

the *LINK*

First Baptist Church Newsletter
Nov. 1, 2023

FOLLOWERS OF JESUS

Two brothers, Harry and James, finished supper and were playing until bedtime. Somehow, Harry hit James with a stick, and tears along with bitter words followed. Charges and accusations were still being exchanged as mother prepared them for bed.

The mother instructed, "Now, James, before you go to bed you're going to have to forgive your brother." James was thoughtful for a few moments, and then replied, "Well, OK, I'll forgive him tonight, but if I don't die before I wake up, he'd better look out in the morning." We smile because we can really relate to James. But Jesus made clear that we cannot forgive someone while continuing to nurse a grudge.

So far, we have learned two principles from the Lord's Sermon on the Mount. First, in Matthew 5 we discovered that kingdom righteousness is internal (unseen heart) before it can be external (seen deeds). Second, in Matthew 6 we learned that the primary motive of kingdom righteousness is before God (private) rather than before others (public).

This Sunday I will conclude this series of messages with a third truth from Jesus. Why is this important? We are followers of Jesus.

Together with you,

Les



MEET IN THE GATHERING PLACE

Please plan to attend our Annual Business Meeting this Sunday, November 5 right after the worship service. We will approve the board members and budget for 2024.



Daylight Savings Time Ends

Change your clocks Saturday night.
Move them back an hour
and enjoy some extra sleep!

This Week

Wednesday: Youth Bible Study (grades 6th to 12th) - 6:00 to 7:15 p.m.
Adventure Kids (grades K to 5th) - 6:00 to 7:15 p.m.
CE Board Meeting - 6:30 p.m.

Thursday: Men's Bible Study - 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

Teachers for Sunday November 5, 2023

Kids' Time
Ruth Ann Monroe
Chris McFarren

LOL
Remain in service



Dear Church Family, We would like to thank you all for the beautiful cards, notes of encouragement, and thoughtful gifts we received for Pastor Appreciation. We are blessed to be able to serve Jesus with you. In Christ, Pastor Les and Debbie



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHLD DETAILS

The Samaritan's Purse project Operation Christmas Child collects shoebox gifts filled with fun toys, school supplies, and personal care items—and delivers them to children in need around the world to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way. For many of these children, the gift—filled shoebox is the first gift they have ever received.

Many of you already picked up a box and information last Sunday. Here are more details about the collection here at FBC.

GETTING STARTED - we will have more of everything available this week.

- Take a box
- Take a boy/girl label and information sheet.

FILLING IT

- Use the sheets provided to guide you with what to buy, and not to buy.
- Consider enclosing a personal note and photo.
- PRAY for the child who will receive your box.
- Mark and then tape the boy/girl label on specified place on box.

TURNING IT IN

- Your filled box needs to be returned to FBC by Sunday, November 12.
- A donation of \$10 per box is needed to cover shipping/project costs. You or a friend you are sharing costs with can pay for that one of several ways:
 - 1) put an envelope containing the money inside the box OR
 - 2) donate online at SAMARITANSPURSE.ORG/OCC which allows you to use the "Follow Your Box" where you can also discover the destination of your shoebox. If you choose this method, please let Helen know. She wants to make sure each box is covered with the appropriate donation OR
 - 3) a note that your box still needs the \$10 donation.

FINAL NOTE

If you would just like to donate money to help with the boxes or have any questions, please talk with Helen Steffen.



I FOLLOW JESUS

The first step as a follower of Jesus is to be baptized. We will have the baptistry filled and ready to go for our worship service on Sunday, Nov. 12. Please talk to Pastor Les if you are interested or have any questions.

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

Pastor: Les Cantrell

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