

WORSHIP

**Sunday,
September 3, 2017**

10:30am in the Sanctuary

Proclaimer: Jim Dant

Scripture: Genesis 2:4b-15

Sermon: God's First Job

Anthem: "Look at the World"
— RUTTER

Service Choir: Sanctuary Choir

Soloist: Bergsvein Toverud, Tenor

Hearing aid receivers and magnifying glasses available for all worship services.

Sanctuary Flowers

No flowers are yet scheduled for Sunday, September 3. If you would like to donate flowers to adorn our Sanctuary for worship this Sunday or any other, please contact Kimberly Coates at 233-2527 ext. 128 or kimberly.coates@firstbaptistgreenville.com.

Extended Session

Directors: Chris and Kendra Plating

Twos/Threes: Buck and Janna Pennington

Fours: Chris and Heath Beard

Fives: Dustin and Hope Green

Pianist: Melanie Ruhlman

Worship Leader: Helen Lee Turner



Rustlings

BY JIM DANT

It was part of my first venture in New York City. It made the next five or six trips much easier. I purchased a ticket for one of those 'Hop on Hop off Tour Buses.' We cruised through Harlem, Central Park, Midtown, Greenwich Village, Soho, Tribeca, Chinatown and Wall Street. I hopped off anytime I wanted (missing a few districts) and hopped on anytime I wanted (to catch the next informative bit of guided info).

It was part of my first venture in San Francisco. Rather than a tour bus, a friend gave me a private tour through the colorful neighborhoods of the city: Fisherman's Wharf, Chinatown, the Mission, Tenderloin, Castro, Height-Ashbury, the Richmond, the Sunset and Twin Peaks. Today, it's easier for me to navigate the terrain on my own.

On Tuesday, September 5, I will begin teaching a weekday, luncheon Bible study titled: Hop on Hop off Tour of the Bible. We will meet each Tuesday through

November 7 for a 'bring your own lunch' hour of learning. We will begin the study a little after 12:00noon and conclude by 12:45ish so that persons may attend on their lunch hour. Like the 'hop on hop off tours' of major cities, our goal will be to familiarize you with the overall scope and content of the Bible. You will be able to 'find your way around' and 'understand the terrain and context' like never before. If you've ever wondered how all these books fit together – historically, theologically, etc. – this is the study for you. If you find yourself wishing you knew more about the content of each book (Where is 'that' in the Bible?), this is the study for you. If you just want to take a fun ride with some old friends, new friends and strangers, this is the study for you. Bring a friend from the office and enjoy a 'learning lunch' together. (Remember, BYOL – bring your own lunch.) And yes, this is 'hop on and hop off.' If you have to miss a week, that's fine. We begin the tour next Tuesday, September 5, in the Fellowship Hall. I'll see you then and there. Hop on!

— Jim

Reminders

Wednesday, September 6
Wednesdays at First
Activities Resume

Sunday, September 10
Stewardship Breakfast/
Sunday Activities for Youth
Resume

Friday, October 13
San Francisco's Gay Men's
Chorus and Oakland Interfaith
Gospel Choir

Freedom From, Freedom For

Just months before his death this spring, our friend Pepper Martin celebrated his 75th wedding anniversary with his lifelong sweetheart, Nina. They married around the time our country entered World War II. Isn't that amazing? Did you know that our church will turn 186 this year? Yep. We were constituted when Andrew Jackson was President, halfway between the American Revolution and the Civil War.

Anniversaries help put the long train of history in perspective. Consider one more: On October 31st the world will observe the 500th anniversary of the religious protest that started the Protestant Reformation: Martin Luther's nailing of his 95 theses to the Wittenberg door. I say "the world" because it affected change far beyond Christendom and into every area of life. Not all of it was good. Terrible decades of war resulted, for one thing, but it produced a fresh way of being Christian through a flurry of new free-thinking denominations like us Baptists.

These days, the theological arguments that brought us into conflict are far less heated. Both Catholicism and Protestantism have reformed themselves many times over in the intervening years and now seek common ground wherever possible. Pope Francis has even attended a Protestant observance of the Reformation as a sign of goodwill. We have member families and a senior pastor who manage to hold aspects of both traditions close to their hearts.



