



The Bell Tower

August 2024



BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAYS

- 4th Mary Puntney
- 7th Bert Terrell
Susie Moat
- 8th Sandy Mead
- 10th Barb Frye
Ozaiah Hudson
- 14th Kylee Moody
- 25th Braden Hudson
- 31st Willow Foxworthy

ANNIVERSARIES

- 4th Ron & Shelia McBride
Chris & Erin Wilson
- 25th Wesley & Ashley Terrell
- 27th John & Mary Bailey



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.

Online giving can be found here:



You can also [click here](#).

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

Laugh for Life Sponsored by Pregnancy Choices Friday, August 2

Show starts at 7:00 p.m. at Crossroads Community Church in Sullivan, IN. For more information, or to purchase tickets, scan the QR code or go to:

<https://gpcchoices.networkforgood.com/events/73165-laugh-for-life>.



Blood Drive at First Presbyterian Church Monday, August 12

Blood Drive located at Assembly Room 401 Shyla Lane Bloomfield from 12:00-5:00 pm. Please call 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-27670), or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: FP Church Bloomfield to schedule an appointment.

Hearts in Service Ladies Retreat August 17

The annual Hearts in Service Ladies Retreat will be from 10 am to 4 pm August 17 at the First Baptist Church in Martinsville, IN. There will be talks, skits, singing, and fellowship. The price is \$25 and includes lunch. The deadline to register is August 1. See Cheri Campbell-Graf if you have any questions.

Opioid Overdose Prevention & Response August 17

Girls Gone Wise is sponsoring a free training event conducted by Overdose Lifeline, an Indiana non-profit organization, on how to recognize and respond to a potential opioid/fentanyl overdose. The training will take place here at FBC and be split into two identical 1 hour trainings with time for Q&A. Come at 3 pm or 4 pm (or both) – whatever works for you! Spread the word! Call/text 812-826-4777 with any questions.

Sunday Morning Baptisms September 15

If you are interested in being baptized on Sunday morning September 15, or any other time, please speak with Pastor Nathan. He would love to meet with you.☺



Offering Helpers

Cards of Encouragement

Steve and Cheri Graf's granddaughter, Taylor Hinkle, has been staying in the Ronald McDonald house since her baby, Houston, was born on March 15, 2024. Houston is currently awaiting another heart surgery. His discharge date has not yet been determined. While this young family truly appreciates all of the prayers for them, it is a very difficult situation. Taylor & Heath would love to receive cards and notes of encouragement. The address for the Ronald McDonald House is 435 Limestone Street, Indianapolis, IN 46202. Thank you for helping them feel your love and concern.

First Baptist Pitch-In Picnic

Sunday, August 25 at the FBC Shelterhouse

Fun * Food * Fellowship

Come at 5:00 pm eat at 6:00 pm

More details to come



Church Summer Softball League August Schedule

Thursday, August 8 @ 6:30 p.m.

Tournament Dates/Times TBD



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2024

Thank you, Ashley Terrell, for directing our VBS this year! So far, there are 54 kids registered with 49 attending Wednesday evening! There have been about 40 helpers a night.



YOUTH HAPPENINGS

Youth Evangelizing Trip Sunday, August 4

Ivy Foxworthy is leading an Evangelizing Trip to Bloomington Sunday, Aug. 4. The youth will meet after church, have pizza, discuss the trip, and leave the church about 1:00 pm returning around 3:45 pm.

Youth "Back to School" Pool Party Saturday, August 10

The Flanagins have invited the youth to a "Back to School" swim party at their place on Saturday, August 10 from 5:00-8:00 p.m. Bring a towel and join them for fun, food, and games.

