

March 18, 2015

the SPIRE



Celebrating
190
years



Celebrate Easter at First Baptist!



Palm Sunday — March 29

Remembering Christ's entry into Jerusalem - a parade along "the way."

We will gather at 10:20 am on the front patio, distribute palms, and walk downtown to worship on Broadway with other downtown churches.



Maundy Thursday — April 2

This Holy Day is remembered for the last supper that Jesus shared with his disciples. The labyrinth will be available (by reservation) in our Fellowship Hall from 9:00 am - 5:00 pm for a time of personal meditation. Sign up in the hallway outside the sanctuary.



Good Friday — April 3, 7:00 pm

Worship together in memory of Christ's betrayal and crucifixion. Through scripture, spoken word, music and meditation, we experience the suffering and sadness that must occur before the joy of Easter.

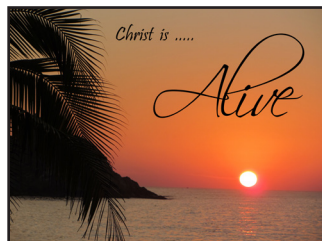


Easter Egg Hunt — April 4

Meet in the Fellowship Hall at 10:00 am for activities and treats, along with an egg hunt out on the lawn!

Easter Sunday — April 5, The Celebration of Life

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| 8:15 am | Youth Sunrise Service on the Front Lawn |
| 8:45 am | Breakfast (hallway outside the sanctuary) |
| 9:15 am | Awakening Worship |
| 10:15 am | Sunday morning small groups |
| 11:15 am | Traditional Worship |





CommunityNews



Might God be inviting you to a time of prayer?

On Thursday, April 2, which is Maundy Thursday, the prayer labyrinth will be open (by reservation) from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm in the fellowship hall. Labyrinths are used to facilitate prayer and meditation. The labyrinth is also a model or metaphor for life. The Christian life is often described as a pilgrimage or journey with God. On that journey, we can grow closer in relationship with God. Yet, in life, as in the labyrinth, we don't always foresee the twists and turns that the future holds, but we know that the path will eventually arrive at the center, God. If you chose to walk the labyrinth, here are some ways you can focus your time:

- Ask God a question upon entering and then listen for an answer.
- Pray for yourself on the way in, stop to experience God's love in the center, and pray for others on the way out.
- Recite the Lord's Prayer or some other familiar passage from scripture like "the Lord is my Shepherd" over and over as you walk.
- As you move toward the center of the labyrinth, focus on letting go of distractions or worries that keep you from God. In the center, spend time reflecting on your relationship with God. Be aware of God's presence. Then, as you leave spend time giving thanks and praising God for all that he has done.
- To reserve a time to walk the labyrinth, sign up in the hallway outside the sanctuary.

Thank you,
Pastor Carol McEntyre

Carol McEntyre



From Maimi, China, New York, Ukraine and dozens of places in between, you will find God working and changing lives through Cooperative Baptist Fellowship (CBF) ministries. The CBF Offering for Global Missions provides funding for the powerful ministries of more than 130 CBF field personnel. First Baptist will be collecting money to support the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Global Missions projects April 5- 26. To give, simply indicate CBF Global Missions on your check and place your offering in one of the specially marked mission envelopes.

Financial Peace University

Another class of Financial Peace University just wrapped up at First Baptist. Five families (all from the community) completed the class. As a class, they cut up 11 credit cards, paid off \$19,011 in non-first mortgage debt, and saved \$7,442. This is a total financial turnaround of \$26,453! That's an average of about \$5,300 per family in just 8 calendar weeks. We are so proud of these families (pictured right).

—Amanda Stone, facilitator



Prayers & Concerns:

Rita England, Carol McEntyre's mother, is halfway through her chemotherapy. Her cancer markers are continuing to drop, which is good. She is dealing with extreme fatigue and would appreciate prayers for strength.

Celebrations:

Joe and Veralee Phillips received Mizzou's College of Education's highest award, Friends of the College.

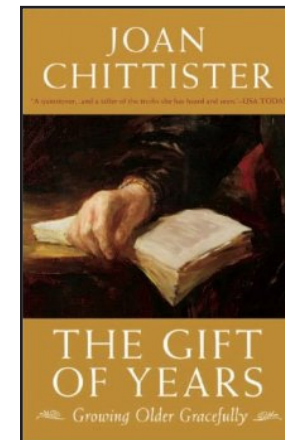
UpcomingEvents

Plowman Chamber Music Competition

March 21 marks the return of the Plowman Chamber Music Competition to Columbia and to First Baptist Church. This event happens every two years and brings 15 small ensembles to Columbia from all across the nation to compete for prizes totaling over \$10,000. Each ensemble will perform 20 minutes of prepared music for 3 internationally renowned judges, and the top five groups will be selected to perform in the finals competition taking place on Sunday at the Missouri Theater. The semi-finals in our sanctuary take place from 9:30 am - 5:00 pm. Tickets are \$20 at the door. This is the fourth time that First Baptist has the privilege of hosting the semi-final competition, and if you have never experienced it, this is an amazing day of music by some of the finest musicians in America.

The Gift of Years — A Discussion About Growing Older Gracefully

The Gift of Years will be co-facilitated by Bob Russell and Carol McEntyre on Tuesdays at noon over lunch, beginning **April 7 to May 17** in the parlor.



In The Gift of Years, Catholic nun, activist and author, Joan Chittister, who is now in her 70s, examines how it feels "to be facing that time of life for which there is no career plan." This study is open to people of all ages. The book will be on sale in the church office and before and after worship in the hallway outside the Sanctuary for \$10.

Serving the City is back! Saturday, April 25



The Serving Team is offering our First Baptist family the opportunity to get involved in supporting our community and ministry partners with a day of serving on **Saturday, April 25** from 9:00 am to noon. We will meet at the church that morning for some words of instruction and encouragement and then head out to our ministry sites for the morning. We want to encourage all of our members and friends to join us as we seek to serve the needs of our community. We have tried to include a ministry opportunity for all ages and abilities. Watch for projects and sign up info on the board outside the sanctuary in the weeks to come.

Youth, College & Young Adults

Sunday Schedule for Youth and College/ Young Adult Bible Study for Easter Season

- March 22** No Calling or College/ Young Adult Bible Study Sunday Night (Spring Break)
- March 29** Youth Morning Small Groups will not meet; we will join the congregation for the Ecumenical Palm Sunday Service on Broadway. The Calling meets at 5:00 pm (we will be working on preparations for the Sunrise Service).
College/ Young Adult will meet for a special Passover lesson and meal from 6:30-8:00 pm
- April 5** No Calling or College/ Young Adult (Easter)
- April 12** Regular schedule resumes for both The Calling and College/ Young Adult Bible Study



Ministerial Staff:

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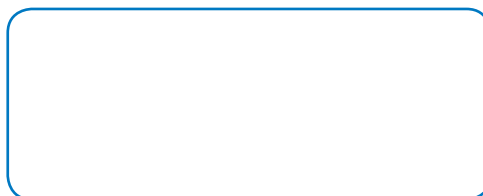
Support Staff:

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Glenn Owings, Custodian

“Return Service Requested”



Sign-Up for a time to walk the Labyrinth.

On Thursday, April 2, the labyrinth will be open from 9:00 am - 5:00 pm. Sign up for a 30 minute time slot on the sign-up sheet in the hallway outside the sanctuary.

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.



Children's Ministry



Easter Egg Hunt!

April 4th — 10:00 am
at First Baptist Church on the Front Lawn
Join us for *activities*, *treats*, and a *BIG* egg hunt!

Bring Your Own Basket!

