FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

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APRIL - 2025

Pastor Michael's thoughts...

The Power of the Resurrection

Don't you love the words from Matthew when he wrote and maybe it was in a big font, with a highlighter too - - - "He is not here; He has risen, just as He said." -- Matthew 28:6

I love the part he adds, because he was one of the 12 who didn't get it either, "just as He said."

How do we take that? Do we hold onto the words of Jesus as true and reliable? Do we wonder if we've bought into some weird type of time travel upon death?

Or - - - - do we see these words and have an amazing hope? Do we hold onto these words from Jesus and gain a new trust for our Savior that He certainly is true to His word and will not fail or forsake us?

Our perspective on Easter is so powerful that it shapes who we are and who we are

called to be.

Easter is a powerful reminder that Jesus conquered sin and death, offering us new life through His resurrection. When the women arrived at the tomb, they expected to find Jesus' body, but instead, they found an empty grave and an angel declaring the good news - let me call it the great news. He had risen!

This moment changed everything. It changed the course of the world. World history has been impacted forever because of the resurrection. How about your history, your story, is that changed because of the hope you have in Jesus?

Jesus' victory over the grave means we no longer have to live in fear, guilt, or hopelessness. Because He lives, we can face tomorrow with confidence, knowing that His power is at work in us.

As we approach Easter, I would encourage you to read the gospel stories about the death and resurrection of Jesus.

Read the following chapters in the New Testament - - Mark 14-16; Luke 22-24; John 18-21

What next?

Reflect on His Victory - Spend time in prayer thanking Jesus for His sacrifice and resurrection. Meditate on what it means for your daily life.

Walk in New Life - The resurrection means you are a new creation (2 Corinthians 5:17). Identify areas in your life where you need to embrace this truth. Celebrate the new life that you are in Christ as well.

Share the Good News - Just as the women ran to tell the disciples, share the hope of Jesus with someone this week.

Live with Resurrection Power - Face challenges with faith, knowing that the same power that raised Christ from the dead lives in you (Romans 8:11).

This Easter, let's not just celebrate an event but live in the reality of the resurrection every day!

NEWS AND EVENTS

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

On **Tuesday**, **April 1st at Noon**, we will leave FBC in the church van to eat lunch in Summitville at Hooser Routes. We would love to have you join us!

night at the home of Andy and Tammy Chastain on Friday, April 4th from 6:00-9:00pm! Dinner will be provided.

Their address is: 3284 E 1800 N Summitville, IN



From Your Deacons

One of the responsibilities your Deacons are charged with is the provision of the elements for our first Sunday communion every month. We are also responsible for the proper and effective distribution of those elements during worship. We are aware of not only the spiritual needs of our congregation, but also the physical needs.

Thus, you have probably noticed that for the past few months we have been testing different forms of communion "bread." This is being done in response to those in our congregation who have gluten intolerances. We have used cubed Hawaiian bread for several years, but in consideration of our brothers and sisters, that is no longer a desirable option. We believe we now have a useable source for a gluten free product to use in our communion observance.

Your Deacons are available and earnestly seek your input about those matters at First Baptist Church that are benevolent, spiritual, or are related to worship. Please reach out to any of us... Cole Hasty, Charlie Hasty, Mel Garrett, Paul Dent, Phil Chastain, Jay Taylor, Rod Weller, and Mike Owens.



The Deaconesses are planning to take treats to the 200 employees of our Alexandria Schools in April. Could you please help provide cookies, brownies, or muffins?

Please have them to the church on Sunday, April 6th. Thank you!



Join us on April 6th and 13th at 6:30pm for a book study on *He Chose the Nails* by Max Lucado! Books are available for purchase at the church for \$10.00.



SERMON UPDATES

As your week moves on from Sunday, it becomes easy to forget what was discussed just a few days earlier. Even though I gave the message, I automatically get in gear for the next week. I can forget as well.

With that in mind, I will be sending out a midweek email with a summary of the sermon and a few reflection / application questions. It's not homework, or it can be if you wish! :)

I hope this helps all of us to stay on track and on target with God's call in our lives and how we can serve Him and make a difference in the world!

If we don't have your email on file, please let us know what it is.



