

WEDNESDAYS@FIRST

February 18

Wednesdays@First activities resume this week with the Ash Wednesday Service in the Sanctuary at 6:00pm. All are invited to attend. If you would like to fellowship around the supper tables in the Fellowship Hall, be sure to make a reservation. Supper lines open at 5:00pm. Make your reservations and view menus here: <https://firstbaptistgreenville.com/wednesdays-at-first/>

6:00pm Ash Wednesday Service
Worship Care will be provided for children three-years-old or younger.

WORSHIP

February 22

First Sunday in Lent

Family Dedication

AWAB Director Interview

10:30am

Proclaimer: Carol McEntyre

Scripture: John 15:9-17

Sermon Series: Rediscovering Jesus

Sermon: Rediscovering Jesus, Our Friend

Anthem: "I Want Jesus to Walk with Me" — arr. Moses Hogan

Service Musicians: Sanctuary Choir; Debbie Paden Mobley, Soloist

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given in loving memory of Max and Nancy Whatley by their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

If you would like to place flowers in the Sanctuary for a future worship service, contact Kimberly Coates (kimberly.coates@firstbaptistgreenville.com or 864-233-2527 ext. 128).



From the Senior Minister

CAROL MCENTYRE

Lent is a special 40-day season in the Christian calendar that helps prepare our hearts for Easter. It begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday, the day before Easter. The 40 days (not counting Sundays) recall the 40 days Jesus spent fasting and praying in the wilderness before beginning his public ministry. By the second century A.D., Christians were using the word Lent to describe a special time of preparation before Easter. During this season, people would prepare to celebrate Jesus' resurrection by praying, fasting (giving something up) and almsgiving (helping those in need). This year, to begin the season of Lent, we will gather for Ash Wednesday Worship on February 18 at 6:00pm in the Sanctuary. As part of our worship, we will receive ashes on our foreheads, in the shape of a cross, a symbol of our mortality and our deep dependence on God's grace. Adults, children and youth are encouraged to participate in this interactive worship service.

This year, our Lenten worship theme is *Rediscovering Jesus: Our Friend, Teacher, Savior and Lord*. Many of us have heard these titles before, but during Lent, we will slow down and consider what they truly mean. How is Jesus our Friend? What does it look like to follow him as Teacher? How do we understand him as Savior? What does it mean to call him Lord? My hope is that this series will help deepen our understanding of Christ and renew our relationship with him. The series is loosely based on Diana Butler Bass' book, *Freeing Jesus: Rediscovering Jesus as Friend, Teacher, Savior, Lord, Way, and Presence*. If you would like to explore these themes more deeply, Camille Loomis Rehnborg will be leading a Wednesday night discussion group on Bass' book. Copies will be available beginning on Ash Wednesday, and the discussion will begin on Wednesday, February 25, at 6:00pm in the Media Center.

Whether you participate on Sunday mornings, Wednesday evenings or both, we invite you to journey with us this Lenten season as we rediscover Jesus together.

—Carol

February 17

5:30-6:30pm

Engaged Aging Shrove Tuesday
Pancake Party (Fellowship Hall)

February 18

6:00-7:00pm

Ash Wednesday (Sanctuary)

February 19

11:00am

Roadrunners Lunch at Just Shon's and
Tour of Phillis Wheatley Center

You Already Know This Person

Have you noticed that hospital stays are getting shorter? Patients are being sent home sooner and sooner, often after very serious surgeries and illnesses!

Whatever the reasons for this change, it shifts the burden of care to the people at home. Family members with no nursing training, the adult child who lives three states away, or the friends or neighbors of a single person who have jobs, families and responsibilities of their own. Even when the church prays for the patient, we sometimes fail to notice the caregiver. It often doesn't occur to the vigilant, round-the-clock caregivers to ask for help until they are desperate. As a result, caregivers are some of the most at-risk people among us!

While the church may not be able to relieve every burden our caregivers have, we can make

sure we do not fail in our most basic responsibilities: to notice and to care! One way we do that is through our annual Caregiver Respite Luncheon, which will be on Friday, April 10, in the Fellowship Hall.

