrienne Hughes
19th Laverne Rollison
25th Ashley Terrell
28th Lori Resler

ANNIVERSARIES

- 19th Doug & Barb Frye
Bert & Sharon Terrell
27th Junior & Ruth Barker



Watch FBC online:

1. Links for live worship services are posted weekly at Facebook.com/groups/fcbcbloom.
2. Recorded worship services are available to the public at YouTube.com/fcbcbloomfield.

Tithes and Offerings

If you would like to support the church online, please visit our website at www.fcbcbloom.org.

Church Office Hours

Tuesday-Friday
9:00am-12:00pm & 1:00-3:00pm

Church Office Hours

6 February through 26 April

Tues./Thurs. 9:00am-12:00pm & 1:00-4:00 pm
Wednesday 1:00-4:00 pm
Friday 9:00am-12:00pm & 1:00-3:00pm

Food Pantry Hours

Tuesday-Thursday 9:00am-11:00am
Tuesday Evening 4:30pm-6:00pm

CLC Access

Daily access to the CLC, for those who don't have a key, will now be available during regular church hours by checking/signing in with FBC Secretary Heather Malone. Access to the CLC will be by utilizing the walkway through the church Narthex.

FBC NEWS AND ACTIVITIES

No Bible Study Wednesday, April 3

Please note that there will be no Wednesday morning Bible Study on April 3. Bible Study will resume on April 10.

Eclipse Weekend Events at First Baptist, April 7 & 8

A Chicken & Noodle Dinner will be served in the CLC from 4:30-6:30 pm on Sunday, April 7.

A VIP Q&A session with Jason Gray will begin at 5:15 pm with a concert in the sanctuary following at 7:00 pm. Tickets are available in the church office or contact Kylee Moody at 812-381-3444. Cash, checks, or Venmo accepted. Checks can be made payable to Bloomfield FBC with Jason Gray in the memo line.

On Monday, April 8, the CLC will serve as a respite for emergency and first aid responders from 11:00 am-5:00 pm. The Boy Scouts will also be selling food out of the FBC shelter house.

If you are willing to help at all throughout the weekend, please contact Tasha Hudson.

Girls Gone Wise Ministries Fundraiser due April 15

Girls Gone Wise Ministries is having a fundraiser selling Divine Candles which are locally owned and manufactured in Bloomfield, Indiana. Candles are \$18 each, and payment is due by April 15th. Checks can be made payable to Girls Gone Wise Ministries and placed on Heather's desk. If you would like to support this ministry, the signup sheet is located on the table in the Narthex.



IU Baseball Game Saturday, April 27

Faith and Family Day at IU Baseball is scheduled for Saturday, April 27, at 2:00 p.m., vs. Rutgers. If you are interested in attending with a group from FBC, please contact Heather Malone in the church office by Friday, April 12. Tickets will be \$5 each. Pastor Nathan plans to drive the church bus, which will leave FBC at approximately 12:45 p.m.

Rocky Roads Children's Program Sunday, April 28

Our next monthly children's program will be April 28 from 4-6pm. Please let Tasha Hudson know if you can help!

Mowing Opportunity

Bloomfield First Baptist is looking for a person to mow and trim our grounds. This is a compensated position. This does not necessarily have to be a commercial service, but the candidate will need to provide their own equipment. If you know of anyone, please have them contact James Malone at 937-243-6853.

P.J. Drive Thank You

Our DCS P.J. Drive for the children was a great success. It is hard for most of us to think that something as simple as a new pair of P.J.'s could make a difference. To a child who is being removed from his or her family and surroundings, it is a loving gesture. Thank you for your prayers and your response to this need.

Vacation Bible School 2024

Ashley Terrell has volunteered to direct VBS again this summer. Dates will be July 28-August 1. If you are interested in helping, please contact Ashley at (812) 606-1217. Thank you!



Our trip to see *The Promise!*

On March 12, thirteen individuals traveled on the church bus to Montgomery to see *The Promise*, a dramatized musical depicting the life of Jesus. A good time was had by all.



YOUTH HAPPENINGS

Indian Creek Summer Camp 2024

If you or your child plan to attend or volunteer at Indian Creep Camp this summer, please let the church office know. Registration is currently open at <https://campindiancreek.com>. FBC will pay half of the registration fee for each camper from this church. If you need assistance with the remaining funds, please contact Pastor Nathan, one of the Deacons, or Heather in the church office to see about a scholarship.

