



The Bell Tower

February 2025

God is
LOVE.
1 JOHN 4:16



BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAYS

6 th	Michael Smith
9 th	Casey Porter
10 th	Lindsey Sullivan
11 th	Kay Pierce
12 th	Nancy Sullivan
14 th	Lucy Foxworthy
15 th	Annette Rice
21 st	Sharon Terrell
23 rd	Sherry Weeks
24 th	Benjamin Hudson
25 th	Wesley Porter
27 th	Paula Bartlett
	Betty Miller

ANNIVERSARIES

14 th	Earl & Joanna White
16 th	Steve & Kathy Ham



Watch FBC online:

1. Links for live worship services are posted weekly at Facebook.com/groups/fbcbloom.
2. Recorded worship services are available to the public at 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](#).



Temporary Church Office Hours

Tuesday & Thursday

9:00am-12:00pm & 1:00-4:00pm

Wednesday

1:00-4:00pm

Friday

9:00am-12:00pm & 1:00-3:00pm

Food Pantry Hours

Tuesday-Thursday 9:00am-11:00am

Wednesday 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 & ACTIVITIES

Winter Weather Reminder

If inclement weather should require the cancellation of church activities, a decision will be made by the deacon chair, moderator, and pastor, and announced no later than 7 a.m. on any given Sunday. Cancellations will be posted on the church Facebook page, website, and by prayer chain. We encourage everyone to use their discretion when traveling in inclement weather. Links for live worship services are posted weekly at Facebook.com/groups/fbcbloom. Recorded worship services are available to the public at YouTube.com/fbcbloomfield.

Hoops for Him 2025

The 2025 Hoops for Him Season is currently underway each Saturday through March 15th. Children in the program are learning basic basketball skills along with our love of Christ. Contact Eric Moody at 812-227-0700 if you are willing to help out during the season.



Luncheon & FBC Trio Songfest Sunday, February 16

On Sunday, February 16, immediately after worship, there will be a soup and sandwich luncheon in the Fellowship Hall. Following lunch, at 1:30 p.m., there will be a concert in the sanctuary by The Trio.

We need volunteers to provide food for the luncheon. If you can provide a crockpot of soup, call or text Cheri Graf 812-227-0117, 2 dozen sandwiches call or text Debra Hudson 812-384-2805, 2 dozen cookies call or text Betty Miller 812-227-1407. Bring all donations to the Fellowship Hall on Sunday morning. There is a sign-up list on the library counter, so that we can get a general idea of how many people to expect. Looking forward to seeing everyone for a time of fellowship.

2025 Non-Pictorial Directory & Prayer Guide

We are currently in the process of updating our Non-Pictorial Directory & Prayer Guide. The goal is to have the non-pictorial directory ready in the first quarter of the year. There are two guides in circulation for updates, one making its way through Sunday School classes and the other on the table in the Narthex. Please check your information and make corrections in red ink. If you would like to be added, you can also add your information. If it appears correct, please put a red check mark next to your information. Thank you. ☺



**Love is patient,
Love is kind.**

1 CORINTHIANS 13:4



Steve & Sandy Clark visit with Dana, Trent, Tyler, and Georgene Lunberry.

Worship at Parkview Village, February 9

Plan to join us in worship and be a part of taking the church to the residents of Parkview Village in Odon on Sunday, February 9 at 2:00 p.m. Pastor Nathan will be preaching.

Jordan Morris to speak Sunday, February 2, 2024

Jordan Morris from Indian Creek Baptist Camp will join us for worship Sunday, February 2. Come and hear what God is doing through this ministry.

FBC SANCTUARY CHOIR



Special Music Sign-up

You are encouraged to share your talents with music that adds to meaningful worship on Sunday mornings. You can go to this website

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050B4BA8A82DA7F94-54160525-special> or scan the QR code to sign up. Thank you!



YOUTH SPONSORED ACTIVITIES

YOUTH HAPPENINGS

We Need You!

We are continually 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!

