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"Return Service Requested"



HAPPY BIRTHDAY FIRST BAPTIST

November 21, 2018

the **SPIRE**

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First Baptist Church
columbia



Advent Begins December 2

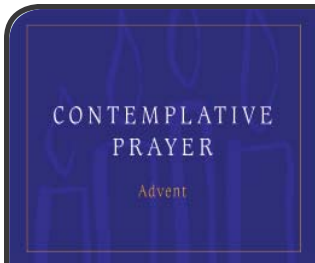
This year marks the 200th anniversary of the writing of "Silent Night", and in commemoration, we have designed our Advent them around the words, "Calm and Bright." In our Advent worship we will explore the implications of a world that finds peace in Christ and of a world that radiates the light of Christ's presence. Join us as we await the coming of Christ's light and the dawn of redeeming grace.

2018 Advent Highlights



The Hanging of the Green- December 2

Join First Baptist members and friends for the Hanging of the Green. As we prepare our hearts for Advent, we also take time during the services to prepare and decorate our sanctuaries for the beauty of the season. To borrow from a popular Christmas carol, it's time for our church family to haul out the holly, put up the tree, deck the halls, place the candles in the windows, and put up the lights, we need a little Advent now. So join us on December 2 as we transform our worship spaces and begin our Advent journey of anticipation for our long awaited king.



Contemplative Advent Small Group- December 2, 9, 16, and 23

This Advent, beginning December 2, Brittany McDonald Null, Pastoral Resident, will be leading a contemplative small group during the 10:15am Spiritual Formation hour. During the small group, they will engage in the spiritual practices of Lectio Divina and centering prayer and have conversations about contemplative living. The group will meet in the Conference Room on the second floor. For more information or to sign up contact Brittany at bnull@fbc-columbia.org.

Christmas Dinner- December 16

You are invited to celebrate the season with us Sunday evening, December 16 beginning at 5:00pm for First Baptist's annual Christmas dinner. Come prepared for a lovely meal with turkey, ham, and beverages provided by the church, and wonderful side dishes and desserts prepared by you and your First Baptist friends (ugly Christmas outfits are encouraged).



Christmas Eve Worship- December 24

We begin at 11:00pm, on this Silent Night, with worship, communion, and candlelight. We gather to proclaim that Christ the Savior is born. Join us for an annual homecoming favorite.

Additional Advent Details Inside



Word from the Pastor



As you know, November 9-13 was the Civil Rights Pilgrimage. Twenty-seven people from five different faith communities toured important Civil Rights sites in the South. The pilgrimage was a chance to move past the “we don’t talk about it” culture that prevails in our country regarding slavery, lynching, and segregation; it was an attempt to understand our history and to celebrate those who fought against racial injustice. We toured that National Civil Rights Museum in Memphis, TN, which is built around the Lorraine Motel where Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was assassinated. We worshiped at the historic 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, which was bombed in 1963, by four members of the KKK, an act of terrorism that killed four girls. We visited the Legacy Museum in Montgomery, AL, which traces the history of racism from slavery, to the terrorism of lynching, to the mass incarceration of African Americans today.

As you might imagine, some of what we saw was very intense. If I am honest, I have to admit that it sometimes left me wondering why God would allow such evil to be perpetrated against people of color. The atrocities are too many to count. Despite this, they fought for freedom and equal rights. So, throughout the trip, the word that kept coming to mind was resiliency. This capacity to keep going despite the cruelty was incredible. Certainly, during the civil rights movement, this resiliency was sustained by the religious power of southern black churches. It was a spiritual, as well as, a political movement. Thinking about the power of their faith and what were they able to accomplish was inspiring. In addition, taking this trip with an interracial group was important; it was powerful to go together - learning the history, listening and debriefing what we saw. If you want to hear more about the pilgrimage, on Friday, November 23, Rev. Clyde Ruffin and I will be on KFRU News Talk 1400 am with David Lisle talking about what we learned. This Sunday in worship, First Baptist member Lynne Lampe will be giving a testimony about her experience on the pilgrimage.

