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"Return Service Requested"

2018 Christmas Dinner

December 5, 2018



The First Baptist Church Annual Christmas dinner will be held on Sunday, December 16 at 5:00 pm. You are invited to join in on the delicious feast prepared by you and your First Baptist Friends. The Church staff (pictured) invites you to wear your most festive Christmas attire.

the SPIRE

In This Issue:

- Blue Christmas Service
- Youth/College/Young Adult Parties
- Welcome our new Custodian
- CHE 30th Anniversary Concert
- Pledge Updates
- Hanging of the Green 2018
- Odyssey Concert Series-

December 5, 2018

the SPIRE

First Baptist Church
columbia



Blue Christmas Service

Friday, December 21

6:30pm in the Fellowship Hall

Christmas can be a painful time for some. It may be the first Christmas without a loved one; it may be a time that has always been difficult. Though the Christmas season is often marked with expressions of excitement and joy, we want to recognize that for many, this season evokes a lot of pain and grieving. The anguish of broken relationships, the insecurity of unemployment, the weariness of ill health, the pain of isolation - these can all make us feel alone in the midst of celebration. We need space and time to acknowledge our sadness and grief; we need to know and see that we are not alone.

For these reasons, we are offering a special Blue Christmas service on Friday, December 21 at 6:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. Join us in sharing prayers, scripture, and music that acknowledge God's presence is with those who mourn, now and always.

Upcoming Events

December 7

7:00pm Odyssey Chamber Music Series

December 9

3:00pm Columbia Handbells Ensemble Concert

5:30pm College/Young Adult Christmas Party

December 16

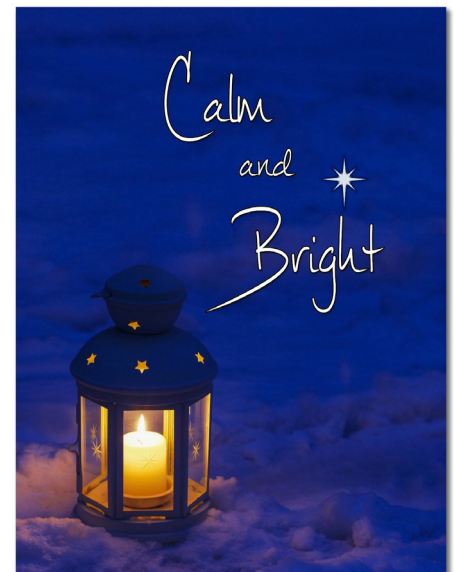
5:00pm FBC Christmas Dinner

December 21

6:30pm Blue Christmas Service

This year marks the 200th anniversary of the writing of "Silent Night," and in commemoration, we designed our Advent theme around the words, "Calm and Bright."

In our Advent worship, we will explore the implication of a world that finds peace in Christ and of a world that radiates the light of Christ's presence. Join us as we await the coming of Christ's light and the dawn of redeeming grace.





Life of the Church



Hanging of the Green 2018



Chelsea Wells and Allie Kasman enjoying decorating the tree



Bob Zumwalt and Olivia Chang sprucing up the tree



Alice Simmons trying out the ladder



Andrew and Eli Marchbanks adding another ornament



Welcome Mike Ide, *our new Custodian!*



"Hi there. I'm Mike Ide, the new Custodian here at First Baptist Church.

I came from Shelbina, Missouri to be closer to my daughter Bridget and her husband Brock. They are expecting their first baby in February. I look forward to meeting all of you, as I keep the church looking great."

Contemplative Advent Small Group-

December 9, 16, and 23

Sundays in the Conference Room

This Advent, beginning December 2, Brittany McDonald Null, Pastoral Resident, will be leading a contemplative small group during the 10:15am Spiritual Formation hour. During the small group, they will engage in the spiritual practices of Lectio Divina and centering prayer and have conversations about contemplative living. The group will meet in the Conference Room on the second floor. For more information or to sign up contact Brittany at bnull@fbc-columbia.org.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service



Christmas Eve Worship

December 24

We begin at 11:00pm, on this Silent Night, with worship, communion, and candlelight. We gather to proclaim that Christ the Savior is born. Join us for this annual homecoming favorite.

