



The Bell Tower

September 2023



BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAYS

| | |
|------------------|---|
| 2 nd | Jerry Boyer |
| 3 rd | Sandy Clark |
| 4 th | Brady Hudson Sue Sanford Judy Stahl |
| 5 th | Kimberly Porter |
| 6 th | Don Hendrix |
| 7 th | Katlyn Moody |
| 12 th | Ginger Stewart Steve Graf |
| 19 th | Lee Young |
| 20 th | Mike Henry |
| 21 st | Junior Barker |
| 25 th | Oliver Foxworthy Gavin Rice |
| 29 th | Gabe Copp Taylor Hudson |
| 30 th | Hope Shirley Walter Pischel |

ANNIVERSARIES

| | |
|------------------|------------------------|
| 21 st | Jeff & Adrienne Hughes |
|------------------|------------------------|

Watch FBC 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).

Tithes and Offerings

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

Updated Church Office Hours

| | |
|-----------|------------------------------|
| Tuesday | 9:00am-12:00pm & 1:00-4:00pm |
| Wednesday | 1:00pm-4:00pm |
| Thursday | 9:00am-12:00pm & 1:00-4:00pm |
| Friday | 9:00am-12:00pm & 1:00-3:00pm |

*Office hours will return to normal the week of 20 November.

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

Chicken & Noodles at the 2023 Apple Festival

The 2023 Apple Festival is Fri, Oct 6th through Sun, Oct 8th,

Although the Festival runs through Sunday, we will only serve Chicken & Noodles for lunch and dinner on Friday and Saturday as we are accustomed to. We will also be in a new location this year due to the installation of exercise equipment in the NE shelter house. We will now use the NW shelter house (across from Subway). We are working through some logistics challenges due to this move (more to come).

Our Noodle Making Party is Thursday evening, Oct 5th, 6pm – 9pm. Sign-up now to help make the noodles, provide food or drink items, and/or work in the kitchen, the booth, or as a runner. The sign-up book will be circulating through the Sunday School classes and will be available at the Sound Booth window. See Eric Moody for questions.

Apple Festival Community Worship Service, Sunday October 8

You are all invited to a Community Worship Service Sunday, October 8 at 11:00am at the Bloomfield Park Temporary Bandstand (rain location – Shelter House). Pastor Nathan will be preaching, and other local pastors and churches will be participating. Sunday School will be as normal at FBC at 9:30am. Shuttle service will be provided after SS from FBC to the park for those who need it. More details to come. Questions? Ask Nathan.

Ephesians Recommended Reading Plan

Get your reading plan for the book of Ephesians in one of several places:

- 1) On the table in the Narthex
- 2) On the website under Featured Media-Bulletins
- 3) On the FBC Facebook page
- 4) Emailed to you by the church office

The Choirs are back!

The first choir performance will be during Sunday morning worship service September 3. Kingdom Kids are resuming their practices on September 10.

Preaching at Parkview

Pastor Nathan will be preaching at Parkview in Odon on Sunday, October 1 at 2:00pm. All are encouraged to attend and worship with the residents there.

Witmer Family Visit

ABC Missionaries Kyle and Debby Witmer will visit FBC on Wednesday, September 27. After Wednesday Morning Bible Study (9-10 a.m.), the Witmers will provide an update on their ministry beginning about 10:15 a.m. Afterward, we will go out for lunch together. All are welcome to come and join us!





ECHOES FROM THE BELL TOWER

*(Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ.
Ephesians 1:3 NIV)*

Happiness of the Heart – Praise God!

