

May 19, 2021

the SPIRE



First Baptist Church
columbia



Sign Up Now!

Saturday, June 5

ForColumbia
Serving Columbia, side by side.

Sign up at ForColumbia.com
Registration deadline is **May 24**

Sign Up - ForColumbia

ForColumbia has many different projects all across the city that can accommodate any skill set or limitation (such as making freezer meals, organizing donations, stencil artwork, painting projects, working in community gardens, and an online prayer group). First Baptist will be leading sites at Benton Elementary by spreading mulch, installing fencing, transplanting flowers, building a chicken coop and repairing playground equipment and our Extra Mile House by demoing sheetrock, ceilings, and flooring, and working outside planting flowers, clearing fence rows, and general yardwork. If you have questions, contact Michael McEntyre at mmcentyre@fbc-columbia.org. Sign up today at <https://www.forcolumbia.com> and help spread God's love throughout our city.

MAY/JUNE 2021

DATES TO REMEMBER



23 MAY	FIRST FAMILIES PENTECOST PARTY 2 PM	FIRST FAMILIES PENTECOST PARTY Sunday, May 23 2-4 pm on the front lawn
24 MAY	LAST DAY TO SIGN UP - FORCOLUMBIA	FOR COLUMBIA
31 MAY	MEMORIAL DAY - OFFICES CLOSED	
6 JUN	NEW WORSHIP SCHEDULE (SEE PAGE 3)	9:15 AM ON-LAWN 11:15 AM SANCTUARY & ONLINE
13 JUN	CHURCH PICNIC AT BETHEL PARK 4 PM	



Word from the Pastor

First Baptist,

I am looking forward to Sunday, June 6, and our return to in person worship in the Sanctuary. I cannot wait to worship together in our sacred space. At the same time, I know the pandemic has changed the landscape of ministry going forward. I recognize that many people are looking forward to coming back to in-person worship in our building, but others will choose to continue worshipping primarily online. I get it, particularly for those who no longer drive, for those who are part of our church but don't live in Columbia, and for others who prefer to worship online, this is a new reality. To thrive in the future, our congregation needs to embrace this new digital landscape and see it as an opportunity to grow our ministry and outreach. This is a shift in how we do things and change in our philosophy of ministry. Our church leadership is trying to think "hybrid church," meaning how do we minister to people who are here in person and online. We want to see digital not as an 'accommodation', but as real ministry and a chance to reach more people simultaneously. You may wonder, "What does this mean for our church going forward?" In the future, some events will be in-person only, some will be online only, and many others will be hybrid (accessible to an in-person and online congregation). We know this will take some getting used to and a lot of forethought and work on our part.

Right now, we are also trying to figure out how to make the worship service in our sanctuary (and eventually) the fellowship hall more conducive to the hybrid experience. In 2019, our webcast was simply a bird's eye view of worship in the Sanctuary (and Fellowship Hall). Those watching online were eavesdropping on our worship service and the webcast wasn't really focused on the online participants. Now we speak to the online worshippers, our camera placement is focused on them; we have virtual greeters and the ability to respond through online chat, providing text and lyrics on the broadcast screen for participants, and many more adjustments have created a webcast that allows those online to engage with our worship experience as active participants, not just viewers. Our goal in the coming months is to figure out how to build on what we have learned during the pandemic about online worship and craft worship that meets the needs of those worshipping in person and online at the same time. We know this is going to be an adjustment and take some time. I ask for your patience, your prayers, and your help as we work to figure this out!



Changes to Worship Schedule - 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.
- Our 11:15 am service will be a hybrid service for both in-person, indoor worship in the sanctuary and online. The hybrid service will maintain social distancing in the sanctuary with designated seating areas. Masks will be required at all times for attendees, even if vaccinated.

Contemplative Retreat at Conception Abbey

October 8-10 (Friday morning through Sunday evening), you are invited to join me, Pastor Carol, for a contemplative retreat at Conception Abbey, a beautiful Benedictine monastery located in northwest Missouri. The quiet setting and rural atmosphere of Conception Abbey is the ideal place for retreat.



