



## Power of Acceptance

In the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, Doug Cumming writes:

Lonnie J. Edwards, a physical-education instructor... was explaining square-dancing to his fifth-grade class at Hooper Alexander Elementary School in DeKalb County, Georgia. As he called the children to their places, boy-girl, boy-girl, Nancy, a little redheaded girl, said she was not coming. She started to cry and walked away, carrying a towel over her hands.

Edwards approached the twelve-year-old child cautiously. With her back to the other students, Nancy privately revealed why she couldn't possibly hold hands with the boys: she had been born with only two pinkies and two partial fingers. Amazingly, she had hidden her deformity from teachers – she was able to hold a pencil – but the students knew about it and were cruel to her.

Gathering himself, Edwards said, "Nancy, we can't do anything about this problem, but I can help you overcome it and become the best you can be. Now I want you to hold your head up. From this moment on, you will no longer use this as a limitation."

Slowly, Nancy gave him the towel, which he never returned. Four days later Edwards began the square dance as Nancy's partner. Soon all the children seemed willing – even eager – to touch Nancy's hands.

That was in 1971. Over the next two years Edwards continued to encourage her.

Today, Nancy Miller, thirty-eight, can do almost anything she sets her mind to, including play the piano and type about sixty-five words a minute. Married, she lives in Orlando with her husband and four children...

"I grew up because of one man," Miller says.

Do you know someone crippled by shame or disability? In the presence of others, be the first to show you accept that person. Acceptance is a precious gift we can all give others.

Make it a great week! Les

## Upcoming Events

### Wednesday, April 4

5:15 p.m. – Movin' Up

### Thursday, April 5

6:30 p.m. Christian Ed. Meeting

### Sunday, April 8

9:00 a.m. – Sunday School

9:50 a.m. – Coffee, The Gathering Place

10:05 a.m. – Kids' Time

10:15 a.m. – Worship Service

11:15 a.m. – Reception for Sarah

## Teachers This Sunday

### Nursery

Evalyn Fate/ Sydney Collins

### Kids' Time

Holly Zoll / Angie Bynum

### LOL

Traci Heller

## Last Week

### Attendance

### April 1, 2018

Worship Service – 150

## Stewardship Report

### Giving Toward:

|                       |           |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| Current Expense       | \$3229.00 |
| Missions              | \$400.00  |
| Building/ Maint. Fund | \$150.00  |
| Deacons Fund          | \$90.00   |
| Easter                | \$815.00  |

**Total: \$4684.00**



## **COLLEGE ENCOURAGEMENT**

We like to send encouragement gifts to our college students each semester. This Sunday is the deadline to contribute for this semester. If you would like to contribute, please see Jan Jones.



## **RECEPTION FOR SARAH**

This Sunday, right after our worship service, we will have a reception to honor Sarah and thank her for two and a half years as Music Director here at FBC. Plan to come to the fellowship hall to give Sarah a hug and enjoy a piece of cake.



## **GRADUATES**

The Christian Education Board is planning a reception for graduates of high school and higher education. Please notify the church office of anyone graduating this spring.



## **SUMMER CAMP**

Planning your summer? Our summer camp opportunities are posted on the bulletin board in The Gathering Place. Our church will pay half of the cost of camp. Check it out!



## **BAPTISMS**

This Sunday, we are excited to have a baptism service as a part of our worship. Don't miss supporting those making their public stand for Jesus!

## **DATES FOR YOUR SUMMER CALENDAR**

- June 9 – FBC BBQ Picnic at the Ouabache State Park
- July 15 – FBC Picnic & Swim Party at Wells Co. Pool

# Compassion International



This young lady is from Bolivia. She is a beautiful follower of Jesus who loves to worship the LORD with her tambourine. Like others from her village, she has faced extreme poverty. But she has also found hope and encouragement through the Compassion Center, which is connected with her local church.

This amazing young lady has been a part of our family since she was eight-years-old. She will celebrate her eighteenth birthday on April 24. Sponsorship of children through Compassion ends when your child turns eighteen. We will miss corresponding with her through letters. But she will always be in our hearts and in our prayers.

The mission of Compassion is "To release children from poverty in Jesus name." Their website goes on to state: "It's a mission about love. We love God, and we demonstrate our love and live out our faith by extending care to others.

We offer our programs to the poorest of the poor, to the children in greatest need, without ulterior motive. We devote ourselves to helping children of all faiths, cultures, backgrounds and race — without imposing any religious obligation or conversion requirement upon them. We simply aspire to be like our Savior, Jesus Christ, in who we are and what we do."

Many of the children do find a relationship with God through faith in Jesus at their Compassion Centers. But breaking the bondage of poverty is also about nutrition, health, education, economics, and so many other factors. Compassion International children learn these important life skills and countless others. They also receive food and help with the studies at their centers.

FBC invests in many admirable mission endeavors. Keep on supporting these valuable kingdom initiatives. There may be a few of you who would also want to invest \$38 per month to sponsor a child through Compassion International. You can go to [www.compassion.com](http://www.compassion.com) and learn more about their mission and the steps to sponsor a child. If you don't have access to a computer, speak with me. Materials can be mailed to you from Compassion.

Blessings,

Les



202 West Cherry Street  
Bluffton, Indiana 46714



## Homebound Members

### Christian Care

Mildred Huss – Room 219B

### River Terrace

LaVera Krumpfen – Room 116  
Eulis West – Room 220

### Markle Health and Rehabilitation

Barbara French – Room 216

### Home

Rose McCormick

As we co-labor with other churches  
in our community,  
this week we pray for:  
Murray Missionary Church  
Pastor Mike Gilbert

### **First Baptist Church**

260-824-1558

[firstbaptist@adamswells.com](mailto:firstbaptist@adamswells.com)

[fbcbluffton.com](http://fbcbluffton.com)



First Baptist Church - Bluffton, Indiana

Pastor: Les Cantrell  
Cell phone: 260-273-9073  
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