

WORSHIP

Sunday, September 19

10:30am

Sanctuary and via FBG Website,
Facebook and Radio

Family Dedication

Acolyte Dedication

Bible Presentation to Third Grade
Sunday School

Proclaimer: Jim Dant

Sermon: Rebuild My Church – Simplicity

Scripture: Mark 9:38-41

Service Choir: Sanctuary Choir

Sanctuary Flowers

Contact Kimberly at kimberly.coates@firstbaptistgreenville.com or 233-2527 ext. 128 if you would like to place flowers in the Sanctuary on September 19 or October 3 or 10

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

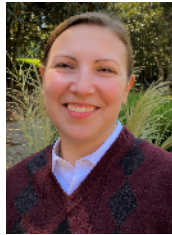
First Baptist Greenville has returned to in-person worship on Sundays at 10:30am. Services take place in the Sanctuary, masked and socially distanced. Please enter free of COVID-19 symptoms.

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 KENDRA
PLATING

My hair tells the story of our last year and a half. Some call it “stress hair” or “anxiety hair.” Though I try to put my best foot forward and appear like I have it together in these crazy days, my hair tells the real story of my inner life—it’s unruly, inconsistent and unpredictable.

The best term for what’s happening to me may be “grief hair.” Did you know it’s well documented that grieving people can experience hair loss and changes in texture and appearance of hair? Yup, grief hair is a thing, and we’ve had plenty of things to grieve over this past year and a half as individuals, a country, and a world. We’ve lost 4.5 million people worldwide to COVID-19, with the USA leading the list of documented deaths per country. We’ve grieved a loss of safety and a loss of normalcy in our everyday lives. We’ve grieved the loss of relationships over rising political polarization. We’ve grieved the loss of the lives of people of color to structural racism. We’ve grieved. Over and over, we’ve grieved.

How are you attending to your grief these days? We can ignore grief for a time, but eventually our bodies and minds make us stop and give attention to it. In my 10 years of ministry, I’ve accompanied many people through grief and have found these ways of moving through grief

to be the healthiest. First, name your grief—admit to yourself that you are grieving. Find community—through church, or friends or a trusted counselor (like me!). Ask for help—over and over, as many times as you need. Remember the good things in life—as much as you can and as often as you can. Lastly, always be honest with God and with yourself—God already knows where we are and how we feel, but the practice of being honest with God also helps us be more honest with ourselves. Tending to our grief helps us to avoid becoming callous and rigid in our approach to the world—instead we become more compassionate and graceful in giving grief the attention it deserves.

Here are some concrete ways for you to tend your grief in the coming months:

*If you’ve lost a loved one, sign up to take part in the Grief Support Group that Kyle and I will co-lead this Fall, October 6-November 10, Wednesday nights, 5:45-7pm (childcare available). Email me (kendra.plating@firstbaptistgreenville.com) or Kyle (kyle.matthews@firstbaptistgreenville.com) to sign up.

*Attend online or in person the Greenville Grief Seminar, September 16-17 (<https://thomasmcafee.com/about/community-events/grief-seminar/>).

*Be present or tune in to our All Saints Service on Sunday morning, October 31.

God be with you in the grieving!

—Kendra

Sunday School Leader Appreciation Breakfast

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17, 9:00-10:15AM IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL

This church has a long tradition of building community through smaller groups within the congregation. These community groups help make our large buildings and membership base feel a little smaller and provide both newcomers and longtime members ways to join their faith journeys to the life and work of the church. Sunday School has been and remains our primary small group here at First Baptist. The leaders and teachers of these classes oversee their own mini-autonomous Baptist churches, as they select curriculum, schedule the teachers, plan social outings, keep everyone informed through regular communication, and serve

as the point person for any concerns that arise in the lives of the class members.

For all of this and more, the Spiritual Formation Committee and I want to say thank you; we also want to show our appreciation by inviting you to join us for a time to catch up, enjoy a nice breakfast, and celebrate the excellent ministry that occurs under your leadership.

