

November 30, 2016

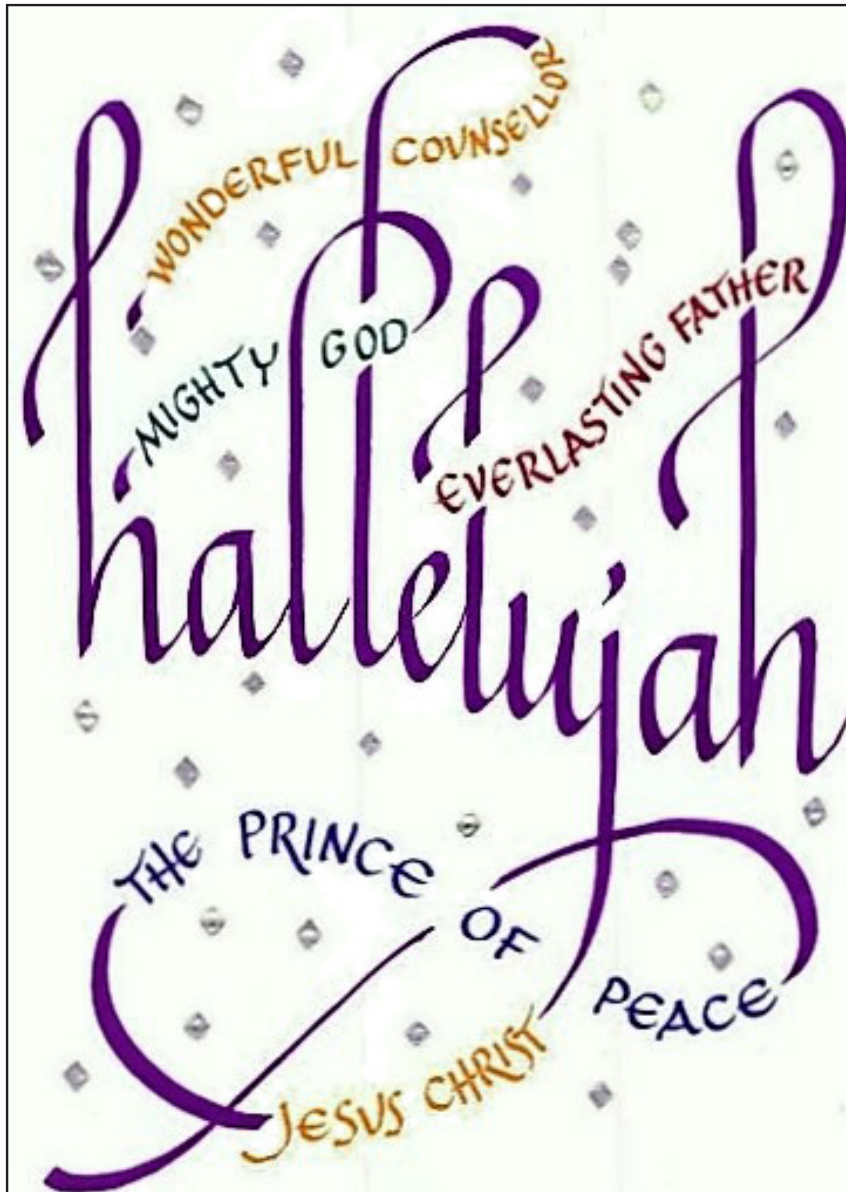
the SPIRE

 **First Baptist Church**
columbia



Advent 2016

What's In a Name?



Celebrate Advent with us during 9:15 and 11:15 am worship, as we focus on the royal titles of Jesus: Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace!

December 4

Share in the joy of the Advent season through music, message, and Communion in worship.

December 11

Annual Christmas Dinner at 5 pm
Bring side dishes and desserts to share.

December 24

Christmas Eve is the most beautiful worship service of the year, when we gather to celebrate the birth of our savior. Carols, the Christmas story, and the traditional candlelight singing of Silent Night, make this a memorable time of worship and celebration. It is a wonderful "homecoming" for many who have moved away from Columbia.

December 25

Just a few hours after our Christmas Eve worship, we gather again at the 11:15 am hour for a combined worship celebration. There will be no Awakening service or Sunday Morning Small Groups.

Please see inside for other seasonal events and holiday concerts.





'Tis the Season...

...for music!

