

The Bell Tower

May 2024



BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAYS

- 5th Piper Hughes
- 7th Gracie Hudson
- 8th Marlen Flynn
- 24th Amaya Terrell
- 25th Becky Smith
- 31st Casey Rice

ANNIVERSARIES

- 12th Paul & Ginger Stewart
- 24th Braden & Tasha Hudson



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.

Church Office Hours

Tuesday-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



FBC Bright Beginnings Yard Sale, May 3 & 4

Bright Beginnings Board is looking for people to staff a yard sale in shifts on Friday and Saturday, May 3&4. If you can help out for a couple hours, please let Tasha Hudson know. We are putting out daycare things for sale during Bloomfield's Townwide Yard sale.

Baby Dedication Sunday, May 12 and June 2

We will have a Baby Dedication on Mother's Day, May 12 and Sunday, June 2, 2024. If you have a child or grandchild you would like to present to the Lord, on either of these days, please let Pastor Nathan know no later than May 5.

Graduation Recognition Sunday, May 19

We will be celebrating our high school graduates Emma Resler, Gabe Brown, Ava Manuel, and Willow Foxworthy with a chicken & noodle luncheon in the Fellowship Hall immediately after Morning Worship.

Rocky Roads Children's Program Sunday, May 19

Our last monthly children's program will be May 19 from 4-6pm. Please let Tasha Hudson know if you can help!



Children's Compassion Moment



Summer Special Music

As the season for the choir ensembles winds down, it is once again time for special music in the worship services throughout the summer! All musicians are invited to share their talents with music that adds to meaningful worship. Please contact Andrew Sohn, Brenda Flanagin, or Steve Clark.

Summer Church League Softball

Softball practices are under way gearing up for the league games which will begin soon. Practices are held most Sunday afternoons at 5:00 pm, weather permitting, at the ball diamonds in Bloomfield. If you have questions, contact Braden at 812-381-1937.

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!

Take Me Out to an IU Baseball Game!

On Saturday April 27, a group traveled to Bloomington for an IU Baseball Game.



YOUTH HAPPENINGS

Indian Creek Summer Camp 2024

If you or your child plan to attend or volunteer at Indian Creek 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.

Youth Movie Outing, Sunday, May 5

We have scheduled a youth outing to the Tivoli Theater in Spencer to see the Christian movie, "Unsung Hero" on Sunday, May 5th. We will leave the church at 1:00 p.m. The movie starts at 2:00 p.m. The cost of admission and refreshments will be provided. Parents need to RSVP to Heather by Friday so we can determine whether we will carpool or take the church bus. Adults are welcome to attend as well, at their own expense. Any questions, contact Debra Hudson 812-384-2805 or Cheri Campbell Graf 812-227-0117.

Youth Lock-In Serving Mother's Day Breakfast, May 12

The youth will be cooking and serving breakfast tacos for Fellowship Breakfast on Sunday, May 12 in honor of Mother's Day. The youth will need to be at the church by 7:00 that morning.

The youth guys will be having a lock-in on Saturday May 11-12 in order to seriously prepare their competition breakfast dessert for the Fellowship Breakfast. Guys, please arrive at the church between 6-7pm and bring a sleeping bag/pillow, clothes to sleep in, and clothes for Morning Worship. See Aiden Malone or Josh Osborne with questions.

Day of Service & Prayer at Indian Creek Baptist Camp, May 18

May 18th is the annual Day of Service and Prayer at Indian Creek Baptist Camp- you can join them for a full day of projects to prepare for the summer ahead, and to pray over everything coming this summer. RSVP your group or family today and spend the night for free if you want to be there even more! Contact Aiden Malone if you would like a ride.

Pictures from Indian Creek Baptist Camp Homecoming on April 13-14



INDIAN CREEK BAPTIST CAMP

[@INDIANCREEKBAPTISTCAMP](https://www.instagram.com/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 - 28th
4th-6th Boys Only	BOYS CAMP	June 26th - 30th
6th-9th	CHALLENGE	July 14th - 20th
7th-9th	FOCUS	July 20th - 26th
10th +	SPECIAL PERSONS	July 28th - 31st

Register Online at campindiancreek.com
scholarships available where needed



DAY OF SERVICE & PRAYER

SATURDAY MAY 18TH



Opening Prayer 9:00 AM

Lunch at 1pm

Join us at any time during the day

RSVP TODAY

campindiancreek.com/serve
812-279-2161

If you or your group have special skills, call the camp and we can schedule you for a specific project!



