

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

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Newsletter

APRIL - 2023

Greetings!

April 1st is April Fools Day! According to our calendar, it was less than 1 week before

Jesus would be dead and buried. But first, there would be the celebration . . . the march, the parade through the streets of downtown Jerusalem as the people celebrated and thanked God for Jesus. Only to find that a mere few days later, He would be standing before the religious elite and the Roman authorities, preparing for His death.

For us today, it is so difficult to picture what that might have looked like. How did this all happen? It makes no sense to us, mostly because we see the brutality of the cross

through resurrection eyes. It's not so easy to delete what we already know. We know Christ rose! That's why we have an Easter faith, the cross was not the end of the story.

When they closed that tomb, life was taking place. We don't get it, we never will, but that's what faith is about.

It's the words of Jesus to Thomas, in John 20 :29 "Have you believed because you

have

seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.” That’s me and

you. But we have resurrection vision. Oh, I’m not bemoaning this. It’s great. Because I know the end of the story, and the end of the book never changes . . . WE ALWAYS WIN!!

We have victory in Christ Jesus. Death no longer has a hold on us, death is no longer the victor. . . Thanks be to God, through our Lord, Jesus Christ!

In many respects the world thinks only fools believe in Jesus. If that’s the case, count me in! I’m a fool for Jesus and that gives me the greatest hope in the world. In fact, that hope is out of this world hope!

Friends, come to Jesus. Come and celebrate His victory and our victory through Him! He is the Christ! The Risen Lord . . . my Lord!

Upcoming Series

I realized I have never completed a sermon series on the book of James in the 15.5 years at our church. I’ve done a couple of random sermons from James, but not a series. Not that you asked for it, but starting April 16, I will be preaching for about 10 weeks through the book of James. It is the most practical book in the New Testament and has so much to teach us, especially in our world today. I hope you’ll start reading this 5 chapter book towards the end of the New Testament.

Pastor Michael

NEWS AND EVENTS



ALEXANDRIA CHILDREN'S EASTER PARTY

**HOSTED BY
THE CHURCHES OF ALEXANDRIA**

SATURDAY, APRIL 1ST

10 AM - 12 PM

TODDLERS TO 6TH GRADE

GAMES, SNACKS, CRAFTS, AND EGG HUNT

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

2107 S PARK AVE. ALEXANDRIA, IN



**TO PRE-REGISTER TO ATTEND
OR BE A VOLUNTEER,
SCAN THE QR CODE!**





a funeral for Jesus

Good Friday

On Friday night, April 7 at 6:30pm, we will be presenting "A Funeral For Jesus."

Written by Pastor Michael, it will be a depiction of what a public funeral may have looked like when Jesus died. It will include music as well!

Act 2 will be Easter Sunday morning. We hope you can come and that you will be blessed by this production. As this is our first time doing this, we are very excited and look forward to seeing you there!



Saturday, April 8 at 1:00pm

Mike and Connie Owens invite you to the Alex Theater for a screening of the hit movie *Jesus Revolution!* Admission is free! Refreshments will be available for purchase.



Attention FBC Kids!

- April 9 - The FBC Kids will sing in the Easter worship service!
- April 16 - We will have lunch after church in the room off the kitchen
- April 26 - Movie night!

Greetings from the Mission Team,

HE IS RISEN and left us with the job of reaching out to the world in His name. The Mission Team began in 2007. We are a volunteer group (not elected). Any individuals are welcome to join whenever, and everyone is encouraged to join us in any outreach activity we do. Our focus is to serve out in our community, being Jesus's hands and feet. With warm weather approaching, we will be organizing several outdoor activities. Watch the bulletin for details. If you have any questions, connect with a team member: Pam Blake, Linda Byerly, Gerry Cloncs, Joyce Gates, Krystal Hill, Vi Hiser, Linda Nelson, Missy Swanson, Judy Swisher, Sue Thurston (we would love to have some men join as well!).

