

March 26, 2025

the SPIRE



First Baptist Church
columbia



PALM
SUNDAY
April 13



Palm Sunday - April 13

The Downtown Palm Sunday worship is returning this year! Due to scheduling issues, we will not parade to another location this year. Worship will be held on our front lawn at 9:15 am. Please plan to join us and our downtown church partners. We will follow this worship service with brunch worship in the Fellowship Hall. There will be an Easter egg hunt for the kids after brunch worship. This will be a unique day that you don't want to miss.



Word from the Pastor



Word from Pastor Kristin

First Baptist,

Our Lenten series, *Everything [in] Between*, has been challenging. I chose the series because I think it is so important for us find the middle of the polarities that divide us. The challenge for me has been how similar some of these polarities are to one another. Intent vs Action. Faith vs Works. Rest vs Growth. If you consider these three, you may notice that intent, faith, and rest, all contain some element of rest, lack of movement, or slowing down. How many ways can we consider NOT acting? There are only so many ways to describe taking time to pray, to rest, to plan and consider our actions.

Maybe my struggle is that I find it harder to rest than to work. I'd rather do than be. In many ways, this is the story of our culture. There is a constant drive to succeed, to work harder, to produce more, to buy more, to serve more. How often do we hear ads to slow down and breathe? Who is telling us to take time for considering our situation, praying over it, and pondering our next steps? I'm realizing that I'm challenged because I need to do this better. For you, for myself, I need to hear Jesus' words of balance. Do God's good works and take time to rest. Challenge yourself and grow, then slow down to recharge for your next challenge. Set good intentions and then act on them. Let's all commit to one another to making more time for these important spiritual practices.

As I look out over my window into the courtyard, I see signs of spring. The grass is suddenly green. The tulip tree is blooming. I am so thankful to be here with you in this new season of my life. You continue to make me, and my family, feel loved and at home. We are excited to close on a new home in April. Danielle will return to us in June, after a great season at Disney. In all these transitions, we sense God at work and give thanks.

-Pastor Kristin



Holy Week @
FIRST BAPTIST

APRIL
13

Palm Sunday

- 9:15 am Community Service - front lawn
- 10:00 am Brunch Worship
- 11:30 am Easter Egg Hunt

APRIL
18

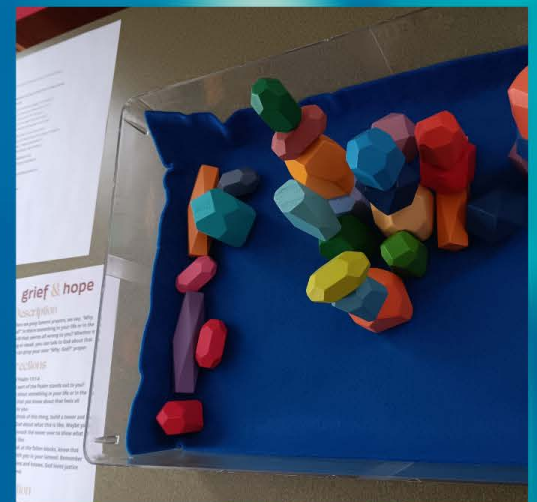
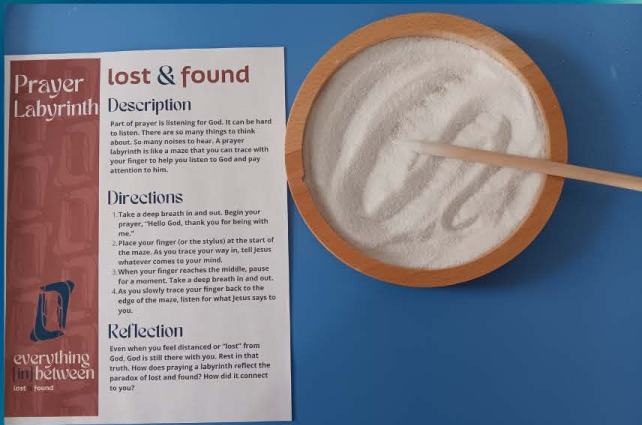
Good Friday

- 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall

APRIL
20

Easter Sunday

- 9:15 am in the Fellowship Hall
- 11:15 am in the Sanctuary



Experience the Prayer Room for Lent

The Gathering Room has been transformed into a sacred space for prayer and reflection this Lent. Designed for all ages and experiences, this self-guided space invites you to explore our Lenten theme, Everything in Between, through interactive elements that foster contemplation and connection.

