

# the *LINK*

First Baptist Church Newsletter

*February 5, 2025*

## Keep Going

Christians must refuse to give up when we feel tired or discouraged. Why? We believe in the principle of sowing and reaping, which is a biblical law declaring that people eventually reap a harvest from the seeds they sow.

The biblical principle of sowing and reaping is a truth that applies to everyone and every aspect of life. The harvest of a person's life is often determined by the individual seeds they plant in the form of thoughts, words, and deeds.

Just like the relationship between small seeds and the harvest, people usually reap more than they sow and often much later than they sow. Scripture applies the principle to both good and bad "seeds;" good words and deeds result in eternal life, while bad words and deeds result in decay and destruction. Keep going by meditating on the follow passages.

- **Galatians 6:7-10** - Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life. Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.
- **Hosea 8:7a** - For they sow the wind, and they shall reap the whirlwind.
- **2 Corinthians 9:6** - The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.
- **Proverbs 22:8** - Whoever sows injustice will reap calamity, and the rod of his fury will fail.
- **1 Corinthians 3:6** - I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth.

Together with you,

Les



## PASTORAL SEARCH INFO & PRAYER

Our search for a new pastor is off to a good start. After the meal on Sunday, Rusty Strickler, our American Baptist leader, gave a summary of the entire search process. He emphasized the importance of our whole church family participating with helpful input, heartfelt prayer, and loving patience.

We all would like this process to happen overnight. Unfortunately, searching for a new pastor usually takes many months. So, let us all commit to being patient, tolerant, and loving toward each other throughout this transition.



### Survey Forms

Last Sunday, the Pastoral Search Committee passed out two survey forms. Please complete the forms and return them **THIS SUNDAY** to the basket in the foyer. If you were not here, you can pick them up at the church, or come a bit early on Sunday to fill them out before the service. Thank you for your participation!

Please pray. The following is a suggested prayer that you can modify to make it your own. *"Heavenly Father, as we navigate this time of searching for a new pastor, we humbly ask for your guidance and wisdom. May your Holy Spirit illuminate the path before us, leading our search committee to discern the qualities and character needed in our next spiritual leader. Grant us unity in our decision-making, and help us to prioritize your will above all else. Equip our future pastor with the gifts and passion to preach your word faithfully, nurture our community, and lead us closer to you. We pray for a smooth transition and for the new pastor to be embraced by our congregation with love and support. In Jesus' name, Amen."*



**Kids' Time Teacher**  
Sunday, Feb. 9, 2025

Angie Bynum  
Jessica Bynum

**Adventure Kids and  
Youth Bible Study**

Wednesdays  
6:00 - 7:15 p.m.

*And this is his command: to believe in the name of his Son,  
Jesus Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us.  
1 John 3:23*

## JUST FOR FUN!

Find John 3:16. Circle the word in each heart that does not belong. Write it on the lines.

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“ (1)\_\_\_\_ (2)\_\_\_\_ (3)\_\_\_\_ (4)\_\_\_\_  
 (5)\_\_\_\_ (6)\_\_\_\_ (7)\_\_\_\_ (8)\_\_\_\_  
 (9)\_\_\_\_ (10)\_\_\_\_ (11)\_\_\_\_  
 (12)\_\_\_\_ (13)\_\_\_\_ (14)\_\_\_\_, (15)\_\_\_\_  
 (16)\_\_\_\_ (17)\_\_\_\_  
 (18)\_\_\_\_ (19)\_\_\_\_ (20)\_\_\_\_  
 (21)\_\_\_\_ (22)\_\_\_\_  
 (23)\_\_\_\_ (24)\_\_\_\_  
 (25)\_\_\_\_  
 (26)\_\_\_\_.”

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vegetables  
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24  
antelope  
gazelle  
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1  
For  
Mountains  
Valleys

15  
yard  
that  
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12  
giraffe  
and  
elephant

26  
life  
moon  
sun

22  
perish  
swim  
ocean

9  
flower  
gave  
seed

18  
van  
truck  
in

25  
eternal  
snow  
rain

7  
speak  
that  
talk

8  
cup  
He  
glass

16  
carpet  
whoever  
rug

14  
Son  
paper  
pencil

2  
land  
sea  
God

19  
red  
Him  
pink

5  
listen  
hear  
the

17  
believes  
shoes  
socks

13  
chimpanzee  
only  
gorilla

4  
loved  
vacationed  
travel

## Stewardship

**January 26, 2025**

General Budget	\$2,111.00
Building Maintenance	\$90.00
Missions	\$300.00

**Total \$2,501.00**

**February 2, 2025**

General Budget	\$1,650.00
Building Maintenance	\$90.00
Missions	\$60.00

**Total \$1,800.00**

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**

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**First Baptist Church-Bluffton Indiana**

**Pastor: Les Cantrell**

**Cell phone: 260-273-9073**