

WEDNESDAYS@FIRST

April 22

Supper will be served as usual with lines open at 5:00pm. Make your reservations and view menus here: <https://firstbaptistgreenville.com/wednesdays-at-first/>

6:00pm *Adults@First* Opportunities

MidWeek Classic: When Scripture Hurts: Stories of Abuse and Resilience in Scripture (Fellowship Hall) led by Carrie Nettles

Being Baptist in Democracy Discussion Group (Media Center) led by Andrew Tonks

Running with Doug and Pam (AYMC Lobby) led by Pam Davis

WORSHIP

April 26

10:30am

Fourth Sunday of Easter (Sanctuary)

Children's Sunday

Proclaimer: Bridget Kokolis

Sermon: Making Space

Scripture: John 15:4-10; 1 John 4:7-12

Service Musicians: Children's Choirs

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).



What Is Children's Sunday?

BRIDGET KOKOLIS

Children's Sunday is a sacred and joy-filled day in the life of our church, one where our children don't just participate in worship, they help *create and lead it*. From our youngest children (birth through preschool) to our fifth graders, FBG Kids are invited into meaningful leadership, offering their voices, gifts and presence in ways that remind us all that they are an essential part of the body of Christ *right now*, not just someday.

This is a service full of music, creativity and heartfelt leadership. Our children lead prayers, read scripture, help guide the congregation, and share in the storytelling of our faith. They do so with sincerity, joy and a deep sense of responsibility. They know this invitation is meaningful, and they rise to meet it with their whole hearts.

Throughout this year, our children have been exploring the theme of "Making Space." Together, we have been learning what it means to make space for God in our lives, to make space for one another, and to recognize the ways God is always making space for us. Children's Sunday is a beautiful culmination of that journey and a chance to share

not only what they have learned, but how they have experienced God at work in their lives.

In the weeks leading up to this service, our children have been preparing thoughtfully and intentionally. They have created artwork that will fill and shape our worship space, helping to transform the Sanctuary into a reflection of their faith and imagination. They have written parts of the service, practiced music, and prepared to lead with care. This is not something they take lightly; it is something they embrace with joy, courage and a deep sense of belonging.

A particularly meaningful moment comes at the close of the service, when our fifth graders offer the benediction. As they prepare to transition out of Children's Ministry, this serves as a beautiful and sacred sending, a moment when they speak blessing over the congregation that has nurtured them, even as we prepare to bless them in the next step of their journey.

Following worship, FBG Kids and their grownups will enjoy a special lunch in the Fellowship Hall. This is a time to gather, connect and celebrate the children who lead us so faithfully.

Children's Sunday is more than a tradition; it is a glimpse of the church as it is meant to be: intergenerational, Spirit-filled, and shaped by the voices of all. We hope you will join us for this meaningful and memorable day.

Foundation Seeks New Trustees

Nominations are being accepted for new trustees to serve on the nine-member First Baptist Greenville Foundation Board. The terms of three trustees will expire at the end of June 2026. To maintain the regular rotation, three trustees should be appointed to serve for three years. The criteria for serving are as follows:

1. Must be a member of First Baptist Greenville
2. Enthusiastic dedication to the concept of permanent endowment to support missions and church causes
3. Experience in and dedication to mission and ministry work
4. Experience and knowledge in the making of investment decisions

All church members are invited to submit their nominations for these positions. Please send your nominations to Dewanda Martin, chair of the Diaconate at dewandamartin@gmail.com, or John P. Smith, chair of the Foundation at johnpsmith@charter.net, no later than the deadline listed below.

The chair of the Diaconate, with the approval of the Executive Committee of the Diaconate, will recommend a slate of trustees to the Diaconate and congregation for approval.

The trustees currently serving on the Foundation Board are: Taylor Davis (2027), Doug Girvin (2027), Becky Hartness (2028), Sarah Herring (2026), Beverly Lambert (2026), Freda Lark (2028), Tom Ledbetter (2028), John P. Smith (2026) and Leah Wynn (2027).

Trustee nominations are due no later than Sunday, May 3, 2026.

—Stacey Shinas, Controller
Foundation Staff Liason

Finding Your Accompanist: Our Stephen Ministry

When our musicians offer us their beautiful music in worship, our attention may be on the soloist, instrumentalist or choir. But what makes those moments possible is another relationship: while musicians are facing us, they are listening to their accompanist, and the accompanist is listening intently to them, taking direction, sensing cues, anticipating but not leading, always supporting. We are all beneficiaries of the result!

That's an apt picture of what a Stephen Minister is: an accompanist behind the scenes who makes it possible for us to rise to the occasion with courage and strength, wisdom and peace, because we are not alone.

Every one of us at some time goes through one of life's difficult or unwanted transitions. Often it is the kind of journey even

our family members and friends cannot or should not make with us. Stephen Ministers are members of the church who have undergone fifty hours of special training to become confidential "accompanists" who commit to meet privately on a regular basis for a prescribed period of time. They exist to ensure that each of us has someone who will listen without judgment, pray with us, and offer perspective and support. Women are matched with women, men with men, and only the care-receiver can tell anyone about the relationship.

As Christians committed to the shared life of the church and its reciprocal ministries of care, the question is not "whether" we need a Stephen Minister, but "when." It is a beautiful example of member-to-member care and one

I commend to you. It is how the music gets made, and we are all beneficiaries of the result!

