

May 13, 2020

# the SPIRE

First Baptist Church  
columbia



First Baptist Church  
columbia

2020 graduate  
recognition



**Holden Kausler**

*Hickman High School*

Holden Kausler is graduating from Hickman High School and plans to enter the MACC/Mizzou program in the fall.



**Damien Fulner**

*Harrisburg High School*

Damien Fulner is graduating from Harrisburg High School and plans to enter the workforce in the months ahead.



**Samantha Walker**

*Bachelor of Arts in Music Education  
University of Missouri*

Sam Walker is graduating from the University of Missouri with a Bachelor of Arts in Music Education. She plans to work as the elementary music teacher at Eugene Field Elementary in Mexico, MO. Sam also plans on returning as one of our Scholarship Singers next year.



**Cole Kieffer**

*Bachelor of Arts in Jazz Performance  
University of Miami*

Cole Kieffer graduated from the University of Miami with a bachelors degree in Jazz Performance with a concentration on Bass. He plans to pursue a master's degree in Music Business at the University of Miami in the fall.



**Chandler Wyatt**

*Bachelor of Plant Sciences  
University of Missouri*

Chandler Wyatt is graduating from the University of Missouri with a bachelor's degree in Plant Sciences with an emphasis in Sports Turf Management. His plans are undermined related to COVID pandemic.



**Shelby Myers**

*Master of Science in Clinical Counseling  
Central Methodist University*

Shelby will be working at the Marriage and Family Counseling Center in Columbia providing therapy for individuals, couples, and families with an emphasis of working with families that have been impacted by violence and addiction.



**Ashley Evans**

*Master of Science in Applied Behavior Analysis  
University of Missouri*

Ashley Evans is graduating in June from the University of Missouri with a master's degree in Applied Behavior Analysis.



**Marques J. Ruff**

*Master of Music Choral Conducting,  
Master of Music Voice Performance  
University of Missouri*

Marques J. Ruff is graduating from the University of Missouri with his Master of Music Choral Conducting and a Master of Music Voice Performance. Marques has served as our interim Director of Music in the Traditional Service and is planning to pursue his doctoral work in the fall.



**Lexie Kieffer**

*Master of Social Work  
University of Missouri*

Lexie Kieffer is graduating from the University of Missouri with a master's degree in Social Work and will be staying in Columbia to work as a residential administrator at Fidelis Support Services.



**David Fazekas**

*Master of Vocal Performance  
University of Missouri*

David Fazekas is graduating from the University of Missouri with a master's degree in Vocal Performance. David has faithfully served as one of our scholarship singers in the Traditional Service.



**Pedro Ramiro**

*Master of Violin Performance  
University of Missouri*

Pedro Ramiro is graduating from the University of Missouri with his master's degree in Violin Performance. Pedro has been a frequent soloist in our Traditional Service and will be pursuing his Artist Diploma at the University of Missouri, Kansas City in the fall.



## **Amy Johns called as Director of Music for Traditional Worship**

We are excited to announce that Amy Johns has been selected as our part-time Director of Music for Traditional Worship and look forward to her beginning on August 1. Amy is currently the Coordinator of Music at Columbia College where she teaches a wide range of music classes for music and non-music majors, develops curriculum, assists with show production, and advises students. Her full-time role at Columbia College began in the Fall of 2016. Prior to this she served as an Adjunct Instructor at Columbia College from 2006 until 2016. Amy received a master's degree in Vocal Performance in 2005 and a bachelor's degree in Music in 1996, both from the University of Missouri in Columbia. In

addition to her music education and teaching skills, Amy also has experience in the church. She served as part-time Director of Music at First Christian Church in Centralia, MO from 2005 to 2009 where she directed the Chancel Choir, led congregational singing, provided solo special music, and coordinated two cantatas a year.

Amy's role as Director of Music for the Traditional Worship will average 10 hours per week, reports to the senior pastor, and will include the following responsibilities:

- Coordinating with the pastors to select worship music related to theme and season
- Providing music leadership for Sunday Morning Traditional Worship Service
- Directing the Chancel Choir including leading Wednesday evening Choir rehearsal
- Supervising scholarship singers including recruiting, scheduling, and compensation
- Leading congregational singing during worship
- Leading Psalms Players
- Coordinating with Handbell Choir and First Kids Music leadership
- Coordinating special music including soloist, band, handbells, First Kids Music, etc.
- Assisting with staff on worship arts related to the theme and season
- Assisting with music planning for weddings, funerals and special events as needed
- Working with the pastors on music ministry needs, purchases, and budget oversight
- Cataloging, filing, and managing the extensive music library
- Inventorying and maintaining all instruments and music performance equipment
- Identifying, developing, and utilizing the varied musical skills and abilities within the congregation

After a 3-month search process for the Director of Music, we are thrilled to have hired someone with Johns' education and experience who plans to be in Columbia long-term. The committee included Mary Beth Ming, Rebekah Robertson, Brian Steere, Ross Kasmann, Sherry Wyatt, Charles Hunter, and Carol McEntyre.

