

WORSHIP

Sunday,
November 10, 2019

10:30am in the Sanctuary

Proclaimer: Jim Dant

Scripture: Luke 20:27-38

Sermon: Conservatism Gone Awry

Service Choirs: Sanctuary Choir and
Vocare

Anthems: "Show Us How to Love" —
MILLER; "I Will Bless the Lord" —
JOHNSON

Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Rachel S. Martin by her friend, Ruth Reid. *She walked in beauty on earth with us. Now, she walks in beauty in Heaven with God.*

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.

From the Organist

To me, there is no better example of God's greatness than the vastness and beauty of outer space. I love learning about galaxies and planets, I love reading science fiction, and I am super sad that the likelihood of our being able to live on Mars during my lifetime is *not very*. Read more at <https://firstbaptistgreenville.com/the-organists-blog/>



Rustlings

BY JIM DANT

Last week, I shared two prayers from my sermon on Sunday, October 27. Both were published in the Jesuit prayer guide *Hearts on Fire*. Today, I'm sharing the final two prayers from that sermon. The first is also from *Hearts on Fire*, and the second is God's words to us in prayer—edited from Henri Nouwen's classic book titled *Life of the Beloved*. If these prayers speak the desires of your heart, I hope you'll keep them and pray them often...

A Prayer of Friendship with Jesus (St. Claude La Colombiere, edited)

Jesus, you are my true friend, my only true friend.

You take a part in all of my misfortunes; you take them on yourself;

You listen to me with the greatest kindness when I relate my troubles to you, and you always have balm to pour on my wounds. I find you at all times. I find you everywhere, you never go away. You are never weary of listening to me. All the

humiliations attached to old age or to the loss of honor will never detach me from you. On the contrary, I shall never enjoy you more fully, and you will never be closer to me, than when everything seems to conspire against me, to overwhelm me, and to cast me down.

Jesus, grant that I may die praising you, that I may die loving you, that I may die for the love of you. Amen.

God's Words to Us in Prayer (Henri Nouwen, edited)

You are mine. You are my Beloved. I have molded you in the depths of the earth and knitted you together in your mother's womb. I have carved you in the palms of my hands. I look at you with infinite tenderness and care for you with a care more intimate than that of a mother for her child. I have counted every hair on your head and guided you at every step. Wherever you go, I go with you, and wherever you rest, I keep watch. You belong to me. Wherever you are I will be. Nothing will ever separate us. Amen.

Lord, hear our prayers...and help us to truly hear you...

—Jim

Reminders

Church Conference and
Youth Fundraiser Baked Potato Bar
November 17 in the Fellowship Hall
Following Worship—No Reservations Needed

Wednesdays at First Activities
<https://firstbaptistgreenville.com/wednesday-night-supper/>
<https://firstbaptistgreenville.com/registration-pre-child-2019-2020/>

The Uptown Company

“MORE THAN JUST WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER”

The Uptown Company, located at First Baptist Greenville, has been serving up Wednesday night dinner at the church for the last five plus years, but did you know these things?

- Uptown Company won this year’s Iron Caterer Competition, going up against some of the biggest names in Greenville including Table 301, Larkins, and the Commerce Club.
- Uptown Company also won “Most Creative” in this year’s Iron Caterer Throwdown.

- Uptown Company partnered with the Greenville Triumph Pro Soccer team this past season and will be the official catering partner for The Triumph for the next two seasons.
- Uptown Company chef, Chris Rosensteel, was awarded the South Carolina Tourism Award for 2018 for Academic Excellence in Tourism Promotion.
- Uptown Company has a retail store online, selling signature items such as our Chicken Salad, Pimento Cheese, and Maple Pecan Bars.



CREATIVE. FROM TABLE TO TAP.

