

**The First Baptist Connection**

# October 2017

**News and Updates for our Family in Christ**

*FBC sermons are available online! Visit our website @ [fbcbloom.org](http://fbcbloom.org), and click on "Featured Media." Sermon recordings are listed there by date, title, and Scripture text*

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## Nursery Care

1 <sup>st</sup>	
8 <sup>th</sup>	
15 <sup>th</sup>	Marlen Flynn & Mary Kent
22 <sup>nd</sup>	
29 <sup>th</sup>	Sherry Weeks

## Sound System

1 <sup>st</sup>	Paul Schmidt
8 <sup>th</sup>	Braden Hudson
15 <sup>th</sup>	TBD
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Eric Moody
29 <sup>th</sup>	Eric Moody

## Prayers

1 <sup>st</sup>	John Bailey
8 <sup>th</sup>	Donna Miller
15 <sup>th</sup>	Joann White
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Braden Hudson
29 <sup>th</sup>	Sharon Terrell

## Children's Worship

*(2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays only)*

8 <sup>th</sup>	Betty Miller
15 <sup>th</sup>	Janet Schmidt
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Kim Schulte

# October 2017

## *Birthdays*

## *Prayer Concerns*

2 <sup>nd</sup> Kim Keller	12 <sup>th</sup> Alan Brown
3 <sup>rd</sup> Norm Sullivan	Malea Toon
4 <sup>th</sup> Bob Templeton	14 <sup>th</sup> Jean Burcham
6 <sup>th</sup> Joe Burcham	Paul Stewart
8 <sup>th</sup> Bob Holt	18 <sup>th</sup> Rodney Roark
9 <sup>th</sup> Betty Baker	Kent Rollison
Kyle Doane	19 <sup>th</sup> Nancy Brinson
Rex Kirchoff	Megan Lunberry
10 <sup>th</sup> Jean Boyer	22 <sup>nd</sup> Jackie Vandeventer
11 <sup>th</sup> Steve Ham	24 <sup>th</sup> Brenda Nichols
Delene Weeks	29 <sup>th</sup> Zachary Hudson
	Brixton Groomer

**On-Going Prayer Concerns**  
Bright Beginnings Daycare and Preschool  
Jerry & Jean Boyer  
David & Lydia Hunter  
Tammy Kirkman  
Tyler & Georgene Lunberry  
Charles & Mary Jane Parker  
Kay Pierce

**Hearthstone (Bloomington)**  
Charlotte Humerickhouse

**Lyons Rehab Center**  
Nancy Canty

## *Anniversaries*

7<sup>th</sup> Warren & Paula Bartlett  
9<sup>th</sup> James & Heather Malone  
11<sup>th</sup> Steve & Sandy Clark  
12<sup>th</sup> Charles & Mary Jane Parker  
18<sup>th</sup> Jeff & Teresa Coffin  
20<sup>th</sup> Brenda & Randy Flanagan



### **One Great Hour of Sharing**

Our Church Family will be receiving the "One Great Hour of Sharing" offering during October. This year our offering theme is "You Are Here." "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in." Matthew 25:35. One Great Hour of sharing is present for people near and far in moments of crisis and calm because of your partnership and generosity. We will be sharing more information all month via bulletin inserts, posters and a video. Please pray about your response to this special offering.

# A Note from Pastor Nathan

I love the National Anthem. My high school choir sang our director's own arrangement of *The Star-Spangled Banner* for many events, including basketball semi-states we hosted in Greencastle, and both Indians and Pacers games in Indianapolis (the latter at my own initiative). It was a joy and honor to have these opportunities.