Carl McEntyre



Our group at the Lorraine Motel

Annual Pledge Walk

Hopefully you received a commitment card and letter in the mail recently asking you to think about how you will give financially to God through First Baptist in 2019. These pledge cards are important because they help us to plan for the dreams and visions we have discussed for our future. We are asking our First Baptist family to fill out and turn in these cards during our worship services on November 25 or mail them to the church office at 1112 E. Broadway, 65201. Your commitment will help provide for the life and ministry of our First Baptist family. Please prayerfully consider how you can help make 2019 an outstanding year.

Respectfully,

Stephen Hoell, Finance Committee Chair



Welcome Susan Goudie, our new Administrative Assistant

Hi everyone! My name is Susan Goudie and I am the new Administrative Assistant here at First Baptist Church. I will be working behind the scenes each weekday to ensure that the church office is providing excellent communication and service to staff, church members, and community groups that we work with throughout the year. I would love to meet you, so even if you don't need anything from the office, stop by and say hello sometime soon!



Congratulations to Bill Tucker and Rebekah Robertson who were baptized on Sunday! Special thanks to Rev. Jerry Bowman, Bill's friend and co-worker, who performed the baptisms.

Advent At-a-Glance

Preparing for the Season

November 25- Following each worship service we will set up the Chrismon Trees in each worship space.

November 26- Decorating Party begins at 6:00pm in the Sanctuary. Join us to help prepare for Hanging of the Green.

November 27- Decorating Party follow-up beginning at 9:00am in the Sanctuary. Join us to help prepare for Hanging of the Green.

Parties

December 9- College and Young Adult Christmas Party 5:30pm at the McEntyre's home

December 16 - Annual Christmas Dinner 5:00pm- Good food, good fellowship and great joy! Come dressed in your favorite or ugliest Christmas outfit

December 19- Youth Christmas Party 6:00pm at the McEntyre's home

Holiday Concerts at First Baptist

December 2 - Columbia Youth Chorus

December 7 - Odyssey Chamber Music Series

December 8 - Columbia Civic Orchestra

December 9 - Columbia Handbell Ensemble and the Columbia Youth Chorus

Poinsettias

During Advent, First Baptist Church will be filled with beautiful poinsettias. If you would like to place one or more of these festive plants in memory of, or in honor of, a family member or friend, you can include your \$10.00 payment per poinsettia with the completed order forms from the bulletin on Sunday and drop it in the offering. You can also come by the church office with your payment and fill out an order form. Orders may be made until November 30. We look forward to celebrating Advent with you all.



Season of Thanks



As we near Thanksgiving and continue into the Advent season, the children's ministry team would like to let our church family, our parents and amazing volunteers know how thankful we are for all of you. We have a wonderful team that is dedicated to serving our children in Sunday school, extended sessions and many other church-wide events. We are grateful for the flexibility, creativity and support of our volunteers, parents and church family.
 Yvette Chambers, Director of Children's Ministry
 & Chelsea Wells, Children's Ministry Assistant

A special thanks to all of those who give so much of their time and energy to our Student Ministry. Your dedication and encouragement is incredible. We could not do this without you. Thank you also to all our Youth parents who continue to trust us with their students and grow together with us as we seek to impact the lives of our youth. Lastly, thank you to all our First Baptist family who pray for us, cook for us, open your homes to us, and continue to support the work of this ministry. Happy Thanksgiving,
 Michael McEntyre,
 Associate Pastor of Youth, College & Young Adults, & Missions



In this Season of Thanks, We want to say a Special Thank you to Ed Rollins for his 30yrs of Music and Art

Who could have guessed 30 years ago that the very young, very thin, remarkably talented young singer with kind eyes that we brought aboard to be our associate for music would still be around today? The kindness and compassion that was evident then, has been such a bonus to have in the ministry of music - a position that has expanded over the years to include the "business" aspect of our church. In addition to providing a broad spectrum of choral, instrumental, and handbell music styles for our traditional worship enjoyment, he has conducted more weddings and funerals and sermons over the years than I can count. I for one, couldn't be happier or more satisfied with that choice 30 years ago.

