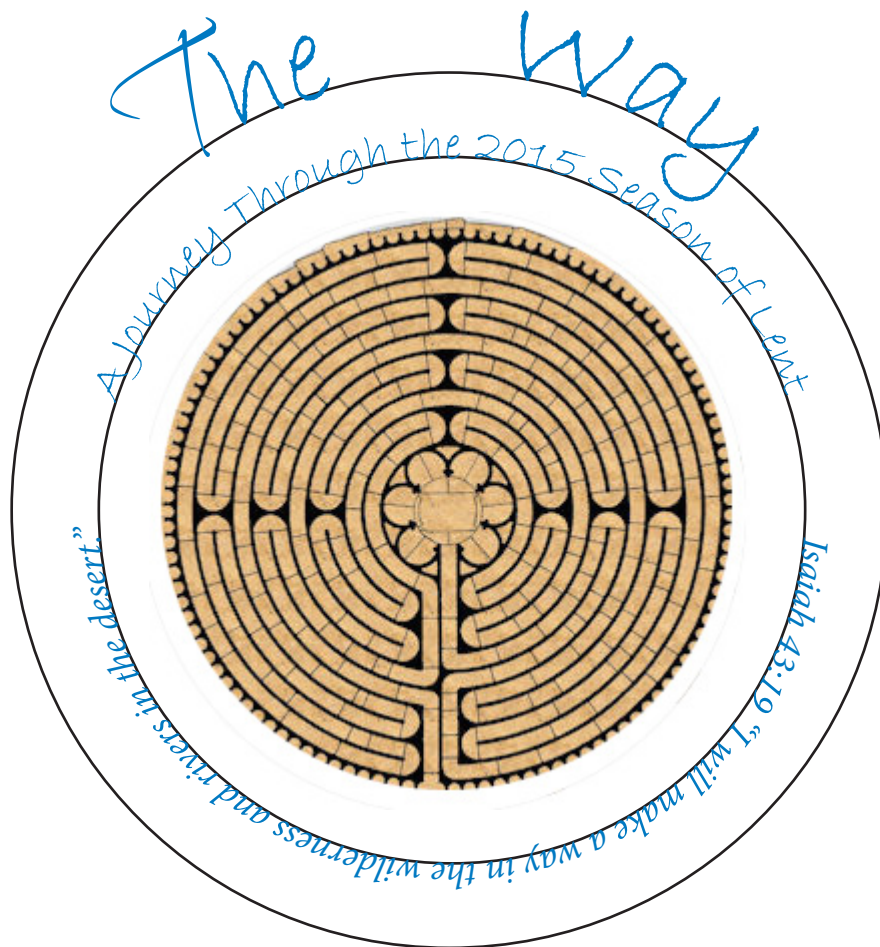


February 18, 2015

the SPIRE



Celebrating
190
years



The Way

Our Lenten Series this year is entitled The Way. Lent is a time of reflection, contemplation and soul-searching. There is nothing like a pilgrimage to conjure that up. This series is inspired by passages in scripture that talk about the journey, roads and the pathways of life; we will make our "way" together through this season beginning this Sunday as we journey with Jesus into the wilderness in Luke chapter 4.

For this worship series, we will offer a unique prayer opportunity to help us find "The Way." We have borrowed an indoor prayer Labyrinth that will be open several times during Lent in the Fellowship Hall for prayer. The labyrinth is a path which leads, via a circuitous route, to the center of an intricate design and back out again. Often during prayer, we get distracted, Labyrinths help us focus as we pray and walk. The Labyrinth will be open:

Wednesday, March 11 from 5:00 pm-7:00 pm
Wednesday, March 18 from 5:00 pm-7:00 pm
Thursday, April 2 from 9:00 am-5:00 pm

During Lent, Pastor Carol McEntyre will be conducting a research project for her doctoral dissertation, which she is working on at Drew University. The purpose of her research project is to learn about what makes worship meaningful to the people at First Baptist Church, to discover what elements of worship help you to connect with God and to evaluate her leadership as she works with our staff to put together worship. The project will have two phases. First, following worship three Sunday's during Lent, worshipers will be invited to fill out surveys reflecting on what elements of the service were meaningful. Secondly, the Lay Advisory Committee and Carol will be conducting in-depth oral interviews with 16 individuals in the congregation to learn about what makes worship meaningful. The interview participants will be chosen by lottery.





CommunityNews



Reflection on the new worship schedule

It has been 6 months since we made the change in our Sunday morning worship schedule to make sure that children and youth could participate in worship with their parents and to create a combined Small Group hour.

You might be wondering what impact this change has had on families, children and youth at First Baptist. Since the youth are no longer in Sunday School during Traditional Worship, Damien Fulner, who is a seventh grader is now able to attend worship each week. He has become interested in helping with our webcast. The team that runs the webcast has been training him. This past Sunday, Damien went up to the webcast booth to help, and realized that due to miscommunication, no one from the team was there to make sure the webcast happened. By the time, Michael McEntyre, our Associate Pastor for Youth, College and Missions made it to the webcasting booth (after the Passing of the Peace) Damien had already turned on the equipment and had the service streaming! Damien is learning to serve as a full participant in our community of faith.

