

WORSHIP

Sunday,
March 3, 2019

10:30am in the Sanctuary
Church Retreat Sunday

Proclaimer: Jim Dant

Guest Artist: Kate Campbell

Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers in the Sanctuary today are given by Dawn Strickland in gratitude for her husband, Bo Campbell, and their children, Tigist and Peter.

“O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!” Psalm 118:1 (NRSV)

If you would like to enhance our worship space by placing flowers for one of our services, please contact Kimberly Coates at kimberly.coates@firstbaptistgreenville.com or 233-2527 ext. 128. The next available dates are March 17, 24 and 31.



Rustlings

BY JIM DANT

Weekly, the church office often receives numerous thank you notes from persons recovered from an illness. Long or short, we're asked to print them in *The Branch* as an expression of gratitude for the prayers and care of the church. Because of the number of notes we receive and the limited space and program purpose of *The Branch*, we are unable to print these notes...

This is either Senior Minister privilege or me speaking for the unheard masses, but I'm about to say thank you. Last Tuesday, I underwent a 'left side, inguinal, open, mesh hernia repair.' (I had to say that at least ten times prior to the surgery along with my name and birthdate.) On that day – and in the days following – I've been the recipient of my church's ministry and care.

I am grateful for your presence. In the days prior to surgery, many of you stopped by the office, stopped me in the hall, or stopped what you were doing during your day to share a word of encouragement and prayer. Waiting to be rolled into surgery, a member of our church

stepped into my room. Dressed in scrubs, he informed me he had requested my case and would carefully handle my anesthesia. He put a hand on my shoulder and told me not to worry about anything.

I am grateful for our pastoral care team and ministerial staff. They have stayed in contact to insure my knowledge of their prayers and availability for assistance. Kyle, Kendra, Ryland and every other area of ministry in our church – finance, music, facilities, day school, AYMC, etc. – have exercised competent and compassionate ministry skills.

I am grateful for you. Thank you for the cards and texts and phone calls. Thank you for offering all those casseroles and cakes even though I asked you to hold off on the food. Thank you for giving me a gentle, private space for healing and recovery. You know that I love knowing and being with each of you...at the same time...you know my introverted self needs space and solace to recharge.

So, for all those unpublished notes, let me say, thank you. You truly deserve it. We are truly church for each other.

— Jim

Reminders

Make Reservations for the
Churchwide Retreat

March 1-3, 2019 | Downtown Greenville
<https://firstbaptistgreenville.com/churchwide-retreat/>

Register for Inasmuch Day
March 16, 2019

<https://firstbaptistgreenville.com/inasmuchday2019/>

Make Reservations for
Wednesday Night Supper

Enjoy Family Time
<https://firstbaptistgreenville.com/wednesday-night-supper/>

AYMC Pulse

SAVE THE DATE!

AYMC



It's hard to believe, but the AYMC is turning ten years old on August 23rd this year, and we're having a big celebration. Please go ahead and mark your calendars for Saturday, August 24th, when we will have our C. Dan Joyner Mission Backpack race and walk. Waffle House will be here cooking waffles for everyone, and we'll have lots of fun things going on besides running and walking. On Sunday, August 25th, there will be an open house and reception in the AYMC immediately following worship. We'd love for you to come over and celebrate our big milestone. More details will follow as we get closer to the date, but for now, please go ahead and mark those dates on your calendar.

— Mittie

Happy Birthday!

SENIOR ADULTS

PLEASE REMEMBER THESE MEMBERS OF OUR CONGREGATION CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS IN MARCH WHO ARE NOT ALWAYS ABLE TO BE WITH US IN WORSHIP.

March 2

Patsy Mitchell

6 Fountainview Terrace
#110
Greenville, SC 29607

March 15

Freddie Jameson

925 North Main Street
Room #303-A
Travelers Rest, SC 29690

March 21

Lois MacRae

275 Commonwealth Drive
Greenville, SC 29615

March 31

Shirley Young

102 Hathaway Circle
Greenville, SC 29617

March 7

Evelyn Owens

3 Hoke Smith Boulevard
Apartment E-106
Greenville, SC 29615

March 17

Frances Treadway

810 East Butler Road
Room #100
Greenville, SC 29607

March 30

Norma Higgins

11 East Augusta Place
#210
Greenville, SC 29605

Roadrunners

MARCH 11

SC State Museum in Columbia

Depart: 8:00am

Cost: \$15 + Lunch

Holy Rollers

MARCH 12

Atlanta Sites: King Center and Others

Lunch at Six Feet Under

Depart Enoree: 7:30am

Return: 5:00pm

First on Second

FIRST FRIDAY LUNCH AND MORE

ON SECOND FRIDAY, MARCH 8

(church retreat on first)

10:30am: Games Begin

Program followed by: Salad, Soup, Sandwich and Dessert Lunch

Cost: \$5 for lunch

For more information on any of these or to make reservations, contact Shanda LaForge at 233-2527 ext. 111 or shanda.laforge@firstbaptistgreenville.com.

Life Cycles

The church is the only institution in the world that accompanies us fully through the cycle of life. From birth to baptism to adulthood, through relationships to death, the church accompanies us through the cycle of life. The church has her own cycles as well. Congregations, Sunday School classes, choirs and other groups within the church are born, flourish, struggle, flourish again and sometimes find an end. It is

always a true witness of faith and trust in God when this happens well. It serves as an encouragement to our individual journey through the cycle of life.

I received the following words from our Covenant Sunday School Class recently...a beautiful testament to the cycle of life:

For the past 34 years, the Covenant Sunday School Class has been a vital part of our Sunday morning worship experience. We have gathered together to pray, discuss God's word, encourage and console each other, and walk through life's experiences together. We have been 'church' to one another.

