



FIRST BAPTIST
COLUMBUS
JOIN OUR *Family* OF FAITH

Rev. Evan Guse, Senior Pastor
Interim Worship Director, Matt Hamon

From the Pastor's Pen

With each passing day, we catch glimpses that a new season is on the horizon. The days are growing longer, the air a little warmer, and soon the world around us will begin to wake from winter's grip. The changing seasons serve as a quiet reminder that God's mercies are new every morning, and His grace continually offers us fresh beginnings.

I pray you were encouraged and challenged by our sermon series, "Ignite," as we explored what it means to walk with the Holy Spirit. Together, we reflected on how the Spirit serves as a livestream between our hearts and God's, an ever-present connection that equips and sustains us as disciples of Jesus. My hope is that you remain aware, alert, and open to how the Spirit is leading you, ready to respond in both big and small ways.

The coming month will be a time of both "Goodbyes" and "Hellos." First, we are deeply grateful for the interim ministry of Matt Hamon, who has faithfully led us in worship following Daniel's departure. We wish him the absolute best as he follows God's next steps for his life and ministry. We also prepare to say "See you later" to Donna Tull, who has blessed us on the organ for nearly 61 years and will soon be moving to Arizona. Please be in prayer for the Church Council as we seek to meet the worship staff needs of the church.

On the other hand, we celebrate a new beginning; the calling of our new Associate Pastor is official! We are incredibly grateful for our Search Committee, who prayerfully and diligently sought God's direction in this process. Through thoughtful conversations, interviews, and discernment, they have faithfully guided us to the right person to minister among us and help lead us into the future. We are thrilled to welcome Tyler and Leah to our First Baptist family and look forward to walking alongside them in faith. I encourage you to take time this month to think about how you can personally help welcome them, whether through a note of encouragement, an invitation to share a meal, or simply extending a warm greeting when they arrive at the beginning of April!

Finally, it's hard to believe, but the season of Lent is upon us. This year, we will journey together through the book of Jonah, reflecting on how God calls us to love, especially when it is difficult. Jonah's story challenges us to consider how we respond to those we may view as undeserving of God's grace, whether they be enemies, strangers, or those we perceive as walking far from Him. Lent is a time to let go of our own preferences and desires and take hold of God's calling for our lives. It's a season of surrender and renewal, and I look forward to walking through it together with you.

Spring is coming, new beginnings are upon us, and God is at work in and through our church family. I am grateful for each of you and excited for the month ahead.

Pastor Evan



Other News...

In The Life of The Church

Hello, Church Family!

It has been my great privilege to serve as your interim worship director for the last [almost] seven months! I have undoubtedly gained invaluable experience and knowledge in my short tenure here that will help to propel me into my next steps. Unfortunately, when it comes to the term "interim," there is an understanding of a shorter arc of a start to end date than with a typical position, so as we arrive at the end I can only reflect on my time here fondly and pray for a prosperous future for this family of faith I have been a part of for fifteen years now. One that has brought me up and given me a start so vitally needed to keep running this race. Thank you all for your help along the way!

By the time you are reading this, we will have just a couple weeks left before I depart after Sunday, March 9th, but there is still things going on this month!

We'll start with handbells. We are looking to have one last handbell sharing on the 9th of this month! It has been wonderful to be able to help bring those back the last few months. Next is choir! The choir will be sharing throughout the month and will be continuing past my time here. If anyone would like to join the choir (We could really use more Tenor/Baritone/Bass singers) please approach Lois (or Evan if you can't find her) about joining the choir. You can also join or check out the choir Wednesday nights at 7pm! Praise team will also be continuing and there is still a sign up on the welcome desk in the gathering place for that as well as one for the readers. There will be a huge need for more people on those so, if you've ever considered leading in that capacity, please sign up! Tech is also looking for a few people to run sound and video. I assure you it is not as daunting a task as it looks back there! Let either myself or Evan know if you'd be interested in running video, sound, or slides in Sundays to come. Thank you all for your support in volunteering over these last few months. Your support in this way is vital to making ministry work and I hope that going forward you all will continue to support the church in this way. May God bless you all abundantly!

