

the *LINK*



First Baptist Church Newsletter

January 22, 2025

Make Personal Sacrifices

Moses is an excellent example of a person who made family, personal, and financial sacrifices in order to please the Lord (Heb. 11:24-28). Our willingness to honor God by making sacrifices is another principle that helps us live wisely and well. Here are some other key verses that teach the same truth.

- **Romans 12:1-2** - "Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship."
- **Psalms 51:16-17**: "For you will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it; you will not be pleased with a burnt offering. My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart you, God, will not despise."
- **Mark 12:41-44**: This is the story of the poor widow who gave all she had, highlighting the importance of giving from the heart, even when it is a seemingly small sacrifice.
- **Matthew 20:28**: "...just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

True sacrifice involves offering ourselves completely to God, including our thoughts, actions, and desires. Internal faith ("broken and contrite heart") is more valuable to the Lord than ritualistic or empty religious practices. Jesus' sacrifice on the cross is the ultimate example of selfless love.

Together with you,

Les

Heritage Pointe, Warren

Barbara Charles

Ossian Healthcare

Ted Shady

Rose McCormick



Pray for our
Homebound

Christian Care

Bob Hiester

River Terrace

Karen West

Carolyn McBride

The following people need our continued prayers for healing:
Melanie Shady, Holly Zoll, Cathy Jambora, and Vileus Merzius.



Thursday Mornings



The Men's Bible Study meets at 8:00 a.m. on Thursdays. We are currently studying the book of Hebrews. All men are welcome! We meet in the basement and the study lasts about one hour.

The Annual Giving Statements from 2024 are on the table in the foyer. Please pick yours up. Those left after this Sunday will be mailed.



Annual Report for 2024

We are now compiling the Annual Report for 2024. Please turn in board and officer reports to the church office at your earliest convenience.

Stewardship

January 12, 2025

General Budget	\$875.00
Building Maintenance	\$40.00

Total \$915.00

Jan. 19, 2025

General Budget	\$1,750.00
Building Maintenance	\$140.00
Missions	\$150.00
Deacons	\$26.00
McFarren Scholarship	\$26.00

Total \$2,092.00



TACO BAR

Sunday, February 2

Join us right after the worship service on Sunday, February 2, for a taco bar lunch. The church will provide the meat, soft tortillas, and crunchy shells. Please sign up on the bulletin board for what you can bring to complete the meal.

Our regional minister, Rusty Strickler, will give a brief presentation on the Pastor search process and answer any questions you may have.

Also, please pray for the Search Committee to have wisdom and God's guidance as they begin the process.



Adventure Kids Celebrating Christmas

Pictured left to right:

Teachers:
Evy Fate and Laura Bertsch

Boys:
Ryker and Luke
(not pictured, Wharrens)

Girls:
Hadley, Piper, and Myah

Kids' Time Teacher
Sunday Jan. 26, 2025

Deb Klopfenstein
Hunter Zoll



Adventure Kids and
Youth Bible Study

Wednesdays
6:00 - 7:15 p.m.

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