

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Free B'Jazz Concert To Highlight Gary Greenfelder & His Orchestra

The Gary Greenfelder Orchestra will be performing the music of Count Bassie and Duke Ellington at First Baptist Church of Birmingham on Sunday evening, October 21 from 6-8 pm.

The concert is part of First Baptist's B'Jazz Vespers concert series started nearly 25 years ago bringing to downtown Birmingham some of the hottest jazz talent from the Metro-Detroit area. The B'Jazz Concert Series is free to the public and includes a free-will offering during intermission to support the artists.



Gary Greenfelder on trumpet with the Gary Greenfelder Orchestra at B'Jazz Vespers at First Baptist Church of Birmingham in 2015.

Greenfelder and his players have performed for the B'Jazz Series about a dozen times and is looking forward to another great performance. "The audience can make or break a gig," he said, "and the audience at First Baptist has always been energetic."

Greenfelder leads three different bands. The one he is bringing to Birmingham on the 21st is his 19-piece powerhouse Orchestra that plays a wide range of music from the 1920s to the current day. He joined this orchestra in 1991 to help with leadership and around 2002 moved up front to lead the band under his name.

The trumpet has been Greenfelder's instrument of choice beginning in the 4th grade. He started music performance at Wayne State University. After two years he had the opportunity to go "on the road" with a show group. After a year or so he decided to move to Los Angeles and give the studio scene a shot. He found this lifestyle was not for him, so he moved back to Michigan. Greenfelder continued to play through the years along with his full-time work as a CPA.

About four years ago, Greenfelder retired from CPA work to dedicate his time to the music he loves. His philosophy of music (which is also true about the rest of his life) is to always have fun, and to continue to improve.

The next B'Jazz Vespers concert will be a fan favorite, a jazzy Christmas program with The Paul Keller Orchestra on Sunday, December 16, from 6-8 pm.

First Baptist Church of Birmingham is a congregation committed to being good neighbors to all they encounter. They recognize that all people have wounds to be healed, gifts to offer, questions to ask, and stories to share. It is a community of people who have chosen love over judgement and hostility. They are committed to listen, care, welcome, and challenge. The church building is located on the north edge of downtown Birmingham at 300 Willits St. @ Bates St. Worship is open to all and held Sunday mornings at 10:30 am.

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