

## Praise & Prayer

(If you would like a Praise or Prayer Request put on our list, or if you know in advance of a scheduled surgery or extended hospital stay, please let the church office know by filling out a blue Prayer Card and placing it in the offering plate. Please remember to keep us updated.)

### ONGOING PRAYER CONCERNS:

- \*Pray for the Gospel to continue to be shared throughout the world. Pray for the Lord's soon return.
- \*Pray for the Global Church to be faithful to God and His Word.
- \*Pray for Persecuted Christians, Missionaries, SBFN, our Church Staff, Elected Leaders, Courts, and our Country.
- \*Pray for Hannah's House, and other Crisis Pregnancy Centers that are helping mothers who keep their children from abortion.
- \*Pray for an end to legal abortion in the U.S.
- \*Pray for conflicts to end in Ukraine and other world areas.
- \*Pray for U.S. Soldiers, Police, First Responders, and families.
- \*Pray for those who have lost loved ones.

### SPECIFIC PRAYER CONCERNS: (New is in bold)

- \***Mary Nafrady** - fell in her home on 9/18, was taken to the ER and she has a fractured clavicle and ribs. She also had to get some stitches on her face. Her daughter is asking that we pray the severe pain will ease soon and she will be able to heal quickly.
- \***Reggie Nicholson** - prayers for Reggie and Paris' spiritual and relationship concerns.
- \***Barry** - (friend of Clint Dickens) battling stomach cancer
- \***Debra Stone** - (Nichole Stone's Aunt) had a mild stroke on 9/16. The stroke was found to be an Ischemic stroke, or a blood clot that blocked an artery that supplies blood to the brain. The blood clot cause severe left side paralysis, and was there long enough that it also caused that specific portion of her brain to die. Doctor's said that that portion of the brain will never help her with her mobility again. On 9/21 they are moving her to an intense rehab. center to focus on teaching her how to be as functional and as independent as possible. Both Deb and Kenny (her husband) are believers and are trusting and believing God has bigger plans for saving Deb. They ask that everyone be praying for God's will to be done here, whatever that is.
- \***Sue Harris - UPDATE/PRAISE** - Sue has been transferred to Wellbrooke Rehab. Center on 933 as of 9/16. She will be there for the next few weeks (room 201) if anyone would like to go visit her. Continued prayers for quick recovery are appreciated.
- \***Karl - UPDATE/PRAISE** - (Sandy Williams brother) been in Uganda for work since 9/8. Will be returning home on 9/26. Pray for a safe travels home with no complications, and also for God's protection on his way home.
- \***Barb Motuelle - PRAISE** - Great News! Not a candidate for surgery due to pain isn't great enough and the fracture in her back is milder than they require for the surgery procedure. She has been cleared to go to Florida on 10/17. God is so Good! Thanks to all who prayed for me!
- \***Roosevelt** - (Mel Conard's Great-Grandson) has serious behavioral problems. Prayers for him and for the family to know the right help to give him.

### OCTOBER IS PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH

SBFN has been so blessed with great pastors over the past 100 years. That as God continues to bless us with such great pastors that still continue to serve here at SBFN. We want to remind everyone that October is Pastor Appreciation Month.

Beginning in October or anytime really, we want to show our entire pastoral staff how much we love them. So for the entire month of October do something special for the current and retired pastors below. We have provided a few ideas for you below or feel free to come up with your own little way to say "We Appreciate You".

#### Here are some ideas for you to think about:

- \*Take a pastor to lunch or dinner.
- \*Send a card or letter of appreciation.
- \*Buy them a small gift or gift card to their favorite store or restaurant.
- \*Put a little extra money in the offering and dedicate it to Pastor Appreciation.  
(The church will use those funds to provide gifts to all the pastoral staff.)
- \*Pray for them - All Year!

#### Our Wonderful Pastoral Staff includes:

- \*Andy Lauer - Lead Pastor
  - \*Brenda El-Talabani - Children's Pastor
  - \*Christina Fischer - Youth Pastor
  - \*Jim & Rebekah Gilbert - Worship Directors
- Also, don't forget about the retired pastors currently attending and serving here at SBFN:
- \*Rev. Louis Staubs
  - \*Rev. Ransom Ebersole
  - \*Rev. Jerry Harris
  - \*Rev. Rick El-Talabani
- Contact Sandy Williams if you have any questions.

