

## WORSHIP

**Sunday,  
April 30, 2017**

10:30am in the Sanctuary

Third Sunday of Easter

**Proclaimer:** Jim Dant

**Scripture:** Luke 24:13-35

**Sermon:** What Works for You?

**Anthem:** "Stay with Us"  
- HOVLAND

**Service Choir:** Sanctuary Choir

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

### Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given in loving memory of Edna and Tom Hartness by their children and grandchildren.

If you would like to donate flowers to adorn our Sanctuary for worship, please contact Kimberly Coates at 233-2527 ext. 128 or kimberly.coates@firstbaptistgreenville.com. The first available date is July 23.

### Extended Session

**Directors:** Robert and Sarah Farrar

**Infant/Toddler:** Doug and Laura Stout

**Twos/Threes:** Josh and Rebecca Gault

**Fours:** Ben and Elaine Barnhill

**Fives:** Boggs and Miller Howard

**Pianist:** Kathy Stewart

**Worship Leader:** Helen Lee Turner



## Rustlings

BY JIM DANT

In just a few days, I will be welcomed back to Greenville. After nearly two weeks in Israel, I'll be back home. I'll be welcomed by a stack of mail, a list of 'to-do's' and some smiles and handshakes from friends, children and parishioners.

This week, our friends from Cuba will be welcomed to Greenville. While here, they will participate in Sunday's worship service, attend several social/ministry gatherings and be interviewed during our monthly deacons meeting. In this Sunday's service, Javier (Cuban pastor) will be back leading in our celebration of communion. I hope that you will be here to exchange smiles, handshakes and hugs as we welcome them to their United States home.

Next Sunday, May 7, we will welcome many of our past interns home. Our church has a long history of providing space for young ministers to hone their faith and skills. Pastoral interns, ministry interns and music interns have

regularly provided leadership for our congregation and received valuable experience from our congregation. On Sunday, May 7, Rev. Erin Spengeman Hutchison will be our proclaimer, and many of other past interns will participate in worship. A reception will follow the service. Please plan to attend both. Not only will this provide us an opportunity to remember and thank those who've served in the past, but it will also help launch future work in this area. Our Intern Committee, in cooperation with our staff, are dreaming and planning a more robust - but focused - residency program in the near future. This will require an ongoing financial commitment and philosophical commitment from our congregation. Seeing all these interns return - and noting their numerous and influential of places of service in the present - will be an inspiration for our continued investment in the rising generation of ministers.

It's a time of welcome...and I look forward to welcoming you to worship this Sunday...

— Jim

## Reminders

**April 26**

MidWeek Fellowship in the Parlor

**April 30**

Foundation Trustee Nominations Due

**April 30**

High School/College/Graduate School Information Due

# First Baptist to Recognize Graduates on May 21

If you know someone connected to First Baptist Greenville who is graduating, please complete a Graduate Info Form ([https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScSZ-Rmvl4e9NTZuZZzRZrte1qESGIm\\_VbojeJrFrhjXBnuBw/viewform?c=0&w=1](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScSZ-Rmvl4e9NTZuZZzRZrte1qESGIm_VbojeJrFrhjXBnuBw/viewform?c=0&w=1)) that can be found on the Youth page of the church website no later than Sunday, April 30. Please also send a recent picture of the graduate for use in the church newsletter and for posting on the bulletin board outside Jim Dant's office. Whether you can participate in worship on May 21 or not, we want to recognize your accomplishments. Fill out the form and submit a photo so that we can. Contact me with any questions at [kendall.parks@firstbaptistgreenville.com](mailto:kendall.parks@firstbaptistgreenville.com).

— Kendall



## Roadrunner Memories

Tuesday, March 21, twenty-two Roadrunners journeyed to Social Circle, GA, to have lunch at the internationally acclaimed Blue Willow Inn. The group enjoyed an elegant buffet of Southern cuisine, featuring a variety of delicious soups, meats, vegetables, and desserts. Several in the group spent time shopping in the gift shop. On the way home, we were relieved that our bus was not required to pass through an interstate "weigh station!" As always when we travel, there was natural camaraderie among the passengers. Consider taking a trip with the Roadrunners in the future. You are assured of returning home with very pleasant memories!

— Anne Cargill

## Roadrunners

WEDNESDAY, MAY 17

Barbecue Picnic

@Tom and Nancy Kirby's Lakehouse  
Lake Norman, NC

**Depart Church:** 8:30am

**Return:** Before Dark

**Cost:** \$10

For reservations, contact Shanda LaForge at 233-2527 ext. 111 or [shanda.laforge@firstbaptistgreenville.com](mailto:shanda.laforge@firstbaptistgreenville.com).

## Happy Birthday!

PLEASE REMEMBER THESE MEMBERS CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS IN MAY WHO ARE NOT ALWAYS ABLE TO BE WITH US IN WORSHIP:

May 1	May 17	May 19	May 24	May 27
Joan Garrett	Anne Crabtree	Marie Clay	Maude Maddox	Maurice Brown
Westminster Place	Woodlands at	13 Botany Road	(100 years old)	Gardens at Eastside
11 E. Augusta Place,	Furman	Greenville, SC 29615	Sarah Gossett	275 Commonwealth
Apt. 132	1103 Trailhead Court		27 Conestee Avenue	Drive
Greenville, SC 29605	Greenville, SC 29617		Greenville, SC 29605	Greenville, SC 29615

# Here's the Deal:

## LIFE LESSONS FROM THE POKER TABLE

Some retreats are quiet and contemplative. Some retreats are loaded with lecture and learning, but few retreats are filled with as much fun and inspiration as the Here's the Deal: Life Lessons from the Poker Table Retreat.

