



THE
First Baptist Church
OF THE CITY OF WASHINGTON D.C.

TWICE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | APRIL 26, 2017



2 MAY 7 ANNUAL MEETING: NEW INITIATIVE

Pastor Julie Previews



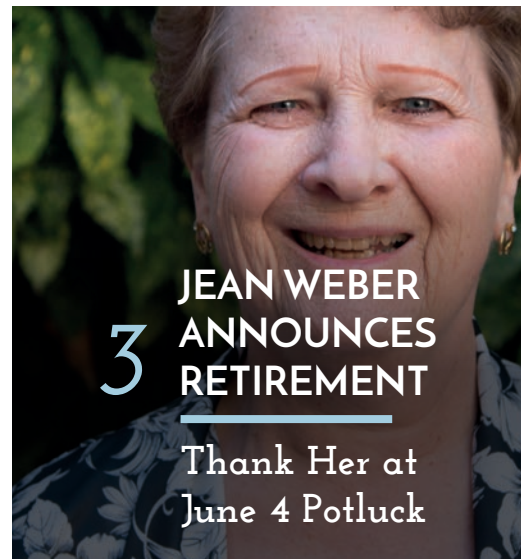
3 YOUTH SUNDAY

Save the Date:
May 21



3 PASSPORT CAMP AT FBC

MissionBASE
Schedule



3 JEAN WEBER ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT

Thank Her at
June 4 Potluck



4 PRAY FOR ALLIANCE MTG

April 28-30



3 THIS SUNDAY: FIRST OF TWO SPECIAL BIBLE STUDIES

9:15-10:30am in Fellowship Hall

INCLUSION BIBLE STUDIES/ ANNUAL MEETING/ NEW INITIATIVE



PASTOR JULIE
PENNINGTON-RUSSELL



FBCDC Annual Meeting— Sunday, May 7

On May 7 our congregation will gather after worship to celebrate what God has done in and through FBC in the past year, and to talk about opportunities ahead of us. Join us for this informative, fun (that's right... door prizes!) gathering on May 7, during the "First Sunday" pot-luck luncheon. (For a list of new committee and service group nominees, see the Nominating Committee report on pages 7-9)

Dear FBCDC Family:

I'm still smiling as I think about Holy Week and Easter. What a rich and meaningful week. From the Palm Sunday "mariachi parade" to communion and the washing of feet on Maundy Thursday to the darkness of Good Friday to our collective Alleluias! and the final note of the Widor Toccata (well done, Mr. Biggins), not to mention the colorful cascarrones and joyful outdoor reception on Easter—the Spirit of God was breathing (and dancing!).

And now, in this beautiful season of new life and fresh beginnings, two immediate opportunities are waving at us:

Bible Studies on April 30 & May 21

Related to our Inclusion Conversations
We are people for whom the Bible bears real authority as a God-breathed revelation of God's heart, and God's will and way. The subject of same-sex relationships in the church is often divisive because God-honoring, Jesus-following, Bible-believing Christians come to this conversation—bringing the Scriptures with them—and walk away with differing perspectives. Still, the Bible is our authoritative guide and as followers of Jesus we're compelled to read it, to know it, and to be shaped by it. I hope you will join us for the two Sunday



morning Bible studies planned for April 30 and May 21, facilitated by the pastoral staff and our Inclusion team.

Content will be different on both Sundays, so please try to make it to both.

Annual Meeting on May 7th:

A New Initiative for the Year Ahead
What comes to your mind when you hear the words "Annual Meeting"? Whatever past labels you may have assigned to our Annual Meeting, it's our intention that all future gatherings be characterized by celebration, fun, prayer and holy laughter. We'll have door prizes for all ages again this year, as well as a testimony or two and a recapping of what God has done among us since last May.

At this year's meeting I will propose a brand new initiative for the coming year to help us continue reimagining our God-given purpose together. I believe this hospitality-focused proposal—which will affect every aspect of our life as a congregation—has great potential for bearing significant fruit in the years ahead. I'm excited!



Hospitality

Above all, please pray regularly that God's dream for FBCDC will continue to unfold all around us, and that we will have the spiritual eyes and ears to recognize it and respond with all our heart, soul, mind and strength.

Peace & Grace,

This Sunday: First of Two Special Bible Studies

9:15-10:30am in Fellowship Hall

On April 30 all adults and youth are invited to participate in the first of two Bible studies facilitated by the deacons and pastoral staff who make up the Inclusion Team at FBC. After engaging in several "listening sessions" earlier this year about how we envision our congregation with regard to LGBT inclusiveness, our next step together is to engage biblical texts that inform this conversation. **Please note the earlier starting time: 9:15 - 10:30am.** The second Bible study will take place on Sunday, May 21. Content will be different on these two Sundays, so please try to attend both days. Please keep praying as we lean into God and one another through this conversation.

