



FIRST BAPTIST
COLUMBUS
JOIN OUR *Family* OF FAITH

First Baptist Church of Columbus strives to be a healthy, multi-generational faith community that is characterized by vibrant worship opportunities, missional ministry expression, a discipleship driven focus, faith lived in covenant community.

3300 Fairlawn Drive
Columbus, Indiana 47203
O: (812) 376-3321
F: (812) 376-3661
church@fbccolumbus.org
www.firstbaptistcolumbus.org

Missy Zimmerman
Search Committee Chair
11454 W Red Oak Court
Columbus, Indiana 47201
(812) 371-9683
mjzimmerman17@gmail.com

Jim Walter
Interim Region Minister
65 Airport Parkway (Suite 120)
Greenwood, Indiana 46143
(317) 635-3552
jimwalter@abc-indiana.org

Ministry Staff:

Senior Pastor	Rev. Dan Cash, D.Min
Worship Pastor	Open
Interim Minister of Music	Rev. David Brown
Administrative Asst.	Mrs. Laura Friedrich

Church Council

Council Chair	Jennifer Kelley
Council Vice-Chair	Jeff Caldwell
Treasurer	Heidi Jones
Assistant Treasurer	Joe Hammon
Financial Secretary	Donna Emmert
Assistant Financial Secretary	Paula Pickup
Christian Education Ministry Lead	Carolyn Pool
Church Family Ministry Lead	Lori Cash
Evangelism Ministry Lead	Jerald Hatton
Stewardship Ministry Lead	Ryan Jones
Missions Ministry Lead	Cliff Putterill
Worship Ministry Lead	Adam Zimmerman
Church Clerk	Breanne Vogelpohl
Membership Clerk	Stephanie Adams

Search Committee

Committee Chair	Missy Zimmerman
Christian Education Representative	Beth Caldwell
Church Family Representative	Mollie Adams
Evangelism Representative	Donna Tull
Stewardship Representative	Jim Reid
Missions Representative	Liz Lipson
Worship Representative	Lance Alexander
Staff, EX Officio Member	Dan Cash

Mission Statement

We are called and blessed to be the body of Christ. We are empowered to grow spiritually, to worship, to study, to serve and to fellowship. We are to be a blessing by inviting others through the gospel message to do the same.

Church Covenant

PREAMBLE: On the basis of our belief, the following covenant is a statement of our pledge of intent regarding faithfulness, witnessing, and relationships.

Having been led, as we believe, by the spirit of God, to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as our Savior; and, having been baptized in obedience to Christ's command as a public profession of our faith in him.

We do now, in the presence of God, Angels, and this fellowship, sincerely and joyfully enter into covenant with one another, as one body in Christ. We personally pledge, by the aid of the Holy Spirit, to walk together in Christian love; to strive for the advancement of this Church on knowledge, holiness, and caring; To promote its growth and spirituality, to sustain its worship, ordinances, disciplines, and doctrines; to faithfully be present, and to be dedicated in our efforts to advance the Kingdom of our Savior. To contribute cheerfully and regularly to the support of the expenses of the Church, the relief of the poor, and the spread of the Gospel through all nations.

We also pledge to maintain family and personal devotions; to educate our children in the Christian faith, to see the salvation of our family and acquaintances; To seek to walk correctly in the world; to be just in our dealings, faithful in our commitments, and be Christian examples in our behavior.

We pledge to refrain from the promotion and use of those things which harm the body or defile the mind.

We further pledge to watch over one another in brotherly love; to remember each other in prayer; to aid each other in sickness and distress; to cultivate Christian sympathy in feeling and courtesy in speech; to be slow to take offense, but always ready for reconciliation, and mindful of the teachings of our Savior, to secure it without delay.

Upon leaving this fellowship, we will, as soon as possible, unite with some other Church, where we can carry out the spirit of this covenant and the principles of God's Word.

