

January 24, 2018

the SPIRE

First Baptist Church
columbia



Welcome Shelby Myers, Awakening Praise Band Director



First Baptist Church is excited to welcome Shelby Myers as our new Awakening Praise Band Director.

Shelby has loved music her whole life. She taught herself to play guitar at 15, and began leading worship at Ridgecrest Baptist Church in Greenville, Texas at 16. Shelby attended Dallas Christian College, where she led a traveling worship team and chapel services. She also served as a worship leader in three churches in Texas before she and her family moved to Columbia.

Shelby is familiar with First Baptist as she and her family have visited several times over the few past years for various events and services. She is married to Jon Myers (who teaches English at Rock Bridge High School) and is the mother of Katie (8), Nate (6) and Elizabeth (4) and the stepmom of Jake (19). Shelby is also a full-time graduate

student in a master's program in clinical counseling at Central Methodist University and is working on fulfilling her dream of being a counselor. Shelby is excited about this opportunity and we look forward to growing together as she leads in worship.

We would like to thank the members of our Personnel Committee (Charles Hunter, Ken Hammann, Donna Ross, Brian Steere, and Sherry Wyatt) as well as Stephen Hoell and Julie Walker for their work during this search process. The Personnel Committee was impressed with Shelby's lovely solo voice, her clear passion for leading people in worship, her experience in working with multiple worship teams and her gentle but capable leadership style.





Around the Church



Years ago, I read a book by Philip Yancey where he talked about giving God the benefit of the doubt. He described how he tries to think about God like he would a trusted friend, which means seeing God as reliable and believing that God has good intentions toward him. When I was with my family in Tennessee the week after Christmas, I thought about Yancey's words. My sister and I were bemoaning the fact that our family has had three difficult Christmases in a row. Three years ago, right before Christmas my mother was diagnosed with cancer. Last year, right before Christmas my mother's cancer metastasized and she had to have surgery, followed by radiation treatment. This year, right before Christmas my maternal grandmother had a heart attack, which led to a hospitalization. Thankfully, she was still alert when I arrived in Tennessee December 26. I got to spend several days with her before she died. It was a hard Christmas. However, as my sister and I lamented how we have had three difficult Christmases in a row, we also talked about the fact that since these events happened around Christmas time, I was home for vacation EVERY YEAR. I couldn't help but think about Philip Yancey giving God the benefit of the doubt. I don't pretend to understand how God's providence works and I certainly don't believe that God caused any of these events to happen to my family. But I do believe that God is always at work bringing good out of bad, and so I try to give God the benefit of the doubt.

Carol McEntyre,
Senior Pastor

Make a Difference This Winter!

Volunteer Now for Room at the Inn

Winter weather has been particularly tough this season, but for those in our community without adequate housing, it is potentially deadly. That is why we are grateful for the ministry of Room at the Inn. Room at the Inn (RATI) is a winter shelter designed to provide a warm and safe place to sleep for those in need from 7:00pm- 7:00am through March 10th. The shelter is supported by area churches and local volunteers.

First Baptist will host Room at the Inn from Sunday Feb 18th to Wednesday, March 3rd in the Fellowship Hall, but you don't have to wait until then to help. Please see the next page for details on what the needs are and how you can be involved.





Volunteer Now for Room at the Inn

It is hard to believe that this is the fourth year First Baptist has served as a host for this important ministry. We hope you will help us be the presence of Christ to those in need this season and sign up to serve at Room at the Inn today by visiting <http://www.roomattheinncomo.org> or the church website to sign up. Once there, simply check the date and shift you wish to sign up for to reserve your spot. After filling in the appropriate information, a confirmation will be emailed to you shortly. You can also find what donations are needed and locations to drop off supplies.

There are a few volunteer restrictions to be aware of: Volunteers during evening and morning shifts must be at least 18, and 23 or older for overnight shifts. For setup, restoration, and transition shifts, youth volunteers aged 16-17 are allowed, but must be under the supervision of an adult. The adult-to-youth ratio should be 5:1.

Shelter Shifts:

Setup Hosts 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm (need 5 people)

1. Set up cots and prepare linens for the night.
2. Set up food table, prepare snacks and drinks and set them out.
3. Set out games, cards, books and other entertainment materials.
4. Make sure area is clean.
5. Assist manager and in-take coordinator as needed.

Evening Hosts – Short Shift 6:15 pm – 9:30pm (need 2 people- minimum age 18 years old)

1. Greet and help guests check in as they arrive.
2. Coordinate with the guests to set up their sleeping area.
3. Monitor food table and replenish food and drink as needed.
4. Visit with the guests and assist as needed.
5. Assist manager and in-take coordinator as needed.

Evening Hosts 6:15 pm - 11:30 pm (need 4 people - minimum age 18 years old)

1. Greet and help guests check in as they arrive.
2. Coordinate with the guests to set up their sleeping area.
3. Monitor food table and replenish food and drink as needed.
4. Visit with the guests and assist as needed.
5. Assist manager and in-take coordinator as needed.

Overnight Hosts 11:15 pm - 5:30 am (need 2 people - minimum age 23 years old)

1. Visit with the guests and assist as needed.
2. Inform manager of any disruptive behavior.
3. One overnight volunteer may sleep while the other two remain awake. For safety, two volunteers must be awake at any given time.
4. Make coffee in the morning as people begin to wake up.
5. Assist manager as needed.

