

May 5, 2021

# the SPIRE

First Baptist Church  
columbia



## Annual Church Picnic 2021 Sunday, June 13 at Bethel Park 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

What is different about this year's church picnic? Well, we get to have it!

Typically, we bring a side dish to share. We are not doing that this year, but you can bring your own meal or snacks. You can also bring your favorite outdoor game. Your lawn chair might be nice too. Plus, we get to have the (almost) Annual World Championship Egg Toss!

*Pictured right:*  
Previous Egg Toss Champions -2019  
Auben Galloway & Michael McEntyre  
( and Nate McEntyre)





# Word from the Pastor



## Word from the Pastor

First Baptist,

As you know on April 6, the Church Council met and moved to form a Discernment Committee dedicated to determining the future of the Child Development Center (CDC) at First Baptist. The CDC has been closed since the pandemic began and the

time has come to decide if it will remain permanently closed or if it will reopen. For over 50 years, CDC has been a ministry of First Baptist Church, and either of these decisions will require input and ownership from the church as a whole. Therefore, the Church Council decided to put together a Discernment Committee with broad representation from the church body.



**Child Development Center**  
at First Baptist Church Est. 1969

The Discernment Committee is tasked with determining:

- If there is still a need for a Child Development Center like ours?
- If there is still a need, is it feasible to reopen CDC?
- Finally, if it is feasible, does the church want to invest in reopening and maintaining CDC?

As of last week, the Discernment Committee has been recruited and is beginning their work. The Discernment Committee includes: Patty Cornell (chair), Ken Hammann, Russ Scott, Myra Galloway and Noah Hartsfield. As Pastor of Families, Brittany McDonald Null will serve as the staff liaison to the committee. We are grateful for their willingness to serve. We invite you to be in prayer for them as they begin their work. Be sure to watch your Spire for more information.

*Carl McIntyre*



First Baptist family,

Throughout the pandemic, First Baptist has worked to make decisions that reflect our love for our neighbor and care for our community through intentional and thoughtful practices for worship and in person gatherings. We are grateful for the ways the Spirit has been at work in our congregation in the last year and grateful to you, First Baptist, for the way you have pulled together and cared for one another. We are still here worshipping, ministering, and growing in Christ together. Throughout this period, the Church Council has met continually to evaluate circumstances and assess the best information available to guide our process. Given all of this and the changing recommendations of the Center for Disease Control (CDC), continued roll out of the Covid vaccine, and the city's revised guidelines, we want to lay out the Church Council's path forward for the months to come.

First, let me acknowledge that the transition process to a new normal will be just that, a process. We acknowledge that we will have members and friends at various stages of risk and protection from Covid. We also know that there are lessons and practices we have learned over the last year that we want to integrate into the life that is to come, such as an engaging online worship experience and hybrid small group opportunities that allow people to join our community no matter where they are. On top of this, our worship spaces and facilities have been reconfigured for over a year to wholly support virtual experiences, and that transition to a hybrid system that values online engagement as well as a meaningful in-person worship will take some time to figure out.

As we seek to balance these realities, and as we find our new normal, we will need your help and patience as we grow into these new ministry opportunities. To begin this process, the Church Council is excited to share a plan to move to two in-person worship opportunities designed to help us meet the challenges mentioned.

## **9:15 and 11:15 Sunday Morning Worship**

Beginning Sunday, June 6, we will move our outdoor, in-person, on-lawn service to 9:15 am. This will allow those who might not be ready to worship indoors the opportunity to continue worshipping outside even as the weather warms up. It will also allow for more choices during the worship experience, social distancing will still be practiced and we will ask that masks be worn at times when social distancing cannot be maintained, but during the worship service itself, individuals may choose to sing and respond without wearing a mask.

Our 11:15 am service will be a hybrid worship experience for both online and in-person, indoor worship in the sanctuary. The idea for this service will be to learn how we will move forward with a service that engages those in the room and online simultaneously. Knowing that there will be members and friends that are uncomfortable, or unable, to return to indoors worship, we do not wish to simply move back to recording the service for others to watch online apart from the community. Instead, we hope to lean into a worship experience that can be shared with our entire church family, no matter where they find themselves.

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We also know that because of the age and design of our sanctuary, it does not meet the recommended air exchange rate needed for unrestricted, indoor gatherings. As such, the hybrid service will maintain social distancing in the sanctuary with designated seating areas and masks will be required at all times for attendees, even if vaccinated. We will also ask that while indoors, congregational singing be engaged in a heart-felt manner, but not at a robust volume.

Please remember that part of the reason we do this is because, while the vaccine is available to many, it is not available to all. Currently children have no option to be protected from the virus other than personal choices and the goodwill of the community. While we understand this is not the way we desire to enter into worship, we do desire to support our families and create as safe a space as possible for children and youth to be a part of in-person worship.

