

# BRANCH

June 2, 2025

### WEDNESDAYS@FIRST

Our Wednesdays@First activities for Spring 2025 have ended. We look forward to gathering again in August. Watch for details later!



From the Senior Minister CAROL MCENTYRE

### WORSHIP

June 8

Pentecost

10:30am in the Sanctuary

Homilists: Andrew Tonks, Camille Loomis Rehnborg, Kyle Matthews

Scripture: Acts 2:1-12

Anthem: "Come Down, O Love

Divine"-Curry

The flowers in the Sanctuary on June 8 are given by Duane Spradlin and family in memory of his parents, Ethel and Wendell Spradlin.

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.

## All-Adult Summer Sunday School Is Back!

Join us in the Fellowship Hall June 1 through July 27 at 9:15 AM as we explore The Fruit of the Spirit together! Wear Your Fire Colors!

On June 8, we will celebrate **Pentecost Sunday**—a day filled with joy, signs and wonders, and the unmistakable movement of the Spirit. Pentecost marks the birth of the Church and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the disciples, igniting a mission that continues in and through us today.

As flames danced over the heads of the early believers, they were empowered to go out into the world—crossing cultural boundaries, speaking in new ways, and building the beloved community. That same Spirit calls and sends us still.

During worship on Pentecost, we will commission our children, youth, and adult mission teams—all of our mission ministry volunteers going out to serve this summer! This is a moment to celebrate and bless the many ways our congregation participates in God's work in the world. From Mission Backpack and Project Host to Justice Ministry, Inasmuch Days, Neighborhood Partnerships, affiliation gatherings, and individual passion projects—you are the Church, showing up with

hands ready to serve and hearts open to love.

Later this month, our adults will have the opportunity to participate in a Habitat for Humanity build. Our high school youth and adult chaperones will travel to Middlesboro, Kentucky, on a mission trip where they will be leading a Vacation Bible School. Right here at home, our children will engage in local mission activities-visiting, learning from, and serving with nonprofit partners that we support all year long. These acts of service are not done in isolation. They reflect the whole body of Christ and our shared calling.

On June 8, come dressed in red, yellow, or orange—colors of the Spirit's fire—and help us kindle that Pentecost flame anew. Children and youth are invited to join in a festive Pentecost processional at the beginning of worship as we enter this joyful and holy celebration together.

Come ready to be moved by the Spirit and reminded of the beautiful burden and shared joy of being God's people in the world.

-Carol McEntyre, Senior Minister

## Habitat for Humanity and Juneteenth GVL

Habitat for Humanity of Greenville County is excited to partner with Juneteenth GVL to announce their inaugural Juneteenth Community Build, a groundbreaking initiative that celebrates unity, resilience and progress in honor of Juneteenth, the historic commemoration of emancipation in the United States.

First Baptist is particularly excited about this build, as part of the funding for the project came from a Faith Fund grant we awarded Habitat for Humanity last fall—and the chosen site for the new home is in our neighboring community, Nicholtown. Therefore, we are honored to have the opportunity to also invest sweat equity for the build.

Are you wondering if you are "qualified" to help on the build site? Don't worry! NO EXPERIENCE

IS NECESSARY. Habitat worksite supervisors are specially trained and capable of putting anyone to effective and safe work at the build, so please visit https://forms.gle/kbmPU2vH2qqJkKdv6 to volunteer for one or more of the shifts available. Volunteering as a family or as a Sunday School class is an excellent way to do some good in our local community while strengthening relationships with friends and loved ones!

### **Important Dates:**

June 11: Wall raising at 123 Zora Drive, Greenville, SC 29607, 8:00am

July 10: Install siding, 8:00-11:30am

August 28: Shelving and hardware, 8:00-1:30 AM

-Matt Rollins, Minister of Community Engagement

### Focus on Missions: Soteria CDC

During the month of June, we will be collecting items to support Soteria CDC. Soteria CDC is a Greenville nonprofit who works to create opportunities for previously incarcerated individuals to reenter society through transitional housing, life skills and job training. They have Transitional Homes for both men and women that allow participants to stay up to one year. Upon completion of the program, Soteria helps participants find permanent housing as well as helping those who wish to continue their education. You can find out more at soteriacdc.org.

Toiletries and clothing for their transitional houses:

Shampoo & conditioner

Body wash & face wash

Lotion

Deodorant

Socks

Feminine pads—sizes 2, 3 & 4

Combs & brushes

Shower caddies

Undershirts and underwear

Razors

Work boots and work clothes

Lawn equipment that they use to maintain yards at their offices, transitional homes and 19 affordable rental properties:

Rakes

Shovels

**Blowers** 

Weed eaters

Clippers

**Ongoing Collections:** 

Canned fruit for United Ministries Pop-top ravioli for our Mission Backpack program

As always, thank you for your generosity.

Nancy Schlepphorst,
Missions Committee



## Phoebe Fellowship: A New Goal-Setting and Accountability Ministry

The Phoebe Fellowship Ministry offers compassionate support and practical guidance for those who have discerned that they need more stability and structure around goal setting and financial accountability.

