

March 7, 2018

the SPIRE



First Baptist Church
columbia



Holy Week at First Baptist

In a matter of weeks, we will transition from Lent into Holy Week and the celebration of Easter. Holy Week is the most significant time of remembrance and celebration of the church year. In this troubling week, Jesus enters into Jerusalem, shares a meal with his friends, prays in the garden, is denied, tried and crucified. It is a reminder of the tragedy that Christ endured for all people. This is a time that we must experience anew if we are to understand the joy of Easter. Please plan to join us as we gather in worship, Palm Sunday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday.

Palm Sunday - March 25



Palm Sunday is the Christian feast that falls on the Sunday before Easter, commemorating Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. It is a joyous and special day at First Baptist, with palm processions in both services. You are also invited to attend the Downtown Palm Sunday Service in conjunction with other downtown churches. This special service takes place in the middle of the street on Broadway! We will meet on the front lawn at 10:20 and walk downtown together.

Awakening (9:15 am) and Traditional (11:15 am) worship will meet as usual on Palm Sunday; children are invited to take part in a Palm Sunday processional at the beginning of both worship services. Children will gather at the back of the church and be given palms, and when worship begins they parade down the aisle! Parents, please arrive a few minutes prior to worship so your children can join the fun.

Good Friday - March 30

Friday, the day the world turned dark - the day all hope turned to lament - the day of death. On Good Friday, March 30, we will gather in worship at 6 pm in the Fellowship Hall to join in the lament of those who follow Christ. It is a final moment of preparation prior to the joy of Easter.

Easter Sunday - April 1

Easter morning begins with a celebration of the Resurrection at the 9:15 am Awakening Contemporary Worship in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is invited to enjoy pastries and beverages from 10:15 - 11:15 am. Traditional Worship will celebrate the Risen Christ at 11:15 am in the Sanctuary.





Learning to Lament

What is the difference between setting your ex-boyfriend's stuff on fire in the back yard, which I talked about in my sermon Sunday, or ranting to your best friend, which Brittany McDonald Null talked about Sunday, and lamenting before God?

Lament is not just about getting things off your chest. It is not just raging or crying. It's about casting your anxieties upon God, and trusting God with them. Mere complaining indicates a lack of intimacy with God, because lament is a form of prayer. Walter Brueggemann says that undergirding biblical lament is "a relationship between the lamenter and his God that is close and deep enough for the protester to speak in imperatives, addressing God as 'you' and reminding God of God's covenantal promises." Anyone can complain, and almost everyone does. But as followers of Christ we can lament. We can talk with God about our circumstances and ask God to change things because we have a relationship with God. To lament is to be utterly honest before God about our pain and anger. Biblical lament affirms that suffering is real and spiritually significant, but NOT hopeless. In God's mercy, God has given us a form of prayer that bends God's ear and pulls God's heart on our behalf.



Join us this Sunday as we look at Lamentations 3 and talk about hope in the midst of despair. It's still Lent, but Easter's coming! Lamentations 3 reminds us:

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,
his mercies never come to an end;
they are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness.

"The Lord is my portion," says my soul,
"therefore I will hope in him."

~ Pastor Carol

Talking to Your Kids about Sexual Harassment and Assault

Saturday, April 7: Dinner at 5 pm; Seminar 6:00-7:15 pm

We are excited to welcome licensed clinical social worker and ordained minister LeAnn Gardner back to First Baptist! LeAnn was with us a few years ago to present her SAFE Seminar: Sexual Awareness and Family Empowerment. On April 7, LeAnn will join us once again via Skype to present *Talking to Your Kids About Sexual Harassment & Assault*. Last fall, after the "Me Too" movement exploded and women began using the hashtag on social media to demonstrate the widespread prevalence of sexual assault and harassment, we decided to invite LeAnn back to help us think about how we talk to our kids about boundaries, consent, and safety throughout childhood. At First Baptist, we want to partner with parents to be the primary educators of their children in matters of faith and other important topics like sexuality.



Cost of the event is \$10/person or \$20/couple, which includes dinner for the whole family and childcare for infants up to grade 5. After dinner, the nursery will open for infants. Yvette Chambers, Director of Children's Ministry, is planning a fun evening for the children.

To register email Brenda Rice at brice@fbc-columbia.org.

Thy Kingdom Come



Save the Date!

April 28, 2018

ForColumbia

Serving Columbia, side by side.



We will again partner with the city-wide, multi-church date of service opportunities. We are working with event coordinators to organize and plan our work sites. Details will be provided in the next Spire.

Room at the Inn Continues at Calvary Episcopal through March 10

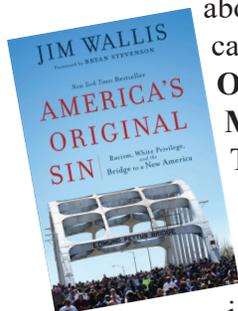
Thank you to all of our First Baptist family who helped with Room at the Inn. The Inn has moved to Calvary



Episcopal for its final week and still has volunteer opportunities available. You can sign up online to participate. If you served in Room at the Inn this season and were impacted by your experience, the Serving Team would love to hear from you. Please take a moment to write about your time with Room at the Inn and send it to Michael McEntyre (mmcentyre@fbc-columbia.org). Thank you again to everyone for helping to make such a needed ministry possible.