Our current plan is to follow this model throughout June and July to help us find our best practices for worshiping together with our church family and beyond. During this time, our Awakening and Traditional music teams will rotate leadership between services every three weeks. Throughout this process, feedback from those joining online, on-lawn, and indoor worship will be vital to shaping our future ministry opportunities. As such, we are creating a special email [onechurch@fbc-columbia.org](mailto:onechurch@fbc-columbia.org) for you to share your ideas and thoughts.

## **10:15 Sunday Morning Adult Small Groups**

Adult small groups can resume in-person gatherings inside the building beginning Sunday, June 6. The Church Council has also moved to create hybrid learning spaces for that will allow some of our Sunday Morning Small Groups to have folks in-person and others online in the same small group. The idea is to create an interactive experience that brings participants together in a way that is engaging for all involved. Hopefully, this technology will be up and running by Sunday, June 6!

## **Children and Youth Ministry**

### Birth-Kindergarten

Beginning June 6, childcare will be available for children birth-kindergarten during both services. Children can be dropped off at the nursery 15 minutes before service. Babies-2 year olds will remain in the nursery and children 3 years old and up will transition to either the playground (weather permitting) or gym.

### Children's Sunday School

During June and July, children (4 years old through 5th grade) will meet in the Fellowship Hall for Sunday School during the 10:15 hour. Children will begin with socially-distanced large group activities and then transition to smaller groups within the space for learning and play. Weather permitting, children may spend some time outside but will always begin and end in the Fellowship Hall.

Childcare will continue to be provided in the nursery for children birth-3 years old during the small group hour. We ask that children two years old and up wear a mask to the best of their ability.



## Youth

Youth Sunday School will resume Sunday, June 6. Students will return to the Youth Suite on the 3rd floor and will be asked to wear their masks and remain socially distanced. Weather and space permitting, classes may spend some time outdoors, but the small group time will always begin in the Youth Suite.

## **Safety Precautions**

Last week, mask guidelines for outdoor gatherings were updated by the Center for Disease Control. For First Baptist on-lawn gatherings, this means we ask you to wear masks at outdoor events when social distancing is not possible, but you may remove them when distance is maintained.

While Boone County recently decided to lift the mask ordinance, the CDC continues to recommend everyone wear masks while inside. Therefore, we are asking that people wear masks when inside our building for worship and other events. Fully vaccinated pastoral staff may remove masks when leading in worship from the chancel.

## **Passing the Peace**

- For On-lawn worship, we will begin moving around and greeting one another during the passing of the peace.
- For Hybrid worship we will conclude with a processional to the front lawn, where we will pass the peace of Christ and fellowship together.

Throughout the summer months, we will continue to build our in-person offerings, and slowly resume other elements of our ministry as safely as possible. This plan is both careful and hopeful, and will continue the practices of planning, evaluation, and healthy experimentation we have utilized throughout this pandemic.

*-First Baptist Church Council & Pastoral Staff*



## HONORING OUR 2021 GRADUATES



### **JOSIAH HAKE**

Graduating from  
*Christian Fellowship*

*Joey plans to attend Missouri S&T and pursue a career in  
Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering.*

### **JOSEPH EDGAR**

Graduating from  
*Hickman High School*

*Joe plans to attend State Technical College of Missouri for  
robots and automation.*



### **RACHEL JEFFRIES**

Graduating from  
*Battle High School*

*Rachel plans to study at MACC to become a veterinary  
technician.*

# 2021 Graduates



## TRUMAN BUTLER

Bachelor of Music Performance

*University of Missouri*

*Truman plans to pursue a graduate degree to further train in voice and opera.*



## NICHOLAS EDGAR

Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering, minors in  
Aerospace Engineering & Mathematics

*University of Missouri*

*Nick plans to work in the aerospace industry.*

## ISABEL QUINTELA S MARTINS

Master of Music in Voice

*University of Missouri*

*Isabel plans to start a voice studio in Brazil and will look for opportunities in professional opera productions.*



## JEFFREY ADAMS

Doctor of Physical Therapy

*University of Missouri*

*Jeff is beginning an Orthopedic Physical Therapy Residency program through Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland, with long-term plans of becoming a clinical professor.*



## First Families Pentecost Party Sunday, May 23 2-4 pm on the front lawn

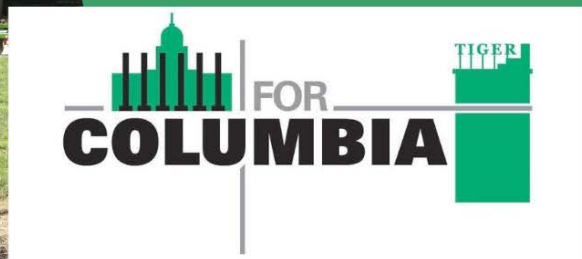
Pentecost is the day we celebrate the descent of the Holy Spirit on the disciples of Jesus after he ascended. This celebration happens on the seventh Sunday after Easter. This year, Pentecost is on Sunday, May 23. On the day of Pentecost, our church colors are red to reflect the story found in Acts 2 where the Spirit comes like fire. We celebrate by dressing in red too!

