

WORSHIP

**Sunday,
April 29, 2018**

10:30am in the Sanctuary
Fifth Sunday of Easter

Proclaimer: Kyle Matthews

Scripture: Psalm 22:25-31;
Acts 8:26-40; 1 John 4:7-21

Sermon: How Bad News Becomes
Good News

Service Choir: Sanctuary Choir

Ensemble: Bell Tower Ringers

Anthem: "I Know that My Redeemer
Lives" — COX

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.

From the Organist...

Psalm 22:27-28 says: *All the ends of the earth shall...worship before him. For dominion belongs to the Lord, and he rules over the nations. We worship the mighty God who created mountains, oceans, the sun and the moon. We worship the good God who filled the earth with food, beauty and wonders for us to enjoy. We worship the God whose glory is displayed throughout creation. Together, we sing the might, goodness and glory of God as we worship together. Read more at The Organist's Blog (firstbaptistgreenville.com/the-organists-blog/).*

— Shelton



Rustlings

BY JIM DANT

For part of our lives, we are encouraged to sit. As a child, I was told to sit still in church, sit quietly at recitals, sit in a corner when I was disobedient and sit politely at the dinner table. Learning to sit was an important skill. In later years, we are encouraged to move. As one doctor has suggested, the sofa is the new cigarette. Being motionless is taking its toll on our heart, skeletal muscles and bone mass, so we buy gym membership, Fitbits, treadmills, bicycles and a host of other fitness equipment to insure we move. In the days ahead, First Baptist is providing some important activities for both the sitters and the movers.

If you are a sitter, you'll want to be certain and make a reservation to the First Night of Ramadan Feast. On May 15, at 8:00 pm, First Baptist Greenville will host the Atlantic Institute and our Muslim neighbors for the first night of Ramadan meal. This will be a unique opportunity to be a neighbor to the Muslim community, as well as get to know these neighbors. The evening will include an explanation of Ramadan, a brief Q&A session, listening to the

call of prayer, and of course, a feast at sundown. If you'd like to join us in this display of hospitality, please make a reservation at this Atlantic Institute link: <http://atlanticinstitutesc.org/index.php/interfaith2/ramadan/2018-04-12-17-45-02/ramadan-public-dinners-2018>

If you are a mover, then don't miss the Demonstration of Unity BBQ and march on the morning of Saturday, June 2. The congregations of First Baptist Greenville and Springfield Baptist will meet on the steps of the old downtown First Baptist Church. After a photo op, the two congregations will walk the .4 mile together to Springfield Baptist down McBee Avenue. Upon arrival, we will enjoy an outdoor luncheon BBQ (with all the fixin's), inflatables for the children, corn hole for all us older children and the music of Cappuccino Funk. It's our annual joint event with Springfield Baptist, and you will not want to miss it.

Both events are for everyone – sitters and movers alike. Both events help us connect with our neighbors and close the gaps that exist between us. Both events will be filled with fellowship and food. I think both events will delight God. I'll see you there...sitting around the table and walking down McBee...

— Jim

Reminders

May 6, 6:00pm

Livingston Taylor, Dinner and Concert
Benefit for Youth Ministry/Puerto Rico Rebuild
www.firstbaptistgreenville.com/livtaylor

Missions Updates

Most likely you have heard of our church's Foundation and may be aware of some of the ministries that benefit from the Foundation distribution each year – from scholarships to music to missions to property needs and more. Various committees use Foundation funds to support and extend their ministry. One committee that benefits from Foundation funding is the Missions and Affiliations Committee.

The Missions and Affiliations Committee receives funding requests from potential mission partners by October 1, each year, makes funding decisions by December 1, and distributes funds by December 31, to be used for ministry in the following calendar year. As they review and make decisions on the requests, the committee seeks to balance funds between local missions and missions beyond our local community. To the right is a list of mission partners receiving funding for 2018. Funds given totaled \$75,000.