What We Believe

An Expression of Christian Faith Representative of American Baptists adopted by the General Board, American Baptist Churches in the U.S.A., November 2005

American Baptists worship the triune God of the Bible, who is eternally one God in three persons. This one, true God is most clearly revealed to us in the incarnate Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

American Baptists proclaim the Good News of the atoning death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, knowing that salvation (forgiveness of sins, release from guilt and condemnation, reconciliation with God) and eternal life are granted in grace to all who trust Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. This Gospel is the central message of the Bible.

American Baptists believe that the Bible, composed of the Old and New Testaments, is the divinely inspired Word of God, the final written authority and trustworthy for faith and practice. It is to be interpreted responsibly under the guidance of the Holy Spirit within the community of faith. The primary purpose of the Bible is to point to Jesus Christ, the living Lord of the Church.

Although Baptists have produced numerous confessions to express our common understandings of Christian faith, we hold the Scriptures, the Old and New Testaments, as our final authority. We accept no humanly devised confession or creed as binding.

American Baptists affirm that God is sovereign over all and that this sovereignty is expressed and realized through Jesus Christ. Therefore, we affirm the Lordship of Christ over the world and the church. We joyously confess that Jesus Christ is Savior and Lord. We are called in loyalty to Jesus Christ to proclaim the power of the Holy Spirit, the Good News of God's reconciling grace, and to declare the saving power of the Gospel to every human being and to every human institution. We celebrate Christ's charge to "make disciples of all nations" and to bear witness to God's redeeming reign in human affairs.

American Baptists are summoned to this mission in common with all Christians. With the whole body of Christ, we also believe that God has been revealed in Jesus Christ as in no other, and that "God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself" (2 Corinthians 5:18). We anticipate the day when every creature and all creation, on earth and beyond, will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord (Philippians 2:10-11).

God has given this particular community of believers called Baptists a distinctive history and experience. As we share in common with Christians everywhere, so Baptists everywhere celebrate a common heritage.

THEREFORE

With Baptist brothers and sisters around the world, we believe:

- That the Bible is the final authority and trustworthy for faith and practice. It is to be interpreted responsibly under the guidance of God's Holy Spirit within the community of faith;
- That the Church is a gathered fellowship of regenerated believers, a sign of the coming universal reign of God;
- That the freedom to respond to the Lordship of Christ in all circumstances is fundamental to the Christian gospel and to human dignity; and witness to Christ is the ongoing task of every Christian and of every church.

- Within the larger Baptist family, American Baptists emphasize convictions which direct our special task and ministry.

We affirm that God through Jesus Christ calls us to be:

A Redeemed People who claim a personal relationship to God through Jesus Christ;

- who follow the Lord in believer's baptism;
- who gather as a believer's church;
- who share in the meal of the kingdom known as the Lord's Supper;
- who honor the priesthood of all believers; and
- who live their faith as visible saints.

A Biblical People

- who affirm the centrality of Scripture in our lives;
- who pursue the study of God's inspired Word as a mandate for faith and practice; and
- who seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit for the understanding of Scripture, while respecting the common interpretation of Scripture within the community of believers.
- who submit to the teaching of Scripture that God's design for sexual intimacy places it within the context of marriage between one man and one woman, and acknowledge that the practice of homosexuality is incompatible with Biblical teaching.

A Worshiping People

- who gather regularly to praise God;
- who receive nourishment by communion with the Risen Christ;
- who share an open and public confession of faith; and
- who believe that personal devotion brings vitality to corporate celebration.

A Mission People

- who strive to fulfill the Great Commission to make disciples;
- who invite persons to receive salvation and follow Christ;
- who engage in educational, social, and health ministries;
- who seek justice for all persons; and
- who provide prayer and financial support to sustain a worldwide mission outreach.

An Interdependent People

- who affirm the Church's unity as given in Jesus Christ;
- who gladly embody in our practice the ministry of the whole people of God;
- who recognize God's gifts for ministry and honor all offices of pastoral ministry;
- who live and work together "in association"; and
- who bring the free church tradition to cooperative and ecumenical Christianity.

A Caring People

- who care for the needy, the weak, and the oppressed;
- who care for the earth and for all its creatures.

An Inclusive People

- who, gifted by a variety of backgrounds, find unity in diversity and diversity in unity;
- who embrace a pluralism of race, ethnicity, and gender; and

- who acknowledge that there are individual differences of conviction and theology.