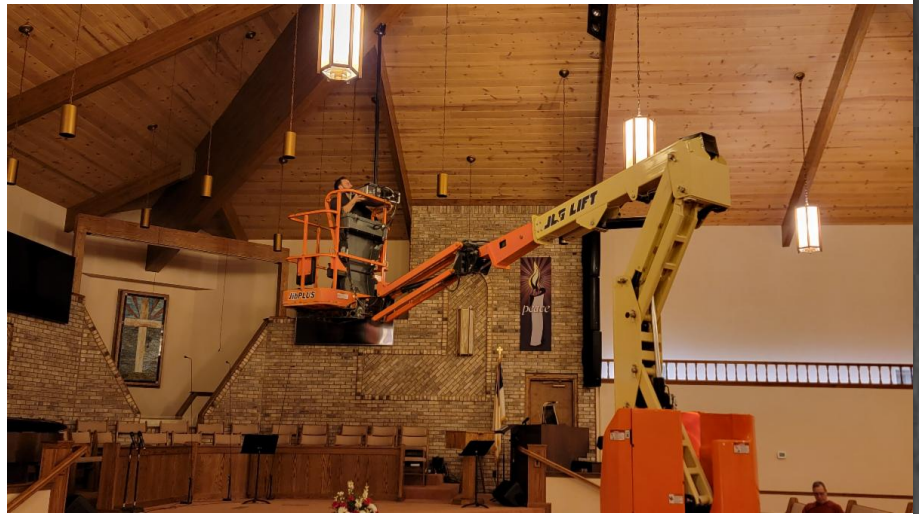
Prayer Walk

Please join us for our annual Prayer Walk in the church on April 5th at 6:30pm. We will meet in the sanctuary and then walk around the church lifting our voices to the Lord.

Thank you!

As you may have noticed, the old projector has been taken down in the sanctuary.

It was quite a feat getting the lift in there, but we were successful!



The youth group went bowling at Championship Lanes in Anderson!

Everyone had a great time. If you are a teen or know any teens looking for a place to belong, point them to Impact at FBC!

We would also like to thank everyone who has contributed to the youth ministry. Thanks to your generosity, we are able to take a trip on April 22nd and 23rd to the Ark Encounter!



CISM

Say what?! What's that? It's an acronym meaning - Critical Incident Stress Management. This is what Debbie and I were learning when we attended a Police Chaplains conference this March, in Ohio. We had two days of intensive training to become certified at facilitating situations for police, fire and civilians when they are involved in a high stress incident. Debbie is the only female trained in Madison County and we will both be on the CISM Team for the county. Hopefully, we don't have to use this too much! We were thankful the city of Alexandria provided the funding for this learning experience. As an FYI, there were about 200 chaplains attending the conference from our region.

Pastor Michael

SERVICES



Sunday

10:30am: Worship Celebration

6:00pm: Impact (7th-12th Grades) meeting at different homes

Tuesday

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

S.A.L.T. Society meets on the third Tuesday of every month

Wednesday

6:30pm: Prayer Meeting (first Wed. of month), Bible Study (remaining Wednesdays)

6:30pm: Kids and Youth Activities

BOOKS! BOOKS! BOOKS!

As many of you know, I love to read and accumulate books. I've really limited the number of books which I now buy. I'm so much better. Here's a plug for the library! I check out lots of books from the library. Give them a try! Next month I'll give you my updated reading list.

Anyways! My excess book pile is your gain. It's time to start cleaning out some of my books. There are so many books, and I don't like to let books go. There's some that I never will!!

Here's where you benefit. Starting April 16, I will be putting books on a table in the lobby area for you to take and read and NOT to give back to me. Pass them on to others, give them away. I don't care if you sell them.

If you want to come to my office, you can always ask about a book on the shelf, and I will give you an honest answer . . . and maybe shed a few tears!! :)

Pastor Michael



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CONTACT
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