Youth Sunday

Join us May 21 as our youth lead us in worship through prayer, praise, and preaching! Together we will worship God and bless our incoming youth and graduating seniors. You will want to attend worship and witness God at work in our young people.



If you are, or are the parents of, a student who is graduating from high school or college and would like to be recognized, please email Pastor Alyssa. Deadline for submissions is Friday April 28, 2017. Thank you!

PASSPORT MISSIONBase Camp

We continue to pray for Passport Camps as they and us prepare to host them for the summer. Online here (<https://goo.gl/O5phLv>) is a look at their rigorous daily schedule for the summer. Groups will arrive at 1pm on Mondays and leave after lunch on Fridays. Needless to say we will pray for their endurance and rest!



Jean Weber Announces Retirement

Our beloved Administrative Assistant, Jean Weber, has announced her retirement, effective at the end of May! While we're so very excited for her as she starts this well-earned new chapter of her life, we will miss her sorely! Please give her your love and congratulations as you see her in the next few weeks. During our church potluck on June 4 we'll be celebrating her 10 years of loving and faithful service to us and to the Kingdom of God.

SAVE THE DATE

Youth Sunday

Graduate recognition
and
Youth Group Promotion

Reception for youth and families in the Fellowship Hall after the service!

05.21.17

BAPTISTPALOOZA 2017

We kick off "Baptistpalooza 2017" (three major annual Baptist assemblies within 9 weeks) this weekend (Apr 28-30) with the annual Alliance of Baptists Annual Gathering in Raleigh, NC. Next comes the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship General Assembly in Atlanta (June 26-30), then finishing strong with the American Baptist Biennial Mission Summit in Portland, OR (June 30-July 2). What a party!

The first Alliance of Baptist meeting I attended was in my final semester of seminary, during final exams. Needless to say, I was not able to participate in most of what the annual meeting had to offer. A couple of years later, I am looking forward to attending the annual meeting in Raleigh without exams or a graduation looming overhead.

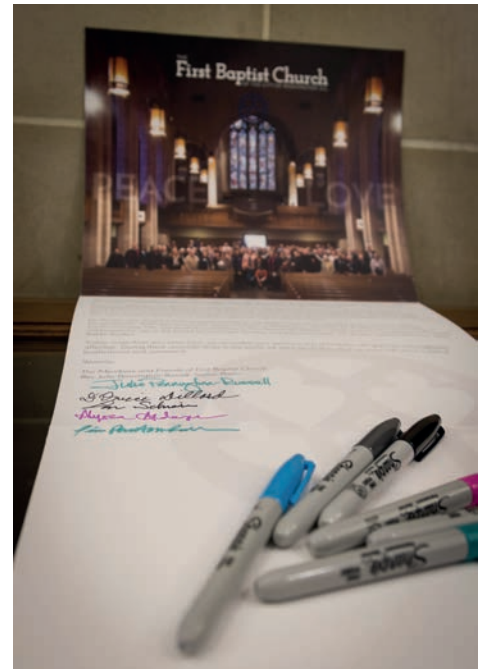
This year, the annual gathering starts off with the Why Baptist? conversation.

We will be challenged to think deeply about why we claim our Baptist traditions- a very good question for Baptists to ask themselves for such a time as this.

Our connection with the Alliance of Baptists runs deep. In 1989--two years after the Alliance was founded--Stan Hastey was hired as the Executive Director of the Alliance and First Baptist Church of DC became its headquarters. For twenty years we housed the Alliance of Baptists and together we continued to grow as people of faith, answering God's invitation to see the hand of God at work in the world. This year, our partners in faith celebrate 30 years of ministry! So who better to send than

the associate master- me - who also turns 30 this year to join the Alliance in celebrating their work in the world? The annual meeting will be held at Pullen Memorial Baptist Church in Raleigh, NC April 28th - 30th, 2017.

Read more: <https://goo.gl/0jjS2w>



Sign Card of Support for our Neighborhood Jewish Community Center

This Sunday, April 30, every attendee at the 11am worship will be invited to sign a card affirming our friendship and support of our neighbor and long-time friends at the JCC. This is the first of many cards we hope to send to nearby organizations on occasion in times of celebration and grief and to demonstrate our (and God's) care for the community.

