



The Visitor

MARCH 2020

Lent

As we begin the month of March, we journey into the season of Lent. This year's Lenten series will be called *Surrender*. As we continue in Matthew's gospel, we will look at six passages that remind us that following Jesus is about humbling ourselves and giving up. As Baptists, we have varying degrees of emphasis on this season. As a child in Georgia, we never talked about Lent. During seminary, I began to realize the importance of preparing for Easter.



Some of us give up something during this season. Others do not. Either way, let me encourage each of us to consider Jesus' words and example of submitting, giving up, surrendering ourselves to God.

Worship Schedule

- ▷ March 01 - Surrender: Forgiveness (Matthew 18:21-35)
- ▷ March 08 - Surrender: Children (Matthew 19:13-15)
- ▷ March 15 - Surrender: Money (Matthew 19:16-26)
- ▷ March 22 - Surrender: Position (Matthew 20:1-28)
- ▷ March 29 - Surrender: Our Will (Matthew 26:36-46)

Opportunity to Serve at Christian Ministries

We have agreed to provide one meal a month for the Men's Sleeping Room for seven months this winter. We have provided four meals so far. Check the dates for the next three months on the *Joining God in the Neighborhood* bulletin board in the main-level hallway. You can also contact Patti Warner at 765-748-3057 if you could provide a meal. The group of men who will be consuming the meal can be as small as 4-5 or as large as 15. This is one way to help people with food insecurities. It is also an outreach from First Baptist Church. The men have been super thankful.

Children Involved in Service as Northern Seminary President Preaches

On **Sunday, March 8**, we will gather in a special combined service at **10:45 AM** as we welcome the president of Northern Seminary. Dr. William D. Shiell is the eleventh president of Northern Seminary, where he also serves as Professor of Pastoral Theology and Preaching. A native of Pensacola, Florida, Dr. Shiell holds degrees from Samford University (B.A.) and Baylor University (M.Div., Ph.D.). As we continue our Lenten series, Bill will be focusing on Jesus' teaching from Matthew on children. The children's ministry team is working to involve children in this special day of worship. We are planning a Church Friends' Lunch following the service.



Church Friends' Lunch Set for March 8

On **Sunday, March 8** after the combined service, the following people will gather in the lower auditorium to share lunch: church friends, the Taylor Gospel Choir members who will sing in our service, and people you don't know from both services. As we get ready to go through the serving line, there will be a very brief information mixer and then attendees will have a lasagna (meat or veggie) lunch. Bring a dessert, but everything else will be furnished. Sign up in the office or online. The only other requirement is that when you arrive you stop next to the serving table to pick up a nametag. That is a pre-requisite for sharing in this lunch!

Reservations are required. Register online at http://bit.ly/Marchfriends_lunch or call the church office by Wednesday March 4th to reserve a spot. See you there!

Senior Adult Day in April

Sr. Adult Day is **Thursday April 2**. The event will take place at First Baptist Church in Warren, Indiana and is sponsored by the American Baptist Churches of Greater Indianapolis, the American Baptist Churches of Indiana and Kentucky, and BHI Retirement Communities. Please contact Shirley Pittenger for reservations by **Sunday, March 15**. The cost is \$10.00. If you pay at the door it is \$12. The church van will leave the church at 8 AM.

It's a Girl!

Congratulations to Andrew and Dawn Dawson on the birth of their daughter, Zoey Elizabeth Dawson! Zoey was born on February 6th at Ball Hospital. She weighed 7 lbs and measured 19 1/4 in long. She is the 4th child of the Dawson's and little sister to Ella, Owen, and Andi. Welcome to our church family, Zoey!



Easter Candy

Easter is right around the corner, and we are in need of candy donations for our annual children's Easter Egg Hunt! Please drop off your candy donations to the church office anytime between now and March 29th. We kindly ask that all candy be individually wrapped please. The Easter Egg Hunt will be on **Saturday, April 4** in the morning. More information will be available in the April Visitor. Thank you!

The Children's Ministry Team

Donations to Benefit Grace Episcopal Church

Grace Episcopal Church, our neighbor down Adams Street, feeds between 70 and 110 people every Sunday afternoon at 3 p.m. Afterwards many of the people at the meal stay for a prayer and devotional time. The ministry has been going on for more than a decade and meets an important need in our community.

FBC has created the "Can Project" and is collecting institutional-sized cans of varying vegetables to share with them for Sunday meals. These large-quantity items are available at Walmart, Mid-States Concessions on Burlington, and at GFS in Anderson. Please bring them to the church office between now and **April 19**.

Community Lenten Services

Community Lenten services will be held at the Friends Church at **noon each Wednesday** during the Lenten season (February 26-April 1). A community Good Friday service will be held at First Baptist Church at noon on **Friday, April 10**.

Visitor or Bulletin Information

If you would like an announcement in the March Visitor, please email it to wade@fbcmuncie.org by **Sunday, February 16**. You can also email articles for the weekly bulletin by Tuesday of each week.

Thank-You Notes

Debbie Bradburn – Dear First Baptist family, I want to thank you for the beautiful flowers. It's nice to know my church family is thinking about me during my hospital stay. Thank you to Wade for taking time out of your day to come pray with me. It meant a lot to me. Thank you.

March Birthdays

We would like to say Happy Birthday to the following people in the month of March. Please let them know that you are thinking of them on their special day.

03/05 - Barbara Campbell	03/19 - Mason Sims
03/05 - Ellison Jo Ingram	03/19 - Mavery Sims
03/06 - Adalyn Cummins	03/21 - James Petroviak
03/06 - Kaleigh Sheahan	03/21 - Wade Allen
03/08 - Emma Thurston	03/22 - Bob Ratchford
03/08 - Renee Pierce	03/24 - Cindy Hershman
03/09 - Andrew Dawson	03/24 - Ian Reid
03/12 - Nina Oisten	03/24 - Jan Armstrong
03/13 - Effie Massoth	03/24 - Susan Randolph
03/13 - Julie Kirklin	03/25 - Harper Rodriguez
03/13 - Ray Bayer	03/26 - Alexis Johnson
03/15 - Louise Head	03/26 - Dan Lemen
03/16 - Jon Kern	
03/17 - Alaina Reed	