



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

May 5, 2015

First Baptist Greenville

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

Report from the LGBT Discernment Team

In February of 2014, the Diaconate issued a charge to the LGBT Discernment Team to organize and provide opportunities for our congregation to prayerfully and intentionally consider our church's relationship with members of the LGBT community. The Team was further charged to report to the Diaconate its sense of the church's consensus as it relates to this topic.

On Monday, May 4, 2015, our Team presented such a report to the Diaconate. The Diaconate discussed the report and by an overwhelming majority accepted the report and joined our team in affirming the report's description of the consensus of the congregation.

The full report of the LGBT Discernment Team is as follows:

After observing and participating in the church's process of intentional spiritual discernment, the members of the Discernment Team recognize that:

- First Baptist Greenville is a diverse congregation, unified by our shared identity as a people of faith and by our mutual commitment to be the people God is calling us to be.
- We are a covenant people, bound together, not by agreement on all issues, but by our desire to worship and serve together, and by our commitment to embody and embrace the spirit of Christ. We welcome, honor, and respect the views of all members.
- Being open and welcoming to all people is part of the essential nature of our community of faith.
- Our current Mission Statement¹ is a clear expression of the will of our congregation.

Therefore, the Discernment Team unanimously affirms the following:

"In all facets of the life and ministry of our church, including but not limited to membership, baptism, ordination, marriage, teaching and committee/organizational leadership, First Baptist Greenville will not discriminate based on sexual orientation or gender identity."

– John Harris and Laurin McDonald, co-chairs
Catherine Crowe, Ryan Dennis, Rob Hanley, Tom Kirby,
Jason Richards, Matt Rollins, Jane Watkins, Jonathan Wright, Baxter Wynn

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Sunday, May 10, 2015
The Sixth Sunday of Easter
Family Dedication: Doug and Laura Stout with Shelley
Communion
10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary
Proclaimer: Jim Dant
Scripture: Exodus 32:1-14; Luke 13:6-8
Sermon: How to Disobey God and Live
Anthem: "If Ye Love Me" – WILBY
Soloist: Ryland Brown, pianist

The service choirs for Sunday's worship are the Junior Choir and the Sanctuary 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.

Interfaith Prayers

Interfaith Forum and Poor Clares at the Monastery of St. Clare in Travelers Rest

National Interfaith Prayer Service

Thursday, May 7, 2015
8:00 a.m.

Monastery of St. Clare
37 McCauley Rd.
Travelers Rest, SC 29690

DIRECTIONS: (from Greenville)
Take Highway 276 towards Travelers Rest. Merge onto Highway 25 North towards Asheville. Turn right onto Tigerville Road. Drive 2 miles and turn left onto Shelton Road. Drive 1 mile and turn left onto McCauley Road. After 1 mile, the Monastery is on the left.

This event is free to the public. A light breakfast will be served.

Please honor our handicapped and green vehicle parking spaces.



Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers in the Sanctuary on Sunday, May 10, are given in loving memory of Susan Collins and her parents Ed and Sara Collins by Sally Dunn, Ellen White, Suzanne Kilborne, Paxson MacDonald, Lisa Hood, Ed Collins Jr., Sara Johnston and Richard Hardaway.



A Green Tip from SAVER

Dandelions are one example of "weeds" that are nutritious and good to eat. Its roots, stems, leaves and blossoms can be eaten raw or cooked. Visit this link to see ideas on how to use them: <http://www.treehugger.com/lawn-garden/eat-dandelions-9-edible-garden-weeds.html>.



Call for Chaperones

The Youth Ministry is in need of chaperones for upcoming summer trips. Instead of calling on youth parents, any congregant who has gone through Protecting our Children or could complete it before the summer trips is welcome. Please look at the

Living Generously @ FBC

2015 Budget Goal: \$2,300,000

Needs as of May 2: \$751,927

Receipts as of May 5:

\$706,613



Missions Offering \$7,574

Youth Events

Graduate Recognition

Sunday, May 31

If you know of an FBG person graduating from high school, college or graduate school, contact Kendall Parks at kendall.parks@firstbaptistgreenville.com by **May 10**.

Academic Scholarships

First Baptist Greenville offers scholarships for those with financial need. Applications are due **May 15**. Contact Kendall Parks at kendall.parks@firstbaptistgreenville.com for an application.



Unidiversity

Sign up by **May 17** at <http://goo.gl/forms/xgY3O4Nrse>

dates for our trips below and email Kendall Parks (kendall.parks@firstbaptistgreenville.com) if interested. If you are a teacher or have been a teacher, you are especially invited to attend the Youth Mission Trip to Atlanta where youth will work with young children's literacy and academic readiness programs. If you are willing to drive a mini-bus or if

Upcoming Church Activities

Wednesday, May 6, MidWeek Fellowship will meet back in the Fellowship Hall at 6:15 p.m. The children will have a Missions Showcase, sharing what they have experienced in Mission Friends and Children on Mission this year.

In Carpenter Chapel on Sunday morning, May 10, at 9:30 a.m., Jim Dant will continue discussion of his latest book, *Finding Your Voice*.



The final regularly scheduled Wednesday night supper is this week. The serving line is open 4:45-6:15 p.m.

May 6

Island Jerk Grilled Chicken,
Honey Roasted Potatoes,
Cuban Green Beans,
South African Tangy Salad,
Garlic Butter Rolls, Dessert

Kids: Skewered Chicken,
Mashed Potatoes, Fresh Fruit,
Cookies

This menu coincides with the Missions Showcase. Thanks goes to Carol and Michael Rosensteel for their help in celebrating missions!

