



Mission Statement

We are a community of believers in God as revealed in Jesus Christ as Lord. We believe in the authority of the Bible, the equality of all members, unity in diversity, and the priesthood of all believers. In communion with and through the power of the Holy Spirit, we follow the Way of Jesus the Christ and share the Good News through worship, education, ministries, and missions. As an autonomous Baptist Church, we value our heritage and the freedom it allows us to minister alongside other groups, both Christian and non-Christian. We express our love for all in gratitude for the love God has shown to us.

News

December 1, 2014

First Baptist – Greenville

847 CLEVELAND STREET, GREENVILLE, SC 29601 864-233-2527



Rustlings...

George MacLeod died in 1991. He was founder of the Iona Community,

reputably unconventional, and considered by many to be one of the most influential clergymen of the 20th Century. I never heard him speak. One small piece of his writings, however, has lingered in my heart for almost three decades. It is a short poem titled, "Return the Cross to Golgotha."

*I simply argue that the cross
be raised again
at the center of the marketplace
as well as on the steeple of the
church.*

*I am recovering the claim that
Jesus was not crucified in
a cathedral between two
candles;*

*But on a cross between two
thieves: on a town garbage
heap;*

*at a crossroad of politics so
cosmopolitan that they had
to write*

*His title in Hebrew and in Latin
and in Greek.*

*And at the kind of place where
cynics talk smut, and
thieves curse and soldiers
gamble.*

Sharing and Caring

Between now and Christmas, \$5 of every \$15 purchase of Kyle's newest release *Be Here Now* will go toward our Local Relief Fund, an especially vital ministry during the winter months. Copies are available at the Reception Desk until offices close on December 23. Help us help others and share the music!

*Because that is where He died,
and that is what He died
about.*

*And that is where Christ's men
ought to be,
and what church people ought
to be about.*

On Wednesday evening, December 17, First Baptist Church Greenville is taking – not the cross – but the manger to Main Street. Rather than enjoying *MidWeek Fellowship* within the walls of our building, we have reserved NOMA Square (the outdoor stage and patio area at the Hyatt Regency on the corner of Beattie and Main Streets) as the site of our gathering. We are encouraging church members to shop at Ten Thousand Villages that evening

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December 1-28

MinisTREE for Mission Backpack and Just Clothes And Love in the Reception area

December 4, 7:30 p.m.

South Carolina Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities Orchestra, Wind Ensemble and Cantus Chamber Choir Concert (Sanctuary)

December 5, 10:30 a.m.

First Friday Lunch and More (Fellowship Hall)

December 7, 10:30 a.m.

The Second Sunday of Advent Jim Dant, proclaimer

December 7, 11:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Children's Ministries Lunch and Christmas Caroling

December 7, 4:00 p.m.

Preschool Gingerbread House Decorating (Children in 2- through 5-year-old Sunday School Classes)

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Thought from the Spiritual Formation Committee

"Prayer is the key of the morning and the bolt of the evening."
– Mahatma Gandhi, 20th century

Sunday, December 7, 2014
The Second Sunday of Advent
10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Proclaimer: Jim Dant
Scripture: Mark 1:1-8
Sermon: **A Strange Peace**

The service choir for this Sunday is the Youth Choir.

The 10:30 a.m. worship will be simulcast live on WLFJ 660 AM
and 92.9 FM from 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Sanctuary Flowers

The wreaths on the gates of the Remembrance Garden are given in loving memory of Dr. William Mitchell by Patsy Mitchell.

The garlands are given in loving memory of Edna and Tom Hartness by Becky and Bobby Hartness.

The Nativity set in the Narthex is given by Janice and John Johnson in honor of the First Baptist staff and members.



A Green Tip from SAVER

According to the U.S. Dept. of Energy, if everyone replaced their conventional holiday light strings with LEDs, the electricity savings per month would be at least two billion kilowatt-hours – enough to power 200,000 homes for a year, according to Colorado-based Holiday Creations, (a manufacturer of LED lights).



Youth Ministry Needs

Youth will pack care packages for college students Sunday evening. Please bring any baked goods to AYMC Terrace Level.