INDIAN CREEK BAPTIST CAMP

@INDIANCREEKBAPTISTCAMP

Grades	Sessions	Dates
Kindergarten- 1st	FIRST TIMERS	June 2nd - 3rd
1st - 2nd	EXPLORER	June - 9th - 11th
2nd - 3rd	DISCOVERY	June 12th - 15th
10th - 2024 Grads	SENIOR HIGH	June 16th - 22nd
4th-6th Girls Only	GIRLS CAMP	June 22nd - 26th
4th-6th Boys Only	BOYS CAMP	June 26th - 30th
6th-9th	CHALLENGE	July 14th - 20th
7th-9th	FOCUS	July 20th - 26th
16yrs +	SPECIAL PERSONS	July 28th - 31st

Register Online at campindiancreek.com
scholarships available where needed

Homecoming at Indian Creek Baptist Camp, April 12-14

INDIAN CREEK

**70TH
ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION**

Remember all that God has done at ICBC, and preparing for all He will continue to do!

PLANNED ACTIVITIES

- Worship & Fellowship
- Sermons & Breakout sessions
- Cabin Olympics
- FreeTime games and tournaments
- Meals and snacks

The whole Camp experience!

SATURDAY FAMILY
REUNION SCHEDULE

- 9:00 Breakfast & Chapel
- 11:00 Morning Games & Small Groups
- 12:30 Lunch & Ribbon Cutting
- 2:00 Tours & Free Time
- 4:00 Tournaments & Family Time
- 6:00 Dinner & Chapel
- 8:30 Evening Event

RSVP ONLINE

campindiancreek.com

*ITS FREE!!!

*donations accepted to help cover food and operation costs



ECHOES FROM THE BELL TOWER

Spring Poem: April Showers

By Robert Louis Stevenson

When April skies begin to frown,
And the cold rain comes pelting down,
We must not grumble nor complain,
Nor idly say, we hate the rain.

God sends the rain; the dust-y ground
It softens in the fields around;
The moisture every plant receives,
And springs afresh in flowers and leaves.

Should God forbid the showers to fall,
Nor send us any rain at all,
The ground would all grow hard and dry,
And every living plant would die.

All things would starve and perish then—
No food for birds, nor beasts, nor men;
Then do not murmur, nor complain,
God, in His goodness, sends the rain.

And Now It's Spring

By Lhtheaker

The grass is green across the hill,
But yellow blooms the daffodil.
It's sunshine on a little stalk,
A friendly flower, I bet they talk...

Of little kids, too long inside
They burst outdoors to play and hide.
Tracking mud and bringing bugs.
Look, there's footprints on the rug!

Tiny whirlwinds, these little tykes,
They skin their knees while riding bikes.
They rip and roar, they're running wild!
What fun it is to be a child.

It grows warmer every day.
Shoo the children out to play!
Pick the flowers, play in mud.
Too much rain, here comes a flood!

My snowy, winter days are gone.
I mourn them, but I hear a song
Of birds in trees; wind chimes ring.
I guess it might as well be spring!



Its time for our

FIRST BAPTIST



DID YOU KNOW...

FBC at one time had a Church Orchestra? They were organized in October 1968 under the direction of Kathleen Osburn. They made five appearances, starting with the December 1968 meeting of the Men's Brotherhood



Association at the Jefferson Baptist Church of Coal City. They had a part in our Christmas Program in December 1968, and also played on Easter Sunday, April 6, 1969 for Sunday School. The last two appearances were in our church on May 5 and 25, 1969.

How many members of our Orchestra can you name?

ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S MARCH MADNESS CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

1. TOURNAMENT
6. INDIANA
8. CBS
11. CHEER
12. BASKETBALL
14. BUZZER
15. EIGHT
16. FOUR

DOWN

2. NCAA
3. NET
4. SIXTEEN
5. PACERS
7. BRACKET
9. SYCAMORES
10. PURDUE
12. BAND
13. CHAMPION
14. BUTLER



For last month's First Baptist Flashback, we have a tie for the closest dates for our Easter pictures. **Alex Malone & Nancy Sullivan** both guessed 1968 and 1969. The actual dates were 1970 and 1971. Congratulations Alex & Nancy!!



COOKS IN THE BELFRY

(How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth! Psalm 119:103 NIV)

This month's recipes come from our 125th Anniversary Cookbook.

Fresh Spinach Salad

Paula Bartlett

1 lb. fresh spinach
3 or 4 green onions

3 or 4 slices crisp bacon

Croutons:

2 to 3 Tbsp. butter

1 ½ c. bread cubes

Melt butter in skillet. Saute bread cubes until hard and toasted nicely.