First Thing Contemplative Prayer Group Begins Study of James

Starting May 7, First Thing Contemplative Prayer group will begin a study of the letter of James in the New Testament. One commentator referred to his book as a "manual of Christian conduct." Everyone is welcome to join us for this study. We meet in Room B-14 from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings. We begin the hour with 20 minutes of centering prayer followed by our discussion.

alliance of baptists



FBC Young Adults to Participate in Convergence Leadership Project

Reflecting on the state of the global church, Baptist historian Bill Leonard writes:

“In 2017, the 500th anniversary of the beginning of the Protestant Reformation, many American churches and religious institutions confront ‘old ways of doing things that no longer work,’ evident in declines in traditional denominational systems, evangelistic methods, financial support, and even ecclesiastical identities. Across the theological spectrum, congregations are aging, often divided culturally and politically, and struggling to articulate the gospel to a growing number of Americans who distance themselves from faith communities...”

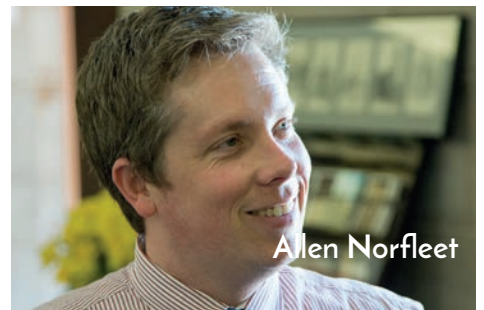
(Read full article here: <https://goo.gl/CuFZlw>.)

Regarding this shifting religious landscape: in the fall of 2016, FBCDC received an invitation from Brian McLaren, a prominent Christian pastor, author and advocate, to participate in a year-long program called The Convergence Leadership Project.

The CLP is geared toward developing young leaders in progressive Christian congregations who will “work together, pray together, and grow together, living out the teaching and example of Jesus in this critical moment in history.”

After consulting with our Moderator and Deacon Chair, Pastor Julie hosted the FBC young adults in her home in December 2016 to gauge their interest. Several young adults volunteered to participate and Alyssa Aldape, our Associate Pastor for Young Adult and Youth Ministries, stepped up to serve as pastoral staff liaison.

Please pray for the FBC young adults participating in the CLP: Kate Campbell, Chelsea Clarke, Allen Norfleet and Lucy Plovnick, as well as Alyssa Aldape and Julie P-R. Costs associated with participation in the CLP will be provided by a portion of the Leadership Development funds in our church budget. The year-long program includes three symposiums in Washington DC (May 19-20), New York City (Aug. 18-19) and Chicago (Oct. 28-29), featuring speakers like Brian McLaren, Diana Butler-Bass, Otis Moss III, Amy Butler and others. And as a bonus, online events and resources will be available to the entire congregation.



EASTER SUNDAY PHOTOS



Altar Flowers for 2017

Please sign-up for the giving of altar flowers honoring or memorializing those you wish to recognize in your life. The cost of flowers is \$70 for the two large altar arrangements. The sign-up book is on the window ledge on the second floor of the Education Building just outside the Church office. If you have any questions, please call Shirley McBeath at 301-929-9261.

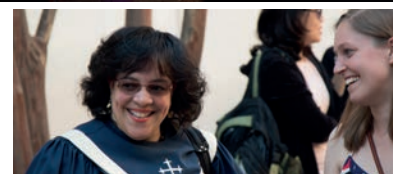


Job Opening

With Jean's pending retirement, we are receiving applications for the **Administrative Assistant position**. If you would like to apply, or know of someone who can fill this important job, read the position description here: <https://goo.gl/uDrh53>.

Cleanup Schedule

Last call for staff and church leadership to peruse Rooms 315, 304 and 204 to find any items they wish to salvage before general church membership is invited for their turn, April 28 through May 10. Questions? Contact D'O Dillard at ddillard@firstbaptistdc.org.



More Easter Photos can be viewed here: <https://goo.gl/3luhe0>

Nominating Committee Report is Available

The Nominating Committee's recommendations for FBC officers and committees for the 2017-2018 program year is published on the next three pages. Copies are available also in FBC's Narthex and on the information table in the Second Floor lobby. Any additional nominations must be sent in writing to Kate Campbell, (kcg484@yahoo.com, or 5407 9th Street NW, Apt. 209, Washington, DC 20011) by 6:00 p.m., Friday, April 28, at which time nominations will be closed. The final report, with any any additional nominations, will be published May 2 and made available in the Narthex and Second Floor lobby. The report will be voted on during the May 7, 2017, Annual Meeting.

THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF THE CITY OF WASHINGTON, D.C.

Report of the Nominating Committee

for church officers, standing committee members, organizations and representatives to affiliated institutions

Program Year 2017 (May 2017 through April 2018)

CHURCH OFFICERS (elected annually)

<i>Moderator</i>	Rod Coates
<i>Superintendent of the Church School</i>	Allen Norfleet
<i>Clerk</i>	Kate Campbell
<i>Treasurer</i>	Michael Henson
<i>Financial Secretary</i>	John Adigun
<i>Assistant Financial Secretary</i>	Mary Jane Sennett
<i>Librarian</i>	To Be Announced (TBA)
<i>Historian</i>	Janice Osborn
<i>Director of Communications</i>	Rob Marus

(The position of President of the Woman's Society is omitted following determination by the current members to disband the organization.)