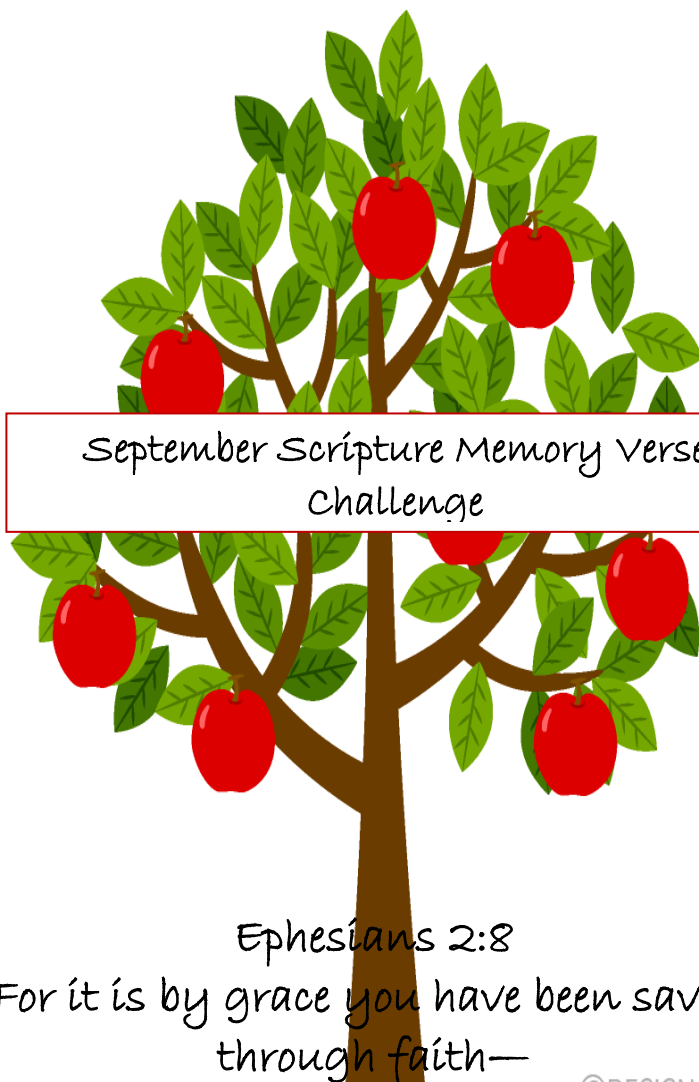
by Julie Hebert

What is it that makes,
Happiness in your heart?
Is it your job or your friends,
Or maybe a fresh start.

What is it that allows,
You to find your way?
Maybe school or a trip,
Or a change of your day.

What is it that keeps,
Your faith in full light?
Is it church or a song,
Or a sense of great sight?

Too often it happens,
Truth becomes a haze,
When in reality,
It's God we should praise.



September Scripture Memory Verse
Challenge

Ephesians 2:8
For it is by grace you have been saved,
through faith—
And this is not from yourselves, it is the
gift of God--NIV

Quotable Quotes:

"The Psalmists in telling everyone to praise God are doing what all men do when they speak of what they care about."

--C.S. Lewis

And now.... for our first ever
FIRST BAPTIST



Be the first person to identify these people from our First Baptist family and get... (drum roll please) --- special recognition in our **October** Newsletter!



June 1996

WELCOME

In the month of August, we welcomed two new members, Tammy & Chuck Young. We are so happy to have them here worshipping with us!

ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S EPHESIANS CROSSWORD:

ACROSS

- 4. spiritual
- 8. chosen
- 9. Aquila
- 10. Jesus
- 11. saint
- 13. Diana
- 14. predestined
- 15. grace

DOWN

- 1. Priscilla
- 2. transgressions
- 3. Forgiveness
- 5. Ephesus
- 6. Christ
- 7. Paul
- 12. Gospel



YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT HAPPENINGS

WRV Antique Show Youth Trip September 8

Our middle/high school youth will visit the White River Valley Antique Show in Elnora on Friday, September 8. The plan is to meet at the church at 5:30pm and return around 8:30pm. Questions? Contact Josh Osborne.



ABC IN/KY Youth Fuse Event

On Sunday, August 27, eight youth and three adults represented Bloomfield First Baptist at a regional FUSE event. We were one of eleven different churches that attended. We enjoyed great weather, great students and leaders, a great lesson, and great food.



Young Adults Away:

Aiden Malone

208 Crestview Drive Apt 21
Vincennes, IN 47591

Cansas Rhodes

201 N Martin Jischke Dr 354
West Lafayette, IN 47906

Sydney Terrell

2243 US Hwy 52 West, Unit 1424
West Lafayette, IN 47906



Alex Malone

812 Schutte Rd.
Apt. #7341 Steppe Way
Evansville, IN 47712

Kinley Moody

1 Lancer Way Box 934
Winona Lake, IN 46590

SN Hudson, Brady L.