Dressing:

1 egg

1 clove garlic, minced

½ c. salad oil

½ c. Parmesan cheese

1/8 to ¼ tsp. red pepper

½ tsp. salt

about 5 tsp. white vinegar



Combine egg and garlic on medium speed of electric mixer. Add oil a little at a time; beat until thick. Blend in rest of ingredients and refrigerate. Combine mixture, dressing and croutons just before serving.

Mandarin Orange Salad

Jean Resler

1 head lettuce

1 small can mandarin oranges, drained

1 (6oz.) pkg. walnuts, sauteed

1 can onion rings

Mix together and add celery seed dressing just before serving.

Celery Seed Dressing:

½ c. oil

½ c. onion

½ tsp. salt

4 Tbs. sugar

½ tsp. dry mustard

Mix well in blender. After well blended, add:

¼ c. cider vinegar

1 ½ tsp. celery seed

Dressing is better if made the day before serving and stored in refrigerator.



MANNING THE ROPES

(Committee & Council Updates)



FOOD PANTRY NEWS

There were 67 families served so far in March, and there is still one week to go. CVS Bloomfield donated 116 pounds of food items, Dollar General donated 418 pounds, Rulers donated 47 pounds, Walmart donated 1276 pounds, Crane Commissary 345 pounds, Holy Name Catholic Church 285 pounds, First Baptist Church 92 pounds, First Christian Church 42 pounds, Bloomfield First Grade 828 pounds, Mansions In Heaven Church 44 pounds, Bloomfield 1st Presbyterian Church donated \$115 from the Super Bowl, Brad Ellis, Dennis and Karen Kutch, Cheri and Steve Graf, Vicki Long, David Holt, Andrew Templeton, Brady Miller and the Mineral Methodist Church donated food items or donated money. Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow!!!!

BLESSING BOX UPDATE

Our Blessing Box is a great help to those in our community who are going through difficult times. I can't imagine, as a mother, that I would ever be unable to provide for the daily needs of my family. Our ministry doesn't supply wants. We are in the business of making sure families have hygiene products, cleaning and laundry products, and paper goods. You can help us by either purchasing products while shopping or making a donation. We also appreciate your prayers for our ministry.



Break the Code!

What is the secret message? Use the chart below to figure out which number stands for each letter.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26
 Y F I B P O K Q Z D H C S T M E U N X R L W J A G V

25 20 16 24 14 3 13 25 6 10 13

2 24 3 14 11 2 17 21 18 16 13 13

25 20 24 12 16 24 18 10 21 6 26 16

2 6 20 1 6 17

Solution: Great is God's Faithfulness, Grace, and Love for You!

FROM THE MODERATOR

A special council meeting was held at 6:30pm on Tuesday March 12th to discuss developing a safety/security plan in the event of oncoming severe weather or a potential security risk while attending service at FBC. Sheriff George Dallaire presented a comprehensive presentation that included several important factors to consider when developing such a plan. During the meeting, Sheriff Dallaire agreed to take the lead in the development of the plan. A follow-on meeting is scheduled for Tuesday April 16 that will include a walk-through of the church and the CLC to identify potential risk factors. Information will be provided to the congregation as the plan is being developed.

FBC Moderator

John Bailey



Please pray for First Baptist Church in 2024...

For abounding love and discernment,
Philippians 1:9-11

That God would renew our minds,
Romans 12:2

For purity and that we would faithfully minister to those in need,
James 1:27

That we would encourage one another,
Hebrews 10:24-25

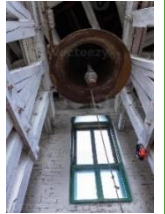
For continual awareness of God's goodness,
Psalm 34:8

For continual experience of Christ's peace and joy,
Philippians 4:4-9

For confident, faithful perseverance,
1 Peter 5:10

Thank you for keeping our church and community in prayer!

A NOTE FROM PASTOR NATHAN



Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up. He said: *"In a certain town there was a judge who neither feared God nor cared about men. And there was a widow in that town who kept coming to him with the plea, 'Grant me justice against my adversary.' "For some time he refused. But finally he said to himself, 'Even though I don't fear God or care about men, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will see that she gets justice, so that she won't eventually wear me out with her coming!"*

And the Lord said, *"Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? I tell you, he will see that they get justice, and quickly. However, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?"*

Luke 18:1-8, NIV'84

Sometimes, we get tired of praying. When we encounter difficult relationships or circumstances, it can be easier to see our challenges than our God. Things change slowly. Situations seem impossible. We grow weary of praying. We give up.

