



the *LINK*

First Baptist Church Newsletter
Jan. 17, 2024

Caught in the Slammer

“It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery” (Galatians 5:1).

Three men broke into an abandoned jail in St. Louis, and accidentally got trapped in a cell on November 16. The guys needed help from police to break out.

A police spokesman said the three illegally entered and abandoned jailhouse known locally as the “Workhouse.” The jail, which opened in 1966 as a Medium Security institution, closed in 2021 amid allegations of inhumane conditions.

The trespassers had to phone 911 for help escaping a locked cell. After rescuing the trio, police immediately arrested the men on trespassing charges and took them to a different city jail.

For thousands of years people discovered that rules-based religion was not only frustrating but impossible. Many sincere people got trapped in the prison of never being good enough.

Fortunately, we are set free from sin and condemnation through the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus. Freedom is a free gift we receive based solely on the grace of the LORD. Don't let yourself go back to a works-based prison, which God has completely abandoned.

Together with you,

Les

Sunday School

We have moved the Adult Sunday School class to the Fellowship Hall. It provides more space and easier access for everyone. Our vibrant gathering provides a safe place for everyone to share and learn from each other.

Our topic for January and February is "Owning A Faith That Matters." Here is a brief excerpt from the introduction to these sessions:

"We measure lots of things these days. My watch measures my steps, the odometer measures my miles, and my 401k measures my income from investments. But when it comes to faith, can we really measure it? That's tricky but important, wouldn't you say?"

Jesus said we only need the faith the size of a mustard seed. I'm not a mustard farmer, but that's a pretty small seed. But if we have it, we can move mountains. We all need a little mountain moving in our lives when we think about the growing darkness in our world.

Jesus wants us to have faith, but not shallow faith that's a mile wide and an inch deep. Throughout the Gospel of Luke, we'll discover that Jesus wants us to have deep faith."



"...Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you."

Matthew 17:20



Teachers for Sunday January 21, 2024

Kids' Time
Joyce Evans
Marcia Liddy

LOL
Darcy Isch

Christian Care
Bob Hiester

Ossian Healthcare
Ted Shady



*Remember Our
Homebound Friends*

River Terrace
Karen West
Carolyn McBride

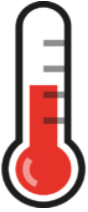
Condolences



We pray for Phyllis Pease and family in the passing of her son, Tim.

Prayer Update

We are happy to report that Bob Hiester is out of the hospital and back to Christian Care. Please pray for his continued improvement.



On Sunday it was freezing outside, but the church was warm! Last week the boiler system was revamped. Particles off of old cast iron piping had ruined the boilers. In a nutshell, the boilers were replaced and the system was changed to isolate the boilers from the old piping.

The Men's Bible Study gathers on Thursday mornings at 8 a.m. in the meeting room downstairs. All men are invited to join us for a cup of coffee and good time in the Word.

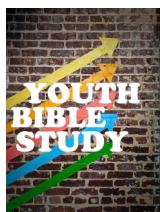


We appreciate all of the volunteers that keep our audio and video going every Sunday morning. Pictured here are Drake Davis and Noah Zoll. Thank You!



Each Wednesday our students meet from 6:00 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. If Bluffton Schools cancel (or have an e-learning day) due to weather, we also cancel.

Adventure Kids, grades K-5, meet downstairs in the CE wing. Laura Bertsch and Evy Fate are the teachers.



Youth Bible Study, grades 6-12, meet upstairs in the CE wing. Debbie Cantrell is the teacher.

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

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First Baptist Church-Bluffton Indiana

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