



**FIRST
MEMPHIS**

A Different Way to be Baptist

200 E. Parkway N.
Memphis, TN 38112-5414
901-454-1131
www.fbcmemphis.org

REMINDERS

Church Council Meeting

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Youth Sunday

February 27 at 11 am

Kids Missions Valentine Card Fundraiser

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Together

Vol 38 No 2

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Cultivating a Distinctively Christian Imagination

REV. DR. KATHRYN KIMMEL, SENIOR PASTOR

First Memphis Family,

A few weeks ago, I quoted Lanta Davis' article on the Christian imagination. Davis argues that the contemporary church is suffering from a lack of

imagination, and warns, "the imagination is not starving itself. It's simply finding its food elsewhere." She continues, "If we don't cultivate a distinctively Christian imagination... we risk consuming alternative imaginations in its stead."

In these next few months, you will be hearing a lot about Godly Play. Godly Play is a Montessori based children's curriculum that both tells the stories of scripture and teaches the rhythms of the church in a way that inspires the imagination and invites wonder.

We will introduce you to this way of learning and invite you to discover anew the stories of God with us.

It is my hope that First Memphis will invest in building the Christian imaginations of our children, and our own, through this program.

In the meantime, I will leave you with one set of wondering questions considered after a story is told in the Godly Play classroom:

1. I wonder what part you liked best.
2. I wonder what part is most important.
3. I wonder where you find yourself in this story, or what part of this story is about you.
4. I wonder what part we could leave out and still have all the story we need.

Perhaps these questions will help us all dive a little deeper into our own readings of scripture.

Delighted to journey with you,

Kat

CHURCH

Church Council Meeting

FEBRUARY 13, 12:15 PM

On Sunday, February 13, all outgoing and incoming committee chairs will gather for the first FBC Church Council meeting. The meeting will be held in Fellowship Hall following worship, and lunch will be provided.



Outgoing chairs: please be prepared to share about your committee's work over the last year, best practices, and any ongoing plans.

Incoming chairs: please be prepared to mark your calendars with a few more gathering dates and discuss with other committees how we might work together to live out our values of Community, Hospitality, Dialogue, and Service.

WORSHIP OPTIONS

FBC Worship Options

You can join us, in person, in the Sanctuary Sundays at 11 am for worship.

The service is aired live on the radio during the 11 am hour on 680 AM and 92.9 FM radio stations.

The worship service is live-streamed on the YouTube channel each Sunday.

GIVING

FBC's Giving Options

FBC has several giving options available:

- Mail your offering to the church: First Baptist Church, 200 E Parkway N., Memphis, TN 38112;
- Donate online via our website: www.fbcmemphis.org/giving;
- Email Lisa Butts to learn how to set up automatic recurring offering withdrawals set up from either your bank account or credit card.

YOUTH

Youth Sunday

FEBRUARY 27, 11 AM

Our Youth will lead in worship Sunday, February 27. Make plans to be present to support these individuals.



KIDS MISSIONS

Valentine's Cards

FEBRUARY 6

Our Kid's Missions group will be selling handmade Valentine cards on Sunday, February 6, following worship in the Welcome Center.

Cards are \$5 each, and all proceeds will benefit St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.



Looking Towards Lent

ASH WEDNESDAY

Ash Wednesday Service

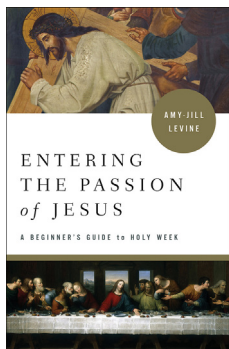
MARCH 2, SANCTUARY, 6:15 PM

We will gather with the congregations from Central, Kingsway, and Linden Christian Churches and for an Ash Wednesday Service in our Sanctuary, Wednesday, March 2 at 6:15 pm.

Rev. Dr. Ryan Starr, Senior Minister at Kingsway Christian, will preach. Rev. Geoff Mitchell, Senior Minister at Lindenwood Christian Church, and Rev. Bill Russell of Central Christian Church will lead in worship.

LENTEN STUDY

Lenten Study: *Entering the Passion of Jesus*



Join us on Thursdays at noon for a Lenten Study series based on Amy Jill-Lavene's book *Entering the Passion of Jesus*. The series will focus on chapters 2-6. You may order your books from Amazon.

Bring a sack lunch and join Pastors Kat and Holly in the Welcome Center beginning March 3 at noon.

LENT

Calvary Lenten Preaching Series

WEDNESDAY-FRIDAY, MARCH 3-APRIL 8

Calvary Episcopal Church will kick off its 99th Lenten Preaching Series on Thursday, March 3.

This year's event will be in-person and live-streamed. Stay tuned for more details on safety protocols and the Waffle Shop.

Please mark your calendars to hear our Pastor Kat at Calvary on Friday, April 1 at noon.

LENT

A Note about Lent at FBC

Our Lenten theme this year is: **Worth the Risk.**

The theme will carry through our Bible Studies, Sunday morning sermons, and congregational challenges.

Lent is the forty-day season of reflection and preparation for the death and resurrection of Jesus. It is a time of repentance, of considering Christ's

sufferings and rethinking how we are called to take up our own crosses.

It is a good season to rethink how we live and let some things go, or maybe even to develop some new holy habits.

This year, along with your personal practices, we will encourage you to risk something each week as we seek to draw nearer to Christ together.

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