Jesus knows this, so He tells a parable about prayer. There are three characters in this story: a judge, a widow, and her adversary. The widow is almost certainly vulnerable, and her adversary, by implication, is almost certainly wealthy (and apparently, in the wrong).

The judge cares nothing of this. He has no regard for God and no particular interest in helping people. This judge is in it for himself. Why should he care about some poor, wronged widow? More important things, please.

But she won't let the matter drop! She wears him out! He can't take it anymore! "I *don't* care about God," he says to himself, "and I *certainly* don't care about people. But *this* lady is going to kill me!" (My paraphrase.)

Therefore, he sees to it that the widow gets justice in the dispute with her adversary. He doesn't pursue justice because he fears God or because he cares about poor widows, but because he is sick and tired of her persistence.

Contrast this judge with God, who not only cares about justice but defines what justice is. God loves all people, including poor widows (and adversaries and judges). God has no reluctance to overcome. He is eager to intervene on behalf of the needy. He will see to it that the widow gets justice, and "quickly."

But, she might have to wait for it.

The very fact that Jesus calls His disciples to *persistent* prayer indicates that "quickly" doesn't always mean "now" or even "soon." Persistent prayer is necessary because the outcomes we seek are often delayed.

There is a strange paradox here. From God's end, there is no reluctance to intervening on behalf of His people. God loves us and desires justice for us and is abundantly able to bring it about. Yet, even when the faithful pray, we experience delays in the (desired) answers to those prayers. If God is just and God cares about us, why must we wait?

That's a great question. Jesus ends this conversation with another great question: "When the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?" Faith operates on the basis of unseen realities. The faithful are commended for living by faith *even while not yet receiving the promised things they were waiting for* (Heb. 11:39).

Faith responds well while waiting. Faith waits confidently, knowing that God will graciously intervene. But faith waits.

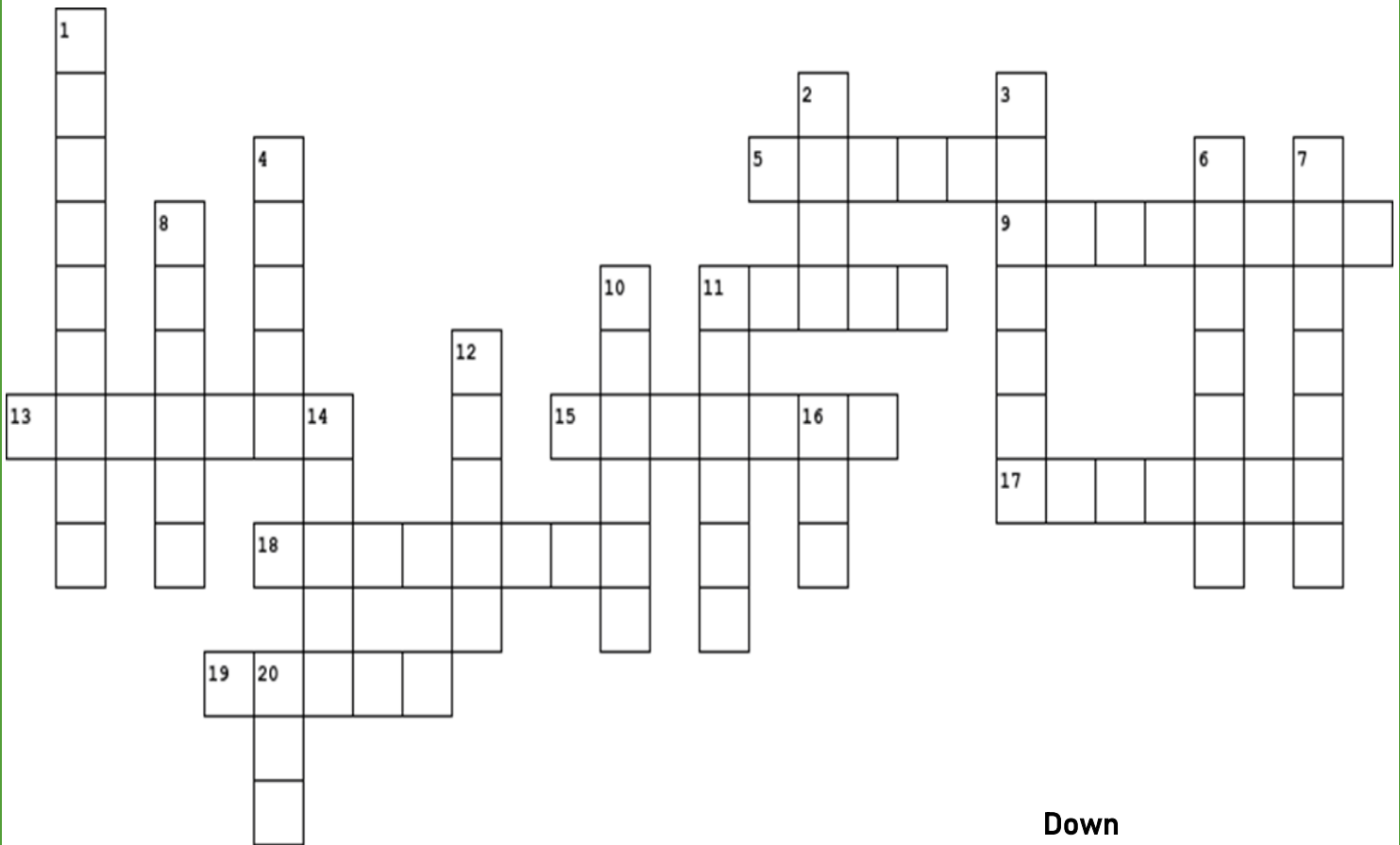
Books could be written about why we don't always experience results to our prayers right away. But isn't because God doesn't care or because God isn't able to intervene. He will prove faithful to all of His promises for all of His people.

