



FIRST BAPTIST
COLUMBUS
JOIN OUR *Family* OF FAITH

Rev. Dr. David K. Hinson, Interim Senior Pastor
Daniel Kane, Worship Pastor

From the Shepherd's Shop...By Rev. Dr. David K. Hinson, Interim Senior Pastor

What a joy it is to worship with you at First Baptist Church of Columbus each week. It is good to fellowship, pray, and gain insight from God's Word as we "Move Forward Together in Love and Commitment" during the month of February. This time of interim is a wonderful time to renew our commitments to God and the Church of Jesus Christ. We should look forward to God's greatest blessings ahead as we celebrate the presence of Christ and His Spirit.

It is always my prayer that we will never "limit" the power of God who seeks to use our gifts to bring persons to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. It is my hope that we will utilize our strengths to focus attention on those who need the Gospel. As I shared last Sunday, missions is going to where persons are lost and knowing our influence and presence may be instrumental in pointing persons to Christ. Letting God live in and through our lives is an everyday challenge.

Since the Lord called me into ministry, II Timothy 2:15 - "Study to show they self approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" - has impressed me to study God's Word regularly. Each week I am hopeful you will take time to learn from God's instruction book for your life.

We are living through an important time of discernment in the life and ministry of FBC Columbus. Pray for your friends, your family, and your brothers and sisters in Christ who worship alongside you. Pray for the Search Committee, your church leadership, and all those you know who are seeking to follow Christ.

If you can do one thing this week, I would encourage you to be a friend to another. Every Christian needs to reach out to someone they do not know. Extend a hand of friendship or help, make a phone call and encourage another, think about who God wants you to touch this week, and then do it! Every act of kindness and love builds up the Kingdom of God.

I look forward to our time of worship next week. If possible, be present. If not, watch us online. Invite others to join us on Easter Sunday, April 9th, as we attempt to reach 200 persons present in the Worship that day! What a wonderful day it is to be a part of the family of FBC Columbus! Thank you for welcoming me, receiving me as your interim pastor, and making it a place that now feels like...HOME. Blessings to you all!

-David



SEASON OF THE CHURCH: LENT

FEBRUARY 22ND - APRIL 8TH

... in Vision and Prayer

The beginning of this year positioned us to see every month as a continuation of our goal to be "God's People Moving Forward Together." Since then, we've emphasized the role love plays in that forward momentum, but this month, March, will be focused on the role of vision and prayer in our forward progress.

Anyone who has spent the last three years listening to me knows how dearly I hold prayer in my life and the life of the church. So, this month has a nice "at-homeness" to it as we embark on some important steps in the transition process.

At the end of February, we introduced the members of our Search Committee. If you missed the service on February 26th, I'd recommend you go back and watch that to see who these representatives are. However, that service is not our only chance to engage with them. Just as we prayed over them during our February Coffee Fellowship, we will be making space for a more intentional "commissioning" as they begin this new leg of the race. So, be on the lookout for information regarding that Commissioning Service. We will have dates and times made available soon (if not already by the time of this publishing).

That service will not be the only means of moving forward in vision and prayer though. Throughout March, we are committing to praying over the many needs, causes, and plans of First Baptist during what we are calling "**31 Days of Prayer.**" Each day during the month of March we hope to have 3-4 people pray over a list that will be compiled for an hour each. Yes, an hour. That may seem like a lot, and I'm not going to lie to you when I say that it is. But, there's a reason for that. Do we think that an hour of prayer is more effective than a simple prayer spoken with great intent? Certainly not. Yet there is something to the habit that is built by such intentional praying as a community. Prayer is not simply something to be done as an individual, nor is it to be done solely seeking answers to questions or provisions for needs. Instead, prayer is something to be entered into which recognizes the work God is already doing. And not only that, it is a conversation to be joined which senses God's love, loss, heartbreak, and joy.

As a community, our identity comes from the fact that we are forever unified to the ongoing conversation that is "Father, Son, and Holy Spirit." In that conversation our vision can be cast outward, toward the world in which we live *with* God. Therefore, as we commission the Search Committee we are also preparing and retraining ourselves to behold the wonders of God's love and mercy which covers the lives of every person we meet.

Uncannily, I just finished a book called *Beholding* by Strahan Coleman. It's a book entirely devoted to seeing our entire lives as extensions of prayer - prayer which joins the conversation God is already having. So as we move forward together in vision and prayer, may we do so by building our lives around the awareness that our vision is prayer and vice versa. Our prayer is not that God would make something come true, but that we would see that which is already true of our lives and the world because God, in Christ, has already made it so. Amen.

Peace,
Pastor Daniel



Update on Malik Zada family

Several members of the congregation have approached members of the Afghan Family Resettlement Team to ask how our family is doing and we realized that we have not given any updates recently. Some of this has been intentional in order to preserve a level of confidentiality for this family. This was something that was ingrained in us at our earliest training, and is still recommended at this time. We are asked to remember that these families did not arrive here by choice, but it was concerns for their own safety that caused them to leave their home country. Many of the families still have extended family back home, and we would not want to jeopardize their safety either.

