

July 10, 2019

the SPIRE



First Baptist Church
columbia



Ice Cream Social

July 14, 6-8:00pm

The Diaconate are hosting an ice cream social in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, July 14 from 6pm-8pm. We will have ice cream and toppings. We will be helping the First Kids Camp team with decorations in preparation for Kids Camp July 29th-August 2nd. We will also be accepting donations which will go to a scholarship for Kids Camp participants. All are welcome, but please RSVP to the church office. Phone: 573-442-1149, Email: churchinfo@fbc-columbia.org

Upcoming Events

July 14

6-8:00 pm Ice Cream Social

July 21-27

Unidiversity Youth Camp

July 21 & 28

Enneagram & Relationships Small Group

July 29-Aug 2

First Kids Camp

August 4

11:15 am Combined Worship in the Sanctuary

August 4, 11, 18

10:15 am Inclusion Training

11:15 am Combined Worship Sunday, Aug. 4





Inclusion Training August 2019

Inclusion Training
Sundays at 10:15 am in the Parlor

-August 4 & 11-
Inclusion of all genders, including people who are transgender and non-binary.

-August 18-
Inclusion of people with disabilities

One focus area that came out of our All In Visioning Process was “work toward increased accessibility and inclusivity in First Baptist ministries and facilities.” To do this, we have committed to expanding opportunities for inclusion education and experiences. We have identified two areas of inclusion that we want to work on this summer.

The first area of focus is the inclusion of all genders including people who are transgender and non-binary. This two-part session will be held on August 4 and 11 at 10:15 am in the parlor, Dr. Christy Hutton and Dr. Loren Bauerband from the University of Missouri will be leading this training.

The second area is the inclusion of people with disabilities, especially children. On August 18 at 10:15 am in the parlor, Christy Edwards a minister and mother of a special needs child, will be talking about how faith communities can companion this population.



Summer Book Club



New York Times Bestseller

What Is the Bible?

How an Ancient Library of Poems, Letters, and Stories Can Transform the Way You Think and Feel About Everything

Rob Bell

New York Times Bestselling Author of *Love Wins*



Book Review - *What Is the Bible?*

by Sheila Brookes

Rob Bell's *What Is the Bible? How an Ancient Library of Poems, Letters and Stories Can Transform the Way You Think and Feel About Everything* has me questioning all that I had been taught about how to read the Bible. Actually, Bell has me questioning my understanding of what the Bible is.

I was taught that the "Holy Bible was written by men supernaturally inspired... without any error...[and is] the only complete and final revelation of the will of God to man... [and] IS the very Word of God... written by holy men of old, as they were moved by the Holy Spirit, in such a definite way that their writings were supernaturally and verbally inspired and free from error, as no other writings have ever been or ever will be inspired."¹

Conversely, Bell posits that the Bible is a human document, written by real people, in real places, in real times. According to Bell, these writers were trying to make sense of their world and God and, as readers of the Bible, we are to try to determine what the writer of the books of the Bible were saying in the original context before trying to apply the passages to our world and our life today.

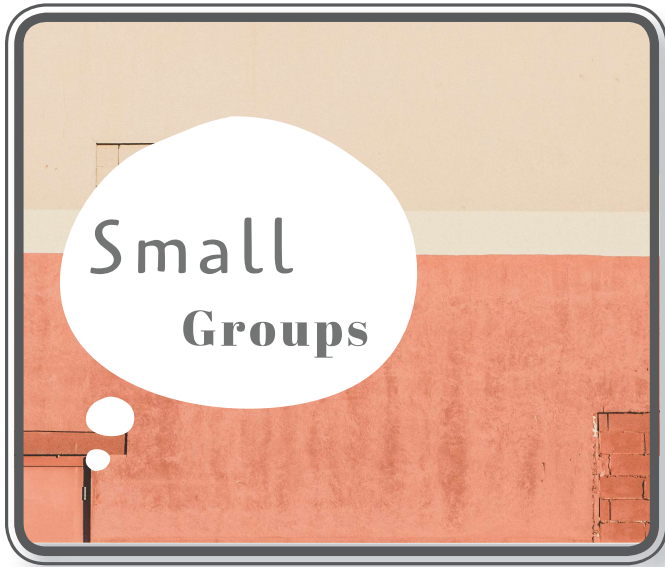
Whoa! I bet you can see my dilemma now? Is the Bible a human document written by real people? Or is the Bible written by men supernaturally and without any error? Encountering Bell's writing isn't the first time I have wrestled with these ideas. Actually, I have been wrestling with this very question for well over two decades. Bell's book helped me to leap from my previous understanding of the Bible to the view that "... the Bible [is] a primary source for our beliefs and practice; one which is to be engaged with our minds and hearts."²

