

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

FIRSTBAPTISTDC.ORG

LENT 2020

Invitations to connect with God and others through worship, shared community, and acts of compassion and justice.

Christ encounters

sermon series for lent & easter sunday 2020

- March 1
➔ **The Wilderness**
Matthew 4:1-11
- March 8
➔ **A Surreptitious Seeker**
John 3:1-17
- March 15
➔ **An Observant "Other"**
John 4:5-42
- March 22
➔ **The Age-Old Question**
John 9:1-41
- March 29
➔ **Unvarnished Grief**
John 11:1-45
- April 5
➔ **Palm Sunday**
The Fickle Fan Club
Matthew 21:1-11
- April 12
➔ **Easter Sunday**
Stronger Than Death
1 Corinthians 13



Author
Jonathan
Merritt
in Worship
June 7
(more inside)

Lenten Sermon Series: Christ Encounters

Throughout his public ministry, Jesus encountered all kinds of people: children, women, men, rich, poor, religious, irreligious, prominent and obscure. Not only did *he* encounter these folk, *they* encountered the living Christ and found themselves changed in powerful and unexpected ways. During our Lenten pilgrimage, we'll step into some of the most well-known encounters with Christ in the Gospels and, along the way, may even encounter ourselves in these stories of transformation and hope.

WORSHIP

HOLY WEEK

April 5: Palm Sunday Parade

After Worship

Take part in the annual Palm Sunday Parade! After worship, join FBC in a walk through our local neighborhood singing God’s praises and blessing our neighbors. Wear your walking shoes and a welcoming smile. Meet in the narthex immediately after worship and begin the parade on 16th Street.



April 9: Maundy Thursday with NSBC (at FBC)

7-9pm

Enjoy a fellowship meal together with our sister church, Nineteenth Street Baptist, followed by a worship service with communion, foot-washing, music, and a meditation by Pastor Darryl Roberts. See p. 5 for opportunities to serve on this night.

April 10: Good Friday @ National City Christian Church

7-8pm

We remember Christ’s crucifixion with our sisters and brothers at NCCC, led by choirs from both churches. NCCC is located just blocks from FBC at 5 Thomas Circle NW.



Author Jonathan Merritt in Worship June 7

Jonathan Merritt, an award-winning faith and culture writer, will bring the message in worship on June 7, and will speak to adults and youth during the Bible study hour. Jonathan is author of several critically-acclaimed books, including *Learning to Speak God from Scratch* (which the FBC Sunday Young Adult class is currently reading), *Jesus is Better Than You Imagined*, and *A Faith of Our Own: Following Jesus Beyond the Culture Wars*.

Praying With Our Pens During Lent

Lenten Writing Groups: Sign up by Monday, March 2

In her poem "Sometimes," Mary Oliver writes:

Instructions for a Life.

Pay attention.

Be astonished.

Tell about it.



What might happen if we approached Scripture and God's world with the holy curiosity and expectancy that poets take to the woods, the shore, or any of the places where they pay attention and listen? Whether we claim the word "writer" for ourselves or not, reading Scripture with a notebook and pen in hand can make us more attentive to its messages. The writing process will make us more curious if we listen for God and use our pens to write down what we think we hear.

FBC is offering two 5-week writing groups during Lent:

- **Saturday mornings led by Pastor Alyssa (Mar. 7-April 4, 10:30am - noon)**
- Wednesday evenings led by Pastor Julie (*sorry, this group is full*)

Four Parables of Jesus: The Prodigal Son, The Good Samaritan, The Sower, and The Laborers in the Vineyard, will ground our group gatherings. Each session will involve free-writing and brief writing assignments with time to share some our work with the group. **Maximum of 10 participants in each group.** Sign up: <http://bit.ly/LentenWrite>

GROW

KEYNOTE SPEAKER
JAMES LAWSON
ACTIVIST, PROFESSOR AND LEADING THEORETICIAN AND TACTICIAN OF NONVIOLENCE WITHIN THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT.

HOME
NBC REGIONAL FORUM
HOSTED BY FIRST BAPTIST AND NINETEENTH STREET BAPTIST CHURCHES OF WASHINGTON, D.C.
MARCH 28, 2020 • 9:30 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M.
WASHINGTON, D.C.

HOME: A Regional Forum on Gentrification and Housing Saturday, March 28

9:30am - 5pm • @ Nineteenth Street Baptist Church

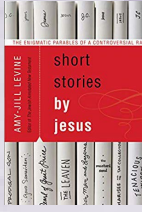
Co-Hosted by NSBC & FBCDC;

Sponsored by New Baptist Covenant

The Racial & Social Justice Team, composed of folk from both NSBC and FBCDC, invite you to a day of worship, fellowship and vital conversations about the housing crisis in urban areas, especially Washington, DC. Keynote speaker is the Rev. Dr. James Lawson, revered activist, professor and leading tactician of nonviolence within the Civil Rights movement.