Prior to the change in our worship schedule, Lexie Stone, Amanda Stone's daughter, who is a third grader at Lee Elementary was attending Sunday School during Awakening Worship each week. Now she is participating in worship. A few weeks ago, I asked a question during my sermon, as I often do during Awakening, and Lexie raised her hand to contribute to the conversation! Lexie is learning that she is a valued member of our community of faith. I asked Amanda this week, what it has meant for Lexie to be in worship. Amanda wrote, "Lexie loves being in worship with us. The song lyrics on the large TV screens makes it easy for her to sing along with all the songs, and Carol's storytelling approach to sermons don't exclude her from understanding the week's message." These are just two stories of how our schedule change has allowed our children and youth to be more involved as full participants in worship. I am grateful to First Baptist for having the foresight to make this change.

Thank you,
Pastor Carol McEntyre

Carol McEntyre

Prayers & Concerns:

Betty Blase is at Lenoir recovering from a cracked hip.

Lina Berrier's cancer markers are up and she will be undergoing additional treatments.

Khaki Westerfield is recovering from surgery, at home.

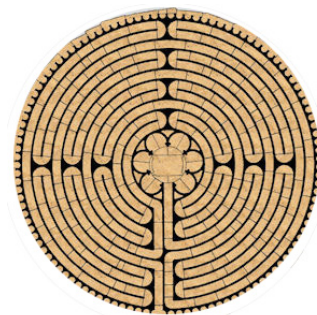
Pat Breece is recovering from surgery, at home.

Lu Jacobs has a new address:
3300 New Haven Rd.
Columbia, MO 65201

Celebrations:

Mirek, Sam and Crystel Henley's son, will be dedicated on Sunday, March 1, his first birthday, in Traditional Worship.

Lexie Stone is being baptized in Awakening worship on March 8.



UpcomingEvents



First Baptist will host ROOM AT THE INN from Sunday Feb 22nd to Tuesday March 10th in the Fellowship Hall. Volunteers can sign up to serve from the Room at the Inn website, <http://www.roomattheinncomo.org/>. Sunday morning services will take place as normal, but the space will be set aside for Room at the Inn the remainder of the time. As we journey through this season of Lent, let us remember those in need in our own community.



Volunteers Needed to Help Prepare Fellowship Hall for Worship on the First Two Sundays in March

One of the challenges to hosting Room at the Inn is the inability to set up for the Awakening Service during the week. To make sure the Fellowship Hall is set and ready for the service, we are asking for volunteers to arrive at 8:00am to help transition the space from the cold weather shelter to being ready for the service. We are looking for 6-10 people to help make this possible. If you would be willing to serve as a part of the transition team on either or both Sunday mornings (March 1 or 8th), please contact Brian Steere at Steere.brian@gmail.com. Thanks for your help during this Lenten Season.

African Children's Choir

On Wednesday, February 25, the Boonslick Chordbusters will host a concert with the African Children's Choir in the Sanctuary. They will be joined by the Missouri Symphony Society Children's Choir and the First Baptist Church Revival Choir. Tickets are \$10 each, and may be purchased beforehand, or at the door. For more information, please call 573-529-6821.



Because of the African Children's Choir Concert, all Wednesday rehearsals on February 25 will be canceled. See you at the concert!

Church Keys

If you currently have a church key or keycard that you no longer need, please turn them in to the main office.

Circle Meeting

The next meeting of the Ann Judson Christian Action Circle will be March 5 at 1:00 pm in the library.

Info Update

If you have an updated address/ phone number/email, please contact the main office and we will update our records.

Ministerial Staff:

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

Ed Rollins, Associate Pastor
rollins@fbc-columbia.org

Michael McEntyre, Associate Pastor
of Youth, College & Missions
mmcentyre@fbc-columbia.org

Marsha Randell, Dir. of Children's Ministry
randell@fbc-columbia.org

Nene Peter, African Minister
nenerwenya@gmail.com

Rubin Byishimo, African Worship Leader
byrubin@yahoo.fr

Music Staff:

Colleen Ostercamp, Organist
gostercamp@gmail.com

Alex Bennett, Awakening Worship Coor.
abzandercole1@gmail.com

Child Development Center:

Debra Riley, CDC Director
cdcdirector@fbc-columbia.org

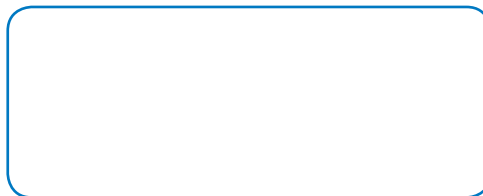
Support Staff:

Madison Reynolds, Administrative Assistant
churchinfo@fbc-columbia.org

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

Glenn Owings, Custodian

“Return Service Requested”



This Saturday:



*The sisters of First Baptist Church,
filled with the Spirit at the 2014 talent show!*

Talent show, Chili and Brownie Cook-off

First Baptist has talent! On Saturday, February 21 at 5:30 pm you are invited to put together an act, display your art, sing, or even dance to entertain your friends and family. You are also invited to bring a crock-pot of your best chili and a batch of your scrumptious brownies for the cook-off. Votes will be cast with tickets for the best chili and brownies.