

GREENWOOD FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Seeking His Heart...Being His Hands
Living, Loving, and Serving in the Name of Christ

February 20, 2019

Vol. LXX, No. 04



Wednesdays During Lent

Each Wednesday during Lent a brief worship service (less than 30 minutes) will be held at 12:30 pm at an area church. Below is a list of 2019 host churches.

The schedule for the 2019 Lenten Pilgrimage is:

- March 6:** Main Street United Methodist Church
- March 13:** Greenwood Associate Reformed Presbyterian (ARP) Church
- March 20:** St. Mark United Methodist Church (River Street Campus)
- March 27:** First Presbyterian Church
- April 3:** Immanuel Lutheran Church
- April 10:** First Baptist Church
- April 17:** Morris Chapel Baptist Church

Host churches provide a light lunch for \$1.00 at noon and at 1:00 pm. The GFBC church office will be closed 12:10 pm - 1:20 pm on Wednesdays during Lent so that staff may attend these services.

GFBC Ash Wednesday Services
Wednesday, March 6, 2019
6:30 pm

Youth and Adults in Sanctuary
Children begin in Chapel and end in God's Backyard



A Note from the Pastor

Approaching the Season of Lent



This is our last newsletter before the Lenten season begins. (Ash Wednesday this year is March 6.) Seemingly every year people ask me, "What is the purpose of Lent?" In terms of the liturgical calendar (the calendar of the Church), Lent gives Christians forty days to prepare for Good Friday and Easter. Preparation, of course, means intentionality: Lent is a season when Christians are intentional about (1) nurturing their relationship with God and (2) seeking spiritual growth. What might that mean for you and me? Here are a few ideas.

Lent is a season to reflect on— and imitate— the sacrifice of Jesus. Has greater love ever been shown than in Jesus' death on the cross? To help us remember and appreciate Jesus' sacrifice, we make (much smaller) sacrifices during Lent: fasting, abstinence from certain foods or drinks, giving up (or limiting) television or Facebook— **all of these small sacrifices are designed to help us remember the great sacrifice Jesus made for us.**

Lent is a season to spend more time in prayer, worship, and devotion. Prayer is communication and intimacy with God, and nothing grows a relationship like communication and intimacy. Reading scripture or a devotional guide also facilitates our relationship with God. A number of Bible apps offer a scripture reading plan for the Lent. d365.org does a wonderful online devotion during the Lenten season; *Our Daily Bread*, available online and in print, always has devotions that are easy to read but thought-provoking. Finally, Lent is a time to experience corporate devotion, or worship. The last couple of years, I have offered to our church family this invitation and challenge: **make a commitment to be in worship every Sunday during the Lenten season.** Instead of (or along with) giving up something for Lent, try taking on a commitment to be present in worship.

Lent is a season to be more generous in giving. At the beginning of 2019, I congratulated our church family on its generosity in 2018, especially in the last quarter of the year. Our final missions payment in 2018 marked 29 consecutive quarters that our missions payments have been made in full and on time, a string unprecedented in my sixteen years as pastor. And now 2019 is off to a great start, also the best of my tenure. (Please see "(Another) Note from the Pastor" on the last page of the newsletter.) **Where will your generosity show up during this Lenten season?**

Lent is a season to spend more time serving and helping others. Jesus taught that service is at the heart of kingdom life, and he certainly spent his days helping others. You can find opportunities for service both at GFBC and with missions partners throughout the community. As you spend time in prayer during this Lenten season, **ask God to lead you to a place to serve, volunteer, or help others.** What better way is there to imitate Jesus?

Music Notes



Does anyone remember Can-Am days at Myrtle Beach? They were the days in March/April when neighbors from the frozen north would travel, down I-95, to actually swim in the ocean and bask in the sun. In similar fashion, The *Festival by the Sea* Youth Choir festival will take place at the beach, March 1-3. The purpose of this event is not to enjoy 60 degree ocean temps but to make music with youth from across a three state area and offer the songs as a gift in worship. Thirteen of the youth and four adults will make the trip representing GFBC. The group goes with GFBC's prayers and appreciation for the hard work in practice and giving time to share.

- David Corbitt

WORSHIP - February 24, 2019
BWIM Month of Preaching
Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

Scripture: Exodus 1:8-21
 Sermon: "Midwives of Hope"
 Anna Burch

Anthem: "A Jubilant Song"
 Chancel Choir

WORSHIP - March 3 2019
Eighth Sunday after Epiphany

Scripture: Isaiah 22:1-14
 Sermon: "No Time for a Party"
 Tony Hopkins

Special Music by the Music Makers and Young Musicians Choirs

Anthem:
 "My Shepherd Will Supply My Need"
 Chancel Choir

WORSHIP - March 10 2019
First Sunday in Lent

Scripture: John 19:25-30
 Sermon: "The Cross"
 Tony Hopkins

Anthem:
 "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"
 Chancel Choir

Diaconate News



Although the Diaconate did not meet in February, the Diaconate did approve two items of business via email. The two items approved included:

- 1) The Diaconate approved a request from the First Baptist Executive Committee to appoint Linda Koone to fill a vacancy on the Nominations and Lay Leadership Committee.
- 2) The Diaconate approved a request from the Cheerful Cherubs Board to appoint Cathy Harris to the Cheerful Cherubs Board.