GROW TOGETHER

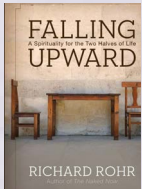
SUNDAY MORNINGS



The Wonder Years

9:30am; *Parents of Children (0-18yrs old); Conference Room (second floor)*

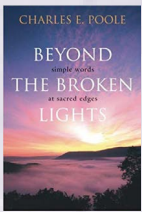
Join us for “wondering” discussions as we take a closer look at Jesus’ parables. Inspired by the Godly Play approach, we are using Amy-Jill Levine’s *Short Stories by Jesus* as a companion as we consider these familiar stories with new eyes and ears, asking how the Spirit is speaking through these ancient texts to our modern lives. All are welcome as we build an intentional community and ministry for parents of children, birth to 18 years old.



Falling Upward by Richard Rohr

9:30am; *“Crossroads” intergenerational group; Meadows Room (basement level)*

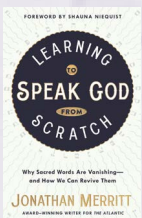
The Crossroads group will explore spiritual growth by way of life’s inevitable crises. *Falling Upward* by Richard Rohr will prompt lively discussion. A warm welcome, hot coffee and light breakfast await you!



Beyond the Broken Lights by Charles Poole

9:45am; *“Tapestry” meets in the second floor Library.*

The Tapestry Class is studying this book by a former FBC pastor. It’s a thoughtful and inviting look at our questions and the need for clarity in the depths of the mystery of God. Hot coffee is always available and guests are warmly welcomed.



Learning to Speak God From Scratch: Why Sacred Words Are Vanishing and How We Can Revive Them by Jonathan Merritt

9:45am; *Young Adults group meets in Suite 103-105 (near the O Street entrance)*

In this groundbreaking book, Jonathan revives ancient expressions through incisive cultural commentary, vulnerable personal narratives, and surprising biblical insights. Both provocative and liberating, *Learning to Speak God from Scratch* will breathe new life into your spiritual conversations and invite you into the embrace of the God who inhabits them.

Journey to the Cross: Online Daily Lenten Devotional Starts Feb. 26 - d365.org

Journey to the Cross, a daily devotional series for Lent, begins on Ash Wednesday, February 26th through Sunday, April 19th. This series features scripture, prayer, and meditative thoughts written by an ecumenical team of writers and is accompanied by the album *Quiet Contemplations* containing gentle piano arrangements. *Journey to the Cross* is part of the year-round devotional site, d365.org, a ministry of Passport, Inc., and sponsored ecumenically by Passport, Inc., Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, Presbyterian Mission Agency, and The Episcopal Church.



SERVE

Baby Room Volunteers Needed

FBC families are growing! With the blessing of new infants in our congregation, the Children's Ministry is seeking volunteers to care for these littlest ones. Alongside a credentialed childcare worker, FBC volunteers will hold, rock, and play with the babies while parents attend Bible study groups and participate in worship. If you enjoy sharing love with babies and feel God leading you to serve in the baby room, please contact Pastor Kelly, who will discuss with you the details and process of becoming a volunteer in this vital ministry. kmp@firstbaptistdc.org.

Sound Booth Volunteers Needed

Want to serve as part of our Sunday sound booth team? Contact Chuck Prichard, the team coordinator, at soundsreasonable13@yahoo.com. We'll train you!

Sandwich Making for Martha's Table

Every third Wednesday we prepare sandwiches for Martha's Table. Join us as we make sandwiches for unsheltered and hungry people in D.C. After sandwich making we'll enjoy a light supper together. We begin sandwich making at 5pm in Fellowship Hall, followed by supper. It's a great way to serve those in need and get to know your fellow FBC'ers.

Volunteers Needed for Maundy Thursday Supper with NSBC

Thursday, April 9; Dinner @ 7pm; Worship @ 8pm

Last year, the FBC family joined our friends at Nineteenth Street Baptist Church on Maundy Thursday for a delicious meal and worship with communion and foot washing. This year, it's our turn to host. Our Social Committee is counting on plenty of extra hands so that we may offer the same kind of hospitality we received last year at NSBC. The meal will be catered. If you can help with set-up or serving, please email Zena Aldridge. zaldridge@firstbaptistdc.org.

Book Drive March 8th through March 14th

FBC is partnering with The Literacy Lab this year in a great way! The Literacy Lab is an organization that partners with elementary schools in order to assist in bringing vulnerable children's literacy skills up to grade level. The core way they do this is by implementing literacy interventionists who work closely, 1:1, with students inside of the schools. This year's book drive will be from March 8th through March 14th. Keep an eye out for book drop off bins at our two main entrances- O St. Entrance and the narthex.