2321 Paul Jones Street
Great Lakes, IL 60088

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HOST AN ACTIVITY OR EVENT FOR OUR FANTASTIC YOUTH OR YOUNG ADULTS, LET A DEACON OR PASTOR NATHAN KNOW.

Examples could include, but are not limited to:

Service Projects of Many Kinds * Prepare and Serve Church Breakfast * Game Night at CLC or Someone's Home * IU Women's Basketball Game * IU Soccer Game * Winter Jam Concert * Cookouts * Mini Golf * Bowling * Pool Party * Roller Skating * Laser Tag * Go Carts * OTHER IDEAS YOU HAVE!

The goal is to offer these activities at no or low cost to the students themselves, but FBC is willing to help with the cost if you're willing to invest in the time with our students. Thank you for being a blessing!

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 recipe is from Donna Miller. This is the amazing coconut cream pie that everyone scrambles to get a slice of at our church potlucks. Now you can make your very own---or at least try.

If you have a recipe you would like to share with our church family, please email or hand it to Heather in the church office, and we will print it in a future newsletter.

From the Kitchen of Donna Miller

Recipe for: Coconut Cream Pie

Ingredients:

Filling

3/4 cup plus 1/2 cup sugar
4 Tbsp of cornstarch
1/4 tsp of salt
3 cups milk
4 egg yolks
2 Tbsp of butter
1 1/2 tsp vanilla
1 cup coconut

Directions:

Bake a single 10-inch pie crust shell and cool.
Combine the sugar, cornstarch, and salt.
Gradually stir in the milk
Cook, and stir over med/high heat until bubbly.
Cook and stir 2 minutes. Remove from heat.
Stir in a moderate amt of hot mixture into 4 slightly beaten egg yolks.
Immediately, return to hot mixture.
Cook 2 minutes stirring constantly. Remove from heat.
Add butter and vanilla.
Stir in coconut.
Pour into cooled baked pastry shell.
Top with Meringue

From the Kitchen of Donna Miller

Recipe for: Meringue

Ingredients:

4 egg whites
1 tsp vanilla
1 1/2 tsp cream of tartar
6 Tbsp sugar
coconut

Directions:

Beat egg whites with vanilla and cream of tartar until soft peaks form.
Gradually add sugar beating until stiff and all sugar is dissolved.
Spread meringue over hot filling sealing to edge of pastry.
Top with coconut.

Bake at 350° for 12-15 minutes or until meringue is golden.

MANNING THE ROPES

(Committee & Council Updates)



FOOD PANTRY NEWS

The food pantry served 82 families in July and 66 families so far in August. The American Legion donated \$500 which will go toward purchasing ground beef and other meat products. Tooger and Charlotte Smith, Master Gardeners, the Malone family and other individuals that have brought in produce from their gardens and other people who have brought other donations of beans, jiffy mix and some soups. Mike Henry donated 100 pounds of fresh potatoes dug from the ground. The pantry is in short supply of crackers, cereal, and any kind of meat, We have been having to buy bread, milk, hot dogs and sometimes tomato juice or apple juice. The food pantry praises God for the donations given!!!

BLESSING BOX UPDATE

Our Blessing Box ministry is definitely helping those who are in need. Some people in our community are leaving donations. However, the bulk of our supplies and monetary gifts come from our FBC family. We are truly grateful for each and everyone. We could not continue this ministry without you. I am so thankful for your heart for missions. Any questions, just let me know. Cheri Campbell Graf 812-227-0117.

BRIGHT BEGINNINGS PRESCHOOL UPDATE

Please keep Preschool in your prayers! 4&5 year olds meet M/W/F 8:15-11am. 3&4 year olds meet T/Th from 10am-Noon. Would you like a way to be involved with the Preschool? Perhaps you could read to a small group of students while Ms. Michelle works with another group. Perhaps you have a hobby or career you could share with the students? Tell them about beekeeping, or your pet lizard, sewing or carpentry... Perhaps you could volunteer to drive the church bus if there is a field trip. Volunteer opportunities could be once a week, or once a month, or a one-time visit! You will need a background check on file. If interested, please talk to Michelle Foxworthy or Tasha Hudson.

