FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH





APRIL - 2021

EASTER - SO WHAT?!

Your first thought may be "What has happened to Pastor Michael?!?!" Honestly, my thinking and spirit have not deteriorated. As we approach Easter, I've been struck by what I've been reading. After reading through John and Romans, I am convicted of what Jesus and Paul are telling us about what Easter means for us.

Jesus came to give us new life! He came to give us new hope! He came to give us and show us a new way to love one another! He came to show us what obedience looks like! I can go on and on. We need to understand what this means for you and I.

When we say YES to Jesus, we become new creations. That old person, that old way of life, that old separation between us and God is gone. Instead it is replaced with a new wineskin filled with new wine, which is symbolic of the Holy Spirit coming and dwelling within you and I. We are given a new heart, that old heart of stone is gone and in its place is what Ezekiel calls a heart of flesh. We have a new relationship with God, through Jesus Christ.

Eternal separation is a thing of the past because nobody can steal us away from God. NOBODY! Nobody and no one, not anybody! It can't happen if you really have Jesus as your Lord and Savior. That's amazingly great news!! We should be shouting from the rooftops and celebrating the gift of life we have in Jesus. Yet, when Easter arrives, we often think of Easter egg hunts and cleaning the house for our guests and cooking the food and all the fuss that may go into the day. Instead, can we focus on the SO WHAT of Easter? God has given us an amazing gift . . . it's the gift of life, the gift of salvation, the joy of reconciliation, it's the hope that comes when we know, believe and trust that we are forgiven by the King of kings and Lord of lords.

Ask yourself about the Easter! Reflect, meditate and hold onto the blessing of God's gift of you. Easter is all about you! That's a pretty great so what!

Looking forward to seeing you on Sunday!!

Blessings,

Pastor Michael

NEWS AND EVENTS



Impact Presents:

The Passion of the Christ

@ the Alex Theater Saturday, April 3, 2021 3:00pm Free admission

Please note: This film is rated R and is not suitable for younger viewers

You are invited to join the Alexandria youth groups as they experience a depiction of the final 12 hours of Jesus' life on earth. Admission is free, but there will be refreshments available for purchase. The theater requests that individual groups and families distance themselves from other groups as they watch the movie and that masks be worn when not seated.



For children of FBC (pre K-6th grade)

10:00-11:00am, Saturday, April 3rd at Alex FBC

We will celebrate with a special devotion, spring craft, yummy snack, and fun Easter egg hunt. Feel free to bring your own basket!



Sunday

10:30am: Worship Celebration 12:00pm: Impact (starting 4/11)

Tuesday

7:00pm: Ladies Zoom Bible Study with Debbie Deutsch

Wednesday 6:30pm - 7:30pm: High Point (Grades K-3) Crew 456 (Grades 4-6)

Impact (Grades 7-12)

IMPACT - SENIOR PROFILE

Name: Abby Stillwell

High School: Alexandria Monroe

Post-graduation plans: I will be taking a gap year to travel to Connecticut, South Dakota, Europe, and to take a mission trip to the Dominican Republic. I plan to work at a church managing social media and public relations. This year will help me fulfill my dreams of seeing the world and also give me time to see which career path is best for me.

Who has been a spiritual influence on me: My parents have always been my spiritual role models. They have taught me throughout my life to let God take the lead and to have faith in Him. Shoutout to them - Love you guys!



RESOURCES

CANVA

If you ever need to make fliers, posters, advertisements, greeting cards, anything really, Canva is the program for you! Here at the church, we use Canva to make many of the graphics you see on our website and in our newsletters. Canva is free, but a paid subscription will provide even more options for you!



Visit <u>www.canva.com</u> to learn more.



Click <u>HERE</u> to access the 2021 Bible reading plan!

RIGHTNOW MEDIA

We are always looking for ways to serve you as you live out your faith. You are invited to have a FREE account to rightnow media, an online Christian video library. You will have instant unlimited access to thousands of great videos for kids, students, young adults, parents, married couples, singles, teenagers, and more. Just click <u>HERE</u> to get started!

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FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Phone: (765) 724-2457

Address: 2107 S Park Ave Alexandria, IN 46001

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