

WORSHIP




Tenth Sunday after Pentecost Worship Service, August 6, 10:30am (Sanctuary)

During worship on Sunday, August 6, Interim Senior Minister will be the proclaimer with sermon "The Laughter of Grace" based upon John 1:14-17 and Genesis 18:1-2, 9-15. Gregory Tompkins, violinist, will be our guest musician.



Our violinist on Sunday is Gregory Tompkins. A native of Greenville, Gregory holds a B.M. in violin performance and a B.A. in psychology from the Eastman School of Music and the University of Rochester. He received his Master's degree in violin performance from the New England Conservatory. Gregory plays regularly in

recitals all over the eastern United States, and has performed as a member of the Civic Orchestra of Chicago. Since 2013, he has been a faculty member of Music Haven, a community music school in New Haven, CT, whose mission includes working with underprivileged students. In that position he also performs with the Haven String Quartet, a faculty ensemble which has been widely praised for its outstanding performances and innovative programming.

 Pews in front of the baptistry are reserved for our Deaf and hard-of-hearing community. When available, an American Sign Language interpreter will be at the base of the baptistry.

If you would like to provide flowers for one of our future worship services, contact Kimberly Coates at kimberly.coates@firstbaptistgreenville.com or 864-233-2527 ext 128. Our next open dates are August 6 and 20.

AYMC Seeking Church Engagement Coordinator

This part-time role will focus on bridging the gap between the AYMC and First Baptist Greenville, ensuring that members are actively engaged and aware of the opportunities and resources available through the AYMC.

Responsibilities

- Develop and Implement Engagement Strategies: Create comprehensive strategies to increase church member involvement in the AYMC. This may include special events, workshops, or informational sessions.
- Communication: Regularly communicate with church members to keep them informed about AYMC activities and opportunities. This may involve creating newsletters, social media posts, or announcements during services.

- Collaboration: Work closely with church leadership and the AYMC Director to align the AYMC's goals with the church's mission and values.
- Visibility Planning: Coordinate speaking engagements for the AYMC Director
- Member Outreach: Reach out to new and existing church members to encourage their participation in the AYMC. This could involve one-on-one meetings, group discussions, or welcome packets for new members.
- Feedback Collection: Collect and analyze feedback from church members to continually improve engagement strategies. This could involve surveys, suggestion boxes, or informal conversations.

Qualifications

- First Baptist Greenville Member Preferred
- Experience in community engagement, outreach, or a similar role.
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills.
- Ability to work independently and collaboratively.
- Passion for the mission and values of First Baptist Greenville and the AYMC.
- Proficiency in using social media and other communication tools.

Interested candidates should submit a resume and cover letter detailing their interest and qualifications to caleb.avery@firstbaptistgreenville.com. Application deadline is August 15, 2023.

Sunday, August 13
Blessing Sunday
(Previously Promotion Sunday)

August 16
Wednesdays@First Activities Kickoff

August 19
Caregiver Respite Dinner

Summers Always Have to End...

BUT THE MEMORIES WE MADE TOGETHER WILL NEVER LEAVE US.

This was a short, yet exciting summer for the Youth Family of First Baptist Greenville. We started hours after Greenville Senior High School graduation by going to Seabrook Island for their senior trip. While this trip was calm and relaxing, it in no way set the stage for the rest of the summer.

A week and a half later, after our first Mission Possible, the high schoolers loaded a charter bus in front of the AYMC at 3am bound for a 10am flight from Atlanta to Belize. Two more hours on a bus took us to Orange Walk, our home for the week. A culture unfamiliar to all of us resulted in a learning curve. “No petting the dogs!” was a rule that was hard to learn—especially for our summer intern. We were taught to accept gifts from people we were helping, to not eat fruit unless it could be peeled, to brush our teeth with the water in our water bottles, and to stay hydrated! The heat and humidity demanded it! It wasn’t just different for our youth, though. The first full day we were there, a little boy asked one of the adults, “Why are there so many white people here?” We played, learned and sang together all week, ignoring all our differences and embracing our shared love for humanity. We served with smiles

on our faces, sad to leave the kids and the small village we grew to love. It was incredible watching these kids grow and change in just a short amount of time.

