



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

TWICE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | FEBRUARY 2, 2018

IMMERSED IN LOVE

2 LENTEN SERMON SERIES TELLING OUR STORY THROUGH BAPTISM

Sundays @ 11am: February 18 - April 1, 2018



5 ASH WEDNESDAY & ASHES "TO GO"

Lent Begins
Wed., Feb. 14



6 TRANSFORMING CONFLICT

New 6-wk. Class
Starts Feb. 18



8 WINTER FORUM: BILL LEONARD

Sunday Morning
Mar. 4 @ 9:30am



11 FAMILY OUTING: ICE SHOW

Fri., Feb. 16



3 UPCOMING PREACHERS TRACY HARTMAN / CHARLIE FULLER

Sunday, Feb 4 & 11 @ 11am

2018 Lenten Sermon Series

IMMERSED IN LOVE

Telling Our Story through Baptism

Feb 18 **We Are Born** | *John 3:1-8*

Feb 25 **We Are Washed** | *Ezekiel 36:25-28*

Mar 4



Mar 11 **We Are Clothed** | *Galatians 3:23-29*

Mar 18 **We Are Welcomed** | *Ephesians 4:1-6*

Mar 25 **We are Buried** | *Mark 10:35-45*
(Palm Sunday)

After Worship: Neighborhood Mariachi Palm Parade

Apr 1 **We are Raised** | *Romans 6:1-11*
(Easter)

Historically in the Christian movement, the season of Lent, the forty days leading up to Easter, was a time when new believers prepared for their baptism. During the Lenten season this year at First Baptist Church, we are following the example of the early church by remembering together our great story as followers of Christ through the image of baptism. All the major themes of a believer's story are visible every time we baptize: birth, cleansing, new "clothes", community, burial, resurrection. Join us as we remember our story.

WORSHIP



TRACY HARTMAN
FEBRUARY 4

CHARLIE FULLER
FEBRUARY 11

PREACHING AT FBC

February 4 - BTSR Professor Tracy Hartman Preaching

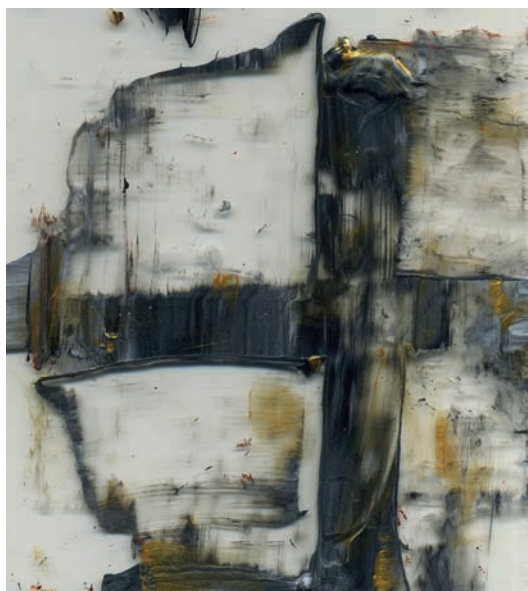
This Sunday, February 4, our guest proclaimer in worship is Dr. Tracy Hartman, professor of preaching, spiritual formation and practical theology at Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond, where she also serves as Acting Vice President of Academic Affairs. She is a life coach and preaches frequently in churches throughout the region. She earned her academic degrees from Carson-Newman University (BA), BTSR (MDiv) and Union Theological Seminary and Presbyterian School of Christian Education (PhD). In a recent interview, Dr. Hartman said, "I love my calling. No two days are ever the same! I also love the constant interaction I have with both the academy and the church." (Pastor Julie is leading a weekend retreat and preaching in worship this Sunday at Second Baptist Church in Little Rock, AR, where Charlie and Cindy Fuller served before coming to FBCDC.)

