

September 6, 2017

the SPIRE

First Baptist Church
columbia



First Baptist 101

If you sense that God is drawing you to the community at First Baptist, we celebrate that and we want you to have a chance to get to know our church! First Baptist 101 is a class open to adults who are new members or who are interested in learning more about First Baptist. We will try to answer questions like:

What does it mean to be a member of First Baptist?

What does it mean to be Baptist?

First Baptist 101 will meet for one-hour on three consecutive Sundays beginning October 1 at 4:00 pm, in the Parlor, which is located on the 2nd Floor across from the church offices. Here is an overview of each week:

- Sunday, October 1- Baptist History and Polity taught by Rev. Bob Russell
- Sunday, October 8- Understanding First Baptist leadership structure, the church staff, committees, goals and vision of the church taught by Pastor Carol McEntyre
- Sunday, October 15- Overview of First Baptist ministries, opportunities to serve and a building tour

For more information or to sign-up for child care, contact Pastor Carol McEntyre at mcentyre@fbc-columbia.org or 573-442-1149.

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Homemade ice cream cometh

... and so does Advent.

On Sunday, September 17 at 5:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall we will be asking your assistance as we prepare for our Advent theme, "And None Shall Be Afraid." During Advent, our worship spaces will be adorned with thousands of stars, and we need your help to get ready. We'll have "star making" opportunities for young and young at heart – and to further entice you to join us, there will be homemade ice cream! Childcare will be provided for our preschoolers. Hope you can join us for a treat-filled time.



Finding Home Again

It's hard to believe that Bryce and I have been in Columbia for over a month. We have worshiped together for five Sundays now. Here are a few things I have noticed about First Baptist:

You are a hospitable people. From the first day I arrived, I was blown away by your hospitality. They say southerners know hospitality, but you blew my previous experiences out of the water. Bryce and I had no idea what to expect when we pulled up to our apartment July 31st, but to our amazement, we were greeted by a familiar face who took us to dinner and then were overwhelmed by kind hands willing to move the stuff of a stranger.

You are a giving people. You continued to amaze us the following Sunday when we arrived "pounded" with fresh vegetables, canned goods, cleaning supplies, and gift cards. You helped fill our home, and for that Bryce and I are grateful. Our hearts and our stomachs are full because of you.

You are an affirming people. Over the past five Sundays, I have heard nothing but encouragement. You have expressed your excitement for my arrival. You gave kind words following my testimony, scripture reading, and prayers. I have seen how welcoming you are to all people, even two displaced Texans learning their way through the Midwest.

You are a liberating people. Since my arrival I have watched women serving communion, children collecting the offering, and the young and young-at-heart discovering their true selves around the same table. You have a rich history of empowering both women and men, children and adults, introverted and extroverted within your congregation. I know it can be easy to take that for granted, but know this: each of those actions speaks volumes to who you are as First Baptist. It is rare to find a church that recognizes the worth of every individual regardless of age, gender, sexual identity, race, or socio-economic status. I know this is a part of your DNA but I promise, this is a rare and beautiful trait. Never forget to celebrate that.

You are a loving people. Bryce and I already feel a part of your community. Each day I walk into the office I am reminded of your love through the text messages, emails, and drop ins that you make. Every day when I go home I remember your love by the hands who unloaded the boxes that still take up much of my home. No amount of words will ever suffice to thank you for your love already shown. We are honored to be part of your family and I am thrilled to be your Pastoral Resident.

Brittany McDonald-Null

Pastoral Resident



Save the Date!

Afternoon at the Farm is coming Sunday, October 22 at 3 pm

Hayrides ~Trunk-or-Treat ~ Dinner

Details coming soon!





First Baptist's Fall Kick-off



Auben Galloway (above) has a rough ride, but Caroline Ford (below) subdues the angry bull.



