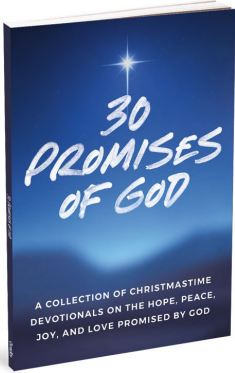




First Baptist Church Newsletter

December 7, 2022

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Everything changed on that unexpected first Christmas more than two thousand years ago. The trajectory of history, the future, even eternity, was transformed when God became man. Jesus the Son of God became the Son of Man, fully divine yet fully human. Isaiah foretold long before, Jesus came to earth as Immanuel, God with us (Isaiah 7:14).

This was God with us. Promises Kept.

Not God out of reach, out there somewhere, above us and unattainable. Not God cold and aloof, beyond us and distant, unengaged and disinterested. Not God angry and condemning, overbearing and vengeful, awaiting our fall.

But God with us. Promises Kept.

God come near, where we are, in the here and now, where we breathe and live, laugh and cry, love and hate, hope and despair, hurt and heal, create and destroy.

God made flesh. God one of us. God. With. Us. Forever. Promises Kept.

As we move toward the Christmas celebration of Jesus's momentous arrival, you are invited to join in an Advent journey of discovery – of hope, love, joy, and peace – as we draw near to Jesus Christ, the light of the world, God with us. Promises kept.

Together with you,
Les

THIS SUNDAY!

Right after the worship service this Sunday, December 11 we will have a baked potato bar. The church will provide potatoes, butter, table service, and drinks. If you didn't sign up, but would like to come, please call the church office and let them know.



Christmas Cards Available

Extra cards are located in The Gathering Place on the high table. You may use these to fill out and place in the goody bags for our homebound members. If you know someone else at a local care home, you may also write them a note in one of these cards and leave it on the table. These will be delivered to them at the care home where they live.

GOODY BAGS

Each holiday season, we take goody bags to our homebound members. This year we have four bags in The Gathering Place, one of them is cards only. The deadline for contributing is Sunday, December 18.



Teachers - Sunday, Dec. 11

Kids' Time
Angie Bynum
and Jessica Bynum

LOL
Traci Heller

Stewardship

December 4, 2022

General Budget	\$5,135.00
Building Maintenance	\$550.00
Missions	\$510.00
Christmas	\$50.00

Total **\$6,245.00**





*Dec. 11 Third Sunday of Advent - Andy & Julie (Cantrell)
Boettcher will lead the music for our service.*

*Dec. 18 Fourth Sunday of Advent - The Christian Ed Board
will hand out Christmas bags to the children after the service.*

Dec. 24 Candlelight Christmas Eve Service - 7:00 p.m.

Dec. 25 Christmas Day Service - 10:15 a.m. worship

Please continue to pray for Carl Waterman (son-in-law of Phyllis Pease) as he continues with cancer treatments. Carl and Beth will be staying in Rochester through the holiday season so that he can complete his treatments. Here is their temporary address if you would like to send them a card or note of encouragement:

Carl and Beth Waterman
c/o Residence Inn, Room 603
441 W. Center St.
Rochester, MN 55902



ABWM Scholarships

Each year, American Baptist Women's Ministries of IN/KY award \$500 scholarships to several students from American Baptist churches. The scholarships are to help with post-high school education. You may obtain more information on the requirements and an application for the 2023 school year in the church office.

Christian Care
Gloria Reeves—Room 214A

Home
Rose McCormick
Bonnie Riddle



*Remember Our
Homebound Friends*

River Terrace
Eulis West—Room 114
Karen West—Room 220

Auburn Village
Rick White

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

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First Baptist Church-Bluffton Indiana

Pastor: Les Cantrell

Cell phone: 260-273-9073