Two weeks of rest was given for the youth before we packed up and left on another trip. During those two weeks we had two more Mission Possibles, Lunch Clubs and Bible studies. We fed the unhoused and underserved at Trinity Lutheran and sorted food for Harvest Hope. The college group also had a couple of gatherings, growing their bonds tighter and giving advice for the rising freshmen.

Finally, July 10 had arrived. At 8am youth were at the AYMC ready for the best week of the summer: Unidiversity. Mary Carol left the day before to get everything ready for the campers, so Sarah Carter and Juliette were transporting 50-something sleepy and excited youthies. We had an incredible week! Our beloved former senior minister, Jim Dant, was the proclaimer for the week. Not only did FBG youth get to hear his sermons again, but all of their friends from different churches did, too!

There was so much to do!

During the seminars, electives and Bible studies they learned, “Where Is God?”—not only in the book of Esther but also in their everyday lives. There was always something different in the evenings: inflatables, snow cones, and a “messy night” with shaving cream and freezing cold water! We enjoyed an afternoon at Ijams State Park swimming, relaxing and fun games of Five Crowns! We then enjoyed BBQ all together as one big group. Our last night was the dance. It was a bittersweet night, the youthies (and adult chaperones) danced their hearts out, but following the excitement was our annual tradition of Senior Circle—a time in which the group gets to say goodbye to the graduated seniors, and our seniors in turn say goodbye and give advice to the ones they are leaving behind. We’re reminded during Senior Circle that our time in the Youth Family doesn’t last forever, and summers always have to end—but we can make this time as exciting as we can!

Summers do always have to end, but all those memories we made together will never leave us. Until next summer, Youthies!

—Juliette and Mary Carol

Happy Birthday!

August 3
Rusty Browning

August 12
Betty Morin

August 14
Pat Howle

August 16
Don Aiesi

August 24
Jane Street

August 27
Barbara Alexander

Please remember these members of our congregation celebrating August birthdays who are not always able to be with us in worship:

Soteria

AUGUST FOCUS ON MISSIONS

After incarceration, many are left with no means to truly start fresh and pursue a successful path for themselves and their families. This realization was experienced personally by Jerry Blassingame, founder of Soteria Community Development Corporation, who was himself released from prison in 1999. After encountering numerous obstacles to starting anew after his freedom was regained, Jerry saw firsthand many of the unmet needs of those like him. Therefore, to give formerly-incarcerated men and women their best chance at successfully transitioning back into society, he founded Soteria CDC. Though this organization started small, it has blossomed into an immense resource for those trying to restart their lives, offering such services as job training, financial literacy and planning, affordable housing opportunities, and coaching on how to set successful goals for themselves moving forward.

Many of those who participate in this program come to Soteria straight from prison and have literally nothing to their name upon arrival. To help Soteria CDC meet these needs, our church will be collecting the following items throughout the month of August:

Items for Men

- First-Day Kits (Bible, toothpaste, toothbrush, dental floss, soap, deodorant, shaving cream, socks, bottled water, washcloths)
- Men's clothing (gently used, M-XL)
- Men's shoes
- Boxer shorts
- Non-perishable food items

Senior Adult Activities for August

The Senior Adult Ministry is busy preparing opportunities for fun and fellowship. See the list below for activities occurring in August. Visit firstbaptistgreenville.com/senioradultevents to see a list of all upcoming Senior Adult events and their sign-ups.

Roadrunners Trip to Strawberry Hill

On Wednesday, August 9, depart First Baptist at 10:00am to visit Strawberry Hill. We'll shop at the peach shed, eat lunch at the café, and grab some ice cream! The cost of the bus ride is \$2; lunch will be on your own. Sign up at <https://forms.gle/qZ7RxM8RSEHBxHgh7> to reserve your spot.

There are no Holy Rollers activities or Senior Adult Lunch and More events in the summer.

If you have any questions, email me jennifer.craig@firstbaptistgreenville.com or call me at 233-2527 ext. 121. Don't miss out on these opportunities!

—Jennifer



Upcoming Events

WATCH indicates worship experiences broadcast via Vimeo and Facebook Live.

