

Mountain Climbing

Back before I was married, some friends and I decided to climb one of the smaller mountains in Colorado. There were no ropes involved in our venture, thank the LORD. But we took hundreds of thousands of steps up winding treacherous trails. We saw many gorgeous views. Unfortunately, we flatlanders from Kansas neglected to take drinking water. Dehydration forced us to abandon this trek before we reached the summit.

In a similar way, our FBC climb during this amazing season includes daily readings from special devotionals, and Sunday morning worship services at 10:15 a.m. God often shows up in unique and remarkable ways. This season's mountain top, time and again, has been our Christmas Eve candlelight service at 7 p.m.

Why not commit, prepare, and participate in this Christmas journey with your church family? LORD willing, we all plan to go to the top together in heartfelt worship and devotion.

Seeking Jesus with you,
Les



This Week

Wednesday, Dec. 5

5:15 p.m. - Movin' Up
7:00 p.m. - Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, Dec. 9

9:00 a.m. - Sunday School
9:50 a.m. - Coffee
10:05 a.m. - Kids' Time
10:15 a.m. - Worship Service
11:15 a.m. - Pizza & Caroling

Teachers This Sunday

Nursery

Davis Family

Kids' Time

Holly Zoll/ Angie Bynum

LOL

Traci Heller

Stewardship Report

Dec. 2, 2018

Giving Toward:

Current Expense	\$2303.00
Missions	\$223.00
Building/ Maint. Fund	\$70.00
Poinsettias	\$12.00
Furnace & AC	\$5.00

Total: \$2,628.00

CONDOLENCES

Pray for Nancy Hiester and family in the passing of her brother, Jim Costello.

CAROLING & PIZZA



This Sunday, we will first enjoy some pizza in the Fellowship Hall, and then go Christmas caroling. We will sing to our homebound friends and deliver their goody bags. If you didn't sign up, but want to come, please call the church office by Thursday.



CONNECTION CENTER HELP

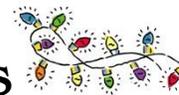
The Connection Center is having a cookie walk this Saturday, Dec. 8, from 8-10 a.m. at 116 S. Johnson Street. They need buyers and bakers. Bakers can drop off cookies from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. this Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday at the Grace & Mercy Transitional Housing which is located at 1001 Clark Ave.



NOW COLLECTING

We are collecting mittens, gloves, and hats to give to local school children. Please leave your donations on or beneath the mitten tree located, near the office, in The Gathering Place.

WINTER WONDERLAND OF LIGHTS



We have a display at the Ouabache State Park's Wonderland of Lights. The event will be open every day in December from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.



Movin' Up kids – don't miss this week and next week. Next week, December 12, we will have our last meeting for 2018 with a special Christmas celebration, including pizza and breadsticks. Then, stay tuned for when we start again in January.

Worth the Wait

Through the centuries artists have expressed our human longing for a new world of peace and wholeness. The sonatas of Bach, Mozart, and Beethoven usually move from a lively beginning into a slower and seemingly chaotic middle section. The listener yearns for resolution. Then finally, in the last section of their compositions, our anticipation is satisfied when we are allowed to land at home. This dramatically expresses our hearts' true desire for HOME.

Back in 1939, Judy Garland carried us into that paradise when she sang "Somewhere Over the Rainbow." Later, Louis Armstrong took us there with his song "What a Wonderful World." Other singers emphasized what they perceived as barriers to our building this utopian world. John Lennon ignited a global protest movement with his song "Imagine." In 2006 singer John Mayer concluded that his generation could only "Wait for the World to Change." The band U2 in their song "I Still Haven't Found What I'm Looking For" gave us the prophetic realization that all of our remarkable efforts and great exploits always come up short.

Christ followers also long for a perfect world where sin, sorrow, and pain are abolished. Jesus began that transformation at His first arrival on planet earth, and the LORD will bring it to a final glorious conclusion when He returns again.

To wait on our Creator to fulfill His promises is never an empty pursuit. Jesus arrived on earth at God's perfect time. Our LORD will return to earth again at precisely the right moment – as determined by Yahweh.

This word "wait" will serve as both the theme of this season leading up to Christmas and as an acrostic. My first message in this series last Sunday began with the letter "W," as we examined the need to "watch."

Does it surprise you that the word "watch" is a verb? A verb most often describes an action, like the word "jump." What action is a little girl doing when she peers out the window excitedly anticipating grandma and grandpa's arrival?

There is nothing passive about watching. To watch means to be alertly on the lookout, to look attentively and expectantly, or observe in order to see what comes, is done, or happens.

In the Christmas story, elderly Simeon and Anna were both alertly observing everyone and everything so as not to miss God's arrival on earth as the Messiah. They were not disappointed.

We will continue this W.A.I.T acrostic on Sunday as we recognize our need to constantly "assess" our values.

Walking with you,

Les



Homebound Members

Christian Care

Mildred Huss – Room 219B

Clyde Shady – Room 228B

River Terrace

Eulis West – Room 220

Home

Ed Goetz

Rose McCormick

K Casper Life Center

Judy Bierie – Room 268

Markle Health and Rehabilitation

Larry Gilly – Room 210

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

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: Julie Cantrell

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