

WORSHIP

Sunday, May 8

10:30am

Sanctuary and via FBG Website,
Facebook and Radio

Family Dedication

Proclaimer: Jim Dant

Sermon: Our Common Bond

Scripture: Revelation 7:9-17

Service Choir: Sanctuary Choir

The flowers in the Sanctuary on Sunday, May 8, are given in loving memory of Susan Collins and Paxson MacDonald and their parents, Ed and Sara Collins, by Sally Dunn, Ellen White, Suzanne Kilborne, Lisa Hood, Ed Collins Jr., Sara Johnston and Richard Hardaway.

If you would like to place flowers in our Sanctuary for worship, please contact Kimberly Coates at kimberly.coates@firstbaptistgreenville.com or 233-2527 ext. 128.

WATCH

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

AYMC Walking Track and Fitness Room Hours

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

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

Saturday 8:00am-12:00pm

Sunday 1:00pm-5:00pm



Rustlings

BY JIM DANT

They are favorite lines from a favorite prayer written by Ted Loder,

“I tremble on the edge of a maybe, a first time, a new thing, a tentative start, and the wonder of it lays its finger on my lips.

In silence, Lord, I share my eagerness and my uneasiness about this something different...”

Letting go of what we know and moving toward something new is usually a hesitant path. I personally cringe at my comfortable spaces being invaded by change. Change, however, is what keeps us alive, vibrant and open to the ongoing new work of the Spirit in the world.

This year has been a season of change within our church staff. Two more staff ministers have announced they will be transitioning to new chapters and new challenges in life. Laura Stout, Missions Coordinator, has resigned to move into the business sector (effective June

30), and Becky Ramsey, Minister to Children, is retiring (effective December 30). I will personally miss each of these friends and colleagues in the daily routine of ministry. All of us will miss their unique way of providing leadership and service to us. I'm delighted I will still be able to worship with them from week to week.

2022 has been a year of staff transition. Please know that these transitions were not unexpected, they are not the result of any negative incident, but they are the positive, natural movements of some very competent ministers to the next chapter of their lives. The Personnel Committee has been diligently and intentionally guiding our hiring process. Search Committees are being appointed, and some are already hard at work. Ministers and ministry committees are ensuring the bases are covered. I'm guessing some roles will be filled by shifts in present staff while others will be new hires. In every case, we will keep the congregation fully informed and continue to do our best in creating a space for God to do God's work in this place, allowing God's Spirit to do a new work among us and through us.

—Jim

Summer Music Camp for Children and Youth

August 1-4

Children, 9am-Noon; Youth, 2-4pm

\$50/Family

Register Here: <https://firstbaptistgreenville.com/sing-play-rejoice>

Senior Moment: Second Chances

Sometimes when life throws a wringer at you, it is hard to see past the loss. It can be a divorce, loss of a spouse, loss of a job, retirement, a pandemic, health issues, a major move—hard to take but offering the promise of a second chance. We believe that we are great examples of a couple who were lucky enough to enjoy a second chance.

It is not easy to pick up the pieces after life knocks things around. It takes a positive attitude, a bit of faith, a willingness to face—even welcome—change, but the rewards are innumerable. I have “introduced” Eldon to crossword puzzles. He has me watching NASCAR races!! We have traveled to places we did not know if we would ever see. He tells me he has

learned more history from traveling with a history teacher than he learned in school. I have learned a lot about the business world! Eldon has become something of a “groupie,” going with me when the choir performed somewhere or when the Chamber Singers traveled. He says he has a greater appreciation of music and the arts since he married me. I in turn have blossomed into a huge Tar Heel fan, and I actually understand football and basketball!!!! We’ve also become soccer grandparents!

We are both retired now. Eldon now works part-time at Home Depot. I collaborate with a colleague to teach in the OLLI program at Furman. He has a shop where he builds furniture. I sew and recently took up

painting again. We share seven grandchildren. We like many of the same authors, but we have also learned new ones from each other. We discuss books we have read and usually agree on our assessment. I have learned a bit about growing up on a farm, and he has caught a glimpse of what it is like to be a preacher’s kid.