Critical Conversations in Troubled Times

First Baptist, Second Missionary Baptist, and Broadway Christian Churches are participating in a conversation about racism and how faith communities can help bring about grassroots change.



Our next meeting will be Sunday, March 11 at 5 pm at Second Baptist. The book *Racism, White Privilege, and the Bridge to a New America* by Jim Wallis is the basis for discussion. Feel free to purchase your own copy and join the conversation at any time. This session will be a discussion of chapter one.



First Baptist will support the work of Cooperative Baptist Field Personnel around the world during the month of March by giving to the CBF Offering for Global Missions. Envelopes are available in the worship spaces.



Around the Church

Spring Break

Spring break this year falls between Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday. Our youth will not meet on Wednesday, March 28. College and Young Adult Bible Study will not meet on Palm Sunday, March 25 or on Easter Sunday, April 1. Normal schedules resume the following week.

The church office remains open during the break.

Daylight Saving Time Begins!

What if you arrived for church only to find that everyone has already left for brunch? Be sure to set your clocks ahead one hour before you go to sleep Saturday night. While you're at it, it's time to change the batteries in your smoke detectors.

the calling

The Calling, our mid-week Middle and High School Bible study, meets from 6:00-7:15pm in the Youth Suite. This semester we are learning about the Lord's Prayer and exploring the lessons it offers us about our faith. All students 6-12th grade are welcome!

First Kids **CAMP**
SHIPWRECKED
July 30- Aug 3, 2018



**Save
the
Date!**

First Kids Camp is an all-day camp for 3-year-olds through those entering 6th grade next fall. Details, including cost and a link to sign up, will be available on our website, fbc-columbia.org.



Easter Egg Hunt - Saturday, March 31

Bring your own basket and come to the Fellowship Hall. From 10 am until noon, children will enjoy treats, crafts, and hunting for Easter eggs.





Cinderella & Missouri Contemporary Ballet

March 16 & 17, 2018 (Sat & Fri) 7pm, Missouri Theatre



Dynamic collaboration with the Missouri Contemporary Ballet a few years ago inspired Odyssey for this special production of “Cinderella” by Sergei Prokofiev for two pianos by Peter Miyamoto and Ayako Tsuruta, with director Karen Grundy’s original choreography. Enjoy the familiar tale with music and dance like you have never experienced before at the Missouri Theatre!

Easter Lilies and Spring Flowers

For Easter, the First Baptist Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall will be filled with beautiful lilies and spring flowers. If you would like to place one or more of these beautiful plants in the worship spaces to honor or remember a loved one, please fill out an order envelope. Envelopes will be available in the worship bulletins this Sunday, and in the worship spaces after that. You may also order by calling the church office, 442-1149 or emailing churchinfo@fbc-columbia.org with details.



Prayers, Concerns & Celebrations

Those of Our Church Family in Need of Prayer:

For the family and loved ones of Bea Brophy, who passed away on March 5. The service will be Thursday, March 15 at 3 pm in the Lenoir Community Center.

Casey Engelbrecht, who was let go from her job.

Verna Rhodes, who is recovering well at home after a surgical procedure.

Trish Blair, whose cancer has returned; she is resuming chemotherapy.

Barry Kausler, who is undergoing treatment for cancer.

Koge Yasuda, who is in hospice care.

Debby Riley, for strength as she continues treatments for cancer.

Ministerial Staff:

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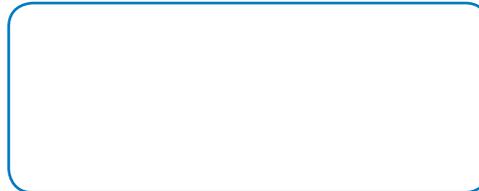
Support Staff:

Janet Deneke, Administrative Assistant
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Brenda Rice, Project Coordinator
brice@fbc-columbia.org

Bethany James, Nursery Director
Jason Bell, Custodian

“Return Service Requested”



Practicing Lament over Comfort Food

Sunday, March 18 at 5:00 pm

We will gather on Sunday, March 18 at 5:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall to share a potluck meal. We are asking you to bring a “comfort food” to share. It could be a food associated with the security of childhood like Mom’s chicken soup or an indulgence food like ice cream.

Recently, Michael and I were talking about this event, Practicing Lament over Comfort Food, when my son Nate chimed in and said, “My comfort food is chicken and dumplings.” He is 8; I didn’t think he knew about comfort food. I was touched that he chose a food that my grandmother, who recently passed away, taught us to make.

~ Pastor Carol McEntyre



All Leader Meeting

Monday, March 12 at 5:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall everyone who serves on one of First Baptist’s teams (Congregational Care, Teaching Team, Worship Team, Mission Team, Telling Team and Administrative Team) is invited to a Leadership Dinner. We will eat together, orient you to your work, talk about the expectations of our leaders, worship and sing. Child care is available. Contribution for the meal is \$5 per person. Please RSVP to our Administrative Assistant, Janet Deneke, at churchinfo@fbc-columbia.org, or 442-1149, and be sure to tell her it is for the leadership dinner!