

From Pastor Greg



As we step into September, we have so many reasons to give thanks for what God is doing in and through our church family.

This month, we welcome five **new deacons** who have been called to serve:

- Jackie Ponder
- Sterling Dyar
- Lauren Wint
- Ally Ambrose
- Mark Jones, who will complete a one-year vacancy left by a previous deacon.

We will have Deacon Ordination on Sunday morning September 14 for three first-time deacons. Please join me in praying for them as they begin this ministry of service, encouragement, and leadership.



Our Sunday messages have been about **Connecting, Belonging, and Growing**—three human desires all people have. The Lord put amazing principles and lessons from the First Church Ever in the book of Acts that Hartsville's First Baptist Church can learn and apply.

We connect with the Father through faith in His Son. When we connect with the Spirit, He gives us power to tell others about the goodness of God. When we connect with each other in church, small groups, and prayer, we find strength, meaning, and purpose that TV church just can't give.

Our church benefits as we connect, belong, and grow. Think of all the people around Hartsville that don't connect with the Lord, don't belong to a church, and are not growing in their faith. Just as the early church was called to faith, fellowship, and bold witness, we are being called to live out those same truths in our time and place.



And of course, we are eagerly anticipating our **175th Anniversary Celebration Sunday on October 26.**

The Sunday prior, **Oct 19**, we will have a **Prayer Walk** on campus. As you walk around campus praying for what God is doing on our campus and what He will do, our history team will also have items set up that celebrate our past.

Saturday, Oct 25 we will have a **Block party** with food trucks on our campus from 11:00-2:00.

Then **Sunday the 26th** will be a day of worship, fellowship, and praise as we celebrate our past. Dr. Tony Wolfe, Executive Director of the South Carolina SBC will be our guest preacher. We will also see short video clips from pastors of the two churches that helped start

FBC in 1850, some of the pastors from churches FBC started, previous FBC pastors, our mayor, associational director, church members, and more. Right after the service, we will take a group picture and then share a meal together!

While we celebrate our history, we also look forward to what's next! For our church to move forward, *all of us* need to participate in some way. Look for opportunities to jump in through various ministries in the next couple of months.

To help us spread the word about our anniversary celebration Sunday, **invitation cards and yard signs** will be available this month—pick some up, share them with friends, and invite others to join us for this once-in-a-lifetime occasion.

Let's pray together that God will use these weeks to deepen our faith, strengthen our fellowship, and prepare us for a joyful celebration of His work in our past, present, and future.

See you Sunday!

What's Next with Pastor Eric

It is an exciting time to be a part of Hartsville's First Baptist Church! 1st Kids are enjoying their very own worship service on Sunday mornings. The check-in system is up and running, and we will be adding two more stations this coming month to help speed the process up, allowing parents to self-check-in. The Teen Ministry Impact is seeing growth as the students went to two different church events this past month: a Night of Worship and then an all-weekend event, DNOW. It was a joy to get to spend time with our teens and look forward to getting to know them better as we continue to plan activities and retreats.

What a joy it is to be able to share great news for our Sunday morning attenders with infants. With the help of the Worship Leader and Decorating Team Leader, we will be moving our Sunday morning nursery to the choir rehearsal room (near the bathrooms in main Sanctuary hallway)! This will help parents with little ones to be more at ease to use our nursery and feel close to them. We are striving to make all our guests on Sunday morning to feel welcome, to feel comfortable with trusting us with their children, and to feel that we are intentionally loving and thinking about them!

So, can you see that it is an exciting time to be part of what God is doing here at First Baptist Church? The writer of Hebrews tells us that God "will not forget your work and the love you have shown Him as you have helped His people and continue to help them." We are already in need to birth new children's classes but need more teachers and helpers. How are you helping? How are you serving? We demonstrate our love for God as we do those very things!

Music Ministry



Hey Church Family!

What a powerful season of worship we've had together lately! God's presence has been

so evident in our services, and I'm super grateful for how He's moving among us.

As we enter September, I encourage you to stay connected and join a small group. Whether it's Sunday School, a during-the-week Bible study, or a discipleship group, this is a great time to get connected and walk in faith together.

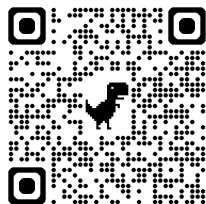
And don't forget! Our 175th Anniversary is coming in October! We're preparing to honor all that God has done through the generations at First Baptist Hartsville, and to look ahead with joy at what He still has in store. It's going to be a special time, and we want every one of you to be part of it!

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

September Events

Weekly Schedule

Sunday:

9:15am Small Groups

10:30am Worship Service

Tuesday:

12:00pm Prayer for Revitalization

Wednesday:

10:00 Prayer in the Prayer Room

12:00 Lunch, Prayer, and Devotions - Cost: \$9. *Please call the Church office by noon on the previous Monday to sign up.*

6:00pm 1st Kids Children's Ministry, Impact Student Ministry, Adult Small Groups: "Parenting" and "James"