The Prayer Room is open:

- Monday-Friday: 8 AM - 5 PM
- Wednesdays: 5:30 - 7:30 PM
- By Appointment: Contact Pastor Brittany to arrange a time that works for you.

Come as you are, linger as long as you need, and let this space be a companion on your Lenten journey.



Search for Pastor of Youth and Community Ministries

The church has initiated a search for a new Pastor to join our ministerial team. The senior pastor has led a process to obtain input from Youth representatives, the Mission Team and Administrative Team to create a job description. This person will primarily minister to Youth. As we continue to partner with our community in missions and building use, this pastor will work to discover creative opportunities to expand our work. Representatives from youth, missions, administration, and personnel committee will select the candidate. Join us in praying for the right person to fill this position. If you would like to view a copy of the job description, please contact the church office.

Sign Up for ForColumbia Workday April 26

Sign up for the 2025 ForColumbia workday! You can use the QR code on this card! For more information or help signing up, speak with Shelby Myers.

Here are the projects that First Baptist will be working on:

- Shelby Myers will be leading a team to prep and install flooring in the basement fellowship hall of 5th Street Christian Church. The team will also be building some shelves in a pantry storage closet in the kitchen.
- Ross Kasmann will be back on the Mt. Celestial Baptist Church historic site to help put in a new roadway. There will also be a lot of mulching work that will be done on a path up to the gravesites.
- Brittany McDonald Null will be leading the sewing, knitting, and crochet group hosted at First Baptist this year!
- Pete Walter and Caitlin Vandell will be leading a team to help clean up Bear Creek Park. This will be a family friendly site, where families can help clear up and clean out the park.
- Rebekah Robertson is leading a team to help a local homeowner. The team will be building and installing a handrail to make their home more accessible.

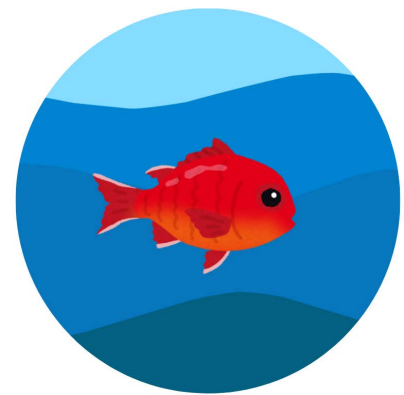


You are welcome to select one of the sites led by our First Baptist members, or choose a different one that best fits you!



Save the Date! Journey Together

Save the date for this year's Journey Together, a spiritual formation weekend for kids and their families. This year's theme is Waves of Wonder. Stay tuned for more information and how to register!



Health & Safety Team Education Bulletin Board

Part of the Health & Safety Team's vision is to educate our church family on various topics. The current education board across from the health station has articles regarding:

- brain health
- Benefits of yoga
- Appropriate ages for a child to have a smart phone
- Teaching children empathy through every day activities
- Information about medical marijuana
- Impact of music on brain health
- CPR and Stroke.



Wishing you health!

