

the SPIRE



Holy Week at First Baptist – *The Beauty of the Cross* –

In a matter of weeks we will be traveling from Lent into Holy Week and the celebration of Easter. Holy Week is the most significant time of remembrance and celebration for the church. In this troubling week, Jesus entered Jerusalem, shared a meal with his friends, prayed in the garden, was 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 on Good Friday and Easter Sunday.



On Palm Sunday, **March 20**, we will attend the Downtown Palm Sunday service. Meet at 10:20 am on the patio to walk together.

On Good Friday, **March 25**, we will gather for worship in the Fellowship Hall at 7:00 pm. This most meaningful service reminds us of the suffering and pain that Christ endured during the crucifixion. We will gather around the cross, as we have during Lent, for a time of communion, prayer and reflection.

On Sunday, **March 27**, Easter services begin with the Sunrise service led by our youth on the front Broadway steps at 8:15 am. Following this we will share in our annual Easter brunch, followed by our worship services at 9:15 and 11:15 am. We look forward to a wonderful day of celebration. Please invite a friend to come with you, as we worship the risen Lord.

Easter Egg Hunt

On Saturday, **March 26**, there will be an Easter Egg Hunt for children from toddlers to 3rd grade. There will also be face painting, bubbles, games, story-time, and more!





A Quiet Dedicated Soul

David Birkenbach died on Monday, tragically hit by a city bus while walking in the cross walk of a busy intersection. Many of you may have heard the news or read the newspaper story, but I'm not sure you were aware of his connection to First Baptist Church. For nearly 15 years, David was the custodian for our Child Development Center. Most of his work took place in the evening when our doors were typically locked.

David was a quiet man, fairly shy socially, but he was always willing to talk to you. David and I talked about weather, work, computers and bicycles. He was always intrigued about my bike riding and triathlons. He didn't say much but he enjoyed making sure that I knew that it was "great day for a ride."

When you think about our childcare, one would inevitably think of David. His dedication and faithful service to CDC was quite unique. Every night, David was here, generally between 9 and midnight, when it was dark outside and quiet inside. He took pride in his work, and the kids who usually never saw him would make sure that any leftover green beans were saved for David's dog.

It was hard Monday, to gather the CDC staff together to share the news. Many of the staff had known him for years, and they had all interacted with him on various levels. It's certainly a shock to lose a friend in a tragic manner. And while it's difficult to find ways to express our thanks in times of trial, thanks be to God for David; a quiet, dedicated soul who touched us by his presence.

We all know people like David or friends we don't see as much as we once did. I encourage you to reach out and share a smile or a hug. Life is sometimes, sadly, too short.

Ed Rollins, Associate Pastor

Child Development Center

The Child Development Center Preschool is now enrolling for summer and the 2016-2017 school year. Our summer program will be June 6-June 30 and July 6-August 5. We welcome children ages 2 through 5. Our hours are 7:15 am-5:30 pm Monday-Fridays. For more information contact Ms. Debby at 573-443-7677 or cdcdirector@fbc-columbia.org



We are collecting store receipts for a fundraiser with Shoparoo. Last year schools nationwide earned over \$800,000. Receipts from any store will help us earn instant cash donations and entries into sweepstakes of up to \$15,000. We have placed a basket in the hall by the nursery to collect receipts. We will be happy to scan your receipts!

Prayers & Concerns:

Joyce Riley is back in ICU at Boone Hospital.

Sherry Wyatt had knee surgery last week. She is home recovering.

Betty Blase has gone home from Lenoir.

Marjorie Bay has moved into Lake George Assisted Living. She is adjusting well.

Harry Cathey, who is at the Bluffs, has pneumonia.

Barry Kausler is undergoing chemotherapy treatments for colon cancer.

Nelda McCrory has moved from the Terrace to Provision. She is doing well. Her new address is Provision 233 Chapel Hill Columbia, MO 65203.

In Sympathy:

The church extends sympathy to the family of Robert C. Smith, who passed away Tuesday, March 8. Memorial Service information to follow.

Celebrations:

Pastors Carol and Michael McEntyre have returned from China with their daughter, Marin Lian.



Events to Look Forward to for Fellowship Adventures

Fellowship Adventures: opportunities for the First Baptist family to get together and build community, through fun activities and outings! Dates are subject to change. Be sure to watch the Spire for more information as each date gets closer.

March 12: Movie Night

March 17: St. Patrick's Day dinner at Babbo's

April 16: Road trip to St. Louis for lunch and the Missouri Botanical Garden

May TBD: Lake of the Ozarks trip to see the Lee's new house and maybe a cruise on the Lake

June 19: "The Music Man" at Columbia Entertainment, followed by dinner at Lone Star

July 16: "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" in Macon; 2:00 pm performance, followed by dinner.



Contact Paula Thomas, Fellowship Chair, with any questions/to RSVP at: paulalou52@gmail.com.

Laughing Your Way Through Life

On Thursday, April 7 at 1:00 pm in the parlor, Dr. Frank Fain will present "Laughing Your Way Through Life" - This program will share facts about the many health benefits laughter provides to adults. When we laugh there are many positive emotional, mental, physical and social benefits for us.

During the program, you will be invited to laugh at jokes, readings, and television clips while you are also learning the positive influences of humor and laughter in our life.

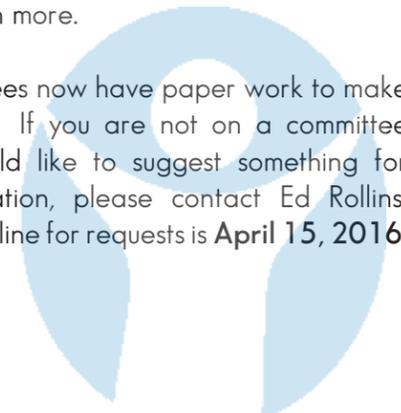
Dr. Frank E. Fain has been the Director of Adult Ministries Services for The Baptist Home since 2000. In this capacity Dr. Fain serves as a resource person to churches, congregational leaders, senior adults, boomer adults and their families on issues related to aging and adult ministries.



Endowment Requests

Thanks to the generous gifts of the late Margaret Mulligan and Dorothy Hughes, First Baptist is blessed to have an Endowment that helps to fund special projects and ministries. A sample of items funded in the past include: Youth Camp transportation, mission trips, marketing, Odyssey Chamber Music Series, the Fellowship Hall renovations and much more.

Committees now have paper work to make requests. If you are not on a committee and would like to suggest something for consideration, please contact Ed Rollins. The deadline for requests is April 15, 2016.



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Glenn Owings, Custodian

“Return Service Requested”

**Daylight Saving Time Begins
on Sunday, March 13:
Spring Forward 1 Hour!**



First Baptist presents a Movie Night for all ages! Gather in the Fellowship Hall for pizza prior to the movie.

Popcorn will be provided during the movie. Adults will be watching and discussing “The Emperor's Club,” a feel good movie about a dedicated teacher (Kevin Kline) who has spent his entire adult life inspiring his students and then comes to appreciate that his students taught him just as he taught them. The movie is rated PG-13 for some language and sexuality. We hope you'll stay for a brief discussion following the movie.

Childcare will be available for infants and preschoolers. Noah and Abby Hartsfield will be hanging out with the children on the 3rd Floor as they watch a movie of their own.

RSVP to the church office by 12:00 pm on Friday, March 11 so we know how much pizza to order!