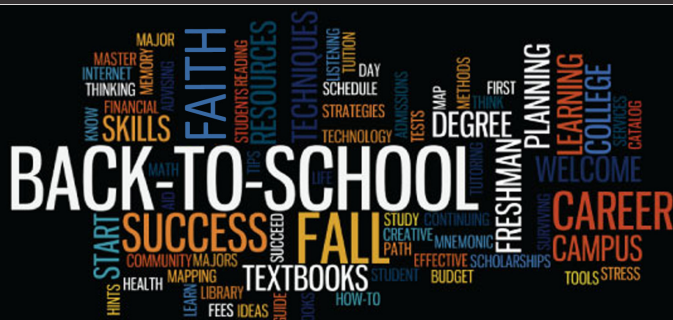
Jason, Lucas, and Rena Tratchel are stylin' in their Western attire.



**Great food,
great fun,
great company,
great weather!**

Save the Date!

**College Bible Study regular schedule
starts Sunday, Sept 17th at 5:30pm**



Child Development Center
at First Baptist Church Est. 1969

The Child Development Center Preschool is now enrolling for the 2017-2018 school year, which began August 15.

We welcome children ages 2 through 5. Our hours are 7:15-5:30 Monday-Friday. For more information contact Jess Wolfe at 573-443-7677 or cdcdirector@fbc-columbia.org.



Liberty & Justice for Some? Understanding Our Baptist Identity

You don't want to miss our Fall Sheppard Lecture, October 28-29, featuring Amanda Tyler, Executive Director of the Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty (BJC). Primarily an education and advocacy organization, the BJC is a leading voice in Washington, D.C., fighting to uphold the historic Baptist principles of religious freedom and separation of church and state. Composed of representatives of 15 national, state and regional Baptist bodies in the United States and supported by thousands of churches and individuals across the country, the BJC is the only faith-based agency devoted solely to religious liberty and the institutional separation of church and state.



Why does the Baptist Joint Committee support church-state separation?

The separation of church and state, or the "wall of separation" talked about by early Baptist Roger Williams, U.S. Constitution framer Thomas Jefferson, and the U.S. Supreme Court, is simply a shorthand metaphor for expressing a deeper truth. Religious liberty is best protected when church and state are institutionally separated and neither tries to perform or interfere with the essential mission and work of the other.

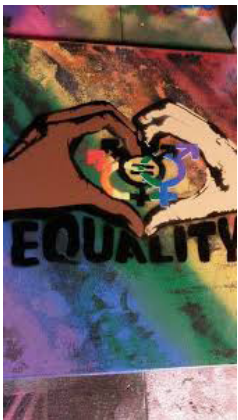
Every summer, I attend the BJC annual meeting because I am fascinated by their work! Besides educating congregations and legislators about religious liberty, the BJC also monitors legislation relating to church-state matters, joining coalition efforts for or against a bill, and leading congressional staff briefings on the need for or implications of a bill. For example, the BJC filed a friend-of-the-court brief in *Trinity Lutheran Church of Columbia v. Comer* case, a religious liberty case that began right here in Columbia and was ruled on by the Supreme Court this year. I hope you will make plans to join us for the Fall Sheppard Lecture and learn more about the historic Baptist principles of separation of church and state and religious liberty.

Carla McEntyre

Senior Pastor

New Sunday Small Group on Racial Equality

Join us for a conversation on *The Work of Racial Equality*, beginning Sunday, September 17 during the Small Group hour (10:15 am) in the Conference room. The curriculum will challenge us to engage in safe, meaningful and substantive conversations about race. The curriculum is for people of all races and ethnicities, but we will engage in discussions about the ways that whiteness is still advantaged in our daily lives. The conversation is not about guilt or shame, but it is about telling the truth and bringing things to the surface that we don't always see -- things that may be holding us back. If we're open to it, this curriculum is an invitation to wholeness. Julie Walker and Misty Phillips will be cofacilitating the conversation. The group is limited to 12 participants. To sign up or for more information contact Julie Walker at jbethwalker58@gmail.com.



Mid-Week Small Group Opportunity

The Koinonia small group will begin on Thursday, September 7th, at 6 p.m. and meet on the first and third Thursdays of every month. Koinonia is a no prep group with a non-linear format. Feel free to come when you can without worrying about catching up to the rest of the group. We will be watching and discussing the Nooma video series. There will be coffee and sweets; if you can, please bring a dollar or two to help with cost. Child care will be available. Contact Noah Hartsfield at nhartsfield2010@gmail.com or Abby Hartsfield at arc7cd@gmail.com.

