

WORSHIP

Sunday, December 20

10:30am

via FBG Website, Facebook and Radio

Fourth Sunday of Advent: Love

Proclaimer: Jim Dant

Sermon: Backstage

Service Musicians: Sanctuary Choir
Ensemble

Access FBG Website here:
<https://firstbaptistgreenville.com/>

Access Facebook here:
<https://www.facebook.com/fbcgreenvillesc/>

Access Radio (Sunday morning only)
here:
89.3-HD4, 91.9 FM, 92.9 FM

Advent Bookets

Please visit the church website homepage for the new in-house 2020 book of Advent meditations. If you would like a paper copy, contact Kimberly Coates (kimberly.coates@firstbaptistgreenville.com or 233-2527 ext. 128) to arrange a pick-up time.

AYMC Hours

AYMC Walking Track and Fitness Room are open by appointment only, Monday-Friday, 8am-12noon. Additionally, on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, appointments are available 5-7pm. Email aymc@firstbaptistgreenville.com for appointment.



Distance Bridges

BY CAMILLE
LOOMIS
REHNBORG

The length of a football field... A city block... Humans love to measure distance by referring to familiar spaces. If 2020 had its own unit of distance, it would naturally be the “6-foot social distance”—as in, “Wow! Can you believe we were only ten social-distances away from that bear?” or “Honey, I’m going to be late. The check-out line at Trader Joe’s is probably a thousand social-distances long.”

This year, we are more physically aware of distance than ever before. We can quickly measure six feet with our eyes. We know how to step off the running trail to let people pass. We feel miles and state-lines of distance acutely during the holiday season. We wonder how a simple window or door dividing us from our loved ones can feel concurrently like an inch and a galaxy of distance.

Creating community at a distance has been an overall theme and joy of 2020. One benefit of livestreamed worship and

virtual Sunday school is that our church has been able to welcome new members from outside the Greenville area! These “distance members” hail from other parts of South Carolina—and even across the country. Distance members agree to the same covenant as local members: to be in worship, to get involved in a small group, and to be generous with their time, talents and finances. As equal members of the congregation, distance members receive the same prayer support, individual counseling and voting rights as any other member. (*Psst... if you are a distance member, there’s a special welcome packet coming in the mail!*) If you or someone you know would like more information on becoming a distance member, please email Matt Rollins (matt.rollins@firstbaptistgreenville.com) or send us a message through the Contact Us button on the church website.

Geographic distance is just one version of distance. Our members in residence at care facilities or who are isolating at home are shouldering a specific kind of distance, as are their families. The first week of Advent, the Congregational Care team and volunteers assembled and delivered

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December 20, 6:00-8:00pm

Luminary Drive Through

Luminaries, Live Nativity, Music, Communion, Children’s Gift from Jim, and Lula Whilden World Missions Offering

Poinsettia Dedications

Members of our congregation provided the beautiful poinsettias displayed in our Sanctuary.



A poinsettia is given in memory of Hattie Louise Miller Reeves by her daughter, Avis Dale Reeves Sutton.

Virginia Zaccheo gives a poinsettia in memory of her

husband, Joseph Zaccheo Sr., and her mother, Louise Percoco.

A poinsettia is given in honor of Tony and Cam McDade by their granddaughter, Ainsley.

Nancy Horne gifts a poinsettia in loving memory of Mike Horne (her sweetie).

A poinsettia is given in memory of Carolyn and Jim Fayssoux by Jim and Martha Fayssoux and children.

Jim and Martha Fayssoux and children and John and Carole Austin and children gift two poinsettias in memory of Helen and Erwin Austin.

A poinsettia is given in memory of Dan Batson by his wife, Gerry, and daughters, Lynne and Becky.

A poinsettia in memory of Pepper Martin is given by Nina Martin, Ethel and Jim Childress, Jim and Dewanda Martin, and Joyce and Lew Moss.

Debbie Willingham gifts a poinsettia in loving memory of Benje Willingham.

A poinsettia is given in memory of Ben and Mary Frances Willingham by their daughter-in-law, Debbie Willingham.

A poinsettia is given in honor of Anne and Wayne Weaver by their niece, Debbie Willingham.

Two poinsettias are given in memory of Gerald Stroud by Lois, Ginny, Stephen and David Stroud with their families.

Annelle and Dick Locke give a poinsettia in honor of Annelle's sister, Jane P. Crowder, and another poinsettia in honor of Dick's brother, Jim Locke.

A poinsettia is given in loving memory of Bruce Larson (Grumpus) by his wife, Carol Larson, his son, Adam Larson, and granddaughters, Hunter and Harlow.

Carol Larson gives a poinsettia in appreciation of the many kindnesses shown by dear friends Rebeka and Ray Mazzone – "Couldn't have made it through the last few years without you!"

The Hope Sunday School Class gifts a poinsettia in honor of Pat and Lee Counts.

A poinsettia is given in loving memory of Margaret Baker Bell, dear mother and Nanee, by her family.

John and Martha (Brady) Burwell gift a poinsettia in loving memory and celebration of S. Carroll Brady.

A poinsettia is given in memory of Arthur and Jean Coogler by their son, Steve Coogler, and his family.

Two poinsettias are given by Ralph and Becky Bouton in memory of their parents, Frances and Bill Bouton and Blanche and Bill Carpenter.

