

WORSHIP

**Sunday,
April 12, 2020**

10:30am via Livestream, Facebook
Live and Radio

Easter Sunday

Proclaimer: Jim Dant

Scripture: Mark 15:42-47, 16:1-8

Sermon: The Bright Side of Empty

Access Livestream here:

<https://livestream.com/fbcgreenvillesc>

Access Facebook Live here:

[/www.facebook.com/pg/
fbcgreenvillesc/videos/](https://www.facebook.com/pg/fbcgreenvillesc/videos/)

**Access Radio (Sunday morning only)
here:**

89.3-HD4, 91.9 FM, 92.9 FM

Viral Vespers

Monday and Tuesday at 7pm

[https://firstbaptistgreenville.com/viral-
vespers/](https://firstbaptistgreenville.com/viral-vespers/)

MidWeek Fellowship Live

Wednesday, April 8

6:15pm via Livestream and
Facebook Live

Teacher: Jim Dant

John 12: Hallelujahs and Hiddenness
– The Church's Limits

Maunder Thursday

Thursday, April 9

7pm via Livestream and Facebook
Live

Communion

Shelton Ridge Love in Recital

Good Friday

Friday, April 10

7pm via firstbaptistgreenville.com
Stations of the Cross



Rustlings

BY JIM DANT

The Lenten season typically begins with the reading of Jesus' wilderness temptations. As this unique Lenten/ Covid season slowly slips into Holy Week, maybe we should glance at a portion of the story again. The first temptation is to turn stones into bread. It is the temptation to think that tending the physical needs of people is the only relevant work in the world. In fact, while Jesus often rebukes religious leaders, he rarely rebukes 'the multitudes' that follow him. On one of the few occasions that he does rebuke the multitude, he says, "...you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life..." (John 6:26-27). Jesus noted our tendency to think that only our physical needs really matter.

Faith is an essential part of human existence. The shape of faith, the approach to faith, and the expressions of faith certainly differ from human to human and culture to culture, but faith is essential. Even those who deny or claim no faith have engaged

a thought process that has brought them to a place of peace. Call me presumptuous, but I would argue they have a different form of faith.

The 'shelter in place' orders that have been implemented in our state do not classify faith institutions as non-essential. They do forbid (and rightly so) our gathering for worship, classes, committee meetings, etc., but they do not forbid us from coming to work and providing necessary care for those struggling through this covid crisis. As aggressively as doctors and researchers are attempting to care for our medical needs and grocery clerks, truck drivers and others are caring for our physical needs; churches, synagogues, mosques and chaplains are working to care for our spiritual needs. It is essential. Physical care without soul care leaves a person barely cared for.

We will continue to drastically limit the number of those who work in the office at First Baptist, as well as those who participate in video worship leadership. We will continue to abide by all regulations with regard to distance, washing and gathering. In this careful process, we will continue to find ways to provide care and a sense of community...because faith is essential.

— Jim

United Ministries Needs Fruit

Thank you for your continued generosity in providing canned fruit for our neighbors through the United Ministries food pantry! You may now order and ship from home by shopping from the United Ministries Amazon wishlist: https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1MNF6VPVU487F/ref=cm_go_nav_hz. We will continue collecting on Wednesdays from 10am- 6pm until further notice in the covered drive-through between the Rotunda and the Fellowship Hall. You may also deliver directly to United Ministries from 8am-noon Monday-Friday at 606 Pendleton Street.

Youth and Triune Mercy Center

Approximately a month ago, the Youth Family joined the congregation of Triune Mercy Center for Sunday morning worship and lunch. Following Sunday School, we packed ourselves into the church bus and traveled across town and found our seats in the Sanctuary just prior to the beginning of worship. The youth loved the service, and many reported having very meaningful, and sometimes surprising, conversations with the congregants as we ate lunch together. Following lunch, we were treated to a tour of Triune's facility and were able to witness the ingenious artwork being created by several congregants. Upon the conclusion of our experience, we thought it would be worthwhile to partner with Triune to provide art supplies.