Upcoming Events



Two Events for College and Young Adults You Won't Want to Miss

Sept 10th- Join us for our semester kickoff at Lazer Lanes from 6:00-8:00pm. We will bowl a bit, eat some pizza, catch up about the summer, and end with a game of Laser Tag. The event is FREE so be sure to bring a friend. Our weekly College and Young Adult Bible Study meets on Sunday nights from 5:30-7:00pm this semester, we hope to see you there.



Sept 29th- College and Young Adults are invited to join us for a trip to St. Louis to hear Shane Claiborne and Rev. Starsky D. Wilson at the Do Justice gathering for ChurchNet. You may know Shane Claiborne from his bestselling book, *The Irresistible Revolution*. Shane is a popular speaker, author, and activist. The cost \$10 for adults; students are free. Dinner is included. We will leave the church parking lot at 3:00 pm and return by 11:00pm.



You're invited to the

Senior High Girls' Recital

September 23, 2017, 3:00 p.m.

First Baptist Church

Featuring our own Jordan Kausler

Congratulations and Reception to follow

Other Musicians Include:

Sovleig Geenen ~ Carmen Ramirez

Teacher: Colleen Ostercamp

Odyssey Concert Series Presents:

Akropolis Reed Quintet

October 13 (Friday)

2011 Plowman GrandPrize Winner performs a
World Premier composed by Paul Seitz



Wednesdays 6- 7:15pm, Youth Suite

the calling

Students 6th- 12th Grade

Altar Flowers



There are still a few opportunities to provide flowers for the Traditional Worship Service in October and November. Please visit the flower board in the hall outside the sanctuary to sign up.

Ministerial Staff:

Carol McEntyre, Senior Pastor
mcentyre@fbc-columbia.org

Ed Rollins, Associate Pastor
rollins@fbc-columbia.org

Michael McEntyre, Associate Pastor
of Youth, College & Missions
mmcentyre@fbc-columbia.org

Brittany McDonald Null, Pastoral Resident
bnull@fbc-columbia.org

Yvette Chambers,
Director of Children's Ministry
chambers@fbc-columbia.org

Music Staff:

Colleen Ostercamp, Organist
gostercamp@gmail.com

Alex Bennett, Awakening Worship Coor.
abzandercole1@gmail.com

Child Development Center:

Jess Wolfe, Director
cdcdirector@fbc-columbia.org

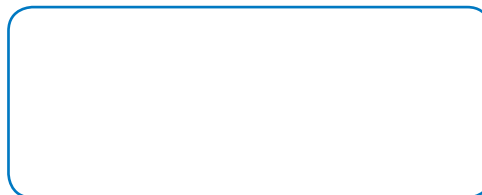
Support Staff:

Janet Deneke, Administrative Assistant
churchinfo@fbc-columbia.org

Brenda Rice, Project Coordinator
brice@fbc-columbia.org

Bethany James, Nursery Director
Jason Bell, Custodian

“Return Service Requested”



A Tuesday Night Discussion Group

The Shack is a fictional movie about a man named Mack, whose daughter is kidnapped and murdered. Years later, Mack receives a note from God inviting him to a meeting at a shack, the place where his daughter was murdered. Mack goes to the shack with reluctant curiosity. Against all his doubts, God the Trinity actually shows up—the Father as a black woman named Papa, the Son as a young Middle Eastern carpenter, and the Spirit as an Asian woman named Sarayu.

Join us for a five-week study, in which we will use The Shack as a starting point for talking about the Trinity. The doctrine of the Trinity can be perplexing. Augustine even said that anyone who denies the Trinity loses his salvation but that anyone who tries to understand it loses his mind! The perceived complexity of the Trinity has led many Christians to avoid the doctrine all together. Yet, it is a foundational teaching of Christianity, which we can't just dismiss.

The Shack is a great avenue for entering into a conversation about how we understand the Trinity and how we visualize God. Join us for this dialogue about The Shack and the Trinity. The first week we will watch the movie. The second week we will have a panel discussion of the movie made up of First Baptist folks who have theological training.

We will meet Tuesday evenings September 12 - October 10 at 6 pm in the parlor.