Sometimes we look around and wonder how we got to where we are. It certainly is not the place we expected to be when we were in our 20s, but we are so grateful for the second chance we have been given. If you try to be God’s person, He will give you ways and opportunities to be so.

—Linda and Eldon Russ

May Is Foster Care Awareness Month

Did you know?

- First Baptist Foundation gives to Fostering Great Ideas (<https://fgi4kids.org/>).
- DSS Foster Care (<https://dss.sc.gov/child-well-being/foster-care/>) and Siblink (<https://fgi4kids.org/our-great-ideas/sib-link/>) can now use the AYMC space for foster care visits. This neutral space reduces anxiety and helps support reunification efforts.
- DSS and other agencies are calling on families to help, with some kids left to sleep in county offices as they wait for a home (<https://tinyurl.com/fbg-fostercare>).

Ways you can help:

- During the month of May, talk to foster parents, foster parent advocates, and guardians ad litem in our church. They will be located in the front office/reception area immediately following worship on Sundays in May. They will be available to answer questions and can tell you what it’s really like to be a foster parent or a guardian ad litem.
- There are other creative ways to help such as providing meals, items, money, transportation and mentoring. Business owners sometimes want to provide discounted or free services to foster families too.
- Fill out this form (<https://forms.gle/5rAwHqPaRUgotVXh6>) so we can better serve you if you are discerning a call or desire to become a foster parent (<https://www.scyap.com/become-a-foster-parent/>) (big need for teens right now!), to become a guardian ad-litem (<https://nationalcasagal.org/>), or to simply support foster parents on their journey of fostering children.

—David Wood and Brooke Johnston

Delta Hands for Hope: May Focus on Missions

In fewer than three months, the Youth Family will have begun its High School Mission Trip to Shaw, Mississippi. During our week of missions, the Delta Hands for Hope summer day camp program and Together for Hope will be leading us in education and mission immersion with the community of Shaw. Together for Hope is CBF's rural development coalition engaging the 301 counties of persistent rural poverty in America. The Delta is Together for Hope's largest region of service and includes 87 counties of persistent rural poverty across seven states.

The First Baptist Youth Family is collecting donations for Delta Hands for Hope through the month of May to help meet the needs of their community. Delta Hands for Hope's mission is to empower all children to have the education, leadership skills, and abilities to succeed. During the school year, they provide after-school programs such as a homework center where students can come after school to complete homework, do projects, or be with their friends.

During the summer they provide a summer day camp to the children of Shaw incorporating education, recreation, Bible study, music and enrichment activities every day!

Anyone who has ever worked with a nonprofit organization knows how difficult it is to find funding for their various programs all while keeping their facility clean and supplies in stock. We want to help Delta Hands for Hope's primary focus be on building relationships and providing a safe space for children to gather, while we supply them with these needed items for their programs and facility.

We have created an Amazon Wishlist (<https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/24FPFKRJH8PWH>), and I have no doubt that together, we can reach the goal of acquiring every item on the list! As you purchase an item, it will be sent directly to Shaw, Mississippi.

— Mary Carol

Gathering Eggs and Friends

Easter glee was on full display a few weeks ago at the annual Preschool Easter Egg Hunt! Despite the chilly weather, we had about 20 families gather for egg collecting, cookie decorating, a wooden egg craft, and a picnic lunch. We welcomed back some faces we have missed during the

pandemic and made new friends with new and visiting families! It is always a delight to see our kids having fun, but it is particularly great to see how events like these help parents know each other. Anyone who has ever parented or cared for children knows that it takes a village!