Blessings,

Matt

Around The Church ...



Prayer Shawls

Prayer shawls will be available at the Gathering Place the 2nd Sunday of each month for any who would like to pick one up as an encouragement to someone. See Judy Alexander for any questions.

White Cross Gifts of The Heart

These special recovery kits are sent to 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 9th. Please contact Judy Alexander with any questions.

Scholarships Available

The First Baptist Church Foundation is accepting applications between now and April 1st for two scholarships.

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

The **Foundation Scholarship** is for any full-time undergraduate student and is also in the amount of \$1,000.

Applications and instructions may be obtained from the church office or the church website (Connect/FBC Foundation). They are due back to the church office or a Foundation board member by April 1, 2025 to be considered. Scholarship recipients will be announced in May.



Mark your calendar for screening to be held on Monday, March 28th in Fellowship Hall. Lifeline Screening has conducted over 10 million screenings since 1993.

To schedule your appt, call
1-800-640-6307,
visit
LLSA.SOCIAL/HC,
or scan the QR
Code to the
right.



Around The Church

Welcome to our Church Family



Myriata Rene



Marc Grey Santiny Kervens Noel



Jerto Noel

Pictorial Opportunity

We are in the process of getting interest in having a new pictorial directory done for the church. If you are interested in participating, please sign up in the Gathering Place or call (812-376-3321) or email the church office at secretary@fbccolumbus.org.



AMERICA FOR CHRIST OFFERING 2025

This offering will be taken up during the month of March.

GRACE UPON Grace

"BE KIND AND COMPASSIONATE TO ONE ANOTHER, FORGIVING EACH OTHER, JUST AS IN CHRIST GOD FORGAVE YOU."

EPHESIANS 4:32 (NIV)

altruism support INSPIRE LOVE thank you
volunteer compassion **give back** NOW
service SHARE charity

EMPTY BOWLS

SAT. MAR. 15

CENTRAL MIDDLE SCHOOL
FROM 4 - 6 PM

EACH TICKET GETS
UNLIMITED
SOUP, BREAD,
COOKIES, DRINKS

LIVE Music

ARTISAN BOWLS BY LOCAL ARTISTS,
TEACHERS, & STUDENTS WILL BE
AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

DOORS OPEN AT 4 PM

100% OF PROCEEDS BENEFIT SIX
LOCAL FOOD PANTRIES AND SHELTERS

27TH YEAR!



GET YOUR TICKETS AT:
VIEWPOINT BOOKS, MILL RACE
CENTER, THE VISITORS CENTER,
& ON FACEBOOK
\$20 PER PERSON, \$10 FOR
CHILDREN 12 AND UNDER

PRODUCED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



PRINTING
COURTESY OF
SINO



ending
HUNGER
one BOWL
at a time

Prayer Shawls

Prayer shawls will be available at the Gathering Place the 9th of March for any who would like to pick one up as an encouragement.

Medical Equipment Available for Loan

Durable medical Equipment is available at the church to lend to church family and friends as needed. Items available:

- Transport Wheel Chairs
- Bedside Commodes
- Elevated Commode Seats
- Rollator Walker
- Suction Handles for shower wall
- Walkers
- Canes
- Four Quad Canes
- Crutches
- Wheel Chairs

Volunteers Needed!

Volunteers are still needed for the nursery and children's programs. See Carolyn Pool to volunteer.

Please contact the church office or call Judy Rhude (812-764-9175) if any of this equipment is needed.

Around The Church ...

Travel with your
FBC family to see
"Noah" at the Sight
& Sound Theatre in
Lancaster, PA

May 1-3, 2025

\$580
/Person

Double Occupancy

Cost Includes:

- ✓ Roundtrip Charter Bus
- ✓ 2 Night Hotel Stay
- ✓ Show Ticket

Meals will be at your own expense.