COTTAGE PRAYER GROUP

The Cottage Prayer Group has been meeting since June of 1999. Originally, the group met in homes, so that is how the group got its name.

As time went on, some of our members moved or just found it difficult to participate. Several years ago, it was decided to meet at church. We normally meet in the library on Tuesday mornings at 9:30 a.m., but if that space is not available, we meet in the Fellowship Hall. During the pandemic, we met in the Fellowship Hall so we could "social distance" with masks on.

We welcome anyone who would be interested in joining us. We have a prayer list that changes weekly. There are names from our prayer chain on the list, but also others that we hear about in a variety of ways.

We are open to trying a different format than is now used.

Prayers can be silent or spoken. If you have any questions, contact Debra Hudson, Betty Miller, or Cheri Campbell. You can always send requests to Heather. She will contact us with your request.

FROM THE MODERATOR

The Church Council met on August 10 and discussed the following items:

****Old Business** (remaining from the May Council meeting)

-Bright Beginnings Board to present a list of property to be determined what stays and what goes. Bright Beginnings Chairperson Tasha Hudson updated the council on the status of Daycare furniture and equipment. All rooms have been gone through and items have been identified of what stays and goes. She will contact local daycares to see if they would be interested in purchasing any of the items.

-Keep Lockbox at Northwest Bank or purchase a fireproof safe. The church has had a lockbox at the local bank for several years. An inventory was conducted of the items in box. After discussion it was decided to purchase a fireproof safe to have at the church to allow for additional items to be stored in it.

-Generator for the Food Pantry. The Food pantry has inquired about the possibility of having a generator for the food pantry due to the amount of refrigeration units they have in the event of an extended power failure. An estimate of \$18-\$20,000 has been received for the cost of the purchase and installation of the generator. We are looking at the possibility of a Grant to help cover the cost. An individual to the Moderator has stated that they would cover one half of the total cost of the generator if the other half is covered.

New Business

-Concept for finding/selecting organizations for using the CLC. Bob Weeks has agreed to lead a group of individuals who have volunteered to participate in this endeavor. The first meeting is scheduled for Sunday, Aug 27th immediately after church to start the process.

Upcoming meetings

12 October:

Next Council meeting to finalize the 2024 budget to be presented to the Congregation for approval in November

9 November

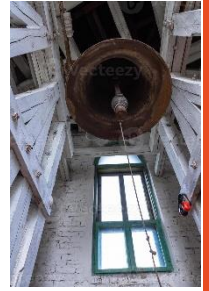
Congregational Meeting

- Committee present their reports
- Vote on Officers filling vacancies
- Vote on 2024 FBC Budget

ATTENTION COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND REPS

If you have a contribution for the October newsletter, please submit it to the church office (preferably via email) by Monday, September 25. Thank you, Heather.

A NOTE FROM PASTOR NATHAN



Happy September!

I wanted to use this space this month to encourage you again to be praying about future uses of our Christian Life Center (CLC). A Discovery Group has been assembled from among our church family to lead a journey of learning and listening for the Holy Spirit's guidance. We need to listen well to voices inside our church family and out in the community.

As I've stated before, I think there are *at least* three kinds of questions we need to be asking:

What does the community need?

What is the building capable of?

What has the Lord called and equipped FBC to do?

It is my conviction that as we listen well, the Holy Spirit will bring some clarity from the overlap in the answers to these questions. There might not be *one* single answer. The CLC is the kind of facility that could house one "big thing" or several "little things" at the same time.

This is a time for dreaming big and listening well. Your ideas and opinions are valuable and important. You will be hearing more from the Discovery Group about opportunities to provide your input in the coming weeks and months. I personally invite conversations with any of you about anything the Lord has laid on your heart about this journey.

