

From the Pastor ...



By the time you're reading this, school will have already started for Darlington County and for our Preschool. Can you believe it?

As we wrap up the summer, let's let the *Back to School* time help us all to refocus on strengthening our personal relationships with the Lord, and on our entire church as well.

Speaking for myself, when my personal time alone with God in prayer and the Bible is consistent and good, I feel better physically, emotionally, and of course, spiritually. The opposite is also true—when I slack off, I'm worse off in every way.

How I am with the Lord personally impacts my church life as well. Psalm 122:1 says, "I rejoiced with those who said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord.'" The best way to get the most out of church is to come having had quality days with God all week, and anticipating connecting with the Lord at church.

We are continuing in our series of Connecting, Belonging, and Growing: Lessons from Jerusalem's First Church Ever that apply to Hartsville's First Baptist Church.

A passage from August 3's church service is Acts 13:2–3 (NIV) While they (*prophets and teachers in the church in Antioch*) were worshipping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." So after they had fasted and prayed, they placed their hands on them and sent them off.

When you are connected to Jesus and belong to the family of God that gathers together as a church, you worship the Lord together and create an environment of love and unity where the Lord speaks.

There's another insight from this passage. They were not just worshipping and praying, they were fasting. Maybe our church should consider this! As I'm praying through this, I'm thinking about a churchwide-fast in September, just before our 175th Anniversary. Stay tuned for more to come!

SAVE the DATE!



This year our church celebrates our **175th anniversary**.

Saturday, October 25- Block Party and Concert

11:00-1:00. Food trucks will be on campus!

Sunday, October 26- Celebration Sunday

Dr. Tony Wolfe, Executive Director-Treasurer for the South Carolina Southern Baptist Convention, will be our keynote speaker.

We will also see short video clips from former pastors, pastors of churches that planted our church in 1850, pastors of churches that we started, our mayor, and others.

Right after the service, we will take a group picture on our front steps, then all share a meal together in our Family Life Building. During the meal, we will watch more video clips from our members about our church.

See you Sunday!

What's Next with Pastor Eric

School's starting. Wait. What?!! School has already started?!! For some, the summer went too fast, or we didn't get to do all the things we had planned. For others, things changed in a way that life will never be the same, and maybe getting back to a routine will seem better.

However your summer went, we need rest. When things are going well, we need rest. When things seem to be crazy and chaotic, we need rest. When we are having fun and enjoying life, we need rest. When we are hurting or suffering, we need rest. The Psalmist wrote, "I will praise the name of God with song and magnify Him with thanksgiving." Let's find our rest in worship. Rest in praising Him. Sing that song that comes from deep within our hearts for the circumstances we are going through and praise Him!

Music Ministry



Hey Church Family!

We hope you've had a restful and fun summer! As we turn the corner into August, it's time to

warm up those vocal cords, because choir is back!

Our first rehearsal of the season is **next Wednesday, August 6th at 7:30 PM in the choir room**, and we can't wait to see everyone there.

Whether you're a returning singer or thinking about jumping in for the first time, now is the perfect time to join. We'll be doing some old classics and beginning to look ahead toward fall and Christmas (yes, already!).

Come ready to sing, laugh, and worship together. It's going to be a great season!

In Christ,
Sterling

How Can I Give to FBC?

- Place your offering in the offering plate
- Give 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
- Scan our QR code



Church Office Information

Office hours:

Monday-Thursday 8:30am-4:30pm

(lunch 12:30-1:30pm)

Friday 8am-12noon

Phone: 843-332-6571



August Events

Weekly Schedule

Sunday:

9:15am Small Groups

10:30am Worship Service

Tuesday:

12:00pm Prayer for Revitalization

Wednesday:

10:00am Prayer in the Prayer Room

12:00pm Lunch, Prayer, and Devotions - Cost: \$9.

Please call the Church office by noon on the previous Monday to sign up.

6:00pm 1st Kids, Impact Student ministry, Adult Small groups

7:30pm Choir practice

8:00pm Women's Zoom Bible Study

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**175th Anniversary meeting** - Wednesday, August 13 following Lunch, Prayer, and Devotions. Everyone is invited to come and share your ideas!

First Baptist will volunteer at **Hartsville Soup Kitchen** on Thursday, August 14. If you would like to help with this community ministry, please contact the Church office.

**Grateful Hearts Luncheon** - Thursday, August 21. Cost: \$9.

Event: Bingo

*Please call the Church office by noon on Tuesday, August 19 to sign up.*

**Youth Sunday** - Sunday, August 24

**5th Sunday Offering for Benevolence in our Community** - Sunday, August 31

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Deacon Nomination & Election schedule:

Deacon Nomination - Sunday, August 3. Active FBC members will nominate candidates.

Deacon Election - Sunday, August 17. Active FBC members will vote for candidates from a list of the top nominees.

2025-2026 Budget & Nominating Committee Report schedule:

Question & Answer meeting - Wednesday, August 20 at 6:30pm in the Dining Room.