### UPCOMING CHURCH ACTIVITIES

#### SEPTEMBER - ALABASTER MONTH

- Today** - Alabaster Collection during morning Worship
- Today** - 2024 Appalachia Mission Trip meeting in Youth room after morning worship time (11:45 a.m.)

#### OCTOBER - PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH

- 7** - Youth Bible Quiz @ Valpo
- 8** - Youth Prayer Partner Luncheon after the morning worship time
- 13-15** - Youth District Fall Retreat: see website for sign-up and cost information.
- 15** - Membership Class
- 22** - Member's join during the morning worship hour
- 22** - Children's Christmas Program Practices begin
- 29** - Youth & Family Harvest Festival (5 p.m. - 8 p.m.)

#### NOVEMBER

- 3 - 4** - Men's Retreat at Shiloh Park
- 5** - Daylight Savings Time Ends - (set clocks back 1 hour)
- 19** - Gratitude Sunday



# Finding Balance

## Current Sermon Series



South  
Bend  
First  
Nazarene



Find us on Facebook Tithes and Offerings Connection Card

51690 Ironwood Road • South Bend • Indiana • 46635 • 574.272.6466

secretary@southbendfirst.org  
www.sbfm.org

# WELCOME!

## SEPTEMBER 24, 2023

**We're so glad you worshiped with us today!  
Our prayer is that you would experience God's love and truth through Jesus Christ!**

- \* A staffed nursery is available during this morning's worship gathering.
- \* Aid for the hearing impaired is available. Please see an usher for assistance.
- \* Need Internet? SBFN Guest Password: **SBFNet!10**

### TODAY'S WORSHIP GATHERING

Great Things

### ANNOUNCEMENTS/OFFERING

My Reward  
Overcome  
I Surrender All

**MESSAGE FROM GOD'S WORD**  
"Finding Balance: Family God's Way"  
Deuteronomy 6:4-12  
Pastor Rebekah Gilbert

### LAST WEEK'S STATISTICS

Sunday a.m. Discipleship	130
Sunday a.m. Worship	135
Midweek Activities	165
On-Line Views	32

### SBFN MINISTRY TEAM

Lead Pastor - Andy Lauer  
Children's Pastor - Brenda El-Talabani  
Youth Pastor - Christina Fischer  
Worship Pastor - Rebekah Gilbert  
Missions Director - Sue Harris  
Office Administrator - Carole Snyder

### THIS WEEK AT SBFN

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Alabaster Sunday</b>
8-11:15 a.m.	Prayer Room is Open
8:00 a.m.	Worship Team Rehearsal
9:00 a.m.	S.S./Discipleship: Children, Youth, & Adult
9:00 a.m.	Managing Money with a Biblical Worldview
10:15 a.m.	Morning Worship Gathering/ Alabaster Collection
12:00 p.m.	Youth Quiz Practice begins
<b>Tuesday</b>	
6:30 p.m.	Ladies' Bible Study
<b>Wednesday</b>	
All Day	Prayer and Fasting
9:00 a.m.	Women's Sewing
5:30 p.m.	Mommy & Me Begins
	Youth Group
	CM Quizzing
6:00 p.m.	"Come to the Water" - Jerry Harris
6:30 p.m.	Worship Team Rehearsal
<b>Thursday</b>	
6:00 p.m.	Women's Quilting
7:00 p.m.	Men's Basketball
<b>Next Sunday</b>	
8-11:15 a.m.	Prayer Room is Open
8:00 a.m.	Worship Team Rehearsal
9:00 a.m.	S.S./Discipleship: Children, Youth, & Adult
9:00 a.m.	Managing Money with a Biblical Worldview
10:15 a.m.	Morning Worship Gathering
12:00 p.m.	Youth Quiz Practice begins

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Thank you for your faithful & generous giving!