Youth Sponsored Activities

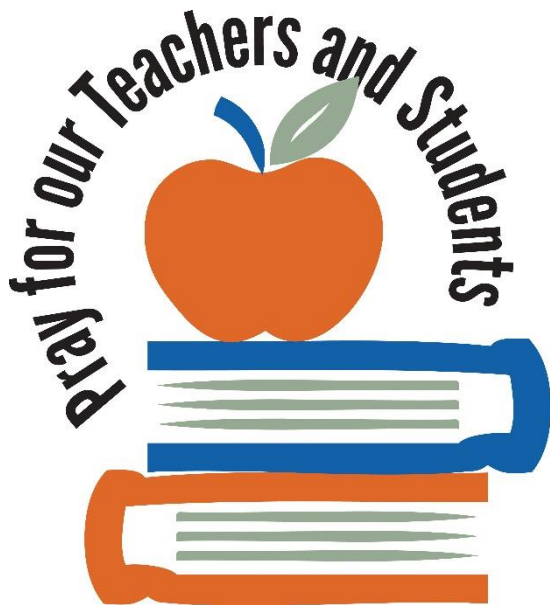
We are seeking sponsors for youth activities. If you would be willing to lead an activity, please sign up in the Narthex and let Pastor Nathan know. Thank you!





ECHOES FROM THE BELL TOWER

Give thanks to the Lord for His unfailing love and His wonderful deeds. Psalm 107:8




A PRAYER FOR SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS

FROM W. DAVID G. TAYLOR (2020)

O God, you who have promised wisdom to all who would ask it, we pray today for school administrators, that you would grant them clarity of mind, unity of spirit, strength of will, a heart of wisdom and the gift of your truth-bearing Spirit, so that they might be enabled to make decisions that lead to the flourishing of their teachers, staff, and students and to the wellbeing of the whole community. In Jesus' name we pray. In Jesus' name. AMEN.

A BACK-TO-SCHOOL PRAYER

Loving God, thank you for the rest and relaxation we enjoyed over the summer.

Today, we pray for our children as they begin their new school year.

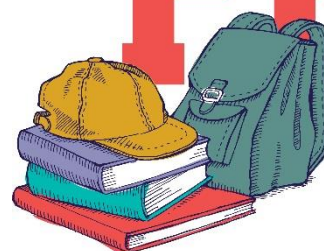
Bless them with joy at seeing friends, excitement at new experiences, and a love of learning. Watch over all who learn, replacing fear with joy, anxiety with peace, and tiredness with energy.

Grant teachers wisdom, patience, and joy in serving their students.

In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

PRAY



FOR OUR COLLEGE STUDENTS

Its time for our

FIRST BAPTIST



What year were these VBS

pictures taken? (Hint: they are all from the same year)



ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S JULY US PRESIDENTS CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

- 2. TRUMAN
- 7. ROOSEVELT
- 8. GRANT
- 11. EISENHOWER
- 13. ILLINOIS
- 14. JOHNSON

DOWN

- 1. ADAMS
- 3. TAFT
- 4. CLINTON
- 5. CLEVELAND
- 6. HARRISON
- 9. BUSH
- 10. NIXON
- 12. OHIO



Congratulations to **Jami Corbin**, last month's First Baptist Flashback winner!! Jami was able to identify, on Facebook, our mysterious wedding pictures taken here at FBC. Thank you, Jami!



The newlyweds were identified as Anita Corbin and Steve Wildman. The young ladies are Donoelle Brown, Megan Corbin, and Rachel Corbin Crabb.

COOKS IN THE BELFRY

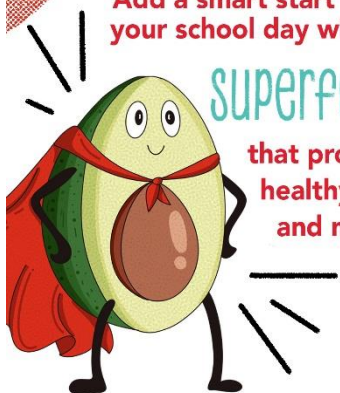
(How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth! Psalm 119:103 NIV)

a Brainy breakfast

Add a smart start to
your school day with

superfoods

that promote a
healthy body
and mind.



