

BRANCH

June 9, 2025

WEDNESDAYS@FIRST

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

WORSHIP

June 15

Trinity Sunday

10:30am in the Sanctuary

Proclaimer: Carol McEntyre

Scripture: Acts 16:25-35

Sermon: Awe

Anthem: "Be Thou My Vision" -

Pederson

The flowers in our Sanctuary today are given in loving memory of David Cline by his wife, children and grandchildren.

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 June 29.

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!

First Baptist family:

When Vivian Hamilton retired last year as our Minister of Music, many of you asked whether we could hire a full-time Music Minister. In the past, when our Music Minister was full-time, that role also included leading Children's and Youth Choirs. At the time of Vivian's retirement, Amy Joye, our Music Associate, was already serving in that area, and we were uncertain whether we could find someone who could lead both the Sanctuary Choir and Children's and Youth Choirs.

Now, with the arrival of our new Music Minister, Laura Ritter, who brings strong gifts and extensive experience in children's music, the Personnel Committee and I decided to increase the hours for the Music Minister position to 30 hours a week. This would allow Laura to take on the leadership of music for all ages and move this position toward full-time. Taking this step required an adjustment to the hours and responsibilities for the Music Associate role, affecting its scope and salary.

After revising the role, we had a conversation with Amy about the changes and invited her to remain on staff and serve as the Children's and Youth Choir director. After thoughtful consideration, Amy has indicated that this new role would not best fit her needs.

We are deeply grateful to Amy for her faithful service as Music

Associate over the past several years. Her leadership and love for our children and youth have been a blessing to our church family. In her resignation, Amy wrote:

"Following much prayer, counsel and careful consideration. I am unable to accept the terms of the revised staff role. It has truly been one of the greatest joys of my ministry to work with our children and youth to help nurture their love for music and worship. Watching them grow in confidence, faith and musical ability has been a privilege I will always cherish. I will miss their energy, curiosity and the beautiful ways they express their spirituality through music. Serving alongside all the ministers at FBG and ministering with these children and youth has been an honor that has shaped me in countless ways, and I will carry those memories with me for a lifetime."

—Amy Joye

We will have the opportunity to express our gratitude to Amy on Sunday, June 15, at the close of worship. Please join us in thanking Amy for all she has done and praying for her in whatever comes next.

Thank you,

—Carol McEntyre, Senior Minister & Tony McDade, Chair, Personnel Committee

14 Years of Mission Backpack at FBG

The FBG Mission Backpack program, established in 2011, provides children and their families groceries for weekends and school holidays. As of the end of the 2024-2025 school year, we are servicing Sterling Elementary, Duncan Chapel Elementary and the West Greenville School. While the numbers fluctuate, we've delivered an average of 140 bags over 32 weeks since August. That is a lot of food!

Wade Hampton High School students collected cereal to share at Thanksgiving. We added to these donations to also provide cereal during Spring Break. Church members provided peanut butter and jelly for Christmas break, when we also provided two weeks' worth of food. The Hope and Johnson Sunday School Classes provided much-needed funding for hunger relief. Sharing our on-hand inventory, we sent children home with as much as possible during the last week of school.

Currently, we need 200 can openers to send with canned food. If you'd like to contribute, can openers can be dropped into any of the donation boxes around the church.

Thank you to our volunteers!

Shoppers: Tricia Austin, Gayle Brown, Jo Devon, David Koystal, Doug Page, Amanda Paton-Znak, Jalyn Rutledge, Don and Susan K. Shelley, Kathy Stewart, Dawn Strickland, Ellen Wilson

Packers: Becky Bouton, Cindy Coggins, Lynn Freemon, Beth Granger, Becky Lauder, Mac and Regina McClain, Peggy Paul, Pam Spengeman, Anne Cargill, Greg Granger

Deliverers: Rebecca Feldman, Emily Fayssoux, Elizabeth Hart, Leigh Joye, Cara Mathis, Nancy Schlepphorst, Mittie Taylor

Teen Volunteers: Barrett Barnhill, Olivia Holder, Ali Huntley, Wells Shelley

You've given time, talent and monetary donations to make sure we can continue to do this vital work. Thank you to everyone at our church for supporting Mission Backpack in amazing ways. We will see you again in August.

