

WORSHIP

Sunday,
May 19, 2019

10:30am in the Sanctuary
Fifth Sunday of Easter

Graduate Recognition

Proclaimer: Jim Dant

Scripture: John 13:31-35

Sermon: Higher Education

Service Choirs: Vocare and Sanctuary
Choirs

Anthems: "Like a Tree"

– arr. EDWARDS/JOYE; "For the
Beauty of the Earth" – RUTTER

Sanctuary Flowers

There are no longer flowers scheduled for the Sanctuary on May 19. If you would like to enhance our worship space by placing flowers for May 19 or one of our other services, please contact Kimberly Coates at kimberly.coates@firstbaptistgreenville.com or 233-2527 ext. 128.



Rustlings

BY JIM DANT

Frederick Buechner – Presbyterian minister, author, poet, theologian – has been apocryphally credited with saying, "Any church that doesn't have an AA (Alcoholics Anonymous) meeting in its basement should be burned down." I'm writing today to inform you we are no longer at risk of this Buechnerian fate.

Earlier this year, our church engaged a general study of the 12 Steps of Recovery during our MidWeek Fellowship services. Under the leadership and direction of our pastoral care ministers – Kyle Matthews and Kendra Plating – we structured a series of evening discussions that included the testimonies/stories of our church members who are in recovery, as well as my personal reflections on the 12 Steps. Noting the attendance and general interest in this midweek series, we felt it necessary to pursue providing recovery groups here at First Baptist.

It has been my experience the Spirit provides what is needed when it is needed. Just weeks after the series ended, the church was contacted by

a representative of AA who asked if they could start a group at our church. We just smiled.

The AA group at First Baptist is meeting on Monday evenings, at 6:00pm in the Prayer Room next to the Chapel (A302). Participants are asked to enter the doors beneath the bell tower. This is a CLOSED meeting, which simply means you must have a problem with alcohol to attend. Open meetings allow family members, friends and non-alcoholics to 'sit in.' This is not the case at a CLOSED meeting. If you have any questions about the meeting or AA in general, please feel free to contact the meeting facilitators: Bob H. (850-557-1018) or Kourtney H. (832-689-9679).

Moving forward, we hope to add an Alanon Meeting in the Fall. It will hopefully meet on the same evening at the same time so that the family members and friends of alcoholics might have a space for recovery and support as well.

I'm so pleased this work now exists at First Baptist. I hope you are pleased. I'm quite certain Frederick Buechner would be pleased.

— Jim

Reminders

Gay Chorus, Deep South

Peace Center | June 9, 5:00pm

Purchase tickets from the Peace Center

tickets.peacecenter.org

Congratulations, High School Graduates!

This Sunday, May 19, the graduates of 2019 will be recognized during morning worship. Pictured here are those high school graduates who contributed pictures. Next week, college and graduate school pictures will be shared.

— Mary Carol



Jordan Boehmer
JL Mann High School



Hampton Bryant
Greenville Tech Charter High School



Emily Dunlap
Mauldin High School



Mason Garner
Eastside High School



Beau Good
Wade Hampton High School



Will Harris
Fine Arts Center & Eastside High School



Katherine Histon
Greenville Tech Charter High School



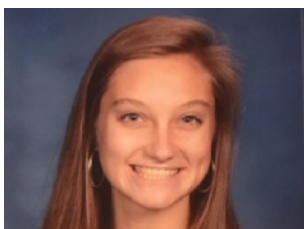
Thomas Histon
Greenville Tech Charter High School



Grace Martin
JL Mann High School



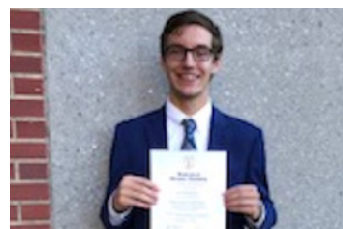
Anders Mathiasen
Greenville High School



Hilton McGill
JL Mann High School



David Morrow
Eastside High School



Kyle Sease
Wade Hampton High School



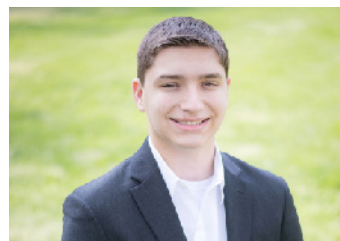
Lucy Tollison
Wade Hampton High School



Camila Rueda Torres
Greenville Tech Charter High School



Jefferson Williams
NEXT High School



Alex Young
NEXT High School



Sarah Young
NEXT High School

Graduate Recognition

SUNDAY, MAY 19, 2019

This Sunday, May 19, we will celebrate and honor the graduating classes of 2019 – high school, college and graduate school. The day will begin in the AYMC at 9:00am when all graduates and their families are invited to share breakfast with our Youth Family. During our 10:30am worship service, graduates wearing their caps and gowns will process into the Sanctuary with our ministers and deacons. Our graduates will be recognized individually

and given a special gift from the church. Following worship, there will be a luncheon honoring our high school graduates and their families in the Fellowship Hall.

