

February 7, 2018

the SPIRE



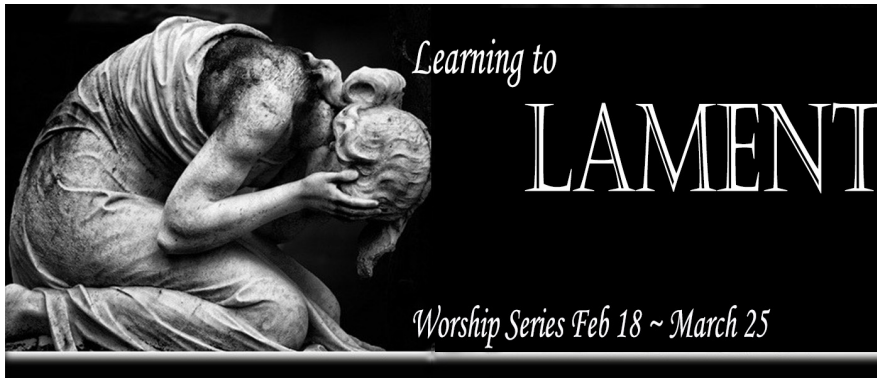
First Baptist Church
columbia



Ash Wednesday Worship

February 14 at 6 pm in the Sanctuary

Ash Wednesday is a Christian holiday (holy day) that has been honored for well over ten centuries. It marks the beginning of Lent, the 6-week period leading up to Easter, when many Christians prepare for Easter by observing a period of fasting, repentance, moderation or other spiritual practices. Our worship on Ash Wednesday will introduce our Lenten Theme: Learning to Lament and will include the ancient Christian practice of the imposition of ashes on the forehead or wrist. The use of ashes is a visible symbol of repentance, which signifies the purification and sorrow for sins.



God desires for us to pour out our hearts in joy and in pain. Scripture is full of examples of lament, expressions of anger, frustration and sadness at God and the injustice of life, like Psalm 22 which says, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" In our culture, which often denies pain, it is essential that we reclaim the spiritual practice of lament. Join us for worship this Lent, as we explore Lament.

Practicing Lament over Comfort Food

Sunday, March 18 at 5:00 pm

We will gather on Sunday, March 18 at 5:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall to share a potluck meal. We are asking you to bring a "comfort food" to share. It could be a food associated with the security of childhood like Mom's chicken soup or an indulgence food like ice cream.

Recently, Michael and I were talking about this event, Practicing Lament over Comfort Food, when my son Nate chimed in and said, "My comfort food is chicken and dumplings." He is 8; I didn't think he knew about comfort food. I was touched that he chose a food that my grandmother, who recently passed away, taught us to make.



~ Pastor Carol McEntyre



Visioning Process for First Baptist

I wanted to give you an update on our visioning process. As you know, due to a tragedy in the life of our church, we decided to postpone the visioning events which were scheduled for the first of February. This week, I have been in contact with Dr. Chris Gambil at the Center for Congregational Health to talk about rescheduling those events. We discussed the possibility of holding the visioning events after Easter. However, participating in the visioning events is only one step in the process. After the events, the visioning team would be tasked with collecting all the information, stories, and data from the events, sifting through all of it looking for themes. Then, they would distill that information down to focus statements, which will guide our life together as a church for the next few years, and report back to the church. After looking at the calendar, we realized that it would rush the visioning team to gather all the data and work through it before summer. By fall, the information would be cold/old. Consequently, we have made the decision to postpone the visioning events to the fall. There is nothing pressing that we need to talk about. We are in a good place as a congregation. I believe that we can come back to the visioning process in the fall, rested and ready to do the work together. Thank you for your understanding and support.



~ Pastor Carol McEntyre

Volunteer Now for Room at the Inn - Feb 18 - March 3 at First Baptist



For those in our community without adequate housing, winter is potentially deadly. That is why we are grateful for the ministry of Room at the Inn (RATI). RATI is a winter shelter designed for those in need, to provide a warm and safe place to sleep from 7:00 pm - 7:00 am through March 10. The shelter is supported by area churches and local volunteers.

First Baptist will host Room at the Inn from Sunday, February 18 to Wednesday, March 3 in the Fellowship Hall, but you don't have to wait until then to help. Please visit <http://www.roomattheinncomo.org> to sign up or to learn more.