CHAPERONES continued from page 2

you have your CDL and can drive the big bus, this is critical for our summer trips. Even if you can't attend the entire week, let us know what days you would be available. Thank you for your support of our youth and their spiritual growth.

Youth Mission Trip

(MS and HS Combined)
Passport Camps, Atlanta, GA
Sunday, June 21-Friday, June 26

University Youth Camp

University of Tennessee, Knoxville
Monday, July 20-Saturday, July 25

Holy Rollers

May 12

Duke Power World of Energy
Oconee Nuclear Station
Tour and Picnic
Depart Enoree: 9:00 a.m.
Lunch: bring your own sandwich
Forks, plates, drinks, cups,
napkins, chips, pickles and dessert
will be provided.

Roadrunners

May 19

Tommy's Ham House and
Heritage Green Art Gallery
Depart Church: 11:00 a.m.
Cost: \$6.50 (bus and tour)
Lunch: Pay your own



Please contact *Sylvia Clyborne* at 370-2522 ext. 137 or sylvia.clyborne@firstbaptistgreenville.com to make reservations for any trip with Roadrunners or Holy Rollers.

Summer Sunday School

Do you feel that you have the church's blessing to "do your thing"? We don't say it often enough, but we ministers know that our job is not to turn you into clergy but to bless you to do what you love and are gifted and called to do. The role of the church is not to tug you in yet another different direction but to help you become one person whose many commitments all fall under your over-arching commitment to God. Our "spiritual lives" and our "real lives" should be one and the same thing so that each of us ministers outside the church through whatever we do during the week.

To that end, we're devoting the Sunday School hour this summer to learning about the "Seven Vocations of Jesus" and discovering which particular ministry most closely fits your own sense of calling. You may discover that you have more in common with Jesus than you thought, and you will have the chance to talk with people who share your vocation about what it means to be a Christian in your respective field. It will be a fresh way to "be church" by learning to see our jobs as ministries, and it will be an opportunity to bless one another

Are You Connected?

The Senior Adult Committee is sponsoring a voluntary registration of FBG members who are 50 and above. Our committee would like to



create a contact list so that all senior adults could receive notifications and reminders of senior adult events more easily. Please sign up at Wednesday night dinner or in your Sunday School class. You may sign up May 1, at *First Friday Lunch and More* or at the church front desk. You may also register with Sylvia Clyborne by phone at 233-2527, ext. 137 or e-mail at sylvia.clyborne@firstbaptistgreenville.com.

Newsletter Deadlines

Articles for the newsletter must be submitted by the Wednesday prior to publication for inclusion.
kimberly.coates@firstbaptistgreenville.com

to "do your thing" as an offering to God. Please plan to join us!

The "Seven Vocations of Jesus" will run at 9:15 a.m. on Sundays, June 7 through August 9, in the Fellowship Hall but will not meet July 5 or July 12.

— Kyle Matthews



Chip and Laine Robertson, 420 Longstreet Dr., Greer, SC 29650, joined the church on March 1 by previous profession of faith and baptism. Chip is employed at Robertson Optical Laboratories, Inc., and Laine is employed by Professional Party Rentals.

Charles, Claire and Elizabeth Davis, 1209 Roe Ford Rd., Greenville, SC 29617, joined the church on March 22 by promise of letter from another Baptist church. Charles is employed by Baylor University, and Elizabeth is employed at Furman University.



John and Caroline Plyler, 1306 Trailhead Ct., Greenville, SC 29617, joined the church on April 12 by previous profession of faith and baptism.

Sara and Will Bryan, 15 Burgundy Dr., Greenville, SC 29615, joined the church on April 19 by promise of letter from another Baptist church. Sara is employed by St. Francis, and Will is employed at Ciena Capital, LLC. They have a daughter, Sadie.



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Care List as of
5/4/2015

In the Hospital:

Memorial:

Millie Smith, Basil Nelson

Returned Home:

Craig Nielson, Nancy Horne

Sympathy to:

...the family of Alvin Hawkins.

A Note of Thanks

Greetings To Our Sisters & Brothers in Christ at First Baptist:

We are in receipt of your generous donation of \$1,000 issued to The Mary B. Mullen Bible Camp, Inc. honoring our dear friend, Frank Smith. We greatly enjoyed his recent visit to the camp

with seniors from your church. May God forever bless you for your kind generosity.

In dealing with Frank over the past few years, we have observed his kind way of supervising kids, his carpentry knowledge and skills, his excellent ideas regarding any task or project, and we have even had the privilege of watching him maneuver a bulldozer. Frank is Awesome!

He not only has the "Midas Touch" in all that he does, he also has the Spirit of God in and about him. We know that God sent him our way because God has been about the business of showering the camp with His Goodness and mercy since we took on the restoration project in 2006.

We hereby declare Frank Smith to be an honorary member of the Mullen Bible Camp and graciously accept this gift in his honor.

Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Faye Yvonne Gordon
Board President

Extended Session: May 10

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|-------------------------|-------------|
| Anna and Thomas Woodham | (Directors) |
| Liz and Shane Whatley | (Twos) |
| TBD | (Threes) |
| Jeff and Mary Johnson | (Fours) |
| Brooks and Julie Israel | (Fives) |
| Helen Lee Turner | (Worship) |
| TBD | (Pianist) |

**PASTORAL CARE
EMERGENCIES**

Nights and Weekends

May 4-10
Kendra Plating 828-208-1313 (m)
370-2522 ext. 199

May 11-17
Kyle Matthews 236-8587
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."