

November 17, 2025

WEDNESDAYS@FIRST

November 19

Supper will be served at 5:00pm.
Make supper reservations
and view menus at <https://firstbaptistgreenville.com/wednesdays-at-first/>

Adults@First Opportunities—6:00pm

MidWeek Classic: Martyrs of
Solidarity: Challenge and Grace for
the Church (Fellowship Hall) led by
Elizabeth Gandolfo

ABCs of Immigration Justice for
People of Faith (Media Center) led
by FBG JustFaith Leaders

Basketball Appreciation with Matt
and Myra: How to Improve, Watch
and Enjoy (AYMC Gym) led by Myra
Moreira and Matt Rollins

WORSHIP

November 23

Reign of Christ Sunday

10:30am

Proclaimer: Carol McEntyre

Sermon Series: The Road to Christlike
Character: We're All Being Formed—
What If It Was on Purpose

Sermon: Calibrated in Community

Scripture: Hebrews 10:24-25

Service Musicians: Sanctuary Choir;
Melissa Dupuy, Guitar

The flowers in the Sanctuary on Sunday
were given on the occasion of Jim Neal's
birthday. Leonette, Heather, Chris, Ben
and Addie are thankful for the Godly life
he lived.

If you would like to provide flowers
for one of our services in the new
year, email kimberly.coates@firstbaptistgreenville.com or call 864-
233-2527, ext. 128.



From the Senior Minister

CAROL MCENTYRE

Our theme for the year is *Invited*,
based on Romans 15:7: "So reach out
and welcome one another to God's
glory. Jesus did it; now you do it!"

Each of us has an important role to
play in creating a spirit of hospitality
here at First Baptist: inviting people to

church, greeting people warmly, getting to know newcomers, and helping
them find a place to belong within our church family.

A few months ago, I met someone out and about in Greenville who told me
she had visited First Baptist but stopped coming because her family did not
feel welcomed. I asked her to share more about her experience, and it gave
me a lot to think about. I will be honest; it wasn't easy to hear. But if we
want to grow in the kind of hospitality Jesus modeled, we must be willing to
listen and learn from her experience. So, brace yourself. —Carol McEntyre

"When we decided to visit First
Baptist Greenville, we were a little
nervous because it was the first time
in a LONG time that we were going
to show up at a church where we
didn't know anybody at all. When
we arrived, we dropped off our
daughter in the nursery and then
made our way to the sanctuary.

During the three or four Sundays we
visited, nobody in the congregation
approached our family to welcome
us or introduce themselves. I
remember one female minister (I
think she was involved in the music
ministry?) who stopped at our pew
once before a service and said
she was glad to have us there, but
beyond this brief greeting, we felt
pretty invisible. We did shake the
hands of some of the ministers
when we left the service each week,

since they were out in the foyer
greeting those who left, but even
they didn't acknowledge that we
were new or ask questions about
what brought us to First Baptist. I'm
not sure if they were trying to give
us space to engage on our own
timetable?

After a few weeks, we stopped
attending, in part because the
worship style was a bit more "high
church" than we were accustomed
to. We would have been happy to
adjust to an unfamiliar worship style
if we had felt warmly welcomed—
after all, the worship style at
the church we ended up joining
wasn't exactly our preference, but
the compensating warmth of the
congregation brought us back week
after week."

POINSETTIAS: In your **Realm Connect** app, choose **Events**. Then scroll down to Sunday, November 30, and choose **Christmas Poinsettias**. Then choose **Register by November 21, 2025**, and scroll down to **Add a Registrant** to include your dedicatory information. You may pay there or choose to bring a check to the church. You may also bring or mail your dedication with payment to the attention of Kimberly Coates at FBG.

Celebrate Advent at *MidWeek@First* this December

Mark your calendars for two special Wednesday night gatherings in December! On **Wednesday, December 3**, all adults are invited to our MidWeek Gathering for Hope and Healing in the Fellowship Hall at 6pm. We will dedicate time to reflection and prayer, acknowledging the

heaviness that often accompanies the holiday season. This gathering will also include communion around the table and the chance to receive and offer prayer.

