



The Bell Tower



JUNE

2025

BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAYS

1 st	Shelia McBride
3 rd	Brenda Flanagan
6 th	Kylene Wilson
8 th	Tonya Templeton
14 th	Heather Malone
15 th	Mary Bailey
18 th	Max & Sydney Terrell
20 th	Tamala Bothell
20 th	Mason Ellis
28 th	Emma Resler
30 th	George Dallaire

ANNIVERSARIES

1 st	Norm & Nancy Sullivan
3 rd	George & Marilyn Dallaire
9 th	Bill & Debra Hudson
11 th	Charles & Kimberly Porter
12 th	Eric & Jennifer Moody
16 th	Casey & Annette Rice
19 th	Gary & Carolyn Sullivan
21 st	Bob & Sherry Weeks
24 th	Nathan & Liz Brooks

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](#).



Church Office Hours

Tuesday - 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

A Matter of Balance Wednesdays During June & July

Bloomfield Community Fellowship will be hosting a program put on by *Generations Area 13 Agency on Aging & Disability* that focuses on preventing falls and teaching balance exercises. It will be Wednesdays June 4 through July 30 from 10-11:30 am. Class is limited to 15 participants. Call the church office, 812-384-8459, to register.



Baby Dedications 11 May 2025

Required Background Checks

It is time to update our background checks for those who work with children here at FBC. We are now running statewide background checks. If you have not had a check performed in the last 5 years, or you are unsure if it has been run, see Heather in the church office. Please be sure you are up to date in time for VBS. Thank you! ☺

June Mission Trip Opportunity

A service trip is being organized for June 9-13 to North Carolina to support repairs after the hurricane damage. If you would like an application for this trip, please talk to Tasha Hudson.



FBC Annual Church Picnic Sunday, August 24

Mark your calendar now and plan to attend our 2nd annual church picnic. There will be lots of great food to eat and games to play. More info to come.

American Baptist Women's Ministry Summer Conference Saturday, June 28 at Franklin College

Featured guest speakers include Barato Britt, CEO of Edna Martin Christian Center, and Becky Stanton, International Ministries (IM) Global Servant. To register, or for more information, visit <https://abc-indiana.org/event/abwm-events/>. Registration forms need to be printed, filled out, and mailed by June 10.



Food Pantry Update

The pantry has seen an increase in families the past few months (approx. 100 families) which is resulting in an increased need to purchase food items. Donations of the following items would be greatly appreciated:

- Peanut Butter
- Macaroni and Cheese
- Spaghetti
- Spaghetti Sauce
- Egg Noodles
- Cereal

Your donations will help those families who are struggling with food insecurities. Thank you for your continued support in this community outreach effort. Thank you!

**Passionate about
Compassion Sunday**



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 Aiden Malone know. Thank you!



White River Youth Canoe Trip Thursday, July 24 Details Forthcoming

Youth Outing to McCormick's Creek, August 2 Details TBD

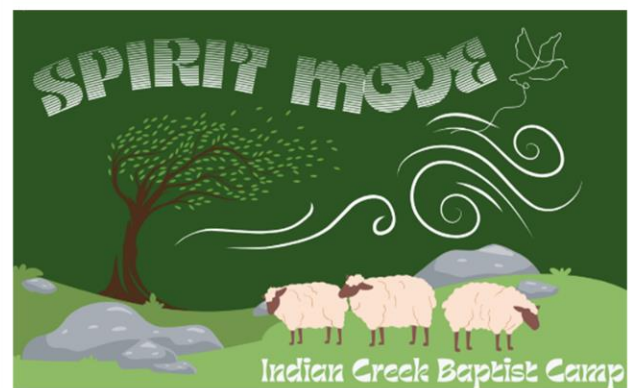
Indian Creek Summer Camp 2025

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

Grades	Sessions	Dates
Kindergarten- 1st	FIRST TIMERS	June 1st - 2nd
1st - 2nd	EXPLORER	June 7th-9th
2nd - 3rd	DISCOVERY	June 10th-13th
4th-6th Boys Only	BOYS CAMP	June 14th - 17th
4th-6th Girls Only	GIRLS CAMP	June 18th - 21st
10th - 2025 Grads	SENIOR HIGH	June 22nd - 28th
7th-9th	FOCUS	July 6th - 12th
6th-8th	CHALLENGE	July 13th - 19th
16yrs +	SPECIAL PERSONS	July 25th - 28th

ask to schedule special needs

CAMPINDIANCREEK.COM/CAMP
 REGISTER AS A CAMPER OR CABIN LEADER
 REGISTRATION GOES LIVE 1/1/25



Recognizing our 2025 High School Graduates





ECHOES FROM THE BELL TOWER

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

To God be the Glory

Author: Fanny Crosby (1875)

