

BRANCH

May 12, 2025

WEDNESDAYS@FIRST

May 14

MidWeek Spring Celebration (AYMC) with \$5 Hot Dog/Hamburger Supper, Inflatables for Children and Youth, Soft Play Area for Toddlers, Music, Pickleball, Games and FBG Trivia

Make supper reservations at https://firstbaptistgreenville.com/ wednesdays-at-first/

WORSHIP

May 18

Fifth Sunday of Easter Graduate Recognition

10:30am in Sanctuary

Proclaimer: Carol McEntyre Sermon: Show Up In Love Scripture: John 21:15-25

Service Musicians: Sanctuary Choir

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given in loving memory of Helen Horton Hunt by her family: Keeter Horton; Grice, Caitlin, Helen and Hollis Hunt; and Jamie, Annie and Ellie Hunt.

If you would like to provide flowers for one of our future services, email kimberly.coates@firstbaptistgreenville. com or call 864-233-2527, ext. 128. The next open date is May 25.

Village Engage-May 15, 6:00PM

Join us for an interactive workshop in the FBG Fellowship Hall to explore how we can better support our refugee and immigrant neighbors. This year's event will dispel common myths, include an immigration process simulation, and help us find ways to build a more just community. To register, contact Matt Rollins at matt.rollins@ firstbaptistgreenville.com.



From the Senior Minister

CAROL MCENTYRE

Dear First Baptist Family,

We are deeply grateful for your generous giving. Your gifts matter—not just because they keep the lights on, but because they change lives. Still, we know it is not always easy to see the direct impact of your generosity.

We hope to share more stories that connect the dots between your giving and the significant ministry it makes possible.

Emily Fayssoux, a member of our Finance Committee, shares one such story below—a powerful reminder of how even a single line item in our church budget can be a lifeline for someone in crisis:

Have you ever wondered where your First Baptist contributions are really going? Once a year the congregation receives the annual budget to look over before it is voted upon at the annual meeting. The funds go to different areas such as Missions and Affiliations, Congregational Life, Church Operations, and, of course, Property. But where does it truly specifically go? Let me give you an example.

Jane, a single mother, and her three children lived adequately renting a home month to month. Then along came Hurricane Helene. When Helene hit, it was scary. The power went out, the food went bad, and Jane's family had to move to a hotel temporarily because a tree went through the roof of their house. Unfortunately, not only did the storm cause problems at her home, it also caused problems for Jane at her work. She worked at a fast-food restaurant, which lost power for several days as well. Jane lost many working hours because of the storm. Soon after Jane was able to return to work, her child was diagnosed with COVID. COVID spread throughout her family person by person. All of this led to Jane losing several weeks of paychecks. Though she did her best, she could not find enough money to pay the bills and the rent. Times were extremely tough. She fell behind and was told she was going to be evicted. Can you imagine the fear for her family?

Let me tell you about the HoSEA program, which was established by First Baptist in collaboration with four partner churches. The HoSEA program is a congregation-led program that, in conjunction with the assistance and representatives of our trusted nonprofits and their skilled, experience case managers, helps to provide for individuals and families that have dealt with unexpected financial hardship and are being faced with eviction. The person facing eviction must have the adequate income to maintain their rental payments going forward after the HoSEA program assists them.

I am thankful to tell you that the HoSEA program kept Jane and her children in their home. I am honored to tell you this is one tiny line item in the Missions and Affiliations portion of our First Baptist Budget.

—Emily Fayssoux

Congratulations, Graduates!

Here are the high school graduates from whom we received pictures. All graduates will be honored during worship on Sunday, May 18.



BECK BURNS Greenville High School

HARRIS DAVIS Greenville Technical Charter High School



BLAKE DENNIS Greenville High School



JACKSON FARRAR



CAROLINE FELDMAN St. Joseph's Catholic School St. Joseph's Catholic School



KATE FULLER J.L. Mann High School



AVA GRACE HART SC Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities



CAMPBELL HOLLIS Eastside High School



SEANNA JOHNSTONE J.L. Mann High School



HENRY KING Greenville Technical Charter High School



NATE MARSHALL Riverside High School



FORD MCDONALD Greenville High School



SAMUEL MCELVEEN Wade Hampton High School James Island Charter High



BRET NETTLES School



WELLS SHELLEY J.L. Mann High School



GRAYSON SNYDER Wade Hampton High School Greenville Technical Charter



CHLOE THOMPSON High School



SAM UNION Belton-Honea Path High School



MEREDITH WARTHEN Greenville High School



ELIZA WILLINGHAM J.L. Mann High School



SARA LOIS WILLINGHAM J.L. Mann High School

Spring Celebration for All Ages

Wednesday, May 14, 5-7pm, AYMC

Celebrate our final MidWeek gathering of the spring with your church family! We'll have a hot-dog and hamburger supper from Uptown for \$5 a plate, free TCBY frozen yogurt for the first 200 attendees, inflatables for children and youth, a soft play area for toddlers, music, pickleball, games, and FBG trivia! Supper and all activities will take place in the AYMC, with indoor and outdoor seating available. Sign up for a \$5 meal at: https://firstbaptistgreenville.com/wednesdays-at-first/. Come send off the year in style!

-Camille Loomis Rehnborg, Minister of Spiritual Formation & Outreach



Focus on Missions: VBS Supplies to Support High School Mission Trip to Middlesboro, Kentucky



The FBG Youth Family is travelling to Middlesboro. KY. for our High School Mission Trip. June 14-20. FBC

Middlesboro runs an organization called Appalachian Immersion. It is dedicated to working to educate groups on stereotypes about the Appalachian region. In the past, groups have worked on literacy initiatives, construction, and in nursing homes. Our high school students will be working on some of these types of projects this summer.

