

WORSHIP

Sunday, August 1

10:30am

Sanctuary and via FBG Website,
Facebook and Radio

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Proclaimer: Jim Dant

Sermon: The Power of Words

Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Service Choir: Sanctuary Choir

Access FBG Website here:

<https://firstbaptistgreenville.com/>

Access Facebook here:

<https://www.facebook.com/fbcgreenvillesc/>

Access Radio here:

89.3-HD4, 89.7 FM, 91.9 FM

Instructions for In-Person Worship Services

First Baptist Greenville has returned to in-person worship on Sundays at 10:30am. In accordance with our COVID-19 Care Statement, services take place in the Sanctuary, socially distanced and free of COVID-19 symptoms. As of July 1, those who are fully vaccinated need not wear a mask, but those who are unvaccinated, along with those who are more comfortable masked, will continue to wear masks any time they are in the building.

AYMC Hours

AYMC Walking Track and Fitness
Room

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday,
8:00am-8:00pm

Wednesday and Friday, 8:00am-
2:00pm



Rustlings

BY JIM DANT

I am looking forward to catching up with you this Sunday morning! While I know many of you will be on vacation or attending prior engagements, I'm hoping the vast majority of you will be in worship Sunday. Returning to the office last week was pure joy. I can't describe the sense of delight and relief I felt seeing my desk, my chair, my books, my 'stack of things to do,' and of course, my coworkers. In the same way, I'm excited to walk back into the sanctuary, hear the organ, watch the acolytes, step onto the platform, and look into your faces. I'll spend part of the sermon thanking you for your care, sharing stories from the past eight weeks, and of course, speaking a word of encouragement. After the service, I'm looking forward to hugs and handshakes and hearing your stories in the narthex. I can't wait to catch up.

All of our greetings Sunday morning will be a personal catch up. We also need to address a practical catch up. During my recovery hiatus, I strictly followed my doctor's orders. I did not work. I did not receive emails from work. I did not receive committee reports or pastoral care updates or financial charts. Upon returning to

the office this morning, all of this data was delivered. I'm beginning to make some pastoral calls to those who've been in crisis the last two months. I've browsed the committee reports and gotten caught up on calendared events. I've perused our financial reports... and I can't fix this one by myself. I would like this Sunday, August 1, to be our Offering Catch Up Sunday. Several years ago, during the season of Lent, we received more than \$400,000 in capital campaign gifts in just 40 days. I'd like to see the same miraculous generosity this Sunday. If you are behind on your tithes and offerings for the year—catch up. If you are on track with your commitments to the church, then dig into blessings you've received and give an extra gift above and beyond what you had intended. (In the Levitical tradition, it could be a 'Thank Offering' for my recovery or for any positive event you've experienced in your life. I'll be giving a 'Thank Offering!') I would love to see an overwhelming display of generosity Sunday as a testimony of God's goodness and our determination to rebuild and enhance the church's work as we move into the Fall. I'm looking forward to catching up this Sunday—personally and practically. I'll see you in worship.

—Jim

Happy Birthday!

Please remember these members of our congregation celebrating a birthday in August who are not always able to be out and about:

August 3

Rusty Browning
209 Wild Geese Way
Travelers Rest, SC 29690

August 6

Bea Blanton (90)
1045 Shaffer Corner Road
Varnville, SC 29944

August 8

Nancy McJunkin (91)
408 Freedom Drive
Walhalla, SC 29691

August 10

Dianne Williamson
100 Stonecrest Road
Greer, SC 29650

August 12

Betty Morin (94)
36 Stillwood Drive
Greenville, SC 29607

August 18

Hugh Stephens (91)
Gardens at Eastside
275 Commonwealth Dr.
Greenville, SC 29615

Senior Adults, Save the Date!

The Senior Adults are having a picnic! The date is Friday, September 10, from 4:30-6pm. We'll gather on the AYMC terrace and enjoy food and fellowship. It's a chance to be together again safely and just visit. Won't you come join us? Reservations are required, so we will have enough food and seating. Make your reservation with Amy Joye by email (amy.joye@firstbaptistgreenville.com) or phone (864-233-2527 ext 111). See you there!

Stay tuned for more information on our plans for fall...

Residency Reflections—One Year



One year ago, Matthew and I were unloading a U-Haul truck in our new Greenville neighborhood, wondering what life would be like at First Baptist. It's hard to believe that I am halfway through the 2-year pastoral residency, but time flies when you are part of a church

community that digs in and loves big even during a pandemic.

While my years at Duke Divinity were intellectually and ethically formative, we all know that there's a big difference between writing papers and putting skills into practice. Doctors complete a residency position as a bridge between the classroom and private practice, so why shouldn't the people we entrust to care for our souls? After graduating from seminary in 2020, I hoped that this residency would help me learn the "nuts and bolts" of church leadership, practice ministry skills, and learn from experienced pastors.