Tune: TO GOD BE THE GLORY (Doane)

Fanny (Francis) Jane Crosby attended the New York City School for the Blind, where she later became a teacher. She began writing poetry when she was eight and publishing several volumes, such as *A Blind Girl, and Other Poems* (1844). Married to musician Alexander Van Alstyne, who was also blind, Crosby began writing hymn texts when she was in her forties. She published at least eight thousand hymns (some under various pseudonyms); at times she was under contract to her publisher to write three hymns a week and often wrote six or seven a day. Crosby's texts were set to music by prominent gospel song composers such as William B. Bradbury, William H. Doane, Robert S. Lowry, Ira D. Sankey, and William J. Kirkpatrick. Her hymns were distributed widely and popularized at evangelistic services in both America and Great Britain. Crosby was one of the most respected women of her era and the friend of many prominent persons, including presidents of the United States.

https://hymnary.org/text/to_god_be_the_glory_great_things_he_hath

'To God be the Glory'

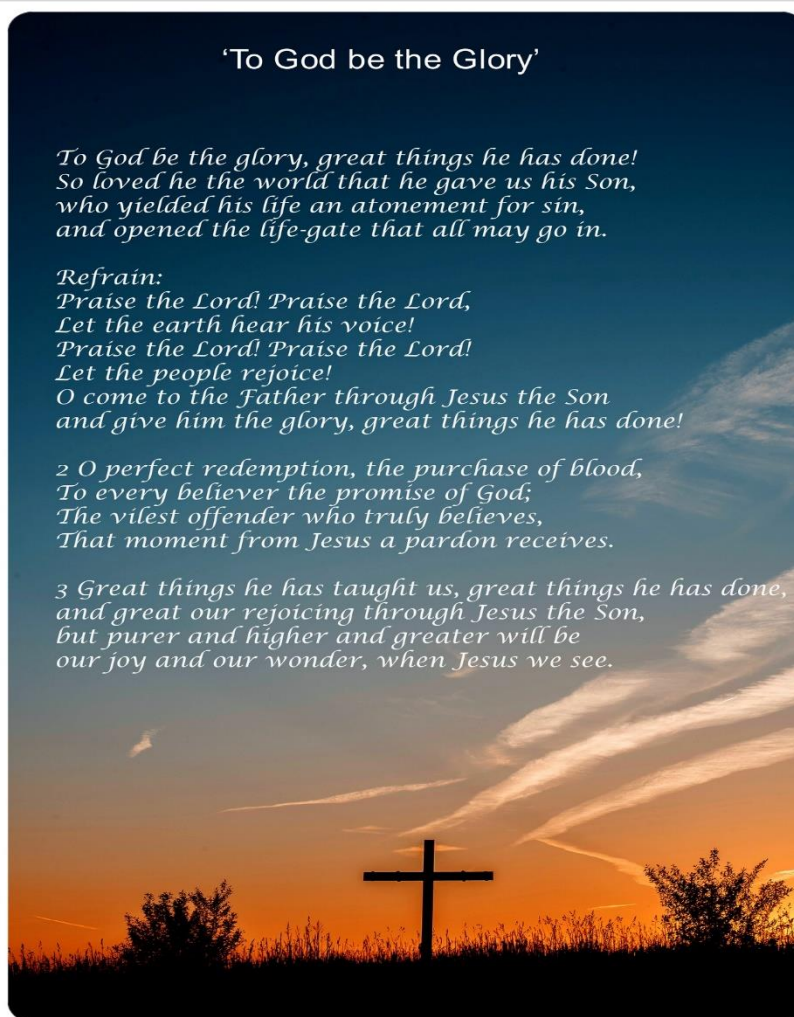
*To God be the glory, great things he has done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.*

Refrain:

*Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord,
Let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son
and give him the glory, great things he has done!*

*2 O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
To every believer the promise of God;
The vilest offender who truly believes,
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives.*

*3 Great things he has taught us, great things he has done,
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son,
but purer and higher and greater will be
our joy and our wonder, when Jesus we see.*



Its time for our **FIRST BAPTIST**



What is the year of this First Timers Camp at ICBC?