We can tell you, our support team has been hard at work helping this family to get established here. The children are enrolled and attend school, the mother attends English classes 1-2 per week, the father has a full time job and is attending Ivy Tech in order to improve his qualifications. They require little assistance from us these days for general day to day living, they have become independent with much of their medical and dental needs, as well as with food, clothing, rent, insurances, cell phones and internet. They are happy in Columbus, and frequently express their gratitude for the help and support of the church and the support team. We have noted that they are able to connect easily with some of the other Afghan families, and have become friends with many of the support team members. They have participated in some "American " traditions including trick or treat, Christmas meals, a visit to Ceraland for the Christmas lights and meals at American homes. The support team have also been invited to their home and we are learning more about their culture as well. This family has been a delight to assist and get to know and they will remain our friends for years to come.

The funds that were raised for this mission have been put to good use, and there is a small amount available for this mission, if and when the need arises. We would like to express our thanks for all the help and support from the church, in assisting with this ministry.

Sue Putterill on behalf of Afghan Support team

White Cross RECOVERY KITS

We are collecting recovery kits through White Cross, which will provide assistance to people in need and show that **SOMEONE** truly cares. These are sent through Church World Service, which sees that they are sent to those in need.

SUPPLIES NEEDED:

- One 1-gallon Ziploc bag
- One hand towel (15"X28" to 16"X32")
- One washcloth
- One wide-tooth comb (at least 6 inches) removed from the package
- One fingernail or toenail clipper removed from pkg.
- One bath-sized bar of soap in the original pkg.
- One toothbrush in original pkg.
- Ten standard size Band-Aids

All items must BE NEW and fit in the Ziploc bag. A donation of \$2 per kit for the processing fee is appreciated. Drop off near the kitchen area by **March 19th**. Please contact Judy Alexander with any questions.



Thank You

Dear church family,
Our thanks and appreciation go out to everyone who remembers us in prayer, for that is the best help. I miss you all very much and miss Dan's notes and calls.
Christian Love,
Ramona Harlow

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Prayer Shawl Ministry,
Thanks so much for including me in your ministry. In October I had my knee replaced and three weeks later was diagnosed with breast cancer. With your beautiful prayer shawl, plus the prayers and positive thoughts of our church family, friends, and relatives, we have survived and know that God is looking over us. Thanks again, your ministry is helping many!
-Mary Arnholt

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Thank you for all of the expressions of sympathy, concern, and care offered when my mom passed away recently. The calls, cards, messages, and loving words helped to provide comfort and strength as we prepared to celebrate her life, saying goodbye to the last one in that generation. I am grateful for each one of you, and for the privilege I have to be part of such a wonderfully caring church family.
With Gratitude,
Soozi Whitten Ford

Lost & Found

Please check the lost & found box, located in the coat room just off the Gathering Place for any items you may have lost or misplaced. Any items not claimed by March 5th will be donated to San Souci.

Medical Equipment Available for Loan



Durable medical Equipment is available at the church to lend to church family and friends as needed.
Please contact the church office or call Judy Rhude (812-764-9175) if any equipment is needed.

Scholarships Available

The deadline to submit applications for the FBC Foundation scholarships is April 1st.

E. Don Tull Scholarship is for a graduating high school senior planning to attend an institution of higher learning full-time and is in the amount of \$1,000.

Foundation Scholarship is for a full-time undergraduate student in the amount of \$1,000.

Applications can be found on the website under "Connect" - FBC Foundation

You can also request an application from the church office - secretary@fbccolumbus.org



A package of four screenings to identify risk for stroke, heart disease and other chronic conditions will be offered on Monday, March 20th in Fellowship Hall.

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED! To learn more and to schedule your appointment call 1-800-679-5161 or go to:
<https://discover.lifelinescreening.com/hsc3/?sourcecd=WABF001> to register.

Around The Church ...

Easter Services

Bring a Friend
& Join Us
April 9th For

- Sunrise Service at 7 AM
- Breakfast at 8:15 AM
- Worship at 9:30 AM

There will be a Good Friday service sponsored by the Ecumenical Society at Central Middle School at noon on the 7th.

Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 8th
at 9 am

Bring the kids, grandkids,
and neighbors and join us!



Lenten Daily
Devotionals
will be available
in the Gathering
Place beginning
March 19th in
preparation for
Holy Week.





Other News...

March Offering is America for Christ

Thanks to America for Christ (AFC) Offering contributions, American Baptist Home Mission Societies (ABHMS) supported communities distressed by the devastation of COVID-19 last year, as the pandemic swept our country and Puerto Rico. We also helped families who lost homes to floods, wildfires and storms, along with children living on the edge because of poverty, and seminarians preparing to devote their lives to sharing the Good News. These are just a few of the ways we minister to those in need; there are many more.