This is an exciting time for our graduates and their families. We are honored to have the opportunity to recognize and celebrate this milestone in their lives with our First Baptist family.

— Mary Carol

SUNDAY, MAY 19

9:00am Fellowship Breakfast honoring all graduates with Youth Family – AYMC Terrace Level

10:30am Worship honoring all graduates - Sanctuary

11:30am High School Graduate Luncheon - Fellowship Hall (reservations required)

Kendra Returns to Work



The time has come for my return! Spending time with my little family has been glorious, and at the same time I'm looking forward to offering pastoral care and counseling to you folks again and joining you for worship and community events. My first day back in the office will be tomorrow, May 14th, but you may have seen me before that in worship on Sunday for Wilder's dedication to the care of God and this church. What a special moment knowing the incredible love that this church family has already shown to him and continues to show for Hattie!

I want to make you all aware of a change in my working hours for this summer effective my first day back and continuing through August. My work days will shift to Tuesday-Thursday, 9am-2pm (previously I had been working Monday-Wednesday). I will obviously still be available to teach Sunday School and provide pastoral counseling before helping to lead worship on Sundays, as I was before. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me to schedule a time for counsel in the office or over lunch or coffee. My short-term

pastoral counseling services are free to church members and community members alike. You can come talk to me about anything – spiritual dry spells, medical diagnoses, or end-of-life planning, as well as issues of rejection, forgiveness, grace, or abuse – just to name a few. I'm here for spiritual support and can point you toward other community services for physical, mental or social support. I look forward to hearing from you!

— Kendra

kendra.plating@firstbaptistgreenville.com
(864) 233-2527 ext. 104

For Your Calendar!

- 5/14 10:00am-3:00pm Holy Rollers to Strawberry Hill for Produce Shopping and Lunch
- 5/19 9:00am Fellowship Breakfast for Graduate Families (AYMC Terrace Level)
- 9:15am First Baptist 101 (Clemons Conference Room)
- 9:15-11:30am Preschool VBS (A312)
- 10:30am Fifth Sunday of Easter Graduate Recognition
Jim Dant, Proclaimer
- 11:30am Luncheon for High School Graduates and Their Families - reservations required (Fellowship Hall)
- 5/20 5:00-8:00pm Fundraising Event for Puerto Rico at Smokehouse 29 (2818 Wade Hampton Boulevard, Taylors)
- 5/25-27 AYMC and Church Offices Closed in Observance of Memorial Day
- 5/26 9:15am First Baptist 101 (Clemons Conference Room)
- 5:00pm LGBTQ and Friends (Parlor)

LIVING GENEROUSLY

Financial Needs as of 5/11
\$986,537
Receipts of 5/8
\$979,492

Pastoral Care

On Call Nights and Weekends

May 13-19
Jim Dant
478-737-7298 (m)

May 20-26
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."

Congratulations!

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Valentine Mace Jr. – Bob and Helen – are celebrating their 70th wedding anniversary on Tuesday, May 14. They were married in 1949 by Dr. Leon M. Latimer at First Baptist Greenville when the church was still meeting at its downtown location. Helen became a member of FBG in 1943, and Bob followed suit in 1949. They have grown together and served FBG as Sunday School teachers, VBS leaders, RA leader, usher and other capacities through the years. Bob is a member of the M.T. Anderson Sunday School Class, and Helen is a member of the Apphia Sunday School Class. They are both active members at 92 years young!

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. LX May 13, 2019 No. 19

Care List as of 5/13/19

Hospitals

Prisma Health (Greenville Memorial):
Dan Batson

Rehab

NHC-Greenville: Joan Garrett

NHC-Mauldin: Neal Williams

Cascades Rehab: Bill Jett

Returned Home

Maude Maddox, Barbara Stone, Joan Garrett to NHC-Greenville

Sympathy to...

...Kimberly Coates and family in the death of her grandmother.

Facilities Personnel Opening

First Baptist Greenville is adding a full-time facilities person to its staff. If you, or someone you know, have interest in giving attention to building maintenance, mechanical systems and the cleaning of our facilities, please contact Jimmy Paul (jimmy.paul@firstbaptistgreenville.com).

Introducing...

Lucy Rollins, 509 Parkins Mill Road, Greenville 29607, joined FBG during



worship on Sunday, May 5, by profession of faith requesting baptism. She is the third grade daughter of Matt and Rolyn Rollins.