



The Visitor

JANUARY 2018

Mark

by Wade Allen

The first of the year brings a sense of newness. New Year's resolutions create a blank slate when it comes to health, fitness, relationships. We strive to do better this year and commit to making the coming year a success. While the church calendar begins at Advent, we wrap up the Christmas season and head into Epiphany in January. Epiphany offers us an opportunity to walk through the ministry of Jesus. For the last few years we've studied the lectionary passages during Epiphany, Lent, and Easter. This year, we will take a slightly different approach.

We will be making our way through Mark's Gospel this year. While it will be a fairly quick study (13 weeks), we will cover the entire Gospel by Easter. I am thrilled to take this journey with you. Moving quickly has its advantages and disadvantages. On the one hand, we are not able to cover every story in detail. On the other hand, we can more easily see the overall flow and purpose of the Gospel by moving fast. As you prepare for the coming year, you may want to begin reading this Gospel. I will provide the text for each week in this newsletter and in the weekly blog entries. Join us in 2018 as we journey through Mark together.



Worship Schedule

- January 07 - On the Move (Mark 1:1–20)
- January 14 - Mark Continued (Mark 1:21–45)
- January 21 - Who is Jesus? (Mark 2:1–3:12)
- January 28 - Hidden Things (Mark 3:13–4:34)

Life Groups

Our life groups have been on break during December and January. Our next session for life groups begins in February and runs through May. Some of our life groups study the Bible or a Christian book together; in others, the members spend time encouraging one another through conversation and prayer. Most of our groups share a meal together.

We would love to help you connect to others at First Baptist through a life group. You aren't required to be a church member; all you need is an interest in getting to know others and building relationships. If you'd like to get connected to a life group, please let Julie Davis or Pastor Wade know.

YWCA Clothing and coats

You have been very helpful to our neighbors at the YWCA. Please continue to clean out closets and drawers and bring items for the YWCA women. Julie Morency will be your contact person, or you may leave them in the basket in the church office marked "YWCA." Thank you in advance for your donations.

Motions Passed

At the business meeting on Sunday, December 10, the following motions passed unanimously or nearly unanimously:

- Motion 1: Accept the 2018 Budget
- Motion 2: Accept the following into church membership: Barbara Young Campbell, Brian Green, Deena Green, Andy Heimlich, Eliana Heimlich, Joshua Heimlich, Emma Wright, and Grace Wright
- Motion 3: Elect Tom Kistler as Financial Secretary
- Motion 4: Elect the following to Church Coordination Team: Brittany Sue, Children's Ministry; MaryAnne Bayer, Outreach; Chris Wright, Properties; James Martin, Youth Ministry
- Motion 5: Re-elect CCT members to their third year of service: Molly Flodder, Moderator, and Bill Eidson, First Service rep At-Large

Legacy Campaign Update

You are a wonderful congregation who have pledged \$304,155.00 (as of December 15) to the Capital Campaign over the next 2 1/2 years. Thank you so much for your kind support for this legacy project. Because we would like to see more of our active members making this pledge, we are still accepting pledge cards. Please give them to Dan Lemen or Larry Fouch if you would like to participate in this major project. Thank you so very much.

The Pillowcase Project

From the beginning of June through the end of November, 8 YWCA women and 6 middle schoolers have been making pillowcases for themselves and for charity under the direction of dedicated women. More than 90 pillowcases were made, and 62 pillowcases and pillows were delivered to charities the beginning of December. These charities were Christian Ministries (11), Kid's Peace (16), Jeanne LaSpina's Kindergarten at Longfellow School (21), and YWCA Blanket Cupboard (14).

This project will continue in 2018. We will need more pillows to go with the pillowcases and maybe more fabric. Right now we have 4 boxes of donated fabric. If you are looking at fabric and it calls out "pillowcases," 3/4 yard will make the body of a pillowcase. (Actually, fabric does call to me and I must purchase it.) Thank you for your wonderful support for this project for the community.

Life Line Screening

Life Line Screening, a leading provider of community-based preventive health screenings, will offer their affordable, non-invasive and painless health screenings at First Baptist Church on **Friday, February 2**. Five screenings will be offered that scan for potential health problems related to the following: blocked arteries, which is a leading cause of stroke; abdominal aortic aneurysms, which can lead to a ruptured aorta; hardening of the arteries in the legs, which is a strong predictor of heart disease; atrial fibrillation or irregular heartbeat, which is closely tied to stroke risk; and a bone-density screening, for men and women, used to assess the risk of osteoporosis. Register for a Wellness Package which includes 4 vascular tests and osteoporosis screening from \$149 (\$139 with our member discount). All five screenings take 60–90 minutes to complete. To register for this event and receive a \$10 discount off any package priced above \$129, please call 1-888-653-6441 or visit www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle or text the word `circle` to 797979.

Visitor or Bulletin Information

If you would like an announcement in the February Visitor or the weekly bulletin, please email it to wade@fbcmuncie.org by **Sunday, January 21**.

Legacy Campaign Gifts

Shirley Pittenger – Our gift to the Legacy campaign is in memory of my parents, John and Frieda Wilson, and my sister, Marianne Tooley, for their faith and commitment to serve the Lord in this church with all their heart.

Thank-You Notes

The Gene Warner Family – Dear First Baptist Family, We want to thank you for the loving care you gave our family at the passing of our loved one. Our Dad (Gene) loved his First Baptist family of 61 years and

would so appreciate what you have done. On “That Day” he will be with Jesus to greet you with a hug. With Christian Love, The Gene Warner Family

Salvation Army Bell Ringing – Thank you to all who rang bells for the Salvation Army in December. Our youngest was 4 and our oldest was 93. We rang outside on very cold days. This year \$527.56 was raised to assist with the Salvation Army outreach.

January Birthdays

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

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| 01/02 - Jillian Barr | 01/22 - Meghan Fry |
| 01/03 - Dale D. Stone | 01/24 - Maggie Sims |
| 01/08 - Bob Oisten Jr. | 01/24 - Wyl Atkinson |
| 01/11 - Natalie Green | 01/25 - Gene Carr |
| 01/14 - Grace N. Hahn | 01/26 - Ann Siverly |
| 01/17 - Andrew Heimlich | 01/26 - Veda Massoth |
| 01/18 - Lester Bryars | 01/27 - Kelly E. Rodriguez |
| 01/18 - Marjorie Wright | 01/28 - Pam Kistler |
| 01/21 - Annie Wright | 01/30 - Heidi Davis |
| 01/21 - Katie Shutters | |
| 01/21 - Sharon Jackson | |