

June 17, 2015

the SPIRE



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Vacation Bible School Reaches the Summit!



The Mount Everest expedition bible school theme was "Conquering Challenges with God's Mighty Power!" What a great theme for this year because Bible School almost didn't happen. When our Children's Ministry Coordinator, Marsha Randall, ended up in the hospital, we were facing a monumental challenge. Through God's mighty power, teachers, group leaders, musicians, sound techs, decorators, food coordinators and numerous other volunteers all came together to make sure that our kids would have the opportunity to scale the highest mountain and experience God's great love and power. Marsha's good friend, Cindy Giovanni, and Marsha's daughter, Nicole, spearheaded the efforts to help, and we are grateful. Other leaders included Jen Boeckman, Sheila Brookes, Christine Chang, Cheryl Harris, Abby Hartsfield, Ross and Michelle Kassman, Lisa Lang, Lily Long, Abigail Mayhan, Betty and Ron McEntyre, Carol McEntyre,

Mary Beth Ming, Steven Potter, Jason and Rena Tratchel, Chelsea Wells, Marlene White, Stephanie Williams, and Marilyn Zumwalt. Special thanks to Meredith Green for her assistance in decorating, acting, teaching and cleaning up...and to Michael McEntyre for his dramatic acting skills, his opening assembly coordination, and VBS video creations.

Finally, a bunch of delightful children faithfully participated and blessed all who had the chance to work with them and learn together more about our great God.

pictured above: having a great time singing about God's love

pictured right: enjoying fun outdoor games on the front lawn





CommunityNews



I will be traveling to Wales, June 25- July 5, to take my last doctorate of ministry course before I begin writing my thesis. The course is on Celtic Christianity. Celtic Christianity flourished from the 4th-12th centuries in Ireland, Scotland, Wales and Brittany. It is an ancient form of Christianity that developed outside of the boundaries of the Roman Catholic Church of that era and focuses on life in community, a love of nature, a very Trinitarian view of God and a devotion to scripture and learning. The class that I am taking explores the Celtic tradition by following an ancient pilgrimage route along the coast of Wales. We will be hiking an average of 8 miles a day along the 3rd most popular pilgrimage route in medieval times stopping along the way to visit a variety of Holy Wells, the Pilgrimage churches, Neolithic and Bronze Age burial sites, the Iron Age fort at Tre'r Ceiri and St Mary's Well. I am looking forward to the opportunity to study this ancient form of Christianity in such a unique way. Thank you for giving me the time away for renewal and education. Cell phone and Internet usage will be limited; if you have pastoral care needs while I am away, Associate Pastor's Ed Rollins and Michael McEntyre will be available.

Carol McEntyre

Prayers & Concerns:

Barry Kausler has begun chemo for colon cancer.

Marsha Randell is recovering at home after a stay at Boone Hospital.

Trish Blair is traveling to Georgia to help with flood relief work.

ACTS calls for donations

A Call To Serve International (ACTS), founded in 1992 by First Baptist Church member Trish Blair, works in the country of Georgia to create and nurture partnerships for peace through a multifaceted ministry working in the areas of health care, education, arts and culture. ACTS is currently requesting donations after a massive rainstorm ravaged, Tbilisi, the capital city of Georgia over the weekend. Flooding from the storm killed 12 people and displaced countless more. Tax-deductible donations to help the flood victims can be made on-line at acalltoserve.org or by mailing a check, made out to ACTS, to P.O. Box 7026 Columbia, MO 65205

New Keycards

This week our computerized door control system is being updated. All keycards currently being utilized will no longer function with the new system. Any keycards returned will be recycled. New keycards will soon be available for those who need access to the facilities for meetings, rehearsals, etc. Please contact Madison Reynolds in the church office to reserve a new keycard.

June is Local Mission Emphasis Month

This June we are setting aside time in our worship services to focus on our local missions efforts with some of our amazing ministry partners right here in town. You will have the opportunity to learn about many of the organizations that are working alongside churches here in Columbia to make a difference for God's Kingdom. We have invited representatives from Voluntary Action Center, Love INC, Room at the Inn, and the Food Bank to celebrate their work with us during our worship services. We will also have tables set up with information about these ministries and ways you can get involved. We hope you will join us this June as we celebrate what God is up to in our community.



June 21- Representative from the Food Bank

June 28- Yvonne Chamberlain from RATI



CommunityNews



What do we mean when we say "we welcome" people who are LGBT?