Congratulations, Janet Brown, for correctly identifying these graduates from 1969 and their parents! The graduates are Gary & Larry Sullivan and Polly Bruce Tilford. Polly's parents are Norma & Rex Bruce and Larry & Gary are pictured with their parents, Donald and Betty Sullivan.

ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY REVIEW CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

3. RUTH
5. REVELATION
7. EXPO
8. MATTHEW
9. MALACHI

DOWN

1. MARK
2. DANIEL
4. HEBREWS
5. ROMANS
6. LOVE



Summer Church League Softball

Softball practices are under way and 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.



**One proud grandma. Debra Hudson
with grandsons, Brady & Zach.**



Special Music Sign-up

You are encouraged to share your talents with music that adds to meaningful worship on Sunday mornings. You can scan the QR code to sign up. Thank you!



Church Summer Softball League June Schedule



Tuesday, June 3 @ 6:30 p.m.
Monday, June 9 @ 6:30 p.m.
Monday, June 16 @ 7:40 p.m.
Monday, June 23 @ 7:40 p.m.

**All games are played in
Linton.**



You Asked for It, 2025 Schedule

June 1 – “Why Communion?” 1 Cor. 11:17-34.

What is the purpose of communion? Are we doing it correctly?

June 8, Pentecost – “Waiting for God’s Voice” – Ps. 25:8-15.

Can we know the voice of God in our hearts? How do we wait for the Lord?

June 15, Trinity Sunday – “The Trinity and the Cross” – Rev. 1:17-18.

Did God really die on the cross? Are God and Jesus the same?

June 22 – “How Do We Glorify God?” – Rev. 4:11; 5:12-13.

What does it mean to glorify God?

June 29 – “The End of the World” – Rev. 21:1-8.

Tell us more about Revelation and the end of time.

MANNING THE ROPES



Mission Moment

In June, we spotlight Bahrain. It is a small island nation located in West Asia. It is one of the world's chief producing regions, but it has relatively small petroleum resources.

Less than 1% of native Bahrainis are Christians; nearly all are Muslims. Christians among Bahrain's expatriate workers make up 8 percent of the population. There is no tolerance for conversion away from Islam. Families and local communities are the main persecutors, but the government occasionally imprisons or harasses a new Christian. Christian converts risk their jobs and social status. Nevertheless, some still gather in secret to worship.

Voice of the Martyrs support evangelists by distributing Bibles and other Christian literature to encourage new believers. Please remember to pray for the people of Bahrain to stay strong in their faith.



One Great Hour of Sharing Offering

When you give to One **Great Hour of Sharing**, you are light for people in need. You offer light when disasters strike, and when chronic conditions threaten families and communities. You are light not just in the immediate future, but also for the long haul. When you give, you restore not only structures, but also transform lives. Your gift ensures that no matter how difficult the situation, light shines. **Be the light. Give to One Great Hour of Sharing.**



Have you ever watched suncatchers? Suncatchers are ornaments made of glass, crystal, or some translucent material. Usually hung in a window or outdoors, suncatchers spin to reflect and filter light, casting color in the area surrounding them—hues of blue, red, green, purple, and yellow: a limitless array of colors and patterns that symbolize warmth, love, compassion, generosity, and hospitality. Suncatchers bear and spread color—just as our good deeds bear light and send color into the world.



Be light—in your home, church, and community— tutor students after school; make a casserole for a bereaved family; gather signatures for petitions that highlight important issues; pick up trash around your neighborhood; make blankets for the unsheltered—let the need beckon you to action.



Be light—in the world by making a generous contribution to One Great Hour of Sharing. Your gift supports those who are doing ministry throughout the United States and across the globe—bringing hope, expertise, compassion, and love to places you may never visit and people you may never meet. Your giving to OGHS provides funding and hands-on assistance and promotes collaboration with local and international partners.



Be the light! For the sake of sisters and brothers who have renewed hope because you care enough to shine.



Be the light! So that people around the world can find their way and know that there is a path forward.