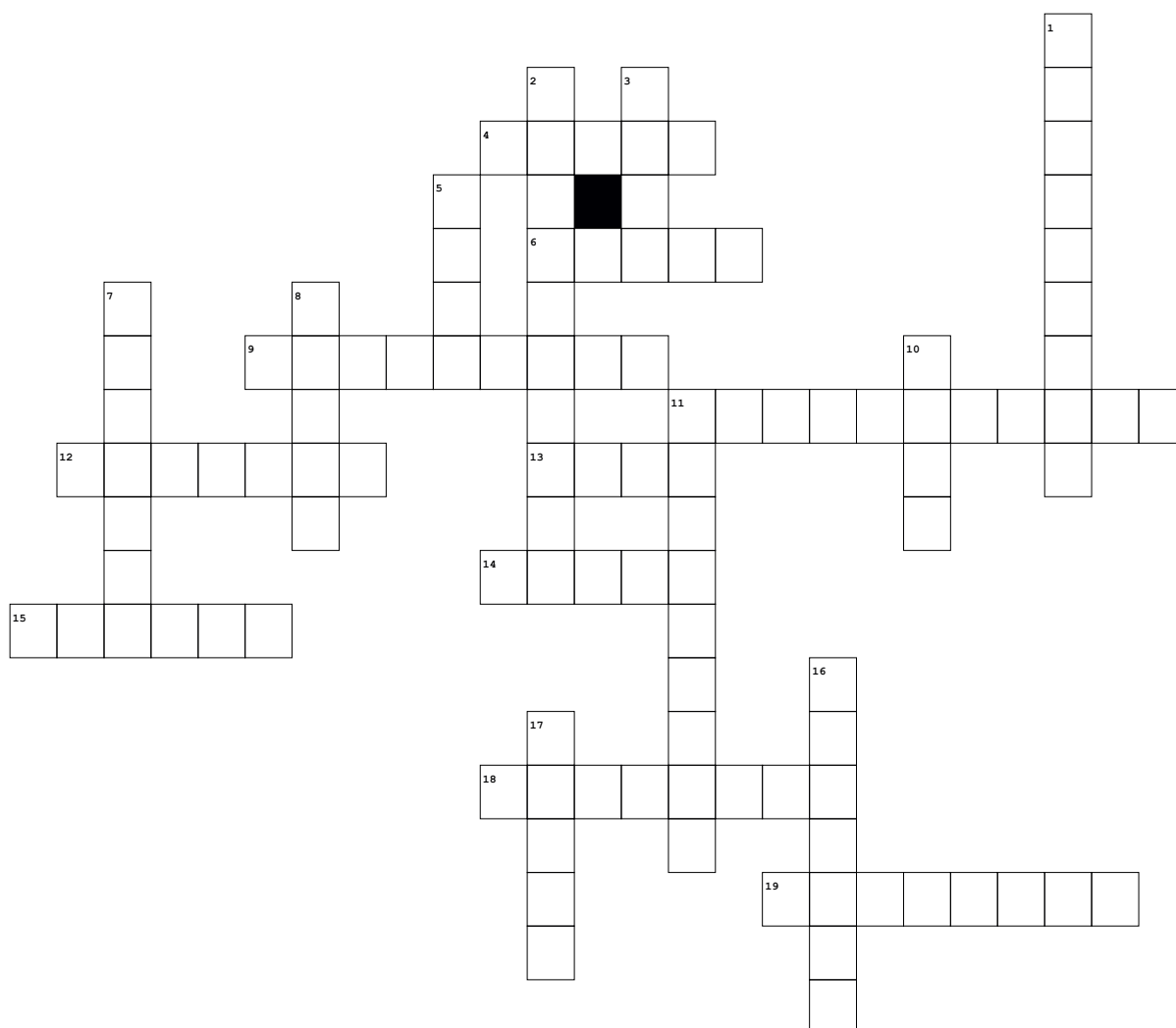
The Lord has faithfully led this church into a variety of ministries over our 154 ½ years together. We can trust Him to lead us and provide for us as we seek to follow Him into the exciting unknown that lies before us.

"We pray this will be a place of mission and ministry, advancing the kingdom of God on earth, sharing the love of Christ with all."

