

THE FIRST BAPTIST CONNECTION

April 2020

News and Updates for our Family in Christ

Visit our website @ www.fcbcbloom.org

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COVID-19 UPDATE

Bright Beginnings Daycare is CLOSED until further notice.

Bright Beginnings Preschool is CLOSED as long as Bloomfield Schools are closed.

The Food Pantry is OPEN normal hours as a drive-thru operation:

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 9-11 a.m.; Tuesday 4:30-6 p.m.

All Sunday Morning Worship Services (10:40 a.m.); Wednesday Morning Bible Studies (9:00 a.m.); and Thursday morning Bright Beginnings Bible Story readings (8:30 a.m.) will be broadcasting at facebook.com/nathanbrooks1982 until further notice.

The church office is closed. Brenda, our secretary will be working from home. All calls and emails to the church are being rerouted to her at home. Please do not hesitate to call or email if you need something.
(812-384-8459 or secretary@fcbcbloom.org)

In-person gatherings are suspended. Archived sermon audio and video is available at fcbcbloom.org.

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BIRTHDAYS

1st Barb Stoner

6th Sylvia Pischel

16th Carolyn Burgess

3rd Kelsey Moody

9th Brad Hughes

19th Laverne Rollison

Jeffrie Porter

11th Shannon Dan

23rd Kay Allen

4th Cheri Graf

Ethan Dean

28th Lori Resler

Gabe Brown

15th Adrienne Hughes

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ANNIVERSARIES

13th Paul & Janet Schmidt

19th Doug & Barb Frye

19th Bert & Sharon Terrell

From the Bright Beginnings Board

Dear Church Family and Daycare Parents,

MANY thanks to all who have been able to donate to help our staff. The Bright Beginnings Daycare did receive the grant from the state. This will ensure that our staff receives their full paycheck on April 10, 2020. We will keep you updated as to further needs. Again, we thank you for your continued support during these strange times.

Daycare Flower / Houseplant Fundraiser

Our flower fundraiser is still on! The order and payment date has been pushed back to Friday, May 1, 2020. The new pick-up date is Friday, May 8 from 2:00-6:00pm. Still in time for Mother's Day! 😊

Women's Bible Study Starts in April

Liz still plans to begin the Women's Bible Study "Under Christ's Authority: Ephesians" at 6:30 on Tuesdays, April 28 – June 23 in the FBC sanctuary. She is still working out the details for alternatives in case we are still under a "stay at home" order. Stay tuned!

Church Camp Registration

Please visit the individual camp websites at www.camptippy.org or www.campindiancreek.com and register online. Please provide the church office a copy of the statement showing your part of the payment.

Vacation Bible School – July 26-30

ALL ABOARD the Rocky Railway! VBS this year will be railroad themed program that will get railroad enthusiasts and everyone excited about how Jesus pulls us through life's ups and downs. Plan to participate and spread the word to the children in the community. Stay tuned for more planning and organizational opportunities.



Youth Mission Trip

As of right now, the youth mission trip is still on...but that could change. Additional funds are still needed. Rather than hold more fundraisers, the idea was introduced that perhaps individuals would like to sponsor the youth. A person/family/group could donate and pray for a youth one-on-one. If the trip is cancelled all funds will stay in the youth mission trip fund for future opportunities. Our money is due on June 1 so pledges for sponsorship will be accepted at this time. Please see Debra Hudson.

A Note from Pastor Nathan

Yet this I call to mind and therefore I have hope: Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail.

Lamentations 3:21-22

And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us.

Romans 5:5

O Israel, put your hope in the Lord, for with the Lord is unfailing love and with him is full redemption.

Psalms 130:7 (all quotations from NIV, 1984 edition)

We have been given new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead! This defines us. As followers of Jesus, we are people of hope. It's who we are.

But we live in a world full of things which challenge our sense of hope. Things like this virus floating around invite feelings of fear and a sense of despair. There is a possibility that the people of hope might begin to think and act as if we were hopeless. The biblical authors are determined to make sure that is not the case.

So we find reminders such as those printed above scattered throughout scripture. These verses intentionally divert our eyes away from our hopeless circumstances so that we might recall our hope in the Lord.

You might notice that, at least in the above passages, our hope is grounded in *God's love*. The Old Testament term for God's love has to do with faithfulness and loyalty. This love is the only thing that brings about true *shalom*: peace, wholeness, "the way things ought to be." God's love is the beautiful constant in an unpredictable world.

I felt nudged by the Spirit (and by our dear secretary, Brenda, who always reminds me when it is newsletter time) to share this with you today. I understand that the COVID-19 outbreak is scary especially because it involves many unknowns. We don't know what the ultimate costs will be. We don't know how our loved ones will be impacted. We don't know when life will get back to normal, or how normal that normal might be.

But we do know that God's unfailing love prevents us from being consumed. We have hope because God has poured out His love into our hearts by means of the Holy Spirit within us. We know that this God of unending love is working on a process of *complete* redemption in your life and in mine. All of us who belong to God through Jesus Christ know that even death will not have the final word on us. With renewed bodies, we who are new creations in Christ shall dwell with Him in the midst of a gloriously restored creation. All of this is His gift to us, *because He loves us*.

You might hear bad news today, or in the coming days, related to this novel coronavirus. You, like me, might find yourself discouraged or distraught. If that happens to you, turn back to this little article. Or, better than that, turn to your Bible and find promises like those above – there are more than I can count! Remember that though a great many things may fail, the love of God for you will never fail. We are not consumed!

Grace and peace,

Nathan

Bloomfield First Baptist Church 500 Lincoln Drive Bloomfield, IN 47424			APRIL 2020	Pastor's Cell: 812-381-8459 Church Office: 812-384-8459 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	6	7 6:30 Trustees	8 9:00 Bible Study	9 6:30 Church Council	10	11
12	13	14	15 9:00 Bible Study	16	17	18
19	20	21	22 9:00 Bible Study	23	24	25
26	27	28 6:30 Women's Bible Study	29	30		

Sound System	Prayers	Nursery Care	Children's Worship (2 nd & 4 th Sundays only)
5 th Paul Schmidt 12 th Braden Hudson 19 th TBD 26 th Eric Moody	5 th 12 th 19 th 26 th	5 th Sandy Clark / Taylor Johnson 12 th Paula Bartlett / Kinley Moody 19 th NEED VOLUNTEERS 26 th Janet Schmidt / Haley Brown	12 th Betty Miller 26 th Sandy Clark

<u>Reoccurring Weekly Activities @ FBC</u> Mondays: 6:30p.m. CubScouts-FH Tuesdays: 6:30p.m. GirlScouts-FH Thursdays: 6:00a.m. Men's Breakfast 6:30p.m. BoyScouts-FH 6:30p.m. Gideons(3 rd Thurs.eachmonth)-FH	<u>Deacon of the Month</u> <i>Jeff Hughes</i> <u>Trustee of the Month</u> <i>Steve Ham</i> <u>Usher of the Month</u> <u>Greeters of the Month</u>
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