

From the Pastor ...



Good News! Six people have recently joined our church.

The topic at the **Revitalization Cohort** meeting I attended was having a *Gospel-Centered* church. This is critical for a healthy revitalization. One of FBC's four core values is that we are Christ-centered, meaning everything we do should glorify Him.

But how is that different from being a Gospel Centered church? I was very surprised when several of the pastors there revealed that when they were young, joining the church was considered the same thing as being saved. And salvation was the same as joining a church. Wow! They have a very different understanding now.

One pastor told when he responding to the Pastor's invitation to come up at the end of the message for salvation. He did and he prayed for the Lord to forgive him and come into his heart. But the church announced only that he joined the church that day. Wow, again.

I hope all of us know the difference.

For our church to return to health and growth, we must all know the Gospel and how to communicate it.

It is not hard, long, or complicated. Read this and time yourself: "For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures" (1 Corinthians 15:3-4)." There you go. Just say that.

Here is a simple, one-page tool that will help you: type, **Steps to Peace with God** in your browser, and click on the first site. When you do, you should see a site for a .pdf with the same name. Or you can type,

<https://static.billygraham.org/sites/billygraham.org.uk/uploads/pro/2016/02/Printer-FriendlyStepstoPeacewithGod.pdf>

Download it, print it, practice it, and present it.

Here's a thought. Complete this sentence: "*For our church to become biblically healthy and Gospel-centered, we must...*"

God tells us through Jude, "And you must show mercy to those whose faith is wavering. Rescue (save) others by snatching them from the flames of judgment. Show mercy to still others, but do so with great caution, hating the sins that contaminate their lives (1:22-23, NLT)." Rescuing or saving the lost can begin by praying for them by name. A tool that we use at the Wednesday night prayer meeting is **Bless Every Home**. To be a part of this powerful prayer plan, scan the QR Code and follow the instructions.



Thank you to those of you who completed a survey for our Church Council concerning our Sunday morning services. The Deacons will consider their recommendation at a called deacon meeting on Sunday night, May 1.

Then on Wednesday night, May 11, I invite all of our members and regular attendees to join me in the Dining Area at 6:30 for a **Misinformation Meeting!** Really it is an *information meeting* where I hope to clear up some confusion I've become aware of in the last couple of months. Please join us for prayer from 5:15-5:45 and then a meal from 5:45-6:30. I think you will enjoy the Wednesday night meal; just be sure to contact the church office to let them know you will be there.

Mother's Day is coming up! Like Easter, we will have one combined service at 10:30. The message, *Great Traits of a Mom*, will come from Proverbs 31. Please bring your mother or your children to celebrate this day.

Have you
Discovered
Jesus around
you lately?

DISCOVERING
 JESUS

Music Ministry



Hey Church Family!

What a fantastic Easter service we

had last week! It was great to see everyone worshipping together and celebrating the resurrection.

I consider it a privilege to lead you all in the blended service each and every week. If you have any interest in music or tech, please reach out to me or the church office. We would love to find a place for you to serve!

Blessings,

Sterling

Financial Report

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

How can I contribute to First Baptist if I'm not able to attend Sunday service?

- Mail a check or bring it to the office: 104 E. Home Avenue, Hartsville, SC 29550
- Give online through our website: www.firstbaptisthartsville.org and go to the "Online Giving" tab
- Text "BeCheerful" to 73256
- Use the slotted, locked outdoor mailbox near the office door

**ANNIE
ARMSTRONG**
EASTER OFFERING®
anniearmstrong.com

First Baptist collected \$3,176.00 for the **Annie Armstrong Easter Offering**. 100% of the money collected goes towards North American missions.

May Events

Wednesday Night schedule

- 5:15-5:45 Prayer
- 5:45-6:25 Dinner* and Fellowship
- *Please sign up by noon on Monday by calling the Church office at 843-332-6571
- 6:00-7:30 1st Kids Children's Ministry
- 6:30-7:30 Choir
- 6:30-7:30 Small Group for Parents of Children
- 6:30-7:30 Small Group for Prayer for Revitalization of our Church
- 7:30-8:30 Impact Student Ministry
- 8:00 Zoom Women's Book Study

Deacon Nomination - Sunday, May 1. FBC members will nominate 5 candidates.

Deacon Selection - Sunday, May 8. FBC members will vote for 5 candidates from a list of the top nominees.

Prayer Walk at First Baptist - Thursday, May 5 from 5:00-7:00pm

National Day of Prayer community event - Thursday, May 5 at 6pm in Centennial Park

We will have a **Baby & Child Dedication** on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 8. If you are interested in dedicating your baby or child, please contact the Church office.

Church-wide Information meeting - Wednesday, May 11 at 6:30pm. Come join us for prayer at 5:15 and then dinner at 5:45! (Please sign up by noon on Monday, May 9 by calling the church office.)