~ Mary Lou Spradling

Through art ministry, Ed brings joy to all at First Baptist Church not only on Sunday - but every day. Yet his work behind the scenes often goes unnoticed. Thank you for all you do for First Baptist Church and the Child Development Center!
 ~Jess Wolfe

Let's compare a worship service to a home-cooked meal. Sometimes we sit down to a Thanksgiving Day feast and other days it's a simple affair. Ed is our gourmet chef - some music elements have had days and hours of preparation, and sometimes, ingredients he was counting on are unavailable - then Ed becomes a short-order cook. We all have our favorites and everyone is fed!

*Thanks a million, Ed Rollins!
 ~ Colleen Ostercamp*

Ed is a beloved friend to young and old alike. For 30 years he has been the glue that helps hold this church together and with Ed's music Ministry, FBC Columbia is hard to beat!

I appreciate Ed's commitment and patience leading the Psalm Players and for allowing us the opportunity to share our gifts.
 ~ Andy Emerson





Next Ski Trip Payment \$150 due Dec 2

SKI TRIP

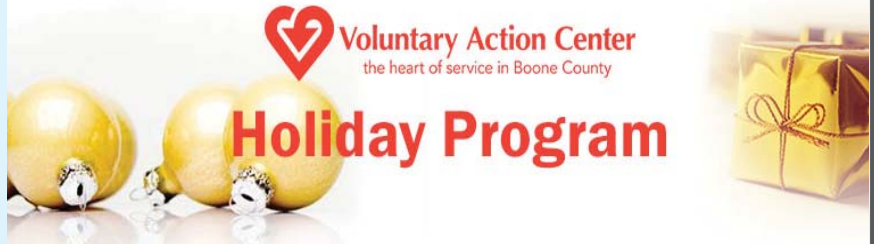
Space Still Available

We currently have 32 people signed up to join us on our Ski Trip adventure March 23-29, 2019! We will be traveling back to Winter Park, in Frasier, Colorado, over Spring Break. Because of the size of our group, we have reserved a 40 person cabin so we do actually have room for a few more folks to go, but we need to know soon as we must purchase train tickets before the end of the year. If you have any questions or

VAC Family Christmas

First Baptist is sponsoring 3 families this year through VAC's Holiday Program. Voluntary Action Center (VAC) is a non-profit that exists to help low-income individuals and families bridge the gap

between crisis and stability and improve quality of life in Boone County. Each year VAC coordinates the collection and distribution of food and gifts for approximately 4,000 people during the holiday season. First Baptist is participating once again in this needed ministry. In addition to toys, books, and games, families often receive needed clothing and household supplies through this program. Cards with individual gift requests are available at the church on the bulletin board in the hallway outside the Sanctuary. Get involved by choosing a card from the board. Take the top card from the board and sign your name on the copy underneath. Return the purchased item to the church by December 9. Items do not need to be wrapped but we do ask that you include the card from the bulletin board with your gift. We will also accept monetary donations to go towards gifts. Simply indicate "VAC Family Christmas" on your check or offering envelope. If you have any questions, please contact Janet Kieffer with questions at jskieffer1969@gmail.com.



Child Development Center Fundraiser

The Child Development Center will not be hosting our annual auction. Instead, help support the CDC through the purchase of a t-shirt. Proceeds will help purchase t-shirts for the CDC children for Christmas and will serve as marketing in the community!

Both adult and youth sizes are \$10 each. T-shirts will be delivered in time for Christmas and to kick off our 50th Year celebration!

To order, please contact Jess Wolfe at ccddirector@fbc-columbia.org

