

September 20, 2017

the SPIRE



First Baptist Church
columbia



Afternoon at the Farm

Sunday, October 22

3 p.m. - Hayrides and Conversations

4:30 p.m. Trunk-or-Treating

5 p.m. Dinner

Please bring a bag or two of candy for trunk-or-treating, and a side dish to share.
Meat, beverages and table service are provided.

Directions:

- ◆Columbia on I-70 to Exit 121 (the Midway exit).
- ◆Turn right on Highway 40.
- ◆Turn right on Route J.
- ◆Make a hard right onto Boothe Lane at the water tower.
- ◆Continue straight until this road bears left – the gate to the farm will then be on your right – look for the balloons!



Paige Boeckman enjoys trunk-or-treating

Oct. 28 Saturday 10am - Noon

Oct. 29 Sunday

9:15am & 11:15am Worship Services
Combined Small Group Hour



BAPTIST
JOINT
COMMITTEE
FOR RELIGIOUS LIBERTY



Upcoming Visioning Weekend

Before I came as pastor in 2012, the leadership of First Baptist made the wise decision to utilize Rev. Bob Russell as an intentional interim. Bob led the congregation through a thoughtful process focused on answering the questions: “Who are we?” and “Who is God calling us to be in the future?” This allowed the church to clarify our identity and set some goals and priorities to work on moving forward. As a church, we have also been able to address some of the issues that emerged during the church-wide interim discussion, such as the need to renovate the fellowship hall and to change our Sunday morning schedule to facilitate a combined small group hour. During these last few years, we have also stepped out in faith launching some exciting new ministry opportunities which were not on the church’s radar 5 years ago, including our South Dakota partnership, webcasting, and the Pastoral Residency.



Still, we know that God’s call to our congregation is dynamic. It is not enough to know who we were in the past, or to focus on prior accomplishments as markers of well-being or effectiveness. We must keep asking the question, “What is God calling us to be and do... now?” As such, it is appropriate for us to spend some time together visioning, dreaming and thinking about the future again. Accordingly, the Church Council and I have invited Dr. Chris Gambill, the Executive Director of the Center for Congregational Health, to lead us in a visioning weekend February 2-4. The Center has been working with congregations, clergy and lay leaders for over 25 years. Details about the visioning weekend will be announced later this fall.

The first step in the dreaming process is to put together a Visioning Team to help lead us! This team will work in conjunction with Dr. Gambill and me to plan and facilitate the weekend, to distill all the information that we gather from the congregation, and report back to the church. Consequently, we need your help. We are asking you to submit names for the Visioning Team, which will be put together by the Church Council to ensure representation from all areas of our congregation. You can do this by emailing me at mcentyre@fbc-columbia.org, or by indicating on the sign-in sheet in Awakening Worship or on the Welcome tab in Traditional Worship. I look forward to seeing where this next chapter in our congregational life takes us.

Carla McEntyre

Senior Pastor



Reception Honoring Alex Bennett



After many years of service, Alex Bennett is stepping down as the Praise Band Director for Awakening Worship. First Baptist is deeply appreciative of Alex’s gifts and commitment to share the love of Christ through music. His last Sunday will be September 24.

You are invited to join us for Awakening Worship at 9:15, and for a reception in Alex’s honor following the service. Notes and cards of thanksgiving for Alex’s ministry among us would also be welcomed.



Odyssey Chamber Music Concert Series Welcomes Back the **Akropolis Reed Quintet**

The 2011 Plowman Chamber Music Competition Grand Prize Winner

Friday, October 13 at 7 pm in the sanctuary

World Premier composed by Paul Seitz

In their program “Refraction”, Akropolis presents classical music bearing a wide array of influences, from rock and electronic music to jazz, chant, folk songs, and even glass art and ceramics. Each work absorbs the characteristics of a different genre, style, or era, and then creates fresh, relevant music, reflecting upon the original and looking forward.

Akropolis also explores their own influences as a reed quintet since their first concert given in 2009, as they build their ensemble’s repertoire and re-visit their personal and collective inspirations by which they have forged their genre-bending identity.

Tickets are \$20 for general admission; \$10 for students; and children under 10 are free.



Crafty Critters

Crafty Critters is a group of knitters and crocheters that makes infant hats, prayer shawls, and other handcrafted items for individuals in our faith community. All are welcome to join the group’s weekly time of crafting and fellowship each Tuesday, beginning at 11:30 in room E-2. Regular attendance is not required, and donations of handcrafted items are always welcome.

To celebrate their ministry, from time to time the congregation will participate in blessing prayer shawls during worship, and there will be pictures on our bulletin board or in The Spire showing recipients of prayer shawls, as members of the Crafty Critters visit members and friends of the congregation who need to be wrapped in the love of God.



Barbara Anderson

Yoga at First Baptist

Senior Yoga offers a peaceful environment for all ages and abilities. Sessions include gentle chair movements,



stretching, and breathing exercises. Yoga helps balance, flexibility and focus.

The group meets in the church parlor on Monday mornings from 9-10:30 am. Sessions cost \$10 each and are led by Dr. Jan Wheeler, a certified yoga instructor and clinical psychologist.

