

August 10, 2016

the SPIRE



Celebrating
190
years



Water Balloon games
Biodegradable
Balloons provided



Fall Kick-off

August 28th

on the Front lawn

at 12:15 pm

**Bounce house,
Snow cones and
Much More**

Meat, drink, and utensils will be provided by the church.

Please bring a side dish and/or a dessert to share!

ABRAHAM & SARAH

Stories of Faith and Failure

Sermon
Series

August
28th

~
October
16th



Welcoming Students to Our Village

Thank you to everyone who took part in our summer series, "Looking for a Village." Our goal was to better understand what is shaping (or not shaping) the faith development of students and explore how we as the church can better engage children, youth, and young adults with the life of the Gospel. We looked at the broad context of adolescence, worked through the process of theological reflection, and began the conversation of how our faith family can respond in a way that promotes the work of God's Kingdom across generational lines to create community within the family of God.

What we found was that this conversation is about more than building a better youth ministry program. For too long now our efforts to pass on our faith to the next generation have been met with poor results. In our desire to pass down right beliefs, we (the western church) have corroded the foundation of relationship and community. Students need to know that we care about them, not just what they believe. They are afraid of being used. They need adults to invest in young people for the sake of the Kingdom, not for the sake of themselves. They need the family of God to embrace them as family, not as future committee members and donors. They need to know they belong. Fortunately, what we found is that this is the desire of our church as well.

So where do we go from here? Will First Baptist be the kind of Village that can rebuild community and create social capital for young people? Can we open our lives to one another and walk together in faith and life? Can we be a family of faith that celebrates our adoption as children of God and is willing to do the hard work of being family? After our time together this summer, I think we can.

So as a new school year begins and this conversation continues, let me offer a few very practical ways for us to put in to practice some of what we have talked about this summer:

- When you meet new college students who are visiting First Baptist, instead of opening with, "You need to meet Michael/ our College Minister", start with getting to know them yourself. Ask what they are studying. Find out where they are from. Look for ways to connect. Then introduce them to Michael (or better yet, take them to lunch and tell them you will introduce them to me when they come back next week :)
- If someone asks you about our Sunday Morning Small Groups, don't show them the options in the bulletin, invite them to join you and take them along. You can share the different options available afterwards.
- If you have the gift of gab and see a student sitting by themselves, introduce yourself and ask if you can join them. As the service goes along, you can offer explanations for our worship practices (i.e. why does the cross process in, what happens during Passing of the Peace, why do we go forward for communion in Awakening, why is our pastor a woman - you know, the easy questions :)
- For our home students who have headed off to college, make a point to send a note of encouragement to them in the weeks ahead. If you can't find their address, give it to their parents or to Michael to send. You will not believe how important it is for them to know they are remembered.
- During the Passing of the Peace, make a point to look for our youngest family members and shake their hands. Be sure to ask their names and tell them yours. Do this for a month until you know who they are and who their parents are.

(continued on next page)



- If you have a story or life/ faith lesson that was formative in your life and you would be willing to share it sometime, type it up or write it out and pass it along to the staff. You never know when your experience will make a big difference in someone else's life.
- Be willing to ask for help. If you are the parent, reach out to our staff and be sure they know who you are, especially our Children's and Youth Pastor. Let us help build a network of support and encouragement for you and your family. It really does take all of us for this to work.

These are just a few simple thoughts to help move us in the right direction. I am grateful for the insights and discussion that was generated this summer in our Looking for a Village group. Thank you for the opportunity to think out loud and be molded by such a loving environment. I look forward to figuring out this path together and to see what God is unfolding here at First Baptist. If you have any further thoughts or want to get involved with this process on a deeper level, please be sure to contact me at mmcentyre@fbc-columbia.org.

Grace and Peace,

Michael McEntyre

Introducing...



The Calling, our weekly youth Bible Study that meets on Sunday nights from 5:00 - 6:00pm, is in for a new twist this semester. On Sept 11th we will officially open Studio 1B, a new interactive experience for 6-12th graders designed to engage the Scriptures in a new way. Over the course of the semester we will study upcoming Scripture passages that the pastor will preach on in the year to come. Once we have wrestled with the text, our students will interpret the story in their own words. Finally, we will put our Studio to work as we create short films that will be used in our worship services to enhance our worship experience. I hope all of our students will join us this semester as we make our voices heard in Studio 1B.