When guests arrive, they will find a variety of "comfort stations" waiting for them: chair massages, hand massages, a gentle chair yoga session with a mindfulness instructor, comfort animals, educational sessions on others-care and self-care, the companionship of friends in similar situations and—maybe best of all—a meal they don't have to make!

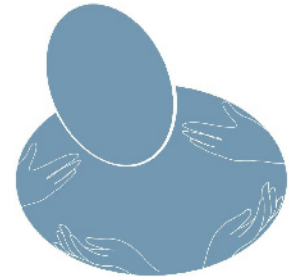
To make this possible, we need your help with building the guest list. Maybe YOU are the person who has slipped into this role and needs a little "me time," or maybe you are concerned for a friend who

needs some TLC from their church family.

In either case, please provide us with the names of church member caregivers by calling Jalyn at extension 103 or emailing jalyn.rutledge@firstbaptistgreenville.com. If the caregiver's name comes to you when you don't have that info handy, just call the front desk or leave a message for me!

I'll give you a hint about your nominee: it's a person you already know!

—Kyle Matthews, Minister of Pastoral Care



Youth Ministry Fundraising Week—Save the Dates!

Our Youth Family is excited to host Youth Ministry Fundraising Week, a joyful time for our church and community to support and celebrate our youth ministry. All events are open to everyone, so invite friends and make plans to join us!

Learn more and give donations online at: www.firstbaptistgreenville.com/youthministryweek

\$1-\$200 Envelope Fundraiser—Begins Sunday, February 15 (Narthex)

Or give online: <https://onrealm.org/firstbaptistgreenville/-/form/give/youth>

Adults vs. Youth Games—Sunday, February 22, 5:00-7:00pm (AYMC)

\$20-\$25 includes games and pizza! Join us for friendly competition at games such as Pickleball, Bingo, Trivia, Mahjong and more!

White Duck Taco Profit Share—Wednesday, February 25, 4:00-8:00pm

301 Airport Rd, Greenville—Mention "First Baptist Greenville" at checkout.

Parent Social & Dinner Party—Friday, February 27, 6:00pm

Tickets are \$40 and include dinner and beverages.

RSVP: <https://shorturl.at/sk6wi>

Youth Sunday Worship—Sunday, March 1, 10:30am

Thank you for supporting our Youth Ministry!

—Mary Carol Anderson,
Minister of Youth & College and Andrew Tonks,
Associate Minister of Youth & College

A Special Day with Brian Henderson and AWAB

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22

We are delighted to welcome Brian Henderson, Executive Director of the Association of Welcoming and Affirming Baptists (AWAB), to our church on Sunday, February 22 for a full day of worship, learning and fellowship. AWAB is a national Baptist organization that supports and connects congregations seeking to fully welcome and affirm LGBTQ+ people as beloved members of the Body of Christ.

During the morning worship service, Senior Minister Carol McEntyre will interview Brian about his work with AWAB and the ongoing journey of Welcoming and Affirming congregations across the Baptist landscape. We hope to announce a Sunday School opportunity with Brian; check social media for updates.

Following worship, members and leaders of the LGBTQ+ Community Group will gather with Brian for an informal lunch, offering space for connection

and conversation. At 5:00pm in the First Baptist Parlor, we will host Brian at the monthly LGBTQ+ Community Group potluck meal. After dinner, Brian will present to the group about his ongoing work with AWAB and the broader movement toward faithful inclusion and justice in the church.

We are thrilled to host Brian Henderson for this meaningful day as we celebrate our special relationship with AWAB. All members and guests are warmly invited to take part in these events and join us in a day of welcome, reflection, and shared commitment to Christ's inclusive love.

—David Jones, LGBTQ Community Group
Leadership Team

Calling ALL Graduates!

On Sunday, May 17, First Baptist Greenville will celebrate and honor the graduating classes of 2026—high school, college and graduate school. The day will begin in the AYMC, when graduates and their families are invited to share in a time of breakfast and fellowship with our Youth Family. During worship at 10:30am, graduates will wear their graduation caps and gowns and will be individually recognized and given a special gift from the church. A special

luncheon for our high school graduates will follow worship.