On **Wednesday, December 10**, we'll celebrate our final MidWeek gathering of 2025 with a Christmas

party! Wear your favorite Christmas sweater or festive raiment. One attendee will win a prize for "Most Festive Outfit." We'll have an hour of fun with carol sing-alongs, games and a cookie

exchange. To contribute to the cookie exchange, bring a few dozen cookies on a platter or in a box to share with partygoers. Allergy-friendly cookies are always appreciated!

Supper will be served as usual during both MidWeek events, from 5 to 6pm in the Fellowship Hall. Make supper reservations at <https://firstbaptistgreenville.com/wednesdays-at-first/>.

—Camille Loomis Rehnborg,
Minister of Spiritual Formation & Outreach



Engaging the Holidays!

Looking for some festive plans to help kick off the holiday season?

On Friday, December 5, our Engaged Aging Lunch & More

gathering will feature a Christmas sing-along with classic favorites and a few fun twists. We begin at 10:30am with Games & More and Book Club (Trish McGarrahan will present her debut novel, *Saint of Lost Souls*). At 11:00am we will gather to share our Christmas cheer and enjoy a wonderful meal to follow (\$5 for lunch).

Our Engaged Aging Roadrunners would like to invite all our EA family to join us for our Christmas Party after church on Sunday, December 14, in the Fellowship Hall. We will enjoy a catered meal together, followed by a special Christmas performance by our Children's Ministry Choir. I have several festive activities planned to follow the concert that are sure to be entertaining. No gift exchange this year—just \$10 for lunch and an afternoon of fun. We hope to see you there!

—Michael McEntyre, Minister of Engaged Aging

Holiday Hours for Your Pre- and Post-Thanksgiving Festivities

Monday 11/24	Tuesday 11/25	Wednesday 11/26	Thursday 11/27	Friday 11/28	Saturday 11/29	Sunday 11/30
8am-8pm	8am-8pm	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	8am-12pm	11:30am-2pm

Stephen Ministry Training Program

The Stephen Ministry is an international Christian caregiving program where trained laypeople (Stephen Ministers) provide one-on-one, confidential care to individuals experiencing difficult times. It's a way for members of our congregation to offer support to those facing challenges like grief, illness or other life crises. A Stephen Minister typically meets with a care receiver once a week.

We are now in the process of planning the 50-hour Stephen Ministry Training Program and are hoping to have enough people to form a class. If you are interested in becoming a Stephen Minister, applications are available at the reception desk and in the Stephen Ministry section of the First Baptist Greenville website.

Please complete and return the application form by November 21, 2025. We plan to begin interviews after the application deadline and start classes at 6:00pm on January 6, 2026. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at the following address: ggwofford@bellsouth.net.

I look forward to receiving your application!

—Wofford Green, Stephen Leader



Ministry Through the MinisTREE

MinisTREE, which is our Christmas giving program that supports United Ministries families in their supportive housing program (<https://united-ministries.org/programs/family-housing/>), has officially begun! This is a great way to help our neighbors experience Christmas as a family during a period of housing uncertainty.

There is still time to participate!

1. **Choose an ornament** from the MinisTREE at the front office reception area (the ornament will describe the recipient—a child, an adult in the family, or the family as a whole—and a wish list item: for example, Gift #10, boy age 3, legos).
2. **Write your name** next to the ornament's gift number on the sign-out list next to the tree.
3. **Purchase the gift or gift card.**
4. **Bring the gift unwrapped** to the reception area by Sunday, November 30. Please tape to it a gift receipt, if able.

We hope that you will consider participating in the MinisTREE this year. People who have participated in the past have said that it's a very meaningful way to share the joy of the season while helping our neighbors.

—Gayle Brown and Edith Hardaway, Co-chairs for MinisTREE and
Matt Rollins, Minister of Community Engagement



Upcoming Events

WATCH indicates worship experiences broadcast via Vimeo and Facebook Live.