A huge thank you goes to retired Preschool Minister Juli Morrow for organizing the event materials and the Preschool Committee: Maggie Brown, Linda Burrell, Gracie Coates, Bonnie Gerlaugh, Jenny Lee, Dana Moore, Ashley Moreira, Amanda Paton-Znak and Buck Pennington.

— Camille



Upcoming Events

WATCH indicates worship experiences broadcast via Vimeo and Facebook Live.

- 5/2 7:30pm South Carolina Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities Spring Sinfonia Concert (Sanctuary)
- 5/4 **Wednesdays at First Activities**
WATCH 6:15pm MidWeek Fellowship: First Baptist 201 with Matt Rollins
- 5/6 10:30am Senior Adult Lunch and More (Fellowship Hall)
7:30pm South Carolina Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities Spring Choral Concert (Sanctuary)
- 5/8 **WATCH** 10:30am Fourth Sunday of Easter Worship Service (Sanctuary) with Proclaimer Jim Dant, including Family Dedication
- 5/11 **Wednesdays at First Activities**
5:00pm Vocare Rehearsal (Choir Room)
WATCH 6:15pm MidWeek Fellowship: First Baptist 201 with Matt Rollins
- 5/13 7:00pm Greenville Gay Men's Chorus Presents *Shining Through: An Evening of*

LIVING GENEROUSLY

Financial Needs as of 4/30
\$948,073
Receipts as of 4/28
\$744,675

Pastoral Care On Call Nights and Weekends

May 2-8
Matt Rollins
864-346-0971 (m)

May 9-15
Frank Smith
864-268-3890 (h)

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."

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 (C300 and B400 halls)
- 6:00-7:00pm Youth Bible Study (AYMC Terrace Level)
- 6:15-7:00pm MidWeek Fellowship (Fellowship Hall)
- 7:00-8:30pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

Stortelling & Song (Sanctuary)—donations welcomed

- 5/15 **WATCH** 10:30am Graduate Recognition Worship Service (Sanctuary) with Proclaimer Jim Dant, including Lord's Supper
11:30am High School Graduate Luncheon (Fellowship Hall)
4:00pm Service of Ordination for Sarah Laurence (Sanctuary)
- 5/20 7:00pm South Carolina Bach Choir and North Carolina Baroque Orchestra in Concert (Sanctuary)—ticketed event
- 5/22 **WATCH** 10:30am Sixth Sunday of Easter Worship Service

Care List

Care List as of Morning, 5/2

Hospital

Mike Parker

Rehab

Brenda Ballard, Gerry Benston, Claudia Caldwell, Freddie Jameson, Nina Martin, Peggy Stone

Sympathy

...to Mike Fuller and family in the death of his brother-in-law.

...to the family of Margaret Mann.

Introducing...

Nik and Shannon Ellenberg along with daughter Nevaeh, 138 Clear View Dr., Easley 29640, joined FBG on March 27. Nik works with Prisma, and Shannon is employed by the Pickens County Sheriff's Office. They are members of the LINK Class and have three children: Nevaeh, Gigi and Ari.

Ryan Clairmont and Anthony Thompson, 100 Ware Street, Greenville 29601, joined FBG on April 3. They have a daughter, Wagner.

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Monte Frankenfield, 24 Jones Avenue, Greenville 29601, joined FBG on April 3. Monte is employed at Crossroads Treatment Centers.

Bill Huskamp, 607 College Heights, Anderson 29621, joined FBG on Easter Sunday, April 17. Bill is retired.



Wednesday Night Supper

Make your reservations by noon on Monday. Menus and reservation information are available here: <https://firstbaptistgreenville.com/wednesdays-at-first/>

May 4

Adult: Salad, Parmesan Encrusted Pork Tenderloin, Red Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Dinner Roll, Dessert

Child: Pigs in a Blanket, French Fries, Fruit, Cookie

May 11

Adult: Salad, Hamburger Steaks w/ Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Seasoned Green Beans, Dinner Roll, Dessert

Child: Hamburger Sliders, French Fries, Fruit, Cookie