

the *LINK*

First Baptist Church Newsletter

June 5, 2024

Thrive This Summer

Summers can pose a major challenge to our faith and obedience to Christ. Why? Routines change, people travel, and some of our normal FBC activities are on a break. But summer can also be a great opportunity to see our faith increased. Here are three essentials to help us thrive and not just survive this summer.

First, make daily time with God in His Word a top priority this summer. We all must be in fellowship with the Lord. Seek to know Him, love Him, and serve Him. Jesus often reveals Himself to us through Scripture. God's Word is the food that nourishes our souls.

Second, keep making church attendance a priority. It is not a coincidence that major periods of spiritual growth in our lives are often associated with times of rich Christian fellowship. Beyond Sunday worship, stay in touch with brothers and sisters in Christ with phone calls, cards, and visits.

Third, stay self-disciplined. Discipline has a direct impact on steady spiritual growth. A stable and mature faith is not dependent on events or circumstances. Discipline is the ability to order our lives according to what we want to accomplish or achieve. So, we all have to make choices about what is important and how we invest our time.

Together with you,

Les



Harry A. McFarren



Students connected with First Baptist Church who are pursuing post-high school education are invited to apply for a monetary scholarship for the 2024-2025 academic year. Stop by or contact the church office for an application. The deadline to submit an application is July 14.

Men's Bible Study Update

The Men's Thursday morning Bible Study is taking a break in June and will resume on Thursday, July 11.

Thank You

Dear Church Family,
Thank you so much for your expressions of care and Christian love during my time of recovery from foot surgery. Only 5 more weeks of wearing my boot & using my knee scooter! The food was delicious and the cards were beautiful. Most of all, thank you for your prayers! Friends are, you are, such a blessing!
Love & Prayers, Judy Ziegler

Don't Be Root-Bound

As a new gardener, Jan Riegenbach used to treat bedding plants with extreme care, setting them into soil without disturbing the roots. Eventually she learned that rough — even ruthless — treatment is better in the long run.



"If the plant has been growing in its pot so long that the roots are circling the bottom, I jab my finger into the bottom of the soil and pull down to untangle the roots," Riegenbach wrote in her gardening column. "If the whole pot is filled with circling roots, I have to be merciless. I don't worry if I break some of the roots. That's better than allowing the roots to continue to circle when the plants are growing in the garden."

In the same way, it's easy to grow complacent and inward-focused in our walk with God. But bunched-up roots can't reach out for sustenance. So for maximum faith growth, dare to let God shake you up from time to time!

Prayer List

Bob Grove - irregular heart rhythm
Denise Downs - peace and healing of infection from her entire body
Don Reeves - build back up his body and healing from cancer
Ted Shady - healing from covid
Melanie Shady - recovery from shoulder surgery
Judy Ziegler - recovery from foot surgery
Patty Boots - in hospital with an infection and some other health concerns
Karen (Joyce Evan's sister-in-law) - herniated disk



American Baptist Regional Staff Update

Rev. Dr. Bruce Cochran has been our Associate Regional Minister for the past few years. The scope of his territory has been quite large - encompassing most of northern Indiana. He will now be part-time and cover the area nearest Indianapolis. The northeast area churches, to which we belong, will have a new Associate Regional Minister, Rev. Rusty Strickler. Rusty was most recently the pastor of the First Baptist Church in Warren.

Kids Time Teachers for Sunday



June 9

Angie Bynum
Jessica Bynum

(Note: LOL is on break for the summer.)

Stewardship

May 26, 2024

June 2, 2024

General Budget	\$2,132.00	General Budget	\$1,720.00
Building Maintenance	\$40.00	Building Maintenance	\$120.00
Missions	\$62.00	Missions	\$370.00
Deacons	\$26.00	Deacons	\$200.00
McFarren Scholarship	\$26.00		
Total	\$2,286.00	Total	\$2,410.00

First Baptist Church
202 W. Cherry Street
Bluffton, Indiana 46714



Sunday

Adult Sunday School 9:00 a.m.

Worship Service 10:15 a.m.

Kids' Time 10:10 a.m.

fbcbluffton.com

First Baptist Church

202 W. Cherry Street

260-824-1558



firstbaptist@adamswells.com



First Baptist Church-Bluffton Indiana

Pastor: Les Cantrell

Cell phone: 260-273-9073