

THE LINK

May 24, 2017

What Is Memorial Day?

Memorial Day is an American holiday, observed on the last Monday of May, honoring the men and women who died while serving in the U.S. military. Originally known as Decoration Day, it originated in the years following the Civil War and became an official federal holiday in 1971.

The American Civil War, also called War Between the States, lasted four years (1861–65). This bloody war was between the United States and 11 Southern states that seceded from the Union and formed the Confederate States of America. Many Americans were killed in the Civil War.

Roughly 1,264,000 American soldiers have died in all our nation's wars--620,000 in the Civil War and 644,000 in all other conflicts. It was only as recently as the Vietnam War that the amount of American deaths in all foreign wars eclipsed the number who died in the Civil War.

Fighting amongst ourselves in families, churches, communities, or within any given nation is extremely heart breaking. I'm so glad there is deep unity, peace, friendship, and love between us at First Baptist Church. Please pray and ask God for continued protection on our church body and for divine protection on all the churches in our region.

"LORD, please preserve the unity of the Spirit and the bond of peace amongst the body of Christ and within local churches in our region. We pray especially that You would guard our FBC family. Allow us to keep proclaiming the truth and building Your kingdom. As we remember especially those Americans who died in the Civil War, we also ask that our beautiful United States of America would experience a new birth of unity, patriotism, and comradery. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen!"

Blessings,

Les

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, May 24
noon – Women's Bible Study

Sunday, May 28
9:00 a.m. – Sunday School
10:05 a.m. – Kids' Time
10:15 a.m. – Worship Service
11:15 – Graduate Reception

Teachers This Sunday

Nursery
Alexis Collins / Evalyn Fate

Kids' Time
Ruth Ann Monroe / Marcia Liddy

L.O.L.
Remain in Service

Last Week

May 14, 2017

Attendance

Worship Service – 108
Sunday School - 54

Stewardship Report

Giving Toward:

Current Expense	\$2883.00
Missions	\$185.00
Building/ Maint. Fund	\$71.00
McFarren Scholarships	\$100.00
Total:	\$3189.00





Youth Events

- Wednesday, June 7 – Meet at the church at 2 p.m. We will carpool to Noah and Logan Zoll's house for outdoor games and snacks. There may be some optional activities where you get wet, so plan your dress accordingly. We will return to the church by 4 p.m. for your pick-up. If there happens to be bad weather, we will swap this event with the one for June 21.
- Wednesday, June 21 – Come to the church from 2-4 p.m. for nerf games. Bring your nerf guns and balls; please bring extras if you have some you could share. We will play nerf games and bake brownies.

Church Office

The church office will be closed on Monday, May 29 in celebration of Memorial Day. Also, there will not be a newsletter next week. Have a safe, fun holiday weekend!

McFarren Scholarship Deadline

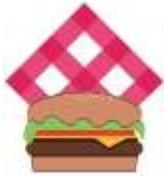
Those interested in applying for the McFarren Scholarship for the next school year, please remember that the application deadline is Sunday, June 11. Applications are available in the church office.

A Biblical Perspective on Dying

Note this liberating text: "Since the children have flesh and blood, He (Christ) too shared in their humanity so that by His death He might destroy him who holds the power of death – that is, the devil – and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death" (Heb. 2:14-15).

In other words, death will hold sway and be a pure terror to us so long as the devil has the power to make death a horrible end. But Christ has taken away that power for all those who believe in Him. This is the basis for Paul saying, "Death has been swallowed up in victory. Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death is your sting?" (1 Cor. 15:54-55). Imagine a hornet without a sting. Who's afraid of it? Without a stinger, it's just an interesting bug, easily observed. Just the same, death has become observable without its sting.

Looking closely, we see that death is a doorway. Opening the door and peering through, we see that we are – at long last – arriving home. Death, then, has been transformed from our terror into the gateway that leads to the fulfillment of all longings; all of our hopes and dreams will be perfectly satisfied when we see Jesus face to face.



Annual All-Church Cookout

When: Saturday, June 10 We have the shelter rented all afternoon, so come early and enjoy the park and fellowship. Our shared supper will be about 5:30 p.m.

Where: Ouabache State Park at the Rustic Oak Shelter located on the south side of the road, just west of the Bison enclosure.

Provided: Meat, buns, condiments, and drinks.

Bring: Your own table service and something easy to add to the meal like chips, or dessert, or a side dish. Optional – lawn chairs (there are picnic tables.)

Consider: Carpool to save on entrance fees. Bring a friend.



RSVP!

Sign-up on the bulletin board in the narthex with the number of your clan

or

email the church office at
firstbaptist@adamswells.com

or

call the church office at
824-1558



Homebound Members

Christian Care

Joan Sills – Room 222
Mildred Huss – Room 219B

River Terrace

Phebe Edington – Room 134
Mary Ellis – Room 107B
LaVera Krummen – Room 116

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:
Forgiven Church
Pastor Scott & Michelle Ochsner

First Baptist Church

260-824-1558

firstbaptist@adamswells.com

fbcbluffton.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