

Church Calendar

Feb. 26 – Sunday

4:00 p.m. – Hope 202 Class

Feb. 28 – Tuesday

8:30 a.m. – Prayer Breakfast

Mar. 1 – Wednesday

5:00 p.m. – Fitness Class

6:00 p.m. – Celebration Dinner

6:30 p.m. – Bible Study

Mar. 2 – Thursday

7:00 p.m. – Presbytery Committees

Mar. 4 – Saturday

9:30 a.m. – Elder’s Meeting

Mar. 5 – Sunday

10:00 a.m. – Sunday School

11:00 a.m. – Worship

4:00 p.m. – Hope 202

5:00 p.m. – Youth Group

Mar. 7 – Tuesday

8:30 a.m. – Prayer Breakfast

Mar. 8 – Wednesday

5:00 p.m. – Fitness Class

6:00 p.m. – Celebration Dinner

6:30 p.m. – Bible Study

March Birthdays & Anniversaries

Mar. 13 – Beverly Fitzgerald

Mar. 13 – Suzanne Bruun

Did You Know?

Kailey McMahan’s artwork exhibit at the Spring Hill Library was extended to the end of February! If you haven’t been, you should go check it out!

Weekly Tithes & Offerings

Feb. 5 - \$2,793.00

Feb. 12 - \$3,025.00

Feb. 19 - \$1,265.00

Feb. 26 -

Monthly Tithes & Offerings

November \$ 7,869.00

December \$25,227.00

January \$10,908.00

Great Quote of the Day

“Our vision is so limited we can hardly imagine a love that does not show itself in protection from suffering...The love of God did not protect His own Son...He will not necessarily protect us--not from anything it takes to make us like His Son. A lot of hammering & chiseling & purifying by fire will have to go into the process.”

Elisabeth Elliot – (1926-2015) She was a Christian missionary, author, speaker, & radio host. She was married to Jim Elliot who was 1 of 4 male missionaries that were killed by the Auca Indians in Ecuador in 1956. She spent 2 additional years in Ecuador as a missionary ministering to the tribe that killed her husband. She lived in Massachusetts & worked at Gordon-Conwell University.

The Vine

Columbia First C.P. Church

Feb. 26, 2023

Hope 202 Class

After joining a church, lots of folks find themselves as just “spectators” at church. It’s hard to get to know other people in only one hour of Sunday worship. We believe that God has a special Purpose & Calling for each of us. However, it is up to each of us to put forth the effort to find it. It is important for us to move from being “passive” spectators to “active” participators in our walk with Jesus.

Our Hope 202 Class is designed to help you figure out your Calling, Purpose, God-given Skills, Abilities, Spiritual Gifts, & Personality type. We will meet on Sundays, **Feb. 26 & Mar. 5** from 4:00-5:00 p.m. This class is open to everyone.

The Season of Lent

The 40-Days of Lent began on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 22. Lent goes through Palm Sunday, Apr. 2. This is a remembrance of Jesus’ temptation by Satan in the wilderness for 40 days.

New Kids’ Sunday School

We will offer a new Kids’ Sunday School beginning next Sun., **Mar. 5!** We have ordered our new Bible curriculum from Lifeway called **The Gospel Project: *From Heaven to Earth***. Heaven met Earth when Jesus came to dwell among His people. This is a Christ-centered Bible Study resource that looks at the big picture of God’s story-the story of redemption through Jesus Christ.

Jason & Sandy Bratton have offered to lead this program. The Spring Quarter is March, April, & May. Our Kids, Youth, & Adult Sunday School Classes begin at 10:00 a.m.

Suicide Prevention Hotline

My friend, George Vrailas, is helping spearhead a campaign for Suicide Prevention. **C.O.W.B.O.Y. U.P.** is sponsoring the new Hotline that takes effect on **March 1st**. They have worked with the State of Tennessee to secure “**988**” as a Suicide Prevention Hotline. Another alternative is to text the word “**Talk**” to “**741741**”. Make sure to encourage your friends & family with the words that “hope is on the line.” George Vrailas owns “The Way Realty” and is the chairperson of the **FCA** Board. He attends First Family Church in Columbia.