Like the pretty girl at the dance, it is important for us to remember "who brung us," and this historic anniversary is a not-to-be-missed opportunity to shake off the dust of those ideals that have shaped and served us so well these 500 years. Because of this, our MidWeek Fellowship series this September will be about five ideals without which we wouldn't be who we are, and it will culminate in a big celebration on Sunday, October 29, with renowned historian Bill Leonard as our guest proclaimer.

To kick it off, John Tirro will be our special musical guest on Wednesday, September 6: the composer of the lovely "To You All Hearts are Open" hymn we've been singing and many, many more. Besides being a great songwriter, John is, appropriately enough, a Lutheran pastor! Come, bring a friend, and let's spend time singing, praying and celebrating our freedom in Christ together!

— Kyle

SEE: Living Your Faith 24/7

On Saturday morning, September 24, we will gather for a retreat on living your faith 24/7. We will examine this spiritual discipline from two perspectives: the business leader and the church leader. Two long-time friends and ministry partners will revisit their stories of Christian leadership in the church and in the boardroom and pass along to us the spiritual wisdom they have learned along the way.

Jim Morgan is a Greenville native and former member of First Baptist and retired from his role as CEO of Krispy Kreme.

Al Cadenhead is VP of Development at Gardner-Webb University and former senior pastor of Providence Baptist Church in Charlotte, NC.

Join us that morning at 9:30 in our church Parlor for a dose of Donuts and Dogma!

The cost is \$20 per person which includes coffee and lunch. Visit <https://firstbaptistgreenville.com/livingyourfaith/> to make your reservation today!

— Matt



SEE: LIVING YOUR FAITH 24/7

Saturday, September 24

10:00am-12:30pm

Parlor

\$20 includes coffee and lunch

Check-in with Coffee: 9:30-10:00am

Path to a More Sustainable and Equitable Future



Michael Malcom



Katie Michalovic

I'm pleased to share the exciting accomplishments your support has helped achieve. Our programs continue to flourish, and with the assumption of South Carolina Interfaith Power and Light (SCIPL), Sustaining Way can advance our state further toward a more sustainable and equitable future. Linda Ott was hired in June to serve as SCIPL Director and will develop programs and resources for action, advocacy, energy conservation, education, networking and worship. Linda holds a ThM in Creation Care, an MDiv, a JD and an MBA. She has been a social worker and a US Naval Officer, and after retiring from a 20-year career as an attorney with Hewlett-Packard, she is seeking ordination in the Presbyterian Church (USA). Linda and Jim Dant's paths crossed several years ago at Columbia Theological Seminary. Jim mentored Linda's practicum on prayer practices and led her pilgrimage group to the Holy Land.


While Linda builds SCIPL, our coordinators run our programs in Nicholtown. Coordinators are the pinnacle of our workforce development program and are rotating positions of 2-3 years. Outgoing Community Coordinator Kristan Pitts reflects on her experience: "Serving with Sustaining Way has provided me with the space to identify my values, beliefs and passions and will forever positively guide my personal and professional life. As a result, I aspire to be a local servant leader, making progress as a non-profit or business professional and to one day serve as an elected official."

Taking Kristan's place is Michael Malcom, joining us from Atlanta with a wealth of business, management, ministerial and community development experience. He holds both MDiv and MBA degrees and is excited to serve Nicholtown while further developing his skills.

Also joining our team is Katie Michalovic as Executive Coordinator. This newly created position will support and learn the Executive Director role under me. Katie holds dual master's degrees in Community Development and Education and most recently served as Program Coordinator at Greer Relief.

We are excited about the talent our new team members bring to empower communities to achieve a sustainable and equitable future. To stay updated, please see the links below.

— Rick Joye

	<p>Newsletter http://eepurl.com/5i_2v</p>	<p>Facebook sustainingway</p>	<p>Website www.sustainingway.org</p>
	<p>Newsletter http://eepurl.com/gDS2j</p>	<p>Facebook SouthCarolinalPL</p>	<p>Website www.scipl.org</p>

Women on Missions Circles

Are you a woman who wants to connect with other women in our church? Are you yearning for ways to deepen your faith through group prayer, study, mission involvement and discussion? Do you need some laughs and shared tears? If you haven't considered a women's circle before, maybe this is the year!