-Elaine Barnhill, Mission Backpack Coordinator

Pastoral Care and Engaged Aging Ministries Welcome Jalyn Rutledge!

After a long search process and several interviews with very talented candidates, we are pleased to announce the hiring of our new Ministry Assistant for Pastoral Care and Engaged Aging. Jalyn will begin onboarding in June and, with the exception of some previously planned vacation and travel dates in July and August, will begin supporting the work of Engaged Aging and Pastoral Care as we work through the summer and prepare for fall. Please make a point to stop by and introduce yourself to her in the days and months ahead.

Kyle Matthews, Minister of Pastoral
 Care & Michael McEntyre, Minister of
 Engaged Aging

A note from Jalyn:

Hello Church Family,

My name is Jalyn Rutledge-Bazen, and I am honored to be joining you as the new Ministry Assistant for Pastoral Care and Engaged Aging. Originally from Seattle, WA, I was first brought to the East Coast to work as an athletic trainer for Clemson University. After five wonderful years in the field, I began to feel the Lord calling me toward a new purpose—one rooted in deeper service and connection with others.

I live in Greenville with my husband, Coleman, along with our two

dogs and two cats. I enjoy running, cooking, and painting—but even more so, I find joy in building meaningful relationships and being someone others can lean on. I am truly thrilled to walk alongside this incredible community and to serve in a way that uplifts and supports each of you. I look forward to meeting you all!

With gratitude, Jalyn Rutledge-Bazen, Ministry Assistant for Pastoral Care and Engaged Aging



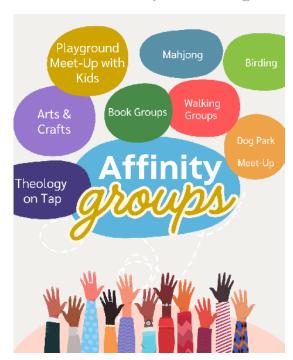
Explore a New Hobby with Summer Affinity Groups

This summer, deepen your friendships across the congregation by having fun and exploring new hobbies in an FBG affinity group! An affinity group is a small group of people who share a common interest or an "affinity" in a wide range of hobbies, activities, or life stages.

Church members have organized eight affinity groups for the summer: Arts and Crafts, Birding, Book Groups, Dog Park Meet-Up, Mahjong, Playground Meet-Up with Kids, Theology on Tap, and Walking on the Swamp Rabbit Trail. If you are interested in organizing an affinity group, please contact Camille.

This is a great way to connect with new people while doing something you love. Come join the fun! Read descriptions and find more details about each summer affinity group by visiting the church website: firstbaptistgreenville.com/affinity-groups.

 Camille Loomis Rehnborg, Minister of Spiritual Formation and Outreach



Celebrating Our Graduates







On Sunday, May 18, we recognized our 2025 high school, college, and graduate school graduates. We celebrated their hard work, achievements and all they have done to reach this point. We're so excited for what they will continue to accomplish beyond graduation!

Andrew Tonks, Associate Minister of Youth and College





Upcoming Events

WITCH indicates worship experiences broadcast via Vimeo and Facebook Live.

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

> WATCH 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

WITCH 10:30am Third Sunday after Pentecost Worship Service (Sanctuary) with Proclaimer Kyle Matthews, including Stephen Ministry **Emphasis**

7/2 12:00-1:30pm Youth to Lunch at Rocky's Hot Chicken Shack (drop off & pick up at Rocky's)

7/4 FBG Closed in Observance of Independence Day

7/6 9:15am Adult Summer Sunday School Series (Fellowship Hall) A Fruitful Summer: Fruit of the Spirit

> WATCH 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

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Revenue Report

5/31/2025 YTD: \$1,100,208

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 brief called church conference will be held during worship on June 22. The agenda items for this meeting include Foundation Trustee election and a brief Senior Minister update.

Introducing



...Ana Thomas who became a member during worship on Sunday, June 1. Ana has been a consistent help in the sound booth on Sunday mornings. Welcome, Ana!

Sympathy

...to the family of Jane Thomas, including her husband, former FBG Minister of Music Bill Thomas.

Congratulations

...to Holly and Teresa Young Pinheiro on the birth of a daughter, Annesa Monica Pinheiro, born May 30, 2025. Annesa's older sister is Mahalia.

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.