

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

alexfbc.com



Newsletter



MAY - 2023

Hello Eric,

Abiding in Christ

One of my favorite verses in the Bible is John 15:5 - Jesus said, "I am the vine, you are the branches, if you abide in me, and I in you, you will bear much fruit, apart from Me, you can do nothing."

That's a powerful verse for me. It was the driving force in my doctoral work and was the focus of my major project. I'm still learning that I can't do anything apart from His love, grace and power. He's the One who fills me with the ability to do what I never thought I could do.

He is the source of life, life today and tomorrow. He is the vine and my job as the branch is to remain connected to Him. That's the only way I can bear fruit. Apart from Him, I will not bear 'holy' fruit. It will be worldly fruit.

But sometimes we want results and we want them now! I've been down that road many times. I don't want to wait on the Lord and learn patience. Yet, we are called to ABIDE

in Christ. That's a huge word. Abiding is a slow process. It means we dwell or live in Christ. It takes years to develop fruit and we're not always patient.

Yet, what strikes me is that Jesus is telling us - - it's not our activity that brings fruit, but it's the abiding, our relationship with Him. It's when we live the life He calls us to live. It's seeking to bring honor and glory to Jesus at every moment of every day, even in those stress filled moments.

Abiding in Jesus isn't always easy. It takes time to cultivate and grow in being in Him. Abiding / dwelling / remaining in Jesus will produce a great harvest. I pray that for you and if you have questions, or want to move more in that direction, please ask and we can set up a game plan to help you learn how to abide in the Master!!

Blessings!!

Pastor Michael

NEWS AND EVENTS

The Annual First Choice for Women's walk is just around the corner! I'd love for you to join in the fun, walking, and great food at the FCW Walk.

Below is a link to contribute and join the team. The team name is **AFBC for LIFE!**

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Thanks and blessings!!

Pastor Michael

Click [HERE](#) to sign up.



Graduate Recognition

If you are or have a high school, college, or technology school student graduating this year, please reach out to our church office with your information (school / open house). Deadline for information is May 14th.

Graduate recognition will be May 21st with a 9:30am breakfast for graduates



and their families and an acknowledgement during morning worship.

High School and College Graduates

Lilly Thomas is a senior at Alexandria Monroe High School. She plans to study animal science at Purdue University in hopes to become a veterinarian.

Open house - Saturday, May 27 from 10:00am-1:00pm at First Baptist Church.

Katarena (Katy) Stillwell is a senior at Alexandria Monroe High School. She has enlisted in the Army National Guard. She will be attending Basic Training in Ford Leonard Wood, MO starting at the end of July. After completing Basic, she will return home to start at Ball State University to earn an Early Elementary Degree while serving her country.

Open house - Sunday, May 28 from 3:00-6:00pm at 606 E 11th Street, Alexandria, IN

Emily Nichols is a senior at Alexandria Monroe High School. She will be attending Ball State University to pursue an Interior Design degree. Open house - Saturday, June 3 from 2:00-5:00pm at First Baptist Church.

Conrad Bassett is a senior at Alexandria Monroe High School. He plans to pursue welding as a trade. Open house - Sunday, June 4 from 2:00-4:00pm at 1031 E SR 28, Alexandria, IN.

Evan Savage is a senior at Alexandria Monroe High School. He is starting a job at a dentist office and plans to continue his education at Ivy Tech to become an x-ray technician and dental assistant.

Terri Bassett graduated from Indiana Wesleyan University. She plans to use her degree in Floral and Graphic Design throughout the United States. Open house - Sunday, June 4 from 2:00-4:00pm at 1031 E SR 28, Alexandria, IN.

Children's Ministry Needs!

FBC friends: Could you please buy an extra box of Carpri Suns, Yoo-hoo, juice boxes, or small waters the next time you go to the grocery store? We are almost completely out of drinks for the children's ministry. Thanks so much for your support!

Jill Thomas



co-ed
SOFTBALL

First Baptist Church will be playing in a co-ed league this year! Our games are 7-inning double-headers and we play on diamonds in Anderson. If you would like to play with us, please contact Eric Prophet at ericprophet@gmail.com. Softball is a great opportunity for fun and fellowship. **We could really use some more girls on our team!** If you know any girls that would like to play with us, please let Eric know. Thank you!

Thank you to everyone who supported the youth trip to the Ark Encounter!
We had a great time!!



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

PASTOR MICHAEL'S BOOK LIST

Pastor Michael's Books for March – April 2023

Here are the books I've been reading over the past 2 months. I have rated the books from 1-5, depending on how much I liked them and how useful they were to me.

3 - The body keeps the score: Brain, mind, and body in the healing of trauma. By Bessel van der Kolk. 2014

An interesting book about how our entire being works as one.

3 - Hooked How to build habit-forming products. By Nir Eyal. 2014.

There was one main paragraph that I gleaned from the book, but it was an important one for me.

5 - You are what you love: The Spiritual Power of Habit. By James K.A. Smith. 2016
Deep but powerful reading.

4 - Lead Me: Finding Courage to Fight for Your Marriage, Children, and Faith. By Matt Hammitt. 2020

Former Sanctus Real lead singer shares his story and encourages men.

3 - Resilient Leadership: Navigating the Hidden Chemistry of Organizations. By Bob Duggan and Jim Moyer. 2009

You'll notice a theme with the next books. I'm intrigued by the role of resilience in our lives and how we use it, cultivate it, or ignore it.

3.5 - Resilient: How to Grow an Unshakable Core of Calm, Strength and Happiness. By Rick Hanson. 2018

Kind of a basic book, but it had some good moments to remind me about being resilient in all situations and how my body works as one.

2 - Resilience: The Science of Maturing Life's Greatest Challenges. By Steven Southwick

and Dennis Charney. 2018

This book really didn't do it for me. It seemed difficult to get into.

4 - Resilience: Hard-won Wisdom for Living a Better Life. By Eric Greitens. 2015

Written by a former Navy Seal. I like these kinds of books. Lots of life lessons.

What are you reading that you would suggest to me? Also, a plug for the library - - - I check out most books and buy very few anymore. So, check out your local library. Even check out the church library!!



Phone: (765) 724-2457

Address: 2107 S Park Ave
Alexandria, IN 46001

Find us on Facebook!



[CONTACT US](#)

First Baptist Church | 2107 S Park Ave, Alexandria, IN 46001

[Unsubscribe_ericprophet@gmail.com](mailto:unsubscribe_ericprophet@gmail.com)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by alexfirstbaptist@gmail.com powered by



Try email marketing for free today!