Young Adults: Ordinary Time on 1st and 3rd Thursdays

Living in a city like Washington, DC can get hectic. Being busy is something to show off, but Jesus reminds us, in how he modeled community, that resting, breaking bread, and sharing quality time with friends was important to his work. During the week, young adults gather at a local spot in town to pause, catch up, and share life together. Contact Pastor Alyssa for more details or to get on the young adult mailing list.

Young Adult Winter(ish) Retreat

March 20 - 22nd • Cost: \$30

Join us in Bryce, VA for a couple of days of rest and quality time together. Contact Pastor Alyssa to RSVP by March 16th.

Just Plain Fun...

Congressional Chorus: "Vogue - Return to the 90s"

Sunday, March 22 @ 4:30pm • \$39 general seating; \$19 students

Hosted by Julie & Tim P-R @ Church of the Epiphany

The Faith Formation Team is expanding FBC's "Summer of Fun" events so FBC folk can connect and have "just plain fun" throughout the year.

Pastor Julie and Tim invite you to join them for the spring performance of the Congressional Chorus (which includes FBC's own Philip Hawkins). Purchase your tickets on the Congressional Chorus website: www.congressionalchorus.org and meet at Church of the Epiphany at 4pm on Sunday, March 22. **Please let Pastor Julie know if you're planning to participate.** jpr@firstbaptistdc.org. (And stay tuned for future Just Plain Fun (JPF) events!)

Coffee & Conversation After Worship

Each Sunday (except potluck Sundays) refreshments are served by our hospitality team in the church parlor immediately following worship. Come and go or come and linger. It's a great way to meet new friends.

First Sunday Potluck - March 1

After sharing communion in worship on the first Sunday of the month, the FBC community gathers in Fellowship Hall for a monthly potluck lunch. It's a great way to meet new people and share a simple meal together. Guests are always welcome!

Please note: No First Sunday Potluck on Palm Sunday.

Palm Sunday Mariachi Parade

April 5, following worship

Wear your walking shoes! We depart after worship, palms in hand, following a mariachi band around a 5-block square around our neighborhood, singing and blessing our neighbors. There will be refreshments in the Narthex for those waiting on loved ones in the Mariachi parade, as well as for the walkers, when they've return from blessing our neighbors.

Sunday Morning Children's Ministry Schedule

Faithful, nurturing volunteers and trusted child care professionals gather each week to play, sing, learn, and serve the spiritual needs of children. Young learners are taught the Bible through stories, play, art, and music. School-age children are introduced to the role of discipleship by learning spiritual gifts, Bible verses, prayer, and studying Bible stories.

9:30am–10am — Drop-Off for Sunday School — Parents drop off children on the 3rd floor.

10am–10:45am — Sunday School in 3rd Floor Children's Classroom — Children (12 and under) gather in the 3rd fl. Children's classrooms for a Bible lesson, art project & playtime with peers.

10:45am — Transitional Time — Older children are escorted by an adult volunteer to the sanctuary for worship. Kindergarten & Younger: Remain in 3rd floor classrooms, the adjacent 3rd floor playroom, or 3rd floor library throughout the worship service.

11am–12noon — Younger Children's Ministry During Worship Hour — Younger children begin in 3rd floor classroom for a Bible lesson, reading and art project. Children move to the adjacent playroom for sing-along music and play with one another.

After worship (around 12:15pm) — Parents, return to the 3rd floor, ring the bell, and your child will be delivered to you. A teacher or children's minister will gladly update you on how your son/daughter did during Sunday school and worship.

FBC Kids Activities During Lent

Lent and Life Lessons – A Study for FBC Kids

Racism and prejudice can take root with jokes, comments, and name-calling. Pastor Kelly is leading a four-week lesson on racism and prejudice to allow the children to reflect on differences. We will use the Bible as the guide as we explore this complex topic that influences attitudes, social values, and institutional practices. Please pray as we affirm God's love for all.

Saturday, March 21 – Fun with Friends

FBC Kids will roar into Spring by spending the afternoon in the great outdoors at Montrose Park in Rockville, Maryland. After working up an appetite, Pastor Kelly will fulfill one of the kids' most repeated, never fulfilled wish . . . we are finally visiting a Chuck E. Cheese for pizza and games! Email Pastor Kelly at kmp@firstbaptistdc.org for more information.

