

Youth Easter Egg Scavenger Hunt

April 13, 5:45 - 7:30 pm

On Wednesday, April 13, our youth are invited to participate in the Amazing Easter Egg Scavenger Hunt Race! Students will meet at the church at 5:45pm, be given instructions, divide up into teams (each team will have an adult leader driving), and be given clues that will lead them to various locations around the city in search of their "egg" that contains the next clue. The team that finds the most eggs and returns to the church by 7:15 pm wins the hunt. We hope all of our students will join us for this "big kid" Easter Egg hunt on Wednesday, April 13!





First Kids Easter Egg Hunt April 16, 10 am

Join us Saturday, April 16 at 10 am for our annual Easter Egg Hunt! Kids, birth through 5th grade and their families, are invited to gather in the Fellowship Hall for Easter snacks and crafts before our egg hunt takes place at 10:30 am.

Kids will be divided for age-specific hunts. Following the egg hunts, families are invited to participate in sack races, lawn games and 9 square.



Word from the Pastor



First Baptist,

Part of the beauty and mystery of celebrating the church year is revisiting the same sacred stories, like Palm Sunday and Easter, and discovering new revelations about God and insights regarding our faith. The church year is like a spiral that invites us to drill a little deeper into a life patterned in the way of Jesus with each passing season. With this in mind, I encourage you not to miss the upcoming Holy Week and Easter Worship Services!

Palm Sunday - April 10

Holy Week, the most sacred week of the liturgical year, begins with Palm Sunday on April 10. We will remember the day when Jesus made his triumphant welcome into Jerusalem. During worship, we too will wave palm branches and shout "Hosanna!"

Good Friday - April 15

I invite you to join us at 6:00 pm on Good Friday, April 15. We will gather in the Fellowship Hall for an interactive worship service. We will reflect on the crucifixion, a horrific event that reveals the worst in humanity, and on Jesus, who shows us the best in humanity— grace where grace is undeserved, humility in the face of power, and love that overcomes. Observing Good Friday makes Easter morning richer.



Easter Sunday - April 17

Come join us for Easter worship on Sunday, April 17, and bring a friend! We will celebrate Christ's resurrection, the day hope is realized, in the Awakening Contemporary Worship service at 9:15 am in the Fellowship Hall and the Traditional Worship service at 11:15 am in the Sanctuary. At 10:15 am, there will be pastries and beverages to enjoy. You can grab a treat and head to a small group or gather with friends on the courtyard patio.

Life of the Church









live.fbc-columbia.org - A New Webcast Experience

Since before the pandemic, First Baptist has been working to create the best online experience for our congregation to join and participate in our services. To do this, we have used various platforms (Vimeo, YouTube, Facebook, etc) to broadcast our times of worship live. Each platform has features that were useful for our different needs, yet none provided all of the options we were looking to offer our online congregation until now!

By using live.fbc-columbia.org, our online community can more closely participate with our in-person attenders. When you join the service using live.fbc-columbia.org, either on our website or directly in your browser, you

will notice several elements for worship, including access to the bulletin, a place for notes, an option to offer prayer requests, a handy side bar for looking up Scripture, a place to give, and the schedule for upcoming services. Perhaps the best feature of live. fbc-columbia.org is the ability to chat with other worshippers online during the service without the distractions or online ads experienced with other services. This feature will connect participants with those in person and will be live hosted by one of our online greeters or staff members. First Baptist is excited to offer this new experience for our community of faith and hope you will encourage others to join us for worship.



We know that streaming to a variety of social media platforms increases our chances to reach our community and beyond and is helpful when wanting to watch a service at a different time other than Sunday morning. With this in mind, our webcast will continue to stream to YouTube and Facebook as a form of outreach, but we believe that all our members and guests will benefit most from worshipping live together at live.fbc-columbia. org.

Journey Together: A First Families Event July 22-24

Journey Together, a new kids ministry event, will take place over a weekend and have opportunities for meals and fellowship. Families will begin together with large-group worship followed by rotations of Bible story, art and science, and games with other family groups and each session will conclude with songs and prayer.

This year's theme is *Great Big Beautiful World*. Adults and children alike will come together to remember God's care for all creation and see how they can be a part of preserving the created world. A more detailed schedule will be shared as the date approaches. We are looking forward to the ways your family and our church family will make memories, grow in faith, and connect with other families during this special event!



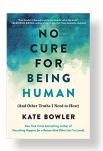


First Baptist Book Club

The First Baptist Book Club will meet on the last Tuesday of the month at 6 pm in the Office Commons for April and May. Purchase or check out books on your own and come prepared for snacks and great discussion. Below are the books for April and May.

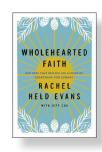
April 26, 6pm- No Cure for Being Human by Kate Bowler

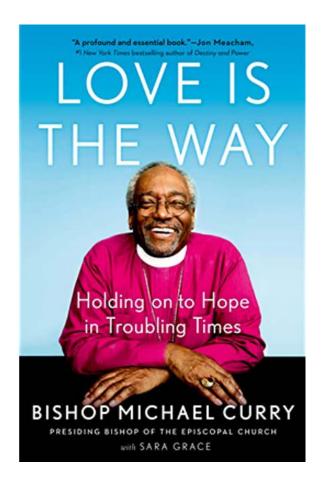
With dry wit and unflinching honesty, Kate Bowler grapples with her cancer diagnosis, her ambition, and her faith as she tries to come to terms with her limitations in a culture that says anything is possible. She finds that we need one another if we're going to tell the truth: Life is beautiful and terrible, full of hope and despair and everything in between and there's no cure for being human.



