

# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

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## Newsletter

JULY - 2024

### Thanks from Pastor Michael

It's amazing to believe that my family has been living in Alexandria for over 17 years. Any time a pastor moves his family, they hope and pray it's a great fit. The plan is to stay and grow together so that God receives the glory.

Most of the time, to be honest, it does not happen that way. What looked good on paper, or at first sight, doesn't work out. There's conflict and the end result always hurts the kingdom, especially if it's played out in public.

But that's not what happened at FBC. I followed a revered pastor in Cliff Richardson. He was much loved and then some new guy with a couple of young kids walked in the door. You quickly realized I wasn't Cliff. And this is where the story is really, really cool!

You accepted me for who I am. You didn't ask me to be a Cliff clone. You can't imagine the blessing that was. Not that being like Cliff was bad, but you allowed me to be me and embraced who I am. You've allowed me to grow more and more into the man Christ has called me to be.

You accepted my family... Debbie, Joshua and Zachary! We've all grown up in Alexandria! This is not a goodbye, but a thank you! As long as God wants me here, I'll be here. There are no plans to leave and look for greener pastures. The land is ripe in Alexandria and the people are filled with love and grace. Why go anywhere else?

Thank you for 17 great years. I look forward to more serving as your pastor.

Love in Christ,

Pastor Michael

## NEWS AND EVENTS

It's coming! Sign up at  
[www.betterman.com/register](http://www.betterman.com/register)

All material is free and the hope is that we grow in our relationships as men and become a better-man.

 BETTERMAN



### S.A.L.T. Society

Tuesday, July 2nd at 11:30am we will leave in the church van and head to Andy's Diner in Elwood for lunch. We would love to have you come along!



### Freedom Parade

First Baptist Church will be walking and taking our church van in the Freedom Parade on **Wednesday, July 3rd** beginning at 6:00pm. Please let Kevin Thompson know if you would like to join us!

# THE THIRD TUESDAY TABLE

The Deaconesses of First Baptist Church are hosting community dinners!  
These are held on the Third Tuesday of each month. EVERYONE IS  
INVITED.

This month's dinner will be July 16th from 5:00pm-6:00pm.

Menu is Sausage Gravy and Biscuits, Bacon and Fruit.

Dine in only - no carry outs.

# Back to School Rally

Monday, July 29th - 5:00pm

We would love to have 100% participation from our church for the annual

## Back to School Rally! Here is how you can help:

- Pray for the volunteers, the families, and the schools.
- Volunteer to help at the rally.
- Donate money for the supplies that we purchase through our partnership with the Muncie Staples store. Checks can be made out to First Baptist Church with "School Rally" in the memo line.
- Purchase supplies, especially pencils, plain two-pocket folders, loose-leaf paper, and spiral notebooks or anything you find on sale.

Thank you for ALL you have done in the past and will do now to be the hands and feet of Jesus in our community.

## Impact had a great time at Kalahari Waterpark and Cedar Point!





## Vacation Bible School

Scuba VBS 2024 was a great week for volunteers and children. Thank you to the more than 40 volunteers who planned, decorated, participated, donated items, and prayed for this ministry! More than 50 kids from 4 years old to 5th grade learned about how God is with us all the time and loves us enough to give His son for us.

With small groups of 5-6 kids, we had 12 crews of multi-aged groups who traveled around the church to 5 stations. They learned interesting Bible stories at the Deep Bible Adventure room with Debbie Deutsch and Linda Nelson. Then, kids experimented with ordinary objects in the Imagination Station to learn more about God's love with Pam Gorman and Cheryl Hollingsworth.

At the Tidal Treats, Linda Prophet and Debbie Holmes created themed snacks to give the kids energy for the evening and get them excited about our deep sea adventures with God. TJ Herniak energized the kids with fun games outside during Reef Rec. Elida Stillwell led games and activities during Sticky Scripture to help the kids remember the daily Bible verse.

Morgan Prophet energetically led the music each evening while interacting with Addie Nichols, "Sydney" in the nightly skits as she learned that God loves her as she is. The creativity of Abigail Stillwell led our church to look like an underwater wonderland. Cheryl Hollingsworth created several special items for our kids to take home to help them remember our daily Bible verse and how God is with us always.

A special thank you goes out to Elida Stillwell for her long hours of preparation, planning, and prayer. Again, thank you to all of the volunteers who donated time, energy, resources, talents, and their hearts to this ministry for the kids of our

community. FBC kids are blessed to have such support from our church community.

Jill Thomas



### Books and CD's

I was going to put out a lot of my books to be given away a couple of months ago, but there always seemed to be something going on, so that kind of derailed my thoughts. But July looks a bit quieter for the first few weeks. For the next few Sundays, I will have books and CD's (FREE) in the Family Life Center. Take one or two and enjoy them!

Pastor Michael

## SERVICES



### Sunday

10:30am: Worship Celebration

### Tuesday

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

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

Wednesday

6:30pm: Bible Study

6:30pm: High Point (K-3rd), Crew 456 (4th-6th), Impact (7th-12th)



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