

# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

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NOVEMBER - 2023

## When God Calls

Have you ever received a call from God? Many of us would say "Nope. God's never called me." Yet, I believe we receive calls from God on a very regular basis, but we're either too busy to hear the call, or we can't believe God is calling us, or we just disregard it.

Have you considered Jonah's call from God? God called Jonah to tell a distant land, actually an enemy of the Israelites, that they were going to be destroyed unless they turned to God and repented.

Jonah didn't like that call! Why would God want to save their enemies? Great question for a great God who loves all people. So, Jonah decided he wasn't going. He got on a big ship and went in the opposite direction. He told the crew he was running from God.

Then a huge storm hit. The crew was terrified. They threw their cargo off the ship to save themselves, but nothing worked until Jonah came forward and said he was the problem. God was chasing him down, so to speak. He instructed the crew to throw him overboard to stop the storm.

Jonah was thrown into the stormy sea, the storm stopped, and a big fish came and swallowed him up. Yup, this sounds crazy! God certainly works in mysterious ways. Finally, Jonah came to his senses and did what God wanted him to do. Nineveh repented and God spared them. Jonah wasn't happy about it either, and sulked. And that's how the story ends.

What's the moral of the story? God is always calling us to do things . . . to serve, to give, to call, to encourage, to listen, to praise, to (fill in the blank). God will pursue you, so instead of running or swimming - - - draw closer to God and take time to stop and listen to Him. Listen for His call in your life, so that you can go into the world and make a difference in the name of Christ!

See you Sunday,

Pastor Michael

## NEWS AND EVENTS

### Special Business Meeting

On Wednesday, November 1st at 6:30pm, the Board of Trustees will be presenting a proposal for new flooring in the Family Life Center. Flooring samples will be available for everyone to view.

Members will be asked to vote on this proposal.



### NEW TEXTING PROGRAM

FBC will periodically send texts out with relevant information about church activities and special needs. If you would like to be added to our text list, please do *one* of the following:

1. Text "Hello" to (833) 558-0264. This is our church texting phone number. It will ask for your full name and then you will be added to our list.
2. OR, fill out a blue card during the next worship service, drop it in an offering box, and we will add you to the list.

Once you are signed up for texts, feel free to text that number any time and a staff member will get back with you. We suggest adding our number to your phone contacts as "FBC text" or something similar so that you know it's us reaching out to you.

If at any point you would like to opt out of texts from the church, simply send the word "Stop" to our number and you will be removed.

The Fall Festival was a great success this year! Thank you to everyone who volunteered and helped to make this event possible!



# Veterans Day Sunday

## November 12, 2023

A special worship service to honor God, our country, and the men and women who served or are serving in our armed forces.

Veterans in our church and community are invited to attend this special worship service with their families.

Please RSVP to the church office at (765)724-2457 with your name and # of guests.

10:15-10:30am Reserved seating in the Sanctuary.

10:30am Special Worship featuring First Baptist Worship Team & Indiana Patriot Guard.



Guest Speaker:  
Andrew Phipps

Educator  
Author  
Patriot



FBC Trivia Night is coming up soon! If you want to participate, but you don't have a team, register at [www.alexabc.com/trivia](http://www.alexabc.com/trivia) and we will assign you to a team. Don't miss out!

FBC PRESENTS



# Trivia Night

Get with your friends and family, form a team of up to six people and join us for a friendly competition! There will be snacks, drinks, music and loads of fun for everyone!

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2023**  
**6:00-9:00PM**

**\*\* CHILDCARE PROVIDED \*\***

Secure your spot and register your team by visiting

[alexfbc.com/trivia](https://alexfbc.com/trivia)

We have these centerpieces available for purchase for \$10.00. They were used at our Pastor Appreciation meal a few weeks ago. Proceeds will go to the Deaconesses fund.

If you would like to purchase one, please call the church office at 765-724-2457 Tuesday-Thursday from 9:00am-1:00pm.



## Attention All Children!

We are collecting items to put in Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes until Sunday, November 12th. Please donate!

**Sunday, November 5th:** Lunch and games with Miss Jill from 12:00-2:00pm. All those in Kindergarten through 6th grade are invited!

**Sunday, November 12th and Wednesday, November 15th:** Packing shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child.

**Saturday, November 18th:** There will be lots of fun activities for kids during the FBC Trivia Night from 6:00-9:00pm.

**Wednesday, November 29th at 6:30pm:** High Point and Crew 456 will practice for the Christmas program.

**Sunday, December 3rd:** Birthday Party for Jesus from 12:00-2:00pm! We will have lunch and a party. We will also practice for the Christmas program.

**Wednesday, December 6th:** Kids Christmas Program at 6:30pm.

**Wednesday, December 13th:** High Point and Crew 456 Christmas parties at 6:30pm.

*High Point and Crew 456 will not meet on  
November 22nd, December 20th, and December 27th.*

\*The Children's Ministry is in need of juice boxes, Capri Sun drinks, individually wrapped snacks like cheese crackers, fruit snacks, and cookies\*



Collection week for Operation Christmas Child is November 13th-20th. If you would rather donate money than pack a shoebox, we can do the shopping for you! Please have money to us by Sunday, November 12th.

The annual shoebox packing event sponsored by the Branch Class will be **Thursday, November 16th at 4:30pm** in the Family Life Center. We will set up, pack boxes, then share a meal. Everyone is welcome! Please let us know if

you will share the meal with us so we can prepare

accordingly.

This season, please also join us in prayer for our first responders. They have a difficult job, and during this time of year, it gets even harder.

## S.A.L.T. Society

S.A.L.T. will not meet in November. They will have an event between Thanksgiving and Christmas. Stay tuned!

Impact had a great Fall Party. Thank you to Andy and Tammy Chastain for hosting!





If you don't already have access to RightNow Media, you're missing out! We encourage everyone in the church to sign up for this great service so they can enjoy Biblical teaching from great authors and speakers like Francis Chan, Kyle Idleman, David Platt and many more! There are kids shows, sermons, small group studies... and they're all FREE to you.



There are two easy ways to get signed up:

1. Text "AFBC" to 49775 using your mobile phone.
2. Give your email address to our secretary, Elida Stillwell, and she will send you an invite link.

## LOOKING AHEAD

Some important dates to keep in mind... More info to follow!

**Sunday, December 3rd at 7:00pm - Circle City Ringers concert**

**Wednesday, December 6th at 6:30pm - Children's Christmas program**

**Sunday, December 10th at 6:00pm - Alexandria Community Band concert**

## SERVICES





### **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**

### **Psalms, Incense, Praise**

The well-known English preacher Charles H. Spurgeon (1834-1892) wrote something that would be good to remember at the start of each day: "Let your thoughts be psalms, your prayers incense, and your breath praise." Let's look at each of these phrases.

Let your thoughts be psalms. The 150 psalms have a variety of themes, including praise, God's character, and expressions of dependence on the Lord. Throughout the day we can turn our thoughts into psalms by meditating on God's holiness, His worthiness of our worship, and how much we need Him.

Let your prayers be incense. In the tabernacle of the Jews, incense was burned continually to offer a sweet savor to the Lord (Exod 30:7-8). Our prayers are like incense to God (Ps 141:2), bringing to His nostrils the pleasing scent of our adoration and need for Him.

Let your breath be praise. The book of Psalms concludes with the words, "Let everything that breathes sing praises to the Lord! Praise the Lord!" (150:6). Talking about God and offering Him words of praise should be as natural to us as breathing.

Keep the Lord in your thoughts, prayers, and speech today.

*From Our Daily Bread*



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