

January 10, 2024

# the SPIRE

First Baptist Church  
columbia



## Lent 2024 - Wandering Heart

Lent is the 40 days leading up to Easter. This season is often one of reflection and preparation. As our worship planning team was reflecting on a theme, we felt particularly drawn to Sanctified Art's series "Wandering Heart." Here is their description:

*This Lent, we are focusing on the life and faith of one of Jesus' most famous disciples. In Peter, we see a person who is both steadfast and unsteady, a dear friend and a betrayer, a follower and a wanderer. In Peter, we often see ourselves. By following Peter's journey, we watch the story of Jesus unfold through the eyes of a very normal human trying to figure it all out—just like us.*

*In this series, we want to affirm that faith is a constant journey of steadfast pursuit, one that ebbs and flows. We want to affirm the ways Peter keeps going: he drops his nets, he walks on water, he runs to the empty tomb, he swims to the shore to meet the risen Christ. He keeps searching and yearning and loving, even after missteps or mistakes. Ultimately, in Peter's story, we are reminded that God loves imperfect people—in fact, time and again, that's precisely who God claims and calls.*

At First Baptist, Lent will begin at 6 pm on February 14 in the Fellowship Hall for our Ash Wednesday service. As we begin the season, we will turn inward and *tune our hearts to sing God's grace*. The service will provide space to reflect on our intentions for the season and conclude with the imposition of ashes.

We will have a Lenten devotional available beginning February 4 that connects with our theme and can accompany us throughout the season. This Lent, as we wander, may we rest in streams of mercy, never ceasing.

-Pastor Brittany

1112 East Broadway, Columbia, MO 65201-4999 573-442-1149 [fbc-columbia.org](http://fbc-columbia.org)



## Upcoming *speakers*

- 14  
JAN Pastor Brittany McDonald Null
- 21  
JAN Brian Kaylor
- 28  
JAN CJ Duffie
- 4  
FEB Brunch Worship
- 11  
FEB Caleb Cooke, *Pastoral Resident*
- 18  
FEB Pastor Brittany McDonald Null
- 26  
FEB Greg Hunt, *Interim Pastor*

## Letter from the McEntyre's

Dear First Baptist,

As we prepare to leave Columbia, we are sending one more note of personal thanks for the many blessings you have given us. Your graciousness during this time of transition has been so kind. The cards, kind words, gift cards, and thoughtful gifts have touched our hearts. We are grateful for the warmth, kindness, and generosity you have showered on us even as we go.

Perhaps you have seen Nate and Marin in worship and at the Christmas Dinner. After our last Sunday, they really wanted to come to church. How could we say no when they were begging to attend church? We appreciate your understanding. Their eagerness to attend speaks volumes about the wonderful church family you have been to them.

The memories we've created together and the meaningful work we have done for the kin-dom of God will forever hold a special place in our hearts, and we are so grateful to have been a part of this community of faith.

We'd also like to share our new address with you: 501 Meadowsweet Ln Greenville, SC 29615. As we step into this new chapter, please know that your love has made a lasting impact on us. We will carry the lessons, love, and memories from our time at First Baptist with us always. May God continue to bless each one of you abundantly.

With sincere gratitude,  
Carol and Michael McEntyre

## Interested in Joining the Chancel Bells?

The Chancel Bells are starting up again for the new year on Wednesday, January 17 at 6:30 pm. If you are interested in joining this wonderful group please let Handbell Director Noah Hartsfield know. Rehearsals are Wednesday evenings from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm (nursery care is available) and open to friends and musicians of all abilities! Whether you are 10 years old or 110 years old; and regardless of whether you've ever rung a handbell - we have a spot for you! Can't read music, no problem! We can teach you and you are only responsible for two notes! If you have questions or are interested in ringing, please reach out to Noah at [nhartsfield2010@gmail.com](mailto:nhartsfield2010@gmail.com).





## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

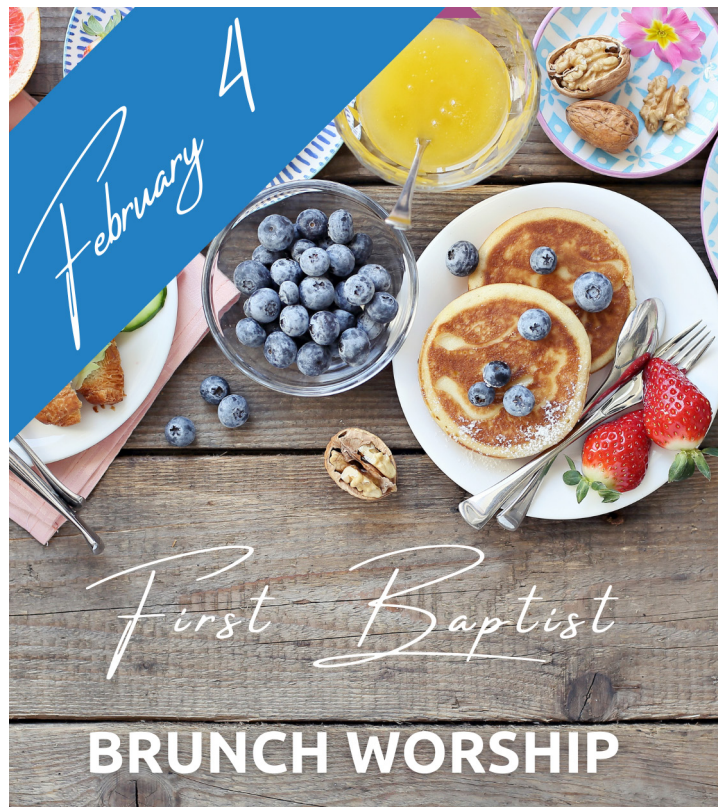


### Annual Business Meeting Sunday, January 21 10:15 am - Fellowship Hall

Join us Sunday, January 21 at 10:15 am in the Fellowship Hall for our Annual Business Meeting. We will vote on the Nominating Committee report and elect our leadership for 2024. Then, we will hear a report from the finance committee and vote on the 2024 budget.

### Brunch Worship February 4

Our next Brunch Worship will be held on February 4. Immediately following Brunch Worship, the self-study Committee will present a summary of the Pastor Skills, Characteristics, and Tasks sections of the survey and conversations will focus on the skills and responsibilities of our next Senior Pastor.



### WINTER WEATHER CANCELLATION POLICY



### Winter Weather Cancellation Policy

Should severe snow, ice, or other inclement weather fall on the weekend, Sunday morning Awakening Worship and Small Groups will be canceled; we will join together in one combined 11:15 am worship service.

On the weekdays, our policy is to cancel all scheduled church events if Columbia Public Schools are canceled. Depending on the severity of the weather, the office may remain open. Call ahead to verify.

Notification of cancellations will be made on the church Facebook page or at these local media stations: KFRU (1400 AM), KPLA (101.5 FM), Zimmer Radio Groups, KOMUTV8, and KMIZ-TV17. We will be listed as First Baptist Church-Columbia.



**Ministerial Staff:**

**Brittany McDonald Null**, Pastor of Families &  
Spiritual Formation  
[bnull@fbc-columbia.org](mailto:bnull@fbc-columbia.org)  
**Caleb Cooke**, Pastoral Resident  
[ccooke@fbc-columbia.org](mailto:ccooke@fbc-columbia.org)

**Music Staff:**

**Colleen Ostercamp**, Organist  
[gostercamp@gmail.com](mailto:gostercamp@gmail.com)  
**Shelby Myers**, Awakening Praise Band Director  
[smyers@fbc-columbia.org](mailto:smyers@fbc-columbia.org)  
**Jonathan Ray**, Music Director-Traditional  
[jray@fbc-columbia.org](mailto:jray@fbc-columbia.org)

**Support Staff:**

**Susan Goudie**, Administrative Assistant  
[churchinfo@fbc-columbia.org](mailto:churchinfo@fbc-columbia.org)  
**Brenda Rice**, Administrative Assistant for Web,  
Facilities and Arts,  
[brice@fbc-columbia.org](mailto:brice@fbc-columbia.org)  
**Mike Ide**, Custodian  
**Marcy Douglas**, Childcare Coordinator

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January 10, 2024

OFFICES CLOSED  
Monday, January 15



IN HONOR OF  
Martin Luther King Jr.

the **SPIRE**

**In This Issue:**

- Lenten Theme
- Upcoming Speakers
- Letter from the McEntyre's
- Join the Chancel Bells
- Annual Business Meeting
- Weather Cancellation Policy
- Brunch Worship