This year, in celebration of Pentecost, First Kids will be hosting a family event to celebrate Pentecost. Beginning at 2 pm we will hear the Pentecost story and celebrate the gift of the Spirit and the birthday of the Church with cupcakes and pinwheels. Following our guided Pentecost activities, we will have

some fun opportunities to gather with sidewalk paint, 9 square in the air, and more. Additionally, the playground will be open but please note there will not be a paid childcare worker to monitor. Wear red and come join the party!



*Brittany McDonald-Null*



2021  
Workday  
June 5

## Sign up now to serve with ForColumbia 2021 on June 5

First Baptist will be leading sites at Benton Elementary and our Extra Mile House, but ForColumbia has lots of different projects all across the city that can accommodate any skill set or limitation. Check out the serving options at <https://www.forcolumbia.com/serving-sites/>. You can also read about Covid safety measures and plans for serving safely on the website as well. When you sign up on the site, be sure to choose First Baptist for your sponsoring church and list the name of the site you are interested in serving in the comments/group section. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to email Michael at [mmcentyre@fbc-columbia.org](mailto:mmcentyre@fbc-columbia.org) for help. Thanks for helping us spread God's love through out our city.





## First Baptist Hiking Club First Hike of the Season

The inaugural First Baptist hike was on April 25 at the Forum Nature area. Nine FBC hikers joined this community of faith to enjoy nature as a group. The group hiked approximately 1.75 miles through lovely terrain that included an amphibian sanctuary where you can hear the many different types of frogs and also see turtles congregating on fallen trees in the lake nearby. The sun was shining and the temperature was just right! The group spent time connecting with each other while exercising and feeling the spiritual link to nature.

The next hike is set for Saturday, May 15 at 1 pm at Three Creeks Conservation Area. We hope to see you there for this lovely experience of faith, community, and nature. See the below schedule for directions and details, and also to mark your calendar for future hikes.

Hiking Schedule: Mark your calendars! The below schedule includes the dates, locations, and trail details for the FBC Hiking Group activities throughout 2021. Monthly hikes will rotate between Saturdays and Sundays, with every 3rd month offering an adventure beyond Columbia. All in town events include an initial hike for everyone to participate in, and then a second more strenuous option afterward for those wanting a bit more exercise. Out of town trips will be more of a mix of options - some of these trails are less strenuous, but some are new to us as well, and will be an adventure for us all!

We look forward to hiking with you throughout this year! For more information, email Kimberly Moeller at [knmoelle@gmail.com](mailto:knmoelle@gmail.com) or Misty Phillips at [mistya2014@gmail.com](mailto:mistya2014@gmail.com).

*-Kimberly & Misty*



- 5/15 Three Creeks Conservation Area
- 6/27 Binder Memorial Park, Jefferson City
- 7/24 Bear Creek Trail
- 8/22 Finger Lakes
- 9/25 Ha Ha Tonka State Park, Lake of the Ozarks
- 10/24 Hart Creek Conservation Area
- 11/20 Bonnie View Nature Sanctuary
- 12/19 Grindstone Nature Area

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**Ministerial Staff:**

**Carol McEntyre**, Senior Pastor  
*mcentyre@fbc-columbia.org*

**Michael McEntyre**, Pastor of Youth, Missions  
& Administration  
*mmcentyre@fbc-columbia.org*

**Brittany McDonald Null**, Pastor of Families &  
Spiritual Formation  
*bnull@fbc-columbia.org*

**Music Staff:**

**Colleen Ostercamp**, Organist  
*gostercamp@gmail.com*

**Shelby Myers**, Awakening Praise Band Director  
*smyers@fbc-columbia.org*

**Amy Johns**, Music Director-Traditional  
*ajohns@fbc-columbia.org*

**Support Staff:**

**Susan Goudie**, Administrative Assistant  
*churchinfo@fbc-columbia.org*

**Brenda Rice**, Project Coordinator  
*brice@fbc-columbia.org*

**Bethany James**, Nursery Director  
**Mike Ide**, Custodian

"Return Service Requested"



May 5, 2021



**First Families Pentecost Party**  
See page 8 for more info!

the **SPIRE**

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