We are also excited to announce that Noah Hartsfield will continue to lead the Bell Choir and Julie Walker will continue lead First Kids Music. Noah and Julie had been serving in interim roles while the search for the Director of Music was conducted. They will now assume these duties on permanent basis. We are thankful for the gifts and leadership Noah and Julie bring to these important expressions of our music ministry.

We are also grateful to Marques J. Ruff who has served as our Interim Director of Music for Traditional Worship. Marques is planning to pursue opportunities outside of Columbia and hopes to relocate soon as he continues his education and music career. We deeply appreciate his talent and spirit as he led our choir since and been an integral part of the worship staff since the fall of 2019. We anticipate Marques will serve until the end of July and plan to recognize and celebrate Marques during worship in July.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH PRESENTS

# A VIRTUAL TALENT SHOW

  
First Baptist Church  
fbc-columbia.org



Wednesday, June 3, 2020  
6 pm on Facebook Live and Vimeo

## **(Virtual) Talent Show – June 3**

Do you have a talent to share? Are you needing a good dose of fun and laughter? You're in luck -- On June 3, First Baptist will be hosting its first Virtual Talent (or untalent) Show!

On Wednesday night, June 3, at 6:00pm, we'll be sharing on our Vimeo channel and on Facebook page a video of YOU and your big talents, and inviting all who are interested to make dinner to eat together while you watch! If you would have a talent that you'd like to share -- we want to see it! Maybe you have a song to sing, a poem to read, artwork to show, a monologue to act, balls to juggle, a family singalong, a tapdance, now is your chance to share it with your First Baptist Family! -- **Record a video of it in horizontal landscape, and send it by Friday, May 30** to Pastor Brittany at [bnull@fbc-columbia.org](mailto:bnull@fbc-columbia.org). Note: Some files may be too large to send over email, so Google Drive or Dropbox may work best. If you need assistance with how to share the file, let Brittany know!

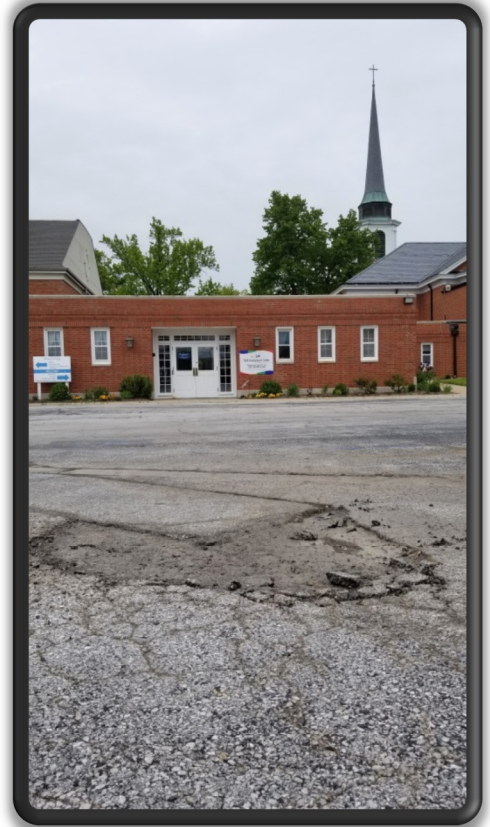
We look forward to seeing your creativity and talents soon!



## Update on Trustee Projects

As we look towards the day we can again gather here at the church, it should be noted that the Trustees are not sitting idly by but are working hard to have our facility ready to welcome everyone back. Taking advantage of the lack of foot traffic in the building, the floors in the Education Building, Welcome Center, office area, Children and Youth area, and all of the elevator lobbies have been freshly waxed. In March, our proposed lighting upgrades (sanctuary and office spaces) were approved for a rebate by the city to cover up to half of the cost of the project. We anticipate the job will be done by June 1. In addition, all of the main work for our sanitary project has been completed and we hope to have the grading and seeding of the areas affected in the front yard done soon. Lastly, we are excited to announce that we are planning to have our parking lot repaired and resurfaced on May 26 and 27 (weather allowing). These improvements will enhance the safety of our lot and better serve our community. To accomplish this needed update, our lot will be closed for all parking on Tuesday, May 26 and Wednesday, May 27. Much is happening and we can't wait to show it off soon.