This past spring the Church Council began meeting to discuss the need to clarify what we mean when we say that First Baptist "welcomes all persons regardless of their sexual orientation." This statement has been on our church website for many years. Churches often say that they welcome people who are LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual and Transgender). Yet, welcoming can mean many different things. It can mean that as an LGBT person you are welcome to come and worship, but you will never be invited to serve in any leadership capacity. It can also mean that you are welcomed to worship with the hope that you might someday change.

Here at First Baptist, for many years, we have welcomed people who are LGBT to fully participate in the life of our church including serving in positions of leadership. However, the church has never addressed the issue of whether or not our sanctuary can be used for same-sex unions, if our clergy are free to perform these ceremonies, if we would consider hiring a person who is LGBT or ordaining a person who is LGBT. The Church Council feels that it is time to clarify what we mean when we say, "we welcome" people who are LGBT. As a result, the Council has appointed a Shepherding Team to lead the church through the process of widening and clarifying our welcome statement by having both theologically and scholarly based discussions in the coming weeks/months. Details will be made available in the Spire and the bulletin as they emerge. If you have questions or ideas the members of this team are Dave Bennett, Noah Hartsfield, Amanda Stone, Mary Lou Spradling and Khaki Westerfield.

UpcomingEvents

Fellowship Adventures



If you have never seen PUMP BOYS AND DINETTE'S here is your chance! On **July 18** we are heading North to Macon for a 2:00 pm performance at Maple Theater followed by dinner at AJ's, formerly Pear Tree. Expect to be back around 9:30 pm that evening. We will take a van/car pool. The cost is \$24 per person, plus your meal cost. If less than 12 people sign up, the ticket cost will be \$27. **RSVP by July 10** if you can participate. Email Paula Thomas at paulalou52@gmail.com or call 875-1904 to join!

Youth Camp — Parent Meeting

There will be a brief parent meeting after Traditional worship on **June 28** in the Youth Suite. Please remember that camp forms and final payments are due by **June 21**.



Outdoor Baptism Opportunity

On **June 21** at 3:00 pm, First Baptist will hold an outdoor baptism at Hulen Lake. Baptism marks a person's entrance into the Christian faith and identifies that person with Christ and the Church. If you are interested in getting baptized, contact Pastor Carol McEntyre at mcentyre@fbc-columbia.org or 442-1149. The Hulen Lake Shelter is just near the corner of Martin Dr. and Bourn Ave. Shall we gather at the river?

Ministerial Staff:

Carol McEntyre, Senior Pastor
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Ed Rollins, Associate Pastor
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Michael McEntyre, Associate Pastor
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Marsha Randell, Dir. of Children's Ministry
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Nene Peter, African Minister
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Rubin Byishimo, African Worship Leader
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Music Staff:

Colleen Ostercamp, Organist
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Alex Bennett, Awakening Worship Coor.
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Child Development Center:

Debra Riley, CDC Director
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Support Staff:

Madison Reynolds, Administrative Assistant
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Brenda Rice, Project Coordinator
brice@fbc-columbia.org

Glenn Owings, Custodian

“Return Service Requested”

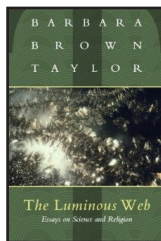
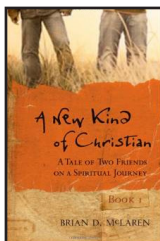
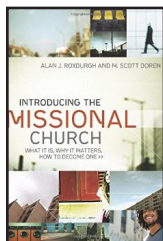
Summer Book Club

The First Baptist Teaching Team is sponsoring Summer Book Club. The Teaching Team is recommending 3 books for you to read this summer. The idea is for everyone to read at their own pace over the summer and then, in the fall, we will have potluck book discussions about the readings. The church has ordered copies of the books which are on sale on Sundays for just \$10 each.

Introducing the Missional Church

A New Kind of Christian

The Luminous Web: Essays on Science and Religion



Office Renovation

Please come by the second floor offices to check out the renovated and reorganized offices for the church and for the Child Development Center. The CDC office has moved down the hall into a much larger, much more appropriate space and it looks great. Our main office has been renovated and Brenda moved into the old CDC office - both spaces look much more professional and service friendly. Thanks to Madison Reynolds, Brenda Rice, and Debby Riley for their patience and assistance.

