

the *L I N K*

First Baptist Church Newsletter

Nov. 15, 2023

Unexpected Outcomes

Not all mistakes are entirely bad. Blunders can sometimes lead to unexpected or even beneficial results.

Christopher Columbus was a man of deep faith and vision. Leaning on the writings of philosophers and Pliny, he miscalculated the size of the earth in general and the width of the oceans in particular. But the hand of providence allowed him to discover the New World instead of India.

Alexander Fleming left a Petri dish laden with bacteria from his own snot on his cluttered desk. Weeks later he discovered a small portion of that nasty bacteria was dead. Under the microscope Fleming deduced that fungus spores from a nearby open window had drifted into the dish. This mistake led him to develop that valuable antibiotic, Penicillin.

In 1953 an overzealous Swanson employee overestimated the number of frozen turkeys the company should order to sell for Thanksgiving. Swanson was left with 260 tons of extra turkey after the holiday. But rather than eat the loss (financially, that is), salesman Gerry Thomas came up with the brilliant idea to create and sell individual turkey dinners complete with cornbread dressing, gravy, peas, and sweet potatoes on oven-safe trays, just like airline meals. Each premade feast cost a grand total of 98 cents. By the end of 1954, Swanson had sold 10 million frozen turkey meals, and the TV dinner was born.

Joseph's brothers made some serious mistakes. But God used Joseph's slavery in Egypt to save thousands and perhaps millions of people from starvation (Gen. 50:20). It's important that we own up to our blunders. But failure might be the backdoor of success.

Together with you,

Les



PRAYER UPDATES

Please continue to pray peace, comfort, and healing for these folks in our church family. They appreciate our prayers.

- Chas Isch is home and will be returning to Houston in December for further treatment.
- Denise Downs is home and still healing from her surgery.
- Don Reeves is continuing to have treatments for cancer.

Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.
Colossians 4:2

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.

Deacon Meeting - 6:30 p.m.

Thursday

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

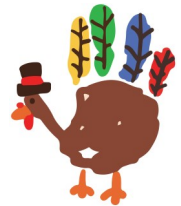
Teachers for Sunday November 19, 2023

Kids' Time

Joyce Evans
Marcia Liddy

LOL

Remain in service



River Terrace
Karen West
Carolyn McBride
Ted Shady



Christian Care
Bob Hiester

*Remember Our
Homebound Friends*

LOOKING AHEAD



November 26 - We will decorate the church for Christmas right after the worship service. A pizza lunch will be available for all who stay to help. Join us!!



December 10 - Taco Bar downstairs right after the worship service. The church will provide the meat, shells, and tortillas. Later, there will be a sign-up sheet for what you can bring.



Poinsettia Orders

You may purchase a poinsettia in honor or in memory of someone. The flowers will be used to decorate the sanctuary and you may take them home after the Christmas Eve Service. The cost is \$6.50 and the deadline is November 26. There will be order forms in the foyer. You may turn in your completed form, along with payment, to the church office or place it in the offering plate. Make checks payable to First Baptist.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

We collected a total of 21 boxes to send to children! Thank you to everyone who contributed and thank you to Helen Steffen for her leadership.

Stewardship

Nov. 12, 2023

| | |
|----------------------|------------|
| General Budget | \$4,965.00 |
| Building Maintenance | \$75.00 |
| Missions | \$40.00 |
| Flowers | \$19.50 |

Total **\$5,099.50**



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