A contemplative retreat is an opportunity to set aside time to be quiet and spend time with God. The schedule for the retreat is intentionally very open. On Friday afternoon, we will gather at the Abbey for worship and to set the intention for the weekend. You will receive a simple devotional guide with questions, scriptures, and quotes for reflection. Then, we will enter a 24-hour period of silence and listening. During the 24-hour period (from Friday evening, until Saturday evening) you are free to rest, read, journal or walk the lovely grounds at the abbey. You may also choose to join the monastic community for prayer in the Basilica; they gather six times a day to pray. After the Saturday evening meal, we will gather to share what we have experienced during our day of silence, followed by a time of fellowship. Sunday morning, we join in worship again, and share a meal before returning home.

A motel-type building at the Abbey allows private rooms. We will have six scheduled meals in the dining hall—dinner Friday through lunch on Sunday. The cost is \$150.00 for a single room or a double room is \$145.00. Meals are included in the cost. We have 10 rooms reserved, which means registration is limited and early registration is encouraged. To register or for more information contact Pastor Carol at mcentyre@fbc-columbia.org.

Be Still and Know That I am God -Psalm 46:10

"We need to find God, and God cannot be found in noise and restlessness. God is the friend of silence. See how nature – trees, flowers, grass – grows in silence; see the stars, the moon, and the sun, how they move in silence... we need silence to be able to touch souls." –Mother Theresa

Carol McEntyre



NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

welcome

MIKE

&

CINDY

GIOVANNINI

About Mike & Cindy

"Mike and I first met while at Hickman High School. Both of us attended and graduated from MIZZOU and later married. We have two awesome adult children (both MIZZOU grads) and have been blessed with four beautiful grandchildren. We both love nature and find every opportunity to be out experiencing creation. Mike loves to hunt and fish and I love to hike, jazzercise and travel.

Mike's early years involved a Catholic education/church and I have always been a part of a Baptist Church. I learned very early that Baptist churches are not the same, depending on the history and leadership of the church. Through my dear friend Marsha Randell, I had the opportunity to meet Pastor Carol several years ago. I also attended worship with Marsha on several occasions.

Through life's journey I have always had pivotal moments in my life where I felt the need to be more present with God. A couple of years ago Mike and I both felt we needed to find a church family where we could serve and grow with other like-minded believers. We are extremely happy to now be a part of the First Baptist family. Thank you for so graciously accepting us into this church family."



First Families Pentecost Party

Sunday, May 23

2-4 pm on the front lawn

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-Mull



Church Picnic 2021

Sunday, June 13 at Bethel Park

4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Please plan to bring your own meal or snacks. You can also bring your favorite outdoor game and lawn chairs.

Register Today for the 2021 Biennial Mission Summit

Registration is open for the American Baptist Churches Biennial Mission Summit, meeting online Thursday, June 24 to Saturday, June 26, 2021. Plan now to experience the vitality of our American Baptist family together with other American Baptists from all corners of the United States and the world during our first ever denomination-wide online Biennial Mission Summit!

www.americanbaptists2021.com





Summer One Read (s)



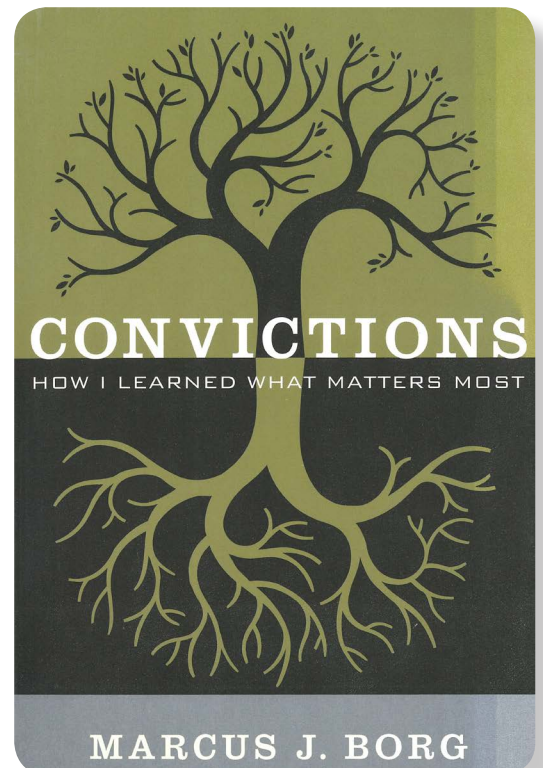
First Baptist Summer One Read(s)

Are you looking for something to read over the summer? Look no further. Back by popular demand is our summer one read(s)! We have chosen three books for our One Read. You can read one or read them all. The idea is for everyone to read at their own pace over the summer and then, join the conversations about them in the fall. Hopefully, the books will be thought-provoking, encourage spiritual growth, and fruitful discussion. Books are \$15 each and can be purchased on Sunday mornings or at the church office during the week.

