# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

GIVE



OCTOBER - 2021

#### Greetings!

Have you ever wanted time to slow down? While it's physically impossible, the world tries to speed us up in many different ways. Try buying a fall decoration! They're already being taken off the shelves. Christmas items are about 5 rows deep at Hobby Lobby. We're still over 2.5 months away, but it's being pushed on us.

So, what to do? Glad you asked . . . utilize your God given resources to help you slow down. Nobody will slow you down but yourself. Take time to spend with God. Read, pray, celebrate, worship and more. Watch the worship or attend worship. Participate! To think more about this, read the final article of the newsletter about spiritual disciplines.

### NEWS AND EVENTS



Annual Banquet at the Muncie Convention Center will be from 6:00-8:30pm on Thursday, October 7th.

See Pastor Michael if you have any questions.

Pastor Appreciation Sunday is October 10th. We will have a potluck lunch after worship. Bring your favorite dish(es) and dessert to share as we show appreciation to Pastor Michael, George, Eric and Jill.



October 24 - The Kramers will be singing at our morning worship celebration!



The annual FBC Fall Festival will be Sunday, October 24th from 3:00-6:00pm.

There will be a trunk-or-treat, face painting, hayrides, free food and more!

## YOUTH NEWS

- Thursday, October 7th Bring your Bible to school day
- Wednesday, October 13 Kids are on Fall Break. No Impact today!
- Friday, October 22 Fall Party at the home of Tommy and Jill Thomas
- Friday, October 29 Lock-In from 8:00pm-8:00am



Youth Sunday will be November 21st. On this special day, the youth group will greet all attendees at the door and lead all aspects of the morning worship service. There will be uplifting music, fun skits, and relevant messages from youth group members. You won't want to miss it!

#### **URGENT NEED!**

Pete's Pantry needs **deodorant** and **shampoo**! Donations can be dropped off at the church or from 9:30-10:50am on Mondays and Thursdays at Pete's. Thank you for your help!

### SERVICES



Sunday 10:30am: Worship Celebration

Pete's Pantry

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

Wednesday 6:30-7:30pm: High Point (grades K-3) Crew 456 (grades 4-6) Impact (grades 7-12)

#### RESOURCES



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

#### FOOD FOR THOUGHT

#### AN INVITATION TO SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES

Have you ever considered the only thing you can really control is . . . . YOU!

Think about it, we can't control anyone else, we can't control the past or the future, but what I can control (and I use that term loosely) is what I do at this very moment in time. That may sound negative, but that's really a positive.

For 18 weeks I spoke about spiritual disciplines. As I was thinking about the past and the future, I didn't want them to be forgotten. The Spiritual disciplines are about our seeking to grow in who Christ has called us to be. When we take time to practice Christian spiritual activities, even in the midst of our everyday lives, these behaviors become simply a way of placing my will and my life before God as a living sacrifice.

Dallas Willard often said that the outcome of our spiritual activities far exceeds what we put into them. That leads me to think that the disciplines are really about receiving grace from God. God takes offering of time and action and uses it to transform us into people God has called us to be.

We grow in the Fruits of the Spirit . . . love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control (Galatians 5:22).

Certainly spiritual activities (disciplines) — things like prayer, study, giving, worship, celebration, and more become part of our daily living. We become more and more transformed into the image of Jesus Christ. Eventually, we become people who can respond to life as Jesus.

The disciplines are not about doing something for God, or earning righteousness from God. We engage in the disciplines in response to God's love.

The disciplines are an invitation, not an obligation. Listen to the Spirit. What are you being led into? Where would God like to meet you today and where can you meet God?

Begin where you are according to who you are. What's most important is to start. Let's continue this journey as we grow closer to Christ together. Today, you can control how you grow closer to Christ.

If you have any questions, please feel free to ask!

Blessings,

Pastor Michael

#### FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

CONTACT US Phone: (765) 724-2457

Address: 2107 S Park Ave Alexandria, IN 46001

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