I have had the chance to focus on four areas within our church: administration, pastoral care, worship, and children/youth ministry. After one year serving as your pastoral resident, here are some of the things I have learned that seminary never taught me:

- The kind of vision and planning for guiding a church through big changes
- The church's development of a sustainable and cohesive approach to community stress (i.e. a global pandemic)
- The appearance of a church budget
- How to pray over the phone
- Appropriate clothes for hospital visits (Have pockets. There's no room for a purse!)
- Classic hymns to include in funeral bulletins
- How an administrative staff works (This one wasn't brand new information, but I have a deeper appreciation for how our administrative staff holds all the pieces together!)
- Practice leading communion liturgy (hint: always pre-slice the loaf!)
- How to answer a child's questions about God in a way that encourages curiosity (Pastor Becky is a master at this!)
- Expectation that youth and children will offer profound insights on their spiritual life

I am so grateful for the chance to be part of this community. It's the best job in the world – one that hardly feels like a job, at all. It's a privilege and a blessing. Can't wait to see what joy the next year brings!

—Camille



United Ministries
Transforming Lives Together

Company Is Coming!

SAVE THE DATE: OCTOBER 24-OCTOBER 30

We will host IHN families in our church for the week, October 24-30, by sharing meals, fellowship and a place to stay together as a family. The Interfaith Hospitality Network allows families with children to stay together as they confront the daunting challenges of tackling homelessness. You can read more about the ministry here:

<https://united-ministries.org/homeless-services/family-shelter/>

We need volunteers to help set up and take down on Sundays, prepare and serve meals, visit with families as an evening host, or spend the night at the church as an overnight host.

If you are interested in learning more, contact me at ihnfbg@gmail.com.

—Cam McDade, FBG IHN Leadership Team

MISSIONS

Bake with the Bible



If you walked by the Fellowship Hall in June, you might have noticed teams of kid bakers, hard at work! Our first through fifth graders enjoyed three weekly

sessions of Bake with the Bible. As we practiced our baking skills, we enjoyed Bible stories, played games, made things, and learned about organizations in Greenville and beyond that use food as part of their ministries. Luckily for our families, we made plenty to share!

—Becky



CHILDREN

Upcoming Events

(service links on church website)

- 7/25-8/1 Host IHN Guests Virtually
 7/26-29 9:00am-Noon Children's Ministry: Bible Wizard Camp (Grades 3-5)
 7/28 4:00-7:00pm Youth End-of-Summer Pool Party (Forrester Woods Estates)
 8/1 9:30am Joint Adult Sunday School: Know Your Mothers (Fellowship Hall)
 8/1 10:30am Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
 Proclaimer: Jim Dant
 3:00pm Ordination of Anne Garner
 8/2 10:30am Roadrunners to Strawberry Hill
 8/8 9:30am Joint Adult Sunday School: Know Your Mothers (Fellowship Hall)
 8/8 10:30am Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
 Proclaimer: Jim Dant
 8/10-11 6th Grade Merge Retreat (Asbury Hills)

- 8/15 10:30am Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
 Proclaimer: Jim Dant
 8/22 Promotion Sunday
 10:30am Proclaimer: Jim Dant
 3:00-7:00pm Parent-Youth Night Block Party (Fellowship Hall)
 5:00pm LGBTQ & Friends Support Group (AYMC Terrace Level)
 8/29 10:30am Proclaimer: Jim Dant
 2:00-4:00pm Michelle Icard (Fellowship Hall)
 9/4-6 Youth Fall Retreat at Rockmont



8/1 — Marcella and Paula of Rome, presented by Jennifer Craig
 8/8 — Perpetua & Felicitas, presented by Kendra Plating
vimeo.com/showcase/fbgjointsundayschool


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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. LXII July 26, 2021 No. 29

LIVING GENEROUSLY

Financial Needs as of 7/24
 \$1,561,534

Receipts as of 7/22
 \$1,355,876

Pastoral Care On Call Nights and Weekends

July 26-August 1

Matt Rollins
 346-0971 (m)

August 2-8

Camille Loomis Rehnberg
 703-501-6425 (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

Care List as of Morning, 7/26

Hospitals

As of the morning of July 26, there are no hospitalized church members of whom the Pastoral Care Ministry is aware.

Rehab

Dan Williamson, Barbara Alexander, Brenda Ballard, Claudia Caldwell

Sympathy

...to Teresa Gray and Melissa Janse and families in the death of their father.

...to Kristan Pitts and family in the death of her mother-in-law.

...Kathy Fitzsimmons and family in the death of her mother-in-law.

Introducing

Jessica and Jonathan Painter, 701 Tuckborough Street, Greer 29651, joined FBG by previous profession of faith and baptism from another denomination privately on July 22. Jessica works with Spartanburg County School District 5, and Jonathan

is employed with AnMed Health Center. They are members of the Gayle Price Class and Sanctuary Choir.

Come Ring with Us!

The Bell Tower Ringers are seeking a few more musically inclined people to join them for the 2021 Fall Season. If you can read music, you are qualified, and we'd love to have you join us. It's really fun and offers a great way to enrich the musical life of the church. Rehearsals will be Sundays from 6:00-7:00pm starting on August 22. If interested, please email the conductor, Julie Treu (jhtreu@gmail.com).