Since that time, our community has been altered by the outbreak of COVID-19. Triune's ministry has been heavily impacted by this virus. You are



under no obligation, but if you feel so led, Triune has specifically asked for packed gallon-sized freezer bags of pop-top items such as peanut butter crackers, fruit cups,



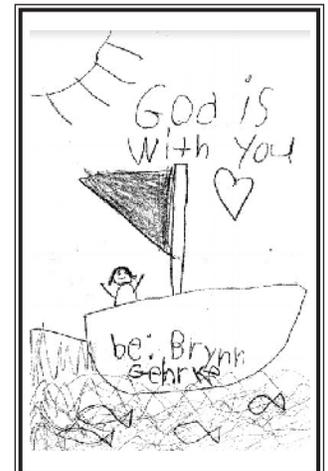
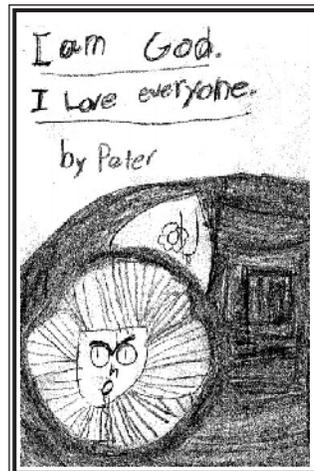
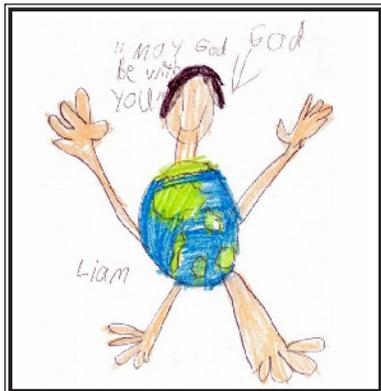
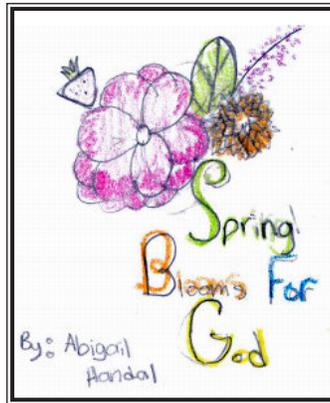
Vienna sausages, cereal bars, granola bars, bottled water, etc. You may drop them off, or order them dropped off, at Triune; however, Triune is open limited hours, so you must call ahead to schedule delivery. You are able to follow the needs of this particular community either by visiting their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/Triune-Mercy-Center-132948390087317/> or by calling the church.

—Will Raybon

Art to Lift Our Hearts

Each Sunday during worship, the children are invited to make art honoring God with the materials in their worship bags while they are listening and participating in worship. Enjoy these pieces of art our children have created! Our artists include Olivia Holder, Ainsley Murphy, Liam Martin, Brynn Gehrke, Abigail Handal, and Peter Campbell.

—Becky



Looking for Light

Palm Sunday has come and gone. The triumphant cries of “Hosanna!” have faded, and a fog of apprehensiveness has pervaded the hearts and minds of Christians throughout the world. We all recognize that something is about to happen that will plunge the world into darkness before revitalizing it with light. Today is the Monday of Holy Week, and we sit on the cusp of a journey that will remind us of Jesus’ final days among us before being subjected to torture and crucifixion. Although darkness is closing in, interestingly, the Psalm reading for this day is Psalm 36: 5-11.

“Your steadfast love, O Lord, extends to the heavens, your faithfulness to the clouds. Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains, your judgments are like the great deep; you save humans and animals alike, O Lord. How precious is your steadfast love, O God! All people may take refuge

in the shadow of your wings. They feast on the abundance of your house, and you give them drink from the river of your delights. For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light. O continue your steadfast love to those who know you, and your salvation to the upright of heart! Do not let the foot of the arrogant tread on me, or the hand of the wicked drive me away.”

This passage is a section of a Psalm that addresses human wickedness before reminding its readers of God’s goodness. Darkness and light are often juxtaposed when we are faced with tribulations. I expect that even when we feel our lowest, we search for light because God’s Spirit compels us to do so. I am not a dancer, but Celine and I love watching Dancing with the Stars. The grace and beauty that dancers exhibit is extraordinary, and I am always left in awe of the

story they tell with a combination of movement and music. Actor James Van Der Beek starred on Dancing with the Stars’ latest season. In the midst of the season he learned both that his wife was pregnant and, a short time later, that there had been a miscarriage. He was heartbroken, but when asked if he would be ending his performances on the show he replied, “When words fail, you sing. When there are no words, you dance.” He and his partner went on to perform an incredibly emotional routine to the song, “Take Me to Church.” This Easter is going to look different from what we are used to. Some of us might resonate with Holy Week more so than ever before. I encourage you all to remember the light of this Psalm and the goodness of God when things feel dark. A great light is among us; do not forget to look for it. Amen.