ECHOES FROM THE BELL TOWER

All Things Bright & Beautiful

By Cecil Frances Alexander

All things Bright and Beautiful,
All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful,
The Lord God made them all.

Each little flower that opens,
Each little bird that sings,
He made their glowing colors,
He made their tiny wings.

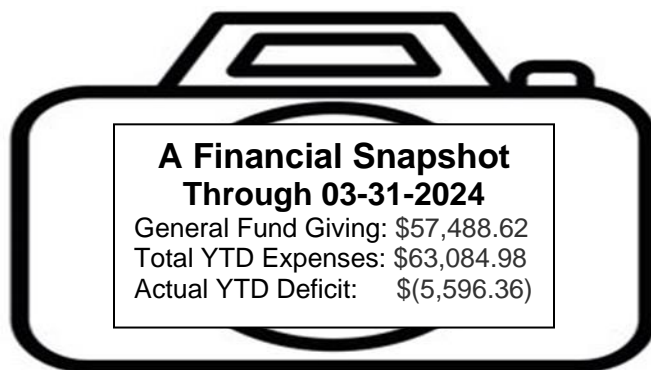
The rich man in his castle,
The poor man at his gate,
God made them high and lowly,
And ordered their estate.

The purple headed mountain,
The river running by,
The sunset and the morning,
That brightens up the sky;

The cold wind in the winter,
The pleasant summer sun,
The ripe fruits in the garden,
He made them every one.

The tall trees in the greenwood,
The meadows where we play,
The rushes by the water,
We gather every day;

He gave us eyes to see them,
And lips that we might tell,
How great is God Almighty,
Who hath made all things well.



Its time for our
FIRST BAPTIST
DO YOU KNOW...



Can you name these
 bell ringers from
 1990?

Be the first to
 correctly identify these
 bell ringers and enjoy
 seeing your name
 appear **here** in next
 month's *Bell Tower*.



**ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S
 BASEBALL TERMS
 CROSSWORD PUZZLE**

ACROSS

- 5. DOUBLE
- 9. AMERICAN
- 11. BALLS
- 13. STRIKES
- 15. VICTORY
- 17. SQUEEZE
- 18. NATIONAL
- 19. STEAL

DOWN

- 1. SHORTSTOP
- 2. FOUL
- 3. PEANUTS
- 4. GLOVE
- 6. PITCHER
- 7. CATCHER
- 8. UMPIRE
- 10. TRIPLE
- 11. BOTTOM
- 12. ERROR
- 14. SHAME
- 16. RUN
- 20. TOP



Congratulations to **Judy Stahl**, this month's First Baptist Flashback winner!! Judy correctly identified 12 out of 15 of those pictured from our First Baptist Orchestra members c. 1969.



Those pictured are: Front Row, left to right: Hazel Dishman, Norma Bruce, Amanda Hasler Sullivan, Larry Sullivan; Back Row, left to right: Polly Bruce, Susan Humerickhouse, Pamela Bruce, Diana Humerickhouse, Carol Workman, Ron Hawkins, John Blackett, Robin Rollison, Mrs. Kathleen Osburn, Charlotte Humerickhouse, Judy Sullivan. Not pictured: Dennis Sullivan.

COOKS IN THE BELFRY

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

Peanut Butter Chocolate Chip Energy Bites

Submitted by Tammy Young

Prep Time: 15 mins Cook Time: 15 mins Servings: 15 bites Source: kristineskitchenblog.com

1 cup old-fashioned oats
1/4 cup pure maple syrup
1/4 teaspoon kosher salt

1/2 cup creamy peanut butter
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
1/4 cup dark chocolate chips

Place oats, peanut butter, maple syrup, vanilla, and salt in a food processor and pulse until combined, about 10 pulses. Scrape down the sides of the bowl. Add chocolate chips and pulse a few times to coarsely chop.

Taking small spoonfuls of the mixture at a time, use your hands to form it into 1-inch balls. I find that using both the palm of my hand and fingertips to squeeze the mixture together works best to shape the balls.

Store in the refrigerator.



