

First Baptist Church Weekly Newsletter

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November 14th-20th, 2021



Birthdays this Week

15th Kathy Martin
16th Steve Lund
20th Bill Hedegaard

Overshadowed by Jesus' love

A minister was conducting the funeral of a rather unsavory character who had never been near a place of worship in his life. Though he had not known the man, the preacher poured on the praise for the dearly departed.

After 10 minutes of hearing the dead man described in terms of endearment as a husband, father, boss and neighbor, the widow's expression grew more and more puzzled. She nudged her son and ordered, "Go up there and make sure it's your father in that casket."

If we were to hear Jesus standing before God the Father describing our lives, we might look puzzled, too. That's because when the blood of Christ is poured over my life and your life, it becomes unrecognizable. God will not see us as sinners; he will only see the love of Jesus overshadowing us.

May we strive to see others as God sees us. Let us love our neighbor as ourselves (Mark 12: 31). You will never meet another person that God does not love.

Preston's Perspective

I am proud of you! All of the devotions for our Advent Devotional have been turned in to the church. What's even better is that you did an outstanding job writing them.

They are going to not only look great in our booklet, but will also be a blessing to those who read them. It is exciting to see how God is working in the life of FBC. There are many good things happening in our congregation for which we can be thankful. I am appreciative for all who volunteer to serve in many different ways – serving as greeters, scripture readers, helping with the children's chat, and preparing communion.

When my grandmother was proud and happy about something she would say that her "buttons were popping." Have you ever heard that phrase? It means that when your chest swells with so much pride it makes the buttons pop off your shirt.

I used to think that was a funny phrase. But now I know the feeling. That's how I feel about you! It brings smiles to my face and makes me feel happy to be your pastor to see how God is at work in the life of our congregation. Thank you for being and doing the work of the church.

I also remember as a young boy going to church and Bible Study with my grandmother and singing that old hymn with her Count Your Blessings. During this Thanksgiving season, let me encourage you to "count your blessings, name them one by one, and it will surprise you what the Lord hath done." We have much to be thankful for. Thank you for blessing me!



Shoebox Packing Party

Saturday, November 13th at 1:00 pm
Bethel Lutheran Church
615 E Turnpike Avenue
Bismarck, ND

Nominating Committee

We are looking for 2 people to serve on the Nominating Committee. If you are interested, please contact Kathy Martin by November 14th.

Nursery

The Nursery is open during the worship service for any parents who would like to bring their young children there.

Church Leadership Meeting

Rescheduled for
November 16th at 6:30 pm

FOUR12 YOUTH

November 17th, 2021

Middle School (6:30-8:00pm)
High School (8:15-9:15pm)

A Prayer for Renewal

Lord, We are your people, the sheep of your flock.

Heal the sheep who are wounded, touch the sheep who are in pain, clean the sheep who are soiled, warm the lambs who are cold.

Help us to know the Father's love through Jesus the shepherd and through the Spirit. Help us to lift up that love, and show it all over this land. Help us to build up one another with love. Help us to believe mightily, hope joyfully, love divinely.

Renew us that we may help renew the face of the earth. Amen.