But, when the Son of Man comes, will He find faith on the earth?

Let us pray!

Nathan

BASEBALL TERMS



Across

5. Two outs recorded on this kind of play.
9. League with Yankees, Red Sox, Tigers, and others.
11. Four of these and you walk.
13. Three of these and you're out.
15. Ideal outcome; the name of a field in Indianapolis.
17. Bunt play with runner on third.
18. League with Cardinals, Cubs, Reds, and others.
19. Runner takes an extra base without being caught.

Down

1. Defender between 2nd and 3rd base.
2. If it's not fair, it's ____.
3. By me some ___ and Cracker Jack.
4. Worn on hand, helps to catch a ball.
6. Delivers the ball to the batter.
7. Receives the ball from #6 down.
8. Calls balls and strikes, safe or out.
10. Batter hits safely for three bases.
11. Home half of the inning.
12. Defense makes a mistake.
14. If the home team doesn't win, it's a ____.
16. A completed journey around the bases.
20. Visitors' half of the inning.

Answers will be printed in next month's *Bell Tower*.

First Baptist Church
500 Lincoln Drive
Bloomfield, IN 47424

April
2024

Church Office: 812-384-8459
FAX No: 812-384-8982
Bright Beginnings Preschool: 812-384-2647

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 6:00 GS Board Mtg 6:30 Cub Scouts 7:00 Choir	2 9:30 Cottage Prayer Group 6:00 CLC res	3	4 4:45 Girl Scouts 6:30 Boy Scouts	5	6 6:00 CLC res
7 Communion 4:30 Chicken Noodle Dinner 5:15 Concert Q&A 7:00 Jason Gray Concert	8 11:00 CLC - Emergency Response Respite 7:00 Choir	9 9:30 Cottage Prayer Group 6:00 CLC res	10 9:00 Bible Study	11 6:30 Boy Scouts	12	13 6:00 CLC res
14 8:30 Fellowship Bfst 9:00 Kingdom Kids 1:00 CLC res	15 6:30 Cub Scouts 7:00 Choir	16 9:30 Cottage Prayer Group 6:00 CLC res 6:30 Council Mtg	17 9:00 Bible Study	18 4:45 Girl Scouts 6:30 Gideons 6:30 Boy Scouts	19	20 8:00 FH res 6:00 CLC res
21 1:00 CLC res.	22 6:30 Cub Scouts 7:00 Choir	23 9:30 Cottage Prayer Group 6:00 CLC res 6:30 Trustee Mtg	24 9:00 Bible Study	25 6:30 Deacon Mtg 6:30 Boy Scouts	26	27 12:45 IU Baseball 6:00 CLC res
28 9:00 Kingdom Kids 4:00 Children's Prog	29 6:30 Cub Scouts 7:00 Choir	30 9:30 Cottage Prayer Group 6:00 CLC res				

Deacon of the Month
Kathy Ham

Trustee of the Month
Steve Ham

Usher of the Month
Bob Templeton

Prayers

7th Sharon Terrell
14th
21st
28th

Snacks in the Narthex

7th The Baileys
14th Fellowship Brkfst
21st
28th Kylee Moody

Greeter

Ivy Foxworthy

Nursery Care

7th Taylor Hudson
& _____

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