

September 26, 2018

the SPIRE

First Baptist Church
columbia



Don't Miss the Afternoon at the Farm Sunday, October 21st



Afternoon at the Farm is our church's annual gathering at the Bay family farm. Join us for old-fashioned hayrides, great conversations around the bonfire, incredible food, and, of course, Trunk-or-Treat for the kids! Adults are encouraged to decorate their trunks and hand out candy. Kids are encouraged to wear or bring their Halloween costumes for the festivities. Afterwards we will all enjoy dinner together (please bring a side dish to share). This event is open to long-time church members as well as guests and friends of First Baptist!

Schedule:

3:00 p.m. - Hayrides and
Conversations
4:30 p.m. - Trunk-or-Treating
5:00 p.m. - Dinner

Please bring a bag or two of
candy for trunk-or-treating, and
a side dish to share.

Meat, beverages and table
service are provided.

Directions:

- From Columbia take I-70 west to Exit 121 (the Midway exit)
- Turn right on Highway 40
- Turn right on Route J
- Make a hard right onto Boothe Lane at the water tower
- Continue straight until this road bears left - the gate to the farm will then be on your right - look for the balloons!





Why I started using the word “Progressive” to describe our church?

This week in my sermon I called First Baptist a “progressive Christian church.” For years, I resisted using “progressive” to describe our church, because I am not completely comfortable with that label. It needs an asterisk. I don’t like that it has been used primarily in the political arena. So, for six years I have avoided using it. However, when I introduce myself as the pastor at First Baptist Church, the most common reaction I get is some variation of... “I didn’t think Baptist churches had female pastors.” I usually go on to explain that we are unique and yes, only 6-9% of Baptist churches have female pastors. We are unique in other ways too. Of

the hundreds of churches in Columbia, only 4-5 are fully inclusive of LGBTQ folks. And theologically, while we emphasize the life and teachings of Jesus, we don’t fear questions or doubts. Typically, when I explain all this, people say, “Wow. I didn’t know there was a Baptist church like that in Columbia.” All of this makes us unique and the truth is compared to other churches it also makes us progressive. Consequently, after six years, I have finally come to believe that we should just claim the label progressive, even with the difficulty it presents. So, as we move through the visioning process this fall, I want to think more about how we claim this label and spread the word that a church like ours does exist.

Carol McIntyre

Fall Sermon Series: Speaking of Jesus

When was the last time you had a spiritual conversation? If recent research is any indication, it has probably been a while. Only seven percent of Americans report talking about spiritual matters weekly. One-fifth of respondents had not had a spiritual conversation all year! We are more likely to talk about a movie we have seen or a book we have read than our spiritual lives. So, I have been wondering: Can progressive Christians learn to speak of Jesus again? Join us for a sermon series that explores this question, September 23-October 14.



Focus on Visioning



ALL IN is the theme for our visioning this fall. To be *ALL IN* is to be totally committed to something. We chose *ALL IN* as our theme because we believe the mission and ministry of First Baptist is worth our commitment. Our goal is to have 100% participation in the church-wide visioning process. We want everyone to be involved. The goal of the visioning is to help us focus our intentions. It is a chance to think about how we, as First Baptist, use our voice, our energy, and our money to share the inclusive, transforming love of God. Check inside for more details.

Calendar of Events for Visioning

Sunday, October 28- 9:15 am Combined Worship followed by Church-Wide Photo and Ministry Review.

We will come together for Combined Worship at 9:15 am in the Sanctuary. Following worship, we gather on the front steps of the church to take a church-wide photo in honor of our 195th Anniversary. Then, we will move to the fellowship hall for breakfast and a ministry review. This will be an opportunity to learn about all the different ministries of the church and reflect on them. To ask questions like: what in the congregational life is working well? What needs improvement? If we were going to drop something, what would it be.

Saturday, November 3- 9:00 am Visioning Work

We will gather in the Fellowship Hall where Dr. Chris Gambill from the Center for Congregational Health will lead us in a time of reflection about the gifts/strengths of First Baptist. This will be an opportunity for you to share what the church means to you and when we have been at our best.

Sunday, November 4- 9:15 am Combined Worship

We will come together for Combined Worship at 9:15 am in the Sanctuary. Following worship, we will move to the fellowship hall for breakfast and a visioning session led by Dr. Chris Gambill in which we will reflect on the gifts that God has given us and how we might use them in unique ways for ministry.

Upcoming Events

Ski Trip Deposit Due Sept 30th



On March 24-30th, 2019 our First Baptist family is hitting the slopes again! We will be travelling back to Winter Park, in Frasier, Colorado, over Spring Break. We are currently estimating the cost of the trip as follows (includes travel, lodging, lift tickets, basic equipment rentals, and some meals):

\$640 for ages 13 and up

\$525 for 12 and below

\$450 for non-skier-adult, \$350 for kids

To reserve your spot, a \$50 non-refundable per person deposit is due Sept 30th.

