



From the Senior Pastor's Pen

As we move into May, I find myself still grateful for the weekend we recently shared together at our church retreat. It was a gift to step away from the normal pace of life and simply be together. There was meaningful worship, conversation, laughter, and a rhythm that reminded us what it looks like to slow down and be present to God and one another.

I am especially thankful to the First Baptist Foundation for covering the cost of the retreat. That generosity made this weekend possible for many and invested deeply in the life of our church.

That kind of intentional space is not meant to be something we leave behind, but something we carry forward. In our *Practicing the Way* series, we are being invited to structure our lives around Jesus. Not just believing in Him, but apprenticing our lives to Him. Learning to be with Him, to become like Him, and to live as He lived. This is the work of discipleship, not something we visit occasionally, but something we carry into the everyday rhythms of our lives. And as we step into this next season together, that kind of intentional, grounded faith will matter more than ever.

That leads us into an important moment in the life of our church. Our *Forward in Faith* campaign continues to move forward, with \$390,000 pledged or received toward our \$460,000 goal. In the coming weeks, we will begin roof work, followed by sanctuary updates in the months ahead. These are not just projects, but ways we steward the space where ministry happens. If you have already given or pledged, thank you. If you have not yet had the opportunity, I encourage you to prayerfully consider how you might be part of this season. Every act of generosity matters.

I was also recently given the opportunity to serve as the Spiritual Director for the Columbus Chrysalis Flight weekend. Spending time with 32 teenagers and 70 adult and youth volunteers who were hungry to know the Lord was both humbling and encouraging. We saw real moments of transformation and a genuine openness to God's work.

It reminded me again that this is the heart of what we are about. This is the work of the kingdom. Jesus says in Matthew 6:33, "Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness." That is our calling. To seek Him first, to give our lives to what lasts, and to trust that God is at work among us.

I believe He is. And I am grateful to be walking this journey of life and faith with you.

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Evan



FBC News

Spring has sprung and summer is just around the corner. The trees have blossomed and the flowers have bloomed, we can see the beauty of God's handiwork unfolding around us from the bleak winter air. I can hear the birds outside my office window as they build their nests and search for food. The smell of freshly mown grass fills our neighborhood in the afternoon when I pull in the drive from work. It's a beautiful time of year, I often need to remind myself to slow down, turn off the news, and take delight in the beauty of God's creation. Springtime can be a great time to renew our hearts and strengthen our faith. For those who were able to attend our Church Retreat, I hope you enjoyed a time of renewal and escape from the chaos for a few days. It was an awesome time of fellowship with one another and a reminder that Jesus is our calm in the chaos of life.

We live in a time where we are constantly bombarded with negative media and influences on an almost 24/7 basis if we allow it. It can be difficult for anyone to find a positive story in the news or find an article that ends on a bright note. With things like radio, television, cell phones, Google, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Snapchat, TikTok, and the list goes on- it can be difficult for us to disconnect from the negative influences that seem to surround us.

"Do you not know?

Have you not heard?

The Lord is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He will not grow tired or weary,
and his understanding no one can fathom.

He gives strength to the weary
and increases the power of the weak.

Even youths grow tired and weary,
and young men stumble and fall;
but those who hope in the Lord
will renew their strength.

They will soar on wings like eagles;
they will run and not grow weary,
they will walk and not be faint."

-Isaiah 40:28-31

When the noise of negativity and the weight of uncertainty seem almost too much to bear, place your hope and trust in the one who will not grow tired or weary. Lean into the God who will renew your strength. In a world that is filled with confusion and misunderstanding, take hope in the renewal of Springtime. Just as the gardens grow, the flowers flourish and new life bursts all around, you too can be renewed in Spirit. The Lord is and everlasting God, the one who loves you and desires a constant relationship with you. Commune with Him daily. Meditate on His Word. Spend time with your family of faith. Be a blessing to others. I pray for renewal in your heart, in your mind, and in your Spirit. From the words of the Apostle Paul, "May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all." -2 Corinthians 13:14

Pastor Tyler

Around The Church ...

Thank You

FBC,

A grateful thank you to all who remembered us in the death of my last brother, Phil Harlow, who died in January. Many thanks to Janet, the Lanes, Poes, Alice, Linda and all who pray for us.

Blessings, Ramona & Rob Harlow

Dear FBC Family,

I really appreciate all of your cards, notes, and remembering my birthday 2,000 miles away. I miss seeing all of you and chatting.

Remember after every winter comes Spring! Good to hear from all of you.

Love, Donna Tull

FBC Apparel Store

We have an online store with FBC t-shirts, sweatshirts, hoodies, hats, and bags for any who want to order. Scan the QR code!



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.

Donate Your Vehicle to First Baptist Church

Contact the Church Office for more information



Annual Work Day

Join us on Saturday, May 16th from 9 to noon for Church Work Day.