- 8/3-4 Merge Retreat for Rising 6th and 12th Grade Students
- 8/6 **WATCH** 10:30am Tenth Sunday after Pentecost Worship Service (Sanctuary) with Proclaimer Tony Hopkins
- 8/8 6:00-8:00pm College Night (McDonald home)
- 8/9 10:00am Roadrunners to Strawberry Hill for Shopping and Lunch
- 8/13 9:00am Blessing Sunday Youth Family Breakfast
WATCH 10:30am Belonging Sunday Worship Service (Sanctuary) with Proclaimer Tony Hopkins
- 3:00-4:30pm Children's Ministry Block Party (Fellowship Hall and Parking Lot)
- 4:00pm New to Youth Family Meeting (Media Center)
- 4:30pm New to Children's Ministry Family Meeting (Children's Hall)
- 5:00-7pm Youth Family Block Party (Fellowship Hall and Parking Lot)
- 8/16 *Wednesdays@First* Activities Resume
- 8/19 4:00-6:00pm Caregiver Respite Dinner (AYMC)
- 8/20 **WATCH** 10:30am Worship Service (Sanctuary) with Proclaimer Tony Hopkins

LIVING GENEROUSLY

Financial Needs as of 7/29

\$1,658,654

Receipts as of 7/11

\$1,198,054

Pastoral Care Emergencies

Please call the Church Office, 864-233-2527, and leave a message by pressing the number "2" for "Pastoral Care Emergencies." One of our staff ministers will return your call.

Or, email pastoral.care@firstbaptistgreenville.com

Wednesdays@First Schedule

Exceptions and details noted in calendar

- 3:00-6:00pm Youth Hang Time/Fellowship around the Table (AYMC Terrace Level)
- 5:00-6:00pm Supper Serving Lines Open (Fellowship Hall)
- 5:30-7:00pm Children's Hang Time, Children's Choirs & Children@First (B400 hall)
- 6:00-7:00pm Youth Bible Study (AYMC Terrace Level)
- 6:00-6:15pm Adult Music and Prayer Time (Fellowship Hall)
- 6:15-7:00pm Adults@First (MidWeek Classic & Other Adult Education Offerings)
- 7:00-8:30pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

- 4:00-5:00pm Vocare Rehearsal (Choir Room)
- 5:00-7:00pm Sunday Night Live (AYMC)
- 8/23 *Wednesdays@First* Activities
- 8/26 9:00am-4:00pm Pride Link Youth Summit (Fellowship Hall, Media Center, AYMC)
- 8/27 **WATCH** 10:30am Worship Service (Sanctuary) with Proclaimer Tony Hopkins, including Communion
- 4:00-5:00pm Vocare Rehearsal (Choir Room)
- 5:00-7:00pm Sunday Night Live (AYMC)
- 5:00pm LGBTQ & Friends Community Group (Parlor)
- 8/30 *Wednesdays@First* Activities
- 9/2-4 Youth Fall Retreat at Rockmont
- 9/3 **WATCH** 10:30am Worship Service (Sanctuary) with Proclaimer Tony Hopkins
- 9/4 AYMC and Church Offices Closed in Observance of Labor Day
- 9/6 *Wednesdays@First* Activities
- 9/8 4:00-6:30pm Senior Adult Picnic
- 9/10 **WATCH** 10:30am Senior Adult Sunday Worship Service (Sanctuary) with Proclaimer Baxter Wynn
- 4:00-5:00pm Vocare Rehearsal (Choir Room)
- 5:00-7:00pm Sunday Night Live (AYMC)
- 9/13 *Wednesdays@First* Activities

Wednesday Night Supper

Plan now to join us on August 16 when *Wednesdays@First* activities resume.

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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. LXIV July 31, 2023 No. 30

Sympathy

...to the family of Jerry Hyche.

...to the family of Libby Yarborough.

Introducing

...Stephen Center and John Cutler who joined FBG during worship on Sunday, July 16. Offer them a warm welcome!



Position: Church Accountant

The Personnel Committee is pleased to announce that we are accepting applications for a Church Accountant. Share this with your friends! Apply at <https://tinyurl.com/fbg-accountant> or send resumes to jenna.manning@firstbaptistgreenville.com.