FBC Middle/High School Youth Trip to Hockey Game

Evansville Thunderbolts vs. Macon Mayhem. **Sunday, March 9, 2025** · Face-off 3:00 PM CDT. **Depart FBC 2:00 PM EDT** · **Return FBC approx. 8:15 PM EDT.** *Tickets paid for by FBC Youth Ministries Fund. The bus is full at this time. If you would like to go, please talk to Nathan.*



Winter Jam 2025 February 7

Ashley Terrell and Aiden Malone will be taking the youth to Winter Jam at Gainbridge Fieldhouse in Indianapolis on Friday, February 7. Meet at the church at 2:30 pm and depart at 3:00 pm. Doors open at 6:00 pm and show starts at 7:00 pm. They plan to eat at Wendy's on the way to the arena. As of right now, the bus seats are all spoken for.

5th Quarter Saturday, February 15

High school and Jr. high students are invited to come hang out in the CLC after home HS boys' basketball games. They can play in the youth room and big area, we serve pizza, pop, and chips. This event ends at 11pm. We are also seeking adult chaperones to help mingle and talk with the kids. This is a One Night commitment. You aren't volunteered for every one of them just by helping with one 5th Quarter! Upcoming Dates: Feb. 28. Please talk to Tasha or Braden Hudson or Kylee Moody if you are interested in helping. It's about 8:30pm-11:30pm time frame.

FUSE Event Sunday, February 16

Our youth will be hosting an ABC-IN/KY region wide event for youth grades 6-12 from 3-6 pm on Sunday, February 16 here at FBC. Youth leaders from around the area will be encouraged to bring their youth groups and join us for a BIG evening of food, worship, and fun. For more information or to volunteer see Pastor Nathan or Aiden Malone.





ECHOES FROM THE BELL TOWER

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

CountryLiving

"For God so loved the world,
that he gave his
only
begotten
Son,
that whoever
believes in him
shall not perish,
but have eternal life."

—John 3:16

"

Greater love has no
one than this, that
someone lay down his
life for his friends.

JOHN 15:13

"

The steadfast love
of the LORD
never ceases; his
mercies never come
to an end...

LAMENTATIONS 3:22

"

Let not steadfast
love and
faithfulness forsake
you; bind them
around your
neck; write them
on the tablet of
your heart.

PROVERBS 3:3

"

So now faith,
hope, and love
abide, these three;
but the greatest of
these is love.

1 CORINTHIANS 13:13

"

Satisfy us in the
morning with your
steadfast love, that
we may rejoice
and be glad all our
days.

PSALM 90:14

"

Love bears all
things, believes all
things, hopes all
things, endures
all things.

1 CORINTHIANS 13:7

CountryLiving

"

Be devoted to one
another in love.
Honor one another
above yourselves.

— Romans 12:10

"

As the Father has
loved me, so have
I loved you. Abide
in my love.

JOHN 15:9

"

The LORD is
merciful and
gracious, slow
to anger and
abounding in
steadfast love.

PSALM 103:8

"

I have loved you
with an
everlasting love;
therefore I have
continued my
faithfulness to you.

JEREMIAH 31:3

"

For the mountains may
depart and the hills be
removed, but my
steadfast love shall not
depart from you, and my
covenant of peace
shall not be removed,"
says the LORD, who has
compassion on you.

ISAIAH 54:10

Its time for our

FIRST BAPTIST



Can you identify these **ADORABLE** baby/toddler pictures of the jr/sr youth in our church?



ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S IT ALL BEGAN IN JANUARY CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

- 3. CLARK
- 5. TOWER
- 8. BROWN
- 9. MECHANIC
- 10. METHODIST
- 11. FIRE

DOWN

- 1. WILLIAMS
- 2. PRESBYTERIAN
- 3. CHURCH
- 4. BLOOMFIELD
- 6. WHITE
- 7. TAMMY

CONGRATULATIONS

Jeff Coffin was our First Baptist Flashback winner for the month of January! The Christmas Cantata picture was from 1994. Can anyone beat Jeff?!