Convictions: How I Learned What Matters Most **by Marcus Borg**

On his seventieth birthday, the renowned progressive Christian scholar Marcus Borg wrote *Convictions*. He shares how his bedrock religious beliefs were formed, contending that Christians in America are at their best when they focus on hope and transformation. This book is a manifesto for all progressive Christians who seek the best path for following Jesus today.

With each chapter discussing a distinct conviction, Borg writes provocatively and compellingly on the beliefs that can deeply ground us and guide us, such as: God is real, and a mystery and salvation is more about this life than an afterlife.

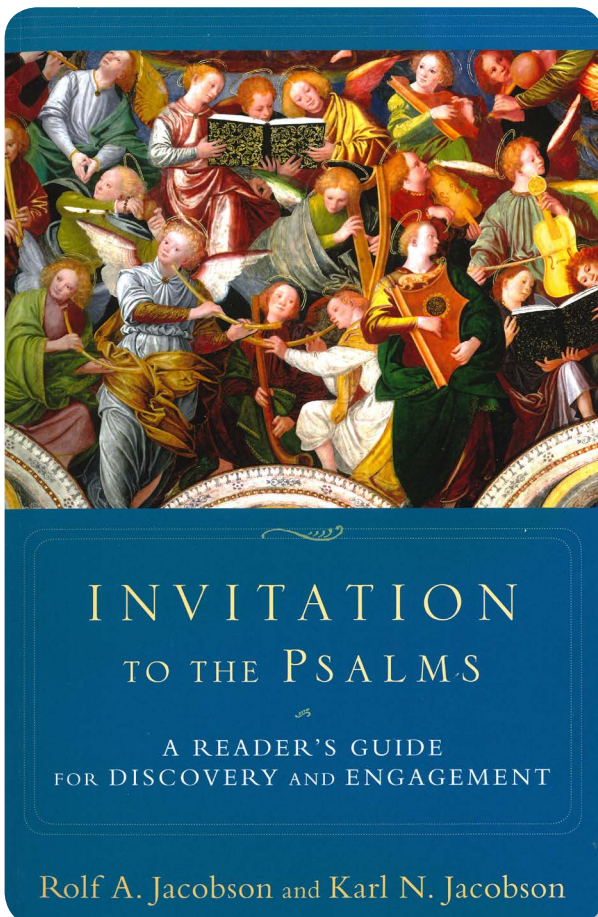
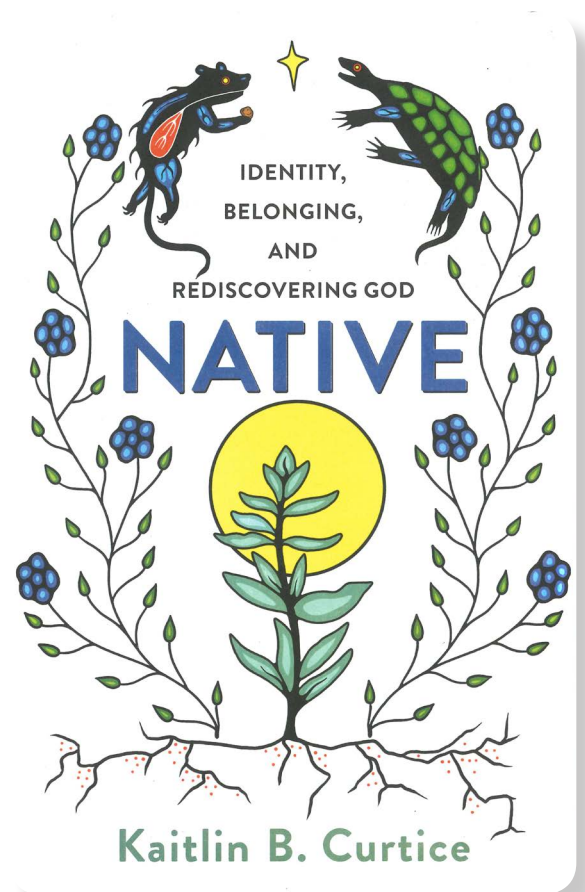




Native: Identity, Belonging, and Rediscovering God by Kaitlin Curtice.