For All Ages



Possible First Baptist Trip July 6- 12

Lakota Reservation- Bridger, South Dakota

First Baptist has been invited to return to the Lakota Reservation in Bridger again this summer.

There is no big project scheduled for this year, so the trip will mainly be focused on building and maintaining relationships within the reservation and possibly some light construction work, clean up, and help with maintenance needs at the Takini School. We need at least 10 people to make the trip but can take up to 20. We will also need people willing to cook this year, as we will not be teaming with Second Baptist in Liberty for this trip. The cost of the trip is expected to remain at \$100 per person.

As a reminder, when we stay in Bridger we sleep at the church. Participants are asked to bring their own air mattresses and bedding. There are showers and restrooms on site. If you have questions or are interested in being a part of this experience, please contact Associate Pastor Michael McEntyre at mccentyre@fbc-columbia.org.

the calling

Students 6th- 12th Grade

The Calling, our mid-week Middle and High School Bible study, meets from 6:00-7:15 pm in the Youth Suite. This semester we are learning about the Lord's Prayer and exploring the lessons it offers us about our faith. All students in grades 6-12 are welcome!



The Child Development Center invites all families from the CDC and First Baptist Church to join us in the Fellowship Hall on February 9 from 6:00 pm-8:00 pm. We will show a family friendly movie, serve popcorn and other goodies. Bring sleeping bags, pillows, or blankets to settle in for a fun family night.

First Baptist Adventures

On Tuesday, February 27, you are invited to join First Baptist adventurers for dinner at Addison's at 5 pm, followed by your choice of concerts at 7 pm. You may choose to attend the King's Daughters & Sons Benefit Concert at First Baptist (see separate article for details); or the concert at Sacred Heart Church. The MU School of Music's Ars Nova Singers will perform music inspired by artwork from the Museum of Art and Archaeology. The concert is free. Please RSVP for the meal by February 25 to Paula Thomas, Fellowship Coordinator, at PaulaLou52@gmail.com; or call the church office.



A Note of Deep Gratitude

We have always known First Baptist to be a special place, but the incredible outpouring of love and support after the death of our son, Ryan, exemplifies what it means to be Christ-like. In Ephesians 3, Paul writes these words; “As God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another...And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect harmony.” (Ephesians 3:12-14) In the past two weeks, you have wrapped us in a blanket of love – you have been the embodiment of Christ for us – and we are grateful beyond any words that we could ever express.

To our Pastor, Carol, thank you for shepherding our family, for providing words of lament and words of hope, and for sharing your love with us. To the church staff who walked Ed through the darkest hours and have taken so much off of his plate and added it to theirs – thank you. Michael was there for the hardest moment and has been a source of grace and love through these days. Brenda has done more than is humanly possible, giving up a scheduled trip to be with her family to help our family – we can’t even begin to name the many things she did for us. Brittany has been a wonderful friend and a pastor – we are blessed to have her here. Janet and Jess have provided love and support, and have helped make sure tasks were completed and ready for the funeral. Colleen has jumped in to cover so much – to play for the service despite her grief and tears, to help cover Sundays and rehearsals, and to lead the choirs in times of prayer and comfort. She is a dear friend and servant of Christ. Jason had his plate full making sure our facilities were clean and ready for large crowds and worship. Thank you also to the Personnel Committee for this time to be away and grieve. It is a gift that is certainly much needed.

Then, our thanks to all of you for prayers, words of comfort, cards, flowers, hugs, food, singing in the funeral, for crying with us, and on and on and on - your expressions of love have been so meaningful and we will continue to need that love in the days and months ahead. You bring new meaning to the “Servant Song:” “I will weep when you are weeping. When you laugh, I’ll laugh with you. I will share your joy and sorrow till we’ve seen this journey through.” Your blanket of love, your prayers and your support, continue to help sustain us in these hard days. Thank you for being the church as Christ intended it.

Ed Rollins, Associate Pastor, and Deb Carr
Katie Windle
Emily and Scott Dahm



OFFERING FOR
GLOBAL MISSIONS

First Baptist will support the work of Cooperative Baptist Field Personnel around the world during the month of March by giving to the CBF Offering for Global Missions.

First Baptist Men’s Group Starting

Anyone who is interested in the formation of a men’s group at First Baptist is invited to breakfast on Thursday, February 15th at 7 am in the Fellowship Hall. The group will be convened by Ed Felts. David Siegenthaler will be the morning’s chef.