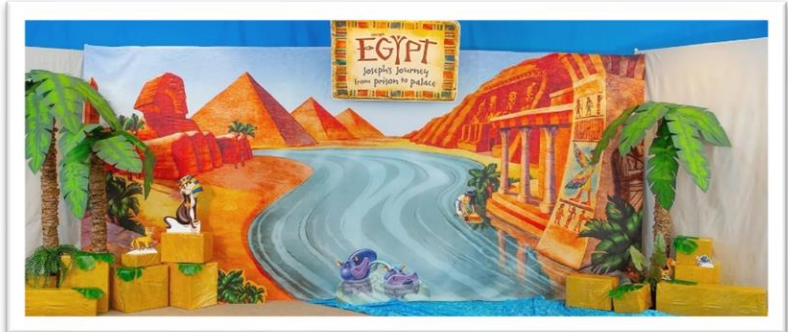
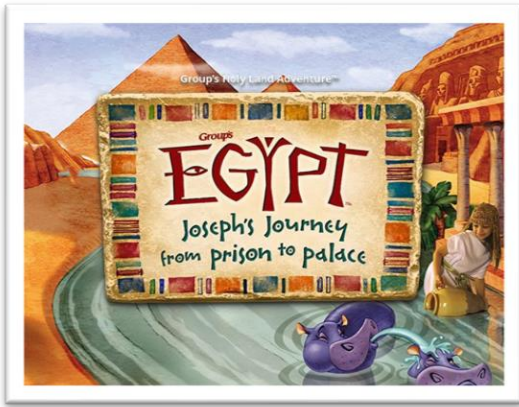


Be the light! Sharing God-colors with all you encounter!

Give generously to One Great Hour of Sharing! Follow in the footsteps of The Light of the World!
Shine brightly!

2025 Vacation Bible School

VBS will be Sunday, July 27-31. Ashley Terrell has graciously offered to coordinate the effort. Stay tuned for more information and how you can be a part of this amazing ministry.



BRIGHT BEGINNINGS PRESCHOOL



Community Event at
the CLC on July 11,
from 4PM-8PM.



BRIGHT BEGINNINGS PRESCHOOL

CONTACT INFO:
(812) 384-8459

Now Open for Registration

About School

Designed to promote social interactions with Christian love and teaching. We also encourage the love of learning through center-time, small-group learning, and read-aloud texts

Eligibility

Students are eligible for enrollment in our classes ages 2-5, and must have paperwork and fees turned in, to secure their spot. We are currently adding to the waitlist for our preschool, but have plenty of openings for our Pre-K.

Located at the
First Baptist
Church in
Bloomfield

REGISTER NOW



Bright Beginnings Preschool Fundraiser Deadline June 1

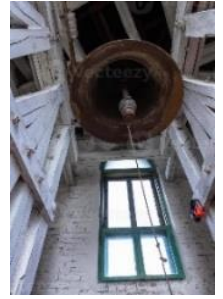
Support our Bright Beginnings Preschool by purchasing a t shirt. The deadline is Sunday, June 1. Shirts can be purchased at

<https://brightbeginningspreschool2025.itemorder.com/shop/home/>

NOTE FROM NATHAN

"My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death."

Jesus, Mark 14:34



On a recent Sunday, I said that inspiration works in different ways. This is true for the Bible, for any sermon, and for these newsletter articles.

I had the privilege of attending an event at Erin's Purpose on Wednesday night to meet a couple of local, Christian counselors. Gretchen Childress serves out of Odon, and Paul Alvey is based in Jasper. Both will be receiving referrals from Erin's Purpose to work with students in need of counseling services.

My purpose in going was to meet some local counselors to whom I can refer people as needed. There is a lack of quality, Christian counseling in rural, southern Indiana. To meet two, competent, approachable counselors who are already trusted by a ministry I trust is huge.

That was Wednesday. Two days later, I open my email to find a message from the IU Center for Rural Engagement, with an article and a podcast about mental health in rural Indiana. While I don't have a resource to pass along to you (at least not yet), there is a group working to provide more extensive Christian counseling services to more people in our region.

The article highlighted some of the challenges to receiving mental health care in southern Indiana. One is the availability of counselors. Another is travel. Cost also can be a hindrance. Work is being done to lower those hurdles.

But perhaps the biggest challenge, from my standpoint, is the stigma associated with mental health care. Christians especially can be ashamed to admit mental health issues or to seek care for those illnesses because we think it means there is something wrong with us, or something inadequate about our faith. We think that we shouldn't be struggling with these things. But the reality is, whether we admit it or not, we often are.

If you are a Christian and you suffer from depression or anxiety or PTSD or any other mental health challenge, it doesn't mean there is anything wrong with your faith. It means you are *human*. We are human beings. These kinds of experiences are part of the brokenness we share. The article I read today reminds us that our brains are organs, and just like any other organ in our bodies, there are appropriate and necessary times to seek medical treatment for healing.