If you'd like to explore either having a Stephen Minister or becoming one, call me at 864-233-2527, ext. 138; write to me at kyle.matthews@firstbaptistgreenville.com; or come by my office!

—Kyle Matthews, Minister of
Pastoral Care



FBG Yard Sale: Friday and Saturday April 24 & 25

TO BENEFIT OUR NEIGHBORHOOD PARTNERSHIP



Friday, April 24
1:00pm-7:00pm

Saturday, April 25
8:00am-1:00pm

Each year our church hosts a yard sale (not in a yard :)) to support the good work of First Baptist's Neighborhood Partnership Ministries and the community. The term yard sale really does not do this justice. For months on

end, volunteers collect donated items, carefully sorting, pricing and preparing them for the day of the sale. If you have never seen the results, I encourage you to make a point to come shop (or better yet, volunteer) this year. There are bargains to be had, treasures to be discovered and fun all around in the name of a good cause.



YARD SALE

SPECIAL UPDATE: This year the yard sale is opening its doors a few days early to our church family! On Wednesday, April 22, you can shop before or after MidWeek (4:00pm-5:00pm and 7:00pm-8:00pm). Be sure to mark your calendars now and join us!
—Michael McEntyre, Minister of Engaged Aging

Have Fun with a Summer Affinity Group

An affinity group is a small group of people that share a common interest or an “affinity” for a hobby, activity or shared life stage. This is a great way to connect with new people while doing something you love. Affinity groups are led by church members, so we need your leadership! Do you have a hobby or interest you’d like to share with new friends? Sign up to be a group leader!

Playground Meet-Up with Kids |

Leaders: Janell Strickland and Laura Shane

Get the kids outside and playing with new friends! Families with children gather on local playgrounds for summer social time.

Theology on Tap: Grateful Brew Crew |

Leader: Kalisse Evert

Whether you are just dipping your toe into faith conversations or you have STRONG thoughts on the author of Hebrews, join us for no-pressure, lively discussions over a tall beer or iced coffee!

Dog Lovers Meet Up | Leader: Virginia Wagoner

Bringing Fido to church might get some sideways glances, but you and Fido are invited to our summer affinity group. Let your dog burn off energy after work while you visit with folks (new and old) from FBG.

Photography | Leader: Ben Mullinax

A photography interest group and class with an emphasis on selecting a theme to “focus” on. Participants may share images they took—no

pressure! Themes for “homework” can include water images, reflections, shadows and motion, with an emphasis on compositions or capturing everyday objects from a unique perspective.

Summer Work Out Squads | Leader: Cathy Goldfarb

Summer Squads are small groups of two to four people—you can create a squad or have Cathy place you in one—that will meet once a week in June and July to build strength, provide accountability and encourage each other. We provide the workout plan; you commit to working out a few times a week, one of which is with your squad. What better way to enjoy the blessing of brand new fitness and cardio equipment in the AYMC!

Your group could be the key to welcoming a new face or helping a church member find community. If you are interested in leading a group, please email Camille or fill out the survey at tinyurl.com/FBGaffinity2026.

—Camille Loomis Rehnberg, Minister of Spiritual Formation and Outreach

CHURCH LIFE

Upcoming Events

WATCH indicates worship experiences broadcast via Vimeo and Facebook Live.

- 4/22 7:00am Wednesday Morning Men's Bible Study (AYMC Terrace Level)
Wednesdays@First Activities
- 4/24 1:00-7:00pm Yard Sale Day 1
- 4/25 8:00am-1:00pm Yard Sale Day 2
- 4/26 9:00-10:00am Coffee with Carol (Reception Area)
9:15am Sunday School
WATCH 10:30am Children's Sunday Worship Service (Sanctuary) with Proclaimer Bridget Kokolis
2:30-3:30pm Grief Support Group (Chapel)
5:00-6:00pm LGBTQ & Friends Community Group (Parlor)
5:00-7:00pm Sunday Night Live for Youth
- 4/29 7:00am Wednesday Morning Men's Bible Study (AYMC Terrace Level)
Wednesdays@First Activities
5:00-7:00pm MidWeek Spring Celebration (AYMC)
- 5/3 9:15am Sunday School
WATCH 10:30am Music Sunday Worship Service (Sanctuary) with Proclaimer Carol McEntyre
- 5/6 7:00am Wednesday Morning Men's Bible Study (AYMC Terrace Level)
Wednesdays@First Activities

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**
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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).
Lara Felsman, Editor.

Vol. LXVII April 20, 2026 No. 16

Wednesday Night Supper Menu

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

4/22

Adults: Meatloaf/Mashed potatoes/Green beans/Salad/Fruit/Rolls/Dessert
Children: Chicken fingers/FF/Fruit/Cookie

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.

Revenue Report

Current YTD Actual (thru 04/14/26) 817,424

Compare to 4/30 YTD

Prior Year Actual (2025) 949,540

Current Year Budget (2026)
1,026,333

Introducing



...Gregg Lovell who joined our church on Sunday, April 12.



...Leslie McDonald who joined our church on Sunday, April 12.



...Jon and Janell Strickland who joined our church on Sunday, April 12.



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