Are you interested in learning more about serving on this team? Please join us for a training and

planning meeting this Sunday, June 8, at 11:45am in the Parlor (light lunch provided).

We would love to speak with you to see if this ministry might be a good fit for you to serve in the church. You can contact Kyle Matthews (kyle.matthews@firstbaptistgreenville.com) or Matt Rollins (matt.rollins@

firstbaptistgreenville.com) with any questions.

 Matt Rollins, Minister of Community Engagement
Kyle Matthews, Minister of Pastoral Care

## Bake + Pray Workshop Recap

Last month, forty church members and friends gathered in the Fellowship Hall to bake bread and pray together. Led by professional baker and food theologian Kendall Vanderslice, our group learned the science of bread baking and the significance of bread throughout Scripture.

Fun fact: Did you know that bread contains all essential nutrients for human survival?

We practiced mixing ingredients and shaping dough, learned about rest and active time, and reflected on how the baker only participates in part of the bread's work—the work is not all ours to do. We practiced baking as a form of prayer, with periods of action and rest through which God is always at work.

We took home dough to bake and even used a workshop loaf as the sacramental communion bread in the next morning's worship service! We hope to bring Kendall back in the future.

To read more about her work and the Bake + Pray method, visit kendallvanderslice.com.

—Camille Loomis Rehnborg,Minister of Spiritual Formation & Outreach











### **Upcoming Events**

WITCH indicates worship experiences broadcast via Vimeo and Facebook Live.

- 6/2-6 High School Senior Trip to Hilton Head, SC
- 6/3 6:00-8:00pm Youth To Frankie's Fun Park (drop off & pick up at Frankie's)
- 6/5 6:00pm College Bible Study (Location TBA)
- 6/8 9:15am Adult Summer Sunday School Series (Fellowship Hall) A Fruitful Summer: Fruit of the Spirit
  - 10:30am Pentecost Worship Service (Sanctuary) with Homilists Andrew Tonks, Camille Loomis Rehnborg, Kyle Matthews, including Missions Commissioning
- 6/9-12 Children's Ministry Mission Week
  - 9:00am-12:00pm 1st-2nd Grades
  - 9:00am-3:30pm 3rd-5th Grades
- 6/11 7:00-11:00pm Game Night for Youth (AYMC)
- 6/12 9:00am Engaged Aging Hike to Eastatoe Passage
- 6/14-20 High School Mission Trip
- 6/15 9:15am Adult Summer Sunday School Series (Fellowship Hall) A Fruitful Summer: Fruit of the Spirit
  - 10:30am Trinity Sunday Worship Service (Sanctuary) with Proclaimer Carol McEntyre
- 6/19-20 FBG Closed in Observance of Juneteenth
- 6/22 9:15am Adult Summer Sunday School Series (Fellowship Hall) A Fruitful Summer: Fruit of the Spirit
  - 10:30am Second Sunday after Pentecost Worship Service (Sanctuary) with Proclaimer Carol McEntyre, including a Brief Called Church Conference

- 5:00-7:00pm LGBTQ & Friends Community Group (Parlor)
- 6/23-27 9:00am-12:00pm Children's Worship Arts Camp
- 6/25 9:00am-2:00pm MidWeek Missions & More for Youth
- 6/29 9:15am Adult Summer Sunday School Series (Fellowship Hall) A Fruitful Summer: Fruit of the Spirit
  - WATCH 10:30am Third Sunday after Pentecost Worship Service (Sanctuary) with Proclaimer Kyle Matthews. including Stephen Ministry **Emphasis**
- 12:00-1:30pm Youth to Lunch at 7/2 Rocky's Hot Chicken Shack (drop off & pick up at Rocky's)
- FBG Closed in Observance of 7/4 Independence Day
- 9:15am Adult Summer Sunday 7/6 School Series (Fellowship Hall) A Fruitful Summer: Fruit of the Spirit
  - 10:30am Fourth Sunday after Pentecost Worship Service (Sanctuary) with Proclaimer Carol McEntyre, including Communion
- 7/7-11 Unidiversity Youth Camp
- 7/10 9:00am Engaged Aging Hike to Jones Gap Falls
- 7/13 9:15am Adult Summer Sunday School Series (Fellowship Hall) A Fruitful Summer: Fruit of the Spirit
  - 10:30am Fifth Sunday after Pentecost Worship Service (Sanctuary) with Proclaimer Carol McEntyre, including Family Dedication
- 7/15-18 Children to Camp Prism

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

Send address changes to THE BRANCH, 847 Cleveland Street Greenville, SC 29601. (Phone 864-233-2527). Periodicals postage paid at Greenville, SC 29602. POSTMASTER thru December (except one week in July and December)

Vol. LXVI June 2, 2025 No. 22

### Revenue Report

5/27/2025 YTD: \$1,073,063

5/31/2024 Actual: \$1,119,604

5/31/2025 Budget: \$1,242,500



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

### Called Church Conference on June 22

A Called Church Conference will be held following worship on June 22. The agenda items for this brief meeting include Foundation Trustee election and a Senior Minister update.

#### 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.