7:30pm Choir practice

8:00pm Ladies' Zoom Bible Study (every other week)

~~~~~

The **Church office** will be closed on Monday, September 1 in honor of Labor Day.

First Baptist will volunteer at **Hartsville Soup Kitchen** on Thursday, September 11. If you would like to help with this community ministry, please contact the Church office.

**Grateful Hearts Luncheon** - Thursday, September 18. Cost: \$9.

Special Singers: First Baptist Preschool 5K

*Please call the Church office by noon on Tuesday, September 16 to sign up.*

### Save the Dates! 175th Anniversary Celebration

**Sunday, October 19** – Prayer Walk / History Walk

-Self-guided Prayer Walk and tour of First Baptist History with written Church History quiz (for those who chose to participate) including the questions that have been in the bulletins during the past few months. Grand prizes for winner and runner-up to be awarded during the church luncheon on October 26. -Open from 11:30 am--2:30 pm following the church service.

**Saturday, October 25** – Block Party

-Food trucks, music, family fun from 11am-2pm

**Sunday, October 26** – 175th Anniversary Celebration

-Special 10:30am service with guest preacher Dr. Tony Wolfe, Executive Director of South Carolina Baptist Convention, and videos from past FBC pastors, pastors of churches that FBC planted, and community leaders  
-Group Photo following service  
-Covered Dish Luncheon with videos from members

## Baptism – Sunday, August 17

Audrey Perry  
with Pastor Greg



## *September Birthdays*

9-2 Terrie Reames  
9-5 Ruth Kilgore  
9-7 Claude Wint  
9-8 Betty Jordan  
9-11 Kelsie Fink  
9-12 Sheila Mullis  
9-15 Noah Baker  
9-17 Clark Phillips  
9-22 Susan Pattengill  
9-23 Jennifer S. Fink  
9-23 Buzzie Snipes  
9-27 Matthew Tomlinson  
9-28 Craig Hays  
9-30 Al Fink  
9-30 Juan Rivera

### ***Happy Birthday!***

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

## *FBC Staff*

Dr. Greg Boyd: Pastor  
greg@firstbaptisthartsville.org  
Sterling Dyar: Worship Leader  
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

## *FBC on Social Media*

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

## *New Deacons and Officers*

**Welcome** to our new Deacons! They will start on September 1, 2025.

- Ally Ambrose
- Sterling Dyar
- Mark Jones (1-year term to fill vacant spot)
- Jackie Ponder
- Lauren Wint

**Thank you** to our Deacons who are rotating off:

- Al Fink
- Colin Hungerpillar
- Danny Johnson
- Carl Pennington

## *With Sympathy*

Our hearts go out to Jim  
and Jane Privette on the  
loss of their son, Adam.



## *Missions Offering*

The Janie Chapman Offering for State Missions will be collected during September. This offering supports mission efforts across South Carolina. Our church goal is \$1,500.00.

## *Welsh Neck Annual Meeting*

### ***Welsh Neck Baptist Association Annual Meeting***

Monday, October 27 at Mt. Elon Baptist Church  
Speaker: Bryant Sims, Chief Operations Officer for the South Carolina Baptist Convention  
Dinner at 6pm and Meeting at 7pm

## *Looking Ahead*

**Operation Christmas Child** shoebox emphasis starts in October! If you would like to help with this important ministry, please contact the Church office.

## *1st Kids Children's Ministry*



On Sunday mornings, our 1<sup>st</sup> Kids will be learning about the family God chose to help save the world. During this series, we'll explore four stories of God's faithfulness to the earliest members of His family. We'll journey alongside Abraham, Sarah, Isaac, and Jacob as they learn that God has a plan, keeps His promises no matter what, and is always faithful. It is from this very family that one day God would send the One who would make all things right again, the One through whom we are all invited into the family—Jesus.

Families can be messy and in His endless mercy, God didn't merely take this messy family and redeem it. He made this family the very vehicle through which He brought redemption to the world. He made them His family. And through Jesus—a son of Abraham and the Son of God—we too are a part of the family. So, when our loving Father looks at you and me, it isn't the worst in us He sees. He just sees His kids.

On Wednesday nights, our kids will continue to learn about music as they practice and identify timings and rhythms. They will continue to learn about Ringu, a little boy from India. Will Ringu choose to listen to God or choose to live in fear with the rest of his family? Have your child come find out how the story unfolds. We will also enjoy learning about Ringu's favorite snack and what his culture was like in India.

Serving Him,  
Pastor Eric

## *Impact Student Ministry*



Dear Church Family,

We had two outings for the youth in August. The youth went to Griggs' Farm for a night of food, music, and a speaker. The youth also spent the weekend together doing Discipleship Now (DNOW). The youth continue to grow in their faith. A special thank you to Pastor Eric for all his work with the youth!

Join us on Wednesday night for food, fun, and faith.

In Christ,  
Jackie Ponder

## *First Baptist Preschool*



**Happy September!**

We are off to a wonderful start this school year at our Preschool!

Classrooms are getting into their routines and our little friends are already learning so much. Thank you for your prayers and support—it makes all the difference.

Here are a few things coming up:

- **No School** – Monday, September 1 (Labor Day)
- **Grandparents' Day & Book Fair Kick-Off** – Monday, September 8
- **Chapel with Eric** – Wednesday, September 17
- **DCSD Professional Development (no school)** – Monday, September 22

We are also excited to welcome parent volunteers into our classrooms this month. Their helping hands bless both our teachers and students in so many ways!

And - drumroll, please - our Book Fair is almost here! It will run Monday, September 8 through Friday, September 12, from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. each day. Not only is this a favorite event for our students and families, but we are thrilled to share that it's also open to the whole church family! Every book you purchase helps put more wonderful stories into the hands of our preschoolers. If you would like to donate for classrooms and students to have books, you may donate in our "Share the Fair" box in the entryway of the school!

We're grateful for the joy, energy, and love the Lord has filled our campus with as we step into this new season. Thank you for walking alongside us as we plant seeds of faith and learning in these little lives!

Blessings,  
Jessica Kuykendall, Director

## *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