Odyssey Chamber Music Series

Friday, December 2nd, 7 pm in the sanctuary
Join us for a "Hot Sleigh Ride" as Odyssey presents another fabulous chamber music concert. The virtuosity on display in this jaw-dropping program will leave you breathless! Enjoy Leroy Anderson's popular *Sleigh Ride* for two pianos; *DRAX* with saxophonist Leo Saguiguit and percussionist Megan Arns; and Nikolai Kapustin's *Concerto for Two Pianos and Percussion*.



Harmony for the Holidays

Saturday, December 3rd, 7 pm at Missouri Theater
This concert features the Boonslick Chordbusters with special guests, Columbia's 5th Grade Honors Choir. For tickets, visit 222.chordbusters.com or call 573-529-6821.

Columbia Handbell Ensemble

Friday, December 9th, 7 pm at First Christian Church
or
Sunday, December 11th, 2 pm in our sanctuary
A holiday favorite for kids of all ages – come for the concert and stay for the Christmas dinner! You'll enjoy the music of familiar carols, some classics and a few holiday tunes.

...for children!



Our Director of Children's Ministry, Yvette Chambers, has organized a delivery of Christmas cards from our children to residents of Lenoir Woods, 3710 S Lenoir Street. Parents and children, as well as anyone else who would like to participate, should meet in Lenoir Woods parking lot by 1 p.m. on Sunday, December 18th. If you have any questions, please contact Yvette at chambers@fbc-columbia.org.

...for food and fellowship!

Sunday, December 11 - 5:00 pm

Christmas celebrations would not be complete without the First Baptist Church Annual Christmas Dinner which will be held on Sunday, December 11. This annual event is a festive way for our church family and friends to gather for food, fun and the joy of the season.



The dinner will have an earlier start time this year of 5:00 pm, and will take place in our Fellowship Hall. Please plan to

arrive between 4:30 and 4:45 so that food can be in place for our 5:00 pm start. The church will provide turkey and ham. Please bring side dishes and desserts to share.

Special Christmas Dinner Entertainment:

- * Cathy Barton and Dave Para - nationally recognized folk singers and "some of our own" - Cathy grew up at First Baptist.
- * Special music from our locally recognized kids!
- * Colleen and Deb taking us on a sleigh ride
- * YOU - blending your voices together in singing carols

Make plans to attend, and think about friends you would like to invite!

...for giving!

First Baptist Church is participating in the VAC Holiday sponsor program this year. We have chosen to sponsor 3 families! The First Baptist Church giving tree is on the bulletin board outside the CDC hallway.

Choose an item you would like to donate, sign your name on the list, then go shopping!



You can return your presents any time before December 11th. We are also accepting gifts of money and wrapping paper. On Sunday evening, December 11th we will wrap presents at the church Christmas party. Contact Janet Kieffer, jskieffer1969@gmail.com with any questions.



What's in a Name ?

Our theme for the Advent season focuses on the names for the Messiah given in Isaiah chapter 9: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father and Prince of Peace. In scripture, names have significance. For instance, the name Jesus is the Greek version of the Hebrew name Joshua which means "Yahweh saves." You recall, after he learns that she is pregnant, Joseph is ready to call off his engagement with Mary until the angel of the Lord commands him in a dream to name the baby that Mary is carrying, Jesus. For our Advent series, we invited First Baptist members and friends to share stories about their names. Here is one humorous story:

Corn McEntyre

I was named Esther C. (initial only) after my mother who died three days after I was born. Thankfully, my dad did not give me her middle name, Cornelia. In February of 1963, my husband Larry, and my two sons, Ed and Steven, and I moved to Sydney, Australia. When I applied for my Australian driver's license, the officer would not accept my signature. He told me I had to have a full name; I could not convince him that I did not have a middle name. My driver's license arrived and there was my signature: Esther (middle name unknown) Rollins!



Prayers & Concerns

Celebration:

Congratulations to Noah and Abby Hartsfield on the birth of their son, Gideon Rakestraw Hartsfield, who was born on November 21 at 4:15 pm. He weighs 7lbs 8oz and is 21in long.

Those of Our Church Family in Need of Prayer:

Chelsea Wells, who is undergoing cancer treatment.
Barry Kausler, who is undergoing cancer treatment.
Trish Blair, who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
Sean Douglas, who is at home recovering from pneumonia.
Betty Blase, who is in the hospital recovering from surgery for a broken leg.



Child Development Center

at First Baptist Church Est. 1969

Auction Update

Thank you to First Baptist friends for your generous support of the Child Development Center On-Line Auction. We raised \$2,446 to help with our programs. We appreciate your donations and bids!

