

## From the Pastor ...



### REVIVAL?

Last week, my wife and I saw the movie, *Jesus Revolution*, starring Kelsey Grammer. It's about the story of the unplanned start of Calvary Chapel with Pastors Chuck Smith and Greg Laurie. Every church member should see this movie.

The backstory is the radical movement of a true spiritual awakening among hippies in the late 1960s. At least watch a quick interview with Pastor Greg Laurie from last Thursday. Laurie connects the 1960s Jesus Revolution to what is going on now at Asbury University. Go to [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KanPn4crscI&ab\\_channel=Newsmax](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KanPn4crscI&ab_channel=Newsmax).

Last week, Fox News printed an article online, "Asbury revival brings 'beautiful disruption' and multi-generational community to post-COVID world: Asbury University students say the revival is not ending. In fact, they say it is just beginning."\*

### What is a Revival?

Literally it is a renewed interest, passion, and *re-awakening* of Christians' love and dedication to the Lord.

Historically, revivals include thousands of salvations evidenced by changed lives. Revival among believers leads to "great awakenings." You might not have read about these in your history books, but they had tremendous influence on our country from the 1740s to today.

A study in revivals / awakenings reveal some common denominators:

1. Prayer is essential. Almost every genuine spiritual awakening acknowledges a group of people praying desperately for the Lord to come. Read about prayer in New York City, which ushered in the Third Great Awakening in the late 1850s: <https://www.christianitytoday.com/history/issues/issue-23/time-for-prayer-third-great-awakening.html>
2. The Scriptures are honored as the true Word of God. Prayers were based on unwavering belief in the Bible.
3. People repented and confessed sin. Years ago, I heard Bertha Smith speak. She was a missionary in China before the Cultural Revolution, which outlawed Christianity. She said that true repentance and a heart for holiness happened among the *missionaries* before authentic revival broke out among the Chinese.
4. Most revivals started with young people. But they spread to all people.

Alexandra Petra is editor of the Asbury University school newspaper. She interviewed graduate student Khalil Akiky and then wrote, quoting Akiky:

"You see these 80-year-olds on their knees at the altar and then you have 40-year olds praying over them. And then you have 20-year-olds at the altar with 80-year-olds praying for them. You have high school dropouts praying over doctors and vice versa," Akiky said. "It's just so counter-cultural to what our world tells us and everything our world tells us about the hierarchy of classes." \*\*

5. Soon after God shows up, two things happen:
  - "Pharisees" pop up to criticize everything and try to shut it all down.
  - Imitators come and copy authentic God-movements. They try to do the same things, but in the power of their flesh rather than in the Spirit. See Acts 19:13-15.

The current sermon series at FBC is in the book of Colossians. Colossians 1:3-4 (NIV) says, "We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all the saints."

When Paul wrote Colossians, he was in prison in Rome on the continent of Europe. The church was in a small town in Asia Minor. A man on one continent heard what God was doing in a church on another continent. Specifically, he heard about their faith and love.

Last Wednesday Fox News interviewed Wayne Hilsden, a doctoral graduate of Asbury and pastor of a church in Jerusalem. He praised the Lord for what is happening in the United States. Colossians 1:4 is happening right in front of us.

Churches have 'planned' revivals for centuries now. Maybe you once attended one in a big tent. Books abound on the topic, and contain detailed directions on how to have an effective one. Professionals are for hire to preach revival messages.

But what if true revival starts with *each* of us, rather than big programs?

How desperate are we to see God show up in ways that overpower our personal preferences and plans?

What would it take for our faith in the Lord Jesus and love for one another to be so strong that people on another continent hear about it?

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\* Fox News Live: Hot Topics, "Asbury revival brings 'beautiful disruption' and multi-generational community to post-COVID world," by Nikolas Lanum, February 25, 2023, 12:22 pm EST. Accessed online, February 28, 2023 at <https://www.foxnews.com/media/asbury-revival-beautiful-disruption-multi-generational-community-christian-covid>.

\*\* Ibid.

## Music Ministry



Hey Church Family!