Administratively Speaking . . .

The Many Forms of Administration Ministry

Like all ministry, the ministry of administration takes many forms, and no two days are the same.

Administrative Ministry comes in the form of meeting with a family member who just realized during the Christmas holidays that over forty years ago a sister had been buried in Edgewood Cemetery. What joy and peace it was to work with the family to locate their sister.

Administrative Ministry comes in the form of meetings. Each month a significant amount of time is spent preparing for meetings with the Property Committee, Stewardship Committee, Diaconate Executive Committee as well as the Diaconate. Time is also spent preparing for meetings with the First Baptist Church Foundation Board, Edgewood Cemetery and Mausoleum Board, Cheerful Cherubs Board, Congregational Life Committee, and the Nominations and Lay Leadership Committee.

Yes...Administrative Ministry comes in many different forms. Whether meeting with a bride, preparing for a meeting, or talking with a guest, each task is performed with the heart of ministry.



Children's Ministry Spring Semester Dates



- March 16:** **Arts Center STEAM Day**
10:00 am - 12:00 pm;
Picnic and playground at Noon
- March 22:** **Movie Night**
5:30 pm - 8:30 pm
- April 7** **Pinocchio, Jr.**
1:40 pm
- April 14:** **Egg Hunt**
- April 27:** **Operation Inasmuch**
- May 4:** **Strawberry Picking**
10:00 am; picnic and playground after
- May 22:** **Music & Missions Night**
6:30 pm
- May 29:** **CIA Fun Night**
Pizza supper - 6:00 pm
Games - 6:30 pm
- May 31:** **Playground Night**
5:30 pm - 8:00 pm

Summer Dates

- June 10-14:** Vacation Bible School
July 16-19: Camp P.R.I.S.M.
 (3rd—5th graders)



Cheerful Cherub Registration



Registration is now open for children ages 1-4 for the 2019-2020 school year. Forms are available in the church office or from Claudia Burch. If you have any questions, please call Claudia at 229-2787.

Laucis-Parham Circle

The Laucis-Parham Circle will be painting verses in God's Backyard and two Sunday School rooms on February 19, February 28, March 3, and March 9. The circle's regular meeting will be Monday, March 11, at Meredith Sims' home.



Family Outing to Pinocchio, Jr.

Seven (7) GFBC kids (!) are in Pinocchio Jr. at GCT! The Children's Ministry is adding a spring event for families to see the play on Sunday, April 7, at 2:00 pm. The deadline to sign up is Friday, March 22, at noon. Tickets are \$15.00 for adults and \$10.00 for children. Money is due to Anna Burch by April 7. Checks should be made out to FBC.

Those attending the play will meet at 1:40 pm in the outdoor area between the theater and the arts center. The group will enter the theater at 1:45 pm to find seats, make a bathroom stop, or stop at the concessions.

NGO on March 5!



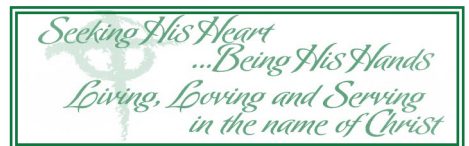
On March 5, 11:15 am, NGO will be "wearing the green" as they celebrate St. Patrick's Day with Rhonda McGinnis, instrumentalist (Irish drum, guitar, and Irish flute). Membership: \$5.00 for the year. Lunch: \$8.00 each meeting (contact Polly Harvin at 223-3240 by Thursday, February 28, for lunch reservations).



Yard Sale Items Needed

The Rosemary Benjamin Relay Team will hold a yard sale Saturday, March 9, 7:00 am - noon. GFBC members are invited to a preview sale on Friday, March 8, at 7:00 pm.

The Rosemary Benjamin Relay team wants your "trash" that may be someone else's "treasure." Donations for the yard sale may be stored behind the stage in Fellowship Hall. Please hold large items until the week of March 4.



It Is Time to Make Plans for Summer 2019!

GFBC Youth will participate in Passport Missions at Furman University July 1-6! Those participating will be learning about and serving in local missions projects in Travelers Rest and Greenville.

The actual cost per youth is \$435.00. If youth help with the two fundraisers this spring, that cost will drop to \$115.00. The first fundraiser was February 3 (Souper Bowl). The second fundraiser is March 24 (Spaghetti Lunch) at noon after church in the Fellowship Hall.

