

July 15, 2015

the SPIRE



Celebrating
190
years



Check inside for a Youth Camp Report +
More Pictures!

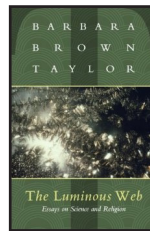
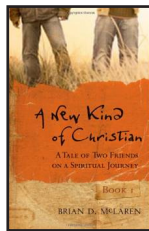
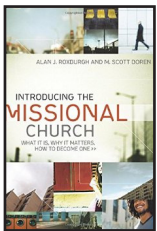
Summer Book Club

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



Trustee Update

The recent heavy rains have poured havoc on our elevator entry lobby. Since the construction in 1997, heavy rains have caused the elevator lobby to flood. We have found the elevator lobby flooded three times in the last two weeks. Through the years we have completed much work to stem the flow of water in our facility. The south entry was altered many years ago and is water free, but the drainage pattern in the north side of the elevator tower continues to be problematic. We anticipated that some drainage pipe repairs last year during our renovation process would solve the problem, but recent heavy rains have proven this idea wrong. As such we are in consultation with Mike Hemme (of Coil Construction who assisted with our renovation), Dave Bennett of our congregation (engineer), and several sub-contractors to develop a plan, go to bid and finally complete the plan. It is anticipated that bidding will be secured by the time the Spire goes to print. In agreement with the head of our Administrative Team, Finance Committee and Trustees, we have deemed it necessary to try and resolve this problem at the earliest possible time. So, don't be surprised to find the front yard torn up and in a state of transition in the coming weeks.





As most of you know, I just returned from taking a pilgrimage class in Wales. The class explored Celtic Christianity through pre-class readings and then, hiking an ancient pilgrimage route in Wales, while visiting Celtic sites along the way. I now realize, prior to the trip, I had a romanticized view of pilgrimage. I thought it would be fun, quaint even, to go on a pilgrimage. The very first day, I realized how wrong I was. Peter, our guide from Edge of Wales Tours, took us to St. Bueno's Church in Clynog Fawr, which dates from the 15-16th Century. After we toured the church, Peter handed us the GPS that would guide us point by point, through the valley of sheep pastures, and up the mountain moor and down again into Trefor. Peter pointed us in the direction of the path, but instead of turning back, he walked with us because people often quit at the sight of the first hill and he wanted to be sure we were up for the task. The hiking was certainly strenuous but I was enchanted by all the sheep, the wildflowers and the lovely fences built of stone. "This isn't too bad," I thought.

We were supposed to hike 12 miles that day. What we didn't realize was that once we reached our destination the GPS would just continue to point down the trail. Consequently, we ended up taking a wrong turn and hiking 18 total miles that first day. That night as I tried to sleep my calves kept seizing up. I thought I wasn't going to be able to walk the next day, let alone hike. Yet, somehow, along with my classmates, I found myself hiking the trail the next day.

Ironically, before I left for Wales, I told a few people that I was looking forward to being physically tired. Writing a sermon every week and doing pastoral care can be emotionally demanding; plus I am always thinking about the church but I am never physically tired after work. So, I was looking forward to the physicality of the trip. What I found interesting about the physical demands of the pilgrimage is that at the end of the day, I would often go back to my room and read for a few hours. I love to read, but at home in Columbia, I rarely have the mental stamina left at the end of the day to read. On pilgrimage, it was like I was giving my mind a time out, so my body could do the work.

I think this is why the renewal of ancient Christian practices like pilgrimage, prayer walks and labyrinths have become so popular. Most of us live in our heads; our jobs and lives are mentally demanding, which makes it easy to see why there would be spiritual benefits to "prayer that is walked rather than just talked." One of the ways that I survived this trip is by reciting the prayers that I have memorized, as I tried to just put one foot in front of the other. Ours is an embodied faith after all; Jesus became flesh and when He left earth he left us with physical things to do, like baptism and communion. So, might I suggest that if your normal spiritual practices are all heady, you might try an embodied faith— you don't have to hike 18 miles, you could start with a prayer walk around your neighborhood.

Carin McEntyre

Prayers & Concerns:

The church extends sympathy to the family of Joe Smith, who passed away on June 21. A memorial service will take place Saturday, August 1, at 11:00 am at the Country Club of Missouri.