THE BELFRY

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

This month's recipes come from allrecipes.com. If you have any recipes you would like to share, please give them to Heather in the church office. Thank you!

Mini Heart-Shaped Nan Pizzas

8 mini naan flatbreads
1 c. pizza sauce
1 ½ cups shredded mozzarella cheese, or more to taste
40 slices pepperoni, or more to taste

Directions: Preheat the oven to 400°. Line a baking sheet with foil for easy clean up. Use a 4-4 ½ inch heart-shaped cookie cutter to cut each flatbread into a heart shape. Place flatbreads on the prepared baking sheet. Evenly spread the pizza sauce on each and sprinkle with mozzarella. Cut each slice of pepperoni into a heart shape using a mini heart-shaped cookie cutter, if desired, and place on top of mozzarella. Move the baking sheet to the oven and cook until cheese is melted and crust is golden brown, 9 to 11 minutes. Serve hot.

<https://www.allrecipes.com/mini-heart-shaped-naan-pizzas-recipe-8422932>



The Best Rolled Sugar Cookies

2 c. white sugar	5 c. all-purpose flour
1 ½ c. butter softened	2 tsp baking powder
4 large eggs	1 tsp salt
1 tsp vanilla extract	

Directions: Gather all ingredients. Beat sugar and softened butter together in a large bowl with an electric mixer until smooth. Beat in eggs and vanilla. Stir in flour, baking powder, and salt. Cover, and chill dough for at least an hour (or overnight). Preheat the oven to 400°. Lightly dust a work surface with flour. Roll out dough to ¼ to ½ inch thickness. Cut into shapes with any cookie cutter. Place cookies 1 inch apart on ungreased baking sheets. Bake in the preheated oven until cookies are lightly browned, 6 to 8 minutes. Carefully transfer cookies to a wire rack and cool completely before decorating.

<https://www.allrecipes.com/recipe/10402/the-best-rolled-sugar-cookies/>



MANNING THE ROPES

(Committee & Council Updates)



CHURCH COUNCIL REMINDERS

The next council meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 13 in the Bible Study Classroom at 6:30 p.m.

Please have your committee's annual report turned in electronically to John Bailey with a copy to Heather by Friday, February 21. Thank you!

A NOTE FROM THE BLESSING BOX MINISTRY

Our Blessing Box Ministry continues to meet the needs of those families and individuals going through difficult times. We restock the box several times a week with hygiene and cleaning supplies. These are items not available in our food pantry. This ministry is only made possible due to the support of our church family. We are looking forward to blessing many others in 2025 due to your generosity. Any questions, please contact Steve or Cheri Graf.

BLOOMFIELD COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP UPDATE

The Bloomfield Community Fellowship continues to meet on Wednesdays. Various activities are possible and are initiated by those who attend. It begins at 10:30 am and ends at 2:00 pm with a break from 11:30-12:30 for lunch. The Fellowship is open to anyone of any age and attendance has varied from 7-18 people. All are welcome, come check us out!

BRIGHT BEGINNINGS PRESCHOOL

Accepting students ages 2-5

BACK TO SCHOOL

Bright Beginnings

PRESCHOOL/PRE-K ROUND-UP

MARCH 15, 2025

10-11:30 PM

Located at 500 Lincoln Drive,
Bloomfield, IN 47424

CONTACT
CAMRYNHUFFMAN@GMAIL.COM OR
CALL (812) 384-8459 FOR QUESTIONS

February
newsletter

Contact info
Camryn Deschamp-
camrynhuffman@gmail.com
(812) 384-0400 x 28
or class dojo

Themes

- Friendship

Bible

- God is Powerful
- God Gives Family

Math

- Calendar procedures- month, days of the week, number, date
- Counting to 20
- Shapes & colors

Language Arts

- O, P, Q, R
- Digraphs, cvc, long vowels

Reminders

- Valentine's Day Party- Feb. 13
- Special Persons Day- March 6 (more info soon)
- Preschool/Pre-k Roundup- March 15 (more info soon)
- Spring Break- March 24-28
- Spring Program/Graduation- May 8
- Last Day of Preschool- May 15