Chaperones are needed (male and female). A Passport youth-parent meeting is scheduled for Sunday, April 28, at 9:00 am in The Lounge. The deadline to sign-up for Passport is this meeting (on April 28). Email Blake (revblsakekendrick@gmail.com) to ask questions or to sign up.



Youth and youth families are invited to help serve the Wednesday night family meals on the following dates: March 20 and May 22.

Four volunteers are needed for each of these dates. Volunteers set out plates, utensils, and condiments, serve the meal, put away unused plates and utensils, and store leftover food. Volunteers need to be in the Fellowship Hall from 5:15 pm - 6:15 pm. This is a great way for the church family to meet and interact with youth families. Please email Blake at revblakekendrick@gmail.com to let him know which date you can help.



LOOKING FOR . . . ?

**Community
Spiritual Development
Service Opportunities
Caring Relationships
Bible Application**

These desires and more can be fulfilled by being involved in a Sunday School class. Exciting things are happening during the Sunday School hour each week. Come at 10:00 am next Sunday and see.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

CLASS (typical ages)	ROOM NUMBER
College and Alums (college, 20s)	109
Upper Room (20s and 30s)	104
Faith Builders (40s and 50s)	107
Sojourners (50s and 60s)	108
Bowers (adults over 60)	103
Timms (men over 75)	106
Mauldin (adults over 70)	208
Carpenter (adults over 70)	210

Church Family News

Heartfelt Christian sympathy is extended to:

- Barbara Dorn in the loss of her aunt, Hazel Flack, and of her cousin, Julie Phipps
- Joey Bagwell and family in the loss of his mother, Sandy McLain
- Bonnie Corbitt in the loss of her aunt, Dorothy Wilkinson
- Andy Westbrook in the loss of his father, Reuel Westbrook

Home: Carol Robinson Mauldin, Evans Funderburk, Jean Hurry



February 24

Ushers: Ann Skinner
Greeters - Door A: Graham Whidden
Door B: Diana Cox
Door C: Pat Penn
Door D: Butch and Sandra Roberts
Babies: Amy Jennings, Jill Riley
Toddlers: Erin and Sonny Nodine
Children's Church: Kelly Wash, Nina Moore, Evie Craig
Acolyte: Camden Nave
Bus Driver: Michael Hammett
Office Volunteer: Jo Ann Moore
HelpingHands: (2/ 25) Ruth Collins
Minister on Call: (2/23-2/24) Tony Hopkins 223-8922
Deacon of the Week: Ellison Rowe 992-7330

The Sanctuary flowers will be given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Barbara Parham and Craig Holbrook Parham by their family.

March 10

Ushers: Jeff Burkes
Greeters - Door A: Tom and Jackie Moore
Door B: Terry and Alice Gilchrist
Door C: Pat Penn
Door D:
Babies: Nan Smith, Stephanie Turner
Toddlers: Tara Stoddard, Brittany Dunlap
Children's Church: Claudia Burch, Lydia Turner
Acolyte: MaryLila Sims
Bus Driver: Richie Williams
Office Volunteer: Mary Ann Wingard
HelpingHands: (3/11) Beth Hardage
Minister on Call: (3/9-3/10) Tony Hopkins 223-8922
Deacon of the Week: Andy Westbrook 992-1810

The Sanctuary flowers will be given to the glory of God and in memory of Carl and Gladys Holloway.

Alma Johnson Circle

The Alma Johnson Circle will be providing the evening meal on Thursday, March 7, 5:00 pm for the Pathway House women's shelter and will be taking a collection of needed supplies for the women's shelter. Circle members should plan to meet at the women's shelter at 5:00 pm with dinner items and/or supplies.

March 3

Ushers: Wayne White
Greeters - Door A: Peggy Allen
Door B: Eddie and Dot Dalton
Door C: Pat Penn
Door D: Lew and Pat Dorriy
Babies: Judi Neufeld, Nancy Poston
Toddlers: Haley English, Brooke Kirby
Children's Church: Kayla and Cody Beard
Acolyte: Lily Martin
Bus Driver: Michael Hammett
Office Volunteer: Carol Richard
HelpingHands: (3/4) Rose Whaley
Minister on Call: (3/2-3/3) Blake Kendrick 864-426-1828
Deacon of the Week: Carole Russell 543-3568
The Sanctuary flowers will be given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Charles and Dody Mauldin by their family.

Ministry Plan 2019 February 10, 2019

Weekly Need	19,854.52
Weekly Gifts	14,838.00
Ministry Plan Req'd YTD	119,127.12
Ministry Plan Rcv YTD	128,279.00
Surplus (Over)	9,151.88
State Missions TD	300.00
Global Missions TD	0.00
Sunday School Attendance	210
Worship Attendance	249

Ministry Plan 2019 February 17, 2019

Weekly Need	19,854.52
Weekly Gifts	9,918.00
Ministry Plan Req'd YTD	138,981.64
Ministry Plan Rcv YTD	138,197.00
Surplus (Over)	(784.64)
State Missions TD	300.00
Global Missions TD	0.00
Sunday School Attendance	244
Worship Attendance	182

Salt Shakers

Sunday, March 10
6:00 pm
Host Families' homes



Another) Note from the Pastor:
 “What is the best way to help Christians understand and practice giving?”

