

# Celebrate Easter at First Baptist!



#### Maundy Thursday — April 2

This Holy Day is remembered for the last supper that Jesus shared with his disciples. The labyrinth will be available (by reservation) in our Fellowship Hall from 9:00 am - 5:00 pm for a time of personal meditation. Sign up in the main office.



### <u>Good Friday — April 3, 7:00 pm</u>

Worship together in memory of Christ's betrayal and crucifixion. Through scripture, spoken word, music and meditation, we experience the suffering and sadness that must occur before the joy of Easter. Gather together in the Fellowship Hall for this service.



#### Easter Egg Hunt — April 4

Meet in the Fellowship Hall at 10:00 am for activities and treats, along with an egg hunt out on the lawn!

#### Easter Sunday — April 5, The Celebration of Life



8:15 am	Youth Sonrise Service on the Front Steps
8:45 am	Breakfast (hallway outside the sanctuary)
9:15 am	Awakening Worship
10:15 am	Sunday Morning Small Groups
11:15 am	Traditional Worship



### Community**News**



Easter, the celebration of Jesus' resurrection from the dead, is not just a day. In the church year, it is whole season that runs from Easter Sunday, all the way to Pentecost, which is when we celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Church. To carry on the celebration of Easter, many Christian Churches are resurrecting an old Easter custom begun by the Greeks in the early centuries of Christianity, which was to celebrate the Sunday after Easter as Holy Humor or Laughter Sunday. The custom is rooted in the musings of the early church fathers, like Augustine and Gregory of Nyssa, who said that God played

a practical joke on the devil by raising Jesus from the dead. "Risus paschalisthe Easter laugh," the early church fathers called it. After the seriousness of the Lenten Season, the Greek Christians would lighten things up by telling jokes and amusing stories in worship and even playing practical jokes on one another. They must have had a little too much fun because in the 17th Century, Pope Clement X outlawed the practice. In the 1980s, churches in American began, again, to celebrate the Sunday after Easter as Laughter Sunday as a way to continue the celebration of Easter and to celebrate the arace of God through the aift of laughter and joy. If you Google Laughter Sunday or Holy Humor Sunday, you will be amazed at how widespread this practice is in churches of many different traditions today. So, this Easter Season we are going to keep the celebration going by participating in Laughter Sunday, April 12. Come to church on April 12 dressed in bright colors, with a joke or two to share during worship.

Carn McEntique

#### Within 7 minutes, guests decide if they will return to First Baptist.

You read it correctly. Research suggests that first-time guests will decide if they are going make a second visit to a church within just 7 minutes. Hospitality expressed to first-time quests makes a tremendous difference in whether or not they will come back. All of this happens before worship even begins! In some churches a guest knows exactly where to park, is graciously welcomed, is escorted to the children's area to drop off kids, and introduced to several helpful people. In other churches, a guest has no idea where to go and is not welcomed by anyone. First Baptist does a pretty good job of welcoming guests, but we believe we can do better. To make this happen, the Ushers, led by Randy Wyatt and the Greeter Ministry, led by Sue Hammann are joining forces to become the new Welcome Team. This newly formed team will make sure that we do a great job welcoming guests and they will also help with other duties during worship like collecting the offering. This will cut down on the number of volunteers that we need on Sundays and also ensure that we have all our bases covered. Randy Wyatt and Sue Hammann will serve as co-coordinators of the new Welcome Team. If you want to be involved in this essential new ministry, April 12 at 12:15 pm in the parlor, following traditional worship, there will be a lunch, training and opportunity to sign up to serve.

## Celebrations:

Keith Roys was inducted into the Missouri Recreation and Parks Hall of Fame on February 26. Congratulations!

Elizabeth Bauer (one of our scholarship singers in traditional worship) and Bradley Herdman ioined the church on March 29.

# You're Invited:

Hear premier Missouri organist Jan Kraybill play a concert in memoriam of Perry and Betty Parrigin. The concert is at 4:00 pm on Saturday, April 11 at Missouri United Methodist Church. 204 S. 9th Street. Admission is free.

