



### The Strength of Pulling Together

As I mentioned on Sunday, I'm reading a book entitled *The Boys in the Boat*. In truth, someone is reading it to me; I'm listening to the audio version. This surprisingly good read celebrates the 1936 U.S. men's Olympic eight-oar rowing team—nine working class boys who stormed the rowing world, transformed the sport, and galvanized the attention of millions of Americans.

The sons of loggers, shipyard workers, and farmers from the American West, the boys took on and defeated successive echelons of privilege and power. They vanquished the sons of bankers and senators rowing for elite eastern universities. They defeated the sons of British aristocrats rowing for Oxford and Cambridge. And finally, in an extraordinary race in Berlin they stunned the Aryan sons of the Nazi state as they rowed for gold in front of Adolf Hitler.

Against the grim backdrop of the Great Depression, they reaffirmed the American notion that merit, in the end, outweighs birthright. They reminded the country of what can be done when everyone quite literally pulls together. And they provided hope that in the titanic struggle that lay just ahead, the ruthless might of the Nazis would not prevail over American grit, determination, and optimism.

Even as it chronicles the boys' collective achievement, *The Boys in the Boat* is also the heartwarming story of one young man in particular. Cast aside by his family at an early age, abandoned and left to fend for himself, Joe Rantz rows not just for glory, but to regain his shattered self-regard, to dare again to trust in others, and to find his way back to a place he can call home.

Amidst so much negativity around us today, this book has given me a ray of healing hope, a bit of laughter, and even a few tears. Might be worth your checking out.

Pulling with you!

Les

### Upcoming Events

**Wednesday, Oct. 18**

5:15 p.m. – Movin' Up

**Thursday, Oct. 19**

6:00 p.m. – Deacon Meeting

7:00 p.m. – Choir Practice

**Sunday, Oct. 22**

9:00 a.m. – Sunday School

10:05 a.m. – Kids' Time

10:15 a.m. – Worship Service

### Teachers This Sunday

#### Nursery

Alexis Collins / Evalyn Fate

#### Kids' Time

Deb Klopfenstein / Darcy Isch

#### LOL

Margaret McAfee

### Last Week

**Oct. 15, 2017**

#### Attendance

Worship Service – 140

Sunday School – 62

### Stewardship Report

#### Giving Toward:

Current Expense	\$2199.75
Missions	\$490.00
Building/ Maint. Fund	\$190.00
World Missions Offering	\$288.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$3167.75</b>

## **All-Church Thanksgiving Dinner**

Mark your calendar for Sunday, November 12. After our worship service we will have our All-Church Thanksgiving Dinner. Turkey and the fixin's will be provided. Please bring side dishes such as vegetables, salads, and desserts. We will have a place on the Welcome Card this Sunday for you to RSVP the number from your family that plan to attend.

## **Financial Secretary Note**

I have enjoyed serving FBC as the Financial Secretary but have made the decision to resign from this position for 2018. As many of you may already know, Larry has Alzheimer's. He was diagnosed in 2012 and has been relatively stable, I thought. We had testing done again this year, and the testing showed a significant decline from 2012. This is why he is so quiet and distant, as you may have noticed. With this decline, I have decided that I want to have the liberty to go on short trips or spend time with family on the spur of the moment, and I can't do that with the every Sunday commitment. Please keep both of us in your prayers. Karyn Gilly

## **Financial Secretary Update**

We appreciate the hard work that Karyn has done as the Financial Secretary. We were concerned about filling this position, with it being heavily computer based. But Holly Zoll was asked and she agreed to take it. Holly will shadow Karyn for the rest of 2017 and then start in January. Holly's name will be placed on the ballot for your affirmation at our Annual Meeting on November 5<sup>th</sup>. Gary Bynum, Church Clerk

## **Bowling Party**

On Wednesday, November 1 we will have a bowling party instead of our regular Movin' Up. Meet at the Bowling Alley from 5:15 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. p.m.

## **Pastor Appreciation**

October is Pastor Appreciation Month. The deacons invite you to speak or write a word of encouragement or appreciation to Pastor Les and Debbie. A basket is in the foyer for such cards or notes.

## **Annual Meeting**

The FBC annual meeting will be held on November 5, after the worship service. At this meeting, we will go over and approve our 2018 budget. We will also vote to approve new leaders for 2018.

## **Prayer**

Ed Higgins came out of his surgery just fine. Pray for his continued healing.  
Herm McCormick – health concerns.





## UPDATE!

During the month of October we are collecting our World Mission Offering (WMO). This money will go to support Pastor Jon and Amanda Good and their four children to take the gospel to Hungary. So far we have collected \$2043.00 for the Goods. Thank you for your generous contributions. You may still give by using the special envelopes that are available on the table in the church foyer. Make the check out to First Baptist Church and place it in a WMO envelope. Write your name on the outside of the envelope.



Pictured to the left are the Good children at the location where they just completed a Missionary training course. Here's a quote from their recent blog: "After six weeks, we SixGoods are better equipped to serve Jesus, and we are more than excited to learn Hungarian! The past two weeks

focused on how to learn another language. Believe it or not, our favorite part of it this was studying phonetics. Does that mean we are phonetics fanatics? Certainly not, but we have learned a lot about the way other cultures communicate."

The Goods will be commissioned for service on Saturday, October 28 at the Covenant Baptist Church in West Bloomfield, Michigan. You can see their current newsletter and invitation to their commissioning on the bulletin board in The Gathering Place.





202 West Cherry Street  
Bluffton, Indiana 46714



## Homebound Members

### Christian Care

Joan Sills – Room 222  
Mildred Huss – Room 219B

### River Terrace

Phebe Edington – Room 134  
LaVera Krummen – Room 116

### Signature Healthcare

Bonnie McAfee – Room 403B

### Markle Health and Rehabilitation

Barbara French – Room 216

As we co-labor with other churches  
in our community,  
this week we pray for:  
Apostolic Christian Church  
Pastor Steve Ringger

### First Baptist Church

260-824-1558

[firstbaptist@adamswells.com](mailto:firstbaptist@adamswells.com)

[fbcluffton.com](http://fbcluffton.com)

 First Baptist Church - Bluffton, Indiana

Pastor: Les Cantrell  
Cell phone: 260-273-9073  
Music Director: Sarah Landell  
Secretary: Debbie Cantrell

### Sunday:

9:00 a.m. – Sunday School  
9:50 a.m. – Coffee/Tea Time  
10:05 a.m. – Kids' Time  
10:15 a.m. – Worship Service