A Contemporary People

- who have a remembrance for the past and a vision for the future;
- who are committed to religious liberty and to the separation of church and state;
- who call our present world to make Jesus Christ Lord of all life; and
- who trust the Holy Spirit for insight and power to live in the present age.

We further believe

- That God has called us forth to such an hour as this;
- That we live with a realizable hope;
- That all things are held together in Christ;
- That all creation will find its ultimate fulfillment in God;
- That we shall see the One whose we are; and
- That Jesus shall reign for ever and ever.

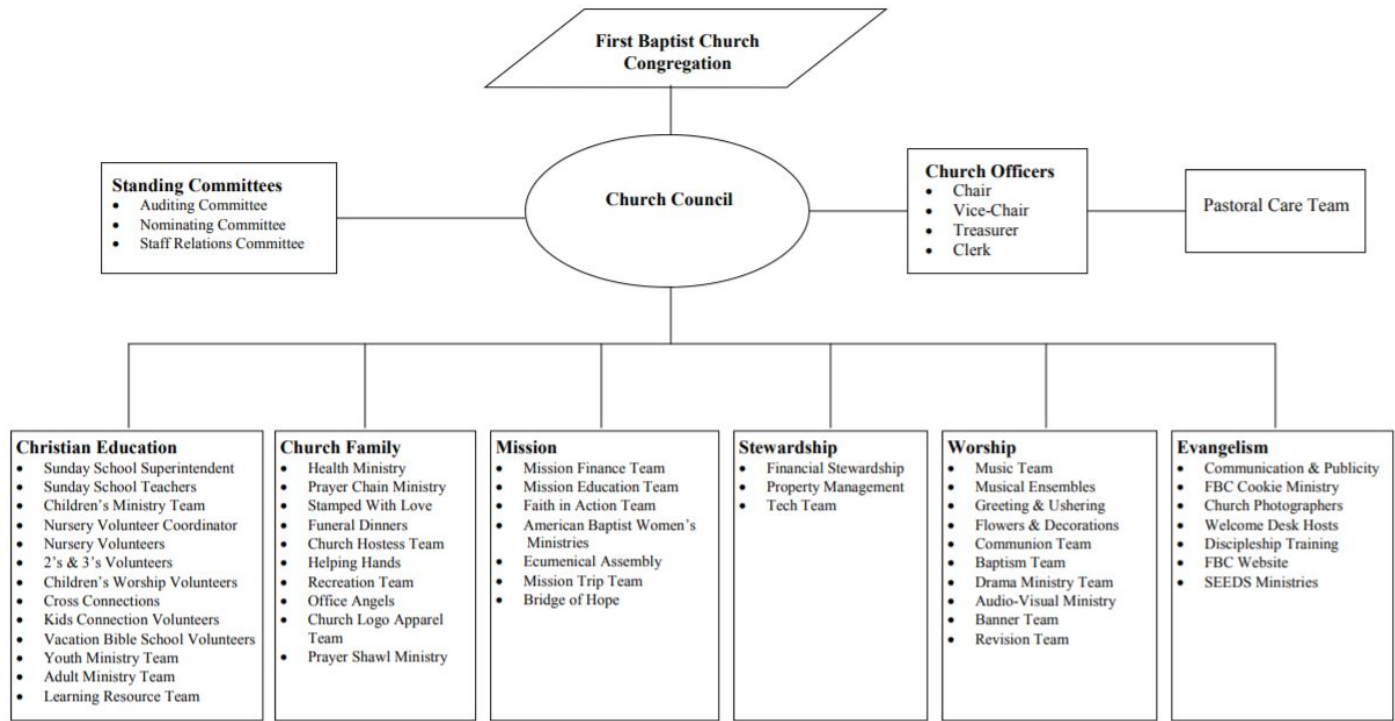
Church Information

First Baptist Columbus is an established, neighborhood church with 280 active members. Average worship attendance in 2018 was 174, including live streaming.