First Baptist will volunteer at the **Hartsville Soup Kitchen** on Thursday, May 12. If you are interested in helping with this ministry, please contact Larry Easterling or the Church office.

Grateful Hearts Luncheon - Thursday, May 19 at 11:30am. The cost will be \$8. Guest Speaker: Omerea Thurman, First Baptist Preschool Director

The **Good Samaritan Offering** will be collected on Sunday, May 30 for benevolent assistance in our community.

The **Church office** will be closed on Monday, May 30 in honor of Memorial Day.

May Birthdays

5-1 Wesley Blackwell
5-3 Rachel Marino
5-5 Taylor Moody
5-7 Phillip Gardner
5-9 Sullivan Dyar
5-11 Grace Dixon
5-11 Tony Floyd
5-12 Charles Aimar
5-13 Breanna Boyd Frye
5-14 Amy Dempsey
5-14 Rosemary Elsesser
5-16 Edward Galloway
5-17 Rachel Phillips
5-18 Betty Coward
5-20 Flor Luna
5-22 Gail Cantley
5-22 Colin Hungerpiller Sr.
5-23 John Drinkard
5-25 Ben Gupton
5-28 Martha Ann Blackwell
5-29 Rosemary Dixon
5-31 Carol Bryant

Happy Birthday!

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

Welcome, new FBC members!

Welcome to our new First Baptist members:

- Gloria Atkinson
- Robyn Clark
- Randy and Michele McPherson
- Courtney Ponder
- Jaclyn Ponder

FBC on Social Media

- Visit our *Website*: firstbaptisthartsville.org
- Share us on *Facebook*: First Baptist Church Hartsville
- Subscribe to us on *YouTube*: FBC Hartsville SC

FBC Staff

Dr. Greg Boyd: Pastor-
greg@firstbaptisthartsville.org
Lauren Wint: Children's Director-
lauren@firstbaptisthartsville.org
Sterling Dyar: Volunteer 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: Preschool Director-
843-878-0445

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

Let Us Know

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 2022 in honor or in memory of someone

Looking Ahead

Attention Graduates!

If you are graduating from high school, college, or beyond, please contact the Church office to let the us know the details. Graduation Sunday will be June 5.



Vacation Bible School

June 20-24
5:00-7:30pm

First Baptist Preschool



I hope that everyone had a wonderful Easter. The Preschool's Spring Concert was a great success. The staff and

children worked hard. We wanted to share it with you. A big thank you to Dr. Boyd for taping it. Hope you enjoyed it Easter Sunday. A very special thanks to the church members that worked so hard to have the outside area looking great for our program. Many compliments were given expressing how wonderful the outside looked.

Even though preschool will end May 26, we have a month packed with activities. Teacher Appreciation Week is May 2-6! I have a few surprises planned!!

Our 3k-45k classes will have a treat on May 5. The Hartsville Rescue Squad has teamed up with Carolina Pines Hospital to offer one hand CPR to young children. So, if you see an ambulance on the grounds that day, it is all good.

Our intern from Darlington High School, Trinitee Green, will be finishing up May 13. She has worked with our Toddler class. Her plans are to pursue a career in pediatrics.

The 5K students will have their Graduation Ceremony on May 25. They appreciate the use of the sanctuary for this special celebration. Needless to say, they are excited!

The last day for students is May 26. We are planning to have a bouncy house, Kona Ice, games, and end of year class parties.

We are offering a modified summer program for our current students from June 6-July 22. Most of the staff will enjoy the summer off but enough agreed to work the summer so that we can offer a 7:30-2:30 day of fun activities!

Students and staff have certainly been blessed as we look back over the past months. Each of us appreciates the support and prayers that you have given. God has plans for this ministry and He knows that you are willing and able to follow in His will. Continue to pray for the Preschool students, parents, and staff as we are making plans for the upcoming summer program and school year.

In Christ's love,
Omerea

1st Kids Children's Ministry & Impact Student Ministry



Hi Parents!

We are winding down the year, and what a year it has been! More children than ever in 1st Kids, and we have even started a little class and nursery on Wednesday nights!



We will end our classes the last week in May, but have no fear, June is coming and VBS will be the week of June 20th! We need volunteers, so please pray about being a part of it! We will also be

holding two fundraisers to get these kids to camp in July. June 9th will be a BBQ plate fundraiser and we will do a t shirt fundraiser as well!

IMPACT will continue to meet through May and we will have special activities throughout the summer so be on the lookout for that as well!

IMPACT

@FBC Hartsville

God has been so good to this crew, and I know your prayers have helped bolster our numbers so thank you!!

In Love,
Ms. Lauren

Outreach Opportunity

Feel free to take the **pens** in the church pews and hand them out in the community - at lunch, at the fitness center, in the grocery store, wherever you go.