That's what the dedication plaque from September of 2008 – fifteen years ago – prays over our CLC building. There is so much exciting potential in that prayer! Please join with me in praying for the Holy Spirit's guidance as we seek God's will.

Grace and peace,
Nathan

Hebrews-Malachi Themed Crossword Puzzle



Across

4. "I have ____ you," says the Lord (Mal 1:2).
6. Possessed in Hebrews 11; broken in Malachi 2.
9. Our favorite Bible study happens on ____ mornings.
11. Jesus is our great high priest in the order of ____ (Heb 6:20).
12. Hearts turned in Mal. 4; disciplinarians in Heb. 12.
13. Wednesday morning Bible study starts at ____.
14. Let us run, fixing our eyes on ____ (Heb 12:1-2).
15. Jesus is our great high ____ (Heb 4:14).
18. Taking the Lord lightly, the priests showed Him this (Mal 1:6).
19. Without ____, no one will see the Lord (Heb 12:14).

Down

1. He always lives to ____ for us (Heb 7:25).
2. We approach the throne of grace with ____ (Heb 4:16).
3. Son of Israel with whom the Lord made covenant (Mal 2:4).
5. Refining in Mal. 3:1; consuming in Heb. 12:29.
7. His name means, "My messenger" (Mal 1:1).
8. How the Lord feels in Mal. 2:17.
10. We have come to the ____ of the Living God (Heb 12:22).
11. My ____ will prepare the way (Mal 3:1).
16. My name is great among the ____ (Mal 1:11).
17. The ____ for today is posted on Facebook at 8:25 a.m. weekly.

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

First Baptist Church
500 Lincoln Drive
Bloomfield, IN 47424

September
2023

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

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|-------------------------------------|--|---|---|-----------------------------------|----------|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 3 Communion | 4 Labor Day | 5 9:30 Cottage Prayer Gr 6:00 CLC res 6:30 Trustee Mtg | 6 9:00 Bible Study | 7 6:30 Boy Scouts 6:30 Deacon Mtg | 8 5:30 Youth Trip to Elnora | 9 |
| 10 8:30 Fellowship Breakfast 9:00 Kingdom Kids FH reserved CLC reserved | 11 6:30 Cub Scouts 7:00 Choir | 12 9:30 Cottage Prayer Gr 6:00 CLC res | 13 9:00 Bible Study | 14 6:30 Boy Scouts 4:45 Girl Scouts | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 6:30 Cub Scouts 7:00 Choir | 19 9:30 Cottage Prayer Gr 6:00 CLC res | 20 No Bible Study | 21 6:30 Boy Scouts 6:30 Gideon Mtg | 22 | 23 |
| 24 9:00 Kingdom Kids | 25 6:30 Cub Scouts 7:00 Choir | 26 9:30 Cottage Prayer Gr 6:00 CLC res | 27 9:00 Bible Study 10:00 Witmer Fam. | 28 6:30 Boy Scouts 4:45 Girl Scouts | 29 5:00 CLC res | 30 |

Deacon of the Month
Charles Porter

Trustee of the Month
Eric Moody

Usher of the Month
Jeff Hughes

Prayers

3rd Tammy Young
10th Sharon Terrell
17th
24th

Snacks in the Narthex

3rd Ashley & Wesley
10th Fellowship Brkfst
17th
24th

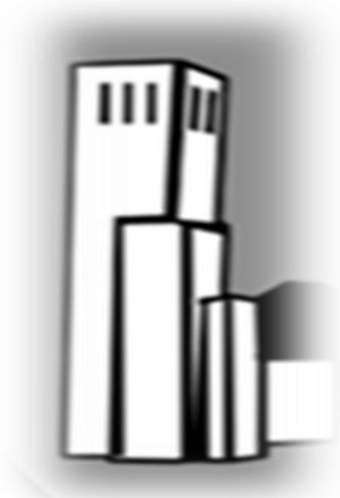
Greeter

Jennifer & Kelsey Moody

Nursery Care

3rd Dixie Hudson &

First Baptist Church
500 Lincoln Drive
Bloomfield, IN 47424



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