

Unwrap God's Presents

So it begins. The season of giving and receiving is upon us. We will open six presents from God in my sermons. Each of these gifts will focus our hearts in a helpful direction. Plan to join us for this amazing journey. Les

Thankfulness When We Feel Like Criticizing

Nov. 26

(Colossians 3:15, 17; 4:2)

Peace When We Feel Frustrated

Dec. 3

(John 16:33)

Rest When We Feel Weary

Dec. 10

(Isaiah 40:28-29)

Guidance When We Feel Confused

Dec. 17

(Matthew 7:7)

Expectancy When We Feel Impatient

Dec. 24

(Galatians 4:4)

Worship When We Feel Selfish

Christmas Eve

(1 Chronicles 16:23-31)



Upcoming Events

Thursday, Nov. 23

Happy Thanksgiving!

Sunday, Nov. 26

9:00 a.m. – Sunday School

10:05 a.m. – Kids' Time

10:15 a.m. – Worship Service

Teachers This Sunday

Nursery

Angie Bynum / Mary Bishop

Kids' Time

Deb Klopfenstein / Darcy Isch

LOL

Remain in service

Last Week

Nov. 19, 2017

Attendance

Worship Service – 105

Sunday School - 53

Stewardship Report

Giving Toward:

Current Expense	\$2023.30
Missions	\$135.00
Building/ Maint. Fund	\$75.00
Deacon Fund	\$20.00
Thanksgiving	\$90.00
Funeral Dinner	\$257.65
Total:	\$2600.95

Thank you!



Thanks to everyone who stayed to help decorate the church on Sunday. A special thanks to Helen Steffen for coordinating the project!

Homebound Goody Bags

We like to encourage our homebound friends each holiday season with a goody bag full of small treats like: lotion, tissues, calendars, magazines, and snacks. The bags will be set up in The Gathering Place starting this Sunday for your donations. We will collect items until their delivery on December 10. We will have five bags to fill.



Poinsettias

You have the opportunity to 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. They cost \$6.00 and the order deadline is December 4. There are order forms on the table 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.



Mitten, Gloves, & Hats

We will collect mittens, gloves, and hats to donate to local school children. There is a mitten tree in The Gathering Place near the office. Please leave your donations there.



Thanksgiving

"That my heart may sing to you and not be silent. O Lord my God, I will give you thanks forever." Psalm 30:12

This Week ... Nothing

Here is a cute story I ran across the other day.

Two old friends met on the street one day. One looked sad, almost on the verge of tears. His friend asked, "What has the world done to you, my old friend?"

The gloomy fellow said, "Let me tell you: three weeks ago, my uncle died and left me forty thousand dollars."

"That's a lot of money."

"But you see, two weeks ago, a cousin I never even knew died, and left me eighty-five thousand dollars, free and clear."

"Sounds to me that you've been very blessed."

"You don't understand!" he interrupted. "Last week my great-aunt passed away. I inherited almost a quarter of a million from her."

Now the man's friend was really confused. "Then, why do you look so glum?"

"This week . . . nothing!"

That is the problem with receiving something on a regular basis. Even if it is a gift, we eventually come to expect it. Our human tendency is consistent; if we receive a gift long enough, we come to view it almost as an entitlement. We feel hurt, even angry, if we fail to receive it any longer.

I am not entitled to all the blessings God gives me every day. I don't deserve my warm home, the beautiful scenery around me, or the clean water I drink.

But after receiving these gifts (and countless others) for years, I sometimes fail to be grateful. I come to expect these good things. And when one of them is removed for a short time (like electricity or internet going down), I get upset.

Together let's make a renewed effort to recognize with gratitude the blessings God pours out upon us. Focus on what we have rather than on what we do not have, and watch our attitudes improve.

Have a Blessed Thanksgiving!

Les



202 West Cherry Street
Bluffton, Indiana 46714



Homebound Members

Christian Care

Mildred Huss – Room 219B

River Terrace

Phebe Edington – Room 134

LaVera Krummen – Room 116

Markle Health and Rehabilitation

Barbara French – Room 216

As we co-labor with other churches
in our community,
this week we pray for:
Boehmer United Methodist
Pastor Barry Humble

First Baptist Church

260-824-1558

firstbaptist@adamswells.com

fbcbluffton.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