

the SPIRE



First Baptist Church
columbia



Did God Kill Jesus? Understanding the Cross

New Sermon Series

February 24

The sermon series *Did God Kill Jesus? Understanding the Cross* begins this Sunday, February 24. It is going to be a serious theological study of the cross and atonement (the process, by which we are reconciled to God). It is admittedly a heavy lift for a sermon series. So, in order to help you unpack this topic, we are offering two special small groups that will meet on Sunday Mornings at 10:15. Even if you don't typically attend small group, I hope you will consider joining a group for this series.



Carol McEntyre

Upcoming Events

February 18 - March 3

First Baptist Hosts Room at the Inn

February 24

Lent Sermon Series: *Did God Kill Jesus? Understanding the Crucifixion*

March 2

7:00 pm St. Olaf Handbell Choir Concert

March 6

6:00 pm Ash Wednesday Worship

March 8

6-8:00 pm Parents Night Out

March 21-25

Plowman Chamber Music Festival

March 23-29

Spring Break Ski Trip

Understanding the Cross

Facilitated by: *Henry Imler*

February 24-April 21

Sundays at 10:15 am in the library

Understanding the Cross

Facilitated by: *Kim Siegenthaler*

March 17-April 21

Sundays at 10:15 am in the parlor

Parent's Night Out

March 8

6-8 pm

Parents Night Out will be held on March 8 from 6-8 pm. Children from birth to 5th grade are welcome to join in the fun that includes games, crafts, food, and even a magician! Parents must RSVP to the Children's Ministry Director, Yvette Chambers at chambers@fbc-columbia.org.





Celebrating Ordination



This past Sunday felt right. I know that might be a strange way to describe an ordination service, but I am still at a loss for words. As I sat in the sanctuary, trying my best to stay present, I experienced a deep sense of calm and groundedness. From the Psalm Players to the Praise Band, from the lovely processional to the sacred moments of affirmation, I was reminded that I have made a home here at First Baptist.

You will always hold a significant part of my ministry journey. Thank you for the outpouring of love and affirmation, I left a better person because each of you was there - either in body or spirit. Ordination felt like a long time coming, but I can think of no better place to serve as my roots for the next stages of ministry than the church who calls me continually into something greater.

Brittany McDonald-Null

Rev. Brittany McDonald Null
Ordination Service - February 17, 2019
(Photos by Ken Hammann)



Volunteers preparing cots for the start of Room at the Inn at First Baptist

Room at the Inn

Make a difference this winter!

Room at the Inn has begun at First Baptist. There is a huge need for volunteers. We need people to serve as Greeters during the Child Development Center (CDC) pick up and drop off during the week. You can volunteer from 7:15 am - 8:30 am or from 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm. Greeters are asked to welcome CDC families as they enter, serve as a visible reminder that we take the safety of our CDC kids to heart, and serve as guides for any Room at the Inn guests who show up early. Room at the Inn guests will be directed to the Broadway entrance to the Fellowship Hall. This is a simple job but an important volunteer opportunity for the church so please consider giving your time. Sign up on the church website, www.fbc-columbia.org, click the "CDC for RATI" link on the top tool bar to go to the sign up page.

Room at the Inn is also in need of volunteers for the shelter. There are several slots that still need to be filled. To volunteer, go to <https://roomattheinn.com> and click the Sign Up button. Please help make a difference to those in need in our community.

We are also in need of gloves for guests. If you would like to donate a pair, bring them to the church office.

-Michael McEntyre,
Associate Pastor of Youth, College & Missions



These words, from a devotional by Henri Nouwen, help express why we host Room at the Inn:

Create Space for the Stranger

In our world full of strangers, estranged from their own past, culture, and country, from their neighbors, friends, and family, from their deepest self and their God, we witness a painful search for a hospitable place where life can be lived without fear and where community can be found. Although many, we might say even most, strangers in this world become easily the victim of a fearful hostility, it is possible for men and women and obligatory for Christians to offer an open and hospitable space where strangers can cast off their strangeness and become our fellow human beings. The movement from hostility to hospitality is hard and full of difficulties. Our society seems to be increasingly full of fearful, defensive, aggressive people, anxiously clinging to their property and inclined to look at their surrounding world with suspicion, always expecting an enemy to suddenly appear, intrude, and do harm. But still, that is our vocation: to convert the *hostis* into a *hospes*, the enemy into a guest, and to create the free and fearless space where brotherhood and sisterhood can be formed and fully experienced.

ForColumbia Day of Service

April 27

First Baptist's annual day of service with ForColumbia will be Saturday April 27. Sign ups will take place in March. Watch for more details.





