

WORSHIP

Wednesday, March 17

6:15pm

Via FBG Website and Facebook

MidWeek Fellowship

Proclaimer: Camille Loomis Rehnborg

Bible Study: Temptations of Jesus:
Luke 22-23

Sunday, March 21

10:30am

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Annunciation Sunday

Proclaimer: Kendra Plating

Sermon: A God of Possibilities

Scripture: Luke 1:26-38

Service Choir: 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, 89.7 FM, 91.9 FM

If you are having trouble viewing the stream or have had trouble in the past, please email live@firstbaptistgreenville.com. Include your name, email and description of your problem. Thank you for your continued support.

—Will D.



Rustlings

BY JIM DANT

The Lenten Season is a time of intense prayer. Those who give steady attention to these days before Easter tend to immerse themselves in repetitive prayers of confession. These prayers often state—over and over again—the same sins, shortcomings and failures. Jesuit Brother, Michael Moynahan, calls these prayers broken records. In the book, *Hearts on Fire: Praying with the Jesuits*, Moynahan shares a prayer titled ‘Broken Record.’ He encourages Christians to stop the self-effacing stutter and listen for God’s voice. He imagines God might speak these words to us...if God could get a word in edgewise...

“I love you
because I can’t do
anything else.
I made you, every last part
of you:
all that’s hidden and all
that’s revealed,
all that’s muddled and even
all that’s clear.

You are,
at the risk
of repeating myself,
dear to me.
You are precious
in my eyes
because...
just because you are mine.
That’s enough for me.
And it will have to do for
you.
Wrestle with it until you get
tired
and then relax and give in.
Take a deep breath and
enjoy.”

In the middle of your confessions,
in the middle of this Lenten
Season, stop and listen for God’s
voice. You might be delighted by
what you hear.

—Jim

AYMC Hours

AYMC Walking Track and Fitness Room are open by appointment only, Monday-Friday, 8am-12noon.

Email aymc@firstbaptistgreenville.com for appointment.

Chapel Visits

Weekdays, February 17-April 1
Come to sit, meditate, pray or visit the Stations of the Cross.

Sign up for 30-minute slot at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0b4daaad2da2f58-chapel>

New FBDS Co-Director of Education Practices



The church search committee, chaired by Janna Pennington, has completed its work in hiring a new Co-Director of Education Practices for First Baptist Day School. We are excited to introduce Julie Fayssoux in that position. Julie has been a Fives teacher at FBDS since 2009 and had previous teaching experience in other schools. Julie participated in a Reggio-Emilia study tour in 2011 and has attended NAREA conferences to further her study and understanding of the Reggio philosophy. She has also served on the FBDS Pedagogical Team for several years, which helps guide the educational path of our school. Julie and her family are also members of FBG. Julie will begin this new position June 1. Kathy Stewart will retire June 30, giving them time to work together to facilitate a smooth transition. Please join us in welcoming Julie into this new role at FBDS.

COVID Conversations for Lent

5TH SUNDAY IN LENT—MARCH 21, 2021

(taken from an email sent out from Susan D'Amato to participants in our Centering Prayer group last March, just a few days after our first worship service was canceled due to COVID, and well before we realized how often our conversations would soon rely on a little known software called Zoom!)

Centering Prayer friends,

By now I trust you have gotten the news that First Baptist Greenville is canceling services and meetings until at least Palm Sunday [of 2020]. Accordingly, we will not meet in person on Tuesdays until at least Holy Week.

After talking to several of you this weekend, I have a suggestion for what we might try during this unusual time. At Furman I am learning to use "Zoom" video conferencing so I can meet my students online, and I thought we could try this in our group. It would give

us 20 minutes or so of time each week to check in with each other, see how everyone is doing, and share what we wish.

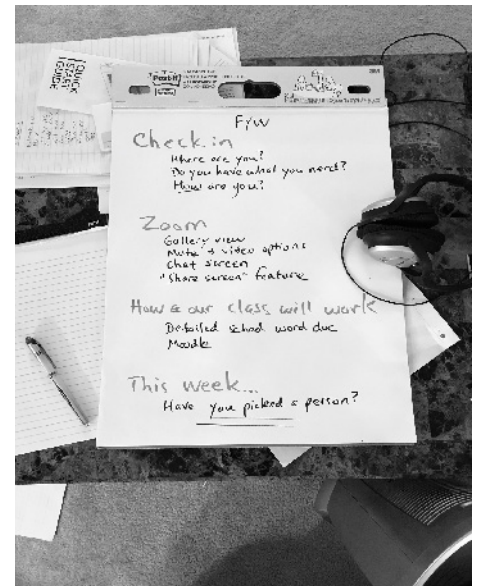
If you want to try this, simply use the info and link below, which I will resend each week. You will click the link. The first time you do this you will have to follow a prompt to download the app. After that you will just have to wait to log on until I have opened the meeting session.

Be well and safe,

Susan

Susan D'Amato is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting...

Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow



me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. (John 12:24-26)

In the stillness of the quiet, if we listen, we can hear the whisper of the heart giving strength to weakness, courage to fear, hope to despair.—Howard Thurman

Susan D'Amato leads the Centering Prayer Group that meets (in normal times) here at First Baptist Greenville, and she currently serves as the chair of the Spiritual Formation Committee.

