



The Story of God

Schools are back in session and the routines are back in order. The weather will begin to cool and the leaves will change colors in the coming weeks. Fall is almost here. This September, we are going to begin a new practice in our worship schedule. On September 9, we will begin using the *Narrative Lectionary*. The word *narrative* has to do with story and the word *lectionary* is about a prescribed or chosen set of passages that fit into a larger framework. So we will be moving through the story of the Bible. Certainly, we cannot cover every aspect of Scripture. Yet this tool helps us highlight key stories or passages as we venture through God's story. As we follow this guide, we will begin in Genesis and travel all the way to the early church by Pentecost Sunday in May. If we continue using this lectionary, we will begin in Genesis next September with a different set of stories or passages but the same flow as this year. I do not know how it will go, but we will give it a try this year. As I have already made preparations for the first few weeks, I am enjoying walking through God's story week by week. I hope you will also.



Worship Schedule

- ▷ September 02 - The Power of the Spirit (Ephesians 6:10–20)
- ▷ September 09 - Noah (Genesis 6:5–22; 8:6–12; 9:8–17)
- ▷ September 16 - Abraham (Genesis 12:1–9)
- ▷ September 23 - Joseph (Genesis 39:1–23)
- ▷ September 30 - Rescue (Exodus 14:5–7, 10–14, 21–29)

Clif Davis's Opportunity Offers New Options for FBC

By Molly Flodder, Moderator

Dr. Clif Davis, our Worship Arts Pastor, has signed a full-time contract to teach at Taylor University. We are happy for Clif and his opportunity and are pleased that it has potential to evolve into a permanent position. This does, however, create some challenges for us during the transition. While Clif has worked four units (approximately twenty hours per week) in the past, his new Taylor University responsibilities will require that he devote two units (approximately ten hours per week) to oversee the worship and music of First Baptist. Looking at many options, the Church Coordination Team has helped Clif, Pastor Wade, and Worship Ministry Coordinator Adam Fink look at ways in which Clif can serve and lead so that there is no interruption in the leadership of the Sanctuary Choir and the Praise Band along with the rest of the worship experience. In addition, a random selection of regular attendees have participated in a focus group to offer ideas for restructuring Clif's role. As might be imagined, relying on mentees, talented college upperclassmen who are music majors, is one way that this change will be facilitated. Please be willing to pray about these changes, to step up to handle tasks with which lay people can assist, and to use the change we may notice to strengthen our worship together. We will keep everyone posted as we evolve to a new normal.

Trunk or Treat

Fall is right around the corner, and we are having a Trunk or Treat night at the church on **Saturday, October 27** from **5:30–6:30 PM!** We need several people to volunteer their “trunks” for this event. Vehicle participants should decorate their car trunks and pass out candy to the kids. Participants can decorate their cars according to a theme and even wear a costume that goes with it! Pinterest is full of theme ideas! In order for the families of small kids to enjoy this event, we're asking for several people (youth are welcome to help too!) to volunteer their car for the evening. In case of inclement weather, we will bring the trick-or-treating inside the church. Please see Britney Sue or anyone on the children's team if you're interested in being a vehicle participant. This will be an exciting evening for the kids and participants! Thanks!

Senior Adult Day in October

Senior Adult Day, sponsored by American Baptist Churches of Indiana/Kentucky, American Baptist Churches of Greater Indianapolis, and BHI Senior Living, Inc., will be held at our church **Thursday, October 11**. This is an all-day event beginning in the morning. The program will include Paul White, singer; Dr. Kay Bales and Dr. Marilyn Bucks of the

office of President Mearns of Ball State; and Tamara Weaver and Damon Grove of the Indiana Attorney General's office. Lunch will be provided by Amazing Joe's. Volunteers will be needed for various parts of the day. Terry Harke and Shirley Pittenger are the chairpersons from our church. If you are interested in volunteering or signing up, contact Terry Harke 702-3631 or Shirley Pittenger 282-0632.

Fall Picnic

The annual Riverside Avenue Baptist Church - First Baptist Church fall picnic is **September 16 at 4:00 PM** at RABC. Meat, drinks, and table service will be furnished. Please bring a dish or two to share, a friend, and lawn chairs if you have them. The program will be music by the group Eastgate (Joe Songer, Woody Noblitt, and others). This is one more chance to get to know people from FBC and RABC. In the event of bad weather, the picnic will be inside.

Backpack Update

First Baptist Church supported the school backpack project for students again this year. Six or seven full bags of supplies were turned in to the project. Colleen and Chad Massoth and their three children helped with packing on July 28. We are committed to this project again for next July.

Legacy Campaign

At the moment we have more than \$95,000.00 in the Legacy Campaign fund. We will find out any day now about the signage matching grant. If you have not checked out the music room upstairs, please do. The exterior wall was fixed so the walls could be repaired and painted. It is again an attractive room. Next month will be the beginning of the second year of the campaign. This is when we expect your second check if you are giving one check a year. Please plan to bring your check on October 28 or November 4 to make it easier to compile annual gifts.

