

## From the Pastor ...



Praise the Lord for good weather during our morning services outdoors! At the same time, it looks like we are very ready to meet indoors again.

At the time of this writing I cannot say with certainty which Sunday we will return to the Sanctuary. Perhaps by the time you receive this we will have confirmation. Please check with the church office if you have not yet heard.

As we head back inside, some members are asking if we will continue with a blended style of worship or if we can go back to two services. This decision comes as the Church Council agrees on a right course of action and makes a recommendation to the Deacons. Before we started the more contemporary re:New service in 2018, we also included two Q&A sessions for the church body. I believe we all share the same vision to see our sanctuary full again, with people from all generations.

Things to consider in this decision:

- What does God want? Our worship must be Christ-centered and biblically based. Our goal is to honor and please the Lord, not a style of worship.
- Do we have enough people for two services now?
- Can we do this with the people who love traditional worship *and* those who like blended or contemporary worship *both* feeling valued and not victimized? If we do two services, we must share the vision that both of them will be growth engines for the church. Then all of us must work hard to make it happen.

Our bylaws state in part, "The Church Council is a focus group which is made up of church leaders to oversee plans for events, activities and goals of the church organizations and programs. Each new church year, the Church Council will meet and select a chairperson and thereafter meet regularly to oversee church goals and priorities, evaluate achievements, and identify deficiencies."

Our Church Council will meet next week to discuss the best way to return.

Meanwhile, we will continue with one blended service. Some of our members returned to find our church service very different from the traditional service they left fourteen months ago. Here is why: From the end

of last June until just a few weeks ago, we were still masking and social distancing. Not everyone has been or *plans to be* immunized. We needed to sideline a familiar pattern of sharing microphones and touching pulpits until it was safe to do so. We will make adjustments as soon as we feel it is safe.

Another thing the Church Council will discuss are the summertime Wednesday Lunch & Bible Study and the Wednesday night meetings starting in September. I look forward to meeting mid-week again.

Please keep our worship leaders in your prayers. They have done a tremendous job during the shutdown. That means preparing, playing, recording, and editing the online service, and then leading the Sunday morning services. They come early to set up and check the equipment, and they are usually the last ones to leave. Do you remember working full time, raising children whose busy school, sports and music schedules rival anyone in the business world— which these days include weekends and Wednesday nights— *and* giving 20 hours of your time to the church?

Now top this with planning music for two styles of worshippers in one service. We will not find anyone better to do this than the precious volunteers we have now.

I am grateful for the six new deacons that will come on board in September. Please continue to pray for our current and future deacons as they work together to help lead our church forward.

One last thing. You might have noticed that you hear terms like, "Critical Race Theory (CRT), Intersectionalism," and "The 1619 Project" almost every day in the media. Do you understand these words and why school boards, the military, and churches are having to make difficult discussions about what they represent?

Google "Voddie Baucham at Flat Creek Baptist Church."

For a 16-minute clip from that describes the four principles of CRT, click on "Critical Race Theory Says Everything is Racist—Voddie..."

For the full message (*highly recommended; very educational*), click on the two-hour "Flat Creek BC - Engage: Voddie Baucham," then fast forward 34 minutes to get to the message.

## Music



Hey FBC Family,  
As we move into the summer, I want to thank you again for allowing me to help with leading worship. As you know, we are still looking for people to join us in choir. I would love to talk to you if you are entertaining the idea. Or, better yet, sit in on Wednesday nights during practice to see if you like it! Our vision is a large choir with lots of sound, so I encourage you to pray about your place with us!

I also ask that you pray for our service as a whole and where God is leading us. It's only through prayer and God's direction that we will grow and reach more people.

Blessings,  
Sterling

## Welcome to our new Deacons

Dick Coker  
Bobby Dempsey  
Sterling Dyar  
Tommy Goodson, Sr.  
Danny Johnson  
Jackie Ponder

They will begin serving on September 1, 2021.

## June Events

**Graduation Sunday** - June 6 in the 10:30 service

First Baptist will volunteer at the **Hartsville Soup Kitchen** on Thursday, June 10. If you are interested in helping with this ministry, please contact the church office.

**Father's Day** - Sunday, June 20

## Congratulations!

Welcome to Lana Hart Bonno, daughter of Dr. Eric & Meredith Chapman Bonno. Lana is the granddaughter of Dr. Mac & Pam Chapman, and the great-granddaughter of Raymond Chapman.



Website: [firstbaptisthartsville.org](http://firstbaptisthartsville.org)

## FBC on Social Media

Website: [firstbaptisthartsville.org](http://firstbaptisthartsville.org)

Facebook: First Baptist Church Hartsville

YouTube: FBC Hartsville SC

Instagram: @firstbaptisthartsville

## Sanitized & Sterilized

Our Building & Grounds Committee has gotten our ducts cleaned and sanitized, as well as the inside of the Sanctuary building sterilized to kill viruses and bacteria.