February 11: Charlie Fuller Preaching

FBC Executive Pastor, Charlie Fuller, brings the message in worship on February 11. Charlie spent much of his "first" working life as a teacher and professor of music at high schools and universities in Arkansas, Texas and Arizona, and served for three years as Dean of the School of Fine Arts at Ouachita Baptist University in Arkadelphia, AR. In addition to three academic degrees in music, Charlie earned an M.Div. from Baylor's Truett Baptist Theological Seminary (2010) and a D.Min. from BTSR (2015). Charlie and Cindy began their pilgrimage with FBC on New Year's Day, 2017. For the past 18 months, Charlie has served as chair of the Illumination Project Committee for Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. The committee was tasked in June of 2016 with exploring how Cooperative Baptists can strengthen their unity in the face of different beliefs and practices in matters of human sexuality. (Pastor Julie is preaching February 11 at Calvary Baptist Church in Waco, TX, for the installation of their new pastor, Mary Alice Birdwhistell. The P-Rs were at Calvary from 1998-2007.)

WORSHIP

LENTEN



VESPERSS

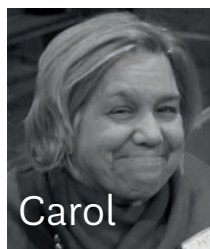
*Wednesdays @ 7pm
February 21 – March 21
FBC Sanctuary*

These 45-minute worship services will offer a simple, meaningful opportunity to pause in the middle of the week to connect with God and receive fresh inspiration. Each service will feature someone from FBC sharing a piece of his or her faith story, as well as musicians from our congregation.

Date	Faith Story	Musician(s)
Feb 21	Lilia Abron	Cindy Fuller
Feb 28	Kevin Biggins	Paul Nelson, Zena Aldridge
Mar 7	Carol Nicholas	Robert Cochran, Kimberly Galva
Mar 14	Roger Alford	Christina Whitehouse-Suggs
Mar 21	Oliver Müller	Charles Pugh, Kevin Biggins



Lilia



Carol



Oliver



Paul



Robert



Christina



Kevin



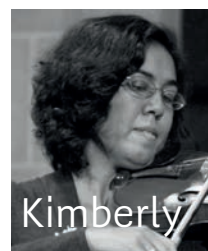
Roger



Cindy



Zena



Kimberly



Charles

WORSHIP

ASH WEDNESDAY - FEBRUARY 14

“Remember you are dust, and to dust you shall return.” (Gen. 3:19) For nearly a thousand years, these words have been spoken to young and old alike as the sign of the cross is traced on their foreheads with ashes—the Imposition of Ashes, as it has come to be known—as a sign of our mortality and as a sign of our repentance. Join us Wednesday evening, February 14, at 7pm for the annual Ash Wednesday worship service.



“ASHES-TO-GO” ON ASH WEDNESDAY MORNING

Can't make it to the Ash Wednesday evening service on February 14? Associate Pastor Alyssa Aldape will offer the Imposition of Ashes on the front steps of the church (16th Street) that morning from 8am until 10am.

COMBINE WORSHIP AND COMMUNITY ON WEDNESDAY NIGHTS IN LENT

Two Dinner Options!

Prefer to eat early? Enjoy a delicious meal prepared by Chef Laval at 6pm in Fellowship Hall. Cost: \$8.00. RSVP to D'O Dillard ddillard@firstbaptistdc.org each week by Monday at 5pm or make a standing reservation for all six weeks during Lent.

Prefer to eat later? Each week after vespers, all who'd like to join in are invited to walk as a group to one of the many nearby restaurants.



Chef Laval



CASCARONES? SAVE YOUR EGG SHELLS

Last year it was a treat to see our church folk participate in the wonderful tradition of cracking cascarones on the heads of friends and family. And now that we've done it one year, I look forward to this year's bounty of egg shells! Just in case you don't know what a cascarone is- a cascarone is a hollowed out chicken egg decorated, filled with confetti, and topped with a piece of tissue paper. On Easter Sunday, one -with the best intentions of course- cracks a cascarone on a friend's head, signifying colorful showers of God's grace and blessings. Cascarones are a Mexican Easter tradition dating back to the mid-1800s and used mostly in towns on the Mexico/Texas border. During the 40 days of Lent, I'd like to invite you to save your washed eggshells and drop them off with me, Alyssa Aldape. The week before Easter, the youth will gather to put together cascarones to share with our church family on Easter Sunday!