With love and appreciation,
Matt and the Spiritual
Formation Committee

If you are involved in teaching or leadership of an adult Sunday School class, take the morning off and join us in the Fellowship Hall. Breakfast and coffee will be ready by 9:00am, and we will provide a joint Sunday School option that morning in the Chapel for your classes.

If you are involved in teaching or leadership of Sunday School for youth and younger, please stop by and grab a bite to go. We want to show our appreciation to you, too!

Thank You!

College Care Package Time

It's back-to-school season for all our youth—even our college students! We are delighted that many of our college students are able to be back on campus this year. In the words of our freshmen students, this will be “a year to make the most of new friends and new places.”

As the new semester wears on, our college students will undergo a more stressful period: final exams. It is easy for them to feel defeated by constant papers, projects and tests. We want them to feel love and support from their church family! College students receive boxes full of encouraging notes, snacks and fun school supplies to get them through exams. Opening this box of love reminds our students that they are more than the sum of any grade and that their church family is cheering them on.

We would love your help in donating the items below for these special boxes to remind them of our support. Please be sure these are individually wrapped items, so they can be divided into multiple packages.

Rice Krispy® Treats	Candy or Suckers (not chocolate)
Pretzels	Fruit Snacks
Chips	Trail Mix
Crackers	Popcorn
Gum	

Donations can be dropped off in the designated box by the main front desk until mid-November. Thank you for supporting our college students!

—Camille

So Much More Than a Party

In the Children's Ministry, we're revving our motors for our first fellowship event of the school year: our annual Movie and Pizza Party, September 17, from 5:30-8pm.

It may sound like a fellowship event for all our elementary school kids, but it's not just that! As they enjoy the movie, pizza and all the games the AYMC has to offer, our children will be busy building relationships with their church friends—friendships we hope will grow and deepen through the years along with their faith. Though our group pictures may look different this year, with smiles beaming behind our masks, we refuse to let COVID-19 spoil our fun. We're making necessary adjustments to our events to stay as safe as possible.

Thanks to the Stogner gift, our events never cost more than \$5 a child. Most fellowship activities include a missions component, too. In September, we collect fruit for United Ministries.

Take a look at all the fun things to come! We'd love for your children to sign up to join us!

—Becky



- October 10, Children's Ministry Goes to Denver Downs, 11:30-3:45 (Lunch included)
- November 19, 6-7:30, Flashlight Games and S'mores at FBG
- December 5, 11:30-1:30, Children's Ministry Christmas Party (Lunch included)
- January 30, 2-3:30 Family Hike at Paris Mountain
- February 6, 4:30-5:30, Families Pick Up Friendship Cookie Kits for Senior Adults
- March 13, 11:30-1:30, Bring Your Bike to Church Day (Lunch included)
- April 3, 11:30-1:45, Roller Skating in the FBG Practice Gym (Lunch included)
- May 1, 1-2:30, Walk the Trail to an Ice Cream Party

Support Leads to Community

The LGBTQ & Friends Community Group has been active over the past several months. The Leadership Council, under the direction of Gary Harris, decided to shift from a focus on providing support to a mission of building community, not only within First Baptist but also in the greater Greenville area. As a result, the group's name was changed from the "LGBTQ Support Group." I joined the LGBTQ & Friends Community Group as part of my supervised ministry experience as a seminary student at Columbia Theological Seminary. Based on a course I took in Spring

2021, I launched a daily social engagement calendar on Facebook with a goal to provide a 24/7 community to LGBTQ+ people of faith and their allies (see calendar). At the direction of the group's leadership council, we have expanded our activities to include a monthly social meet-up, a movie night, and a weekly Bible study. For more information and to participate in our daily offerings, find us at our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/452629865089449> or by clicking the link from the church's Facebook page.

—Brian Cromer

LGBTQ & Friends Community Calendar

- Mondays at 5pm—Support Group**
Join us on Zoom with your celebrations and concerns.
- Tuesdays at 5:30pm—Bible Study**
With Brian Cromer on Zoom.
- Wednesdays—Inspiration**
Join the conversation prompted by Doug Rainey as we seek inspiration for the challenges we face.
- Thursdays—LGBTQ News**
Engage with Milena Grace as she presents a hot-button issue affecting the LGBTQ community.
- Fridays—Queer Chat**
Teri King and Brian Cromer discuss the challenges and triumphs of living in the South as queer people of faith.
- 4th Sunday of Each Month at 5pm—LGBTQ & Friends Community Group**
Join us in person at First Baptist for our monthly meet-up group.