The quote above is but a sampling of the experience of Jesus, who entered into all of our suffering and pain, including the depths of depression itself. He knows our anguish (Isa. 53:4). To be absolutely overwhelmed by the circumstances of life is common to humanity, and therefore common to the experience of our Lord Jesus during his walk on this earth. He feels our pain, including our mental pain. It is not some strange category of human existence to which he cannot relate. He was tried in all of the ways that we are (Heb. 4:15).

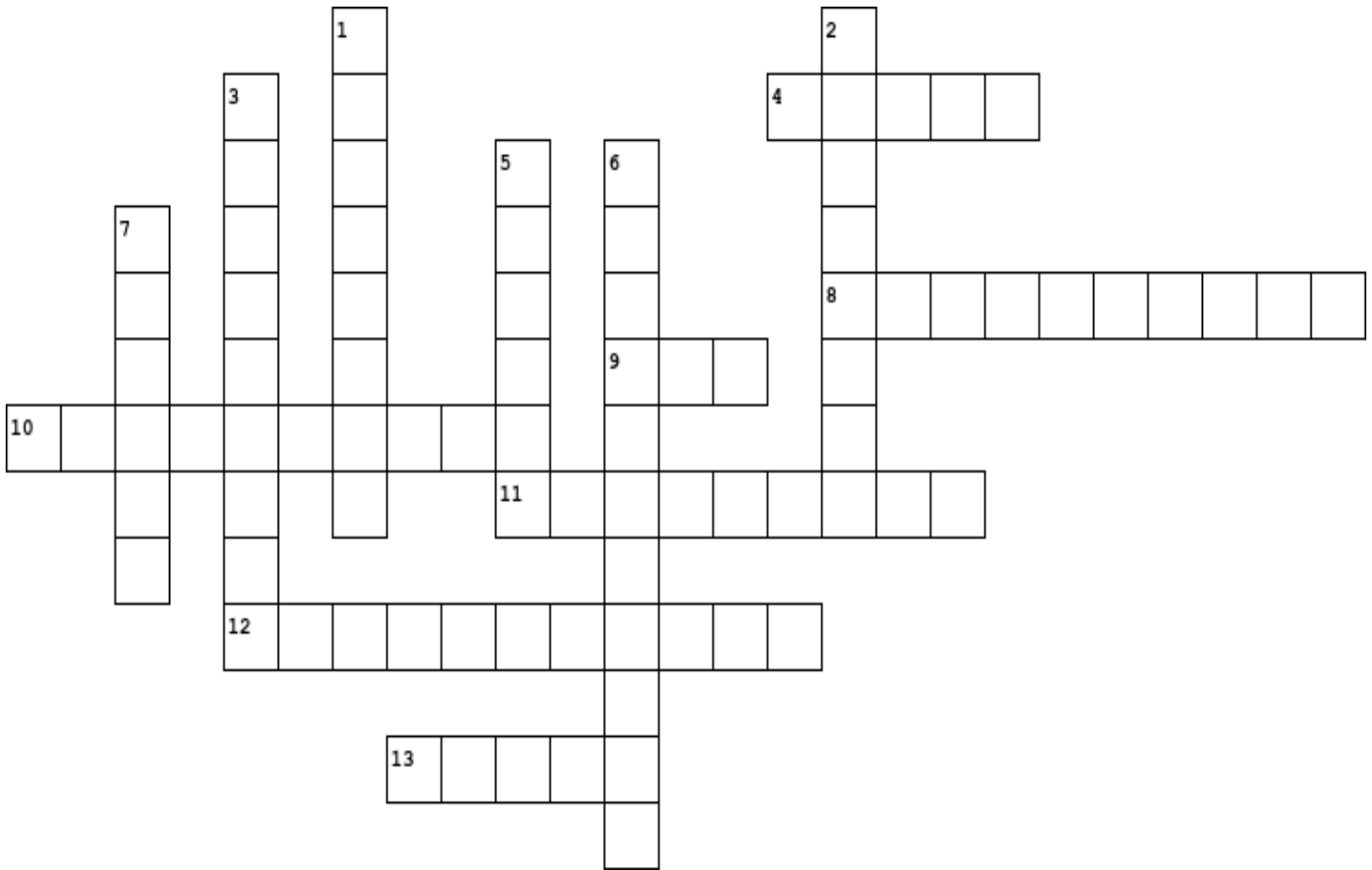
If you experience anxiety or depression, or if a traumatic event (or series of events) has happened in your life, it might be a good time to speak up. I am, of course, glad to meet and pray with any of you about anything. Those kinds of conversations can be helpful. There are limits, however, to what I am able to do. I received some training in pastoral care, but I am not a mental health professional. In addition to the two counselors I met last week, there are other options out there. I would be happy to help connect you with resources to help you in your mental health journey.