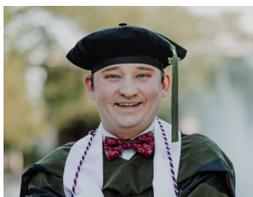
## June Birthdays

6-1 Elizabeth Hodge  
6-1 Jane Ponder  
6-4 Courtney Barrett Griffith  
6-4 Susan Reynolds  
6-5 Courtney Ponder  
6-8 Bill Connell  
6-10 Sue Walters  
6-12 Deborah Crawford  
6-13 Leroy McCoy  
6-15 Meredith Chapman Bonno  
6-15 John Chapman  
6-15 J. Colin Hungerpiller  
6-15 Dorothy Warren  
6-23 Georgianna Hulsey  
6-25 Bryan Blackwell  
6-25 Tommy Gainey  
6-27 Shirlyn Bellum  
6-27 Libby Gabel  
6-28 Susan Moore  
6-28 Nicole Newton  
6-29 Beth Herring

Happy Birthday!

## Congratulations to our Graduates!

### Doctorate



*Colin Hungerpiller*  
University of South Carolina  
College of Pharmacy,  
Doctorate of Pharmacy

### College



*Charlie Aimar*  
Clemson University, Bachelor  
of Science in Health Sciences,  
Minor in Business  
Administration



*Courtney Ponder*  
University of South Carolina,  
Bachelor of Science in  
Integrated Information  
Technology, Minor in Retail

## High School



*Andrew Chapman* - Hartsville High  
School  
Future plans: Clemson University -  
Agricultural Mechanization and  
Business



*Kinley Dempsey* - Hartsville High  
School  
Future Plans: Francis Marion  
University - Nursing



*Chase Elsesser* - Hartsville High  
School IB  
Future plans: The Citadel -  
Economics & Business



*Isabelle Rose Elsesser* - Hartsville  
High School IB  
Future plans: Clemson University -  
Pre-med Veterinary Sciences



*Anderson Hulsey* - Mayo High School  
for Math, Science, and Technology  
Future plans: Florence Darlington  
Technical College - Electrical  
Engineering

## With Thanks

Dear FBC,

We would like to express our sincere gratitude for all the cards, emails, text messages, and phone calls we received during the death of John's Mom and his brother. Your prayers were greatly appreciated.

Love,  
*Vivian and John Drinkard*

## *First Baptist Preschool*



It was with great joy that I accepted the position of director of the First Baptist Preschool for the 2021-2022 school year. Let me introduce myself. I am Omerea Thurman and I have been in the field of education for approximately 40 years.

During my freshman year of college, God called me to work with children. I changed my major and earned my BS in Early Childhood and Elementary education, my Master's and Education Specialist degrees in Counseling. My many endeavors include classroom teacher, guidance counselor, adult education teacher, trainer for childcare workers, and preschool director.

Two and a half years ago I moved back to my hometown of Ruby. I built across the street from my brother and his wife. We have enjoyed our retirement time together. However, I was ready for a part-time position that would allow use of the talents God gave me. I began praying for God to lead me where He wanted me. My prayers were answered when our new 5K teacher, Amber Hastings, told me about this position. After much prayer, I applied.

I have two children. My daughter and her family are in Florence. My son and his family are in Tennessee. They have blessed me with two wonderful granddaughters that I enjoy spoiling every chance I get.

Brittany and the staff have made me feel right at home. I have enjoyed getting to know them, the children, and their parents. I feel this will be a smooth transition as Brittany and I have been working together over the past month. I will be in and out during the summer making preparations for the upcoming school year. I look forward to being a part of this special ministry and following God's will for our growth.

## *FBC Staff*

Dr. Greg Boyd: Pastor- [greg@firstbaptisthartsville.org](mailto:greg@firstbaptisthartsville.org)

Lauren Wint: Children's Director-  
[lauren@firstbaptisthartsville.org](mailto:lauren@firstbaptisthartsville.org)

Sterling Dyar: Volunteer Worship Leader

Crystal Hopkins: Financial Secretary-  
[crystal@firstbaptisthartsville.org](mailto:crystal@firstbaptisthartsville.org)

Ruth Kilgore: Administrative Secretary-  
[ruth@firstbaptisthartsville.org](mailto:ruth@firstbaptisthartsville.org)

Brittany Caddell: Interim Preschool Director-  
843-878-0445

## *1st Kids Children's Ministry & Impact Student Ministry*

Hi Church Family,

I can't believe it is summer! As of the end of May, we have ended our Wednesdays night activities with 1st Kids, and are gearing up for summer activities. July 12-16th from 5-7:30 is our Totally 80's VBS! Get your scrunchies and side ponytails ready, because we are going to have a totally tubular experience! We are still looking for a few more volunteers. Please reach out to me if you think you might have some time to spare.

I will be sending out emails soon about our June and back to school events as well, so be on the lookout!

IMPACT will be sporadically meeting throughout the summer, and if you would like your kids involved, please call the church office and let Ruth know. I will get you on the email and text chain!

I hope you all have an amazing summer and I will see you on Sundays during the service!

In Love,  
Ms. Lauren



### ***Please Contact the Church Office:***

- If your address, email, or telephone number has changed
- If you have updates for the Prayer List
- If you need more offering envelopes or would like to get personalized offering envelopes
- If you would like to place flowers in the Sanctuary in 2021 in honor or in memory of someone