DIACONATE (elected separately by the congregation and presented with the Nominating Committee report)

Life Deacons	2018	2019	2020
Mel Doxie	Zena Aldridge	Kate Campbell	
Adrian Harward	Rod Coates	Sadye Doxie	Conversations with
Steve Netcott	Mike Henson	Erik Smith	nominees in progress
Ellen Parkhurst	TBA	Rose Smith	

STANDING COMMITTEES (term ending on April 30 of the year shown in the column heading)

Auditing Committee

Child Development Center Committee

2018	2019	2020
Becky Ellison	Beth Prince	Sarah Hodges-Austin

Christian Education Committee

2018	2019	2020
Becky Ellison	Charlotte Straight	Lucy Plovnick

Library/Archives Committee (each elected annually)

<i>Library Subcommittee</i>	<i>Archives Subcommittee</i>
TBA, Librarian (<i>ex officio</i>)	Janice Osborn , Historian (<i>ex officio</i>)
Robert Cochran	Ramona Michels
David Hunter	

(NOTE: Names in boldface letters indicate nominees for new terms.)

Missions and Evangelism Committee

2018	2019	2020
Violet Bakare	Rose Smith	Chelsea Clarke
		Ronald Dooms
		Elnora Dooms-Boe
		Ken Ellison
		Cindy Fuller
		Alex McKeithen
		Dinh Tran

Nominating Committee

2018	2019	2020
Doug Duvall	Kate Campbell	Sadye Doxie

Personnel Committee

2018	2019	2020
Dennis Lambert	-----	Lucy Plovnick
Denny Austin		

Property Management Committee

2018	2019	2020	Life Members
Wil McBeath	Sarah Hodges-Austin	Didier Ahimera	Ed Fry
			Erik Smith

Social Committee

2018	2019	2020
Ann Bailey	Mel Doxie	Kate Campbell
Doug Duvall	Ellen Parkhurst	Janice Osborn
Shirley McBeath		Dinh Tran

Stewardship Committee

2018	2019	2020
Rochelle Howard	Rob Marus	Ronald Dooms
		Kathy Whatley

Worship

2018	2019	2020	Head Usher
Doug Duvall	Patty Marceron	Didier Ahimera	Allen Norfleet
Sadye Doxie	Rose Smith	Kate Campbell	

(NOTE: Names in **boldface letters** indicate nominees for new terms.)

ORGANIZATION

FBC Board of Trustees (Combined with Audit and Memorials Committee)

2018	2019	2020
Becky Ellison	Marvin Marceron	Jac Whatley

AFFILIATED GROUP

Representatives to the National Center for Children and Families

Bonnie Jorgensen
Elizabeth Porter

Board of Trustees of the First Baptist Church Foundation (elected separately by the church, presented by the Nominating Committee)

2018	2019	2020
Christi Harlan	Shirley McBeath	Dennis Lambert
		Wil McBeath
		Richard Turner

Submitted by the Nominating Committee,

Kate Campbell (Chair)
Sadye Doxie
Doug Duvall

(NOTE: Names in **boldface letters** indicate nominees for new terms.)

EVENTS

Sunday, April 30

- 9:15am:** Inclusion Bible Study
(All Adults & Youth)
- 10am:** Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Rm 312)
- 11am:** Worship (Sanctuary)
- 2pm:** Worship in Spanish
(Dawson Room)

DEACONS ON-CALL: WEEK OF APRIL 30:



Rod Coates

WEEK OF MAY 7:



Mel Doxie

The on-call deacon is your lay contact for prayer concerns during their week of service.

FBC PRAYER & CARE

Prayers:

...to Shannon Hart, Zena Aldridge's brother

...to Linda, Brad and Shelby Livingstone, as they prepare to relocate to Waco, TX. On April 18th Linda was named President of Baylor University. She begins her new role on June 1.

...to Irvin Netcott, father of Steve Netcott

...to Margaret Russell (Tim Pennington-Russell's mother)—recovering from hospitalization this week in CA

Church Staff

Julie Pennington-Russell

Pastor
jpr@firstbaptistdc.org

Charlie Fuller

Executive Pastor
cfuller@firstbaptistdc.org

Alyssa Aldape

Associate Pastor for Young Adults & Youth
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Lawrence P. Schreiber

Organist-Choirmaster
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D'Oniece Shaw Dillard

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Jean Weber

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Stephen Hunter

Building Engineer
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Tim Pennington-Russell

Comm. & IT Support
tpr@firstbaptistdc.org

Carolyn B-Roebuck

CDC Director
croebuck@firstbaptistdc.org



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