

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

A CHURCH UNITED TO ENJOY GOD'S GRACE AND EXTEND HIS GLORY



Image Bearer

January 2020

First Baptist Church

3556 N. Portersville Road

Jasper, In. 47546

www.fbjasper.org

Dr. John Duncan, Pastor

pastorjohn61@outlook.com

Sunday Mornings

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

10:15 a.m. Morning Worship

Wednesday Evenings

6:30 p.m. Men's & Women's Bible Studies

Youth & Children's Ministries



From the Pastor's Pen...



It's hard to believe that another year has passed; and we are beginning the year 2020. Wow! You know they say that perfect vision is 20/20. I wonder, what's your vision for the year 2020? As 2019 came to an end did you find yourself wishing you had done some things differently. Did the celebration of Christ's birth and the fresh reminder that He is coming again, cause you to consider your priorities? In light of the second coming of Jesus, what are your priorities for 2020? Do you want to strengthen your prayer life? Maybe you want this year to be the one in which you really dig into God's Word and grow in your Christian walk? Maybe you want to have more boldness to share the Gospel and get more involved in impacting the lives of those around you.

These are some of the things that have been bouncing around in my mind in light of the fact that we are all living in anticipation of the second coming of Christ. If we are truly living our lives expectantly, awaiting the second coming of Christ, what should be our priorities as a church? We must start with worship. We must seek every opportunity to glorify God. My goal for our church is that each of us would experience the power and glory of God in a fresh and powerful way this year. I pray that we might know Him in His fullness, be overwhelmed by His glory, and transformed by His grace. Secondly, we must focus in on evangelism. We glorify God in worship, but we further glorify Him as we make His name known to those around us. My prayer is that we might center on making connections with others so that we can share the gospel with them. Last year, we only had 2 baptisms! The challenge given to us by our Mission Coordinator at Southwestern Association of Baptist in Indiana is that we baptize 10 % of our average attendance. Our average attendance last year was right around 140. Our goal for 2020 is to reach 14 people with the gospel who in turn, follow the Lord in baptism. This is a very reachable goal. The key is for us to be proactive in connecting with other people. Make it a priority to build relationships and share God's story with them.

Another priority that should be ours if we are going to have a clearly focused vision for 2020 is that of discipleship. We cannot be satisfied with where we are in our spiritual walk. Make it a priority to get connected in a Bible Study group in 2020. One of the greatest opportunities to do this is in our Sunday School. We have study groups for all ages. We need to stop making excuses as to why we cannot make it to Sunday School. These study groups are where you learn the biblical truths that will guide you through the pitfalls of life. You will also make connections with other believers that will be irreplaceable as you navigate through your spiritual journey. Make it a priority to get connected to a Sunday School Class in 2020.

As we experience the glory of God in worship, make His name known through making connections with others in our community, and live life together with other believers centered on the truth of God's Word our vision will become clear. If 2020 is going to be the year that our priorities are made straight, then it begins with each of us personally committing to worship, evangelism, and discipleship. It's time to stop sitting on the sidelines and make connections...connections that change lives forever.



Greetings from the FBC Leadership Team,

What gifts did you get for Christmas? Not just gifts from family and friends (although that is fun and cool and very much a blessing) but what did you receive from God our Father? At the risk of sounding like a broken record I continue to be blessed by the knowledge the God of the universe knows us (1 Cor. 8:3) and chose us (Eph.1:4). But this Christmas season has brought to light yet another wonderful aspect of God's amazing love for us.

It is all in His name you see. The name we sing every year: Immanuel! The name that is foretold of by the prophets hundreds of years before the birth of Christ. **"Therefore, the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel"** - Isaiah 7:14. A name that means **"God with us"** – Matt. 1:23.

He gave up Heaven and came to earth (Phil. 2:6-8) to live with us and to become the sacrifice for us so we can be no longer dead in our trespasses but alive in Him: **"But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved ..."** – Eph. 2:4-5.

He gave up Heaven and came to earth to bless all nations: **"And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, 'In you shall all the nations be blessed.'**" – Gal. 3:8.

He gave up Heaven and came to earth to make all peoples one: **"But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility ..."** – Eph. 2: 13, 14.

He gave up Heaven and came to earth to proclaim peace: **"And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near."** – Eph. 2:17.

The God of the universe knows us, He chose us, and He gave up everything for us! Now *that* is a Christmas gift.

Our team members are: Pastor – Dr. John Duncan; Elders – John Dillon, Tom Gruenloh, Todd Jasper, Bruce Reinhart, Bill Whittington; Deacons – Rod Haskins, Phil Malone, Tim Harris, Eric Herndon, and Phil Hostetler.