I do have two uneasy Anthem stories to share. Fifteen years ago, I went to the RCA Dome with a friend to see his beloved Miami Dolphins play (and, unfortunately, defeat) the Colts. To my surprise, my friend did *not* stand during the National Anthem! This made me extremely uncomfortable! Given the events of the previous September, any lack of patriotism was highly suspicious and rather offensive. *Why wouldn't he stand for the National Anthem? Why would he choose to remain seated?*

A few years later, my family toured Baltimore's Fort McHenry, where the flag had inspired Francis Scott Key to pen the poem we now sing. The first step for guests, as is common at many museums, was to watch a short documentary about the place. At the end of the film, the tour guide whipped open the window blinds to unveil a panoramic view of a replica flag flying over the old fort. He shouted, "STAND UP!" and abruptly ordered us to sing the National Anthem. I was glad to do this, *but why was he commanding us to stand and sing?* Had we not already communicated our sincerity by coming to visit? Was the video not sufficiently inspirational? Was the view not breathtaking? I was happy to stand and sing, but I was not very happy about his tone.

When I served as public address announcer for athletic events at Taylor University, after reading the NAIA character statement, I always asked, "Ladies and Gentlemen, would you please rise for the playing of our National Anthem?" This was always a *request*, an invitation. There is something beautiful about free citizens of a free country freely choosing to stand and honor our country. *We want* to do this. What a great contrast to the many nations throughout history which have compelled their citizens to loyalty by threat or by force, and in doing so have produced a very hollow allegiance. Such nations have often been quite hostile to biblical faith.

I choose to stand for the National Anthem because I am grateful to God for the United States, because I love this country, and because I respect those who have given so much – in some cases, all – to preserve this nation. This respect extends to heroes in uniform and to countless honorable citizens who have contributed greatly. I stand because I freely choose to do so. And my standing has meaning especially *because I actually want to*.

In this regard the controversy of the hour – athletes choosing not to stand for the National Anthem – highlights something important. Whether we like it or not, those who are kneeling have the right to do so. This is actually a reflection of the free country our Anthem celebrates. Peaceful expression of dissenting ideas is encouraged here, even if the means of expression or the ideas themselves make us uncomfortable. Those who express these ideas do not necessarily lack the gratitude, love, or respect for our country which we share. Frankly, among all forms of protest, silent kneeling is among the most respectful. Even if kneeling during the Anthem rubs us the wrong way, those kneeling might be bringing attention to issues to which our attention needs to be drawn.

What precisely our country's problems are and how best to address those difficulties is of course a matter for thoughtful debate. A nation dedicated to the proposition that "all men are created equal" and "liberty and justice for all" will continually be in the process of living up to our national ideals. We who are Christians believe God (who has given us the ability to freely choose or freely reject Him) has created all persons in His image and loves all people, and that Christ died for all. Jesus commands us to love our enemies, which certainly includes anyone who does anything that may irritate us. My experience is that the most irritating voices are sometimes the voices God wants me to hear, and always the people for whom God wants me to pray.

*There's an opportunity to kneel! Would you join me in continuing to pray for the country we love?*

Grace and peace,

Nathan

**First Baptist Church**  
500 Lincoln Drive  
Bloomfield, IN 47424

**October  
2017**

**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	2	3 6:30 Trustees	4	5	6 <b>Apple Festival</b>	7
8 9:00 Kingdom Kids 2:00 Apple Festival Parade	9	10	11	12 6:30 Deacons	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22 9:00 Kingdom Kids	23	24	25	26 6:30 Church Council	27	28
29	30	31				

<b>Deacon of the Month</b> <i>Casey Rice</i>	<b>Trustee of the Month</b> <i>Bert Terrell</i>	<b>Usher of the Month</b> <i>Norm Sullivan</i>	<b>Greeter</b> <i>Laverne &amp; Miriam Rollison</i>
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**Reoccurring Weekly Activities @ FBC**

<b>Sundays:</b> 8:00 a.m. Handbell Practice	<b>Wednesdays:</b> 6:15 p.m. FLAMES - CLC
<b>Mondays:</b> 10:00 a.m. Enhanced Fitness - FH 6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts – FH 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice	<b>Thursdays:</b> 6:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast 10:00 a.m. Enhanced Fitness - FH 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts - FH 6:30 p.m. Gideons (3 <sup>rd</sup> Thurs. each month) – FH
<b>Tuesdays:</b> 6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts - FH 6:30 p.m. Cottage Prayer Group	

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