As I take on this new understanding, I plan to read more viewpoints. I have already read Rachel Held Evans' book and have Peter Enns book packed and ready for airplane reading this week as I travel. I highly recommend Rob Bell's book, *What Is the Bible?* It will help you to explore, question, and affirm your beliefs about how to read the Bible.

Sheila Brookes has been a member of First Baptist for about 5 years. Sheila has four daughters and one precocious granddaughter, Alice. She spends her days working from home as an Early Childhood Research Analyst and her free time is often spent reading and walking the many trails around Columbia.

¹ <https://gobbc.edu/about-us/beliefs-values/>

² <http://fbc-columbia.org/who-we-are/beliefs/>



Youth Ministry Workshop Summer Small Group

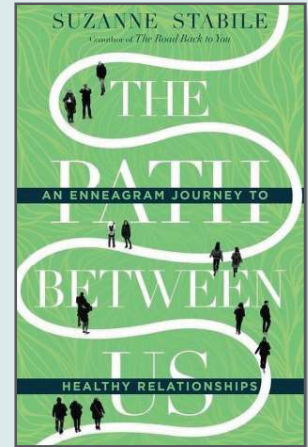
July 21
10:15 am, 2nd Floor Conference Room

This summer we are working to reshape our youth ministry (and possibly, by proxy, some of our children's ministry) future format and curriculum.

July 21- Intro the Journey to Adulthood curriculum that Michael has chosen to help guide our discussion and hopefully build our future framework on.

Enneagram & Relationships Small Group

Sunday, July 21 & 28
10:15 am
Hospitality Room



During the month of June, there were wonderful conversations about each Enneagram number's approach to relationships.

Due to unpredictable West Texas weather, the Enneagram and Relationships small group did not meet on Sunday, July 7. In order to end well, we will be extending the class by two weeks.

On Sunday, July 21, the group will talk about the strengths each number brings into relationships and three ways each number limits relationships. On Sunday, July 28, the group will discuss ways we can help ourselves and others thrive in relationships. Whether you have been with us from the beginning or one topic peaks your interest, I hope you will join us as we continue to explore the Enneagram!

Brittany McDonald-Null

First Baptist Small Group Survey 2019

The FBC Small Group Survey 2019 is here! This is your opportunity to tell us what kind of small group you're interested participating in. Enter the below link into your browser search bar to access the electronic version of the survey.

https://missouri.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_dcbvXCKA0HFo2IT

Paper copies of the survey are also available on Sundays at the entrances to our worship spaces.

-Kim Siegenthaler, *Teaching Team Coordinator*



Community Events

American Baptist Churches of the Great Rivers Region Area 5 Annual Gathering

Saturday, July 20, 10:00 am-2:00 pm

Bethel Baptist Church,

201 E Old Plank Road, Columbia, MO

To register, RSVP to the church office.

Phone: 573-442-1149.



First Baptist Youth & Leaders at Unidiversity Camp

July 21-27

Please be in prayer for our students and leaders as we head out for Youth Camp July 21-27. We are taking 9 youth and adults to Unidiversity Camp in East Tennessee again this summer and are looking forward to an incredible week. Please pray for great weather, safe travels, and for God to move in the lives of our students and leaders.

Prayers & Concerns

-Prayer Requests-

- Barry Kausler, who is still undergoing treatment for cancer.
- Doug Clem's mother Dorothy Clem, who is recovering from a stroke.
- Yvette Chambers is undergoing infusions and transfusions at Ellis for 10 weeks.
- Jim Butt, who is recovering from pneumonia at Reach Rehabilitation at Lenoir.
- Deb Carr, whose father is in the hospital in Columbia.

-Celebrations-

- Yvette Chambers' son Jack received a full baseball scholarship at William Woods and her son Scott is engaged to be married in November!

Ministerial Staff:

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First Kids Camp registration is now closed but we still need volunteers! If you are interested, please email firstkidscamp@fbccolumbia.org or call the church office at 573-442-1149.