Another month of 2023 may have come and gone, but it is still a great time to be at

FBC! I am continually encouraged by you all every Sunday that we get to worship together.

As we sang just this past Sunday, there is power in the name of Jesus, and I hope you are speaking Jesus over everything in your life. That song has become an anthem of our choir, and I am so glad to be a part of it! Please consider joining us on Sundays at 5:30pm if you are interested in helping lead the congregation in worship. I pray that we will continue to grow and that we will further the Kingdom of God through our ministry in Hartsville and beyond! I hope everyone has a great March!

In Christ,  
Sterling

## How Can I Give to FBC?

- By placing your offering in the offering plate in church
- On our website on the “online giving” tab
- Bring it to the church office
- Text the word “BeCheerful” to 73-256
- Place it in the locked mailbox next to the office door

We are so thankful for God’s continued financial blessings throughout this time.

## With Thanks

Dear Church family,

Thank you so much for the beautiful flowers sent to me on Valentine’s Day. They not only brought smiles and lifted my spirits but were a constant reminder of our warm and caring church family.

Gratefully,  
Merle Baxley

## With Sympathy

Our hearts go out to the families of:

- Raymond Chapman
- L. Rudy Springs, father of Terry Floyd



## March Events

### Weekly Schedule

#### **Sunday:**

9:15am Small Groups  
10:30am Worship Service  
5:30pm Choir practice

#### **Tuesday:**

12:00-1:00pm Prayer for Revitalization  
5:30pm World Religions small group

#### **Wednesday:**

10:00 Prayer in the Prayer Room  
5:30-6:00 Prayer in the Dining Room  
6:00-6:30 Dinner - *please call by noon on Mondays to sign up for that week* (\$9 per person / \$25 family)  
6:30 Club 45, 1st Kids, Impact, Small Groups

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First Baptist will volunteer at the **Hartsville Soup Kitchen** on Thursday, March 9. If you are interested in helping with this ministry, please contact the Church office.

#### **Daylight Savings Time**

begins on Sunday, March 12. Remember to turn your clocks forward one hour!



#### **Grateful Hearts -**

Thursday, March 16 at 11:30am in the Dining Room. Please sign up by Tuesday, March 14 by calling the Church office.

## Missions Offerings

FBC collected \$507.37 for the **Souper Bowl of Caring** offering on February 12. The funds collected went to Hartsville Interfaith Ministry and Connie Maxwell Children’s Home.

The **Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for North American missions** will be collected from March 19 through Easter Sunday.

One hundred percent of gifts given go to support more than 2,400 missionary families serving across the US and Canada.



## *March Birthdays*

3-3 Woody Morgan  
3-4 Larry Pattengill  
3-8 Shirley Crowley  
3-10 Josh Boyd  
3-10 Candy Norton  
3-13 Linda Helms  
3-16 Jackie Ponder  
3-16 Ashton Reynolds  
3-19 Al Mullis  
3-20 Graham Dyar  
3-22 Jamie Fink  
3-23 Tommy Stamey  
3-23 Skylar Wint  
3-24 Marla Blackwell  
3-27 Mark Jones  
3-28 Ason Truett  
3-31 Dick Coker

### **Happy Birthday!**

If we have accidentally missed your birthday  
or have the date wrong,  
please let the church office know.

## *Church Office Information*

Come by during office hours:  
Monday-Thursday 8:30am-4:30pm  
(Lunch 12:30-1:30pm)  
Friday 8am-12noon  
Call us at 843-332-6571

## *FBC on Social Media*

*Website:* firstbaptisthartsville.org  
*Facebook:* First Baptist Church Hartsville  
*YouTube:* FBC Hartsville SC

## *Easter Lilies*

First Baptist has ordered Easter lilies to decorate our church for the Easter season. If you would like to purchase one in memory or in honor of your loved ones, please contact the church office. The cost is \$15.00.



