

October 28, 2015

the SPIRE



Celebrating
190
years



More Than Enough



This year's giving theme is *More Than Enough*. During our worship in November, you are invited to rediscover the Bible's wisdom when it comes to prudent financial practices. It is a chance to learn contentment, to overcome fear, and to discover joy through simplicity and generosity.

More Than Enough is a simple reminder of the abundant grace God has shared with each of us through Jesus Christ. It's a celebration that God's love is "more than enough" in the ups and downs of every day life.

Sunday, November 1
"Affluenza"

Sunday, November 22
Commitment Sunday

Discover Joy
Through
Simplicity & Generosity

Combined Worship and Business Meeting – Sunday, November 22

9:15 am - Combined worship in the Fellowship Hall! Awakening, Traditional and African Worship services will join together on the 22nd at the 9:15 am hour to worship together. Elements from all three services will be utilized in worship.

10:15 am - Following 9:15 am worship there will be a brunch and brief business meeting in the Fellowship Hall.

11:15 am - Just a reminder that worship will be at 9:15 - the Sunday Morning Small Groups and the Traditional worship will not meet. Regular worship and small group times resume the following Sunday, November 29, the First Sunday of Advent and the Hanging of the Green.





CommunityNews



In the mornings, I pray for the people in our church and in my life who need prayer, but sometimes it can be difficult to know what to pray. This summer, as part of my class on Celtic Christianity in Wales, I learned a new way of praying for people, which I have been practicing. I have found it to be very meaningful; maybe, you will too. Early Christians in the British Isles envisioned God as a protective "Encircling Presence." Consequently, they developed a form of prayer called "acaim" in Gaelic and translated into English as "a circle prayer." The prayers are often single petition prayers like the ones listed below. As the Celts prayed this prayer, they would envision the Encircling Presence of God surrounding the person in need with God's love and protection. To give you an example of how I use the prayer, I have inserted the names of people from our church prayer list. Frequently, I pray the entire prayer for one person; at other times, I will insert a new name in each line. I also find it important, as I pray, to envision the person inside the circle of God's protective presence.

Circle Julie, Lord. Keep love within, and anxiety without.

Circle Adam and Bee, Lord. Keep joy within, and pain without.

Circle Bob, Lord. Keep peace within, and worry without.

Circle Dell, Lord. Keep light within, and darkness without.

Circle Barry, Lord. Keep courage within, and fear without.

Circle Marsha, Lord. Keep hope within, and despair without.

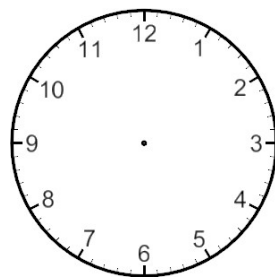
The next time, you find yourself struggling to find the words to pray for someone, perhaps you can give the Celtic circle prayer a try.

Carrie McIntyre

Financial Update

As of September 30, 2015 we have completed 75% of our calendar (and financial) year. Pledge receipts are behind at 65%. Expenditures are slightly behind at 73% and projected need for endowment funds to balance our budget is running behind at 66%. Thanks to all for helping keep us on our fiscal target. Keep up the good work.

Daylight Saving Time



Daylight Saving Time ends on Sunday, November 1. Be sure to set your clocks one hour back!

Prayers & Concerns:

Julie Anson is at University Hospital for ongoing tests and will soon be moving to The Neighborhoods.

Adam Simmons is dealing with severe and debilitating back pain, and Bee, who has taken on caring for him at home.

Bob Smith is in rehab at the Neighborhoods.

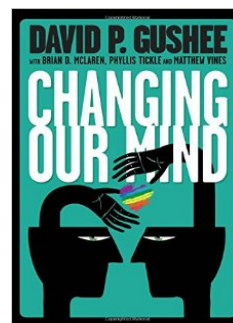
Dell Keepers is making improvements as she recovers from a broken ankle.

Barry Kausler is undergoing chemotherapy treatments for colon cancer.

Marsha Randell as she undergoes treatment for cancer.

