# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

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#### **JANUARY - 2025**

### 2025 Bible Reading

Hi Folks,

As we move into a new year, I want to encourage you to read the Bible. Attached is a Bible reading plan. It will take us from Genesis to Revelation over 2025.

I so want you to know the Word of God. I want the words you read to jump out at you as the Holy Spirit enlightens you and leads you to know who God is and who He is calling you to be.

Of course, we have to move through the Old Testament first. I enjoy reading it. There's intrigue, deception, wars, family dysfunction and there is the power of God at work through all of the chaos and mess.

It sounds just like today! And that's exactly the point. How can we better understand who God is calling us to be if we do not know His Word? It's tough!

I believe satan leads us as far away as possible because we make excuses. Trust me!

I've been there many times.

Maybe this is the time for you to say YES to reading the Bible daily. We will have every Sunday off, which makes it a great catch up day, or a day of rest as you worship.

Along with this, here's a bonus... I will send a weekly synopsis via email of what we read that week. Please don't use my synopsis as your reading plan, either. You will miss too much.

I look forward to reading God's word together in 2025!!

Pastor Michael

Please click <u>HERE</u> to access the Bible reading plan.

#### Did You Ever Wonder?

As we begin afresh this year in 2025, did you ever wonder how to make a difference? That is one of the phrases we associate with Pastor Michael and his ministry here at the Alexandria First Baptist Church. "Be a difference maker." But how?

Start with the first step. Read this newsletter. Attend Sunday morning worship. Get up an hour earlier and come to Sunday School. Attend the Wednesday evening activity that fits - Bible study or younger activities. Join the Thursday evening music programs. Come to SALT Society or Third Tuesday Table. Attend the Business Meetings, serve on elected boards.

Those are outward steps to get going. But to truly be a difference maker, make inside steps, too. Read the bulletin, but take it to heart. Pray for the activities, all the activities. Pray for the ones performing the tasks, especially the taken-for-granted tasks. Make contact with other members. If someone misses, give them a call. If there is a new face, greet and welcome. Share the Good News with friends, neighbors, or strangers.

Participate in Pastor Michael's Read Through the Bible Plan. There is nothing that can make a bigger difference than God and His Word.

Begin afresh. Every day. Be a difference maker. It will make this 2025 world a better place.

Beth Thompson

# **NEWS AND EVENTS**



Have you ever felt like the few minutes when we turn to greet our neighbors on Sunday mornings are just not long enough? It is hard to find the time to say hello to all of our friends at FBC! The Board of Christian Education recently met and discussed this very issue. The board has decided to start an hour of fellowship in the Family Life Center on Sunday mornings. Coffee, tea, pastries, and various treats will be provided starting at 9:15am. We will have tables and chairs set up for members to sit and visit. Sunday School attenders are welcome to come and visit before class and take their refreshments with them. Make sure to stop by the FLC this Sunday for some fellowship!

# S.A.L.T. Society (Seasoned Adults Learning Together)

On **Tuesday**, **January 7th at 12:00pm**, we will have a pitch in and Bob Willoughby will explain how he trains the police K-9. We will take a love offering to assist in Bob's training expenses.

On Tuesday, February 4th at 12:00pm, we will have a pitch in and learn how to make greeting cards from Paula Garret. The cards we make will be sent to Mary Bassett for Valentine's Day.

# All Board Meeting

On **Monday**, **January 13th at 6:30pm** there will be an all church board meeting in the sanctuary.



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 January 21st from 5:00pm-6:00pm.

Meal will be Biscuits and Gravy, Bacon and Fruit.

Dine in only - no carry outs.



The youth would like to thank the generous members of the church that donated \$25

gift cards for the youth Christmas party this year. In lieu of a traditional gift exchange, each member of the youth brought personal hygiene products to donate to Pete's Pantry. Thanks to the members that donated cards, we were able to surprise the youth with a gift card exchange game! The youth had a wonderful time.

BETTERMAN men's ministry meets every Sunday evening from 6:00-7:30pm. If you haven't signed up already, please visit <a href="https://www.betterman.com/register">www.betterman.com/register</a>

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



# **SERVICES**



### Sunday

10:30am: Worship Celebration 6:00pm: Betterman Men's Ministry

#### Tuesday

7:00pm: Ladies Zoom Bible Study with Debbie Deutsch S.A.L.T. Society meets on the first Tuesday of every month

## Wednesday

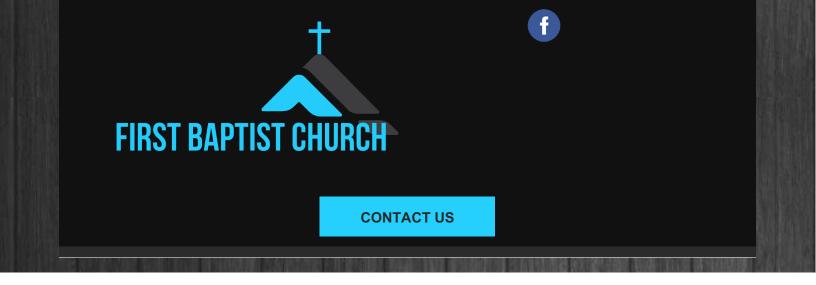
6:30pm: Bible Study

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

Phone: (765) 724-2457

Address: 2107 S Park Ave Alexandria, IN 46001

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