Thank you for your prayers for us and our church.

In Him,

FBC Leadership Team



Missions

We are planning a mission trip to Community Central Church in Evansville, Indiana on Saturday, January 18th. We will be helping with painting, construction, outreach, and survey work. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. We will be having a short meeting to make final plans on Sunday, January 5th immediately after the worship service in the fellowship hall.

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

The YTD total for the Lottie Moon Christmas offering is \$820.00. Thank you for your generous support in December. Throughout the month of January, the Lottie Moon offering will continue to be collected. Please continue to be generous as we work together to support Missions and reach our Church goal of \$3,000.

AWANA

Don't forget about our AWANA program for our children ages 3-5th grade. They meet every Wednesday Evening from 6:15-7:45. Our children are learning Bible verses, biblical truths, and the storyline of the Bible. They also have a great time of fun and fellowship. Bring your children to AWANA and while they are growing in the Lord, you can also be attending either our Men's Study or Women's Study. Make 2020 the year that your family gets connected to God's Word. If you are interested in helping out with AWANA by either teaching or assisting, contact Holly Weyer.



Sunday School



As we start a new year, make plans to get connected with other believers by attending Sunday School. In our Sunday School classes we have the opportunity to make life-long connections with others, study the Word together, ask questions, and grow together in Christ. If you feel like you are treading water spiritually, then I urge you to get connected with a Sunday School Class this week. Make this the year that you get connected with other believers, with Christ, and with the Word.





(Just Older Youth)

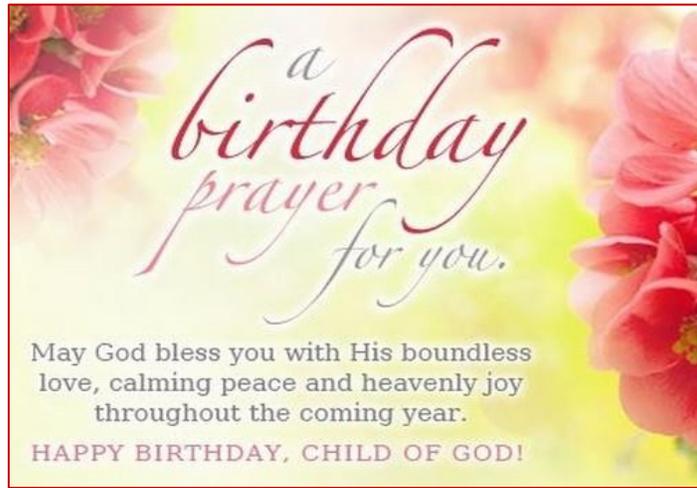
Just Older Youth with Joyful Hearts

The JOY Group met on Thursday, December 19th for their monthly luncheon. We had 14 in attendance and enjoyed a wonderful array of dishes, numerous vegetables, and some outstanding desserts. After our meal we had a time of prayer lifting up those who are ill and then Pastor John led us in a devotion from Dietrich Boenhoffer's Christmas Devotional: **God in a Manger.**



Calling All Seniors!

All those 55 and over be sure and join us in January for our monthly luncheon on January 16th at 11:30.



January Birthday's

1 Judy Steltenpohl 7 Bill Mangold
16 Neil Rose 21 Haley Kipenbrock
23 Sharon Busick 24 Rhonda Russell

*Your First Baptist Church Family
would like to wish each of you a
Happy Birthday!*

Happy Birthday!

January 2020

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday



1
Happy New Year!

2

3

4
Men's Breakfast
9:00 a.m.

5
Sunday School
9:00 a.m.
Morning Worship
10:15 a.m.

6

7

8
Adult Bible Studies
Youth & Children's
Ministries
6:30 p.m.

9

10

11

12
Sunday School
9:00 a.m.
Morning Worship
10:15 a.m.

13

14

15
Adult Bible Studies
Youth & Children's
Ministries
6:30 p.m.

16
J.O.Y. Group
11:30 a.m.

17

18
Missions Trip
Community
Central Church
Evansville, Indiana

19
Sunday School
9:00 a.m.
Morning Worship
10:15 a.m.

20

21

22
Adult Bible Studies
Youth & Children's
Ministries
6:30 p.m.

23

24

25

26
Sunday School
9:00 a.m.
Morning Worship
10:15 a.m.

27

28

29
Adult Bible Studies
Youth & Children's
Ministries
6:30 p.m.

30

31