Changing Our Mind

Additional copies of Dr. David Gushee's book *Changing Our Mind* are available for purchase from the main office for \$18 each. Contact Madison at churchinfo@fbc-columbia.org to reserve your copy!



UpcomingEvents

Missions Lunch with Keith Holmes and Mary van Rheenan

The Missions Team is hosting a lunch for Keith and Mary Van Rheenen on **November 19** at Noon in the Parlor. Keith and Mary were members at First Baptist before being commissioned by, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, as missionaries in 1996.

Keith Holmes and Mary van Rheenen, a husband and wife team living in the Netherlands, dub Christian films, children's videos, and audio recordings of scripture in major Romany languages. Through their work as Cooperative Baptist Fellowship field personnel, Romany adults and children are learning, many for the first time, about Bible characters such as Ruth, David, Luke and Peter.



The Romany people, often referred to as gypsies, have more than 20 different languages and dialects. With an oral rather than a written culture, Romany often must rely on what they hear about Jesus. As a minority, they face discrimination not only socially but by government systems as well. The discrimination extends even into churches.

Keith and Mary are also involved in Romany outreach in Moldova, the poorest country in Europe. Projects there include translation, education and micro-economic development. "Faith takes the long view," said Mary. "We sometimes don't know the impact our work is having. [But] we establish relationships, see what projects are appropriate, and work with our partners - Wycliffe Bible Translators, our partnering Romany churches and our CBF team members - to make them aware of possibilities."

You may RSVP for the lunch by emailing Madison Reynolds, Administrative Assistant at First Baptist, at: churchinfo@fbc-columbia.org.

Child Development Center's Annual Email Auction November 9-13



It's fall and time for a fresh start! You can begin this by looking for treasures, at home or work, that can be donated to the CDC email auction.

If possible, please email a picture of your items to be included in the auction list. Please email items, or any questions, to Trudy Clevenger at momclev@rocketmail.com between October 21 - November 7.

Dolls for Nicaragua

An ad hoc group of about 25 members and friends of First Baptist have been involved in making felt dolls to be distributed to the children of Nicaragua by doctors associated with the Rainbow Network. We have set a goal of 250 dolls and currently have several nearly completed. We are asking more of you to become involved in order to meet our goal. More than just sewing the dolls, cutting their clothes, and braiding their "hair," we need help in packaging the dolls. Raquel Kausler will meet after Traditional Service in the second floor conference room on Sunday, **November 1** with materials and patterns, and be able to answer your questions. A few dolls will be available for you to dress; clothing provided. You may sew at home or with the group. If you have completed or partially completed dolls or extra material, please bring them so we can see how well we are progressing.





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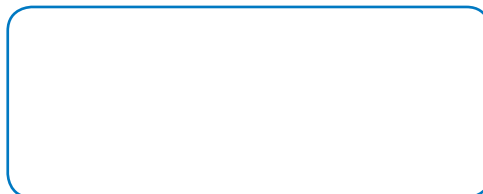
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Glenn Owings, Custodian

“Return Service Requested”



Special Missions Offering for American Baptist Relief Work

First Baptist Church is proud to partner with American Baptist Churches-USA to support missions work and relief efforts around the world. Throughout the first four weeks of November, our congregation will have the opportunity to support these efforts by giving financially to make sure that American Baptists can respond to needs as soon as they happen so that tens of thousands of people can receive support for ongoing relief, rehabilitation, and development. Contributions should be made out to First Baptist Church. Please be sure to put ABC Missions Offering in the memo linen and/or place it in one of the special missions offering envelopes.

This year, your donation will go even further as our Serving Team has established a matching fund for this offering for the first \$1,000. That means every dollar donated for the first \$1,000 has the opportunity to be doubled! This includes money donated specifically to work with Syrian refugees. As Pastor Carol McEntyre mentioned last month, one of the current ways American Baptist are providing assistance is through their work with the refugee crisis in Syria. Your support for this offering can go directly to assist in these efforts (simply put “ABC Missions Offering- Syria” in the memo line of the check or on the envelope). We hope you will give generously to support the work of the American Baptist Church throughout the world.

Thank you,

Ross Kasman
Chair of the Serving Team