What you need:

- Large bowl
- 1 medium avocado
- 3 hard-boiled eggs
- Salt
- Whole wheat toast
- Pumpkin seeds, chopped
- Adult help



What you do:

1. Mash the avocado in the bowl.
2. Chop the eggs into cubes and add to the bowl.
3. Add salt to taste. Mix well.
4. Spread over two pieces of toast.
Top with chopped pumpkin seeds.
5. Adjust this recipe with your favorite flavors. Add herbs, "everything bagel" seasoning or hot sauce.
6. Refrigerate leftovers in an airtight container.



BAGEL PIZZA

INGREDIENTS:

- 2 PLAIN BAGELS, HALVED
- 1/2 C. MARINARA SAUCE
- 4 OZ. MOZZARELLA SHREDDED CHEESE
- PEPPERONI, MUSHROOMS, GREEN PEPPERS, BLACK OLIVES, COOKED SAUSAGE, OR OTHER TOPPINGS AS DESIRED

DIRECTIONS:

STEP 1 PREHEAT OVEN TO 425°F. USING CLEAN FINGERS, SCOOP A SMALL TRENCH OUT OF THE BAGEL. FILL EACH BAGEL WITH ABOUT 2 TABLESPOONS MARINARA SAUCE. TOP WITH 1/4 CUP MOZZARELLA CHEESE AND ADD TOPPINGS AS DESIRED.

STEP 2 PLACE ON A FOIL-LINED BAKING SHEET, AND BAKE 7-8 MINUTES, UNTIL COOKED THROUGH. SERVE IMMEDIATELY.

TO COOK IN AN AIR FRYER: PLACE BAGELS IN THE FOIL-LINED BASKET OF AN AIR FRYER AT 400°F FOR 4-5 MINUTES. SERVE IMMEDIATELY.

[HTTPS://WWW.COUNTRYLIVING.COM/FOOD-DRINKS/A40708574/BAGEL-PIZZA-RECIPE/](https://www.countryliving.com/food-drinks/a40708574/bagel-pizza-recipe/)

MANNING THE ROPES

(Committee & Council Updates)



FOOD PANTRY UPDATE

The food pantry served 108 families so far in the month of July, and there are two more days in the month. Each week the pantry has new people coming and donations are in demand if one can give anything!!! Dollar General in Bloomfield donates twice a week, and Rulers donates once a week. USDA is still picked up at least once a month and sometimes twice. Much food is purchased at Catholic Charities when the USDA is picked up. Thanks to all who have donated money or food items. If it were not for you the pantry couldn't provide the families with healthy food!!! Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow!!!

FROM THE BLESSING BOX MINISTRY

Our Blessing Box supplies are almost depleted. We need toilet paper, paper towels, toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, deodorant, cleaning supplies, detergent pods, and dryer sheets. If you have trial size shampoo, conditioner, lotions, etc. from hotels, those can also be used. We try to stock the box 3 times weekly. Please leave your donations in the tote by the library counter. We welcome monetary donations as well. Any questions, contact Cheri Campbell Graf 812-227-0117.

FROM THE MODERATOR (John Bailey)

The Trustees have decided to install the backup generator for the food pantry. A revised cost estimate is currently being developed. With the Trustees providing the labor, the overall cost will be reduced. I will announce the final projected cost when it is determined, in the event there is a shortfall, as someone may wish to contribute towards its completion. Thank you.

BRIGHT BEGINNINGS PRESCHOOL

Mrs. Deschamp here!

Our preschool start date is quickly approaching! I would like to share our monthly newsletter with you all, to inform you of what we will cover each month. The Biblical principle will be at the forefront of our curriculum, while also covering foundational academic schools in preparation for public school. We are still hoping to receive some more enrollment forms, so please tell your friends about our next open house on August 12 and encourage everyone to turn in their forms ASAP! I thank you for your ongoing support for Bright Beginnings and ask that you include all of the teachers and students in your prayers as we start class on August 13!