With God all things are possible.
Matthew 19:26

TUITION

Please pay your student's tuition by the first Thursday of the month!
DUE: February 6

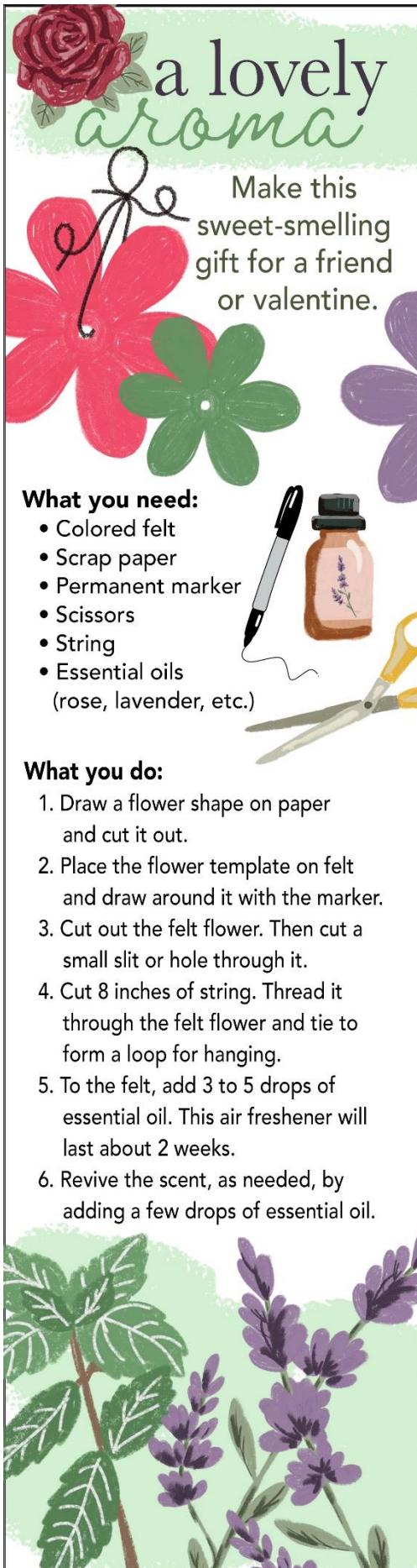


All families on earth will be blessed.
Genesis 28:14

© the first grade roundup

© THE LITTLE LADYBUG SHOP

Children's Program: Backyard Kids Club



Make this sweet-smelling gift for a friend or valentine.

What you need:

- Colored felt
- Scrap paper
- Permanent marker
- Scissors
- String
- Essential oils (rose, lavender, etc.)



What you do:

1. Draw a flower shape on paper and cut it out.
2. Place the flower template on felt and draw around it with the marker.
3. Cut out the felt flower. Then cut a small slit or hole through it.
4. Cut 8 inches of string. Thread it through the felt flower and tie to form a loop for hanging.
5. To the felt, add 3 to 5 drops of essential oil. This air freshener will last about 2 weeks.
6. Revive the scent, as needed, by adding a few drops of essential oil.

Our next monthly children's program will be on Sunday, February 2 from 4-6pm. Future dates include: Jan. March 2, April 6, and May 4. We are seeking teen and adult helpers to lead games, kitchen crew, a craft Leader (craft and instructions provided), and to mingle with a PreK-1st grade group or 2nd-6th grade group. Please let Tasha Hudson know if you can help.



Please pray for First Baptist Church in 2025, that we would...

Glorify Our Creator,
Revelation 4:11

Persist in Prayer,
Matthew 7:7-8 & Colossians 1:9

Remember That We've Received Grace, and
Show Grace to Others,
Romans 3:21-26

Love God and Others Well,
1 John 4:7-21 & Matthew 22:37-39

Be Open to and Trust God's Plans,
Isaiah 43:19 & Jeremiah 29:11

Be Equipped and Vigilant,
Ephesians 6:10-13

Remember and Extend God's Compassion,
Lamentations 3:22-23 & 2 Corinthians 1:3-5

Thank you for keeping our church and community in prayer!