- 11/19 7:00am** Wednesday Morning Men's Bible Study (AYMC Terrace Level)
Wednesdays@First Activities
7:00-8:00pm Annual Yard Sale Holiday Fair (C114)
- 11/20** Roadrunners Special Event: Greenville History Tour with John Nolan and Lunch
9:00am-4:00pm Annual Yard Sale Holiday Fair (C114)
- 11/23 WATCH 10:30am** Reign of Christ Sunday Worship Service (Sanctuary) with Proclaimer Carol McEntyre
11:30am Vocare Rehearsal (Choir Room)
5:00-7:00pm LGBTQ & Friends Community Group (Parlor)
5:00-7:00pm Sunday Night Live for Youth Family: Pack College Care Packages (AYMC)
- 11/25 1:00-2:00pm** Engaged Aging Late Lunch Bunch: City Range
- 11/26-11/28** Church Offices closed for Thanksgiving
- 11/30** MinisTREE Gifts Due
9:30am Advent Sunday School (Fellowship Hall)
WATCH 10:30am First Sunday of Advent: Hanging of the Green Worship Service (Sanctuary) with Proclaimer Camille Loomis Rehnborg
11:30am Vocare Rehearsal (Choir Room)
5:00-7:00pm Sunday Night Live for Youth (AYMC)
- 12/3 7:00am** Wednesday Morning Men's Bible Study (AYMC Terrace Level)
Wednesdays@First Activities
- 12/4 9:00am-4:00pm** Annual Yard Sale Holiday Fair (C114)
- 12/5 10:30am-1:00pm** Engaged Aging Lunch & More Christmas Sing-Along (Fellowship Hall)
- 12/7 9:15am** Advent Sunday School (Fellowship Hall)
WATCH 10:30am Second Sunday of Advent: All Music Worship Service (Sanctuary)
5:00-7:00pm Sunday Night Live for Youth (AYMC)
- 12/10** MidWeek Christmas Party
7:00-8:00pm Annual Yard Sale Holiday Fair (C114)
- 12/11 9:00am-4:00pm** Annual Yard Sale Holiday Fair (C114)
- 12/14 9:00am** Youth Breakfast (Terrace Level)

Wednesdays@First Schedule

Youth@First

4:00-7:00pm Hang Time (AYMC Terrace Level)

Wednesday Night Supper & Prayer Time

5:00-6:00pm (Fellowship Hall)

FBG Kids

5:30-7:00pm Worship Care for Ages 3 & Under (C208, C214)

5:45-7:00pm K4 & K5 Making Space Block & Playtime (C302)

5:45-6:10pm 1st-5th Grade Choir (C303)

6:15-7:00pm Making Space Block (C300)

Adults@First

6:00-7:00pm Adults@First

MidWeek Classic (Fellowship Hall) led by Elizabeth Gandolfo

JustFaith Immigration Module (Media Center) led by JustFaith Leaders

Basketball Appreciation with Matt and Myra: How to Improve, Watch and Enjoy (AYMC Gym) led by Myra Moreira and Matt Rollins

Chrismon Class (AYMC Lobby) led by Kay Hardage

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

Wednesday Night Supper Menu

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

11/19

Adults: Chicken Pot Pie gf, Rice gf, Broccoli gf, Salad gf, Fruit gf, Rolls, Dessert

Children: Chicken Strips, French Fries, Fruit, Cookie

Mission Backpack is looking for volunteers to shop and deliver food bags, as well as accepting donations of pop-top canned pasta. Contact elainebarnhill@gmail.com for more information.

Sympathy

...to Kate Patterson and family in the death of her nephew.

...to the Furman and Fletcher families in the death of their son and grandson.

Congratulations

...Mary Jane Gorman and Duncan McArthur in the birth of their grandchild.

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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). Savannah French, Editor.

Vol. LXVI November 17, 2025 No. 45

Revenue Report

11/13/2025 YTD: \$2,206,599

11/30/2024 Actual: \$2,347,806

11/30/2025 Budget: \$2,733,500



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.