If you know an organization interested in applying for funding by October 1, 2018, please contact Laura Stout. To learn more about the history of the Foundation, visit <http://firstbaptistgreenville.com/the-foundation/>.

— Laura

- Baptist Church of the Way (Guanajay, Cuba)
- FBG Youth Missions
- His Nets
- Jasmine Road
- Loaves & Fishes
- Mere Christianity Forum
- Momentum Bike Clubs
- Pendleton Place
- Sustaining Way/Annie's House
- United Ministries
- World Relief Upstate



Cuba 2019!

¡NOS ACOMPAÑEN!

First Baptist Greenville has partnered with the Fraternity of Cuban Baptist Churches (FIBAC) since 1996, a connection facilitated by the Alliance of Baptists. In 2006, our church became partners with the Iglesia Bautista del Camino (Baptist Church of the Way) in Guanajay, Cuba, near Havana. Since 2006, we have had 11 exchanges between our two congregations, some in Cuba and some in Greenville. We are in the beginning stages of planning our next visit to Cuba in early 2019. Tentative dates are February 11-18. We will hold a gathering of interested persons in early June and will form our team this summer. If you would like to attend the interest meeting in June, please contact Laura Stout at laura.stout@firstbaptistgreenville.com or Anne Garner at anne.garner@att.net by May 15.



Happy Birthday!

Please remember these members of our congregation celebrating birthdays this month who are not always able to be with us in worship:

May 1

Joan Garrett
Westminster Place
11 E. Augusta Place
Greenville, SC 29605

May 19

Evelyn Bowers
Brushy Creek Rehab &
Healthcare
101 Cottage Creek Cir
Dogwood #9
Greer, SC 29650

May 24

Marie Clay
13 Botany Road
Greenville, SC 29615

Maude Maddox (101)
Sarah Gossett
27 Conestee Avenue
Greenville, SC 29605

First Friday Lunch and More Holy Rollers

May 4, 10:30am

Program: Ryland Brown and Tony Vinskus
Book Review: Anne Martin

May 8

Strawberry Hill, Produce Shed and Café
Depart Enoree: 10:00am, Return: 3:00pm

Roadrunners

May 16

Swan Lake Iris Gardens, Sumter, SC
Depart: 8:00am, Return: Late Afternoon
Cost: \$7 + Lunch

More Information

For more information or to make reservations for First Friday Lunch and More, Holy Rollers or Roadrunners, contact Shanda LaForge at shanda.laforge@firstbaptistgreenville.com or 233-2527 ext. 111.

Give a Little

Growing up, I don't ever remember my mother talking with my sisters and me about giving to church, but I grew up Baptist, so I remember pledge cards, building campaigns and sermons about giving on Commitment Sunday. I remember when I had a part time job in high school, and I filled out my first pledge card. I think I pledged \$100. I felt very official a few weeks later when I picked up my box of offering envelopes with my name printed on one for each week of the coming year. Most of the envelopes never got used, and I think I fulfilled my pledge with the very last one.

I remember a couple of years ago when I received a call asking if I would serve on the Stewardship Committee. I had never been on a church committee before, and I was unsure about accepting. The caller assured me that "it's much easier now that we aren't doing pledge campaigns and you don't have to make all those calls." It's true. It is easier for the Stewardship Committee when there is no pledge campaign and you don't have to call your fellow members asking for them to commit to giving to the church. I don't know that a lot of people miss pledge campaigns. It is easier this way, but it is also easier for giving to be overlooked when we don't have that reminder. It's easy to let the offering plate pass by if you open your wallet and don't happen to have any cash or if you forgot your checkbook. It's easy to think about all the other

expenses you have and decide that there are plenty of other members who are probably giving money; the church will be fine if you don't give this month. Not giving can be very easy.