Annie's House by Sustaining Way

We kicked off 2020 with the faith that it would be a year of transformation. The pandemic, social unrest, and increased threats to the health and well-being of all humanity required us to approach work in the Nicholtown community much differently.



SAVER



Beginning in March 2020, we welcomed our first full-time Program Director, Alecia Brewster, and now have expanded to four onsite community coordinators, Michelle Desmarais, Oscar Bennett, Danielle Parks and



sustaining way

Suzanna Ellison. In collaboration with FBG and other partners, we committed to providing for immediate needs including PPE, healthy food, critical home repairs and housing security resources. Overall, SW provided face masks and food to 200 residents each

week, restored hope to a resident in desperate need of home repairs, facilitated a Steward Youth Fellows cohort and hosted critical virtual education events each month.

In 2021 Sustaining Way continues down the path of transformation with a new strategic plan and vision and a newly named Executive Director, Michael Brown. At Annie's House, we are completing construction of an outdoor education center and a cool room for storing fresh produce, and we will continue offering virtual education in an effort to increase access to our programs and to healthy food. Also, our backyard garden pilot program launched with eight families, and we are strengthening

community relationships to expand gardening throughout the community.

Reflecting on this journey, January 2021 marked exactly ten years since God gave me the vision that began this journey. Without FBG and a village of other supporters, none of this work would have been possible. Sustaining Way is committed to education, collaboration, and advocacy to create sustainable, caring and equitable communities for current and future generations. In unity through faith, we believe that these things and more will come to fruition.

—Rick Joye, Co-Chair SAVER Committee; Founder and Sustaining Way Board Chair

Palms and Easter Lilies

To celebrate Easter, an arrangement of lilies will be placed in the Sanctuary as both honorary and memorial gifts. These gifts will also provide the palms used the week before on Palm Sunday. All lily gifts will be published in the newsletter. We have a new option for giving this year—online! If you are interested in providing an Easter lily gift, visit <https://firstbaptistgreenville.com/easter-lilies/> 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, March 22. If you would like to make a gift toward this arrangement, send the following information to my attention at the church (First Baptist Church, Attn: Kimberly Coates, 847 Cleveland Street, Greenville, SC 29601), along with your contribution of \$30 per dedication:



Name:
Phone Number:
Email Address (if applicable):
Number of Gifts (\$30 each):
In honor of:
In memory of:

Please make checks payable to First Baptist Church. Orders should be received by March 22 to allow time to order palms and lilies.
—Kimberly

EASTER

Upcoming Events

(service links on church website)

- 3/17 4:00pm Preschool Choir and Missions (Zoom)
 5:00pm Elementary Choir and Missions (Zoom)
 5:00pm Wednesdays for Youth – High School
 6:15pm (Virtual) MidWeek Fellowship: Camille Loomis Rehnborg—Temptations of Jesus: Luke 22-23
- 3/21 10:30am (Virtual) Fifth Sunday in Lent
 Annunciation Sunday
 Kendra Plating, Proclaimer
 4:15pm Vocare Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
 5:00pm Sunday Night Live for Youth—Middle School
- 3/21-28 Host IHN Guests
- 3/24 4:00pm Preschool Choir and Missions (Zoom)
 5:00pm Elementary Choir and Missions (Zoom)
 5:00pm Wednesdays for Youth—High School
 6:15pm (Virtual) MidWeek Fellowship: Camille Loomis

- Rehnborg—Temptations of Jesus: Luke Luke 22-23
- 3/28 10:30am (Virtual) Palm/Passion Sunday
 4:15pm Vocare Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
 5:00pm Sunday Night Live for Youth—Middle School
- 3/31 4:00pm Preschool Choir and Missions (Zoom)
 5:00pm Elementary Choir and Missions (Zoom)
 5:00pm Wednesdays for Youth—High School
 6:15pm (Virtual) MidWeek Fellowship



Meals to Go

Uptown Catering continues to provide meals to go as well as Wednesday Night Specials at FBG pricing! Visit <https://theuptowncompany.square.site/s/shop> for menu options. Available for drive-thru pick up at the kitchen door!

Care List

Care List as of Morning, 3/15

Hospitals

As of the morning of 3/15, there are no hospitalized church members of whom the Pastoral Care Ministry is aware.

Rehab

Patewood-Congaree: Brenda Ballard
 Cascades: Claudia Caldwell

March Focus on Missions

Throughout March, we are accepting donations of much-needed cleaning supplies for IHN participants. Typically, IHN involves various religious organizations in the Greenville community taking turns to provide emergency shelter, food and fellowship to families who are experiencing homelessness. The structure of IHN has been

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LIVING GENEROUSLY

Financial Needs as of 3/13
 \$538,460

Receipts as of 3/12
 \$454,093

Pastoral Care

On Call Nights and Weekends

March 15-21
 Jim Dant
 478-737-7298 (m)

March 22-28
 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."

forced to shift temporarily to avoid endangering anyone involved. Those seeking emergency shelter are in separate apartments for the time being. Our whole congregation is invited to help by donating any of the following items throughout the month:

- Paper towels
- Toilet bowl cleaner (like Ajax®)
- Multi-surface cleaners for kitchens and/or bathrooms
- Duster kits (like Swiffer®)

Deliver to FBG Reception Area Monday–Friday, 9am–5pm OR order online and ship to:

First Baptist Greenville
 c/o Amy Joye
 847 Cleveland Street
 Greenville, SC 29601

Questions? laura.stout@firstbaptistgreenville.com