

December 19, 2018

the SPIRE



First Baptist Church
columbia



-Christmas Dinner 2018-



Upcoming Events

December 21

6:30 pm Blue Christmas Service

December 24

11:00 pm Christmas Eve Service

December 24-26

Offices Closed

January 31-Jan 2

Offices Closed

January 6

Breaking Point Sermon Series Begins

Breaking Point



When you are exhausted and burned out
Lessons from the Life of Elijah

Sermon
Series
Jan. 6
-
Feb. 3

If you're feeling stressed out, you're not alone! According to a 2017 Gallup poll, 8 in 10 Americans report they "frequently" or "sometimes" experience stress in their daily lives. The pressures of life can be overwhelming. What do you do when you feel like you are at your Breaking Point? This is the topic for our new sermon series, and it's based on the life of the prophet Elijah found in 1 Kings. Like many of us, Elijah was stressed out and ready to throw in the towel, but he recovered. We can learn a lot about how to take care of ourselves from the life of Elijah. Start your new year by coming to learn about the steps Elijah took to care for himself- sometimes at God's insistence.



Word from the Pastor



On October 28 and November 4, we had two great weekends of visioning. We sat around tables and talked about the future of our church. We had great enthusiastic participation. You may be wondering - what is happening with visioning now? It has taken some time to compile all the information that you gave us. Many thanks to Ken Hammann, Kim Siegenthaler, and Sarabeth Rhodes for sorting all the posters and handouts into a format the Visioning Team could easily work with. Over the next few weeks, the Visioning Team will be sifting through the data. We hope to bring an initial report to the church at the January 20 business meeting.

Carl McEntyre

Our weekly youth and College/Young Adult Bible studies have wrapped up for the semester. We wish all of our students a very safe and merry Christmas season. Middle and High School students will return to regular Wednesday night meetings on January 16, and College/Young Adult studies return on Sunday, January 27. May your days be merry and bright, and may all your report cards turn out right! Until next year. Blessings,



-Michael McEntyre

One of the most transformational weeks in my life happened in 2006 when I was asked to be on the handbell faculty at the Presbyterian national camp in Montreat, NC, for their Worship and Music Conference. It was an incredibly inspirational time and my understanding of worship grew in many ways. We have taken First Baptist folk on two different occasions and I am planning to return to Montreat this summer, just to be a participant. If you might be interested in attending, I'd love to talk to you about it. There are two options for dates, June 16-21 or June 23-28. Montreat will have amazing music, art, Bible study, choirs, bands, drumming, and wonderful times of worship. I hope you'll consider attending. Let's chat.

- Ed Rollins

Room at the Inn is OPEN

Room at the Inn (Columbia's cold weather shelter) has opened once again for the season. Room at the Inn (RATI) is hosted by a collaboration of area churches and supported by hundreds of volunteers from the Columbia community. RATI provides a warm place to sleep for those in need from 7:00 pm to 7:00 am during months of operation. To volunteer for RATI, go to www.roomattheinn.com. org/volunteer and click the link to sign up. Descriptions of various shifts and special holiday volunteer opportunities are listed. First Baptist will host Room at the Inn from February 17 through March 3. We hope you will help make this a successful season as we care for and shelter those in need in our community.



Winter Shelter



-Crafty Critters Christmas Party 2018-

Crafty Critters

*First Baptist Church
Room E2*

*Tuesdays
11:30 am to 2:00 pm*

All skill levels welcome!

About

The Crafty Critters meet each week to socialize and work on needlecraft. In 2017, they started making and distributing prayer shawls to church members in need. That year, they gave out 25 shawls. They have been very busy elves again this year! In 2018, the group have not only given out another 25 shawls, but have also made 50 hats to be given to children in need in the community.

Shawls on Sundays

You can check out some of their handiwork on Sundays. They will have extra shawls available in baskets during both services for use by members of the congregation if they are cold, but please remember return them to the basket at the end of the service so that someone else can also use them.

Join

Crafty Critters meet every Tuesday from 11:30 am to around 2:00 pm. They are encouraging anyone with interest to attend. Even if you don't know how to knit or crochet, they would be delighted to teach you!





Annual Christmas Dinner 2018





Combined Worship

January 20

Combined Worship & Annual Business Meeting

Join us on Sunday, January 20 at 9:15 am in the Fellowship Hall for Combined Worship and our Annual Business Meeting. We will pause to look back at the highlights of the last year and celebrate all that God has done in and through us. We will talk about ministry plans for 2019. We will vote on the Nominating Committee report and the 2019 budget.

For Parents:

The nursery (Birth-Age 3) will open at 9:15 and remain open until the business meeting ends.

3- 5 year olds can also be dropped off the in nursery at 9:15 prior to worship. Our professional staff will escort them to the 3rd floor Children's Ministry area for a time of learning, stories and play until the business meeting ends.

1st - 5th graders are encouraged to participate in worship with their family. After worship, at 10:15 First Kids Sunday School will meet as usual during the business meeting.

Year-End Contributions

For financial gifts to be included on your 2018 statement of charitable contributions for tax purposes, donations must be received by December 31. The church office will be closed on December 24-26 and again on December 31. So, keep those dates in mind if you want to bring your contributions by the church. If your contributions are mailed, they must be postmarked no later than December 31.

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

Brittany McDonald Null, Pastoral Resident
bnull@fbc-columbia.org

Yvette Chambers, Director of Children's Ministry
chambers@fbc-columbia.org

Music Staff:

Colleen Ostercamp, Organist
gostercamp@gmail.com

Shelby Myers, Awakening Praise Band Director
smyers@fbc-columbia.org

Support Staff:

Susan Goudie, Administrative Assistant
churchinfo@fbc-columbia.org

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

Bethany James, Nursery Director
Mike Ide, Custodian

Child Development Center:

Jess Wolfe, Director
cdcdirector@fbc-columbia.org

"Return Service Requested"



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Blue Christmas Service ~ December 21 ~ 6:30pm



Christmas Eve Service ~ December 24 ~ 11:00pm