In January 1984, the class was formed as a ministry to First Baptist Greenville's single adults. As the years passed, the class began to include single and married adults. The name

of the class was suggested by Beth Ball Granger. The first teachers were Jim and Bonnie Smart and Gayle Bolt Price. In subsequent years, we were taught by: Tom and Nancy Kirby, Lois and Gerald Stroud, Charlie Bussey, C.J. Young, Paula Cargill, and Michael and Judy Stogner.

In the past seven years, our class has lost some beloved members due to death, and we began to realize it was time to move to other classes. To our members, past and present, we are entering a new phase of life, and give

the blessing from Numbers 6:24-26, 'The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon, and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.'

We give thanks to Anne and Paula Cargill for their historical information.

Sincerely,

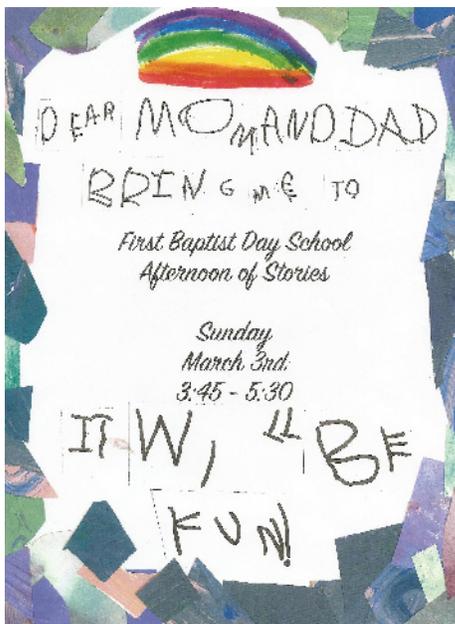
*Nancy Kirby, Tom Kirby
and Lois Stroud*

What a beautiful witness and celebration of the cycle of life within the fellowship of faith...

— Jim

First Baptist Day School Afternoon of Stories

SUNDAY, MARCH 3



First Baptist Day School (FBDS) is pleased to invite you to bring your preschool-aged children for our Afternoon of Stories on Sunday, March 3, from 3:45-5:30pm.

You will have an opportunity to hear stories told in the oral tradition from a variety of storytellers – including a professional storyteller, FBDS educators, and several alums. Come to the Fellowship Hall lobby to begin the afternoon.

We hope to see you there!

— Kathy

For Your Calendar!

- 2/26 10:45am-4:00pm Holy Rollers to Soapstone Baptist Church in Pickens County
- 3/1-3 Churchwide Retreat (Downtown Greenville)
- 3/3 10:30am Jim Dant, Proclaimer
Kate Campbell, Soloist
11:30am-12:30pm Vocare Rehearsal (Choir Room)
3:30-5:30pm Puerto Rico Participant Meeting (AYMC)
3:45-5:30pm First Baptist Day School Afternoon of Stories – Open to Community (Fellowship Hall Lobby)
- 3/6 6:15pm Out of the Ashes – A Service for Ash Wednesday
Bobby Jo Valentine in Concert (Sanctuary)
- 3/8 10:30am First Friday Lunch and More (Fellowship Hall)
- 3/10 10:30am First Sunday in Lent
Jim Dant, Proclaimer
2:15-4:15pm Children's Ministry Event: Swimming at the Kroc Center
4:00-5:00pm Vocare Rehearsal (Choir Room)

LIVING GENEROUSLY

Financial Needs as of 2/23
\$415,384
Receipts of 2/22
\$310,375

Pastoral Care

On Call Nights and Weekends

February 25-March 3

Kyle Matthews
551-0829 (m)

March 4-10

Jim Dant
478-737-7298 (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. Permanent reservations are available. Serving lines are open 4:45-6:00pm.

Menu February 27

Adults: Pulled Roast Beef au Jus, Corn Casserole, Seasoned Green Beans, Heirloom Tomato Salad, Rolls, Dessert
Kids: Meatballs, Mac and Cheese, Fruit, Cookies

March 6

Adults: Veggie Lasagna, Meat Lasagna, Gluten Free Pasta with Marinara, Salad, Italian Green Beans, French Bread, Dessert
Kids: Mini Pizza, Buttered Noodles, Fruit, Cookies

Wednesdays at First Schedule

Exceptions and details noted in calendar.
3:00pm Youth Hang Time and Supper
4:45-6:00pm 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 2/25/19

Hospitals

Greenville Memorial: Cherry Marshall

Rehab

NHC – Greenville: Marie Clay

Returned Home

Kendra Plating and baby boy,
Krista Good, Joanne Smith, Jim Dant

Sympathy to...

...Jay Addison and family in the death of his grandfather.

...Shelton Ridge Love in the death of his grandfather.

...Lamar Jordan and family in the death of his mother.



Laurie and Stephen Jax, 35 Claremore Avenue, Greenville, 29607, joined FBG during worship on Sunday, February 17 – Laurie by profession of faith requesting baptism and Stephen by transfer of letter from another Baptist church. They are both employed with Stephen Jax & Associates, Inc. and are members of the Carson Class.

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MidWeek...

THIS Week!

This Wednesday, February 27th, we will wrap up our series on "the valley of the shadow of addiction" with some special guests. Representatives from different recovery communities will be on hand to answer our questions about what makes their organization unique and what "next steps" we might take. Bring a friend and get to know these folks in person!

— Kyle

Swamp Rabbit Opportunities

Take a walk behind the church along the Swamp Rabbit Trail and learn about the rain garden and riparian restoration projects at a new educational kiosk near East Faris Road. We'd love more volunteers! To find out how, please visit saveoursaluda.org/volunteer-opportunities/fbg-site or contact me at 270-7629.

— Melanie Ruhlman

Introducing...