

the *LINK*

December 16, 2020

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Glory in Healing

"I believe in miraculous cures, and I shall never forget the impact I felt watching with my own eyes how an enormous cancerous growth on the hand of a worker dissolved and changed into a light scar. I cannot understand, but I can even less doubt what I saw with my own eyes."

—Dr. Alexis Carrel, Nobel Prize in Medicine, 1913

We are three weeks into a study on God's glory. On Sunday we dove head first into the glory of God revealed most clearly in Christ (Hebrews 1:1-3). God's glory was displayed in various ways through Jesus, including the numerous miracles He performed.

Today a request for miracle stories from a church family often generates more descriptions of physical healings than any other kind of miracle. As conscious beings in a fallen world, we often feel our exile from paradise (Eden) most acutely in our physical bodies.

Sometimes God heals our bodies to reveal His glory, love, mercy, and grace. In fact, when God touches our flesh it's always to communicate a deeper message to our spirits. Scripture reveals why spirit lessons and messages are the main focus. "So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day" (2 Cor. 4:16).

These days we have a heightened awareness of human mortality. But we also received a glimpse of the future. When Jesus was transfigured on Mount Tabor the veil was lifted for a moment, to reveal Jesus' glory to His disciples and to us. Humanity got a preview of that future kingdom when Jesus will reign forever as King. In that day God will wipe every tear from our eyes, and there will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain. For the old order of things will have finally passed away. (cf. Rev. 21:1-4).

God can and often does heal people today. Someday followers of Jesus will be gloriously resurrected, fit as a fiddle, whole... and home.

Be encouraged! Les



Candlelight Service

One of the highlights of our Christmas season at First Baptist Church is the Christmas Eve Candlelight Service. It will be at 7 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 24. We will continue our usual social distancing, and please wear a mask. Pick up your candle before the service from a table in the back. For those who do not feel comfortable being in attendance, we plan to livestream the service. Go to fbcbluffton.com, click the media tab, and then click the "Click for Worship Service" just as you would for a Sunday morning service. Have a candle ready so you can join us in our singing by candlelight!



Each Christmas Eve we collect an offering to go to a local ministry. This year the deacons decided to send the offering collected at the service to Helping Hands.

Gift Bags for Kids

This Sunday, Dec. 20, the Board of Christian Education will pass out gift bags to the kids. In order to maintain social distance, we are passing them out from a different location than usual. After the worship service, please go downstairs to the serving window of the dining room. A board member will be there to hand out the bags.



Our poinsettias will be here to decorate the church sanctuary this Sunday, Dec. 20. If you ordered one, you may take it home with you anytime. Those still here after the service on Sunday, Dec. 27 will be delivered to others who would enjoy them.





Prayer Updates

The following people have had successful surgeries. Please continue to pray for their full recovery: Melanie Shady, Marty Tschannen, Sandy Langel, and Mary Bishop.

Howard Jones had a stent put in last week and is recovering well at home. Please continue to pray for him.

Rick White has pneumonia and some other health issues. He has been placed in the hospital in Fort Wayne and needs our continual prayers. His mailing address is Auburn Village; 1751 Wesley Rd.; Auburn, In 46706.



Thank you

I appreciate all of your prayers, cards, and support. I am happy to report that the doctors feel like they removed all of the cancer and I don't need radiation. Thank you again for your kindness during this time. Mary Bishop



Thank you

Thank you for your cards, prayers, and food for the loss of my sister, Marilyn. She lived a good full Christian life.

Ironically, we buried Marilyn the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. Twenty-two years ago in 1998, we buried Diann on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving.

In Christ,
Ed Higgins & family

Stewardship

Thank you to those who have remembered the church with your tithes and offerings. Our offering plates are on the table in the foyer on Sunday mornings or you can mail your gifts to Jesus in support of our church to 202 W. Cherry Street.

December 13, 2020

Giving Toward:

Current Expenses	\$2,750.00
Missions	\$480.00
Holiday Flowers	\$15.00
Building and Mtn.	\$190.00
Total	\$3,435.00



Sunday

Adult Sunday School 9:00 a.m.

Worship Service at 10:15 a.m.

fbcbluffton.com

First Baptist Church

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 First Baptist Church-Bluffton Indiana

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