Sign up to express interest at the Welcome Desk or contact the Church Office. A \$200 deposit paid to the church secures your spot. Contact Emma Guse with any questions at emmaguse@travelmation.net or 812-344-8488. We need 40 travelers to make the trip a success!

SIGHT & SOUND
THEATRES

NOAH

30TH ANNIVERSARY

LIVE ON STAGE

Around The Church



FISH OFFERING FOR LOVE CHAPEL FOOD PANTRY



With a one Sunday extension for this offering, the total received was \$9,341.15, far exceeding our goal of \$6,500. Thanks to all who generously gave to achieve these very needed funds to help those with food insecurity in our county. The money was used to purchase 538 cases of food weighing 7,408 pounds, 7,296 items. The following food items were those specifically designated as needed by Love Chapel: peanut butter, spaghetti, canned beans, chicken noodle soup, instant mashed potatoes, and mac & cheese. The food was picked up on Wednesday morning, Feb. 19, at Aldi's and delivered to the Love Chapel food pantry. Again, thanks to all of you who supported and gave generously to help those in need.



Leadership

Pastoral Care Team

Mar. 2nd: Bob & Jean Langdon
Mar. 9th: Susan Carter & Heidi Jones
Mar. 16th: Ron & Peggy Lane
Mar. 23rd: Dortha Anderson & Amanda Reed
Mar. 30th: Jim & Linda Reid

Emergency Responder Schedule

Mar. 2nd: Judy Rhude
Mar. 9th: Cole Bennett
Mar. 16th: Jean Williams
Mar. 23rd: Lindsay McIntosh
Mar. 30th: Judy Rhude

the prayer course

**An eight week journey
through the Lord's Prayer**

Wednesdays from 5:30-6:45pm

March 26; April 2, 9, 23, 30; May 7, 14, 21



Communion

We will celebrate Communion on Sunday, March 2nd. 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.

Around The Church

March Birthdays

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. ~ Carolyn Pool | 19. ~ Mike Riley |
| 2. ~ Dan Cash | 20. ~ Paulette McClintock |
| 7. ~ Marsha Daugherty | 21. ~ Becky Stephens |
| 11. ~ Marcia Battle | 22. ~ Ron Brondyke |
| 13. ~ Nathan Patrick | 25. ~ Amanda Reed |
| 14. ~ Anita Burton, Elyse Snider | 27. ~ Paula Pickup |
| 15. ~ Thomas Vickers | 29. ~ Donna Tull |
| 16. ~ Donita Compton, Heidi Jones, Bryce Olson | 30. ~ Judy Alexander, Carolyn McIntire |
| 18. ~ Gretchen Seeley | |

The Body of Christ Prays For...

Lynn Lovelace & Family, The Family of Verna West, Priscilla & Roger Day, Bobbie & John Walker, Bob Hoffman, Cathy Stiles, Frank Eldridge, Daryl & Dot McMath, Joyce Sutton, Jenny Wilkerson, John & Liz Lipson, Jon Carlstrom, Marge Betz, Anita Burton, Dick & Beth Miller, Ramona Harlow, Claude Wright, Jr. "Bub", Anita Yancey, Allen Rea, Larry Alexander, and Roger & Ben Glick and all persons who are homebound & in nursing care centers.

Looking Ahead to March

- 2- Communion (9:30 am)
- 15- Newsletter Deadline
- 18- Church Council (5:30 pm)
- 22- McKim Celebration of Life (1-4 pm in FH)
- 25- Abigail Circle (6:30 PM)

Weekly:

- Prayer Shawl Group: Tuesdays at 11:00 am
- Prayer Group: Weds. at 12:30 pm in Prayer Room
- Choir Practice: Wednesdays at 7:00 pm
- LIGHT Ladies Bible Study Thursdays at 9:00 am
- Men of Faith Bible Study Thursdays at 9:00 am

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