A NOTE FROM PASTOR NATHAN



So the sisters sent word to Jesus, “Lord, the one you love is sick.” When he heard this, Jesus said, “This sickness will not end in death. No, it is for God’s glory so that God’s Son may be glorified through it.” Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. Yet when he heard that Lazarus was sick, he stayed where he was two more days.

John 11:3-6 (NIV)

The account of Jesus’ raising of Lazarus (John 11:1-44) has been on my mind lately. The perplexing set of facts is this:

- Jesus loves Lazarus and his family (11:5)
- Jesus learns that Lazarus is sick days in advance of Lazarus’ death (11:3)
- Jesus has the ability to heal such sicknesses (9:7; 11:37)
- Jesus does not intervene, and Lazarus dies (11:6, 11, 14, 17)

The Lord loves. The Lord knows. The Lord is able. The Lord does not intervene. The sickness apparently ends in death.

This sequence is familiar to all of us. We know that the Lord loves, the Lord knows, and the Lord is able. We have prayed accordingly, fervently, persistently. But by all appearances, the Lord has done nothing. Another sickness that the Lord could have prevented – and *should* have prevented, we feel – ends in death. We are left weeping and wondering why.

“Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” Each sister greets Jesus with these words (11:21, 32). I have wondered how to interpret this greeting the sisters give Jesus. Is this a word of accusation? Of anger? Of disappointment? Of disillusionment? Of confusion? Of faith? Any of these would be reasonable, and very relatable.

It is important to note that Jesus does not rebuke either of the sisters for their initial response. He does not stop to defend himself. Neither does he dismiss how they feel. We have permission to cry out to Jesus in the midst of our grief, confusion, anger, or pain. We don’t have to stuff it or hide how we feel. We don’t have to “be strong.” We can simply and freely tell Jesus what we’re thinking and feeling. He can handle that. Honesty is the space in which healing comes.

It is also significant that Jesus joins in the agonizing and the mourning (11:33-35). When he sees where Lazarus has been laid to rest, Jesus is deeply moved in his spirit, troubled, and weeping. He is not unaffected by the sorrows of those he loves. *The fact that the Lord has not (yet) intervened does not mean that the Lord does not care.* He does care. Deeply.

And Jesus gives us hope. “I am the resurrection and the life. The one believing in me will live even though he dies, and everyone living and believing in me will never ever die in the age to come” (11:25-26). Death is not the end for those who live by faith in Jesus. There is an interim period of rest in the Lord’s presence (John 14:2-3; Luke 23:43; 2 Cor. 5:8; Phil. 1:23), followed by resurrection day, when God’s children receive new bodies and creation is made new (John 5:24-29; 11:24; Rom 8:10-11, 18-25; 1 Cor 15:20-26; 1 Thess. 4:13-18; Rev. 21:1-5).

The difference in Lazarus’ case is that he and his family receive a sneak preview of resurrection day in advance (John 11:41-44). Jesus gloriously reveals that he is who he says he is: the resurrection and the life. Death will not be the end of anyone who lives by faith in Jesus. Death may well be our short-term experience, and the grief might be agonizing. John 11 assures us of three things: *Jesus weeps with us, Jesus listens to us, and Jesus will give us life again.*