Enjoy a Child-Free Morning

Need some free time for baking? cleaning? shopping? resting? The CDC has a deal for you!

On Saturday, Dec. 3 from 8-11 am, your kids can enjoy activities, gym time, snacks and lots of fun - just bring them to the CDC. Cost is \$10 for one child, and \$5 for each additional child. Proceeds will benefit the CDC. If interested, please contact Debby Riley at cdcdirector@fbc-columbia.org.

CDC on Parade

CDC kids and their families
enjoy riding on their float.



After being near the front of the parade, participants enjoyed watching the other floats go by.

The CDC school and office will be closed December 21st through January 3rd.
We will reopen beginning January 4th.

Generosity



Let Good Things Run Wild

Pledges for the 2017 general operating budget have been coming in steadily since our November combined worship pledge walk.

To date, 68 pledges have been received, totaling \$267,633

If you have not yet been able to return your pledge for 2017, pledge cards are available at each entrance to our worship spaces.

We are hoping to reach 300,300 in pledges.

Thank you for your generosity!

December First Baptist Adventure

On Wednesday December 17th, we will attend the Mizzou Women's Basketball game at 11 am. Tickets are low-priced, and we may be able to get you in for free with the generosity of those who have tickets they aren't using. (If anyone has a season pass but is not going to this game, please contact Paula Thomas at 875-1904 or paulalou52@gmail.com). Please bring a can of food for the food bank. After the game we'll enjoy lunch at 44 Stone. Please reserve your spot by contacting either Paula or the church office by December 14th.

Sermon Discussion Group

The sermon discussion group meets every other Sunday in the conference room after the 11:15 service. The group provides an opportunity to dig deeper into scriptural texts or topics from the day's sermon that you found intriguing, challenging, illuminating or confusing. Everyone is welcome! Our next meeting date is December 11. Dates for 2017 will be announced soon.

Important Youth Dates:

* The Calling / Studio 1B will continue to meet (6:15-7:15pm) through Wednesday Dec 14th.

* The Youth Christmas party is set for Sunday Dec 18th 5:00-7:00pm



LET'S HIT THE SLOPES! FIRST BAPTIST SKI TRIP MARCH 26- APR 1

If you are interested in going skiing over spring break, please contact Michael McEntyre (mmcentyre@fbc-columbia.org) or Ed Rollins (rollins@fbc-columbia.org) ASAP. We are booking travel and lodging the first week of December and need a firm number for reservations. You can turn in your \$50 deposit per person in the church office.

We are planning to leave Sunday afternoon to drive to Ottumwa, IA to catch the California Zephyr (Amtrak) to ride to Fraser, CO. Our group will be staying in a cabin (7 bedroom, sleeps 25) at the beautiful Snow Mountain Ranch. The Ranch has a variety of free activities available for all ages (including a heated pool with climbing wall and slide, sledding and tubing, and ice skating) as well as a shuttle that will take us to the slopes each morning and pick us up at the end of the day. Winter Park offers incredible trails for everyone from beginners to experts and offers ski school (additional cost) for newbies. You can turn in your deposit between now and Nov 20th.

We are estimating that the cost for travel, lodging, lift tickets, equipment rentals, and some meals will be \$600 for ages 13 and up; \$500 for 12 and below; and \$400 for non-skiers (Meals while traveling, ski lessons, and dinners out are not included in the estimate).



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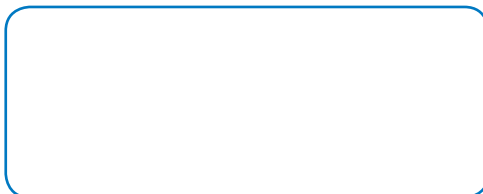
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Brenda Rice, Project Coordinator
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Bethany James, Nursery Director
Glenn Owings, Custodian

“Return Service Requested”



Congratulations First Baptist!

Your giving has generated over \$11,000 for the
American Baptist World Mission Offering!

Thanks to the matching funds available, and our congregation “letting good things run wild”, First Baptist Church was able to contribute over \$11,000 to the American Baptist Churches-USA World Mission Offering! Your gifts help to raise up, place, and send new global servants and volunteers to reach and touch lives for Jesus around the world. They also help to fill gaps for those workers who haven’t yet reached their support goals, enabling crucial ministries to continue. The International Ministries of the American Baptist has more than 240 global partners who are actively sharing God’s message of hope, love and healing with a lost and hurting world.

Thank you for your incredible generosity.

Michael McEntyre,

Associate Pastor of Youth, College and Young Adults, and Missions