Age Demographics by Decade

0-9: 10	50-59: 43
10-19: 15	60-69: 38
20-29: 20	70-79: 73
30-39: 10	80-89: 42
40-49: 11	90+: 18

Church Structure



Ministry Areas

Christian Education

- Children
 - 2018 is the first full year that Melissa Hernandez has been employed as our full time nursery supervisor and that has gone very well! Many volunteers also help and a new 2019 schedule for nursery workers has been compiled.
 - Carolyn Pool started a toddler program for our 2 & 3 year olds and that will continue in 2019, with the help of Tamara Brown.
 - We stayed busy with several children's activities in 2018, Joyce and Beth did a chime choir workshop at Richards in January and February, A Night at the Museum (Kidscommons) in February, East Egg Hunt and Urban Air outing in April, provided children's activities at the Harvest Party in October, helped with Trunk or Treat in October and the Angel Breakfast in December. These activities and more will continue in 2019!

- Sunday School
 - After many hours of discussion and prayer, the children's pathway team decided to follow through with revamping the children's discipleship ministry. It was decided to do away with a 2nd hour Sunday School time, and offer a new ministry opportunity for 4 year olds through 6th graders that will meet during the worship hour. This new and improved children's ministry opportunity began January 6, 2019. Leaders are in place and will serve on a rotation basis.
 - Youth Sunday School had a brief revival in the first half of the year. They were able to meet for Sunday School and planned several activities to do together for a few months. Busy schedules later in the year didn't allow that to continue, however, but this remains a high priority goal for 2019.
- Adult Education
 - The adult discipleship ministry pathway team did an amazing job presenting wonderful grow group topics and opportunities, as well as 2nd hour options between grow group times.

Church Family

- Family Game Night, Kidscommons Museum Night, Easter Egg Hunt, Family Harvest Party, Trunk or Treat, blood pressure screenings, coffee bar, Coffee Fellowship, blood drive, emergency responder, funeral dinners, Prayer Shawl Ministry, Helping Hands Ministry, kitchen hostess (Easter breakfast, Thanksgiving dinner, picnic)

Mission

- Food for Fish collected \$4300 to buy food for Love Chapel in January
- Rummage Sale to benefit mission trip netted \$4000
- Carolyn Pool led a team to clean our cabin at church camp
- We were matched with a church in Puerto Rico and Deanna Glick is establishing contact
- A team of members traveled to Murrow Indian Children's Home and provided much needed maintenance and supplies
- In the summer we hosted missionaries Kyle Witmer and Dwight Bolick
- Sharon Koh, National Mission's Chair, met with the Mission's Team for lunch and was very appreciative of all FBC does for missions
- The 5K was conducted by Donna Tull and a great team of FBC members with an increase in participating and \$12,000 to Love Chapel
- Dave Stehouwer led the FBC team to work Feed my Starving Children at Asbury United Methodist Church
- Two meals were prepared and served at Love Chapel in September with an average of 60 each night
- American Baptist Women led the drive for Operation Christmas Child boxes and packed 117
- FBC members provided 550 boxes of cereal for the Christmas Food Pantry for Love Chapel

Stewardship

- Many repairs were made as needed during 2018 as the property management worked to keep our physical building in shape. Some of the more significant worked included:
 - Boiler repairs were required early in the quarter

- Computer used for Soundstream required replacement
- Hardware components of the sound system required replacement
- The carpet in the chapel was replaced
- Parking lot crack repair, sealing and restriping completed
- The team also looked for opportunities to make improvements during the year. Some of these included:
 - New mulch added to playing and other landscaping done in this area. Picnic table also built and installed
 - Added additional lighting in the prayer room for when the area is used for study groups
- The team began looking at significant future facility costs we will see. These include things like additional roof areas that need replacement and the HVAC systems reaching the end of their useful life. Team recommended the 2019 budget include a higher accrual for these future repairs and replacements.
- Annual work day held May 5th and about 15 people showed up to help. Windows washed, air filters changed, nursery toys cleaned and some weeding and other cleanup completed.
- The annual Stewardship campaign was planned and completed.

