# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

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SEPTEMBER - 2023

# **NEWS AND EVENTS**

The Mission Team would like to thank you once again for all of your support for the Back to School Rally. Speaking of school supplies, this is a great time to find sales for school supplies and such for your Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes. Collection will be before Thanksgiving.

We would also like to share a service opportunity that everyone can participate in this month and throughout the year. Saturday, September 16th at 9:00am, we will begin a Watchmen's Prayer Group in the FBC parking lot. We are inviting anyone in the county to join us in praying for protection for our children, their families, teachers and staff at all area educational facilities. We plan to meet each month throughout the year. Please come and join us!



The Trustees are going to be busy this month changing all of the fluorescent bulbs in our church to LED type bulbs. With a simple wiring change, we can install bulbs that use less energy and last longer in our existing fixtures! This change also allows us to eliminate the expensive ballasts that must to be replaced from time to time. On top of all that good news, our church qualifies for a rebate from Indiana Michigan Power in the amount of approximately 52% of the total cost of the new LED bulbs! We are truly blessed!

The youth and children had a Splash Party right after returning to school.

It was a wonderful time!

Please <u>click on the photo below</u> to see a video showing all of the activities. (make sure your sound is on!)



#### **EMERGENCY HELP NEEDED!**

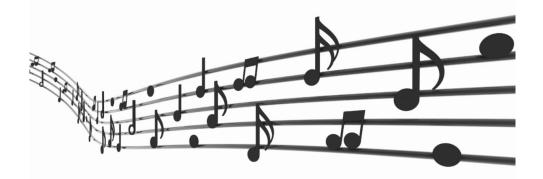
The local food bank has expressed that they are critically low on canned soups, canned fruits, ramen noodles, peanut butter, and jelly.

Starting September 10th, please bring in food donations so that we can help those in need. Please look in your cabinets or add to your



grocery lists some of the items listed above. Monetary donations are also accepted. Please put your donation in an envelope and place it in the offering box on the visitor center each Sunday.

How many items can we as a church donate during the month of September? 200, 400, 1000? Let's see what we can do.



## Calling all Singers, Ringers, and Worship Bringers!

Worship choir will resume rehearsals on **Thursday, September 7th at 7:00-8:00pm.** Anyone who has a passion for worship and can carry a tune are welcome!

Worship Bell Choir is also starting rehearsals on **Thursday, September 7th at 5:30-6:15pm**.

If you can ring a bell and count to four, come and ring a little more!

September 11th is Bud and Joann Sprague's 75th Wedding Anniversary.

The Deaconesses have placed a card collection box

in the lobby for them for the next few weeks!

# **Church Picnic**

# September 17th - After Worship at Beulah Park

Bring your favorite covered dish or dessert (or both), tableware, and enjoy a great afternoon with the church family.

Board of Christian Education will provide hot dogs and hamburgers!



# S.A.L.T. Society

We will have a pitch in lunch on **Tuesday**, **September 19th at noon**. Hope to see you there!

#### Attention All Children!

Friday, September 29th - 6:00-9:30pm - Dinner and Movie Night for K-6th graders and their families. Enjoy an evening of fun with our Children's Leader, Jill Thomas!

### **LOOKING AHEAD**

# **Pastor Appreciation Sunday**

Sunday, October 8 after worship

We will have a pitch in to honor:

Pastor Michael Deutsch Youth Pastor Eric Prophet Children's Leader Jill Thomas Worship Leader George Killian

Chicken, drinks, and tableware are provided. Bring your favorite dish(es) or dessert (or both) to share.



If you would like to do a song at this year's Fall Festival, please talk to George Killian!



#### Sunday

10:30am: Worship Celebration

6:00-8:00pm: Impact (7th-12th grades)

#### 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: High Point (K-3rd), Crew 456 (4th-6th), Impact (7th-12th)

### **FOOD FOR THOUGHT**

#### The Value of a Sparrow

In Matthew 10, Jesus stated, "Are not two sparrows sold for a copper coin? And not one of them falls to the ground apart from your Father's will. But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Do not fear therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows."

"Sparrow" was the name given to several different types of birds in the Bible. They ate grain and insects and gathered in noisy flocks. Sparrows would often build their untidy nests in the eaves of houses, but were not driven away when they built their nests in the Temple. These insignificant little birds were such social creatures that a lone sparrow was the symbol of deep loneliness (Psalm 102:7).

In Jesus' day, sparrows were sold for a very low price — two of them for a copper coin which is about a quarter.

Jesus said, "and not one of them (sparrows) is forgotten before God." The point is this - - - if God is concerned about the tiny sparrow and even counts the number of hairs on your head, then know that you are of more value than many sparrows.

Sometimes it seems that we are not being cared for by God. Somehow it feels like God

is distant and is caring more for the sparrow than us. Yet, we are reminded, whatever we are going through, God cares more for us than for the sparrow.

We are His children, holy and dearly loved. Whatever is going on in your life, know that He loves you.

God's care for us is immeasurable — He allowed His only begotten Son to die in our place. God's care for us will sustain us throughout life. His love never changes, it's the same yesterday, today and tomorrow. Hold onto His love and know and believe God is with you. After all, He sent His Son for you!



Phone: (765) 724-2457

Address: 2107 S Park Ave Alexandria, IN 46001

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**CONTACT US** 

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

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