Mr. Muzuzi Nduwavo Fidele & Mrs. Nyangabigwa Yoram and Mr. Maximano Jeremie & Mrs. Nabigondo Sophia *Request the pleasure* of your company as Dollard and Clement Exchange vows on Saturday, the sixteenth of May at one o'clock in the afternoon at First Baptist Church.

Kindly Respond by the twenty seventh of April by email at mdollard11@yahoo. com or by phone at 573-673-4373.

# **UpcomingEvents**



This Sunday kicks off our focus on our partnership with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship (CBF) and our special offering to support CBF Global Missions. From Miami, China, New York, Ukraine and dozens of places in between, you will find God working and changing lives through Cooperative Baptist Fellowship ministries. The CBF Offering for Global Missions provides funding for the powerful ministries of more than 130 CBF field personnel. First Baptist will be collecting money to support the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Global Missions projects from April 5-26. To give, simply indicate CBF Global Missions on your check and place your offering in one of the specially marked mission envelopes. Please give graciously.



Friday, April 10, church member and forme scholarship singer Christina Casey, wil present a vocal recita in the sanctuary at 7:30 pm. Christing is currently a vocal performance graduate student at LSU.

#### The Gift of Years — A Discussion About Growing Older Gracefully

The Gift of Years book discussion will be co-facilitated by Bob Russell and Carol McEntyre on Tuesdays at noon over lunch, beginning April 7 through May 17 in the parlor. Please RSVP to the church office (at churchinfo@fbc-columbia.org, or 573-442-1149) by noon on Monday, April 6, to reserve a lunch order.

# Youth, College & Young Adults

#### Attention all graduates!

First Baptist Church would like to honor all of our high school and college graduates on Sunday, May 10. Graduates will be recognized in both services and there will be a light brunch between services as well. We are asking that all graduates send your graduation information to the church no later than Sunday, April 26 so it may be featured in the Spire. (For high school students this includes your name, senior photo, school graduating from, and future plans. For our college and post college grads, please include your name, recent photo, parent(s) names, school you are graduating from, degree you are graduating with, and future plans.) Information may be brought to the church office or emailed electronically to mmcentyre@fbc-columbia.org. Congratulations to all our grads.

#### Pulpit Swap



Sunday, April 19 is the downtown church pulpit swap. Knute Jacobson (pictured at left), the Senior Pastor at Calvary Episcopal Church, will be our quest preacher here at First Baptist. Carol McEntyre will be preaching at Russell Chapel Christian Methodist Episcopal Church.

#### Senior Recital

#### Fellowship Adventures

The first road trip of the year will be Saturday, April 18. All are invited to go to lunch in Vienna, Missouri at Moreland's Catfish Patch & Steakhouse, located at 13448 Maries Rd 325 Vienna, MO 65582, near the Gasconade River! Meet at First Baptist at 10:45 am to take the van together! Contact Paula Thomas (paulalou52@gmail.com) with any questions, or to sign-up.









<u>Ministerial Staff:</u> Carol McEntyre, Senior Pastor mcentyre@fbc-columbia.org

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Glenn Owings, Custodian

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#### "Return Service Requested"



#### Serving the City is back! Saturday, April 25



The Serving Team is offering our First Baptist family the opportunity to get involved in supporting our community and ministry partners with a day of serving, Saturday, **April 25** from 9:00 am to noon. We will meet at the church that morning for some words of instruction and encouragement and then head out to our ministry sites for the morning. All of our members and friends are encouraged to join us as we seek to serve the needs of our community. We have tried to include a ministry opportunity or all ages and abilities. Watch for projects and sign up info on the board outside the sanctuary.



# Easter Egg Hunt!

**April 4**<sup>th</sup> — **10:00 am** at First Baptist Church on the Front Lawn Join us for activities, treats, and a BIG egg hunt!

