

the *LINK*

First Baptist Church Newsletter

October 12, 2022

People of the Book

A few years ago, we went to a famous library, art museum, and botanical gardens called *The Huntington* in San Marino, California. They have an impressive collection of ancient artifacts and documents. I was mesmerized by an extremely rare Gutenberg Bible.

The Bible produced by Johann Gutenberg (ca. 1397-1468) was the first substantial book printed with movable type in the West. It appeared around 1455. Of an edition of 175 copies, only 48 survive today: 36 on paper, and 12 on prepared animal skin known as vellum. The Huntington's is one of three vellum copies in the United States. As I stared through that glass, I tried to imagine who had read that Bible, where it had traveled, and all the amazing stories it could tell.

Written in Latin, this ancient Bible also contained this verse: "For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart" (Heb. 4:12).

I have begun a series of sermons arguing that the people of the one true God are people of the Book. From the earliest days of the Israelites, through our contemporary society, the Word of God has been at the center of our faith. Letters and notes evolved into scrolls that were read in corporate worship, these eventually led to the bound text of Gutenberg, and now can be read anywhere on our phones. While these written Words are not to be worshipped, they are considered by true Christians as precious and sacred.

Join us this Sunday as we continue our study in Psalm 119.

Together with you,

Les



A MONTH OF MISSIONS



During October we collect our World Missions Offering to support Jon and Amanda Good and their family. There are special envelopes in the pews.

Pictured is a Ukrainian family that the Goods are helping as described below in a summer blog written by Amanda.

It is amazing how God places us in the right place at the right time. Who would have imagined that in Hungary, in 2022, there would be an opportunity to serve people fleeing war?

You, our wonderful partners, have given much toward helping Ukrainian refugees. Thank you for your compassion and generosity!

This past spring it became clear that the war will not end soon and we prayed about how to provide long-term support. One of our partner churches put us in touch with a family in need of long-term housing. We just knew that the Lord had put us together. The church is providing spiritual care and helping this precious family enroll in school. We agreed to provide groceries and a two-bedroom apartment that we are able to rent through your generous support.

The International Baptist church family came together to prepare the home, supplying it with everything three little girls, a baby boy, and a mom could want. Beautiful quilts from FBC El Paso, IL decorated each bed. Our Ecuadorian artist-in-residence even created sunflower themed art personalized with their names.

This support is more than just a comfortable place to live. A team from our church assists with groceries and Hungarian Baptist social services has been able to hire the mom so that she can earn income for her family.

It is a beautiful picture of how your support plus three churches here in Debrecen work together to provide care for this family. We are amazed at how the Lord brought all of this together!

Please pray for this family, that they will be well-established and rooted in the love of Christ here in Hungary. Please pray for the people of Ukraine and Russia, for this war to end quickly. Please pray for those who are fleeing war-torn homes. Please pray for those serving the refugees, especially those brothers and sisters inside Ukraine. Above all, pray that all these people will find the hope of Jesus.

Celebrating the Small Things

The Youth Bible Study talked about how it is good to celebrate the small things in life. Each person named at least one good thing that gives them a reason to celebrate at bit. What little things do you enjoy?

Shawn: I like my lunch snacks
Hunter: I like it when there is a new month
Drake: When I land a new trick on the trampoline
Logan: A new record on the game minesweeper
Noah: Winning a goldfish at Street Fair
Faith: When I pass all my tests
Devin: Doing new tricks on my bike
Jessica: Passing a test



Find Joy No Matter What

FBC will host an evening of fun with author, comedian, and motivational speaker Jill Baughan. You won't want to miss hearing Jill on the evening of Tuesday, November 8. Get this date on your calendars and invite a friend. Transportation will be provided for anyone who needs a ride.



Teachers - Sunday, Oct. 16

Kids' Time
Joyce Evans and Marcia Liddy

LOL
Darcy Isch

October is Pastor Appreciation month. The deacons invite you to place cards, notes, or letters in the basket in the foyer to thank or encourage Pastor Les and Debbie



Stewardship

October 9, 2022

Giving Toward:



Current Expenses	7,655.00
Building Maintenance	\$140.00
Missions	\$25.00
World Mission Offering	\$400.00
Deacons	\$25.00
Total	\$8,245.00

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

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First Baptist Church-Bluffton Indiana

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