Spaghetti or Pizza Sauce

Submitted by Karen Kutch

Taken from the First Baptist 125th Anniversary Cookbook

1 1/2 gal. tomato juice
3 lb. onions (6 c. after blended)
2 green mangoes
1 hot pepper or 1/2 tsp. red pepper
48 oz. tomato paste
6 bay leaves

2 cloves or 1/2 tsp. garlic powder
1 pt. salad oil
1 c. (more or less) sugar
1/2 c. salt
2 Tbsp. each oregano, basil, and parsley

Blend onions and mangoes in blender and drain. Cook juice, onions, mangoes, and hot pepper for 1 hour. Add rest of ingredients and cook for 1 more hour. Put in jars and seal. Cold pack for 20 minutes or pressure for 5 minutes at 10 pounds of pressure. Makes 7 quarts. (Watch for boil over)



MANNING THE ROPES

(Committee & Council Updates)



FOOD PANTRY UPDATE

There were 83 families attending the food pantry in the month of March. So far there have been 67 families in the month of April. USDA was picked up from Catholic Charities in Terre Haute. Donations from Rulers and Walmart continue to come into the pantry as well as Bloomfield CVS and Bloomfield Dollar General stores. Bloomfield First Baptist Church, First Christian Church, Holy Name Catholic Church, Mansions in Heaven Church, Mineral Methodist Church, Bloomfield Methodist Church, and the Presbyterian Church have given food items or money to the pantry. The girl scout troop # 2065 made birthday pans with all the ingredients to bake a cake and the icing included inside aluminum cake pans to be passed out to anyone who had a birthday!!! The Bloomfield 3rd grade donated 255 pounds of food items. The Crane Commissary has started donating to the pantry also. Pickups might be twice a month. Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow!!!!



Girl Scout Troop 2065 made birthday cake kits for our food pantry!

BRIGHT BEGINNINGS NEWS

The church is invited to come and enjoy Preschool Graduation on Thursday, May 16 at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

PICTURES FROM ROCKY ROADS CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

"Sands of time" learning it's always the right time to tell about Jesus.



Obstacle course, learning to walk, jump, and leap for joy like the lame man praising God.



Sitting outside the temple where Peter and John heal a lame man.



Painting the windows for Easter



Eclipse Weekend Success!

Thank you to everyone who supported our Jason Gray concert and our chicken noodle dinner. It was a huge success. Lots of people contributed supplies, as well as making, cooking, and serving the noodles. Others volunteered for set up and cleanup of the CLC. At the concert, friendly greeters were at the church doors to welcome our guests who came to the concert and worked at Jason's product table. This event could not have happened without so many people stepping up to help.

Last, but certainly not least, we owe our gratitude to Tasha Hudson for coordinating all the concert details and Eric Moody for his technical expertise.

Jason's music and testimony were a blessing to all who attended.



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



So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow.
1 Corinthians 3:17 (NIV)

I have a complicated relationship with the Baltimore Orioles. Not the baseball team, but the birds. All of them. That's an estimated global population of twelve million.¹ Zero of them are in our yard.

It's not as though we *never* see them. In fact, as of this writing, we have seen two orioles in our yard this spring. They have made exceedingly brief appearances – one bird each on two separate days – at our hummingbird feeder.

The oranges and nectar I've set out for the orioles themselves? Untouched. Except by the hummingbirds. Complicated.

I've been hearing orioles nearly every day for two weeks around the neighborhood. The nifty bird identification app² on my phone confirms that I am indeed hearing Baltimore Orioles.

Hearing them, but not seeing them. At least not in our yard.

There are many birds we never see in our yard. Bald eagles, for example, are unlikely to visit our yard unless we install a large lake stocked with fish. They soar overhead, but they never land here. But, I don't *expect* them to do so.

Every other bird that we have sought to attract visits predictably. Even birds that are only passing through our area during migration are faithful to drop by, if only for several days.

We have an unspoken agreement. We put out the food the birds like, and the birds come. Easy, right? The bird books even say that if I just do a certain set of things, orioles will be *easily* attracted.

I am doing what appear to be all of the right things, but the desired results are tantalizingly beyond my control.

But maybe it's not about me. Maybe I don't have control over the outcomes of life. Maybe every bird is a gift from God, and I am only participating in the feeding process. He creates. He sends. He feeds. I just participate.

Maybe the Lord wants me to see this dynamic at work in the rest of life, in ministry, in circumstances, in relationships.