In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.
Genesis 1:1

I praise You because I am fearfully and wonderfully made.
Psalm 139:14

© The First Grade Roundup

August newsletter

Contact info Camryn Deschamp- camrynhuffman@gmail.com (812) 384-0400 x 28 or class dojo	Language Arts <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introductory rules & manners for school• Practice reciting the alphabet• Practice identifying first name• Practice rug/read-aloud time procedures• Line procedures• Restroom procedures• Playground procedures
Math <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introductory rules & manners for school• Practice Calendar procedures• Counting to 5	
Bible <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Creation• God Made Me	
Reminders <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 8/12- Meet the teacher night• 8/13- First day of school	

© THE LITTLE LABRADOR SHOP

Summer Special Music



Kingdom Kids Recognition



Hudson Family Singers



Kelsey Moody



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!**



(As of 06-30-2024)

Actual YTD Gen. Fund Income: \$121,318.26

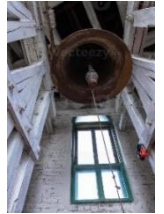
Total YTD Expenses: \$132,040.91

Actual YTD Church *Deficit*: (\$10,722.65)

A NOTE FROM PASTOR NATHAN

Bear in mind that the Lord has given you the Sabbath; that is why on the sixth day he gives you bread for two days.

Exodus 16:29 (NIV '84)



For ancient Israel, the Sabbath was a means of God's grace, backed up by God's grace. God's provision of extra manna on Friday morning empowered Israel's obedient experience of rest on Saturday morning. Grace provided for more grace.

From a New Testament perspective, we are not bound to keep a particular, 24-hour day of Sabbath rest as ancient Israel was (Rom. 14:5-6). Sabbath observance and many other practices were only shadows pointing to the reality of Christ (Col. 2:16-17). Now that Christ has come, we are not under the supervision of Old Testament law (Gal. 3:25).¹ Jesus, as Lord of the Sabbath, redefines Sabbath (Mk. 2:28). His invitation is for us to find our rest in Him (Mt. 11:28-30).

Great! We can skip this Sabbath stuff, right? Not exactly. If God-centered rhythms of renewal were essential for God's people in the ancient world, God-centered rhythms of renewal are essential for us today. If my rest is found in a Person, King Jesus, then I must deliberately take time out of my day, week, month, and year to find Him and be found by Him.

The key thing about the verse above is, God provided grace (extra manna on day 6) to provide for grace (rest on day 7). The outcome of Sabbath experience is an increase in grace – my encounter of God's grace, and my ability to show grace. Grace flows from grace which flows from grace (John 1:16; 2 Cor. 9:8). We need grace.

When I am short on Sabbath, I tend to be shorter with people. When my margins are thin in my routine, my margins are thin in my patience. Healthy rhythms of reconnecting with Jesus on a daily and weekly basis are essential if I am going to reflect Christ in the way I relate to those around me.

What are Sabbath rhythms? Time in the word – reading scripture, meditating on scripture, memorizing scripture. Time in prayer – talking to God, and listening for God, which is especially fruitful if we've just spent time in the word. Time outside in nature – walking, running, biking, playing, or stillness, especially if accompanied by prayer. God speaks to us through creation. Time participating in activities that are rejuvenating because they require creativity, which sooner or later deepen our relationship with our Creator. Time singing the songs of faith that draw us closer to God.

I cannot give you an exhaustive list of approved Sabbath activities. You probably know some rhythms that have been helpful for your relationship with God. Perhaps of more concern are the rhythms which are not restful – the impulses of what I *have* to do or *need* to do (many of which do not *actually* need to be done at all, certainly not always right away). If we are not careful, we stuff our schedules full of what we think we *must* do. But as Jesus reminds Martha when Mary sits at His feet to listen, only one thing is really needed, even when many others “need” to be done (Luke 10:38-42).