Worship

- Highlights in the worship ministry area for 2018 included:
 - Continuation of work from the prior year on the revitalization process and included the successful completion the “experimental” worship experience in the first quarter of the year. This included a progression from a traditional type church service to a more praise worship at the end of the month. The experiment was successful as it allowed everyone to experience a variety of worships and the outcome was recognition that a change is needed and a blended service at this time may be the best solution.
 - Exposure to a variety of different worship experience by different pastors during Pastor Dan’s sabbatical.
 - A deliberate focus on inclusion of laity to assist during the worship service with a number of volunteers helping with reading scripture, prayers, and invocations.
 - The recognition of a need to establish a worship planning team to assist with planning services to continue for Easter and Advent seasons.
 - Cooperation between all areas of worship to allow these changes to occur.
- Plans/Goals for 2019
 - Increasing laity involvement in planning and preparation of worship via the worship planning team. The worship planning team replaces the revitalization team from last year. The work of the worship team will be better defined during the course of the year.
 - Laity involvement continuing in the services with participation in prayers, readings, etc.
 - Working alongside Pastor Dan and in the interim music director to provide a blended service
 - Providing ongoing communications with the congregation with regard to changes/proposals as needed.

- The assistance of lead leads for ushering/greeting, communion, baptism, choirs, audio/visual, and drama in making the necessary changes.

Evangelism

- 2018 Activity
 - Worked with TD Advertising to upgrade our church website and social media presence and update our logo
 - Provided new marketing materials as well as our new stationary, business cards, banners/flags to help identify our church
 - Delivered a mailing to residents in a 1-mile area around FBC inviting them to participate in the Advent season through our Christmas Market, Angel Breakfast and Christmas Dinner
 - Launched the FBC First Christmas Market that included 16 vendors
 - Created a Docent program to provide tours of the church on a by-request basis. 25 prospective docents attended the training.
- 2019 Planned Activity
 - Hoping to establish a FBC photo email address to facilitate the gathering of photos related to FBC activities
 - Hope to provide a second hour session to help people develop their personal 'elevator speech' that could be used when meeting others and telling them about our church.
 - Implementing the information screens that will be placed around the church to better inform members and visitors of our various initiatives and activities
 - Working on a strategy document focused on our social media administrative function
 - Working with the IU School of Architecture - Columbus about a collaborative effort to examine ways to make our Gathering Place/Narthex more welcoming.

**First Baptist Church
2019 Annual Budget**

GENERAL FUND - Income

Envelope	\$ 397,237.00
Loose	\$ 40,000.00
Bible Study Fellowship	\$ 1,500.00
FFB Account Interest	\$ 30.00
Centra Credit U Interest	\$ -
Miscellaneous Income	\$ -
	\$ 438,767.00

Expenses

Staff Salaries		\$ 240,161.00
	Sr. Pastor, Worship Pastor, 3rd Part-time ministry staff Administrative Assistant & Substitute Custodians Organist, Pianists & Substitutes Child Care Workers, Librarian	
Staff Benefits	Insurance, Retirement	\$ 44,773.21
Staff Resources	Continuing Education, etc.	\$ 4,200.00
Stewardship Budget		\$ 101,725.00
	Office, Facility, Utilities, etc.	
Christian Ed Budget		\$ 10,125.00
	Curriculum, Ministries	
Music Budget		\$ 9,875.00
	Music, Equipment, Maintenance, supplies	
Family Life Budget		\$ 3,550.00
	Meals, events, projects, ministries	
Worship Budget		\$ 3,960.00
	Flowers, Drama, Audio Visual, etc	
Evangelism Subtotal		\$ 9,000.00
	Advertising, website, projects	
Missions Budget		\$ 40,450.00
	United Mission & ABC Partnerships Univ & College Missions Subtotal Local Missions Partnerships	
Total Expense		\$ 467,819.54
Excess/Deficit Income vs Expenses		\$ (29,052.54)
Non-Budgeted Mission Giving in 2018		\$ 37,380.49

A History of the Music and Worship Life at First Baptist – Columbus

First Baptist Church has a long history that has featured music ministry as an integral part of our worship. A variety of choral groups have been at the center of that worship identity in years past. This included our chancel choir, a youth and children's choir, and a variety of hand bell choirs. A senior citizen's choir, a brass and woodwind ensemble, and the inclusion of violin and guitar accompaniment have also be components in worship at different times. Interpretative dance, drama and video messaging have also been utilized.