Paul was quite clear on this point. He had experienced all kinds of fruit in his ministry. People were coming to faith in Christ. New churches were planting and growing. Disciples he taught were going out and making more disciples. He healed people in Jesus' name. "Wow, what a guy!" Many who knew him thought so.

But not Paul. "By the grace of God, I am what I am" (1 Cor. 15:10). He labored, but with Christ's energy, powerfully working *in* him (Col. 1:28-29). "I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God's grace given me through the working of his power" (Eph. 3:7).

From this, it quite naturally flows that nobody in the garden really gets to take credit for the fruit. It was God working all along. It was Paul's role – it is our role – to be faithful.

There is such relief in this. *It doesn't depend upon me!* But there is humility in this as well. *It wasn't because of me.* This is good news for a healing service, for life, for ministry. Our role is to be faithful, humble servants. The results are God's.

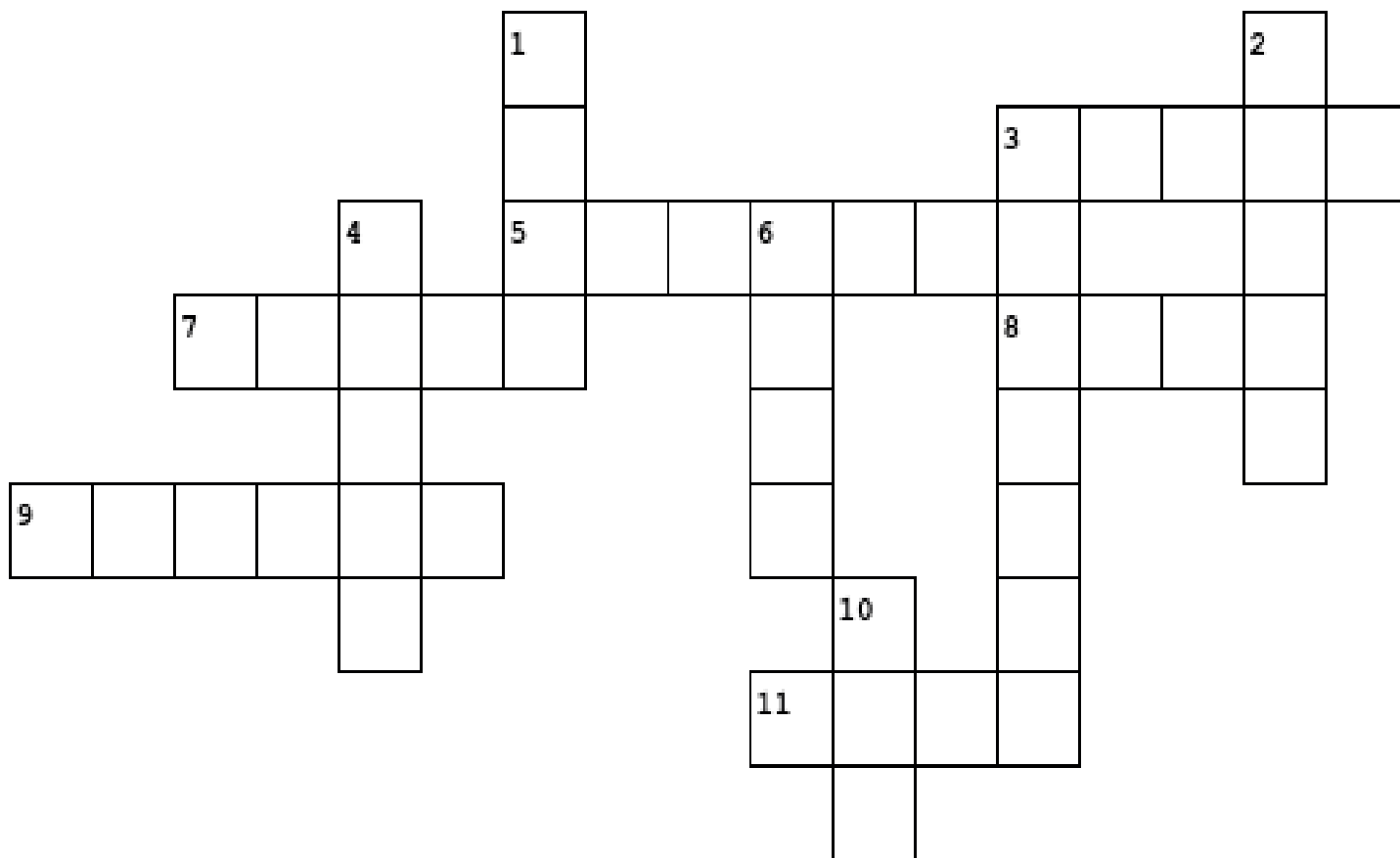
May the Holy Spirit help me, and help us, to faithfully serve the Lord Jesus, contentedly, and leave all the results to Him.

