

First B Heartbeat

YOUR FIRSTB NEWSLETTER

Pastor Gary's Grotto

It's spring! Everywhere I look, the signs of fresh new growth are unmistakable. No sooner do I mow the lawns than I need to cut them again - the weeds? Don't even get me started. Even though it's work, a fresh spring garden brings me tremendous joy; delightful fragrances and sights delight the senses. I think the Lord has created 'seasons' for us to not only mark time, but to remind us to reflect upon His incomparable gifts.

First B has experienced many seasons in its century and I am grateful to have been allowed to tend it for this occasion. And a great season it has been with many baptisms, many new members and scores of folks just like you who have taken up the challenge to serve, both within the church and the community. You are a revitalized ministry poised to reach the fields that are still 'ripe for harvest' (Jn 4).

With this issue of HeartBeat, a new gardener stands ready to lead, I can hardly wait to see the harvest produced in the days ahead.

Pastor Gary

Words from your Worship Leader: Mike Hawes

Did you know that Johann Sebastian Bach couldn't stand Handel's Messiah? That's right. When he heard it (I guess he bought the cassette), he made it known he couldn't handle this "new youth stuff."

Me? I cannot stand country music. Well, I should say I DIDN'T like country music. But, to get over my distaste for it, I actually wrote a country western song. True!

So, here we are in 2018, still trying to figure out what music we should do in church. I guess it will always be a challenge, till the Lord comes. So, how do I choose?

I view myself as your servant. I don't choose music based on what I like. I choose music based on what I think YOU will like. Music that is inspiring and uplifting to FirstB. But we have a diverse church family, so of course, our music should be diverse.



Presenting: Pastor John McNeece

Hello, everyone at First B!

I'm so excited to be writing my first Heartbeat article for you all! First, I want to say thank you so much for choosing me as your pastor. I'm thrilled to be part of the incredible work God is doing through you in Twin Falls and the surrounding areas. Second, I cannot wait to have the opportunity to get to know you individually, and for you to become acquainted with my family and I. I look forward to growing closer and closer to you as we spend time together. Third, a huge shout out to Pastor Gary! Gary, thank you for your Godly wisdom, divine direction, and sacrificially giving yourself for God's kingdom. Through your leadership, I believe First B is headed in the direction God intends for them. Thank you for everything and we look forward to hearing about your next adventures.

Finally, I just want to encourage you to keep wrestling, asking, and searching to find the Gem State God intended for us all. 1 Timothy 6:6 says, "godliness with contentment is great gain." In other words, when we combine a Christ-centered life with satisfaction in God's provision, we allow for an environment where God can use us to grow closer to Him. We will continue our investigation of "The Gem State" throughout May and the first part of June on Sunday mornings. Keep digging deeper together with your small groups and continue to pursue your personal time with Jesus. Looking forward to seeing you all soon!

Grace & Peace,

John McNeece

Ladies Learning & Loving Small Group

Learning about God while

Loving each other

Starts Tuesday, May 8th, 5:30-7:30 at First B

All ladies 18 and older welcome

Child care provided

Spend time getting to know other ladies at First B while eating a meal and praying together.

Then,

spend time learning about God through a Bible study. For more info and to sign up please register online at

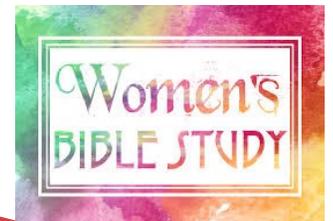
[https://](https://firstb.churchcenter.com/groups)

firstb.churchcenter.com/groups

or contact:

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Barb – 420-1423, barbara.anderson23@yahoo.com



LOVING GOD
through Worship
The Great Commandment

LOVING ONE ANOTHER
through Small Groups
The Great Commitment

LOVING ALL PEOPLE
through Ministry
The Great Commission



Welcome to the New and Improved Kidz Zone

If you have not had a chance to see the changes, take some time and check it out. There has been a lot of hard work put in by many volunteers. Thank you to everyone who donated their money, time and talents to help transform our Kidz Zone. The kids love it!