Prayer Request List

Jodi Ashley's friend, Wayne Bolt – Stage 4 Cancer
Jack Barron – intestinal recovery
Betty Ruth Bates – health issues
Larry & Lois Burke – serious virus
Larry - eye swelling & shots
Lois Burke's brother, Dennis Chandler – passed away on 1/13 in Indiana
Lois' brother, Don Chandler – he had a blood clot in his brain & 2 strokes.
Lois' great-nephew, Kelton Richardson – cancer has returned.
Doug Cummings stepmom, Marsha – Hospital; had endoscopy on 1/20
Abbey Gold – dealing with a virus
Carolyn Good – tail bone; energy levels
Patsy Hedrick – put down her dog
Patsy's aunt, Iris Daniels – health issues
Patsy's cousin, Robin Jack – in hospital
Bobby Johnson – back issues
Sara McMahan's friend, Krista G., Stage 4 cancer
Kailey McMahan – dealing with a virus
Amber Myers – severe headaches
Amber's friend, Carly McGee, aggressive cancer; St. Jude's
Margie Owens' daughter, Shonda – dealing with a virus
Deborah Skillington – bipolar
Heidi Upshaw – dealing with a virus
James Upshaw's friend, Cody Jones – serious car wreck on 2/20
Jimmy Upshaw – Skin cancers

Praises

1)**Ted & Suzanne Bruun** had safe travel home from Europe on 1/19!
2)**John, Abbey, & Bethany Gold** had safe travel home from California 1/22!
3)**Bobby Johnson** got insurance approval for his back surgery. It is scheduled for Mon., Mar. 27.
4)**Mark Lescault** repaired the hole in the wall in the upstairs hallway! He patched the hole, spackled the other nail holes on the wall, & painted the wall. The hold was revealed when the HVAC company installed the new thermostat. Thank you!
5)**Bobby Johnson** & one of his co-workers worked diligently this week to find & repair the water leaks in our sanctuary! They climbed up in our attic & onto our roof. Thank you!
6)**Larry & Lois Burke** are feeling much better after a bout with a virus!
7)**Catherine Upshaw's Culleoka Girls' Basketball Team** finished their season in the Regional Tournament on 1/24! They made a huge improvement this year. Congratulations to Catherine!
8)**Sara McMahan** celebrated her birthday on 2/21 by going to the Predators' Hockey Game at Bridgestone Arena with her family!
9)The final tally on the shooting fundraiser for **Carly McGee** was over \$51,000! She has Stage 4 cancer.

Jokes of the Week

1)Selah brought home her new boyfriend to meet Chris & Jill. They were appalled by his mullet haircut, his face tattoos, his piercings, & his skull covered biker jacket. Later, Jill pulled Selah aside & said “Dear, he doesn't seem to be a very nice boy.” Selah frowned & replied “Mom! If he wasn't a nice boy, would he be doing 500 hours of community service?”
2)Every time a little boy went to a friend's house, he found the friend's grandmother deeply engrossed in reading her Bible. Finally, his curiosity got the better of him. He asked his friend “Why do you suppose your grandmother reads the Bible so much?” His friend thought for a minute & said “I'm not sure. But I think she must be cramming for her final exams.”
3)“Nothing looks good on me anymore.” Wailed a female customer modeling an outfit in front of the large department store mirror. The helpful clerk examined the dress & said “Nonsense, ma'am. That dress says it all.” The female customer looked into the mirror again & replied “That's the problem. I need a dress that will keep its mouth shut!”

