

May 1, 2019

the SPIRE

First Baptist Church
columbia



ForColumbia 2019

First Baptist had 65 people sign up to serve with ForColumbia. Together, we joined with over 2,000 volunteers from 54 churches in town to share the love of Christ with our community. Many thanks to all those who participated in this incredible day.



*Marin McEntyre
hard at work*



*Jordan Kausler
mulching at Hickman
High School*



*Volunteers at the FBC
Prayer Hub*



*Volunteers repair and relocate greenhouse at
Benton Elementary School*



*Yard Clean Up Crew at Mary Lee Johnston
Community Learning Center*



*Ken Hammann helping build shelves at
Hickman High School*



Word from Our Pastor



*Pastor Carol testifying,
photo: Columbia Tribune*

On April 16, I testified in Jefferson City before the Senate Education Committee against House Bill 267, which encourages “Biblical Literacy” classes to be taught in public high schools. This bill is part of a national effort, known as “Project Blitz,” which is a concerted attempt to push nearly identical legislation on Bible literacy classes across the country. Several Baptist groups including Churchnet in Missouri and The Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty in Washington D.C. have been monitoring these bills, which are designed to chip away at the our country’s historic church-state separation. I thought you might be interested in reading my testimony and hearing why I feel it is important to speak out against this bill.

“My name is Rev. Dr. Carol McEntyre. I am the Senior Pastor at First Baptist Church in Columbia, MO. I also serve on the Governing board for the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, an 1800-member fellowship of churches in the South and Midwest. I have spent my entire adult life studying, teaching, and preaching the Bible. I also read the Bible devotionally, for my own spiritual growth, almost every day. I love the Bible. But I am here today to oppose this bill for several reasons:

First, this bill is unnecessary. The academic study of religious texts, presented in a religiously neutral manner, is already protected under law. This bill doesn’t give any new rights. If a school or teacher wants to teach about the Bible from a historical or cultural perspective they already can. With all the problems that legislature needs to address, passing a redundant bill seems like a waste of your time and tax payer dollars. So, this bill is unnecessary.

Second, I believe this bill is unwise. Because requiring or encouraging schools to offer elective classes on the Bible’s literary and historical significance creates so many unnecessary problems. This bill looks innocuous- but it creates lots of complications. Like, who gets to decide which Bible to teach? Do you use the Protestant Bible that contains 66 books or the Catholic Bible which contains 73? In addition, it is very difficult to teach knowledge of biblical content, characters, and narratives without getting into the weeds about how to interpret the Bible. For instance, some Christians believe that the opening of the book of Genesis teaches a literal seven-day creation of the world by God and that Adam and Eve were the first humans who ever lived. But other Christians believe that God created the world yet they see Genesis as a poetic retelling of how creation happened and not a literal retelling. If you ask a Lutheran, a Catholic, an Episcopal, a Pentecostal, a Methodist, a Mormon and a Presbyterian to weigh in on that one passage, you would get at least 20 different opinions about it! So, who gets to decide what is taught?

I am also the parent of two small children. Last night, as I was putting my 4-year-old daughter to bed, we read the story of Jonah and the whale in her beginner’s Bible. It is a miraculous story about Jonah living in the belly of a fish for 3 days. Scientists will tell you that the story is anatomically implausible. Someday my daughter is going to ask me if it really happened. I look forward to teaching her about the complexities of biblical interpretation. But, I want to be the one to talk with her about it. Not the state. So, as a pastor and a devoted Christian, I am asking you to stop this bill before it creates a lot of unnecessary problems.”

Carol McEntyre

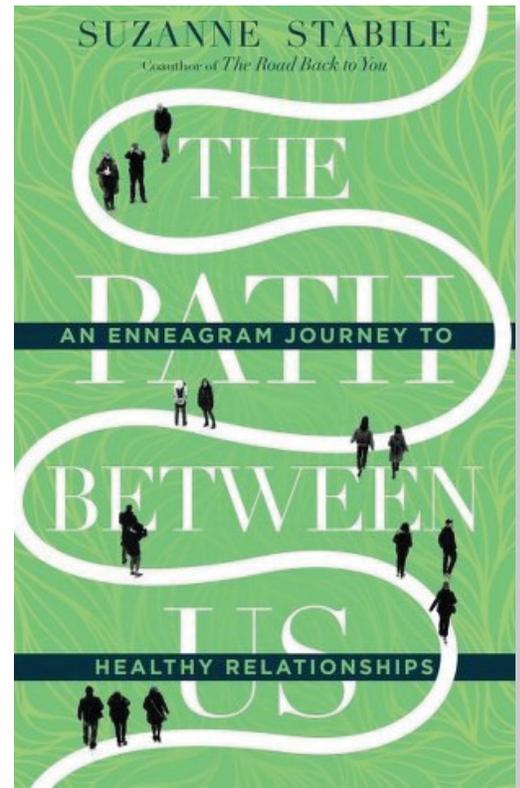


The Enneagram and Relationships

6-week discussion with Rev. Brittany McDonald Null

Begins June 9

So you know your Enneagram number - now what? Last Summer, First Baptist spent the summer talking about the Enneagram, a personality typing system that offers a path towards greater self-discovery and transformation. But the Enneagram also provides a unique path towards mutual understanding as we learn others do not see the world the way we do. Enneagram teacher, Suzanne Stabile, offers a new lens on the Enneagram in her book, *The Path Between Us: An Enneagram Journey to Healthy Relationships*. This summer, beginning Sunday June 9, at 10:15am in the Hospitality Room, Pastoral Resident Brittany McDonald Null will lead a 6-week discussion on *The Path Between Us* and the Enneagram and relationships. Each week the group will focus on a different topic regarding the Enneagram and relationships, rather than discussing number-by-number, so it is recommended that you read the book (and especially your type) prior to the first meeting. If you are new to this Enneagram conversation, but wish to participate, *The Road Back to You* by Ian Morgan Cron and Suzanne Stabile is a great primer. If you have any questions or to sign-up, email Brittany at bnull@fbc-columbia.org



First Baptist Giving Update

Thank you for giving! Your gifts help fund our missions efforts, church ministries, pastors' salaries, and our beautiful facilities. Through the end of March, we have received about \$93,000 in pledges and unpledged gifts, which puts us right on pace for the year!