<b>Tithes &amp; Offering</b>		
Received week of	(9/17/23)	\$7,747.56
Needed Weekly		\$6,473.33
Average Giving YTD		\$6,786.71

<b>August Missional Giving</b>		
WEF		\$1,437.96
Child Sponsorship		\$30.00

<b>Church Building &amp; Facilities</b>		
Mortgage Balance		\$617,890.70

## UPCOMING EVENTS & INFORMATION

### CURRENT SERMON SERIES

It doesn't take much for life to spiral out of control. A 2022 Gallup survey revealed that 1 in 3 people globally feel like their life is out of balance. A 2021 [Indeed.com](https://www.indeed.com) study found that 52% of Americans are experiencing burnout at work. Although ebbs and flows in life are normal, chaos is unnecessary; there is a way to experience balance and "peace that passes all understanding" (Phil. 4:7). Join us the next few weeks as we explore what God's word reveals about finding the balance God intends for us.

### MANAGING MONEY WITH A BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW

This 6-week class which began last week and will run until Sunday, October 22nd will help you understand **God's plan for personal money management**. They are meeting in room FC101 beginning at 9:00 a.m. It's designed with you in mind - whether your net worth is very low, very high, or somewhere in between. This class also will help you whether you're in the early stages of building a career or nearing retirement and beyond. Come and gain practical, biblical perspectives and advice, money saving tips, and tax expertise with Janelle St. Clair, a certified Kingdom Advisor and financial planner with many years of experience.



### ALABASTER OFFERING IS TODAY

Today is Alabaster Sunday and we will be collecting our Alabaster Offering during the Morning Worship hour. If you remembered to bring your small alabaster boxes with your loose change in it plan to put that in the Large Alabaster Offering box that will be setting out for everyone. What is Alabaster Offering? Alabaster Offerings are monetary donations that go directly to the construction of ministry facilities across the globe - such as hospitals, schools, orphanages, and churches. **The existing missions structure allows for 100% to be used in the projects that are started by missionaries and by local church congregations.**



### UPCOMING APPALACHIA MISSION TRIP 2024

SBFN family, we are planning another Appalachia Mission Trip sometime in 2024. As many of you can remember we have been able to accomplish many things for the people of Inez, KY. We are hoping to be able to go back again in 2024 and do the same. If you

think you might be interested in going, or just want to get more information about the trip. **Plan to stay after church today for an informational meeting in the Youth meeting Room immediately following the morning worship time.** Pastor Christina Fischer will be discussing what all is involved in the trip and also what the dates and costs look like as well.



### "COME TO THE WATER": MID - WEEK WORSHIP

This week's "Come to the Water" Mid - Week Worship will be led by Jerry Harris. "Come to the Water" will meet every Wednesday through November 15th at 6:00 p.m.

### YOUTH QUIZ MEET - Saturday, October 7th

On Saturday, October 7th the Youth will be have a District Bible Quiz Meet at Valparaiso Nazarene. Parents, please check with Pastor Christina about arrangements so that your teen can be ready for the meet.

### YOUTH PRAYER PARTNER LUNCHEON

Are you a Prayer Partner for one of our youth here at SBFN? If so you are invited to our Potluck Luncheon here at SBFN on Sunday, October 8th to fellowship with your prayer partner and the rest of our Youth. Please make your plans now to come. RSVP to Pastor Christina @ 847-951-2154.



### DISCOVERING SBFN: MEMBERSHIP CLASS

Membership is an exciting opportunity to become a part of all that God is doing through the ministry of SBFN. You will have an opportunity to learn more about becoming a member of SBFN during our **"Discovering SBFN"** membership class on **Sunday, October 15th, from noon - 3 p.m.** in room FC107 located in the gym. If you've ever wanted to know more about the mission and ministry of SBFN, this is the best way to explore membership without having to make a commitment until you're ready. **No Childcare Available.**



### MEN'S RETREAT - November 3rd and 4th

Men 18 and older, plan now to set aside Fri., Nov. 3rd & Sat., Nov. 4th, for our annual Men's Retreat. This will be a great weekend of fun, spiritual development, and friendship. This year we'll be going to Shiloh Retreat Center, in Marion, IN. There will be skeet and target shooting, a corn hole tournament, and other activities, and games to enjoy as well. The cost is \$60. See Pastor Rick El-Talabani to sing up or for more details.