FCA Banquet

The Fellowship of Christian Athletes will host its annual Fundraising Banquet on Mon., **Mar. 20**, at First Family Church at 6:30 p.m. Our guest speaker will be former NFL Player & Coach, **Sherman Smith**. He was a 1st Round draft pick of the Seattle Seahawks in 1976. He played 7 seasons in the NFL. In 1998, he coached Running Backs (Eddie George) for the Titans. He was also the Washington Redskins' Offensive Coordinator. The new movie “Show Me The Father” details his life. There will be a Dinner with a Photograph & Autograph session beforehand. There will be testimonials from local high school students. Pastor Chris needs to fill a table of 8 people.

Did You Know?

Pastor Chris & Rev. Ted Bruun were invited to attend a Pastor's Luncheon at **J2J Motorsports** on E. 6th Ave. on Tue., Feb. 21, at Noon. J2J is a ministry to boys without fathers. They strive to mentor these kids through auto repair & woodworking training.

Thank You!

Thank you to **Sandy Bratton** for spending time this week helping design & update our church website! Check it out at www.columbiafirstcp.org.

February/March

Hope 202 Class

Our Hope 202 Class is designed to help you figure out your Calling, Purpose, God-given Skills, Abilities, Spiritual Gifts, & Personality type. We will meet on Sundays, **Feb. 26 & Mar. 5** from 4:00-5:00 p.m. This class is open to everyone.

Prayer Breakfast

Come join us for our weekly Prayer Breakfast this Tue., **Feb. 28**, at 8:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We take time to pray for all the people & situations on our prayer list. Please R.S.V.P. with Pastor Chris.

Wednesday Nights

We will meet this Wed., **Mar. 1**, for our Wednesday evening activities. We will have Fitness Class (5:00 p.m.) in the Gym, Celebration Dinner (6:00 p.m.), & Bible Study (6:30 p.m.) in the Fellowship Hall downstairs.

Columbia Presbytery Committees

Columbia Presbytery will host their Spring Committee Meetings here at Columbia First C.P. Church on Thur., **Mar. 2**, at 6:30 p.m.

March

Elder's Meeting

We will have our regular Monthly Elder's Meeting on Sat., **Mar. 4**, at 9:30 a.m. in the Boardroom.

Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group

Our Youth Group will meet on Sun., **Mar. 5**, at 5:30 p.m. This group is designed for kids who are in the 6th-12th Grade. For the last month, we have been meeting at Culver's in Spring Hill.

Presbytery Executive Council

The Columbia Presbytery **Executive Council** will meet here at Columbia First C.P. Church on Thur., **Mar. 15**, at 6:30 p.m. This committee consists of all the Chairpersons of each of the Presbyterial Committees & the Moderator & Vice Moderator of Columbia Presbytery.

Bethel University Renaissance

The **Bethel Renaissance 80-member Choir** will be performing at our church in our Family Life Center on Sun., **Mar. 19**, at 5:30 p.m.! They are highly trained & outstanding! We will host a Fellowship Dinner with their choir & staff afterwards.

March

Covenant Circle Meeting

We will have our regular monthly meeting on Mon., **Mar. 20**. We meet in the Fellowship Hall downstairs at Noon. Please bring your sandwich & join us for the lunch. All the women in our church are invited to attend. This is part of the CPWM (Cumberland Presbyterian Women's Ministry).

FCA Banquet

The Fellowship of Christian Athletes will host its annual Fundraising Banquet on Mon., **Mar. 20**, at First Family Church at 6:30 p.m. Our guest speaker will be former NFL player, **Sherman Williams**.

Red Cross Blood Drive

We will host our monthly Red Cross blood drive here in the Fellowship Hall on Thur., **Mar. 23**, from 11:30-5:30 p.m.

Columbia Presbytery Called Mtg

We will host a Called Meeting of Columbia Presbytery on Sun., **Mar. 26**, at 3:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. The meeting is to vote to ordain one of our candidates for the ministry, **Emrie Smith Rogers**. She has been hired by the Tusculum CP Church in Nashville.