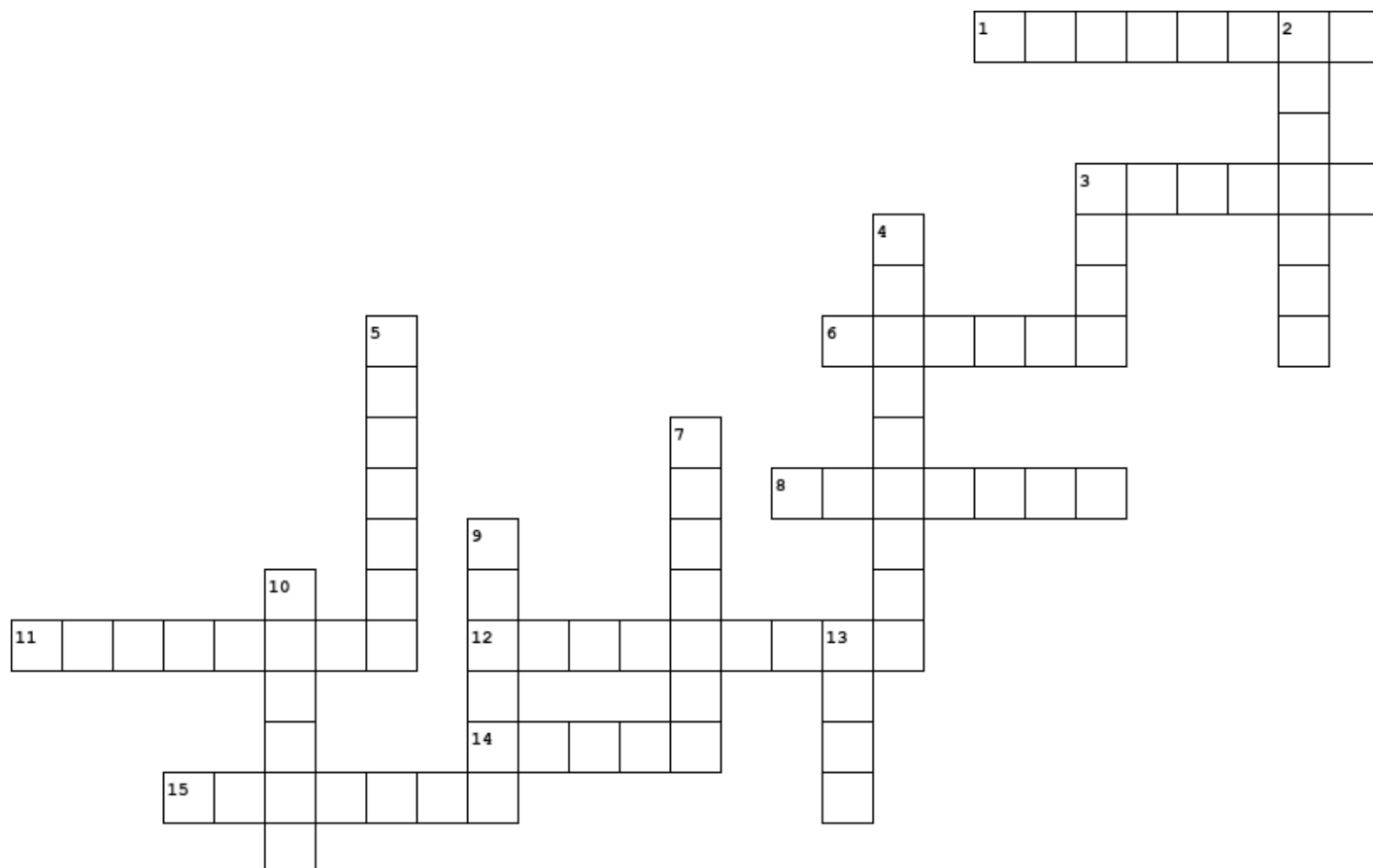
John writes these things to us so that we might believe, and that by believing, we might have life in Jesus’ name (20:31). My prayer is that these realities would be life-giving to us, even in the valley of the shadow of death. We may not understand “why” (and there might not actually be a “why” in every case of suffering). But we are given a beautiful picture of a victorious Savior, who has assured us of life after death and who authentically comforts us and listens to us in the meantime. May the beautiful presence of Jesus, the Lord who is close to the brokenhearted, sustain us this day and in the days ahead.

Grace and peace,

Nathan

FEBRUARY MEANS – SPRING TRAINING!

Identify the historic baseball team nickname by the players given.



