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First Baptist Church Newsletter

September 2, 2026

Hello Bluffton FBC Family,

I hope and pray that everyone is having a wonderful week and that God continues to uplift each of you in body, mind, and spirit. I myself have some brain fog due to a sinus infection, but regardless of this impediment the wedding this weekend went quite well. God was with me through it all and despite how I felt, everything went off without a hitch.

During the course of the wedding, I read the famous passage from 1 Corinthians 13:4-8a that you hear at most weddings. To tickle a memory from anyone who doesn't immediately think of this passage it is the one which begins, "*love is patient, love is kind…*" and continues on in a beautiful statement of love by the Apostle Paul. Undoubtedly it is the most popular portion of that chapter and perhaps because it is so often read at weddings.

However, as I was preparing for the wedding later that day, my eyes were drawn to those first three verses just before.

> *13 If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. 2 If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. 3 If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.*

God is love. We as believers must strive to make sure that love is a part of each of our lives, because without love our efforts are hollow. As Jesus put it, the greatest commandment is to love the Lord your God with all your heart soul and mind. The second is like the first, to love your neighbor as yourself. I encourage all of us to keep love in our hearts as we go day by day. It doesn't mean that we can't rebuke or discipline, but we do so with love so that actions may be taken to bring people closer to the heart of God.

God bless,

Pastor Peter N. Fairchild

Golf Scramble

On Sunday, September 20 at 1:00 p.m. we will gather at Green Valley Golf Club for a scramble. The talent levels run from beginners to seasoned golfers. All are welcome! Please sign up on the bulletin board in the foyer!

Small Groups on Pause

Small Groups are on pause for the month of September. They will resume Wednesday, October 7, at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. We invite everyone to join us for this engaging time of study and discussion. All are welcome!

Howard and I want to thank Peter and the congregation for all of the prayers and support you have given us following the passing of my mother. The service was so beautiful, the dining room looked gorgeous, and the workers were awesome. It's very comforting to know there are so many people who love us and support us.
We love you all.
Howard & Jan Jones

Adventure Kids includes kindergarten through fifth grade students. Join us for snacks, a lesson, games, and more! We will meet Wednesday, Sept. 30 from 6:00 pm to 7:15 pm.
Youth Bible Study information will come later.

Stewardship
August 30, 2026

General Budget	$1,040.00
Building Maintenance	$20.00
Missions	$50.00
Street Fair	$1,215.00
Total	**$2,325.00**

Teachers for Sunday
September 6, 2026

Kids' Time
Evalyn Fate

LOL
Remain in Service.

Men's Bible Study & Fellowship

Men's bible study will restart at 8:00 a.m. on Thursday, September 10, 2026. We will be meeting in the fellowship hall and studying the book of Acts. We will once again be using Pastor Gary Hamrick videos. He is the Senior Pastor at Cornerstone Chapel in Leesburg, Virginia. Please put this date on your calendar and join this casual group of guys for a great study and great fellowship.

NOTES:

- We still have 12 parking spots available for the Street Fair. If you have not purchased one yet and would like to, please stop by and reserve your spot. The parking tags you purchased will be available Sunday, September 13 on a table in the foyer.
- During the week of Street Fair, the office will be open regular hours, however, the doors will be locked. Please use the doorbell if you need into the church that week.
- We are looking for volunteers to help assemble the street fair float. More information to come.

<u>Heritage Pointe, Warren</u>
Barbara Charles

<u>Ossian Healthcare</u>
Melaine Shady
Sandy Langel

Pray for the Homebound

<u>Christian Care</u>
Bob Hiester
Judy Grove

<u>River Terrace</u>
Karen West
Mary Bishop
Carolyn McBride

<u>At Their Home</u>
Don Reeves
Ted Ellis

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