—Will Raybon

Focus on Missions: Virtual Diaper Drive

During the month of April, First Baptist will partner with the Diaper Bank of the Carolinas/Downtown Outreach Ministry for the third year to collect diapers and wipes for local families. As we know, clean diapers are essential for the health and well-being of young children. Babies left in soiled diapers experience developmental delays, behavioral issues and health concerns such as persistent diaper rashes and urinary tract infections.

There is no government assistance available for diapers and diapering supplies, and many low-

income families cannot afford the \$100 plus per month to adequately diaper an infant or young child.

To support this year’s diaper collection, shop from home by following the link to the Amazon diaper registry: <https://tinyurl.com/FBGDiaperBank>. At checkout, make sure to choose the shipping option which goes directly to the Diaper Bank of the Carolinas. Representatives from the Diaper Bank will distribute items to local families. Thank you for your generosity!

—Laura

Upcoming Internet Events

(links on church website)

- 4/6 7:00pm Viral Vespers
- 4/7 7:00pm Viral Vespers
- 4/8 6:15pm MidWeek Fellowship Bible Study
- 4/9 7:00pm Maundy Thursday
- 4/10 7:00pm Good Friday
- 4/12 10:30am Easter Sunday

Wednesday Supper

Our caterer, Uptown Catering, will continue to provide Wednesday Night Supper for us. Visit their website (<https://theuptowncompany.square.site/s/shop>) to view their “to go” menu options. There are individual meals as well as family meals from which to choose and look for the Wednesday Night Special choice. This option is available at our regular FBG Wednesday night pricing! The special pricing only applies to Wednesday night meals, but their services are available all the time. All meals will be available for drive-thru pick up at the kitchen door—you don’t even have to get out of your vehicle! Make your reservation by 6pm on the Monday prior.

April 8

Chicken Pot Pie, Rice, Fried Apples, Salad, Dessert



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LIVING GENEROUSLY

Financial Needs as of 4/4

\$674,999

Receipts as of 3/31

\$562,364

Pastoral Care On Call Nights and Weekends

April 6-12
Matt Rollins
346-0971 (m)

April 13-20
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.”

Care List as of 4/6/2020

Hospitals

St. Francis Downtown:
Rosalind Tedards

Greer Memorial: Shirley Smith

Rehab

Brookdale-Greenville: Betty King

NHC-Mauldin: Freddie Foster

Brushy Creek Post Acute:
Nancy Sanders

Recently Discharged

Dann Kirby, Shirley Smith

Sympathy

...to the family of Betty Boyer.

...to the family of Catherine Sumner

Beautiful Messes

In the next weeks, we will share stories written by our Youth Family of the beautiful messes in their lives.

Finding Myself: Many people often tell me that their life is perfect and there is nothing messy about their lives at all. And I like to think that my life is perfect as well. But, no one can say that their life is perfect, because there will always be something messy about everyone’s life. But, this mess can be beautiful, and you can see the beauty of someone’s mess. I can give many examples of messiness in my life. There are so many messes in my life that I may not be able to think of. But, there is one specific mess in my life that I will never forget, yet I found this situation very beautiful.

When I was almost out of elementary school, I started to really focus on finding myself and who and where I wanted to be in life. Trying to do this, I encountered many circumstances that I wanted to shut myself away and not come out of my shell. But I learned that I needed to face my fears and battle these circumstances. I find this time of my life so messy, but yet, so beautiful. I find this mess beautiful because finding myself was hard, but I am in one of the best states now. I was put in situations I did not volunteer to be put in. But, I got through it. And everyone gets put in situations that they don’t want to be put in, but they will always get through it. I may not be perfect, but I have learned that to be yourself and to be the person God wanted you to be is one of the most important things for a person’s life. Amen.

—Jayne Womack
7th Grade, St. Joseph’s Catholic School