Upcoming Events

(service links on church website)

- 9/15** *Wednesdays at First Activities*
6:15-7:00pm Kyle Matthews
 in Concert: A MidWeek
 Gathering Celebration
 (Fellowship Hall)
- 9/17** **5:30-8:00pm** Children's Ministry
 Event: Movie and Pizza Night
 (AYMC)
- 9/19** **9:15-10:15am** IHN Volunteer
 Breakfast Celebration
 (Fellowship Hall)
- 10:30am** Acolyte Dedication
 Bible Presentation to Third
 Grade Children
 Family Dedication
 Proclaimer: Jim Dant
- 4:00pm** Vocare Rehearsal (Choir
 Room)
- 5:00-7:00pm** Sunday Night Live
 for Youth (AYMC)
- 9/22** *Wednesdays at First Activities*
6:15-7:00pm MidWeek
 Fellowship: Faith Outside
 These Walls—A Conversation
 with Lizzie Bebbler
 (Fellowship Hall)

Wednesdays at First Schedule

Exceptions and details noted in calendar

- 3:00-6:00pm** Youth Hang Time (AYMC
 Terrace Level)
- 4:45-6:00pm** Supper Serving Lines
 Open (Fellowship Hall)
- 5:30-7:00pm** Preschool and Children's
 Music and Missions
- 6:00-7:00pm** First Baptist 101 (Clemons
 Conference Room)
- 6:15-7:00pm** MidWeek Fellowship
 (Fellowship Hall)
- 7:00-8:30pm** Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

All men of the congregation are invited to join us for **Wednesday Morning Men's Bible Study**, which resumes Wednesday, September 15. We meet 6:30am until 7:30am in the AYMC on the Terrace Level (youth area) and study the readings in the *Revised Common Lectionary* for the Sunday following our meeting.

The FBG Centering Prayer group meets via Zoom every Tuesday, noon-1:00pm. Our goal is to support each other's desire to grow closer to God through reading, reflection, dialogue and a regular practice of Centering Prayer, which is a receptive method of silent prayer. Visitors and newcomers are welcome at any time! For more information, please email Susan D'Amato at susan.damato@furman.edu.

LIVING GENEROUSLY

Financial Needs as of 9/11
 \$1,938,456

Receipts as of 9/9
 \$1,678,322

Pastoral Care On Call Nights and Weekends

September 13-19
 Frank Smith
 268-3890 (h)

September 20-26
 Matt Rollins
 346-0971 (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, 9/13

Hospital

Marion Crooks

Rehab

Barbara Alexander, Brenda Ballard, Claudia Caldwell, Tom Maddox, Dan Williamson

Discharged

Robert Bernier, Cherry Marshall, Corrinne Stewart

Sympathy

...to the family of Helen Golightly.

Ushers Needed

Ushers returned to regular service on Sunday, September 5. As we are creating schedules, we realize we have some open slots. If you would like to serve or have any questions, reach out to Kimberly Coates at kimberly.coates@firstbaptistgreenville.com or 864-233-2527 ext. 128.

Greenville, South Carolina 29601-4495
 (864) 233-2527 www.firstbaptistgreenville.com



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"So You Wanna Go Back to Egypt?"

Friday Morning Bible Study

Facilitated by Michelle McClendon
 Fridays, 10-11:30am, beginning 9/1
 Lower Level AYMC (Online option is
 available this semester.)

\$50 per participant

Recommended (not required) reading:
Exodus for Normal People by Peter Enns,
Defiant: What the Women of Exodus Teach Us About Freedom by Kelley Nikondeha

To Register by 9/14, contact: Becky Bouton: (beckybouton@gmail.com) or Michelle McClendon (michellemc216@gmail.com)

Make checks payable to **Michelle McClendon**. Ask Michelle how to pay online.