Making Stars

Thanks to all who participated in star-making last Sunday! We plan to fill our worship spaces with



thousands of stars during Advent in anticipation of this year’s theme, “And None Shall Be Afraid.” You are invited to continue in the creation of stars in the coming weeks. Materials and instructions are available in the hallway, along with baskets in which to place your completed stars.



Religious Liberty for Some? *Understanding our Baptist Identity*

Our Fall Sheppard Lecture will feature Amanda Tyler, the Executive Director of the Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty (BJC). The Baptist Joint Committee is a leading voice in Washington, D.C., fighting to uphold the historic Baptist principles of religious freedom and separation of church and state.



“Religious liberty” is the freedom to believe and exercise or act upon religious conscience without unnecessary interface by the government. Just as religious liberty involves the freedom to practice religion, it also means the freedom not to practice religion. Baptists believe that we are inherently free to choose whether to worship God and follow Christ without efforts by the government to advance or restrain religion.

Saturday, October 28 10 am - noon

Tyler will introduce us to the work of the BJC, and to the historic Baptist principles which are the foundation for this work. Child care will be available for infants, and Yvette Chambers, Director of Children’s Ministry, will be coordinating a fun-filled morning for kids, including fall canvas painting,

cookie decorating, and pumpkin painting!

Sunday, October 29

Amanda Tyler will preach in both worship services and lead the combined adult small group hour at 10:15 am in the Fellowship Hall.

Musical “High” Notes

The Chancel Choir year is off to an exciting start with eight new members! We welcome two new scholarship singers, David Fazekas in our tenor section and Samantha Walker in our alto section. David just completed his undergraduate degree at LSU. Two of his friends, former scholarship singer Christina Casey and her husband Jonathan Ray, encouraged him to go to Mizzou for grad school and sing at First Baptist. Samantha is a junior Music Education major at Mizzou. She was encouraged to come sing here by another former scholarship singer, Bria Jones. Samantha and David join Ben Worley, a bass, who is starting his fifth year here, and Maddie Page, a soprano, who is in her second year as scholarship singer.

The choir also welcomes Rebecca Robertson, who came to check out this summer’s Enneagram series; Rachel Slings, a freshman at Mizzou from Branson; and Liz Tidwell, who joined First Baptist earlier this year.

We welcome back Crystal Hall who took some time off following the addition of two boys to her family; and Susan and Richard Hayden who just moved back to Columbia and who were long time members of our church before following a job to Illinois. Some may recall that Susan’s father was once the choir director here at First Baptist.

Clearly this is a great time to join the choir. Why not add your name to the list? – we’ve got a robe for you too – if you needed any other incentive to join!



Ed Rollins
Associate Pastor, First Baptist Church

Upcoming Events



An Event for College and Young Adults You Won't Want to Miss

Friday, Sept 29th- 3:00-11:00pm- Do Justice, a Churchnet event with Shane Claiborne in St. Louis. We will meet at the church and take the church bus to Missouri Baptist University in St. Louis for the event. Dinner is included. The event is free to students.



A Standing Invitation for College and Young Adults

Sunday nights, 5:30-7:00pm Community Dinner and Bible Study- This is our weekly Bible Study where we study Scripture and discuss life to better understand our relationship with Christ and each other. As we study the Incarnation this semester, we will look for ways that our faith impacts our everyday life and why that is important. Join us in the youth suite on the 3rd floor!

Wednesdays 6- 7:15pm, Youth Suite

the calling

Students 6th- 12th Grade

Upcoming Events for Youth

Wednesday Nights, 6:00-7:15pm: The Calling- this is our mid-week Bible study designed for students grade 6-12.

Sept 27th, 6:00-7:15pm: Bonfire at the McEntyre's. Students are invited to join us for hot dogs, hamburgers and S'mores as we celebrate fall.

Serving the Church

"Ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country." (President John F. Kennedy) Substitute "church" for country, and take a look around - there are countless ways for you to serve the church!

Recently, Grayson Hoell happened to see that the lawn mower had coated our new bus with grass clippings, and went right to work cleaning up the bus.



Ministerial Staff:

Carol McEntyre, Senior Pastor
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Bethany James, Nursery Director
Jason Bell, Custodian

“Return Service Requested”



First Baptist 101

If you sense that God is drawing you to the community at First Baptist, we celebrate that and we want you to have a chance to get to know our church! First Baptist 101 is a class open to adults who are new members or who are interested in learning more about First Baptist. We will try to answer questions like:

What does it mean to be a member of First Baptist?

What does it mean to be Baptist?

First Baptist 101 will meet for one-hour on three consecutive Sundays beginning October 1 at 4:00 pm, in the Parlor, which is located on the 2nd Floor across from the church offices. Here is an overview of each week:

- Sunday, October 1- Baptist History and Polity taught by Rev. Bob Russell
- Sunday, October 8- Understanding First Baptist leadership structure, the church staff, committees, goals and vision of the church taught by Pastor Carol McEntyre
- Sunday, October 15- Overview of First Baptist ministries, opportunities to serve and a building tour

For more information or to sign-up for child care, contact Pastor Carol McEntyre at mcentyre@fbc-columbia.org or 573-442-1149.