The worship style of the congregation, while historically traditional (hymns, choir, organ and piano); has evolved over the years into more of a blended approach (praise songs, hymns, choir, organ, piano, guitar, cajon drum box). In 2017 the congregation entered into an intentional season of reflection together as we pursued a revitalization of our ministry. Among the areas of ministry evaluated was worship. In 2018 we shared a season of worship experimentation for several months, moving in a monthly pattern from traditional to informal praise and worship over the Sundays of each month. This exposed the congregation to different instrumentation and methods of leadership and singing. This experimental season was extended during our pastor's summer of 2018 sabbatical as we had 15 different speakers preach during those months. This time of learning was largely appreciated and has resulted in a commitment, moving forward to feature one Sunday morning "rejuvenated service that captures a variety of worship and music styles with laity participation and up to date use of technology."

Our previous Minister of Music had a 31-year tenure with the church prior to her retirement in January of 2019. While she leaves a strong and appreciated legacy of music and tradition here at First Baptist, there is a readiness to move forward in collaboration with new leadership. The call of an Interim Minister of Music, who begins with us in March of 2019, will be helpful toward bridging the church to new leadership. A new worship pastor will be challenged to help the congregation move forward into new expressions of music and worship, but, we believe, be met with a body that is willing to take the next steps.

At present we have instrumentalists on staff who play the organ (a combination electronic-pipe instrument) and grand piano. We also have an active chancel choir which ranges from 15 – 25 participants, and a couple of active hand bell groups. Each Sunday morning also includes a praise team of singers, and we occasionally add guitar or other instruments as they are available. Preaching is central to the worship experience, as services are typically planned thematically to compliment the sermon text and theme.

We envision our new worship pastor working in collaboration with our senior pastor, and a worship planning team of laity, to bring creativity and vitality to worship, helping us meet our expressed vision for worship and move the church forward in its mission.

Community

Columbus is a city in and the county seat of Bartholomew County, located about 40 miles south of Indianapolis. The population was 44,061 at the 2010 census. The relatively small city has provided a unique place for noted Modern architecture and public art, commissioning numerous works since the mid-20th century.

National Geographic Traveler ranked Columbus 11th on its historic destinations list in late 2008, describing the city as "authentic, unique, and unspoiled." Columbus won the national contest "America in Bloom" in 2006, and in 2004 it was named as one of "The Ten Most Playful Towns" by Nick Jr. Family Magazine. The July 2005 edition of GQ magazine, Columbus was named as one of the "62 Reasons to Love Your Country". Columbus is the headquarters of the engine company Cummins, Inc.

Columbus boasts over 700 acres of parks and green space and over 20 miles of People Trails. These amenities, in addition to several athletic and community facilities, including Donner Aquatic Center, Lincoln Park Softball Complex, Hamilton Center Ice Arena, Clifty Park, Foundation for Youth/Columbus Gymnastics Center and The Commons, are managed and maintained by the Columbus Parks and Recreation Department.

Columbus is known for support of the arts including the following active musical organizations:

- The Columbus Philharmonic, a professional orchestra that presents several concerts throughout the year, includes a youth orchestra/strings program, and education program in the local schools
- The Columbus Symphony, a volunteer organization of musicians that dates to 1922.
- The Columbus City Band, a group of 50 - 60 musicians who enjoy playing together and regularly share community concerts.
- Excellent choral, band and drama programs in the local high schools with performance facilities to match.

Columbus is home to a robust learning system that connects learners of all ages to opportunities. The Bartholomew Consolidated School Corporation operates the largest public school system in the county, serving a diverse student population of more than 11,000 students. Reflecting the county's diversity, there are 54 home languages represented in the student population. The district is committed to providing students with the technology they need to be successful. Secondary education includes Indiana University – Purdue University Columbus (IUPUC), an Ivy Tech campus, Purdue Polytechnic and a Indiana Wesleyan University education center.