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First Baptist Church Newsletter

March 10, 2021



Non-Perishable Food Collection

Edna Martin (EM) is a community center in a low income neighborhood of Indianapolis. The center stocks a food pantry for ongoing assistance. EM also feeds around 60 young people every evening, provides recreational opportunities, and tutoring. In addition, EM offers helpful programs and services to senior adults. Boxes will be available in our church foyer to collect non-perishable food items like canned tomato sauce, vegetables, or fruit. Bob and Judy Grove will deliver the food we collect to EM in early April.

New Sign

At our most recent annual business meeting the FBC family approved the purchase and installation of a new LED church sign. The children of Clyde and Phyllis Shady wanted this marquee installed in memory of their parents. We are grateful for the long-term participation of this wonderful family at First Baptist. The new sign was installed last week. As per our annual meeting, FBC also contributed toward some additional expenses.

"I must proclaim the good news ..."

Luke 4:43

Lasting Influence

Followers of Jesus occasionally invest a year reading through the entire Bible. During this adventure we often land on odd or puzzling Scripture passages. One example is an incident recorded in 2 Kings.

"Elisha died and was buried. Now Moabite raiders used to enter the country every spring. Once while some Israelites were burying a man, suddenly they saw a band of raiders; so they threw the man's body into Elisha's tomb. When the body touched Elisha's bones, the man came to life and stood up on his feet" (2 Kings 13:20-21).

Back then, people were buried in caves with shelves hewn out of the rock. Several deceased individuals might rest in the same cave. The deceased would lie on shelves of the cave until only bones remained. Loved ones would then remove the bones and place them in some kind of grave so that tomb could be reused.

One day a group was conducting a funeral. In the middle of their service they saw a band of enemy raiders approaching. Maybe they were burying their deceased in the same tomb where Elisha's bones already rested on a shelf. Or perhaps Elisha's tomb was nearby. Regardless, the sudden chaos prompted the mourners to just toss the corpse into a tomb.

The man's corpse landed on the shelf holding the esteemed prophet Elisha's bones. The man did not stay dead very long. Upon touching the bones of Elisha, he came back to life and stood on his feet. What a shock that must have been to everyone! This incident prompts us to ask three valuable questions.

First, what legacy will you and I leave behind? We notice that God continued to use Elisha even after he was gone. We should all desire that kind of influence. Strive to be a blessing to others now and our lives will keep having an impact long after we are gone to heaven.

Second, what can God do through us when we are at our weakest? Elisha was dead; a person cannot get any weaker than being dead. If the Creator could use a man who was dead and gone, he can use us, regardless of our circumstances. It is not about us, but the God of the Bible working powerfully through us.

Third, can anything change a bad day? God loves to turn around a gloomy day. This was a terrible day on many levels. But as soon as the man's body hit Elisha's bones, he came back to life. God is always up to something good. Watch for the LORD to show up in ways we never expected.

Make it a great week!

Les



Daylight Savings Time Begins

Move your clocks back one hour this Saturday evening before you go to bed. Then, you will be on time for church Sunday morning!

Wedding Shower

FBC is excited to have a wedding shower for Spencer Tonner and Meghan Stuckey. Unfortunately, due to covid, we will not have our usual gathering for the shower. Instead, stay tuned for the specific dates (in April) when you can bring your gift to the church. Below is information about their registries.

Target—in store or online at tgt.gifts/spencer-meghan

Amazon.com/wedding/share/spencer-meghan

Gift card ideas: Lowe's, Applebee's, IHOP



Teachers for Sunday, March 14



Kids' Time—Angie and Jessica Bynum
and Chris McFarren

LOL—Traci Heller



Christian Care
Barb Smekens—Room 217B

River Terrace
Eulis West—Room 114
Doris Wolf—Room 102

Home
Betty Gregg
Rose McCormick

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.

March 7, 2021

Giving Toward:

Current Expenses	2,525.00
Missions	175.00
Building and Mtn.	65.00
Holiday Flowers	16.00

Total **\$2,781.00**

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

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