

the *LINK*

First Baptist Church Newsletter

MAKE US HEAVYWEIGHTS

Elise Duverger

Daniel 5:27 "You have been weighed on the scales and found wanting."

Lord, I don't want to be weighed on your scales and found wanting.

I want to gain weight-Feed on your Word every day. Ruminant on it.

Ponder it.

I want to put on weight-Tone up with a faith put into action.

I want to put on weight-Rest my soul on your promises.

I want to gain weight-Clothe myself with your gentleness and love.

I want to put on weight-May my heart be pure, my praise pleasing to you.

May my prayer be inspired by you and therefore answered. May my thoughts be well-informed. May my words bless others. May my actions have a positive impact.

I want to put on weight-To not remain shallow or stagnant. To profit by affliction, eyes on you. To build with worthy, weighty materials. To be genuine in love and in the truth.

I want to put on weight-To experience your grace and your power geared/meshed together with Christian siblings you have given.

I want to put on weight-May it never be just me, but You through me.

Mrs Bedlam

The keepers at the Los Angeles Zoo had a saying: "The zoo would be a great place to work if you could just keep the people out." Like any saying, it had a background. Allow me to illustrate.

You would think you could trust senior citizens to behave themselves at the zoo. They were normally our most cherished visitors. But one little old lady engineered a mission of mercy that created more bedlam than any single visitor in the zoo's history. She looked innocent enough. She wore a faded black dress under her full-length black wool coat, and she displayed a wide-brimmed black hat with a silk rose that looked like it had been run over by a bus. But somehow, she passed security and the ticket-takers with two shopping bags filled to the brim with rubber balls. They were all shapes, colors, sizes and textures.

She had been to the zoo many times before and had concluded the animals were bored. In her mind, she was carrying two bags of recreation.

She threw a ball into the sea lion pool, and I'm sure she felt affirmed as the most playful animal of the zoo pushed it back and forth. She threw them into the bear moats, and the bears ate them, as did the monkeys. We knew that because the rubber showed up undigested in their waste material. Many of the animals simply ignored them, but not our female black-maned lioness. The ball thrown into her moated area was made of a very hard, dark blue rubber. The lioness bit down on it so hard that it was impaled on her awesome right canine. No amount of clawing at the ball dislodged it, and the female became increasingly distressed. She rubbed her face on the ground hoping to drag it loose. Her muzzle began to drip blood and mud, and she was salivating profusely. The keeper knew his animal needed help, and he called the health center and begged us to come quickly. His lioness was in trouble.

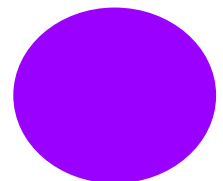
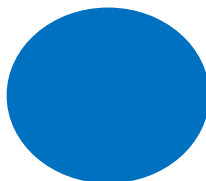
That lady called the next day to see if the animals enjoyed the rubber balls. When she was told how we had to remove the rubber ball with a hacksaw, she hung up. I think we all understood that her motives were pure, but she clearly demonstrated a human potential. She did the wrong thing for the right reason. She was sincere, but she was sincerely wrong. The effect was the same as doing the wrong thing for the wrong reason. She could not have caused any more trouble if she had intended to harm the lioness.

Her major problem was that she was acting beyond her sphere of authority. She had no permission to act at all. She took this matter into her own hands.

This is when we create the most problems for ourselves— when we take matters into our own hands and act outside of God's authority. Intentions don't cut it. You've heard the old cliché, "The road to hell is paved with good intentions."

David wrote, "I have laid up thy word in my heart that I might not sin against thee" (Ps. 119:11). He learned to do that after feeling the full effects of taking matters into his own hands. Stop and think about your life. Do you have permission to be living the way you are? If you are not sure, find out. If you don't, stop whatever you are doing right now...before you get hurt or you hurt someone else.

Taken from the book *A View From the Zoo* by Gary Richmond



MEETINGS

Trustees—Monday, June 15 at 6:30 p.m.

Deacons—Wednesday, June 17 at 6:30 p.m.



Condolences

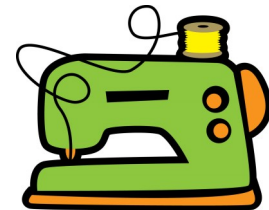
We extend our prayers and sympathy to Jackie Chaney and her family in the passing of her father.

Faylynn Stein is a high school student who visited FBC with Shelby Tuttle. We pray for Faylynn and her family in the passing of her mother.



Thanks!

Thank you to Carol Duncan for sewing many cloth masks. If you need one, they are located at the hand sanitizing stations at the church.



Christian Care

Mildred Huss—Room 219B
Barb Smekens—Room 217B
Clyde Shady—Room 228B

River Terrace

Eulis West—Room 114
Doris Wolf—Room 102

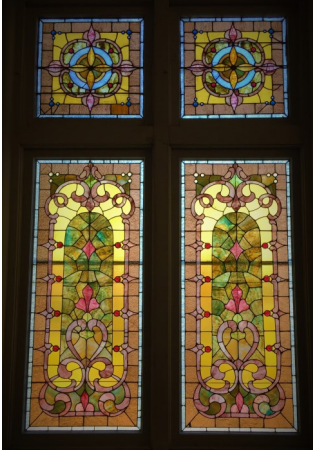
Home

Ed Goetz
Rose McCormick

Markle Health and Rehabilitation

Larry Gilly—Room 210

McFarren Scholarships
Please call or stop by the church office for
an application.
Deadline is June 28.



Sunday Worship at 10:15 a.m.

fbcbluffton.com

First Baptist Church

202 W. Cherry Street

260-824-1558



firstbaptist@adamswells.com



First Baptist Church-Bluffton Indiana

Pastor: Les Cantrell

Cell phone: 260-273-9073