First Baptist Greenville is home to four Women on Mission circles which are open to women of all ages. Groups gather once or twice a month from September-May for Bible study, book study, guest speakers and prayer. Groups support various mission partners through giving and hands-on support. Visit <http://firstbaptistgreenville.com/circles/> to learn more about each group, and contact the group leader if you're interested in visiting one or more groups.

The image of a circle can be daunting from the outside, since it's hard to know where to enter and how to get "in" the circle. On the other hand, once you enter the circle, you feel the strong energy created by those moving together toward closer relationship to God and each other. These are the women who will support you when you experience life's ups and downs and the ones who will allow you to extend friendship to them when they need it. Take a risk and visit a circle—and trust that you will be welcomed with open arms!

— Laura

For Your Calendar!

- 8/31-9/4 AYMC Closed
9/2-4 Youth Family Fall Retreat
(Rockmont)
9/3 10:30am Jim Dant, Proclaimer
9/4 Church Offices Closed—
Labor Day
9/6 *Wednesdays at First* Activities
9/8 6:00pm Senior Adult Banquet
(Fellowship Hall)
9/10 8:30-9:15am Stewardship
Breakfast
9:30am Protecting Our Children
(E-317)
10:30am Service of Communion
Senior Adult Sunday
Jim Dant, Proclaimer
11:30am-1:30pm Acolyte
Training
4:00pm *Vocare* (Choir Room)
5:00-7:00pm Sunday Night Live
for Youth
9/13 *Wednesdays at First* Activities
9/15 6:00-8:00pm Children's
Ministries Event: Movie and
Pizza Night

LIVING GENEROUSLY

Financial Needs as of 8/26
\$1,634,618
Receipts of 8/22
\$1,450,864

Pastoral Care

On Call Nights and Weekends

August 28-September 3

Jim Dant
478-737-7298 (m)
370-2522 ext. 199

September 4-10
Frank Smith
268-3890 (h)
370-2522 ext. 199

If you are unable to reach this minister immediately, please call the Church Office, 233-2527, and leave a message by pressing the number "3" for "Pastoral Care Emergencies."

Wednesday Supper

Wednesdays at First with Wednesday Night Supper will resume September 6. Reservations are required and must be made by noon on Monday prior to the meal. Serving lines are open 4:45-6:00pm.

Menu

September 6

Adults: Pasta Bar, Salad, Italian Green Beans, French Bread
Kids: Mini Pizza, Buttered Noodles, Fruit, Cookies

Church Conference and Youth Fundraiser

Baked Potato Bar
September 17, 11:30am
Fellowship Hall

Care List as of 8/28/17

Hospitals

As of 8/28, we are unaware of any members who are hospitalized.

Returned Home: Freddie Foster, Bruce Brown, Tom Maddox, Cathy Ballard

Sympathy to...

...Jessica Greer and family in the death of father.

...Susan Dodson and family in the death of her brother.

...Kathy Atkinson and family in the death of her mother.

...Kay DeVenny and family in the death of her sister.

Need a Ride?

The Transportation Committee is available to take senior adults to and from medical appointments. Five to seven days of notice is appreciated. For more information, or to request transportation, call Mary Bolt at 864-640-9644.



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Friday Morning Bible Study Resumes

The Friday Morning Bible Study will resume meeting on September 22. Michelle McClendon will be leading this study that will focus on the books of the Corinthians this year. This group meets 10:00-11:30am on the Terrace Level of the AYMC. The cost of this study is \$50 per semester. To register or receive additional information contact Becky Bouton at beckybouton@gmail.com.

Men's Wednesday Morning Bible Study Resumes

The Men's Wednesday Morning Bible Study will resume its gatherings at 6:30am on September 13. This group meets weekly on the Terrace Level of the AYMC September 13-December 13 and January 10-May 23.