All-Team Meeting

May 13

6:00 pm

Fellowship Hall

The Visioning Team has been hard at work distilling all of your feedback from the Church Wide Visioning. Last week, the Visioning Team presented their findings during the combined small group hour. The next step is to host an all-team meeting on Monday, May 13 at 6 pm in the Fellowship Hall. During the meeting, the Visioning Team will hand over all data to the respective teams and answer any questions about the process. All members of church teams are invited to attend. Please RSVP to the church office by noon on Friday, May 10. Dinner will be provided and childcare is available upon request.





Easter 2019





Artistic Process at First Baptist

Each piece of art that enhances our worship services, has a story behind the scenes. The beautiful Easter decor created by Project Coordinator, Brenda Rice, was supplemented with a volunteer project this year. The woven artwork featured in this year's Easter Sunday services was handcrafted by Jen Boeckman, Paige Boeckman, and Kimberly Moeller.

CDC Graduation

May 10 - 5:00 pm

Fellowship Hall

The Child Development Center will recognize 11 graduates who will move on to kindergarten in the fall of 2019. Families are invited to join us in a potluck dinner on Friday, May 10 from 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. All CDC children will celebrate in song during the preschool graduation. Families are invited to bring your favorite main dish, side dish, or dessert to share following the brief graduation program.



Child Development Center
at First Baptist Church Est. 1969

-2019 Graduates-

*Lena Busch
Gregor Galloway
Anya Johnson
Junseo Lee
Haley Simonson
Lucas Tratchel*

*Chaeyul Lim
Kim Yul
Claire Jun
Rowan Reed
Gemma Smallheer
Abel Wright*

30th Anniversary Concert of the Columbia Handbell Ensemble

June 8 at 7 pm

For 30 years, First Baptist Church has been home of the nationally recognized Columbia Handbell Ensemble, and to commemorate 30 years of excellence in music, the ensemble will be presenting a concert on Saturday, June 8 in our sanctuary. The ensemble has an amazing list of accomplishments and its 30 years of existence makes it one of the longest running community groups in the nation. The group has played for 9 regional and national events of the Handbell Musicians of America; has 21 selections written specifically for the CHE; has involved over 90 ringers, including 11 First Baptist members; was founded by First Baptist members Deb Carr and Ed Rollins (and they have conducted 25 of the groups 30 years); and has collaborated with over 30 organizations from across mid-Missouri. Former ringers and directors will be participating in the concert.

You are invited to join us for this musical celebration and for a reception honoring 30 years of existence. Tickets are \$7 in advance, \$10 at the door, and \$1 for children 12 and under. Contact Ed Rollins at rollins@fbc-columbia.org for additional information or tickets.



- Congratulations to all of our Graduates! -



Amber Fisher
High School

- Graduating from Hallsville High School

Amber will be attending Missouri State University in the fall, and is majoring in Elementary Education. She is the daughter of Pam and Darrell Fisher.

Lexie Kieffer
Bachelor of Social Work

- Graduated from University of Missouri

Lexie is currently pursuing her Master of Social Work at the University of Missouri with an emphasis on policy, planning, and administration. She currently works at Easterseals Midwest and plans to be an administrator for an agency that provides autism services.



Kaitlyn Agan
*Bachelor of Science in
Special Education, K-12*

- Graduating from University of Missouri

Kaitlyn has accepted a position teaching in an elementary Bilingual Life Skills classroom in Austin, Texas next fall.





Rebecca (Becky) Lindenmuth

*Educational Specialist Degree in Mathematics Education and
Elementary Mathematics Specialist Graduate Certificate*

- Graduating from University of Missouri

Continue teaching with an eventual goal of being a math specialist or math learning coach. Her parents are Andy & Carrie Steere.



Rev. Dr. Carol McEntyre

Doctorate of Ministry

- Graduated from Drew University, Madison, NJ

Carol's area of study was the intersection of worship, preaching, and spirituality. After graduation, Carol plans to continue pastoring at First Baptist Church in Columbia, MO.



Dr. Lisa Groshong

*Doctorate of Human Dimensions
of Natural Resources*

- Graduated from University of Missouri

Lisa Groshong completed her PhD in human dimensions of Natural Resources at the University of Missouri. She hopes to find a job in social science research.



Rev. (Soon-to-be Dr.) Michael McEntyre

*Doctorate of Ministry in Youth,
Family, and Culture*

- Graduating from Fuller Theological Seminary

After graduation Michael plans to either change the future of Student Ministry as we know it, or take a nap.



Ministerial Staff:

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Bethany James, Nursery Director
Mike Ide, Custodian

Child Development Center:

Jess Wolfe, Director
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May 1, 2019



**WEAR
RED
for
PENTECOST
Sunday**

Pentecost Combined Worship
June 9 - 9:15 am in the Fellowship Hall

the **SPIRE**

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