Giving can be easy too. After always hoping that I would have cash on Sundays, trying to remember where we left the checkbook, or trying to "catch up" at the end of the year or when there's "extra" money, I finally chose the easy way. I went to the church website and set up a recurring gift each week. It took less time than it would have taken to find a checkbook, an envelope and a stamp. Now, every Monday I get an email thanking me for the contribution. Each time I see that email, I feel a little sense of relief that someone or something or some software program remembered to give for me.

I will rotate off the Stewardship Committee at the end of the year, but I hope that I have helped, even just a little, to keep making the job easy for everyone that continues to serve. We need everyone's help. If you aren't giving, please give. If you give occasionally, give consistently. If you give consistently, try to give a little more than before. If we can all do this, we can continue to grow our giving, and we can do it without a single pledge card.

— Fred Blevins, Stewardship Committee

For Your Calendar!

- 5/2 Spring's Final *Wednesdays at First* Activities
- 5/4 10:30am First Friday Lunch and More (Fellowship Hall)
- 5/6 10:30am Jim Dant, Proclaimer
11:30am Children's Ministries Event: Celebration Lunch for 5th Graders and Their Families
1:00-3:00pm Children's Ministries Event: Walk to Downtown Ice Cream Party
6:00pm Livingston Taylor Dinner and Concert to Benefit the Youth Ministry/Puerto Rico Rebuild (Fellowship Hall) – ticketed event
- 5/8 10:00am-3:00pm Holy Rollers to Produce Shed and Café at Strawberry Hill
- 5/13 9:30am Protecting Our Children (E-317)
10:30am Communion
Baptism
Jim Dant, Proclaimer
- 5/20 9:00-10:15am Youth Fellowship Breakfast to Honor Graduates & Families
- 5/20 10:30am Pentecost
Baptism
Graduate Recognition
Commissioning: Stephen Ministry, Missions Activities
Jim Dant, Proclaimer

LIVING GENEROUSLY

Financial Needs as of 4/21
\$800,000
Receipts of 4/16
\$775,454

Pastoral Care

On Call Nights and Weekends

April 23-29
Frank Smith
268-3890 (h)

April 30-May 6
Matt Rollins
346-0971 (m)

If you are unable to reach this minister at the above number, please call the Church Office, 864-233-2527, and leave a message by pressing the number "199" for "Pastoral Care Emergencies."

Wednesday Supper

Required reservations for the meal must be made by noon on Monday by visiting the church website or calling the church office. Serving lines are open 4:45-6:00pm.

Menu

April 25

Adults: Pasta Bar with Lasagna, Salad, Italian Green Beans, French Bread, Dessert
Kids: Pizza Bread, Tater Tots, Carrot Sticks and Dip, Fruit, Cookies

May 2

Adults: Beef Tips and Rice, Broccoli Casserole, Pineapple Casserole, Layered Salad, Yeast Rolls, Dessert
Kids: Mac and Cheese, Veggies and Dip, Fresh Fruit, Cookies

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
5:30-7:00pm 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 4/23/18

Hospitals

As of 4/23, there are no hospitalized members of whom we are aware.

Rehab

Rolling Green: Ben Turner
NHC-Greenville: "Jennie" Taylor
Spring Park Assisted Living of Travelers Rest: Freddie Jameson

Discharged

Barbara Watson to Cascades Rehab,
Donna Brown, Floyd Surles

Sympathy to...

...Ben Mullinax and family in the death of his brother.
...the family of Tom Benston.
...Lisa Cline and family in the death of her grandfather.
...Ann Quattlebaum and family in the death of her sister.


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Need a Ride to the Doctor's Office?

The Medical Appointment Transportation Committee, a part of Ministry to Families, offers rides for members to and from medical appointments. Requests made a week in advance will be appreciated. Those in need of this service may call Committee Chair Mary Rankin at 630-2894.

Lessons Available

Our organist, Shelton Ridge Love, is excited to announce that he is accepting students for the fall. Shelton offers private instruction in piano and organ at the church and teaches all ages and skill levels. To reserve a spot for the fall semester, contact Shelton at shelton.love@firstbaptistgreenville.com