EASTEP EGGHUAV

SATURDAY, APRIL 12 10:00AM - NOON

LOCATION: FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH 2107 S. PARK AVE ALEXANDRIA, IN 46001

Fun Food Games,'
sponsored by Nazarene, 1st Baptist,
Cornerstone Churches, local business,
and community partners!

Scan code to register



For more information visit HTTPS://VBSPRO.EVENTS/P/EASTER25

Alexandria Community Easter Party April 12th from 10am-12pm Alexandria First Baptist Church

Please check where you can help!

plan the event __ publicity __ donate money __ donate snack items __ prepare snacks __ prepare craft __ collect donations __ set up on Friday April 11 __ pray for the party __

DURING THE PARTY

games __ parking __ pass out snacks __ crafts __ hide eggs __ greet families __ petting zoo __ monitor playground __ man the registration table __ face painting __

AFTER THE PARTY

clean up __

Thank you! Thank you!

NAME_____PHONE_____EMAIL







Did You Ever Wonder?

Did you ever wonder about the job of an usher? The fact is, when people come into our church for the first time, their impressions and decisions to return are generally made in the first few minutes. Visitors want to feel welcomed, included.

This is where the job of an usher comes in and why it is so important.

Ushers welcome people to the building, give directions, make introductions, hand out the bulletins, and show people to the sanctuary. They also are stationed in the hallway during the service to admit any latecomers and are around in case the nursery or childrens' leaders need any help.

The secret of being an effective usher is quite simple: a smile! Add to a smile a welcoming approach, the ability to introduce yourself and to know a little bit about the physical church - sometimes people want to know where the nursery is located, or a few other important rooms!

As you read this, hopefully you will realize that EVERYONE is an usher. EVERYONE should look to welcome visitors, to make sure that EVERYONE feels welcomed and included. This Sunday, watch the ushers, put on a smile, and then assist them in their role. You, too, can do the job!

Kevin and Beth Thompson

April Missions

On April 13th, Jessica Eugene from the Damou Mission in Haiti will be sharing during morning Worship.



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 April 15th from 5:00pm-6:00pm.

Meal will be Turkey Manhattan, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, and Fruit.

Dine in only - no carry outs.

Easter Breakfast

April 20th at 9:00am

Breakfast casseroles, biscuits and gravy, doughnuts, and fruit



Bible Reading

How is your Bible reading going? I've heard from so many of you that for the first time you are reading through the Bible! WOW!! Fantastic. I know it is easy to get bogged down, but keep it going. You should be in 1 Kings right now. If you're not, or you've fallen behind, don't quit!!

If you fall behind, jump ahead, or pick up where you were and move forward. Spend a few extra minutes reading the Bible and slowly catch up.

One thing I do with my Bible study group of young adults is check our phone time. What's your phone time like? Can you give a few more minutes to the Bible than to watching funny videos on social media? That can make all the difference.

Personally, it's been a blast reading the Bible this year! I've gotten about a month ahead because I set up a plan as to when I was going to read and I've been really good at sticking to it. Do you have a plan? That will make a huge difference!!

Pastor Michael



College Scholarship

First Baptist Church was blessed by the Spreen family with a college scholarship for members of this church. High school seniors may apply at Madisoncof.org. Current recipients will need to reapply as well.

SERVICES



Sunday

10:30am: Worship Celebration 5:00pm: Betterman Men's Ministry

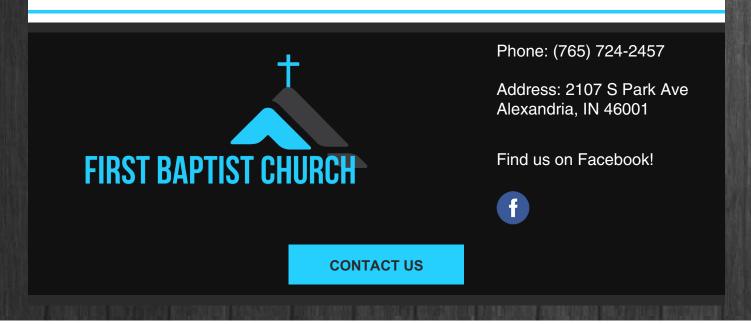
Tuesday

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)



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