King's Daughters & Sons Benefit Concert

The Clark-Harrison Circle of King's Daughters and Sons is sponsoring a Benefit Music Concert, "Healthy Smiles for Columbia's Children" in cooperation with Columbia Public Schools on Tuesday, February 27 from 7-9 pm at First Baptist Church. Columbia Public School students will provide music for the concert. Proceeds from this performance support the King's Daughters and Sons Dental Aid program, which is designed to provide dental care for eligible students from Columbia Public Schools. Dental care is available to students through the cooperation of the Kings Daughters and Sons, Columbia Public Schools, and Columbia Dentists.

Groups performing include the Rock Bridge High School Choir, the Fifth Grade Honors Choir, the Rock Bridge Elementary Choir, the Lee Elementary Second Grade Choir, the Jefferson Middle School Choir, and the Smithton Middle School Choir.

Donations may be sent to: Clark-Harrison KD Circle, PO Box 1843, Columbia MO 65205.



Presents

Baroque Concerto

February 16, 2018 at 7 pm

Pre-concert music begins at 6:45, presented by Kristine Poulsen, flutist.

Sponsored by Paul D. Higday Mozart Trust and Mid-Missouri Area Music Teachers Association (MMAMTA), Odyssey's annual Baroque presentation this season features the 2018 Concerto Competition winner Hazel Keithahn in J. S. Bach's Violin Concerto in E Major.

Also look forward to MU's Bach Collegium Choir and Odyssey Chamber Ensemble led by director R. Paul Crabb in a magnificent Mass by J.S. Bach, and Mozart's Symphony No. 29 in A Major led by Jefferson City Symphony Orchestra conductor Patrick Clark.

Early arrival is recommended for this popular event.)

Life Line Screening

Life Line Screening, a leading provider of community-based preventive health screenings will be in our community on Wednesday, April 18, 2018 at First Baptist Church of Columbia. Ultrasound screenings to identify risk factors for cardiovascular disease include: carotid artery (plaque buildup-a leading cause of stroke), abdominal aortic aneurysm (an enlargement or weak area in the main blood vessel that carries blood from the heart to the rest of the body), peripheral arterial disease (hardening of the arteries in the legs), a heart rhythm screening (an EKG to detect atrial fibrillation-irregular heartbeat) and an osteoporosis risk assessment for men and women. Being proactive about your health by knowing your risks helps you and your doctor address problems early.

Register online today at www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle and receive your "Community Circle" discount and your Preferred Appointment.

Ministerial Staff:

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Child Development Center:

Jess Wolfe, Director

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Support Staff:

Janet Deneke, Administrative Assistant

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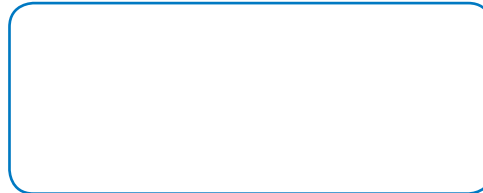
Brenda Rice, Project Coordinator

brice@fbc-columbia.org

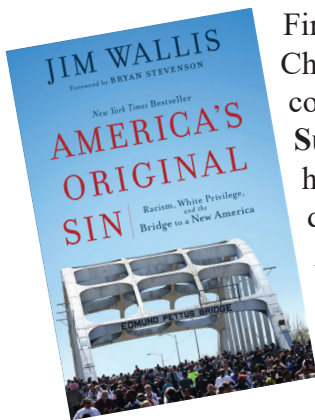
Bethany James, Nursery Director

Jason Bell, Custodian

“Return Service Requested”



Critical Conversations in Troubled Times



First Baptist is partnering with Second Missionary Baptist Church and Broadway Christian Church to participate in a conversation about racism and how faith communities can help bring about grassroots change. **Our next meeting will be Sunday, February 11 at 5 pm at Second Baptist.** (Please note that the organizers have changed the time.) The conversation will revolve around reading and discussing *America's Original Sin: Racism, White Privilege, and the Bridge to a New America* by Jim Wallis. There are no remaining free books, but feel free to purchase your own and join the conversation. No reading is required prior to the meeting on February 11.

Sunday Schedule: Back to Normal!

Starting February 11, we are back to our normal Sunday morning schedule, with Awakening Contemporary Worship at 9:15 in the Fellowship Hall, and Traditional Worship at 11:15 in the sanctuary. Small Groups will meet during the Spiritual Formation Hour at 10:15.