CONCENTRIC CIRCLES OF PEACE: MEDITATING ON THE FINE ART OF CONFLICT TRANSFORMATION

New 6-week Sunday Morning Class During Lent (begins Feb. 18)

Led by Leslie & Roger Alford

You are warmly invited to join our Lenten adult devotional hour, from 9:30-10:30am on Sunday mornings over the course of *six Sundays, to reflect and prepare for a collective, spiritual journey. Taking some poignant cues from a handful of inspiring peacemakers including the notable German pastor, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, we will pause each Sunday during Lent to allow for four "moments."

Each week we will listen for four distinct "P's" of spiritual formation:

- a spiritual **practice**
- a transformative **process**
- a devotional **prayer**, and
- a poetic word from the prayer book of the Bible, the **Psalms**

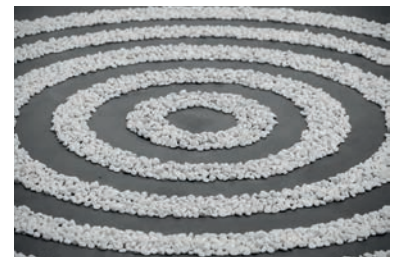
We will begin each class with a brief, intentional time for group members to share with one another. We shall conclude each class with a moment for live, gentle, meditational music to help us along our way. This class in spiritual formation hopes to reflect God's light in such a way that God's beauty might be seen more clearly and felt more dearly.

Each week we will look and listen for the work of peace in three concentric circles:

- 1st Circle:** The spiritual communion/relationship between the individual and the present Christ.
- 2nd Circle:** The spiritual relationship or communion between two or more persons, interpersonally.
- 3rd Circle:** Ways in which the even wider concentric circle of the peace of Christ is taking shape out in the local/global fields.

We hope you'll join us in this quiet, inward Lenten journey and see where it might lead!

* February 18, 25; March 11, 18, 25 (Palm Sunday); April 1 (Easter Sunday)



GROW

SUNDAY MORNINGS AT FBC

First Baptist Church offers several good options for people who want to join with others in connecting with God through Scripture. Current Sunday morning adult groups include:

Journey to Wholeness and Healing

(taught by Paul Clark)

5-Week Class on Sundays @ 9:45am; Room 315

What about our life's journey makes us blue? How does God bring healing as we share our stories and care for one another? How does the Bible help us as we grieve? You are invited to take part in a five-week small group experience dealing with loss, grief and the journey to wholeness, led by teacher and storyteller Paul Clark. The group meets on February 4 and 11 in room 315 (take elevator in the O Street entrance to the 3rd floor).



Tapestry (taught by Dennis Lambert)

9:45am in the church library on the 2nd floor

This intergenerational Bible study group uses a variety of study materials, some denominational and some reflective of FBC's ecumenical theological tradition. Discussions draw upon weekly reading assignments and related scriptural texts. Composed mostly of adults 50 and older, this group enjoys a free exchange of ideas in an atmosphere of friendship. One of their primary objectives is to find relevant scriptural approaches to life. All are welcome.

First Thing (facilitated by group members)

9:30am in the Conference Room on the 2nd floor

A group for all ages that practices the Christian spiritual discipline of contemplative prayer using the Centering Prayer method. Prayer is followed by discussion of a book dealing with prayer or other spiritual practices. If you are curious about connecting with God through prayer, silence, and spiritual discipline, give *First Thing* a try.