Some of our ancestors were adamant about the perils of playing cards, but we need not define our faith by such things. Our retreat leader – Jim Dant, Senior Minister at First Baptist Greenville – believes every aspect of life has the capacity to be constructive or destructive; it depends on how we handle it.

He also believes there is a lot of wisdom to be garnered from the game of poker.

The Here's the Deal Poker Retreat will afford us the opportunity to encounter truths about the problems and possibilities life presents. It will encourage us to ponder God's role in the rhythm of our life as we observe the randomness of cards from the hand of a dealer. We will discuss the role of faith and knowledge in playing the hand you are dealt – in poker and in life.

– Matt



**Date:** Sunday, May 7

**Time:** 5:00-7:00pm

**Location:** First Baptist Greenville Fellowship Hall

**Price:** \$15

Visit <https://firstbaptistgreenville.com/heres-the-deal-life-lessons-from-the-poker-table/> to register. Contact me with any questions.

## Foundation Seeks New Trustees

Nominations are being accepted for new trustees to serve on the nine-member First Baptist Church Foundation Board. The terms of three trustees will expire at the end of June. To maintain the regular rotation, three trustees should be appointed to serve for three years. The criteria for serving are as follows:

1. Must be a member of First Baptist Church
2. Enthusiastic dedication to the concept of permanent endowment to support missions and church causes
3. Experience in and dedication to mission and ministry work
4. Business experience including the making of financial decisions

All church members are invited to submit their nominations for these positions. Please give your nominations to Judy Tollison, chair of the Diaconate; Elaine Barnhill, chair of the Foundation; or bring them

to the church office or place them in the offering plate no later than the deadline listed below.

The chair of the Diaconate, with the approval of the Executive Committee of the Diaconate, will recommend a slate of trustees to the Diaconate and congregation for approval.

The trustees currently serving on the 2017 Foundation Board are: Elaine Barnhill, chair (2018), Pat Booker-Christy (2019), Bo Campbell (2017), Jim Childress (2019), Eleanor Dunlap (2019), Roy Janse (2018), Brenda League (2018), Leslie Rodwell (2017), and Stephanie Wright (2017).

Trustee nominations are due no later than Sunday, April 30.

## For Your Calendar!

- 4/17-28 Trip to Israel  
 4/26-5/8 Cuban Visitors Here  
 4/26 *Wednesdays at First*  
 MidWeek Fellowship:  
 Celebration  
 Kyle Matthews, Proclaimer  
 4/28-30 Alliance of Baptists  
 Gathering (Raleigh, NC)  
 4/30 10:30am Third Sunday of  
 Easter  
 Baptism  
 Communion  
 Family Dedication  
 Jim Dant, Proclaimer  
 4/30 11:30am Lunch for Visitors  
 (Fellowship Hall)  
 4/30 5:00-7:00pm Sunday Night  
 Live for Youth: Going Away  
 Party for Kendall Parks  
 5:00pm LGBTQ and Friends  
 Support Group (Parlor)

### LIVING GENEROUSLY

Financial Needs as of 4/22  
 \$769,232  
 Receipts of 4/20  
 \$648,513

## Pastoral Care

### On Call Nights and Weekends

April 24-30  
 Frank Smith  
 268-3890 (h)  
 370-2522 ext. 199  
 May 1-7  
 Jim Dant  
 478-737-7298 (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."

## Wednesday Supper

Reservations are required and must be made by noon on Monday prior to the meal. Serving lines are open 4:45-6:00pm.

### Menu April 26

Shepherd's Pie, Baked Apples, Salad,  
 Biscuits with Jellies, Dessert  
**Kids:** Mini Sliders, Buttered Corn,  
 Fruit, Cookies

### May 3 Menu TBD

### Wednesdays at First Schedule

Exceptions and details noted in calendar.

3:00pm Youth Hang Time and Supper  
 4:45-6:00pm Supper Serving Lines Open  
 5:15pm Youth Choir  
 5:30-7:00pm Children's Missions and Choirs  
 6:00pm Youth Bible Study  
 6:15pm MidWeek Fellowship  
 7:00-8:30pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

## Care List as of 4/24/17

### Hospitals

St. Francis Eastside: Carole Austin  
 Returned Home: Jerry Wylie



## Cuban Guests Arrive

Bienvenido! Javier and Lissette Perez and Eddy Stanchiu, members of the Iglesia Bautista del Camino (Church of the Way) in Guanajay, Cuba, arrive this Wednesday, April 19, and will be visiting until May 8. Javier has been our guest several times in the past, and this will be Lissette and Eddy's first visit to Greenville. Please make time to extend a warm welcome to our guests when you see them at worship or around the building in the coming weeks.



Kathy Fitzsimmons, 17 Hammel Court, Simpsonville 29680, also joined FBG on April 9 by statement of previous profession of faith and baptism. Kathy is married and employed with Greenville Schools.

Carol Singleton, 107 Saddle Tree Court, Greer 29650, joined FBG on April 16 also by statement of previous profession of faith and baptism.

First Baptist  
 Greenville  
 847 Cleveland Street,  
 Greenville, South Carolina 29601-4495  
 (864) 233-2527 www.firstbaptistgreenville.com

THE BRANCH (USPS No. 597060) is published weekly January thru December (except one week in July and December). Periodicals postage paid at Greenville, SC 29602. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to THE BRANCH, 847 Cleveland Street Greenville, SC 29601. (Phone 864-233-2527). Kimberly Coates, Editor.

Vol. LVIII April 24, 2017 No. 17

## Introducing...



Connor and Erika Watson, 772 Wofford Street, Spartanburg 29301, joined First Baptist Greenville during worship on Sunday, April 9, by statement of previous profession of faith and baptism. Connor is employed with USPS, and they have two sons, Riley and Tommy.