Ongoing Large Church Projects

- 1)Handicap Ramp at Front Door
- 2)Wi-Fi in the Gym
- 3)Re-Keying the Buildings
- 4)Gym Lights converted to LED
- 5)Steeple Roof Leaks & Ceiling Tiles
- 6)Fellowship Hall lights to LED

Ongoing Small Church Projects

- 1)Kitchen Plumbing downstairs
- 2)Install Faucet in Ladies' Restroom
- 3)Repair hole in hallway wall – Done!
- 4)Install heat detectors in Kitchens
- 5)Repair Urinal in Men's Restroom
- 6)Repair large Ice Maker in Gym
- 7)Clean out Rec Closet in Gym
- 8)Remove unusable Grills
- 9)Remove items to Dump
- 10)Clean Gym Kitchen

Top 10 "To-Do List" Ministries

These are the priorities that we are praying for & working toward daily:

- 1)New Church Treasurer
- 2)New Nursery Worker
- 3)3rd Adult Sunday School Class
- 4)Youth Sunday School Class
- 5)Easter Egg Hunt
- 6)Youth Mission Trip – Summer
- 7)Vacation Bible School
- 8)Hope 202: Gift & Skills Assessment
- 9)Elder Apprentice Program
- 10)Social Media Presence

April

Spring Break Dates

Williamson County – Mar. 11-19

Maury County – April 1-9

Easter Schedule

Palm Sunday – Apr. 2

Holy Week Services – Apr. 2-5

Maundy Thursday – Apr. 6

Good Friday – Apr. 7

Easter Egg Hunt – Apr. 8

Easter Sunday – Apr. 9

Holy Week Services Schedule

Sun., Apr. 2 – Faith Fellowship CP

Pastor Steve Rogers @ 6:00 p.m.

Mon., Apr. 3 – Mt. Pleasant CP Church

Pastor Chris Caldwell @ 6:30 p.m.

Tue., Apr. 4 – McCain's CP Church

Pastor Steve Schauf @ 6:30 p.m.

Wed., Apr. 5 – Columbia 1st CP Church

Pastor Jimmy Peyton @ 6:30 p.m.

Columbia Presbytery will be offering Easter Week Services at four (4) of our C.P. churches. Each night we will celebrate Jesus in worship. Then, we will enjoy a fabulous fellowship meal. Our church will provide the meal on Wed., **Apr. 5**. Our church will provide the meat & bread. We're asking you to bring a vegetable & a dessert to share.

April

Easter Egg Hunt

We will be hosting our annual Easter Egg Hunt on Sat., **Apr. 8**, at 10:00 a.m. in our Gym. We will play fun Games, enjoy making Crafts, get our picture with the Easter Bunny, hear Jill Caldwell tell the Jesus' Resurrection story, search jubilantly for Candy-filled Eggs, & have a wonderful Lunch together. For the Easter Egg Hunt, we will separate the kids into age groups to ensure that everyone gets plenty of eggs. Invite your friends & pray for awesome weather!

We will need Volunteers to serve in all the different areas: Decorating, Games, Crafts, Cooking, Clean-Up. Please see Pastor Chris to volunteer.

Easter Sunday Activities

On Easter Sunday, **Apr. 9**, we will offer the following amazing options:

7:00 a.m. – Sunrise Worship Service

8:00 a.m. – Breakfast

10:00 a.m. – Sunday School

11:00 a.m. – Easter Worship

We will set up chairs outside for our sunrise service. Sam Kislow will lead the singing & we will also have Special Music. You are welcome to bring a blanket or portable heater!

April

Columbia Presbytery Spring Mtg

Columbia Presbytery will host their Spring Meeting on Sun., **Apr. 23**, at West Point C.P. Church at 3:00 p.m. Rev. Terry Peery is their Pastor. We will need an Elder representative to attend with Pastor Chris, who is the current Moderator of Presbytery.

Expression City's "Grease"

Selah Caldwell will be playing "Sandy" in Expression City's production of the musical "Grease" in Franklin.

The show schedule is as follows:

Thur., **Apr. 27**, at 7:00 p.m.

Fri., **Apr. 28**, at 7:00 p.m.