This is where the trust comes in. If we deliberately set aside what we *need* to do, in order to practice Sabbath rest, can we really trust God to take care of things? Some of those things that we set aside actually do need to be done sometime. Why can't God be more patient? We'll get around to that Sabbath rest when we've finished everything we need to do.

Except that we usually don't.

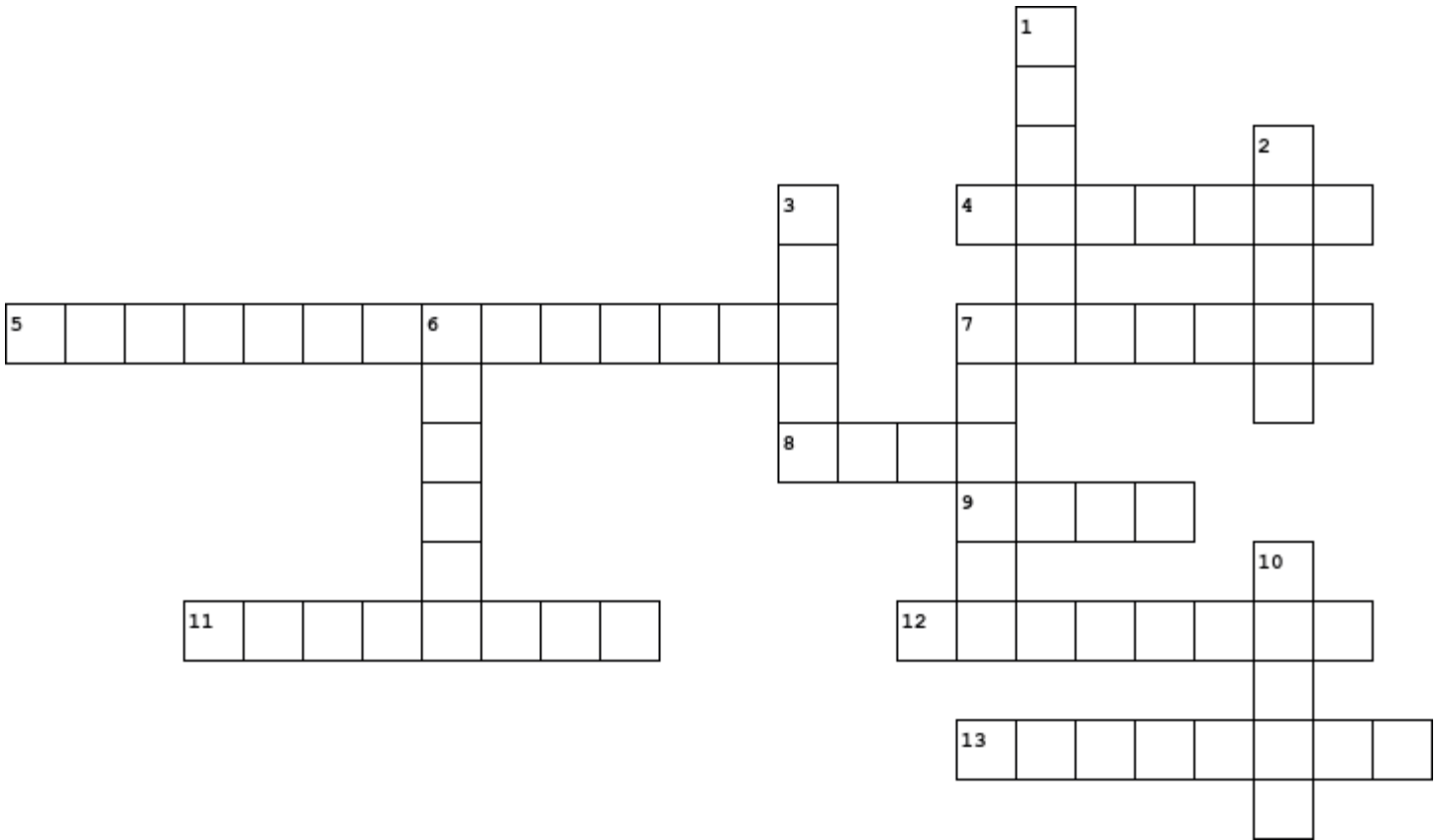
Sabbath involves saying “no” and therefore it involves trust. We can afford to say “no” to certain things – either altogether or for a little while – so that we can say “yes” to healing time in the presence of the Lord. This is God's grace to us. The Lord has challenged me to see how many ways He has provided “Friday morning manna” so that I can have that crucial “Saturday morning rest.” This provision certainly isn't limited to any two days of the week!