May 31, 6pm - Wholehearted Faith by Rachel Held Evans with Jeff Chu

At the time of her tragic death in 2019, Rachel was working on a new book about wholeheartedness. With the help of her close friend and author Jeff Chu, that work-in-progress has been woven together with some of her other unpublished writings into a rich collection of essays that ask candid questions about the stories we've been told—and the stories we tell—about our faith, ourselves, and our world. Through theological reflection and personal recollection, Rachel wrestles with God's grace and love, looks unsparingly at what the Church is and does, and explores universal human questions about becoming and belonging.





Women's Bible Study Love is the Way Thursdays from 10:30 - 11:30 am via Zoom

Our Women's Bible Study group will begin a new study of the book Love is the Way - Holding on to Hope in Troubling Times by Bishop Michael Curry on Thursday, March 24, 10:30-11:30 a.m. In 2015, Bishop Curry was the first African-American elected to lead the Episcopal Church. Curry's message in this book is that by following the path of Love for God, for others and for ourselves, we find all we truly need.

Ronda Wahl is leading the study. We would love to have you join us. If you have questions, please contact Betty Felts (573-442-6650) or via email: edleybettyfelts@gmail.com to obtain our Zoom website information.



Life of the Church



First Baptist Work Day Sunday April 24

It's time for some spring cleaning and we need your help!

Spring is springing all around us and we are asking for a hand in helping to spruce up some areas of the church after the service on April 24. Tasks will include some light yard work, mulching, planting, a bit of painting, inside organizing and cleaning. Work will begin after the small group hour for those who normally attend the first service. A picnic lunch will be provided following the second service, as we hope more people can join us. Volunteers may want to bring work gloves, old clothes, and a water bottle. We are planning to be done by 2:30 pm.

You can sign up at the church or email Pastor Michael at mmcentyre@fbc-columbia.org. We hope you will join us!

CBF March Missions Month Giving Update

Through the combined efforts of our congregation and Serving Team, First Baptist will be sending over \$10,000 to CBF Global Missions and its Ukrainian Relief efforts. Currently we have raised over \$8,000



for Ukraine and \$2,000 for CBF Global Missions around the world. Just because our March Missions Month is ending doesn't mean you have missed your chance to give. Donations to the work of CBF missions are accepted year-round at cbf.net by clicking on the Give option.

We encourage you to continue to pray for CBF Field Personnel around the world and keep up to date with the work of folks like Keith Holmes and Mary Van Rheenen at cbfblog.com. Thank you for your generosity and prayers.



UNIDIVERSITY Youth Camp



Unidiversity Camp - June 25-July 11

After missing the last 2 years, our youth are heading back to Unidiversity Camp this summer, June 25- July 1! We are excited to rejoin our camp friends at Maryville College in the foothills of the Smoky Mountains. Unidiversity offers the opportunity for our students to meet, worship, and grow with other students from churches around the country. Unidiversity offers a good mix of fun, worship, and community that our students and leaders look forward to. As an added bonus, we leave Saturday and will spend Saturday and Sunday night at a lake house outside of Knoxville before camp. On Monday, we will drive up to the mountains for a hike and a picnic lunch before we head to camp. It's going to be a fantastic week.

The cost for camp this year is \$375, but thanks to the generosity of our congregation's support in the past we are able to cut that cost down to \$250 per camper, with a \$30 discount for additional siblings. As always, further financial assistance is available if needed. Please contact Michael at mmcentyre@fbc-columbia.org if you have any questions. You can also visit www.unidiversity.org for more details. \$50 deposits for camp are due by April 24. Two \$100 payments will be due May 15 and June 12. Friends are welcome and encouraged to join us for camp.

ForColumbia Workday - April 30 Sign up today at forcolumbia.com/volunteer/

For Columbia is a city-wide day of service that brings together churches in Columbia to be the hands and feet of Christ in our community. On April 30, First Baptist will join with volunteers from more than 45 partner churches to serve. First Baptist will be taking the lead on 3 projects this year: working at the Reentry Opportunity Center, outside work at our Extra Mile house, and



building a wheelchair ramp for a community member. However, your service is not limited to those sites.

Currently, there are many unique ministry opportunities around the city you could participate in that day. There are morning and/or afternoon time slots available. You can find out more about these sites on the ForColumbia webpage. You can list your skills and preferences on the registration page and ForColumbia can place you where you are most needed. Be sure to put in your email address so your site leaders can email you with updates and needs for your serving site.

If you need assistance signing up, email Michael McEntyre at mmcentyre@fbc-columbia.org. We hope you will make plans to join this city-wide day of service on April 30.



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"Return Service Requested"



Palm Sunday

April 10

9:15 am Awakening 10:15 am Small Groups 11:15 am Traditional

Good Friday

April 15

6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall (with an online option)

Easter Sunday

April 17

9:15 am Awakening
10:15 am Small Groups
11:15 am Traditional

April 6, 2022

the SPIRE

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