FBC Middlesboro began operating a STEAM-based VBS for local

children last summer. They wish to do it again this year and need supplies for their activities. Part of the need for a program like this is the lack of education in the Appalachian region during the summer. FBC Middlesboro seeks to be a place of fun and growth for the children during this week.

Help us collect the following supplies for their VBS that can be picked up at places like Walmart, Target, Dollar Tree, craft stores, etc. Please bring donations to the Reception Desk area of the church. Thank you for your generous support!

- · Child-friendly scissors
- · Pony beads
- Pipe cleaners

- · Brown paper lunch bags
- Glue sticks
- · Washable markers
- · Assorted pom-poms
- · Washable paints
- · Paint brushes
- · Hand sanitizer
- · Cardstock
- · Assorted sizes of googly eyes
- · Felt
- · Craft foam sheets
- · Fabric markers
- · Construction paper
- · Pencils (regular)
- · Colored pencils
- · Sharpies® (any and all colors)
- · Baby wipes
- · Ziploc® bags
- · First aid kits (to put in classrooms)

-Andrew Tonks, Associate Minister to Youth and College

Shape the Space Where Community Happens



The AYMC is a place to build strength, faith and community! We invite you to share your thoughts and ideas by participating in our

survey, whether you are an AYMC member or not. All voices matter as we nurture the ministries of the AYMC.

-Cathy Goldfarb, AYMC Director

Affinity Groups

Want to deepen your friendships across the congregation? Join a First Baptist summer affinity group-small groups centered on shared interests like arts and crafts, camping, dog park meet-ups, and theology on tap. Scan the QR code and fill out the interest survey to learn more!



Upcoming Events

indicates worship experiences broadcast via Vimeo and Facebook Live.

5/13 10:00am-2:00pm Holy Rollers to Lunch at The Junction of Gowensville

5/14 7:00am Wednesday Morning Men's
Bible Study Group (AYMC Terrace
Level) Final Wednesdays@First
Activities of the Spring

5:00-7:00pm MidWeek Spring

Celebration (AYMC) with Hot Dog/ Hamburger Supper (\$5), Inflatables for Children & Youth, Soft Play Area for Toddlers, Music, Pickleball, Games and FBG Trivia—Make \$5 meal reservations at https:// firstbaptistgreenville.com/ wednesdays-at-first/

5/15 6:00-8:00pm Village Engage
Justice Ministry Workshop
(Fellowship Hall)

5/16 Noon-1:00pm Greenville Area
Parkinson's Society (Fellowship
Hall, Media Center, AYMC)
The Greenville Area Parkinson's
Society (GAPS) gathers to support
those with Parkinson's and their
caregivers.

5/18 9:00-10:15am Breakfast for Graduate Families and Youth (AYMC Terrace Level)

Easter Worship Service
(Sanctuary) with Proclaimer Carol
McEntyre, including Graduate
Recognition

11:30am-1:30pm Celebration Luncheon for High School Graduate Families (Fellowship Hall)

5/21 7:00-8:30pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

5/25 W10110:30am Sixth Sunday of
Easter Worship Service
(Sanctuary) with Proclaimer Carol
McEntyre

5:00-7:00pm LGBTQ & Friends Community Group (Parlor)

5/26 FBG Closed in Observance of Memorial Day

5/28 7:00-8:30pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

5/29 9:00am-3:00pm Roadrunners Visit the Table Rock Tea Company

5/30 11:30am-2:00pm Bonus Friday Lunch & More (Fellowship Hall) with Speaker Kevin Treu as Babe Ruth

Sponsored by the Engaged Aging Ministry, this Bonus Friday Lunch & More features lunch followed by a program.

of Easter Worship Service
(Sanctuary) with Proclaimer
Carol McEntyre, including
Communion

6/2-6 High School Senior Trip 6/7 9:00am-3:00pm PrideFest Greenville



Wednesday Night Supper

Please make reservations by noon on Monday at https://firstbaptistgreenville.com/wednesdays-at-first/

May 14 in the AYMC

Adult: Hamburgers & Hot Dogs (GF), Mac and Cheese, Baked Beans (GF), Buns, Cole Slaw (GF), Fruit (GF) Child: Hot Dogs, Mac and Cheese

FBG Is Hiring!

Visit the church website for more information: https:// firstbaptistgreenville.com/openpositions-at-fbg/

Sympathy

...to Holly Pinheiro in the death of his grandmother.

From the Senior Minister, continued from p. 1

This is just one story among many. Because of your generosity, First Baptist is a place where faith is put into action—a community where every member is a minister, offering care and compassion to those in need. It is a place where people facing hardship can find help, hope, and healing. Thank you for giving and for helping to create a church that does not simply speak of Christ's love but strives to embody it.

With gratitude, Carol McEntyre



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

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Revenue Report

4/30/2025 YTD: \$949,540

4/30/2024 Actual: \$920,945

4/30/2025 Budget: \$994,000



Scan here to support the financial needs of First Baptist Greenville.

For After Hours Pastoral

Care, please call the Church
Office, 864-233-2527, leave
a message by pressing the
number "2" for "Pastoral Care"
or email pastoral.care@
firstbaptistgreenville.com. One of
our staff ministers will respond
to your message.