

First B Heartbeat

YOUR FIRSTB NEWSLETTER

Pastor John McNece

Hi everyone,
I just wanted to take a moment to encourage you to continue to live out your 8 to 15 (Oikos) lifestyle. Do you realize you have 8 to 15 people in your life in which you can reach with the message of Jesus?

You are uniquely equipped to reach them, because they are your neighbors, coworkers, spouse, children, etc. Here's a reminder of what to do:

1. Make your list and keep it current
2. Pray for each person on your list by name every day
3. Live out your faith for them to see
4. Invite them to church
5. Share your story
6. Be accountable for steps 1 through 5

I wanted to take a moment to share with you an awesome opportunity for the people on your 8 to 15 list. On December 16th, our church will be hosting Cookies with Saint Nicholas. This event is specifically designed for you to invite the people on your list to the church to observe that we are all normal people. At this event, kids can get a picture with Saint Nicholas, eat cookies with milk, do crafts, and discover the real reason for the season: Jesus.

Here's how you can help if you are interested: would you be willing to bake a dozen or two cookies for this event? If so, please let Nancy in the church office know 733-2936 as she is tallying up cookie donations.

And lastly, most importantly, invite someone to Cookies with Saint Nicholas on December 16th!

God Bless,



Kidz Zone

Wow, time is just flying by, I can't believe it is November already. There has been a lot happening up in Kidz Zone over the last couple months. We are all liking the new look as well as the new curriculum. We hope each of you are enjoying the Making it Stick sheet that is sent home with your child on Sundays. It is a great way to interact, reiterate and discuss what your child is learning here at First B. It is a joy to love and teach your children!



Small Groups

Small groups are vitally important to your spiritual growth. Actually, you will have a hard time feeling like you are connected to the church if you aren't participating in a small group.

Small groups are where you live life together with other believers, and it is the place where you experience genuine Christian community.

Acts 2: 46-47 says, "They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord's Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity all the while praising God and enjoying the goodwill of all the people. And each day the Lord added to their fellowship those who were being saved." Do you notice the connection to worshipping together in the Temple coupled with the meeting together in their homes?

Perhaps this is one of the factors that fueled the early church's growth. So if you aren't in a small group yet, would you consider joining one? Mike Cook has begun to coordinate the small groups at First B, and he would be happy to get you plugged in.

Also, mark your 2019 calendars. Starting March 3rd, 2019, First B will be doing a churchwide campaign where we will encourage everyone in our church to participate in a six week small group study. We will be studying Rick Warren's book *The Purpose Drive Life* leading up to Easter. Sunday morning sermons will follow along with the study while you dig deeper into the materials in your small group. If you aren't in a small group, there will be opportunities to join new groups.

Family Fun Fest...

As many of you know, FirstB has a big heart for children and for our community. Our Family Fun Fest last August was HUGE! The need is much bigger than we were prepared for. With that being the case, we have decided to collect items throughout the year. Each month we will be collecting different items. We are so thankful to all of you who contribute by donating items and funds for this event.

- November: Crayola Brand 24pk Crayons
- December: Crayola Brand Markers
- January: Expo Markers
- February: Ticonderoga Pencils & Pink Erasers
- March: Elmer Glue Sticks and Glue Bottles
- April: Expo Markers
- May: Composition Books
- June: Scissors
- July: To Be Announced
- August: To Be Announced



Birthday & Anniversary Corner



Birthdays



Renee Looney	11/2
Lew Fort	11/2
Susan Hartgrave	11/2
Janette Russelle	11/3
Bryck Morrison	11/10
Cathie Dellett	11/14
Carol Fortner	11/15
Jim Gentry	11/15
Jay Chester	11/19
Amy Eden	11/21
Mary Hoff	11/22
Paulette Ellis	11/24
Susan Seiferling	11/27
Maureen Hinkle	11/30
Dawn Brunmeier	11/30
Justyce Schilz	11/30
Isabelle Bates	11/30
Jim Lindsey	12/1
Bob VanAusdeln	12/2
Kay Callentine	12/3
Ty Weibert	12/3
Brayden Morrison	12/4
Bob Sievers	12/7
Brittany Russelle	12/7
Emily Xavier	12/8
Betty Chapton	12/9
Aliana Juarez	12/11
Amanda Weibert	12/16
Arden Stutzman	12/16
Pat Lucich	12/16
Vira Amende	12/17
Kellan Schilz	12/21
Anza Fullmer	12/22
Tonya Devine	12/29
Barbara Gentry	12/30
JoAnne Sievers	12/30
Teddy Snow	12/30

Anniversaries



Carl & Teddy Snow	11/25
Jim & Barbara Gentry	11/29
Bob & Karen VanAusdeln	12/23

Please notify the church office 733-2936 if we've missed your birthday or anniversary.



Let the Thanksgiving preparations begin! Our Thanksgiving dinner will be held on Sunday, November 18th. Turkeys and drinks will be provided by FirstB. Everything else will be potluck style. Sign-up sheets for food will be in the lobby beginning in November. Attendance will be noted and tallied via communication cards in the November bulletins.

If you would like to cook a turkey, please see Deanna Wilbur.

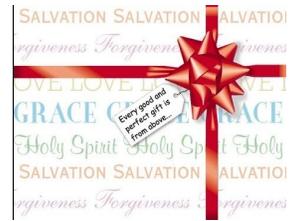
Preschool & Childcare

Announcements:

We've been having a great first quarter! Our kids are full of spirit and love learning (especially music and Bible stories!) We can't wait to see what the rest of the year has in store for us.

Upcoming:

We're excited for our annual Christmas Program. This year, our preschooler's will be performing *A Bunch of Gifts for Christmas*. *A Bunch of Gifts for Christmas* helps preschoolers to celebrate the gifts that God sends our way at Christmas. Mark your calendars for December 19th @6:30pm and enjoy the evening watching these little gifts from God!



Bible Time:

"Sometimes the days seem so full that it's hard to get in any true conversation with the people in your own house. Sports, extracurricular engagements, schoolwork and other activities can add up to overwhelm the evening. Even when we have good intentions to communicate with our kids on important topics – like their spiritual walk – it can seem boggling as to when we might fit a meaningful conversation in the busy calendar.

It can be intimidating to think about leading a child to Christ. But, rest assured, our job is simply communicating the message. All we need to do is let our children know who God is and what He has done for them. God will "close the deal" when it is His timing!

The good news is that talking to our kids about Jesus is something we can do as an integrated part of our already busy days. My husband and I have four kids, ages 16, 14, 12 and 9, and our connection with Jesus has looked differently through our different seasons of parenting. Even if my time with the Lord has been short (or even non-existent on some days), hopefully our kids hear me talk about things like my regular quiet time with the Lord. Considering that our mouths speak from the overflow of our hearts, it is crucial that we as parents are authentically connected with Jesus. And we can pray that our children follow.

Leading a child to know Christ as their personal Savior

We still might like to know what's going on in those little heads, though. There are some indicators that your child's heart is being prepared by God to put their faith in Jesus. They might include:

- Asking questions about spiritual matters (without being prompted by you)
- Showing an increased understanding of their own sinfulness and their need for forgiveness
- Possibly demonstrating a growing ability to express thoughts about salvation when asked *open-ended*

As the parent, we can look for these indicators and be bold and ready to explain the gospel in simple terms to our children." Charlotte Buell of Christ Chapel Bible Church -ology Blog