Many thanks to Judy Elliott for beautifying the July 31st Traditional worship service with harp music!

Prayers & Concerns

Nelda McCrory is at the Bluffs for rehab following a stroke.

Megan Riley is recovering from surgery.

Veralee Phillips is recovering at home from a fall.

Trish Blair is hospitalized for abdominal issues.

Celebrations

Congratulations to Eli & Beth Marchbanks on the birth of their son, Andrew Lewis Marchbanks. Andrew arrived at 8 lbs. 3 oz., and 21" long.

The family has set up a way to register to take a meal to the Marchbanks. Go to <http://www.TakeThemAMeal.com>; recipient name Marchbanks, password 5732709711.

FREE Entertainment (and ministry too!!)

Free entertainment – free fun – free thrills – free expression...all this in a loving, supportive community? That's right – another new year brings the chance to explore new horizons of self-discovery and ministry by joining one of our music ministry ensembles. Where can you have this much fun (for free) and share your talents and energies with God, your church and friends...in a bell choir, or a vocal group, or even a band? Many opportunities exist for you to join in ministry through music. We would "freely" welcome your participation and positive spirit. Upcoming startup dates are as follows:

- Chancel Choir – Wednesday, August 17 – 7:30 pm (meets in the sanctuary – enter the Waugh Street door closest to the parking lot)
- Chancel Bells – Wednesday, August 24 – 6:30 pm (meets in the sanctuary too)
- Psalm Players Band – Wednesday, August 24 – 5:30 pm (meets in sanctuary)

If you played an instrument in the past or are still playing, why not consider joining the Psalm Players – a group rehearses every Wednesday, but some players are only able to join us the Sunday we play. Bell ringers, or even non-bell ringers - we've got a terrific group and we have a double set of bells, so inexperienced ringers can ring next to those with more experience, which makes it easy to join in even if you've never played before. All these opportunities are brought to you "freely" as a participant in a First Baptist music ministry group. Come on and give it a try!

Ed Rollins

Associate Pastor

Welcome Bethany James, New Nursery Coordinator



I am thrilled to be the Nursery Coordinator for First Baptist Church! I have been working in the nursery for the past year and have enjoyed getting to know the children and families very much. My background is in Early Childhood Education, for which I received a Bachelor's Degree from the University of Missouri in 2010. I have taught in infant and toddler classrooms and preschool classrooms, and I am currently the Program Director at a local non-profit childcare center.

I love to spend time with my energetic, silly 4-year-old daughter, Ariana. I feel very blessed that she gets to learn at Sunday school each week while I work in the nursery with the children. We are happy to be part of First Baptist and look forward to a great new adventure!

Sunday Morning Small Group Opportunities

10:15 a.m.

Beginning August 14th

The Community Small Group is an intergenerational group that focuses on God's call to live in community with one another. We meet in the conference room. We rotate facilitators and our discussion tends towards how do we, as a community of Christ's followers, live in today's world in a meaningful way. After the special summer series is concluded, we will be picking up a study by Baptist Ethics Daily titled "The Practice of Living Faithfully." We look for a curriculum that is unified, but not linear, making it easy for members to miss a week and not feel behind in the discussion. We hope that you will join our community!

The Faith Forum Class is a diverse group that likes to read the lesson for the day and share information and ask questions to learn from one another. We try to put the lesson in context to our personal lives and current events. The class does not have a teacher but all help with the learning. Charles Hunter helps guide the discussion. Anyone is welcome, any Sunday you want to stop in. We meet in E-2 by the elevator. We would love to have you visit.

Young(ish) Adult Group is made up of people who are 25-39(ish) who are single and married, with kids and without. We meet in the library outside the church offices. We will be continuing our series on Friendship First. Learning how to develop stronger friendships with each other as well as developing our relationship with God. The facilitator is Sherry Wyatt. Come join us!

On August 14, the **Discussion Class** will begin a 10 week study in Paul's letter to the Roman Christians. Romans has a unique place in the letters of Paul in the New Testament and has had a profound influence in the history of the Christian church. We invite you to join us for these studies.

Do you want to know God more?

