

**The First Baptist Connection**

# January 2018

**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

7 <sup>th</sup>	
14 <sup>th</sup>	
21 <sup>st</sup>	Marlen Flynn & Mary Kent
28 <sup>th</sup>	

## Sound System

7 <sup>th</sup>	Paul Schmidt
14 <sup>th</sup>	Braden Hudson
21 <sup>st</sup>	TBD
28 <sup>th</sup>	Eric Moody

## Prayers

7 <sup>th</sup>
14 <sup>th</sup>
21 <sup>st</sup>
28 <sup>th</sup>

## Children's Worship

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

14 <sup>th</sup>	Betty Miller
21 <sup>st</sup>	Janet Schmidt
28 <sup>th</sup>	Kim Schulte

# January 2018

## Birthdays

5<sup>th</sup> Avery Malone  
6<sup>th</sup> Remington Roark  
9<sup>th</sup> Pauline Auxier  
Teresa Coffin  
Debra Hudson  
10<sup>th</sup> Tasha Hudson  
12<sup>th</sup> Janet Brown  
16<sup>th</sup> Earl White  
19<sup>th</sup> Laynie Chambers  
22<sup>nd</sup> Erin Sullivan  
23<sup>rd</sup> Joann White  
24<sup>th</sup> Younkyung Kim  
25<sup>th</sup> Evvie Nicholson  
26<sup>th</sup> Jennifer Moody  
Charles Parker  
28<sup>th</sup> Charlotte Humerickhouse

## Prayer Concerns

### On-Going Prayer Concerns

Bright Beginnings Daycare and Preschool

Jerry & Jean Boyer

David & Lydia Hunter

Tammy Kirkman

Tyler & Georgene Lunberry

Charles & Mary Jane Parker

### Hearthstone (Bloomington)

Charlotte Humerickhouse

### Lyons Rehab Center

Nancy Canty

## Anniversaries

25<sup>th</sup> David & Lydia Hunter

# FBC News & Activities

## Hoops for Him - 2018

The 2018 Hoops for Him Basketball Program will be held at the Bloomfield First Baptist Christian Life Center beginning January 27 and ending March 17, 2017. Any boy or girl age 4 through 6th Grade is invited to participate. Session 1 for Preschool and Kindergarten age kids will be 9:00-10:00am, Session 2 for Grades 1-3 will be 10:00-11:30am, and Session 3 for Grades 4-6 will be 11:30am-1:00pm each Saturday. The season will conclude with an Awards Ceremony on March 18th. Online Registrations will be available through our Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/HoopsforHim/>).



Volunteers are needed every Saturday to lead each session, coach the kids, work the concession stand, and provide devotions. Please prayerfully consider how you can help make our 8th consecutive season successful. The volunteer sign-up sheet will be circulated at church or you may contact Eric Moody (email [eric.moody@navy.mil](mailto:eric.moody@navy.mil) or text 812-227-0700) if you are willing to assist.

# A Note from Pastor Nathan

Happy New Year! I want to update you all regarding a particular prayer request for 2018.

On Saturday, January 6 (snow date: January 13), the Deacons and Church Council will gather at the church (9 a.m. to 3 p.m.) for a retreat to talk about our vision for the upcoming year and beyond.

The primary product of this retreat, I anticipate, will be questions. Rather than coming back and telling the rest of us what we have to do, this group will be asked to produce a list of questions. These questions will be questions that all of us can begin praying about – as individuals, as households, as committees – so that we might discover what the Holy Spirit has for us next. Then of course we will follow up in various ways.

There will be a theme to all of this question-asking: “Love your neighbor.” We desire to love our neighbors, not just because Jesus commanded us to, but so that we might be overflows of His love to those around us. The love of Jesus and our love for Jesus compels us to love others whom Jesus loves.

“Neighbor,” as I’ve written in this space before, must be understood broadly. A neighbor is anyone who is “next to” me or you: the next house, the next cubicle, the next locker. But neighbors must also be prayed about specifically: *that* person who lives next door, *that* coworker, *that* classmate, *that* teacher, *that* parent of my kid’s friend, *that* coach, *that* cashier at the store. Among us, the Lord has given us many neighbors to love.

The first question-generating phase of the retreat will address the things we are already doing. *What can we do as a church to love our neighbors more effectively through the ministries/programs we are currently doing?* That question, and the set of questions and ideas it generates, will be very important, but we must not stop there.

This leads to the second, and I believe, more important question: *What new avenues is the Lord giving us to love our neighbors?* We must especially consider those opportunities which depend on us as individuals/households that cannot be “programmed.” This is essentially what Jesus did for us at Christmas. He came down to us, to live among us. How might we more effectively “make our dwelling among” the neighbors around us, “full of grace and truth”?

All of this requires a third question, which is, *What do we need to learn about our neighbors/neighborhood in order to more effectively love our neighbors?* We need, certainly I need, to learn more not just about our people but our place. I cannot assume that I know how I can best show God’s love to you. I need to get to know you. There is an increased awareness we need, of our community and its people, in order to love more effectively.

I write these things to you now so that you might join me in praying for the retreat day and for those of us who will be there. I also ask you to begin praying because I am interested in what the Holy Spirit says to all of us. If you are reading this newsletter, you are a valuable part of the FBC family and you have valuable ideas to share.

My hope is that the retreat day generates dozens of questions that we can pass along to the people and the committees of FBC. Not every question will relate to your household or to your area of ministry in the church. But I’m pretty sure that all of us will come away with questions to pray about. And, the Holy Spirit working as He does, there will be common desires and ideas that will be awakened in multiple people at the same time. And there will be sharing of stories. And the Lord will say again, “See, I am doing a new thing!” (Isa. 43:19).

Even as I write this I am so excited to serve as your pastor and to see what the Lord has on the horizon for us!

Grace and peace,  
Nathan

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

**January 2018**

**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 6:30 Trustees	3	4 6:30 Deacons	5	6 9:00 Church Leadership Retreat
7	8	9	10 10:00 Bright Beginnings Board	11	12	13
14 9:00 Kingdom Kids	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 6:30 Church Council	26	27 Hoops for Him
28 9:00 Kingdom Kids	29	30	31			

<b>Deacon of the Month</b> <i>Jason Nicholson</i>	<b>Trustee of the Month</b> <i>Greg Flinn</i>	<b>Usher of the Month</b>	<b>Greeter</b> <i>Brad &amp; Anne Ellis</i>
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<u>Reoccurring Weekly Activities @ FBC</u>			
<b>Mondays:</b> 10:00 a.m. Enhanced Fitness - FH		<b>Wednesdays:</b> 6:15 p.m. FLAMES - CLC	
6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts – FH		<b>Thursdays:</b> 6:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast	
6:30 p.m. Choir Practice		10:00 a.m. Enhanced Fitness - FH	
<b>Tuesdays:</b> 6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts - FH		6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts - FH	
6:30 p.m. Cottage Prayer Group		6:30 p.m. Gideons (3 <sup>rd</sup> Thurs. each month) – FH	

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