Saturday, April 4 and Sunday, April 5 – Preparing the Palms

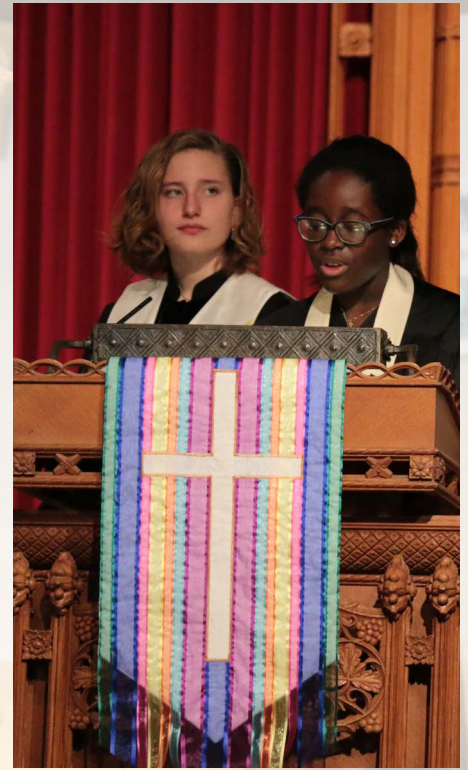
On the eve of Palm Sunday, the children will practice the ritual procession by carrying palm branches and learning why people put leaves down to greet Jesus. FBC Kids are invited to join Pastor Kelly in a quiet time of reflection about Palm Sunday followed by an exciting indoor parade as we mark the day Jesus rode into Jerusalem. Beside eating and a movie, the children will complete a scavenger hunt listing specific items pertinent to Palm Sunday. Kids can be dropped off at 5pm at the O Street entrance. Children who wish to leave can be picked up at 9pm Email Pastor Kelly at kmp@firstbaptistdc.org for more information.

Sunday School in the Youth Lounge: 9:30-10:30am

All Youth age students (grades 7th - 12th) are welcome to Youth Sunday School. Each week our hope is to go deeper with God and cultivate community. During the season of Lent we'll begin a new series called The Body of Christ Given for You. Join us!

Third Sunday Lunch

On (most) third Sundays of the month, youth group students go out to lunch together after worship. We meet at the front of the sanctuary (the narthex) and walk to a lunch spot together.



Basilica Virtuoso Organists

First Sunday Concerts

FBC's Spring 2020 First Sunday Concert Series features organists from the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception here in Washington, D.C. Hear world-class musicians play the 6,000-pipe Austin organ. Free to the public.

- Sunday, March 1 at 3pm: Andrew Vu, Assistant Organist
- Sunday, May 3 at 3pm: Peter Latona, Director of Music



Sing with the FBC Chancel Choir

Every Sunday the Chancel Choir enriches worship at FBC through beautiful music that points to God. If you are a singer (at any level), you are heartily invited to come and share your gifts. There are no auditions; come as you are! The Chancel Choir rehearses each Sunday morning promptly at 10am in the choir suite (room 312). If you'd like to sit in on a rehearsal, please contact choir member Zena Aldridge zaldridge@firstbaptistdc.org who'll be glad to answer any questions and/or help you find the choir room on your first day.



FIRST SUNDAY BASILICA VIRTUOSO ORGANISTS CONCERT SERIES

Organists from the **Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception** in Washington, DC Performing on the FBCDC 6,000-Pipe Austin Organ:



Concerts are **FREE TO THE PUBLIC**
Invite your friends, and join us for world-class music!

Tithe.ly

You can now send your gifts using the secure Tithe.ly mobile app on your phone, or through the Tithe.ly form on FBC's website.

Go to firstbaptistdc.org/give and click the green "Give Now" button. Then click the "Sign Up" button in the upper right corner to create an account. Recurring gifts are now available!



Give using

TITHE.LY

AVAILABLE ON THE APPLE APP STORE OR USE DIRECTLY AT TITHE.LY/GIVE

more information @ tithe.ly

Communion Sunday Benevolence Offering

Each time we observe communion in worship we receive a special offering, beyond our regular giving, for those in our church, community and world who are experiencing needs such as food and housing insecurity, medical bills, etc. Your generous gifts help FBC to meet those needs. The Benevolence Fund is administered by our Life Deacons.

Church Staff

Julie Pennington-Russell

Senior Pastor
jjpr@firstbaptistdc.org

Sarah Hodges-Austin

Interim Executive Administrator
sha@firstbaptistdc.org

Alyssa Aldape

Associate Pastor for Young Adults & Youth
aaldape@firstbaptistdc.org

Kelly Magee-Prichard

Minister for Children and Families
kmp@firstbaptistdc.org

Lawrence P. Schreiber

Organist-Choirmaster
lschreiber@firstbaptistdc.org

Zena Aldridge

Administrative Assistant
zaldridge@firstbaptistdc.org

Tim Pennington-Russell

Dir., Comm. & IT Support
tpr@firstbaptistdc.org

Carolyn B-Roebuck

CDC Director
croebuck@firstbaptistdc.org



1328 16th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036
 Phone: 202.387.2206
office@firstbaptistdc.org | www.firstbaptistdc.org