Morning Hosts 5:15 am – 8:00 am (need 4 people - minimum age 18 years old)

1. Awaken guests and set out breakfast food and drink.
2. Arrange cots and linens in an orderly fashion, clean up food and drink tables, and mop floors.
3. Assist manager as needed.
4. Place dirty laundry in designated area in preparation for pick-up.



Ash Wednesday Worship

February 14

6 pm in the Sanctuary

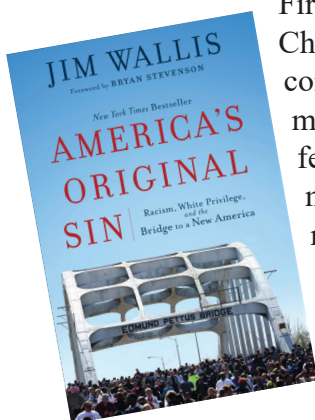
Ash Wednesday worship sets our hearts on the journey through Lent to Easter.

Our worship will center on the ancient practice of lament, the subject of our Lenten sermon series.



It is easy to praise God when things are going well in our lives, our community and our nation. But what happens when mountaintop experiences cascade into struggle and hardship? God desires for us to pour out our hearts in joy and in pain. Scripture is full of examples of lament, expressions of anger, frustration and sadness. In our culture, which often denies pain, it is essential that we reclaim the spiritual practice of lament. Join us this Lent as we explore Lament.

Critical Conversations in Troubled Times



First Baptist is partnering with Second Missionary Baptist Church and Broadway Christian Church to participate in a conversation about racism and how faith communities can help bring about grassroots change. I was delighted to see so many First Baptist folks at the kick-off for the Critical Conversations dialogue a few weeks ago. We will be meeting the second Tuesday of each month, our next meeting will be February 11 at 4:30 pm at Second Baptist. The conversation will revolve around reading and discussing, *America's Original Sin: Racism, White Privilege, and the Bridge to a New America* by Jim Wallis. The books are being provided by a grant, which Broadway received. To get your free book and join the conversation, RSVP to Janet Deneke at churchinfo@fbc-columbia.org.

~ Pastor Carol McEntyre

Youth and College-Age



Wednesdays 6:15-7:30pm,

the calling

Students 6th- 12th Grade

The Calling, our mid-week Middle and High School Bible study, is back in full swing! This semester we will be learning about the Lord's Prayer and exploring the lessons it offers us about our faith. All students 6-12th grade are welcome to join us each Wednesday from 6:00-7:15pm.

Youth Camp- July 22-28th

Deposits due Feb 4th

Our youth are heading back to Unidiversity Camp this year (July 22-28th). The cost for camp will be \$230 per camper, with a \$30 discount for additional siblings. As always, further financial assistance is available if needed. Please contact Michael at mmcentyre@fbc-columbia.org. \$50 deposits for camp are due by Feb 4th.

PAUSE

A RETREAT FOR COLLEGE-AGED ADULTS

FEBRUARY 9 - 11, 2018

**Windermere Baptist Conference Center
Near the Lake of the Ozarks, MO**



Join us for a spiritual retreat at the beautiful Windermere Conference Center. It's a space for college students and young adults to meet new people, renew focus, and draw closer to God. It's a pause from the hustle-and-bustle of life to find meaningful worship, engaging conversation, and new friends. Our theme this year is "Community, Reconciliation, and the Mission of God." In large and small group formats, we will focus on building community that brings honor and glory to God in a diverse world. We will specifically address how reconciliation can bring lasting peace and healing to our relationships.

Our guest speakers are Edem and Pamela Dzunu from Saint Louis. They founded Baobab People, a community organization that seeks opportunities to bring together people from diverse backgrounds and encourage cross-cultural understanding and to work towards racial reconciliation and healing. Dr. Dzunu is an adjunct professor and Pamela is an instructor at Washington University in Saint Louis. We will leave Friday afternoon and return Sunday after lunch. The cost is \$20 for the weekend. Please contact Michael McEntyre (mmcentyre@fbc-columbia.org) to register.



The Child Development Center invites all families from the CDC and First Baptist Church to join us in the Fellowship Hall on February 9 from 6:00 pm-8:00 pm. We will show a family friendly movie, serve popcorn and other goodies. Bring sleeping bags, pillows, or blankets to settle in for a fun family night.



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“Return Service Requested”



9:15am Combined Worship the Next 2 Weeks Visioning Sessions Postponed

Dear First Baptist family,

As most of you have heard by now, our Associate Pastor Ed Rollins and his wife Deb Carr lost their son Ryan in a car accident in St. Louis on Tuesday. Our church joins with them in grieving the loss of their beloved son. I know you will be in prayer for the entire family, including Ryan's partner Katie, his sister Emily and her husband Scott, and grandparents Pat Breece and Larry and Esther Rollins.

Due to this tragedy in the life of our church, we have decided to postpone the Visioning Events that were scheduled for the next two weekends. It is hard for us as a church and as a staff to think of future dreams in the midst of grief and loss. There will be a time for us to focus upon these things, but for now our heart is not in it. **We are still planning to have combined worship on Sunday, January 28 at 9:15 in the Sanctuary and combined worship on February 4 at 9:15 in the Sanctuary.** Instead of our Listening Sessions planned for the small group hour, after worship we will come together around the tables for breakfast and fellowship. Nursery and Children's Ministry activities will remain as scheduled. Our church family covets your prayers in the weeks ahead.

Thank you,
Pastor Carol McEntyre