More than anything, you do not need to walk your journey alone. There are many of us who love Jesus and who love you and who would be honored to pray with you and support you on a path to healing. There is no shame in pursuing conversations or treatment for real pain in your life. There is no category of healing that Jesus is disinterested in.

"Little ones to Him belong; *we* are weak, but He is strong." Acknowledging our weakness might just be the first step in experiencing the Lord's strength in new and transformative ways (Isa. 40:28-31; 2 Cor. 12:9-10).

Grace and peace,
Nathan

CHURCH CAMP



Across

4. Two- or three- person vessel used for paddling down creeks or rivers.
8. Device used to increase visibility while walking in the dark.
9. Abbreviation of a former camp in Putnam County, where Baptists from Indiana assembled.
10. Name of a former camp in Kosciusko County; a circumstance to avoid when paddling a river.
11. Substance used to reduce skin damage in the event of excessive ultraviolet light exposure.
12. Road on which our currently operating camp (see #6 down) is located. Omit the punctuation.
13. Don't forget to take this with you to church camp, for reading in worship and on your own.

Down

1. Substance used to deter insects from biting us.
2. We might use one of these for cooking or to sit around and sing.
3. Room designated for eating meals, ideally attached to kitchen and restroom facilities.
5. A melted snack featuring marshmallows, chocolate, and graham crackers (plural).
6. The American Baptist Churches of Indiana and Kentucky operate this camp near Bedford.
7. This could be an indoor or outdoor site designated for worship services.

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

First Baptist Church
500 Lincoln Drive
Bloomfield, IN 47424

June
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 Communion Promotion Sun. 5:00 Softball Practice	2 6:00 GC Com. Mtg.	3 10:00 Cottage Prayer Group 6:00 Pickleball 6:30 Security Mtg. 6:30 Softball Game	4 9:00 Bible Study 10:30 Community Fellowship	5 6:30 Deacon Mtg. 6:30 Boy Scouts	6	7 7:00 Gideons 6:00 GGW
8 8:30 Fellowship Bfst	9 6:30 Softball Game	10 10:00 Cottage Prayer Group 6:00 Pickleball	11 9:00 Bible Study 10:30 Community Fellowship 12:30 Sewing Group	12 6:30 Boy Scouts	13 5:00 FH res.	14 7:00 Gideons 6:00 GGW
15 12:00 CLC res.	16 7:40 Softball Game	17 10:00 Cottage Prayer Group 6:00 Pickleball	18 9:00 Bible Study 10:30 Community Fellowship	19 6:30 Gideons 6:30 Boy Scouts	20	21 CLC res. 7:00 Gideons 6:00 GGW
22	23 7:40 Softball Game	24 10:00 Cottage Prayer Group 6:00 Pickleball 6:30 Trustee Mtg.	25 9:00 Bible Study 10:30 Community Fellowship	26 6:30 Boy Scouts	27	28 7:00 Gideons 11:00 Soup on Sat. 6:00 GGW
29	30					

Deacon of the Month
Bob Templeton

Trustee of the Month
Paul Stewart

Usher of the Month
Jeff Coffin

Prayers

1st Bob Weeks
8th
15th
22nd
29th

Snacks in the Narthex

1st Kimberly Porter
8th Fellowship Breakfast
15th The Flanagins
22nd Mary Bailey
29th

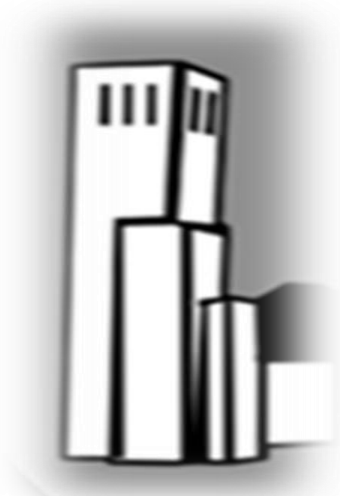
Greeters

Norm & Nancy Sullivan

Nursery Care

1st

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500 Lincoln Drive
Bloomfield, IN 47424



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