



THE LINK

March 15, 2017

How Did the Fish Die?

A gentleman writes about his children winning four goldfish at a school carnival. ("Lucky us," he whispered). The next morning this dutiful father headed out to find a fish tank. He refused to pay \$75 for a new unit. But as he turned down an aisle he saw a used tank on the floor that included the rocks and filter for five bucks. Sold!

Unfortunately that five dollar model was nasty dirty. He took it home and invested two hours scrubbing it with soap and rinsing it out repeatedly. In the end his inexpensive tank glistened like new.

The children slid their four goldfish in and were delighted to watch them swim around. But eight hours later one of the fish was floating belly up. The next evening two more fish were dead. Dad called someone in their church that had a fish tank to try and trace down the cause. The soap he used to clean the tank had killed the fish.

Sometimes in our zeal to clean up people's lives we use killer soaps. Examples of such well-intended cleansers might be condemnation, negative criticism, nagging, or fits of temper. We think we're doing right but these approaches are usually deadly. Jesus calls us to something higher.

Following Jesus requires patience and a large measure of grace - with ourselves and others. As people remain or abide in close relationship with Jesus, we slowly begin to change. Sometimes spiritual growth is at a snail's pace. Nevertheless, transformation is an amazing supernatural miracle.

Make it a great week!

Les

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, March 15

4:00 p.m. to 5:15 p.m. - Movin' Up
5:30 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. - Kids' Club
7:00 p.m. - Choir

Thursday, March 16

6:30 p.m. - Deacon Meeting

Sunday, March 19

9:00 a.m. - Sunday School
10:05 a.m. - Kids' Time
10:15 a.m. - Worship Service

Teachers This Sunday

Nursery

Helen Steffen / Angie Bynum

Kids' Time

Joyce Evans / Chris McFarren

L.O.L.

Michelle Tonner

Last Week

March 12, 2017

Attendance

Sunday School - 63
Worship Service - 107

Stewardship Report

Giving Toward:

Current Expense	\$2544.25
Missions	\$80.00
Building/Maint. Fund	\$46.00

Total: \$2670.25

Spring Flowers

You may purchase spring flowers in honor or memory of someone. The flowers will be displayed in our sanctuary for a couple of weeks, and then you may take them home after our Resurrection Sunday service. Order forms were in the bulletin last Sunday and are now available on the narthex table. Please pay for the flowers at the same time that you submit your order form. The cost is \$8 each and the deadline to purchase them is Sunday, March 26.



Everyone!

On Sunday, April 2 we would like to have the entire church family in attendance for worship. We challenge everyone associated with FBC and your friends to make every effort to be there that Sunday. We will enjoy communion together during the worship service. Afterwards, there will be a fund raiser potato bar available for lunch. We are looking forward to seeing everyone on April 2 at 10:15 a.m.



Potato Bar for Good News Shoes

Stay right after the worship service on Sunday, April 2 to enjoy a baked potato with all of the fixin's. **We will also have hot dogs available.** Donations for the lunch will go toward buying shoes for our Good News Shoe give-away in August. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the narthex so we know how to plan. Please stay tuned for more Good News Shoes events to come, like a soup bar in May.



Prayer Requests

- Pray for those who have been impacted by the decision to close Buckhorn Corporation. Pray that our county would prosper with excellent job opportunities.
- Pray for the Krummen family.
- Pray for our Back to Church Sunday to be a success and that the entire church family and friends will gather to worship and fellowship.
- Please continue to pray for those with health issues, including those battling cancer.

SMALL GROUPS LUNCH THIS SUNDAY!



Thanks to all who signed up to participate in small groups. We will have our luncheon this Sunday right after our worship service. The church will provide fried chicken, table service, and drinks. Please bring sides such as vegetables, salads, and desserts to share. After we eat, we will divide into our groups and plan our next meeting times. It is helpful for everyone to bring their 2017 calendar and any other event dates that your group might need in planning.

Women's Bible Study



Ladies! You are invited to join a Bible study which will begin on Wednesday, April 5. We will meet at noon for about an hour and you are welcome to bring your lunch. We will use the book "Overcoming Fear." It's amazing how many issues fall under this title and the book includes a nice diversity of applications. Sign up this Sunday on the bulletin board in the narthex. Please bring \$8 to the first study when we will pass out the books. See Jan Jones if you have any questions.



Events Leading to Resurrection Sunday

Saturday, April 8	Story of Jesus Drama & Easter Egg Hunt	1:00 p.m.
Sunday, April 9	Palm Parade to Begin Worship Service	10:15 a.m.
Thursday, April 13	Evening Worship & Communion Service	7:00 p.m.
Sunday, April 16	All Church Breakfast	9:00 a.m.
	Resurrection Celebration	10:15 a.m.



Homebound Members

Christian Care

Joan Sills – Room 222
Ervin Krummen - Room 220
Mildred Huss – Room 219B

River Terrace

Phebe Edington – Room 134
Mary Ellis – Room 107B
LaVera Krummen – Room 101B

Signature Healthcare

Bonnie McAfee – Room 403B

Markle Health and Rehabilitation

Barbara French – Room 216

As we co-labor with other churches
in our community,
this week we pray for:
Bethlehem Lutheran
Pastor Wurschmidt

First Baptist Church

260-824-1558

firstbaptist@adamswells.com

fbcluffton.com

 First Baptist Church - Bluffton, Indiana

Pastor: Les Cantrell

Cell phone: 260-273-9073

Music Director: Sarah Landell

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