Uptown Company can also prepare a full Thanksgiving meal for you and your family, available through our website: <https://theuptowncompany.com/>

—Carol and Michael Rosensteel

Christmas Poinsettias

Can you believe it? It is only 51 days until Christmas!! Our Flower Guild is scheduling workdays to get our worship space, Narthex and exterior of our building festive for the season, and orders for wreaths and poinsettias have deadlines that are quickly approaching. As a faith family, we will put the finishing touches on our Sanctuary during the Hanging of the Green Service on Sunday morning, December 1, when we celebrate the symbolism of the decorations.

The cost of the decorations is offset by the donations of church members. Church members may purchase poinsettias to help provide all of our decorations. The poinsettias may be given in memory

of a deceased loved one or in honor of a living person. A list of all memorials and honor gifts will be published in upcoming editions of the newsletter. We have a new option for giving this year—online! If you are interested in providing a poinsettia, visit <https://firstbaptistgreenville.com/christmas-poinsettias/> and follow the instructions to submit your dedications. You may even pay online! If you would prefer, you may still mail the following information and your payment (checks payable to First Baptist Church) to me at church or drop it off in person. Orders and checks (\$30 each) should be received by Monday, November 25.



—Kimberly

Name _____	Dedication: In honor of or in memory of _____
Phone Number _____	_____
E-mail Address _____	_____
Number of Poinsettias (\$30 each) _____	_____

I will pick up poinsettia(s) immediately following worship service on Christmas Eve, 12/24. yes no

Mail to: Kimberly Coates, c/o First Baptist Church, 847 Cleveland Street, Greenville, SC, 29601



For more than 25 years, the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of South Carolina (CBFSC) has been leading efforts into some of South Carolina's most destitute areas and communities. It has successful community development initiatives in Allendale and Metanoia and has partnered with Koinonia of Columbia, Carolina Immigrant Alliance, Palmetto Works and has disaster relief teams ready to mobilize when called into action.

Triune Mercy Center in Greenville is just one of the many



who have received crucial funding from CBFSC. Triune Mercy Center seeks to bring homeless, working poor, middle-class and wealthy into a worship community as they

work to get homeless parishioners into drug treatment, housing and employment. Last year, partial funding by a missions grant from CBFSC supported two of Triune's ministries—the art room and the Playback Cafe. The art room provides a place for all to come to heal and have fellowship—not only street dwellers and families from the nearby shelter but also college students and volunteers. The art room has also provided a place for women from Jasmine Road to come and heal as well as other artists to come and spend time offering their gifts. According to Deb Richardson-Moore, pastor, “the Playback Cafe is a monthly program in which local community actors ‘play back’ stories told by homeless parishioners who have told us that the worst thing about being homeless is ‘being looked right through.’ [The Café] is a way to honor their stories.”

The incredible work of CBFSC reminds us that field personnel don't just exist halfway around

the world. There are dedicated individuals and organizations working right here in our own communities to spread the message of God's love. As CBFSC is a direct beneficiary of the Lula Whilden World Missions Offering, portions of all donations stay right here in South Carolina and in Greenville. When these local efforts are combined with the national and international work from CBF and the Alliance of Baptists, it demonstrates how our commitment to missions funding is impacting 1000s of lives.

As we celebrate Lula Whilden, please remember to include this important offering in your giving plans. On average, about 30% of the First Baptist congregation makes a donation. Just think what we could do if all members made a contribution—no amount is too small to be put towards these worthy causes!

—Ryan Dennis, Missions and Affiliations Committee Chair

Disciples in Training, On the Move!

Something new and exciting is happening at First Baptist for our fourth and fifth graders!

For many years, Children's Ministry has offered an annual Discipleship Class to help our kids begin thinking about important questions: What does it mean to be a Christian? What are some ways to talk to God besides bedtime prayers? What happens when you're baptized? What is involved in church membership? How can I be a modern day disciple—and what is one, anyway?

This year we're exploring these topics with a brand new Discipleship Retreat! We'll begin at 3pm on Saturday, November 9, and will finish at the end of worship Sunday, November 10. Much of our time together will be spent on field trips all over Greenville

and right in our own church home, exploring what it means to begin a life of following Jesus.