Tom and Sherry Atkinson give two poinsettias in memory of their parents, Floyd and Genie Jones and Ben and Louise Atkinson.

A poinsettia is given in memory of Oscar Funderburk by his wife, Sandra.

Sandra Funderburk places a poinsettia in memory of Grace and Bernard Simmons.

A poinsettia in honor of Nina Martin is given by Ethel & Jim Childress, Dewanda & Jim Martin, Joyce & Lew Moss.

Thomas Bruce gifts a poinsettia in memory of Larkin and Jean Bruce.

A poinsettia is given in memory of Helen and Frank Ulmer by Margaret Ulmer.

Lib Hunter gifts a poinsettia in memory of Bill Hunter.

A poinsettia is given in honor of Patsy and Arnold Burrell by their children and grandchildren.

A poinsettia is given in loving memory of Freddie Jo Foster by her husband, Skip, and family.

Jimmy Jeter gifts a poinsettia in loving memory of his wife, Catherine Ann.

A poinsettia is given in loving memory of Catherine Ann Jeter by her son, Greg.

A poinsettia in loving memory of Catherine Ann Jeter is given by her son, Scott.

A poinsettia in loving memory of Catherine Ann Jeter is given by her son, Brad.

Luminary Drive Through

It's the most wonderful time of the year. December 20 might be the most wonderful evening of the year! COVID-19 has kept us from safely gathering, but it will not keep us from experiencing the meaningful traditions that are a part of the holidays at First Baptist Greenville.

On Sunday evening, December 20, from 6:00 until 8:00pm, our church will enjoy a Luminary Drive Through Service. You will enter the church campus at the Cleveland Street entrance, turn off your car lights, proceed through a luminary-lit circle around

the campus, and enjoy worship from the safety of your car. Worship stations will include: musical ensembles, communion, a live nativity, gifts for each child in your car, and even an opportunity to make your donation to the Lula Whilden Offering for World Missions.

A map is provided below... and we look forward to seeing you on this festive and meaningful evening!

—Jim



Poinsettia Dedications, continued from page 2

The Jeter family gifts a poinsettia in memory of Thelma Jordan Wood.

A poinsettia is given by the Jeter family in memory of Bob Wood.

The Jeter family gifts a poinsettia in memory of Mr. C.G. Jordan and in honor of the Jordan family.

Two poinsettias are given in loving memory of Ruth and Henry Little by their family.

Betty Alice and Richard Harper donate a poinsettia in appreciation for Lee and Pat Counts, leaders of the Hope Class.

Upcoming Events

(service links on church website)

- 12/16 5:00-7:00pm** Middle School Christmas White Elephant Game (AYMC Terrace Level)
6:15pm Longest Night Service (Virtual)
12/18 6:00-9:00pm College Christmas Party (Fellowship Hall)
12/20 9:30-10:15am (Zoom) Joint Advent Sunday School Series: A Conversation with Our Seminary Students— Learning to Love Again <https://tinyurl.com/fbgadventss>
10:30am (Virtual) Fourth Sunday of Advent
 Jim Dant, Proclaimer
12/20 6:00-8:00pm Luminary Drive Through
12/24 5:00pm (Virtual) Fireside Christmas Eve Service
 Jim Dant, Proclaimer
12/27 10:30am (Virtual) First Sunday of Christmas
 Jim Dant, Proclaimer

- 1/3 10:30am** (Virtual) Epiphany Sunday
 Jim Dant and Akif Aydin, Proclaimers



CREATIVE. FROM TABLE TO TAP.

Meals to Go

Uptown Catering continues to provide meals to go as well as Wednesday Night Specials at FBG pricing! Visit their website (<https://theuptowncompany.square.site/s/shop>) to view their menu options. 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!

Care List

Care List as of Morning, 12/14

Hospitals

Prisma-Greenville Memorial: Miriam Fares

Prisma-Patewood: Laura Darnell

Rehab

Patewood-Congaree: Brenda Ballard

Discharged

Claudia Caldwell

Sympathy

...to Jimmy Paul and family in the death of his brother.

...to the family of Sallie Grant.

...to the family of Rachel Woods.

...to Deborah Jordan and family in the death of her brother.

...the family of Betty Christeson.

Congratulations

...to Baker and Carson Watts on the birth of a daughter, Perry Elizabeth Watts, born November 15, 2020. Perry's grandmother in our church is Jean Watts.

LIVING GENEROUSLY

Financial Needs as of 12/12
 \$2,544,227

Receipts as of 12/9
 \$2,349,585



Receipts as of 12/9
 \$62,991

Pastoral Care

On Call Nights and Weekends

December 14-20

Matt Rollins
 346-0971 (m)

December 21-27

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."


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...to Joshua and Mackenzie Dacus Hall on the birth of a son, Brookshire Ray Hall, on December 2, 2020, in Lexington, SC. Brooks' grandparents in our church are Julie and Keith Dacus.

Distance Bridges, from page 1

over 80 Advent gift bags to our homebound and assisted living members. A huge thank you to all those who helped bridge this distance by delivering a little Christmas joy!

I'm grateful for a community that looks for ways to bridge the big and small distances and a community who waits together to welcome the One who traveled what once felt like an impossible distance—the distance between divinity and humanity—to be closer to us than we could dream.

—Camille