If you have any questions please be sure to contact Michael McEntyre (mmcentyre@fbc-columbia.org) or Ed Rollins (rollins@fbc-columbia.org).

CDC News

Our Child Development Center received news that we have been accredited by the Missouri Accreditation of Programs for Children and Youth for 2018! The CDC Board would like the First Baptist family to know that we were recognized for the early childhood curriculum currently used by the CDC, but were also recognized for higher levels of management this past year, by the Executive Director of the Missouri Accreditation of Programs for Children and Youth. This is wonderful news, and I want to thank Jess Wolfe, the CDC Staff, and the CDC Board (Patty Cornell, Stephen Hoell, Cheryl Brewer, Jason Tratchel, Christine Change, Mary Beth Ming, Lisa Lang, Michelle Kasmann and Noah Hartsfield) for all of their hard work and support of this wonderful center.

Deb Carr, CDC Board Chair



Friday, October 12, 6-8pm

Need a little time away from the kids? Join us for parents night out on October 12 at First Baptist Church from 6-8 pm. Drop off your children and enjoy some adult time! We will serve pizza and fruit for dinner. We will do some wonderful fall crafts, learn some new songs, and have fun doing some active games in the gym. There is no cost. Please RSVP to chambers@fbc-Columbia.org by Tuesday, October 9.

First Kids Music

This Sunday, September 30 marks the start up of our First Kids Music program for kids age 3 to grade 5. We will meet at 4:00 in the sanctuary and plan to split into older and younger groups. The easiest access door is on Waugh St., the south door closest to the parking lot. We are grateful to welcome Samantha Walker back to assist, along with Colleen and Ed. We look forward to making joyful noises together beginning this Sunday.

CDC Halloween Party

The Child Development Center at First Baptist Church would like to invite all First Baptist and CDC families with children to a Halloween celebration on October 26th from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The children will participate in a costume parade, pumpkin decorating, games, and more! Snacks and refreshments will be served. Please send your child in a toddler-friendly costume free of weapons, blood, and/or scary masks. Please RSVP to Jess Wolfe at cdcdirector@fbc-columbia.org with how many children will be in your party.

Community News



First Baptist 101 is a class that is open to adults who are new members or for those who are interested in learning more about First Baptist. If you sense that God is drawing you to the community of First Baptist, we celebrate that and we want you to have a chance to get to know our church! First Baptist 101 will meet for one-hour on three consecutive Sundays beginning September 30 at 4:00 pm, in the Parlor (located on the 2nd Floor across from the church offices). Childcare is available.

Here is an overview of each week:

- Sunday, September 30- Understanding First Baptist leadership structure, the church staff, committees, goals, and vision of the church taught by Pastor Carol McEntyre
- Sunday, October 7- Baptist History and Polity taught by Rev. Bob Russell
- Sunday, October 14- Overview of First Baptist ministries, opportunities to serve, and a building tour

For more information, or to sign-up for child care, contact Pastor Carol McEntyre at mcentyre@fbc-columbia.org or call the church office at 573-442-1149.

Odyssey Concert Events in October- That Promised Land: The Journey of the African American Spiritual

Friday, October 5, 7:30 pm, Second Missionary Baptist Church

A special presentation and production of the musical segment beginning with field/work songs all the way to the arranged spirituals of H. T. Burleigh, Margaret Bonds, and Moses Hogan, to name a few. Co-curated by Dr. Maya C. Gibson and Dr. Stephanie Shonekan, this concert features former Chanticleer member Marques Jerrell Ruff and special guest soloist, international Opera, Jazz and Gospel artist Jolie Rocke Brown, with MU's Assistant Director of Choral Activities, Dr. Brandon A. Boyd on the piano. This concert is sponsored by the Second Missionary Baptist Church. Admission is free but donations are gratefully accepted.

Oktoberfest

October 12, 2018 (Fri) 7pm, First Baptist Church with a Pre-concert Performance at 6:45pm - TBA

We are taking the spirit of Oktoberfest in this jovial German program. In addition to trumpet-piano duo by Iskander Akhmadullin and Natalia Bolshakova, violist Marka Gustavsson from Bard College, New York is featured prominently in a program of duo and Brahms Piano Quartet No. 1 in G Minor - which concludes with a real barn burner, "Rondo alla Zingarese."



Ministerial Staff:

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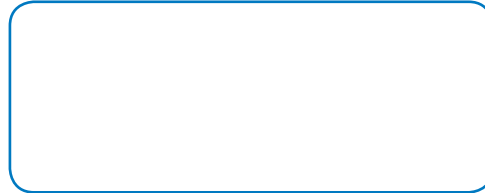
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Bethany James, Nursery Director

"Return Service Requested"



Be A Part of the Vision

Details Inside!

the **SPIRE**

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