

# the *LINK*

First Baptist Church Newsletter

*March 12, 2025*

## **Power of Prayer**

There was a small Kentucky town that had two churches and one whiskey distillery. Members of both churches complained that the distillery gave the community a bad image. On top of this the owner of the distillery was an atheist, who was hardened in his belief that there never was a god. They tried to shut down the place but were unsuccessful. At last, they decided to hold a joint Saturday night prayer meeting. They would ask God to intervene.

Saturday night came, and all through the prayer meeting a terrible electric storm raged. To the delight of the church members lightning struck the distillery, and burned it to the ground. Next morning, the sermons in both churches were on "The Power of Prayer." Fire insurance adjusters promptly notified the distillery owner they would not pay for damages. The fire was caused by an "act of God," they said, and coverage for "acts of God" was excluded for the policy.

In response the distillery owner sued all the church members, claiming they had conspired with God to destroy his building. The defendants denied absolutely that they had done anything to cause this fire. The trial judge observed: "I find one thing about this case that is very perplexing. We have a situation where the plaintiff - an atheist - is professing his belief in the power of prayer, and the defendants - church members - are denying the power of prayer."

In contrast, FBC believes in the power of prayer and trusts our good God to answer in the best possible way. We are praying corporately in the search process for a new pastor. Our corporate pray points are summarized with four "Cs."

- The **C**ommittee (for wisdom & direction),
- The **C**andidate (for guidance & protection),
- The **C**hurch (for unity & patience),
- The **C**antrells (for peace & discernment)



Together with you,

Les

## PRAYER FOCUS

The prayer group meets each week on Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. All are invited and the elevator is available. Even if you are not able to join us on Wednesdays, you are able to pray in concert with us when and where it works for you. The focus as printed in the bulletin insert for week one is **corporate prayer**. We are praying for the search committee, the church, the candidate and the Cantrells.

As a reminder, here are the members of the search committee: Traci Heller, Jenny Hiester, Dana Gaston, Joyce Evans, Jeckier Julmisse, and Logan Zoll.

Other things that the prayer group identified as areas for prayer are:



- Unity
- Guidance
- Peace
- Strength
- Patience
- Protection
- Encouragement
- Listening



*“By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God’s command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.”*  
*Hebrews 11:3*

**Kids' Time Teacher**  
Sunday, March 16, 2025

Joyce Evans



**Adventure Kids and Youth Bible Study**

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

<b>March 2, 2025</b>		<b>Stewardship</b>	<b>March 9, 2025</b>	
General Budget	\$2,988.00	General Budget	\$1,185.00	
Missions	\$480.00	Building Maintenance	\$40.00	
Building Maintenance	\$340.00	Flowers	\$146.00	
Flowers	\$101.00			
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,909.00</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,371.00</b>	



Dear FBC Family,  
In just a few weeks, on April 6, we will have the joy of celebrating the worshipful and sacred time of baptism in our worship service. Here is who should consider participating:

- You have already given yourself to Jesus in faith but for whatever reason, have never taken the step of baptism. If that describes you, then this is a good opportunity to seal your commitment to Jesus and to his church. Call Les to participate.
- You are right on the edge of trusting Jesus as your Savior. You haven't made the decision yet, but you are seriously considering it. If that is you, think of this as a good opportunity to make up your mind and commit to being His follower. Call Les to participate.
- You are a Christian parent of an unbaptized child. Your child is at least 8-years-old and has the maturity to listen and understand as Les explains the meaning. If that is you, call Les and bring your child to get ready for baptism.

Together with you,  
Les

### Next Week Events

Sunday, March 16 - Deacon Meeting right after the worship service

Monday, March 17 - Trustee Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 19 - Adventure Kids, 6:00 p.m.  
Youth Bible Study, 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, March 20 - Men's Bible Study, 8:00 a.m.

Heritage Pointe, Warren  
Barbara Charles

Ossian Healthcare  
Ted Shady  
Rose McCormick



Christian Care  
Bob Hiester

River Terrace  
Karen West  
Carolyn McBride

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**