Please help us continue to bring healing and hope to communities, families, children and Jesus' disciples in 2023 by supporting this year's America for Christ Offering and consider making a generous gift!

EARTHQUAKE AID

International Ministries (IM) has sent \$10,000 in One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) emergency relief to partners who will be providing humanitarian relief for the survivors of the earthquakes. The European Baptist Federation will receive \$9,000 and Turkish Connections International will receive \$1,000.

If you want to donate to help earthquake victims, you can through One Great Hour of Sharing. Make your check out to First Baptist and designate: OGHS Turkey/Syria Earthquake Relief.

Initial relief will provide basic provisions-food, shelter, medicine, and hygiene items. International Ministries will coordinate with the European Baptist Federation and our partners in this region that have the capacity to provide humanitarian aid.



Mark your calendar for the return of
Sunday Suppers!
More info will be given
at a later date.*

**Dates are: June 25th, July 29th,
and August 26th*

Prayer shawls will be available at the Gathering Place every 2nd & 3rd Sunday for any who would like to pick one up as an encouragement to someone. For any questions see Judy Alexander.



Around The Church

March Birthdays

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| 1. ~ Carolyn Pool | 18. ~ Gretchen Seeley |
| 7. ~ Marsha Daugherty | 19. ~ Mike Riley |
| 11. ~ Marcia Battle | 20. ~ Paulette McClintock |
| 13. ~ Nathan Patrick | 22. ~ Ron Brondyke |
| 14. ~ Anita Burton, Elyse Snider | 25. ~ Amanda Reed |
| 15. ~ Thomas Vickers | 27. ~ Paula Pickup |
| 16. ~ Donita Compton, Heidi Jones, Bryce Olson | 29. ~ Donna Tull |
| | 30. ~ Judy Alexander, Carolyn McIntire |

A correction from February birthdays: Cliff Frady's birthday was 2/25, and Sharon Downin's was 2/28. My apologies!

The Body of Christ Prays For...

The family of Cori Wheeler, Soozi Ford and Family, Grace Marshall, Marcia Battle, Dick & Beth Miller, Joyce Roney, Ramona Harlow, Sharon Olson and Family & all persons who are homebound & in nursing care centers.

Please be in prayer for the Church during this time of pastoral transition, including our Church Council and FBC Staff.

Looking Ahead

- 5 - Communion Worship (9:30 am)
- 15 - Newsletter Deadline
- 21 - Church Council (7:00 pm)
- 26 - Coffee Fellowship (10:30 am)
- 28 - Abigail Circle (7 pm)

Weekly:

- Prayer Shawl Group:* Tuesdays at 11:00 am
- Prayer Group:* Tuesdays at 12:30 pm in Prayer Room
- FBC L.I.G.H.T. Women's Bible Study:* Thursdays at 9:30 am in the Chapel
- Men of Faith Bible Study:* Fridays at 7 am in Fellowship Hall

Service: Sunday Morning - Worship 9:30 am
(in-person worship & Live Stream)

2nd Hour Learning - following worship at 10:45 am

Live streaming available for Sunday Services

In addition to watching our streaming service on our website, the service is also streamed to Facebook, Roku and AppleTV. It is also sent internationally.



Just Press Play

Live Video Every Sunday at 9:30
firstbaptistcolumbus.org



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Leadership

Pastoral Care Team

March 5 - Susan Carter & Charlotte Oestreicher
March 12 - Ron & Peggy Lane
March 19 - Daryl & Dot McMath
March 26 - Tim & Paula Pickup

*Pastor on Call for March: Bob Langdon
(812-343-2944)*

Serving in the Nursery:

First Sunday: Susan Hoffman
Second Sunday: Adams
Third Sunday: Fee
Fourth Sunday: *Open*
Fifth Sunday: *Open*

Emergency Responder Schedule

March 5th: Lindsay McIntosh
March 12th: Judy Rhude
March 19th: Jean Williams
March 26th: Joyce Briggs

Children's Sunday School

2-4 Year Olds -

Teachers:

First Sunday: *Open*
Second Sunday: Susan Carter
Third Sunday: Carol Poe
Fourth Sunday: Heidi Jones
Fifth Sunday: Carolyn Pool

Helpers:

First Sunday: *Open*
Second Sunday: *Open*
Third Sunday: Jennifer Kelley
Fourth Sunday: *Open*
Fifth Sunday: Carolyn Pool

Kids Connection:

First Sunday: Marcia Cheek
Second Sunday: Linda Reid
Third Sunday: *Open*
Fourth Sunday: Deanna Glick

No Kids Connection on fifth Sundays.

Coffee Fellowship

There will be a Coffee Fellowship on Sunday, March 26th. Last names R-Z are invited to bring treats to share.



Communion



We will celebrate Communion on Sunday, March 5th. For those of you who join us for worship via live stream, we invite you to have something available to use for communion as we come to the Lord's Table together.