VAC Family Christmas

Please return your gifts for our VAC families by Sunday, December 9. Don't forget to include the card identifying the gift and person you

shopped for with your present. Gifts do not need to be wrapped. Thank you for your generosity!



2019 Pledge Update

As of Tuesday, December 4, 2018, we have received pledge commitments from 75 individuals/households totalling \$287,996 for our ministry at First Baptist for 2019. We are grateful to all who have made this commitment to be "ALL IN" in support of our ministry. Your gifts will enhance all that is done for Christ here on the corner of Waugh and Broadway. Though we have already surpassed last year's pledges, we know that many have not had the opportunity to make their commitment. Our goal is \$300,000. "ALL IN" pledge cards are still available at the entry areas of our worship spaces, or you can call the office and we would be happy to send you a pledge card. Thanks!



Winter Fantasy

The Odyssey Chamber Music Series presents *Winter Fantasy* on Friday, December 7 at 7:00pm, with a pre-concert performance by the Thornbrook Piano Trio at 6:45pm. Rachmaninoff's music is full of bells, which can be heard prominently in his two piano work, Suite No. 1, Op. 5, known as *Fantasia-Tableaux*. This program will also feature DRAX, various percussion and saxophone ensembles in holiday tunes and more!



The M Percussion & Saxophone Studios

7 pm
6:45pm Pre-Concert
Thornbrook Piano Trio

Friday, December 7, 2018
First Baptist Church
1112 E Broadway in Columbia

\$20/\$10 Student / Free Child Under 12. More information: 573.825.0079 | www.OdysseyMissouri.org

First Baptist Church Columbia Missouri Arts Council OFFICE OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS School of Music University of Missouri COLUMBIA DAILY TRIBUNE Classical



CHE 30th Anniversary Winter Concert

You read that right, this is the 30th anniversary season of the nationally recognized Columbia Handbell Ensemble. They will present "Holiday Magic," their 30th winter concert this Sunday, December 9, at 3:00 pm in the First Baptist Church Sanctuary. The ensemble will be joined by Bella Cantu of the Columbia Youth Choirs. Both groups will perform independently and both groups will collaborate on several selections, including "I Wonder As I Wander" and "The Twelve Days After Christmas." Tickets are available for \$7 in advance, \$10 at the door, and \$1 for kids 12 and under. The ensemble also wishes to thank First Baptist Church for 30 years of shared space and equipment. The group is able to exist because of First Baptist and we are grateful!



Thank you especially to Kimberly Moeller, puck glass, Mary Lou Spradling, Jen Showalter, Stephen & Grayson Hoell for dedicating your time to decorate our worship spaces this Advent season.



Mary Lou Spradling and Ed Rollins
creating bows (mostly Mary Lou)



Grayson & Stephen Hoell bringing out the
garland

December Youth Events

✱ The Calling will meet on our regular schedule Wednesday December 5 & 12 in the Youth Suite (6:00pm-7:15pm). We will start back on Jan 16.

✱ The Youth Christmas Party will be Wednesday, December 19 at the McEntyre's house from 6:00-8:00 pm. We will eat and celebrate a great year with our legendary gift exchange. All participants are asked to bring a gift (\$5-\$10 range) to share. It will be shocking how much fun we have! Friends are encouraged to join us. Have a wonderful Advent season and a Merry Christmas.

December College & Young Adult Events

✱ Our College and Young Adult Ministry will wrap up with our "I Can't Believe We're Having a Christmas Party This Early" party on Sunday, December 9 at the McEntyre's house. For those who would like to come early to make Christmas treats, be at the house at 4:00pm. We will eat dinner together and then take part in our festive gift giving/stealing extravaganza! It is a sight to behold. Everyone is asked to bring a gift in the \$5-\$10 range that you think the others would want. We'll add a few "special" gifts to make things interesting. The party will end around 7:30pm. It promises to be a good time.

✱ On December 16, all our College and Young Adults are invited to the church-wide Christmas party (starting at 5:00pm). It is a great time together and a fun way to celebrate the end of finals! We hope you will join us. Our weekly College and Young Adult Bible Study will resume January 20, after students return to classes. Don't forget to mark your calendar for our Winter PAUSE Retreat February 8-10. Have a great Christmas Break!