Wednesdays 6-7:15pm

the calling

Students 6th- 12th Grade

The Calling & Room at the Inn

Parents, please be aware that during our February 20 and February 27 meetings, Room at the Inn will be at First Baptist. While neither group will be in the same space, (RATI is in the Fellowship Hall and youth meet on the 3rd floor), we will have volunteers in the Welcome area entrance as students arrive (5:50-6:15pm) and, as always, our adults will stay with students until all are picked up. If you have any questions, contact Michael McEntyre.



College/Young Adult group enjoying a meal together

First Baptist Offering



OFFERING FOR GLOBAL MISSIONS

for Global Missions 2019

This Sunday, Feb 24th, will be the last week for our yearly spotlight on this worthy ministry. We encourage our First Baptist family to give generously. Your support of the Offering for Global Missions will share the Gospel message and provide tangible gifts of God's grace and mercy.

We have currently raised \$700 of our \$1,500 goal.

100% of your gifts to the Offering goes to missions funding (including the work of our very own Keith Holmes and Mary Van Rheenen). Offering can be placed in one of the Global Missions envelopes in worship or indicated on the memo line of the check. Checks should be made out to First Baptist Church. The church will send one check to CBF following the offering. Thank you for your generosity.

CBF College/Young Adult Winter Retreat

Special thanks to our college students and young adults who braved the weather for our retreat weekend in St. Louis. We had a great weekend of fun and even got to cheer on our very own Will Edgar in his lacrosse game for Missouri Baptist University on Saturday. Thanks also to Rev. Brittany McDonald Null for leading the study for the weekend on "Resting in our Belovedness." It was a great weekend.



The First Baptist College/Young Adult group trying out Demolition Ball, which is a cross between bumper cars, lacrosse, and basketball!



A Word of Thanks

from Ed Rollins, Associate Pastor

"Last week the Chancel Handbell Choir and the Columbia Handbell Ensemble gathered to present us (Deb Carr and Ed Rollins) with a handbell piece commissioned in memory of our son, Ryan Stoll. The piece was commissioned by noted handbell composer Hart Morris and is a hymn arrangement of "Be Still, My Soul." Noah Hartsfield was instrumental in organizing this memorial gift and both choirs contributed towards the commission. Deb and I are so grateful for this loving reminder of our son. The work features handbells and solo cello, and sounds amazing. We look forward to playing it during worship sometime this spring. The final stanza of the hymn is particularly meaningful:

*Be still, my soul! The hour is hastening on
when we shall be forever with the Lord, when
disappointment, grief and fear are gone,
sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.
Be still, my soul! When change and tears are
past, all safe and blessed we shall meet at last.*

From the bottom of our hearts, thank you Noah and choir members for this memory we will treasure forever. "

The Plowman Chamber Music Competition

March 21-24

One of the nation's finest and most respected chamber music competitions returns to Columbia, March 21-24. The Plowman Chamber Music Competition, first a work of the Missouri Symphony Society but now operated by the Odyssey Chamber Music Series, will include four concerts and a full day of competition by talented musicians from around the nation.



On Saturday, March 23, First Baptist will host the all day competition. Chamber music groups will be given 20 minutes to perform in front of internationally acclaimed judges. Approximately 15 groups from all across the United States will perform. The judges will then select the top four. These four will present full 40 minute concert programs as part of the finals competition at the Missouri Theater on Sunday, March 24. Over \$10,000 in prize money will be awarded. This is an event worth listening too. Evening concerts by the judges will also be spectacular. You can attend the Saturday session, all day, for a minimal fee. Tickets for Sunday are available at the Theater. For more information, go to odysseymissouri.org

St. Olaf Handbell Concert

March 2, 7 pm in the sanctuary

St. Olaf College proudly presents its premier handbell ensemble, the St. Olaf Handbell Choir, in concert here at First Baptist Church on Saturday, March 2 at 7 pm. This auditioned 13 member choir is the advanced ensemble of historic St. Olaf college in Northfield, Minnesota. St. Olaf is a liberal arts institution known as a pioneering school of music, and is a fine training college for church musicians. Their concert program will include something for everyone: original handbell compositions, hymn arrangements, some jazz, some rock, and a little movie magic. The concert is free and open to the public.



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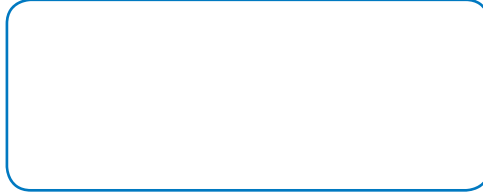
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"Return Service Requested"



February 20, 2019

the **SPIRE**

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Did God Kill Jesus?
UNDERSTANDING THE CROSS

Sermon Series
Feb. 24
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April 21

Ash Wednesday
March 6, 2019
6:00 pm