Blessings,  
*First Baptist Trustees*



Say goodbye to  
the FBC potholes!

HEY, MORNING PEOPLE!  
**VIRTUAL  
COFFEE  
HOUR!**

JOIN PASTOR  
BRITTANY ON  
TUESDAYS  
BETWEEN 8:30 AND  
9:30 AM FOR A  
MORNING CHAT!

## Virtual Coffee Hour – Tuesdays at 8:30 am

On Tuesdays from 8:30-9:30 am, Pastor Brittany McDonald Null will be hosting a Virtual Coffee Hour. These gatherings will have no agenda other than to drop in and say hello! Bring your favorite warm beverage to keep you cozy as we chat awhile. It is come as you are, and leave when you need!

**JOIN OUR  
WEEKLY  
[virtual]  
GROUPS**

**BIBLE STUDY**  
SUNDAYS AT 10:15 AM

**COFFEE HOUR**  
TUESDAYS FROM 8:30-9:30 AM

**ZOOM AT NOON WITH  
PASTOR CAROL**  
WEDNESDAYS AT NOON

## Stay Connected

During this period of physical distancing, we believe it is important to stay connected as a church family. First Baptist is offering several opportunities to connect throughout the week. More information can be found at <http://fbc-columbia.org/get-involved/online-gatherings/> and an email with all of the links will be sent out this week. Below is a list of the online gatherings being offered this week. If you have any questions about any of the gatherings, contact Brittany, Pastor of Families and Spiritual Formation.

- Sunday
  - 10:15 am Sunday Morning Bible Study
  - 10:15 am Connections Small Group
  - 10:15 am Discussions Class
  - 10:15 am Youth Small Group
  - 2:30 pm Awakening Praise Band Gathering
  - 6:00 pm Young Adult Check-in
- Tuesday
  - 8:30 am Coffee Hour with Pastor Brittany
  - 1:00 pm Crafty Critters
  - 4:00 pm First Kids Connect
- Wednesday
  - 12:00 pm Zoom at Noon with Pastor Carol
  - 6:00 pm The Calling Online
  - 6:30 pm Chancel Bells Weekly Gathering
  - 9:00 pm Midweek Check-In for Parents



## Encourager Church

*News From Keith Holmes & Mary VanRheenen*

This is an update from Moldova. Half of what you send us, we send there. I recently spoke with Pastor Petru and Olesea Ciochina. They are all healthy. Moldova is also on lockdown. People who usually go abroad to work are staying home. Some of them thought they would plant big vegetable gardens since they are home to take care of them. However, it is very dry. It hardly snowed this winter, and there have not been enough rains this spring. Even Petru and Olesea are only planting in their greenhouse, where they have set up a drip irrigation system.



Since people are not moving around to work, they are spending more time keeping in contact with each other. They are also spending more time with deeper things. Many have questions about God. For the past two months, they arranged online meetings almost every evening. Petru and Olesea even sometimes invite theology professors from Chisinau to go online with the people to answer their questions.

One group from the village, including Eduard's sister and father, had been working in France. They are still there. They have been in contact with a Pentecostal church of Roma Moldovans there. Many of the Vulcanesti group repented. Those who did decided to be baptized. This is a prayer point from Petru and Olesea. In Olesea's words, "For this to be a sure step for them. Not to take this decision in a hurry."

Petru and Olesea also reported that the government is no longer paying people's pensions. People who are poorer are already having problems. They were grateful for the funds which we recently sent.

To summarize their prayer requests:

\*Health. To be healthy and strong in our faith. All the people that we work with.

\*Rain.

\*New vision for how to minister during and after this lockdown.

\*That the group from Vulcanesti who are in France will be serious about their baptism and develop a deeply-rooted faith.

*Mary VanRheenen & Keith Holmes*



## Prayers & Concerns

--Barry Kausler, who is at home receiving care from his family and Hospice.

--David and Lisa Lang who have moved to Kansas City to be near their children and grandchildren.

--David and Kim Siegenthaler and Beverly Lake who will be moving to the Atlanta area in June. Kim has taken a job as the Associate Provost for Online Strategies at Georgia State University.

--Janet and Nick Kieffer as they move to Little Rock, AK, this month, where Nick has taken a new job with Simmons Bank.

--For all those who have lost jobs due to COVID-19.

--For medical professionals and all front line workers risking their own safety in the service of others.

--For parents who are struggling to take care of children and work from home.

--For all those who are lonely during this time of physical distancing.