You will receive a letter with the proposed Budget and the Nominating Committee report in mid-August.

Church Conference to approve Budget and Nominating Committee report - Sunday, August 24 in 10:30 Worship Service (no discussion)

August Birthdays

8-3 Cindy Dempsey
8-3 Brucie Pennington
8-5 Xochitl Coward
8-5 Jackie Floyd
8-6 Heather Dyar
8-7 Bob Kilgore
8-7 Brooke MacDonald
8-9 Henry Truett
8-11 Jack Tomlinson
8-13 Myra Polson
8-14 Jackson Boyd
8-14 Anderson Hulsey
8-18 Sarabeth (Herring) Griggs
8-19 Bobby Moore
8-20 Cliff Bellum
8-20 Judy Thompson
8-21 Ron Acord
8-24 Brad Herring
8-24 Ashley Renegar
8-27 Grace Elsesser
8-27 Jeff Truesdale
8-31 Jennifer Jones

Happy Birthday!

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

FBC on Social Media

Website: firstbaptisthartsville.org

Facebook: First Baptist Church Hartsville

YouTube: FBC Hartsville SC

With Thanks

Dear Church family,

Cheryl, Dorothy, and I would like to thank each of you for the nice send-off you gave us as we left Hartsville.

We may be living in a different city now, but our hearts will always be with FBC.

Thank you,
David Miller

With Sympathy

Our hearts go out to

- Austin Ambrose on the loss of his grandmother, Anne Ambrose
- The family of Pete Hodge



Baptism - Sunday, July 13



Adalynn Elizabeth Privette
with Pastor Greg



Welcome, New Members

Welcome to our new members:

- Eric, Vanessa, Izabel, Andrew, and Matthew Groves
- Mike Kirk

FBC Staff

Dr. Greg Boyd: Pastor
greg@firstbaptisthartsville.org
Sterling Dyar: Worship Leader
Logan Fink: Volunteer Drummer
Eric Groves: Next Generation Associate Minister
eric@firstbaptisthartsville.org
Crystal Hopkins: Financial Secretary
crystal@firstbaptisthartsville.org
Chad Hulsey: Volunteer Sound technician
Ruth Kilgore: Administrative Secretary
ruth@firstbaptisthartsville.org
Jessica Kuykendall: Preschool Director
Jackie Ponder: Volunteer Student Director
Rachel Phillips: Volunteer Media technician
Jim Privette: Volunteer Church Administrator
Vivian Robinson: Custodian
Tucker Smith: Organist and Pianist

First Baptist Preschool



We are excited to announce that our 2025–2026 preschool year is off to a wonderful start! Our first day of school was July 31, and the halls are once again filled with joyful laughter, learning, and love.

Our dedicated staff returned on July 21 to prepare their classrooms, and we're happy to share that each room has been freshly painted—giving our learning spaces a clean, bright, and refreshed feel for the new school year.

We are blessed with an incredible team this year:

- **Bailee Shoffner**, Lead 5K Teacher
- **Sharon Earle**, 5K Assistant
- **Jessica Truett**, 4K Teacher
- **Crystal Green**, Lead 3K Teacher
- **Jasmine Player**, 3K Assistant
- **Prudence Hall**, 2K Teacher
- **Callie Johnson**, 2K Assistant
- **McKenzie Johnson**, Toddlers
- **Daisy Tolson**, Floater/Assistant
- **Kayla Nunn**, Floater/Assistant

We are also thankful for our wonderful substitutes: **Elizabeth Lawson**, **Jordan Murdock**, and **Patty Boyd**.

Thank you, church family, for your continued support and prayers as we begin another year of nurturing hearts and growing minds in Christ's love.

In Christ,
Jessica Kuykendall

Impact Student Ministry

Dear Church Family,

Well, it's time to start back to school. It is also time to start our weekly youth meetings. So join us Wednesday night, August 6th from 6:00 - 7:15 for a fun time together.

Also start planning for DNOW. We always have a great weekend during this event! It is August 22nd - 24th. We will have signup sheets for everyone on Wednesday night.

Come on youth and bring a friend!

In Christ,
Jackie



1st Kids Children's Ministry



1st Kids worship service every Sunday morning at 10:30am! Kids are now checking in and participating in their very own worship service geared just for them!

We will begin with a 5-week series on what it means to really worship God. While worshipping through music and song may be the first thing that comes to mind when we consider worship, we will learn that worship includes listening to God and worshipping Him with our whole selves and hearts. We'll also explore how God is worthy of worship and the truth that God is with us when we worship; and we'll look at the Feast of Tabernacles and how to celebrate God. Throughout the 5 lessons, we'll learn that worship is an overflow of love and a response to who God is and what He has done.

We are also starting back up our Wednesday night life groups for our kids. We will begin at 6pm with check-in. We will focus on learning about music and our talents and abilities. We will also learn about missions and hearing about missionaries and their stories. It's an exciting time to be a kid at First Baptist Church!