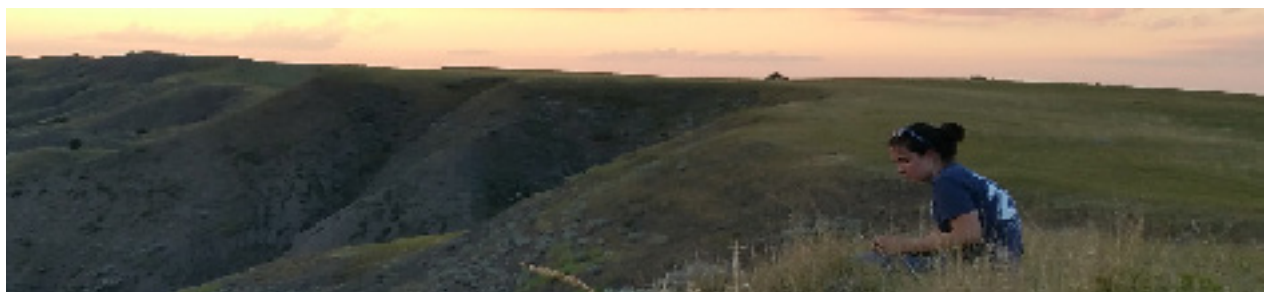
This fall, Pastor Carol McEntyre will be leading two Covenant Groups that will focus on creating the space in our lives to hear from Christ through the spiritual practices. Specifically, the groups will focus on the Spiritual Practices of solitude, scripture reading, prayer, honoring the body, self-examination, discernment and Sabbath. Each group will meet just once a month to allow time to try out the practices. The evening group will meet the first Tuesday of every month beginning September 6. The afternoon group will meet on Thursdays beginning September 8 at 1:00 pm. The groups are capped at 10 participants each to allow for intimacy and community. It is also important that participants really commit to attending the meetings and making time for the practices between meetings. The cost for the group materials is \$20 per person. If you are interested in signing up or want to know more email me at mcentyre@fbc-columbia.org or call the church office at 442-1149.

Mission Trip to the Bridger Community on the Lakota Reservation in South Dakota



At the end of July, Michael McEntyre, Associate Pastor of Youth, College and Missions, led an exploratory trip to the Lakota Reservation in Bridger, South Dakota.

Michael, along with Julia Edgar, Will Edgar, and Jordan Kausler, joined a group from Second Baptist Liberty to experience God's love as expressed through the people of the Bridger Community in South Dakota. It was a humbling and emotional experience to be welcomed in by a people group who have been so mistreated throughout not only our American history, but church history as well. Our team will report on our trip in both services on August 21st. We look forward to sharing our story.





Left: Our team playing 9 Square. Games are a great way to connect with the community.

Below: One of our main projects was to sheetrock the fellowship hall addition.



Right: We also built a 10/12 desk onto the new addition.

Previous page:

Top: The work site - Upper Cheyenne UCC Church, led by pastor Byron Buffalo.

Bottom: View from the ridge above the Cheyenne River Basin. We had to hike to the top for good cell phone reception.





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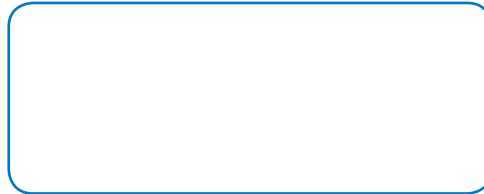
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Brenda Rice, Project Coordinator
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Bethany James, Nursery Director
Glenn Owings, Custodian

“Return Service Requested”



S.A.F.E. Seminar

Sexual Awareness and Family
Empowerment

Friday, September 23 and
Saturday, September 24
at First Baptist Church



S.A.F.E. teaches caregivers the tools to engage in conversations with their children about sexuality. Topics covered will include sexual development; body safety; boundaries; common myths about safety; exploring intuition and how to teach and trust it; and mobilizing a trusted community of adults to help guide and protect children.

Friday, Sept. 23:

Dinner at 5 p.m., seminar 6-8 p.m. - parents and caregivers meet with LeAnn Gardner. Children age 4 through grade 5 will take part in the Kidz'n Power program, taught by professionals from Hockman's ATA Martial Arts

Saturday, Sept. 24: 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.:

Parents and caregivers complete the S.A.F.E. seminar; children will have a fun time of sensory play.

Presented by licensed social worker and ordained minister LeAnn Gardner

Cost: \$25/person or \$40/couple - includes Friday night dinner for the whole family.

Free child care for infants up to Grade 5.

Three ways to register:

Online at fbc-columbia.org * email churchinfo@fbc-columbia.org * Call First Baptist Church at 442-1149