

from front cover

It is the ministry of the Spirit to enrich us with the treasures of **God's truth**. He enlightens us with God's truth and enriches us with God's treasures. The Word of God is a rich mine of gold, silver, and precious jewels. Listen to these words from **Proverbs 8:10-11**, "*Choose My instruction instead of silver, knowledge rather than choice gold, for wisdom is more precious than rubies, and nothing you desire can compare with her.*" What a joy it is to have the Spirit illumine His Word.

As each of us go before the Lord, pray for wisdom from the Holy Spirit. And always, remember to pray for one another and thanking God for hope and joy in our hearts.

Peace and blessings,

Pastor Jim & Fran

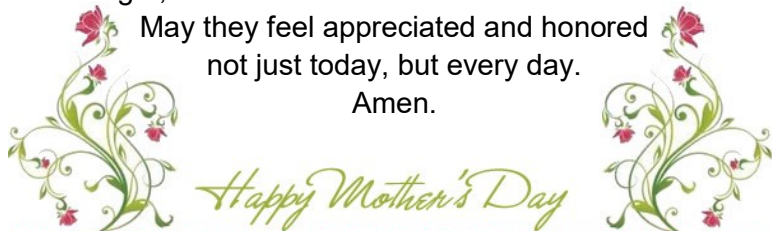


Heavenly Father, we thank You for the gift of motherhood.

On May 11, Mother's Day, we celebrate the loving sacrifice of mothers, both biological and spiritual, who nurture and guide us in Your ways. Bless them with joy, strength, and love to continue their selfless devotion.

May they feel appreciated and honored not just today, but every day.

Amen.



First Baptist Church
201 South Main St.
Benton, IL 62812
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May 2025

The Herald

JESUS PROMISED

The month of May acts as the bridge between spring and summer, hinting at warmer weather. I believe that each of us think springtime and flowers are a welcome sight!



A little humor that our farmers would appreciate: "*A dry May and a leaking June make the farmer whistle a merry tune.*" "*A snowstorm in May is worth a wagonload of hay.*" "*Among the changing months, May stands confessed; the sweetest and the fairest colors dressed.*"

May has several holidays—most importantly, Mother's Day and Memorial Day. May, like every month, has birth symbols: May birth flowers are the Hawthorn and the Lily-of-the-Valley. The Hawthorn means **Hope**, while the Lily-of-the-Valley symbolizes sweetness and **Happiness**. May's birthstone is the emerald.

Let's look at a promise from our Lord from the Word of God. "*All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will take from what is mine and make it known to you*" (John 16:15).

continued inside



WELCOME LISA SALATAS!

Effective May 1, we welcome Lisa Salatas to the position of Administrative Assistant. Lisa has worked in a variety of positions in the Marion area. She has four children, the youngest age 12. Lisa grew up in Sesser and resides in Johnston City. She will be in the church office Monday through Thursday, 8:30 A.M. to 1:30 P.M.



LADIES INVITED TO COFFEE

All ladies are invited to 1st Wednesday Coffee at The Buzz on May 7 at 9:30 A.M. Bring your prayer requests and a friend.



The Lighter Side



Come join the fun and fellowship at Sing 'n Share on Wednesday, **May 21**, at **4 P.M.** in the Fellowship Hall. Mark your calendar now and plan to attend!

MAY BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| 5 David Perkins | 16 Carolyn Aiken |
| 11 Susan Stickel | 18 Gabrielle Ziems |
| 15 Robert Taylor | 19 Vicki Seagle |
| Aubrionna Casey | 30 Kelli Owens |



THIS MONTH

May 1	9:00 A.M.	Pack Brown Bags
May 2	10:00 A.M.	Ministry at Heritage Woods
May 7	9:30 A.M.	Ladies' Coffee at The Buzz
May 13	9:00 A.M.	Trustee Board Meeting
May 14	10:00 A.M.	Bible Study
May 16	10:00 A.M.	Ministry at Helia Healthcare
May 21	4:00 P.M. 5:00 P.M.	Sing 'n Share Deacon Board Meeting
May 28	10:00 A.M.	Bible Study

WEEKLY

Sun.	9:30 A.M.	Sunday School
	10:30 A.M.	Worship Service



Dear First Baptist Family,

Thank you for the opportunity to serve your church during these past 14 years—it has been an honor and a privilege. Your guidance, your kindness, and your friendship have meant so much.

Scripture tells us that every good and perfect gift comes from above. The gift of working for you was so perfect that I know it *had to be* the Lord's divine plan.

In gratitude,
Annette



**May Offering
Pork & Beans**

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

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Staff

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Annette Campbell, Administrative Assistant