We understand that some graduates may not be present for our 10:30am worship on Sunday, May 17. However, we ask that every graduate submit a recent photo of themselves by Sunday, April 12 so we can recognize them in our church newsletter, The Branch and display pictures of our graduates on the bulletin board outside Carol's office.

All graduates who are connected to FBG and are graduating this May, please help us by completing a Graduate Info Form no later than Sunday, April 12! You can find the form by using the link listed here: <https://forms.gle/B3HFZPbryUABwxXs8>

—Sarah Dunn, Ministry Assistant
to College & Youth

Upcoming Events

WATCH indicates worship experiences broadcast via Vimeo and Facebook Live.

- 2/17 5:30-6:30pm Engaged Aging Shrove Tuesday Pancake Party (Fellowship Hall)
- 2/18 6:00-7:00pm Ash Wednesday Service (Sanctuary)
- 2/19 11:00am Roadrunners Lunch at Just Shon's and Tour of Phillis Wheatley Center
- 2/21 6:00-8:00pm Interfaith Iftar Dinner (Fellowship Hall)
- 2/22 **WATCH** 10:30am Worship Service (Sanctuary) with Carol McEntyre
11:30am-3:00pm First Baptist 101 (Register on Realm Connect)
Youth Ministry Fundraising week begins
5:00-7:00pm Youth vs Adults Games (AYMC Terrace Level)
- 2/24 2:00pm Engaged Aging Tea Party (Parlor)
- 2/25 7:00am Wednesday Morning Men's Bible Study (AYMC Terrace Level)
Wednesdays@First Activities
- 2/27 6:00-9:00pm Parent Social & Dinner Party (Register on Realm Connect)
- 3/1 9:00-10:00am Coffee with Carol (Reception Area)
WATCH 10:30am Youth Sunday Worship Service (Sanctuary) including Communion
11:30am-3:00pm First Baptist 101 (Register on Realm Connect)
No Sunday Night Live for Youth
- 3/4 7:00am Wednesday Morning Men's Bible Study (AYMC Terrace Level)
Wednesdays@First Activities
- 3/6 10:30am-1:00pm Engaged Aging Lunch & More (Fellowship Hall)
- 3/8 **WATCH** 10:30am Worship Service (Sanctuary) with Proclaimer Carol McEntyre
11:30am-3:00pm First Baptist 101 (Register on Realm Connect)
- 3/15 **WATCH** 10:30am Worship Service (Sanctuary) with Proclaimer Carol McEntyre

Sympathy

...to the family of Anne Simmons.
...to Rachel Sims and family in the death of her grandmother.

Wednesdays@First Schedule (exceptions noted in Upcoming Events)

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: Where the Sidewalk Ends; Navigating Life's Unwanted Transitions (Fellowship Hall) led by Kyle Matthews

Freeing Jesus Book Group (Media Center) led by Camille Loomis Rehnborg

Introduction to Hand Chimes led by Julie Treu

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

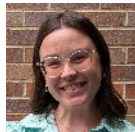
Wednesday Night Supper Menu

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

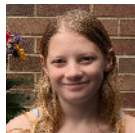
February 18

Adult: Parmesan Encrusted Pork Tenderloin, Sweet Potato Soufflé, Succotash, Salad, Roll, Dessert
Children: Hot Dog, French Fries, Fruit, Cookie

Introducing



Claire Steffens became a member of the church during worship on February 8. Claire is a member of the Bridge Sunday school class and is employed by Flour.



Landon Maguire, who is a member of our Youth Family, joined the church through a profession of faith and request for baptism on February 8. Landon's parent, Erin, is also a member.



Zoey Alicki, who is also a member of our Youth Family, joined the church through a profession of faith and request for baptism on Sunday, February 8. Zoey's parent, Ally, is a member of the church as well!


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Revenue Report

1/31/2026 YTD: \$231,636

1/31/2025 Actual: \$341,982

1/31/2026 Budget: \$256,583



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.