Pillowcase Project

Women continue making pillowcases two times a month. A Better Way will sew on **September 10** beginning at 5:30. The YWCA women will sew on **September 27** from

2:00–4:00. We again thank you for your support of our neighborhood project. If you would be interesting in helping, you can contact Maryanne Bayer 336-413-5763.

World Mission Offering

This year's World Mission Offering will be taken on **October 14 and 21**. The focus this year will be Evangelism and Discipleship, Abolishing Global Slavery, and Health and Wellness. Envelopes will be available in the pews for your donations.

Quilt Event Set for September 25

Anyone interested in learning about quilts and quilt history is invited to attend a presentation and discussion led by Marilyn Goldman, a local quilt expert and member of the Indiana Quilt Registry Project, on **Tuesday, September 25, at 7:00 PM** in the Lower Auditorium. There will be opportunities for FBC attendees or their friends to tell stories about some of the quilts that are brought in. Also, as well as sharing information about quilts, Mrs. Goldman will assess quilts that people bring in by talking about their fabric, pattern, quilting, and general value. "This event is something Adult Ministries has planned to offer opportunities for people to meet together and develop deeper relationships within our church family," said Julie Davis, Adult Ministries coordinator for the Church Coordination Team. While the event itself is free, people who choose to have their quilts evaluated will be charged \$5 to help offset the cost of hosting the event. Mrs. Goldman will also be selling her books. Dessert will be served. A Quilt Event Team is pulling the details together and invites anyone who is interested in quilts (women and girls or men and boys) to attend. A registration link will be sent out via email the week of Labor Day. Watch for it so you can sign up. There will also be opportunities to call the church office and sign up that way. **Attendance is limited to 40 people, and registration closes on Friday, September 21.**

Church Business Meeting

There will be a business meeting on **Sunday, September 9**, between services in the Lower Auditorium. The CCT will present some personnel/scheduling changes that will occur as Worship Pastor Dr. Clif Davis assumes a new position at Taylor University and decreases his time at First Baptist. In addition, church members will be asked to vote on people who have joined the church in the past few months.

Office Hours for Labor Day Weekend

The church office will be closed on Friday, August 31, and Monday, September 3, for the Labor Day holiday weekend.

Thank-You Notes

Sally Jennings Murphy – Dear First Baptist Church Family, Thank you so very much for the beautiful funeral service for my aunt, Helen Heath. Thank you, Wade, for your comforting words and verses about faith and how earthly bodies are just tents that we will reside in for a short while until we get to heaven. Also, John 14:2 was one of my grandmother Dunn's favorite verses. Thank you also for the wonderful funeral dinner. It was so good to see Bob and Nina Oisten, Bill and Barb Eidson, and D.J. and Ella Mae Lemen. Thank you again.

Donn and Freida, Lee Keener, and family – Dear church family, No one has a more faithful and loving church family than we do. From the day our daughter, Ann Keener, was diagnosed with inflammatory breast cancer, we have felt your love and prayers surrounding us. Thank you for opening the sanctuary for visitation and providing the meal for our family. That is such a wonderful gift that our church provides for the families. The beautiful plant sits in a place of honor in our home. It reminds us of God's love for all of us. Thank you for your continued prayers.

Gretchen Reid – Steve and I want to thank our church family for the meals they provided, the get-well cards, and the prayers. It will be several more weeks before I am completely healed, but I hope to be back at church soon.

Cheryl Flaherty – Thanks to everyone who offered prayers, a card, or a meal during my knee surgery. I appreciated it immensely. Your prayers helped me have a much smoother recovery time. You are the best of God's people.

The Allen Family – We are overwhelmed with gratitude for the opportunity to serve such a loving, generous, and affirming congregation. We would like to thank you for the many gestures of appreciation offered to us on the recent anniversary Sunday. The kind words, cards, food preparation, and gifts were greatly appreciated. The hourglass is a wonderful reminder of the gift of time. We will remember the time that God has given us together and anticipate the journey ahead. The lavish loan forgiveness is indicative of the provision you have always offered us. Thank you so much. It was wonderful to recall our transition to Muncie ten years ago; the movement of the Holy Spirit's work in calling us to Muncie was evident. You all worked very hard to make this a special day for us. We look forward to continuing the Spirit's work among you as we walk alongside of you in ministry.

Visitor or Bulletin Information

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

September Birthdays

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

09/01 - Monty Stinson	09/17 - Chloe Durke
09/01 - Nancy Hall	09/17 - Meagan Fountain
09/01 - Sam Stinson	09/21 - Ella Mae Lemen
09/02 - Harry Irwin	09/21 - Gabrielle Heimlich
09/04 - Mallory Flodder	09/24 - Makayla Butler
09/04 - Nancy Stinson	09/24 - Polly Ratchford
09/05 - Edith Ford	09/24 - Sarah Gough
09/08 - Cathy Henderson	09/24 - Tyler Cummins
09/11 - Dannie Campbell	09/24 - Will Smith
09/13 - Austin Martin	09/27 - Mary Van Deventer
09/13 - Will Drumright	09/28 - Anna Ratchford
09/16 - Elizabeth Ratchford	09/28 - Lila Anderson
09/16 - Joshua Heimlich	