- Family Game Night will resume in the Fall. Stay tuned for more info!
- Parents Night out will be held once a month throughout the summer. We are asking for a suggested donation of :

- \$10 per family or one non perishable food per child.
- Feeding Our Community (Food and Faith)

Over summer break, many children only get to eat the free lunch that is provided to them from the school district .Our goal is to relieve some stress that these kids live with by helping feed their bellies. You can help by donating any nonperishable food to the church. We will make sure it gets where it needs to go.
Upcoming Dates...

May 11th: Parents Night Out

May 25th: Family Game Night

June 22nd: Parents Night Out

Birthday & Anniversary Corner



<u>Birthdays</u>	
Matt Weibert	5/3
Charles Merrill	5/5
John Merell	5/10
Karen Stewart	5/10
Doug Strand	5/16
Sharon Williams	5/16
Morgan Devine	5/17
Barbara Holloway	5/28
Barbara Merrill	5/31
Kathy Stockdale	6/3
Kristen Batchelor	6/4
Nancy Glaesemann	6/5
Ruth Turner	6/6
Alyce Howell	6/8
Teddy Robinson	6/9
Beckie Kukal	6/10
Brianne Schilz	6/10
Dale Hawes	6/18
Woody Brush	6/20
Barbara Cooper	6/25
Caroll Edwards	6/25

<u>Anniversaries</u>	
Jim & Darlene	5/5
Lindsey	5/5
Charles & Barbara Merrill	5/8
Please notify the church office 733-2936 if we've missed your birthday or anniversary.	

Student/Parent Armory

Hey teens & parents, do you struggle to try to communicate with each other? Well you may want to pay attention! When family gathering opportunities arise, such as dinner-time, try out a few of these communication-enhancing tactics :(Step 1) Parents-grab a box and put your cell phones in it. (Step 2) Parents-ask your family about their day. (Step 3) Parents-Set up these ground rules. (a) Honesty ONLY from all parties. (b) Teens-explain that you are seeking guidance, help and assurance (you are asking for mercy). (c) Teens-acknowledge that you realize there will be consequences that you may have to answer to (you are asking for grace). How do I know these tactics work? In our home, there are three teenagers, one 12-year-old and all their friends that come over to spend time with us. We do this thing called family dinner; we sit down and eat a meal together. No phones and no other outside distractions. We laugh together! Did I mention we talk about movies, stuff that happened at school, at the mall, and on Snapchat or Facebook? We have real conversations. Those teen-relevant discussion topics lead into a way for my teens/kids to open up and be honest with us about the situations they face. We used to get a little hurt or taken aback and we wanted to discipline or correct the bad choices they made. We struggled with that for a season but have discovered the opportunity in this dinnertime forum for my kids to tell me about the real situations in their lives.

We recognize that they are opening up to us for guidance, help, and assurance, not discipline. My wife and I have reached a new level of communication with our teens/kids where they can come to us in honesty about the smart or dumb choices they've made. We take the life lessons that THEY approach us with and reinforce them with sound biblical teachings. Mental notes are made on the issues they bring to us so that in the days and weeks ahead, we can speak biblical truths into their lives.

Don't get me wrong, we still discipline and correct our teens/kids! We trust God to protect and mold our teenagers. The fact is, as our teens mature into adults, the choices they make are THEIR own. We wish we could make decisions for them but we can't. So, while we have them at home, we'll encourage honesty, no judgments, and appropriate as well as timely discipline. At what point in a person's life do have the same level of influence on their choices as we do when they were younger? We can't help but think this is the type of relationship God wants from each of us; honesty in a forgiving and merciful relationship. As we tell our teenagers, there will be consequences they must face just as everyone will have to answer to God for the decisions they've made. We encourage you to communicate with each other. Our message to you is to be REAL and give guidance, help and assurance while you can!!!! We will be praying over your family conversations. In his services, Donovan