Native is about identity, soul-searching, and the never-ending journey of finding ourselves and finding God. As both a citizen of the Potawatomi Nation and a Christian, Kaitlin Curtice offers a unique perspective on these topics. Curtice writes about how reconnecting with her Potawatomi identity both informs and challenges her faith. *Native* is part memoir describing Kaitlin's faith journey and part historically reckoning, as she grapples with the ways the church has often been intertwined with white supremacy.

Native is deeply personal, beautifully written, and thought provoking. Each section begins with an illustrated poem from Potawatomi tradition.



Invitation to the Psalms by Rolf A. Jacobson & Karl N. Jacobson

This book was chosen to enhance our fall Shepherd Lecture. Dr. Nancy DeClaisse-Walford a Hebrew Bible scholar and professor at McAfee School of Theology will be our fall Shepherd Lecture speaker. She will be leading a multiweek Bible Study, during the 10:15 Small Group hour, on the Psalms beginning September 12. She recommended our first Summer One Read, which is *Invitation to the Psalms* by Rolf A. Jacobson.

Invitation to the Psalms is a winsome accessible introduction to the Psalms that delves into how to read Hebrew poetry, the Psalter's basic genres, the metaphorical world of the Psalms, and the theology of the Psalms. If you want to get the most out of our fall Bible study, be sure to pick up a copy.

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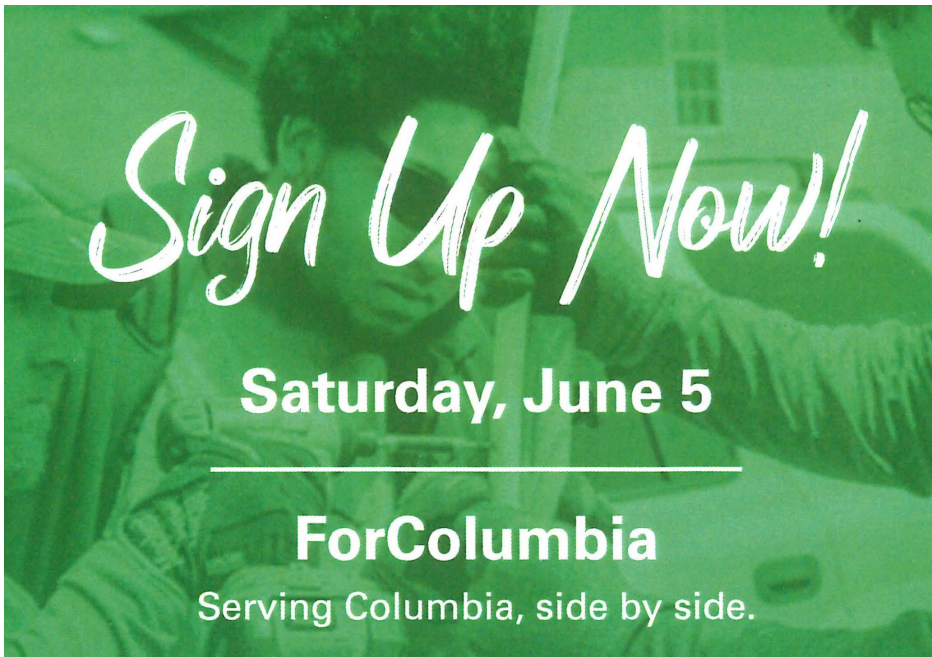
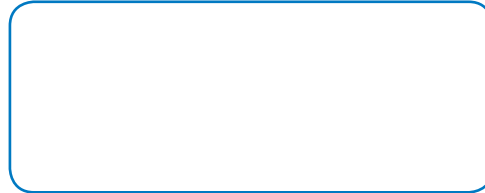
Music Staff:

Colleen Ostercamp, Organist
gostercamp@gmail.com
Shelby Myers, Awakening Praise Band Director
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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"



ForColumbia Workday

This is the last week to sign up to serve with ForColumbia this year. In 2019, 55 people from First Baptist signed up to share Christ's love in our community. So far, we have 20 people registered to participate this year. Head to the ForColumbia website today and join a team.

May 19, 2021

the **SPIRE**

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