## *FBC Staff*

Dr. Greg Boyd: Pastor  
greg@firstbaptisthartsville.org  
Lauren Wint: Children's Director  
lauren@firstbaptisthartsville.org  
Jim Privette: Church Administrator  
Sterling Dyar: Worship Leader  
Crystal Hopkins: Financial Secretary  
crystal@firstbaptisthartsville.org  
Ruth Kilgore: Administrative Secretary  
ruth@firstbaptisthartsville.org  
Tucker Smith: Organist and Pianist  
Dawn Munn: Housekeeper/Food Service  
Omerea Thurman: FBP Director 843-878-0445  
Lydia Smith: Nursery worker

## *Let Us Know*

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

- If your address, email, or phone 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 2023 in honor or in memory of someone

## *With thanks*

Dear Hartsville First Baptist Church,

Connie Maxwell is beyond grateful for your church partnership. Your faithful support and prayers this past year certainly impacted our ministry.

It was your kindness and generosity that allowed our children to become the people God created them to be. The words "thank you" don't seem adequate, but we can assure you the Lord sees your faithful acts of kindness to the children we serve! We notice too and are thankful... but more importantly, He notices!

For the DREAMS of children and families,  
Danny Nicholson  
President, Connie Maxwell Children's Ministries

## *Congratulations*

Congratulations to Anthony & Jackie Floyd (great-grandparents) and Tony & Terry Floyd (grandparents) on the birth of Lucille Margaret Stuckey on February 3, daughter of Josh and Sarah Floyd Stuckey.



## *1st Kids Children's Ministry*



Hi Church Family,

I am so excited about what's ahead for our children's ministry. In lieu of VBS this year, we will be doing a summer camp called "In His Image." It will be June 5-8 from 5-7:30. Over the course of the four days, children will be learning different kinds of art mediums and tying them to worship and Christ. We will explore stories and verses throughout the Bible that really get them to open up creatively! Children will work with clay, quilling, painting, and mosaics! They will even be working separately on something that will ultimately be a group piece to be unveiled at the "art show" that following Sunday.

I think this will not only get new children on campus, but we will get to reach them as a family on Sunday as well. If you want to learn more on how you can be a part of this, please let me know. We will need "all hands on deck" as we launch this new program that will surely be a huge success!

We are still looking for a Sunday and Wednesday nursery worker to join Ms. Lydia. If you know someone looking to earn a little money and help keep our littles, please do reach out to Ruth in the church office so that we can begin the interview process.

Thank you so much in advance for your help!

In Love,

Ms. Lauren

## *Impact Student Ministry*

Dear Church Friends,

As we get ready for Easter, we will focus on the meaning of the cross, on Wednesday nights. God is blessing our youth and they are growing in their knowledge of who they are in Christ. Hope to see more of you on Wednesday nights at 6:30 in the "Cave."

Your friend in Christ,

Jackie Ponder



## *First Baptist Preschool*



As I look at my school planner, it is hard to grasp that there are only three months of school left. The Preschool has been blessed this year and we continue to ask for your prayers.

Also, pray for the parents that are making decisions concerning their children and where they will attend in the Fall. We have had a lot of calls about our program and registration is going well. The Toddler and 2K classes are already full. The other classes are filling quickly. We have 73 that have registered. We are having open enrollment now until we are full.

The children and staff will be celebrating Read Across America Week (February 27-March 3). On Monday, we will read The Cat in the Hat, and everyone will wear their favorite hat. On Tuesday, Dr. Seuss' ABC will be our book and we will dress up as something that represents the first letter in our name. Wednesday, the book Oh, the Places You'll Go! will be featured, and we will wear an article of clothing representing somewhere you want to go or have been. Thursday, we will wear silly socks and read Fox in Socks. On Friday, you will catch us dressed as our favorite Seuss character.

We will also have another fun day on March 31. That will be our Western Day. We have a surprise visitor coming!

In Christ's love,

Omerea

## *Did You Know?*

Our weekly church bulletin and monthly newsletter are on our website! Go to [www.firstbapatisthartsville.org](http://www.firstbapatisthartsville.org) and choose the "Bulletin and Newsletter" tab and you will find links to both.