Whether or not your child has already experienced Discipleship Class, we hope she/he can join us on our brand new retreat! Contact me at becky.ramsey@firstbaptistgreenville.com to sign up by November 6. Thanks to the Stogner gift, the event is free to everyone.



—Becky

For Your Calendar!

- 11/6 10:30am Roadrunners to Lunch at Hungry Drower
Wednesdays at First Activities
- 11/9-10 Children's Ministry Event:
Discipleship Retreat for 4th-5th Grade Children
- 11/10-17 Host IHN Guests
- 11/10 10:30am Jim Dant, Proclaimer
11:30am Lunch for Visitors (Fellowship Hall)
4:00pm Vocare Rehearsal (Choir Room)
5:00-7:00pm Sunday Night Live for Youth: Pack College Care Packages
- 11/11 First Baptist Day School Book Fair (Parlor)
- 11/12 8:45am-3:00pm Holy Rollers to Wholesale Grocery in Pelzer and Lunch at Kenny's Homecooking
- 11/13 *Wednesdays at First Activities*
- 11/17 10:30am Jim Dant, Proclaimer
11:30am Church Conference and Youth Fundraiser Baked Potato Bar
12:30pm Vocare Rehearsal (Choir Room)
2:30-4:30pm Children's Ministry Event: Swimming at Kroc Center

LIVING GENEROUSLY

Financial Needs as of 11/2
\$2,284,612

Receipts as of 10/21
\$1,989,330

Lula Whilden World Missions
Offering 2019 Goal: \$125,000

Receipts as of 10/21
\$27,556

Pastoral Care

On Call Nights and Weekends

November 4-10
Kyle Matthews
551-0829 (m)

November 11-17
Kyle Matthews
551-0829 (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 the Monday prior by visiting the church website or calling the church office. Permanent reservations for the 2019-2020 year are available. Serving lines open 4:45-6:00pm.

November 6

Adult: Beef Tips & Rice, Steamed Vegetable Medley, Pineapple Casserole, Layered Salad, Yeast Rolls, Dessert

Child: Mac and Cheese, Veggies and Dip, Fresh Fruit, Cookies

November 13

Adult: Fried Chicken, Mashed Potatoes and Gravy, Green Beans, Spinach Salad, Butter Biscuits, Dessert

Child: Chicken Fingers, Tater Tots, Veggies and Dip, Fruit, Cookies

Wednesdays at First Schedule

Exceptions and details noted in calendar.

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

Care List as of 11/04/2019

Hospitals

Prisma/Greenville Memorial: Kathy Sharp

MD Anderson – Houston, TX: Gordon Herring

Rehab

NHC Greenville: Joan Garrett

Rolling Green: Henry Barton

Woodlands Rehab: Shirley Smith

Returned Home

Tony Alexander, Marion Crooks, Michael Parrish, Anabelle Kennedy, Rory Boone, newborn Frances Laffitte, Helen Mace

Sympathy to...

Julie Moniot and family in the death of her uncle.

Congratulations to...

Kate and Othniel Laffitte on the birth of a daughter, Frances Blake Laffitte, on October 25, 2019. Frances' grandparents in our church are Carol and Monty Laffitte.

Introducing...



Kimberly Rose and Candace Vickery joined FBG during worship on October 20, Kimberly by profession of faith

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 November 4, 2019 No. 43

requesting baptism and Candace by statement of previous profession of faith and baptism from another denomination. Kimberly works with Lifesource, and Candace is employed with Berkshire Hathaway Home Services.

Job Opening

The AYMC is looking for a welcome desk associate. This person will be responsible for opening the facility Monday through Friday at 5:45am and staffing the welcome desk until 8:00am. Responsibilities will also include some administrative duties.

If you are interested in being part of our ministry, please e-mail your resume to mittie.taylor@firstbaptistgreenville.com.



Save the Date—March 7, 2020

It is one great day of ministry by the church to its neighbors in need!