GROW

WINTER FORUM

with Bill Leonard

SUNDAY MAR 4

Winter Forum Sunday Schedule

9am Breakfast in Fellowship Hall (free; catered by Chef Laval)

9:30am Bill Leonard teaches adults and youth: *The Church in 21st Century America*

11am Bill Leonard preaches in worship: *Vintage Jesus* (John 2:1-17)

Renowned Church Historian, and long-time friend of FBCDC, Bill J. Leonard is the James and Marilyn Dunn Professor of Baptist Studies and Professor of Church History at Wake Forest School of Divinity in Winston-Salem, NC.

He is the author or editor of some 25 books, and writes a twice-monthly column for Baptist News Global. Bill and his family are members of First Baptist Church, Highland Avenue, the oldest African-American Baptist congregation in Winston-Salem.



firstbaptistdc.org

Bill Leonard

SERVE

SERVE BREAKFAST AT CHRIST HOUSE

Sunday, February 11, 2018 @ 7am
(Christ House - Adams Morgan)

FBC members and friends are invited to serve breakfast at Christ House Sunday, February 11, at 7am. Christ House, which provides comprehensive healthcare to men experiencing homelessness, is located at 1717 Columbia Road, NW in Adams Morgan. Volunteers are generally finished by 8am, leaving enough time to get to FBC for Bible Study and worship.



GIVE

UPCOMING BENEVOLENCE OFFERING TO GO TO HURRICANE SURVIVORS WITH FBC TIES

Our monthly Benevolence Offering to be collected after Communion this Sunday, February 4th, will be specially designated to the families of two of our sisters-in-Christ: **Carolyn B-Roebuck**, Director of FBC's Child Development Center, has family in Puerto Rico as well as the US Virgin Islands. And one of our choir members, **Anamer Castrello**, is from Puerto Rico. Our congregation is pitching in to help these families who still need basic items four months after the hurricanes hit.

Anamer's mother, brother and his wife and two children are still without hot water in their home in Guaynabo. The family went without electricity for 87 days, finally getting power on December 12, but their water heater failed to work after power was restored. They want to buy a solar powered/electric back-up hot water heater. Cost: \$556.

Carolyn's family is not only in Puerto Rico but also St. Croix and St. Thomas. Some have had power restored and some are still waiting. Their primary need is generators. Cost: around \$500 each. Another need is batteries (sizes AA, C and D) for the flashlights and lanterns they have.

Boxes are located near church entrances to collect new batteries that you wish to donate; monetary contributions should be designated as "Hurricane Relief." Thank you for your generosity!



2017 GIVING STATEMENTS

Giving statements for 2017 have been mailed. Please check your statement carefully and contact Administrator D'O Dillard at ddillard@firstbaptistdc.org right away if there is a discrepancy. Thanks to all who gave so generously to FBC last year.

REPORT FROM NEW ORLEANS

Pastor Julie

Liturgy. Laughter. Prayer. Poetry. Theology. Justice. Jambalaya. Tim and I experienced these gifts and more last week in New Orleans at a pastor's retreat associated with the Convergence Leadership Project (associated with the Center for Progressive Renewal). For four days we talked, pondered and prayed with a circle of eleven other pastors in a Sunday School classroom at St. Charles Avenue Baptist Church (an Alliance of Baptists congregation led by Elizabeth Mangham Lott). Our leaders were Brian McLaren, pastor, author and advocate; and Jacqui Lewis, senior pastor of Middle Collegiate Church in Manhattan.

I almost didn't go. With a couple of speaking commitments coming up, and after some holiday travel and our family funeral in Texas, I wasn't sure I could afford the time. I'm so very glad I went. Our conversations last week about everything from liturgy to money to spiritual formation to community organizing, as well as new friendships formed during the week, inspired a fresh wave of energy and enthusiasm in me for the days and months ahead.