Giving as of 12/1/2014
\$79,968

Remember that gifts to the Lula Whilden World Missions Offering in honor of someone make wonderful Christmas presents. The goal of \$100,000 is in reach. The children will return their banks during worship on December 14. The offering at the Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols on December 21, at 6:30 p.m., will also benefit Lula Whilden. Don't let this opportunity to participate pass you by!

December Menus

Remember to make reservations prior to noon on Mondays. Serving lines are open 4:45-6:15 p.m.

December 3

Adults: Margerita Stew, Yellow Rice, Mexican Salad, Cornbread, Dessert
Children: Meatballs, Tater Tots, Fruit, Dessert

December 10

Adults: Roast Beef in Mushroom Onion Sauce, Buttery Garlic Mashed Potatoes, Seasoned Green Beans, Green Salad, Rolls, Dessert
Children: Pigs-in-a-blanket, Corn, Fruit Cookies



All God's Children
Living and Growing

2014 Budget Goal
\$2,300,406

Giving as of 12/1/2014
\$1,827,961

Year-end Giving

If you are planning to donate stock to First Baptist Church in 2014, please



be sure that there is adequate time for it to be deposited into an FBC broker account on or before December 31, 2014. If possible, please donate early in December so that the gift can be processed, and the check received by the end of the year.

If you are 70½ years old or older and have IRA Required Minimum Distributions (RMD), please continue to check with your financial advisor and/or tax preparer regarding the status of legislation in process that may make the Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) tax break permanent. If this legislation passes, these donations can be used to satisfy required minimum distributions from an IRA without having the distribution included in your taxable income in 2014. Checks must be paid directly from the IRA and be payable to First Baptist Church. If you wish to donate from your IRA, and the legislation does not pass, it would be a charitable contribution to FBC and a deduction if you itemize, and would be considered taxable income to you.

Please contact Gail House if you plan to donate using either of these options.

First Friday Lunch and More

December 5

10:30 a.m.

Bingo

Rummikub

Janet Huskey offers a book review of *Souls in Full Sail: A Christian Spirituality for the Later Years* by Emilie Griffin



11:15 a.m.

Christmas Carols by singers from Enoree Baptist Church

Cost for Lunch – \$5

Please contact Sylvia Clyborne at 370-2522 ext. 137 by 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 2, to make lunch reservations.

Rollin' with the Holy Rollers

DECEMBER 9



Madison, Georgia
Tour of Homes

Lunch at Cracker Barrel
(pay your own)

Depart FBC – 9:00 a.m.
Tour of Homes – 11:30 a.m.
Return to FBC – 4:30 p.m.

Please contact Sylvia Clyborne at 370-2522 ext. 137 by December 2 to make reservations.

On the Road with The Roadrunners



December 18

Christmas at Ashtabula Plantation in Pendleton, SC

Lunch at 1826 on the Green
(pay your own)

10:30 a.m. – Depart FBC
4:00 p.m. – Return to FBC

Cost – \$15
(includes bus and tour)

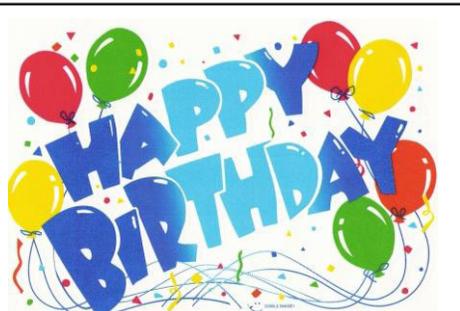
Please contact Sylvia Clyborne at 370-2522 ext. 137 by December 11 to make reservations.

Bare *MinisTREE* Revealed



FBCG *MinisTREE*

Help decorate the *MinisTREE* in the Reception Area by hanging ornaments when you bring gifts for two of our mission programs, *Just Clothes And Love* and *Mission Backpack*. Volunteers will be available near the tree each Sunday morning in December to explain the process. Stop by the *MinisTREE* table, and they will help you choose items from the wish lists. When you return with your gifts, place them under the tree and hang an ornament which is prepared for you. You are encouraged to personalize your ornament by adding your family's name and decorating it if you wish. We hope your families will enjoy sharing this giving opportunity to two of our very own programs. Please contact Stephanie Wright at 363-8957 or stephaniewright1023@gmail.com with any questions.



