



FIRST MEMPHIS

A Different Way to be Baptist

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

REMINDERS

Wednesday, March 2, 6:15 pm

The congregations from Central, Kingsway, and Linden Christian Churches will join us for an Ash Wednesday Service.

Thursday, March 3, noon

Our Lenten Study begins in the Welcome Center. Bring a Sack Lunch.

Sunday, March 20, noon

Deacons will gather for their monthly meeting after worship.

Youth Retreat: The Youth Spring Retreat is scheduled for April 1-3.

Mark your calendars for Church Clean Up and Clean Out week!

Candy (no nuts) is needed for the Children's Easter Egg Hunt on April 10.

Together

Vol 38 No 3

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Taking Risks

REV. DR. KATHRYN KIMMEL, SENIOR PASTOR

Amy-Jill Levine writes, "In every good story, there is history and there is risk." This is certainly true of our gospel story. This season of Lent, we will be looking at how Jesus risked for us. As we journey through the passion, we will watch Jesus risk his reputation, righteous anger, risk challenge, rejection, the loss of friends, and risk temptation.

We will ask you to take risks this Lenten season too. Each week, we will challenge you to trust in the love of Jesus and the power of the gospel enough to risk something of yourself.

Inherent in these acts of risk is the work of trust. The work of giving control to another. Trust also makes true relationships possible and opens new paths we might not see on our own.

Trust is the foundation of faith. So, as we pray together, read together, worship together, let us also practice risking together, trusting God to be at work in, through, and all around us.

The very first thing we will ask you to risk this season, is coming to our Ash Wednesday service. At the service, we will remember that we are all mortal,

vulnerable beings. We are dust.

Let us contemplate what God can do with dust. Below you will find Jan Richardson's poem: "Blessing the Dust." May it help us all prepare for this season.

Blessing the Dust For Ash Wednesday

*All those days
you felt like dust,
like dirt,
as if all you had to do
was turn your face
toward the wind
and be scattered
to the four corners
or swept away
by the smallest breath
as insubstantial—
did you not know
what the Holy One
can do with dust?*

*This is the day
we freely say
we are scorched.*

This is the hour

*we are marked
by what has made it
through the burning.*

*This is the moment
we ask for the blessing
that lives within
the ancient ashes,
that makes its home
inside the soil of
this sacred earth.*

*So let us be marked
not for sorrow.
And let us be marked
not for shame.
Let us be marked
not for false humility
or for thinking
we are less
than we are*

*but for claiming
what God can do
within the dust,
within the dirt,
within the stuff
of which the world
is made
and the stars that blaze
in our bones
and the galaxies that spiral
inside the smudge
we bear.*

—Jan Richardson

YOUTH

Drive-In Night

MARCH 26

Youth will meet at FBC at 5 pm on March 26 and caravan to the Summer Drive-In for the *Indiana Jones* trilogy.

The cost is \$25 per car. Depending on the weather, you may want to pack lawn chairs and blankets and your trusty brown fedora.

YOUTH

Spring Retreat

APRIL 1-3

Our Youth will join groups from 2nd Baptist Memphis and Delta Hands for Hope on a community-themed retreat at Natchez Trace State Park the weekend of April 1-3.

We are looking forward to a weekend of fun, fellowship, faith formation, and fire pits.

DEACONS

Monthly Deacons Meeting

MARCH 20, 12:15 PM

The Deacons will meet in the Choir Room on Sunday, March 20 at 12:15 pm for their monthly meeting.

WELCOME

FBC Welcomes New Members

FBC welcomes the following new members:

- **Stephen McHugh, Jr.**, who joined FBC on February 13. Stephen was baptized on February 20.
- **Laurie Henderson** who joined FBC on February 13.

Our Lenten Journey

ASH WEDNESDAY

Ash Wednesday Service

MARCH 2, SANCTUARY, 6:15 PM

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

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



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.

LENT

Scripture Texts for Lent

WORTH THE RISK

March 6 First Sunday in Lent:

John 2:13-21

March 13 Second Sunday in Lent:

Mark 12:13-17, 41-44

March 20 Third Sunday in Lent:

John 12:1-8

March 27 Fourth Sunday in Lent:

John 13:1-16

April 3 Fifth Sunday in Lent:

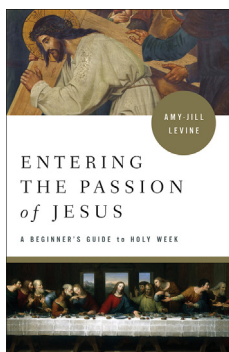
John 18:1-11

April 10 Palm Sunday:

John 12:9-19

LENTEN STUDY

Lenten Study: *Entering the Passion of Jesus*



Join us on Thursdays at noon for a Lenten Study series based on Amy-Jill Levine'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.**

CHILDREN & FAMILIES

Easter Egg Hunt

SUPPLIES NEEDED

We are making a change to our annual Easter Egg Hunt this year.

The hunt will become an extension of the celebratory Palm Sunday service as our children head out sanctuary's front doors after worship hour.

You can help us prepare by donating candy (no nuts) and plastic eggs. Please have all candy and egg donations turned into Holly by **Sunday, April 3.**

HOLY WEEK

Holy Week Dates

April 10 Palm Sunday & Easter Egg Hunt

April 14 Maundy Thursday Service: at Kingsway Christian Church

April 15 Good Friday Noon Service: with Greater Lewis Street and Lifeline Congregations

April 15 Seven Last Words of Jesus: at Lindenwood Christian Church

April 16 Decorate Flower Cross

April 17 Easter

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Email: bellis@fbcmemphis.org

a different way to be Baptist

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.

SERVICE

Church Clean Up and Clean Out

MARCH 11-19

We will be spending the week of March 11 getting our church cleaned up and organized.

As we go room-to-room cleaning up and cleaning out, we'll earmark things to be placed in the gym for a Yard Sale on Saturday, March 19.

We need all the help we can get! Please consider volunteering as an individual, family, or class to lend a hand.

A Volunteer Sign-Up and Schedule will be on the Welcome Center desk and the church's website.