Items to be completed:

- Mulch
- Trim back old grasses
- Deep clean sanctuary benches
- Clean outside windows that can be reached
- Straighten the blocks at outside corner of the chapel.
- Miscellaneous cleanup outside the building
- Remove leaves in window wells
- Clean columbarium & benches
- Clean out storage building

Watkins Camp Scholarships

Scholarships are available for any students attending Indian Creek Baptist Camp. Forms need to be turned in by Sunday, May 17th. Contact the church office for the application.

Around The Church ...



FIRST BAPTIST COLUMBUS
JOIN OUR Family OF FAITH

Children's Ministry Mid-year Check-in Meeting

DATE: Sunday, May 17th
TIME: Following Worship

For all those serving in the nursery and children's church or interested in serving
See Pastor Tyler if you have any questions

FIRST BAPTIST COLUMBUS | CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

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


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

High School & College Graduates

If you know someone from the church who is graduating from either high school or college, please contact the church office so we can honor them on May 24th. 812-376-3321 or secretary@fbccolumbus.org.

We will also be recognizing children going into the 1st and 7th grades. The deadline is May 10th.

Mental Health Awareness Month Q&A



An open Q&A conversation about mental health, featuring stories and honest discussion from our congregation.

Sunday, May 17, at 10:45AM | First Baptist Church Columbus

Sips & Scripture

Thursdays at 9:00am
Eastbrook Lucabe

June 4 - July 30



SBYC 2026 CALENDAR

WINTER/SPRING

REGISTRATION OPENS: JANUARY 1

MARRIAGE RETREAT: FEBRUARY 12-14

LADIES RETREAT: MARCH 13-14

FUSE: APRIL 19

CABIN LEADER TRAINING: MAY 8 & 11

DONATION OPEN HOUSE: MAY 31

SUMMER CAMPS

STAFF TRAINING: MAY 26-JUNE 6

JUNIOR CAMP: JUN 7-12

TEEN CAMP: JUNE 14-19

CAMP GOOD NEWS: JUNE 21-24

JR/SR CAMP: JULY 12-17

PRIMARY CAMP: JULY 19-22

FAMILY CAMP: SEPTEMBER 4-7


FALL/WINTER

FUSE: SEPTEMBER 20

BETHLEHEM LIGHTS: DEC 4, 5, 11, & 12

SNOW JAM WINTER CAMP: JAN 29-31, 2027



 SCAN ME

First Baptist Church

Pastoral Care Team

May 3rd: Linda & Jim Reid
May 10th: Tim & Paula Pickup
May 17th: Kerry & Alice Richmond
May 24th: Lyman & Corbie Snyder
May 31st: Ron & Peggy Lane

Emergency Responder Schedule

May 3rd: Cole Bennett
May 10th: Judy Rhude
May 17th: Lindsay McIntosh
May 24th: Judy Rhude
May 31st: Jean Williams

Wednesdays

at First Baptist Church

Dinner – 5:00pm
Bible Study – 5:30pm
Choir Practice – 7:00pm

*Every Thought Captive:
How Renewing Your Mind Can Change Your Life
April 15 – May 13*

Communion

We will celebrate Communion on Easter Sunday, May 3rd. 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

May Birthdays

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| 5. ~ Daniella Hernandez, Cliff Putterill | 20. ~ David Langenderfer |
| 6. ~ Bob Rhude | 21. ~ Lee Humphries |
| 7. ~ Jan Stafford | 23. ~ Lawrence Stephens |
| 11. ~ Ed Browne, Robert Kelley | 25. ~ Linda Mayfield |
| 17. ~ Mollie Adams | 26. ~ Ava Lowman |
| 19. ~ Joyce Briggs, Tyler Griffin | 28. ~ Laura Andrews |
| | 29. ~ Sharon Tobias |

The Body of Christ Prays For...

Luann Harlow, Carol Burton, Sue Hoffman, Rollin Strode, Mandy Reed, Bill Griffith, Janet Bailey, Dorothy Abney, Susan Carter, Tim Pickup, Priscilla & Roger Day, Bobbie & John Walker, Daryl & Dot McMath, 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 May

- 3- Communion (9:30 am)
- 15- Newsletter Deadline
- 16- Church Work Day (9-Noon)
- 17- Children's Ministry Meeting after Worship
- 19- Church Council (5:30 pm)
- 26- Abigail Circle Salad Supper (6:00 PM)
- 31- Coffee Fellowship I-Q (10:45 AM)

Weekly:

- Prayer Shawl Group: Tuesdays at 11:00 am
- Prayer Group: Weds. at 12:30 pm in Prayer Room
- Wed. Meal & Bible Study: @ 5:00-6:45 pm through May
- LIGHT Ladies Bible Study: Thurs. at 9:00 am through May
- Men of Faith Bible Study: Thurs. at 9:00 am through May
- Sips & Scripture at Eastbrook Lucabe Thurs. @ 9:00 am starting in June

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



FIRST BAPTIST
COLUMBUS
JOIN OUR Family OF FAITH