Across

- 1. Shoeless Joe Jackson, Frank Thomas, Paul Konerko
- 3. Ted Williams, Carl Yastrzemski, David Ortiz
- 6. Hank Aaron, Warren Spahn, Greg Maddux
- 8. Babe Ruth, Mickey Mantle, Derek Jeter
- 11. Mike Schmidt, Steve Carlton, Ryan Howard
- 12. Reggie Jackson, Rickey Henderson, Mark McGwire
- 14. Harmon Killebrew, Rod Carew, Kirby Puckett
- 15. Roberto Clemente, Willie Stargell, Bill Mazeroski

Down

- 2. Brooks Robinson, Jim Palmer, Cal Ripken, Jr.
- 3. Pete Rose, Johnny Bench, Barry Larkin
- 4. Stan Musial, Bob Gibson, Ozzie Smith
- 5. Bob Feller, Jim Thome, Kenny Lofton
- 7. Jackie Robinson, Sandy Koufax, Clayton Kershaw
- 9. Willie Mays, Juan Marichal, Barry Bonds
- 10. Ty Cobb, Al Kaline, Cecil Fielder
- 13. Ernie Banks, Ron Santo, Ryne Sandberg

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

First Baptist Church
500 Lincoln Drive
Bloomfield, IN 47424

February
2025

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 8:00 Hoops for Him 6:00 GGW
2 Communion 4:00 Backyard Kids Club	3 6:00 GS Com. Mtg. 7:00 Choir Practice	4 9:30 Cottage Prayer Group 6:00 Pickleball	5 9:00 Bible Study 10:30 Community Fellowship	6 4:45 Girl Scouts 6:30 Boy Scouts 6:30 Deacon Mtg.	7 Winterjam-Indy 4:00 FH res	8 6:00 GGW 8:00 5 th Quarter
9 8:30 Fellowship Bfst 9:00 KK Practice 12:00 CLC res. 2:00 Worship at Parkview	10 7:00 Choir Practice	11 9:30 Cottage Prayer Group 6:00 Pickleball	12 9:00 Bible Study 10:30 Community Fellowship 6:30 BS Spaghetti Dinner	13 6:30 Boy Scouts 6:30 Council Mtg.	14 	15 6:00 GGW
16 Luncheon & Trio Songfest 3:00 FUSE Event	17  7:00 Choir Practice	18 9:30 Cottage Prayer Group 6:00 Pickleball	19 9:00 Bible Study 10:30 Community Fellowship	20 4:45 Girl Scouts 6:30 Boy Scouts 6:30 Gideons	21 Annual Reports due	22 8:00 Hoops for Him 6:00 GGW 8:00 5 th Quarter 1:00 FH res.
23 9:00 KK Practice 12:00 CLC res.	24 7:00 Choir Practice	25 9:30 Cottage Prayer Group 6:00 Pickleball 6:30 Trustee Mtg	26 9:00 Bible Study 10:30 Community Fellowship	27 6:30 Boy Scouts	28 8:00 5 th Quarter	

Deacon of the Month
Debra Hudson

Trustee of the Month
James Malone

Usher of the Month
Tony Resler

Prayers

2nd Randy F.
9th Tammy Y.
16th
23rd

Snacks in the Narthex

2nd Tammy Young
9th Fellowship Breakfast
16th The Terrells
23rd Kimberly Porter

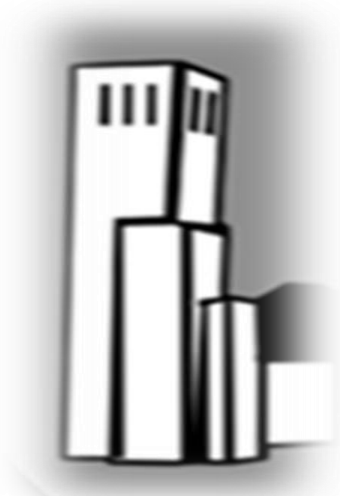
Greeters

Charles & Kimberly Porter

Nursery Care

2nd

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500 Lincoln Drive
Bloomfield, IN 47424



February 2025