Remember those in our congregation who are not always able to be with us in worship:

December 4

Ann Jones

The Cascades

2 Fountainview Terrace, Room 103
Greenville, SC 29607

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(just across the street), enjoy food and fellowship at one of the downtown local restaurants of your choice, and be at the NOMA stage at 6:30. You'll hear some great Christmas music presented by the members of FBCG. We're calling it *First on Main*. It's our gift to the downtown community. It's one small way to share our joy and faith with God's world. I'll see you downtown...as we return the manger to the crowded marketplace... – Jim

First
ON MAIN
www.firstbaptistgreenville.com



CALENDAR continued from page 1

December 7, 6:30 p.m.
Youth Pack College Care Packages (AYMC Terrace Level)

December 9, 9:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Holy Rollers to Madison, Georgia, Tour of Homes

December 14, 10:30 a.m.
The Second Sunday of Advent Sanctuary Choir and Chamber Orchestra present Handel's *Messiah*

December 14, 5:30 p.m.
Children's Choir Christmas Program (Sanctuary)

December 14, 6:30 p.m.
Youth White Elephant Gift Exchange

December 15, 5:00-6:30 p.m. – College Drop-in at Kendra Plating's Home (240 Pimlico)

December 17, 4:00-7:30 p.m. – *First on Main*
Shop at Ten Thousand Villages
Music at 6:30 p.m.
(NOMA Square)

December 18, 10:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
Roadrunners to Pendleton, SC, for Christmas at Ashtabula Plantation

Christmas Poinsettias

During Advent, the Flower Guild will place poinsettias in the Sanctuary. Church members may purchase these plants at \$15.00 each. The poinsettias may be given in memory of a loved one or in honor of a living person. A list of all memorials and honor gifts will be published in the News as these donations are received and in the Candlelight Service order. If you are interested in providing a poinsettia, mail the form below to Kimberly Coates, c/o First Baptist Church, 847 Cleveland Street, Greenville, SC, 29601. All orders and checks (payable to First Baptist Church) must be received this week!

I WILL PROVIDE A CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA

Name _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

I will give _____ poinsettia(s) at \$15 each.

In honor of _____

In memory of _____

I will pick up my poinsettia immediately following the worship service on Christmas Eve, December 24. _____ yes _____ no



Care List as of 12/1/2014

In the Hospital:

Patewood Memorial:

Joseph Fuson

Returned Home:

Jimmy Paul

Oscar Funderburk

Sympathy to:

...Louise Shipman in the death of her brother-in-law.

...Furman Hewitt in the death of his mother.

...Cheyenne and John Michael Dunn in the death of their grandmother.

...Sandra Funderburk in the death of her aunt.

Poinsettia Gifts

Becky and Bobby Hartness place two poinsettias in memory of Edna and Tom Hartness.

Linda Alpert donates two poinsettias in memory of James William Sparks and F.M. Rogers.

Richard Stewart Hardaway places a poinsettia in memory of Susan Jane Collins Hardaway.

Richard Stewart Hardaway gives a poinsettia in memory of Paxson Collins MacDonald.

Karen and Randy Childers place two poinsettias in honor of Catherine Sumerel and in memory of Doris Wilson.

Jim and Peggy Morgan donate four poinsettias in memory of Nancy and Heyward Morgan and Vee and Sleepy Oxford.

Ralph and Becky Bouton give two poinsettias in honor of Bill and Anne Carpenter and in memory of Blanche O. Carpenter.

Neil and Susan Rabon and sons place two poinsettias in honor of

Paul and Nancy Goldsmith and Roland Rabon and in memory of Gena Rabon.



Extended Session: December 7

- Elizabeth and Sean Union (Directors)
Liz and Shane Whatley (Twos)
Justin and Whitney Blum (Threes)
Jason and Ryan Dennis (Fours)
Camp and Leah Wynn (Fives)
Helen Lee Turner (Worship)
Melanie Ruhlman (Pianist)

PASTORAL CARE EMERGENCIES

Nights and Weekends

December 1-7
Kyle Matthews 236-8587 (h)
370-2522 ext. 199

December 8-14
Kendra Plating 828-208-1313 (m)
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."