Thank you, First Baptist family, for investing in Convergence Leadership Project this year, and for the gift of time to participate in several CLP events over a 12-month period. Four FBC members volunteered early in 2017 to be part of the CLP journey: Kate Campbell, Chelsea Clarke, Allen Norfleet and Lucy Plovnick, with Alyssa Aldape and me as staff liaisons. Four of us traveled to NYC last August for a symposium at Middle Collegiate; the next conference takes place April 6-8, also at Middle Collegiate Church.



CONNECT

1ST SUN POTLUCK/ QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING - SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4

Our First Sunday potluck is this Sunday, February 4. This is a great way to meet or catch up with fellow FBC'ers while breaking bread together. Please bring a dish or two to share: A-J, salad/vegetable; K-R, dessert/fruit; S-Z, meat/entrée. The quarterly business meeting will start during the meal.

FAMILY OUTING: FROZEN ON ICE - FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16 7:30PM

Everyone's invited to join First Baptist folk at Disney's Frozen on Ice Friday February 16th, at the Verizon Center. Contact pastor Alyssa for your tickets.



FAMILY CAREGIVER RESEARCH: HELP SOUGHT

Rev. Beryl Dennis, Wesley Theological Seminary Doctor of Ministry Candidate and member of our congregation, is conducting research for her DMin project: Caring for the Spirit of the Family Caregiver. If you are available and willing to participate in her research survey, please click or copy this web address in your browser for more information: <https://www.esurveycreator.com/s/bdennisdminsurvey>.

RECENT NEW MEMBERS



Suggs
Family



Prichard
Family



Alexandria
Lovelace



Jay
Guenther

EVENTS

Sunday, February 4

9:30am: Bible Study for All Ages

10am: Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Rm 312)

11am: Worship (Sanctuary)

12:30pm Pot luck and quarterly business meeting (Fellowship Hall)

2pm: Worship in Spanish (Dawson Room)

Tuesday, February 6

6:30pm: Education for Ministry (Rm 214)

Thursday, February 8

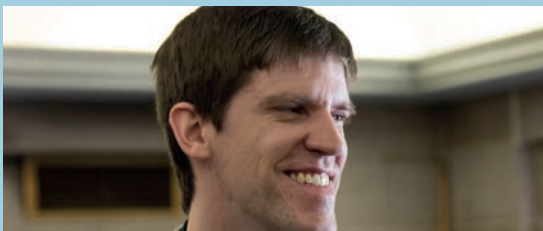
6pm: Ordinary Time (Contact Pastor Alyssa for Location)

DEACONS ON-CALL: WEEK OF FEBRUARY 4:



Rose Smith

WEEK OF FEBRUARY 11:



Erik Smith

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

FBC PRAYER & CARE

Thanks be to God!

- We welcome the **Prichard family** as new members to FBC - **Chuck, Kelly and Angus**.
- Jim Craig (cousin of **Steve Netcott**), is home, recovering from kidney stone surgery on Jan. 19 in Des Moines, IA

Sympathy to:

- **Al and June Millikan** and family in the death of Al's sister Diane Millikan (63), on Jan. 24 in Atria Park of Glen Ellyn, Illinois. Pray also for Diane's husband CJ and her daughters Heather and Laurel.
- **Steve Hunter and wife Veronica** in the passing of Steve's dad, David Hunter, on January 16 at his home. David was a long-time active member here at FBCDC; also pray for his daughters Cheryl Ann, Karen and Jan. David's memorial service is scheduled for Sunday, Feb. 25 at 1 pm in the Sanctuary.

Recently Added

- Bob Pohlman, friend of **Ann Bailey**: cancer
- **Stacey Simpson Duke** (co-pastor of First Baptist Ann Arbor): diagnosed with metastatic leiomyosarcoma (a rare, aggressive soft tissue cancer).
- Sheryl Bowen (**D'O's** best friend), recovering from gall bladder surgery in Atlanta
- Terry Holland (friend of **Ann Bailey**), with a heart condition
- **Chuck Golden**—recovering from back surgery on Jan. 8th

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