Grace and peace,
Nathan

¹ https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Baltimore_Oriole/lifehistory

² Merlin Bird ID by Cornell Lab.

"MAY" BIBLE VERSES



Across

3. Here is the _____ coming down from heaven that one may eat and not die... (John 6:50)
5. So that you may know the Son of Man has authority to _____ sins... (Mk. 2:10)
7. I have told you these things so that in me you may have _____ (John 16:33)
8. This is my prayer: that your _____ may abound more and more... (Phil. 1:9)
9. ...so that Christ may dwell in your _____ through faith (Eph. 3:17)
11. May the God of _____ fill you with all joy and peace... (Rom. 15:13)

Down

1. I have come that they may have _____, and have it abundantly (John 10:10)
2. I say these things so that you may be _____... (John 5:34)
3. Who is he, Lord, that I may _____ in him? (John 9:36)
4. I have prayed for you, that your _____ may not fail... (Luke 22:32)
6. Let your light shine so that they may see your _____ deeds... (Matt. 5:16)
10. I have told you these things so that my _____ may be in you... (John 15:11)

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

First Baptist Church
500 Lincoln Drive
Bloomfield, IN 47424

May
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 9:00 Bible Study	2 6:30 Boy Scouts 7:00 Choir	3 BB Yard sale	4 BB Yard Sale
5 Communion Healing Service 1:00 Youth to Tivoli 5:00 Softball Practice	6 6:00 Cub Scouts 7:00 Choir	7 9:30 Cottage Prayer Group 6:00 CLC res	8 9:00 Bible Study	9 4:45 Girl Scouts 6:30 Boy Scouts 6:30 Church Council Mtg	10	11
12 Baby Dedication 8:30 Fellowship Bfst 9:00 Kingdom Kids 1:00 CLC res	13 6:30 Cub Scouts 7:00 Choir	14 9:30 Cottage Prayer Group 6:00 CLC res	15 9:00 Bible Study	16 6:30 Presch. Grad. 6:30 Gideons 6:30 Boy Scouts	17	18 TBD Girl Scouts FH ICBC Day of Svc
19 Graduate Recog. 4:00 Children's Prog 5:00 FH res.	20 6:30 Cub Scouts 7:00 Choir	21 9:30 Cottage Prayer Group 6:00 CLC res 6:30 Past. Rel. Mtg	22 9:00 Bible Study	23 4:45 Girl Scouts 6:30 Boy Scouts	24	25
26 9:00 Kingdom Kids	27 Memorial Day 7:00 Choir	28 9:30 Cottage Prayer Group 6:00 CLC res 6:30 Trustee Mtg	29 9:00 Bible Study	30 6:30 Boy Scouts	31	

Deacon of the Month
Sherry Weeks

Trustee of the Month

Usher of the Month
Steve Graf

Prayers

5th Cheri C.-Graf
12th Sharon Terrell
19th
26th AM

Snacks in the Narthex

5th Cheri & Steve G.
12th Fellowship Brkfst
19th Joann & Ginger
26th John & Mary B.

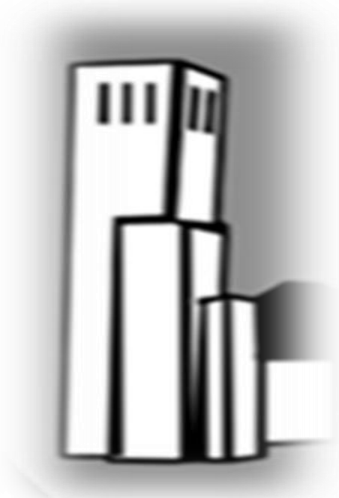
Greeter

John & Mary B.

Nursery Care

5th Ivy Foxworthy
& Oliver Foxworthy

First Baptist Church
500 Lincoln Drive
Bloomfield, IN 47424



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