-First Baptist Health & Safety Team



Racial Justice & Inclusion Team Book Discussion

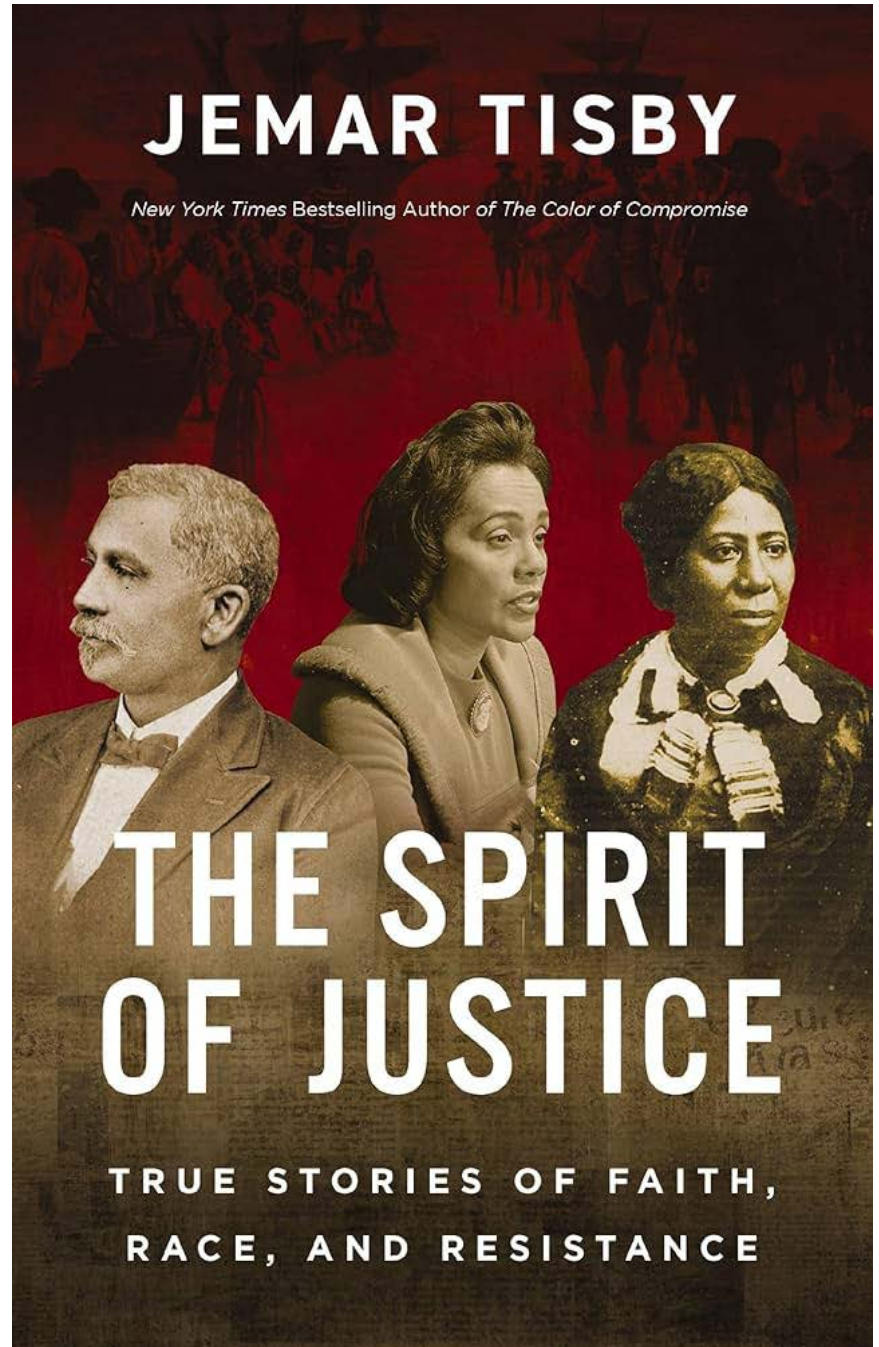
The Spirit of Justice: True Stories of Faith, Race and Resistance

March 31 at 6pm in the Parlor

First Baptist Church's Racial Justice & Inclusion Team invites you to participate in an intergenerational discussion of Jemar Tisby's newest book, *The Spirit of Justice* and its companion books *I am the Spirit of Justice* (youth version) and *Stories of the Spirit of Justice* (picture book). In these books, Dr. Tisby uncovers unsung heroes who have struggled for racial justice and whose stories have inspired him in his work to enlighten and embolden people of faith to work for racial justice. It is his hope to inspire and embolden readers to step out in similar ways as we learn about these historic heroes.

The book discussion will take place in one evening but in two parts. The first hour of discussion will be for families/intergenerational with a snack break following. The second hour of discussion will be for those who wish to dive more deeply and to consider individual and collective response.

The church has ordered a limited number of complimentary copies of all three books from Black Tea Bookshop, a local minority-owned book store. Please let the church office know if you would like to have a copy. If you prefer to order a book, we encourage you to order through [Bookshop.org](https://www.bookshop.org) and crediting Black Tea Bookshop (local minority-owned book store). This book is also available to read and listen to electronically.



About Jemar Tisby: In 2023, Dr. Tisby was FBC's guest author and speaker. He is a nationally recognized advocate for racial justice, hosts an Apple podcast called Footnotes and writes on Substack. He is a renowned historian, professor, writer and theologian who also collaborates with Diana Butler Bass, Robert Jones and Kristin Du Mez in a weekly online discussion called The Convocation.

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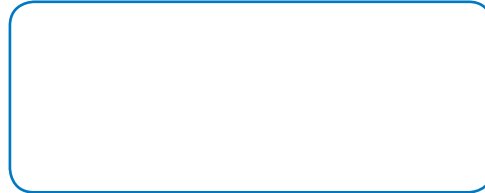
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Mike Ide, Custodian
Nellene Martin, Childcare Director



March 26, 2025

**FIRST BAPTIST
GAME NIGHT**

FRIDAY, MAR 28 @ 6PM

the **SPIRE**

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