The church extends sympathy to the family of Johnny Long, whose memorial service was held on July 6.

Barry Kausler is undergoing chemotherapy for colon cancer.

Marsha Randell is meeting with doctors and undergoing medical tests.

Robert Smith, Sr. is at the Neighborhoods, recovering from pneumonia.

Ken West has stage 4 lung cancer.

Par Johnson is home after a stay in the hospital.

Community Need

Nene Peter, Pastor of First Baptist African Worship Service, is looking for an inexpensive used car. If you have a car that you would like to sell, you can contact Nene directly at 573-818-4111.



Youth Camp 2015 is in the books; don't miss our camp report this Sunday, July 19th, during both morning worship services!



Last week we took 6 adults and 14 students on a 1000 mile journey to youth camp. The theme for the week was based on John 6:35, a chance to better understand God's invitation to come to the table God is preparing for all of us. It is incredible to look at how often in the gospels Jesus is going to a meal, eating a meal, or coming from a meal. There is something beautiful about our shared time together. Our week at camp was a chance for our students to step away from the rush and worries of life and spend time with friends and family, seeking our Creator.

There were more than 30 churches at camp with close to 1200 participants in attendance. Our times of corporate worship were packed with students and leaders lifting their voices to God and responding to God's Spirit. Each day our church would go out to our mission site at Rotary Park and work for the community. The weather helped focus our efforts on spreading mulch, and our team did a fantastic job. We returned to campus for free time activities and after dinner our leaders would teach during our Family Group Time. I cannot thank our adult leaders enough for making space for our students. Long hours, subpar food, emotional conversations, and lack of sleep are a common reality of camp, and our leaders took it all with great strides because they believe in and love our students. I was humbled to be a part of such a team.

We ended our week with a short trip to King's Island where I had the privilege of taking some of our students on their first roller-coaster ride. To say that it was memorable would be an understatement. Overall we had a great week at camp and King's Island, despite the rain. Our students did a great job staying positive and making space for each other and God. I'm proud of our team and everything they did this past week. I am also extremely grateful that baby Kasmann decided not to make her debut, although all of us are anxious to meet her. Thank you for your prayers and your support for our students. Without your generosity this trip would not have been possible.

Grace and Peace,
Michael McEntyre



Youth Summer Series Starts This Sunday Night, July 19th, at the McEntyre's House from 5:00-7:00pm!

Summer series is back. All students are invited to the McEntyre's house on Sunday nights to dive into our summer Bible Study series. We will start at 5:00pm with dinner and snacks, followed by activities and our lesson. Don't miss out on this great event. See you soon!



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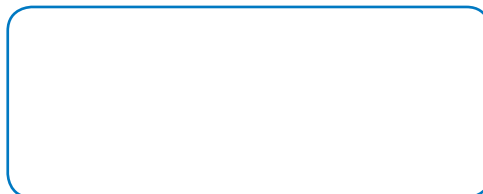
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Concert

Prometheus: an American Vocal Consort presents A Song of Joys on Saturday, **July 18** at 7:30 pm at First Baptist. **SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT:** Lindsey Lang, and her husband Frank, are members of this fine group. (Lindsey grew up in our church, was our first Scholarship Singer, and is daughter of Lisa and David Lang.) Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door, \$5 students with ID. Tickets are available in advance online at www.prometheusmusic.org or from the First Baptist Church office.

Workshop

Saturday, July 18 1:00 - 3:30 pm at First Baptist. All members of the community, ages 13 and up, are welcome to join this unique community-wide choral experience. Sing alongside professional artists under the direction of Prometheus Artistic Director, R. Paul Crabb, enjoy master classes and special interest sessions led by the singers, and perform with Prometheus at the evening concert. The workshop fee is \$10 (includes free concert admission and workshop packet). Register in advance at www.prometheusmusic.org.

Office Closed for Training

The church office will remain locked on Friday afternoons (1 pm - 5 pm) through the summer as Madison Reynolds and Brenda Rice go through computer-based training.

If you need to call the office, please leave a voicemail; messages will be checked periodically throughout the afternoon.

