

the LINK

First Baptist Church Newsletter

April 3, 2024

Spring Forward

For me, it is amazing that in northern Indiana we have four distinct seasons. After getting our new State Park pass, Debbie and I drove around the entire park. Most of the trees are still leafless and appear very lifeless. But soon buds will burst forth and everything will green up nicely. It is truly beautiful to watch winter melt into spring. Most of us love to see yellow daffodils and feel the warm sun on our faces.

Another thing that spring brings is that crazy time change. Many people are not very fond of bouncing clocks back and forth. But, like it or not, we have to fall in line and "spring forward."

After the long winter of their captivity, God gave Israel these optimistic promises, *"See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland"* (43:19).

This applies to our lives. We know that in order to move into a new season and spring forward by faith, we have to let go of the old season. The previous verse makes this very clear, *"Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past"* (Isa. 43:18).

One of the many lessons that life teaches us is to let go. We cannot hang on to past hurts, past struggles, and past relationships. Yes, grief is sometimes necessary before we can pursue a new adventure. But God never meant for grief to last forever. If we get stuck, talking to a close friend or a solid Christian counselor can often help us.

As spring starts to surface and the trees begin to bloom, we can see God's reminder to align our hearts to the new thing He's doing. Pray this prayer with me this week.

Lord God Almighty, thank you for making me into the person You want me to be. I admit, Lord, that sometimes it is hard to let go of old things even when I know they are holding me back. Help me, Jesus, to truly see this spring season for what it is: a wonderful reminder of how beautiful change can be. As flowers begin to adorn the trees and fresh grass rises up from the ground, renew in me the strength to let go of the past and move forward in my faith journey with You. In Your name, Amen.

Together with you,

Les

Inspiration and some quotes from www.dayspring.com/articles/spring-forward-in-faith.



Youth Bible Study - we had good food and games for our meeting over spring break. Clockwise from the top, these great kids are: Drake, Charlie, Hunter, Noah, Jessica, Logan, and Phillip.

Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

John 20:29

Encouragement Opportunity

We like to remember our college students and those studying away from home. If you would like to contribute toward a financial gift for the students as they finish their semesters, please give it to Howard or Jan Jones. They will make sure the students receive the gifts from their FBC family.



Kids' Time
Ruth Ann Monroe
Chris McFarren

Teachers for Sunday
April 7, 2024

LOL
Remain in service



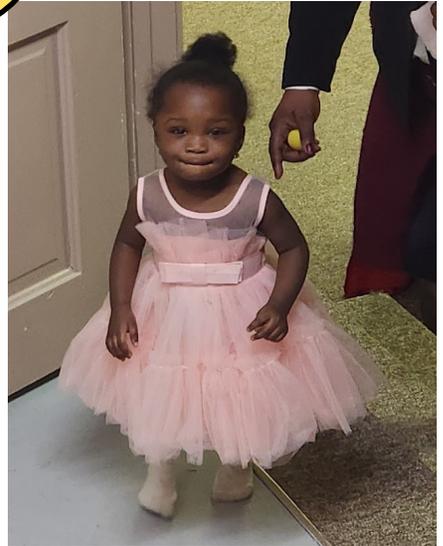
Easter Egg Hunt



Thank you,
Board of
Christian
Education!

&

We
appreciate
those who
helped
with the
soup lunch!



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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