You can't imagine how often church leaders discuss this question-- and all the questions that are related to it, including: “Will it put people off if we talk about giving?” “How often should we talk about it, and in what medium?”

After 35 years in ministry, two things seem clear to me. **Giving is part of what Christian disciples do.** I do worry that people will be put off when we talk about it, but would that keep us from talking about any other aspect of our discipleship? Prayer? Scripture? Missions? Worship? Giving is part of what disciples do, and I hope that each of us *will* talk about it-- especially with God. More than anything else, our giving should reflect a prayerful consideration of how God has blessed us and wants to use us to bless others.

The other thing that seems clear to me is: **when the church is generous, we should celebrate that generosity!** GFBC has been very generous lately, both to close out 2018 and to begin 2019. With three months left in 2018, we were \$116,000 behind our Ministry Plan. We shared this information with the church family and asked you to help. You did! We finished 2018 having given 99.64% of the Ministry Plan! We also asked you to continue your faithfulness and generosity as we began 2019. You have done that as well! **For the first time I can remember, six weeks into the year, our giving is ahead of our Ministry Plan!** (I've just realized that I'm using a lot of exclamation points, but I'm pretty excited!)

As you know, when you give to the Ministry Plan, you support the ongoing care of our facility; you support the staff and all the ministries that we lead, including children, youth, music, and worship; you provide curriculum for Sunday School and supplies for Wednesday night activities; and you support the two dozen mission partners that help people in the name of Jesus. On behalf of our Lord and our church, **THANK YOU** for practicing this important aspect of your discipleship!

GFBC REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Sunday	Monday
9:00 am Library Open	9:00 am Helpinghands
10:00 am Sunday School	4:00 pm Staff Meeting
11:00 am Worship	6:00 pm Scouts
Tuesday	
10:00 am Library Open	
Wednesday	
4:15 pm <i>Sounds of Grace</i> Senior Adult Choir	
5:00 pm Youth Lounge Opens	
5:15 pm Children's Choirs	
5:30 pm Family Night Supper	
Library Open (until 6:30 pm)	
6:15 pm The Grind	
6:30 pm Adult Bible Study, Grace Street Parents, Chancel Choir, Children's Activities, Infant and Toddler Childcare	
7:15 pm <i>Voices of Grace</i> Youth Choir	

CALENDAR OF SPECIAL EVENTS

Sunday, February 24 - BWIM Sunday at GFBC
 10:00 am Sunday School
 11:00 am Worship
 6:00 pm Worship Committee

Wednesday, February 27
 5:30 pm Family Meal—Group 6
 Menu: Baked Spaghetti and Salad

Friday - Sunday, March 1-3
Voices of Grace Youth Choir -
Festival by the Sea

Sunday, March 3
 10:00 am Sunday School
 11:00 am Worship
 6:00 pm Property Committee

Monday, March 4
 10:45 am Louise Bowers Circle
 3:00 pm Joann Gray Circle
 6:30 pm Rosemary Benjamin Circle

Tuesday, March 5
 10:00 am Dement Waldrop Circle
 11:15 am NGO

Wednesday, March 6 - Ash Wednesday
 8:30 am Contemplative Wednesday
 12:30 pm Lenten Service at Main St. UMC
 (Lunch served at 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm)
 5:30 pm Family Meal—Group 7
 Menu: Sweet and Sour Chicken, Rice, Mixed Vegetables
 6:30 pm Ash Wednesday Services

Thursday, March 7
 Noon Peggy Hollingsworth Circle
 5:00 pm Alma Johnson Circle at Pathway House

Friday, March 8
 7:00 pm Rosemary Benjamin Preview Sale

Saturday, March 9
 7:00 am Rosemary Benjamin Yard Sale

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Greenwood First Baptist Church

722 Grace Street Greenwood, SC 29649
 (864) 229-5557 (864) 229-2561 Fax
 Helping Hands Ministry Information Line (864) 229-8051

Sunday Service Broadcast at 10:00 am on 103.5 FM
 Website: www.fbogwd.com

Cheerful Cherubs
 (864) 229-2787

www.cheerfulcherubsfbc.com

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Ron Davis.....	Organist.....	rdavis@presby.edu
Blake Kendrick.....	Associate Pastor for Students and Adult Spiritual Formation.....	revblakekendrick@gmail.com
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Invite someone to church.



Scan with your smart phone to go the church's website.