Sun., **Apr. 30**, at 2:00 p.m.

Tickets will go on sale online at the end of March.

QR Code

This QR Code will direct you to our PayPal "Donate" button on our website.



Extreme Tour Event

Reach Alliance will be hosting their first ever U.S. Tour Event in Columbia, TN on Mon.-Wed., **June 5-7**. This concert event will be held in a local park (such as Riverside Park). Their 20-30 member tour team will sleep & eat their meals here at our church.

Vacation Bible School 2023

Our dates for this year's Vacation Bible School (VBS) are Sunday-Wednesday, **June 25-28**. We have not purchased our materials yet, so our theme at this time is TBD. Our VBS program consists of the following amazing elements: Dinner, Music, Singing, Bible Study, Crafts, & Games.

Children's Church Schedule

If you would be willing to teach Children's Church in March or April, please place your name on the sign-up sheet in the Narthex. If you would like additional info or you have questions, please see Jill Caldwell.

"Stupendous Bowl" Party

Our Youth Group met at the home of the Caldwell's to watch the big game on Sun., **Feb. 12**. We cooked all kinds of Buffalo Wings & home-made Pizza. Thank you to the McMahan's & Myers' for bringing tasty home-made food too!

Opportunities to Serve

Here are several specific areas where you can volunteer to serve at Columbia First CP Church:

Worship

- 1) Helping print & fold the Newsletter
- 2) Helping print & fold the Bulletin
- 3) Serving as Greeters at Front Door
- 4) Creating slides for the songs that are not in the Hymnal each week.
- 5) Performing special music – singing, playing an instrument
- 6) Volunteering to lead a Prayer or Scripture reading
- 7) Learning to run the Sound System & being available on Sundays to run it.
- 8) Recruiting & setting up for our quarterly Communion service.

Leadership - Kids

- 1) Kid' Sunday School Program
- 2) Kids' Wednesday Evening or Sunday Afternoon Program
- 3) Children's Church Director
- 4) Vacation Bible School Director
- 5) Kids' Christmas Musical Director

Leadership - Youth

- 1) We need additional Adult Teachers for our Youth Group on Sundays at 5:30 p.m.
- 2) We need a Sr. High Sunday School Teacher on Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

Leadership – Adults

- 1) We need another Adult Sunday School Teacher for a 3rd Class.
- 2) We need a person to plan Quarterly Service Projects for our people to volunteer to serve in the Maury Co. community.
- 3) We need a person to plan Quarterly Fellowship Events for our people to get to know one another.

Service

- 1) Change the church sign each week.
- 2) Make sure there is Toilet Tissue & Paper Towels in all the restrooms in the church & gym each week.
- 3) Spray the weeds in our parking lot with weed killer.
- 4) Setting up & coordinating the Red Cross Blood Drives at Church
- 5) Planning & Coordinating Church Work Days.

Prayer

- 1) Organizing Prayer Meetings
- 2) Collecting Prayer Requests & communicating with Pastor
- 3) Recording answered Prayers

Evangelism

- 1) Planning apologetics training classes.
- 2) Planning 4x4 Fellowship events
- 3) Planning Visitation days

Ministries

- Inmates – Jail, Prison
- Families of Prisoners; Kids
- Victims of Crime
- Battered Women
- Divorced Folks – Singles
- Single Moms
- Special Needs
- Down's Syndrome, Blind, Deaf, Wheelchair,
- The Poor
- Homeless
- Jobless – Untrained, Criminal Record
- Mentally ill
- Fixed Income
- Disabled
- Addicts
- Kids who struggle in school - Tutor
- Orphans
- Foster Care
- Emergency Care
- Elderly
- Widows/Widowers
- Shut-ins
- Assisted Living
- Veterans – James Patterson Foundation
- Families of Veterans; Kids
- Disaster Victims
- Tornado, Fire, Flood, Hurricane
- Tsunami, Earthquake,
- Terminally ill
- Sickness, Disease
- Foreigners - Refugees