We don't need to fill every moment of every day with relentless activity, even the “good” or the “necessary” activities. We can – we need to – cease our striving and be still in the healing presence of our gracious God. *Holy Spirit, help us!*

Grace and peace,
Nathan

¹ For discussions about Christians not being bound by Old Testament law, see: Acts, chapters 10-11 and 15; Gal. 2-5; Heb. 7-10.

POLITICAL LEADERS OF BIBLE TIMES



Across

4. King of this Assyrian city responded positively to Jonah's preaching (Jonah 3:6-9).
5. Destroyed Jerusalem and led its inhabitants to exile. Fond of statues (Dan. 3:1).
7. "Let my people go" was God's message to this Egyptian leader (Exod. 5:1).
8. The first king of Israel (1 Sam. 9-10).
9. Perhaps Israel's worst king, married Jezebel and served Baal (1 Kgs. 16:31).
11. Namesake of this calendar month, Roman emperor when Jesus was born, Luke 2:1.
12. Rebelled against David's son, Solomon, breaking Israel from Judah (1 Kgs. 11).
13. Emperor when John the Baptist preached (Luke 3:1) and when Jesus died.

Down

1. King of Judah at 8 years of age, known for his reform movement (2 Kgs. 22).
2. "Great" Judean king who coldly received the magi's news (Matt. 2).
3. Persian ruler who allowed Jews to begin returning home (2 Chron. 36:23).
6. King who threw Daniel in the Lions' Den (Dan. 6:1).
7. Judean governor at the time of Jesus' death (Mark 15). Never flew an airplane.
10. King of Israel who once killed a Philistine giant with a stone (1 Sam. 16-17).

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

First Baptist Church
500 Lincoln Drive
Bloomfield, IN 47424

August 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 VBS	2 6:00 VBS Pool Party 	3 6:00 GGW
4 Communion 12:00 Evang. Trip	5 6:00 FH res	6 9:30 Cottage Prayer Group 6:00 CLC res	7 9:00 Bible Study	8 6:30 Boy Scouts 6:30 Softball Game 6:30 Council Mtg	9	10 5:00 Youth Pool Party – Flanagins 6:00 GGW
11 8:30 Fellowship Bfst 1:00 CLC res	12 12:00 FP Blood Drive 5:30 Preschool Open House	13 1 st Day Preschool 9:30 Cottage Prayer Group 6:00 CLC res	14 9:00 Bible Study	15 4:45 Girl Scouts 6:30 Boy Scouts 6:30 Gideons	16	17 3:00 Narcan Training 6:00 GGW
18	19	20 9:30 Cottage Prayer Group 6:00 CLC res	21 9:00 Bible Study	22 6:30 Boy Scouts	23 Tehillah Ensemble	24 Tehillah Ensemble FH res 6:00 GGW
25 5:00 Church Picnic 	26	27 9:30 Cottage Prayer Group 6:00 CLC res 6:30 Trustee Mtg	28 9:00 Bible Study	29 4:45 Girl Scouts 6:30 Boy Scouts	30	31 6:00 GGW

Deacon of the Month

Junior Barker

Trustee of the Month

James Malone

Usher of the Month

James Malone

Prayers

4th Jeff C.
11th Randy F.
18th
25th

Snacks in the Narthex

4th Tammy Young
11th Fellowship Brkfst
18th
25th

Greeters

Bert & Sharon Terrell

Nursery Care

4th _____ &

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