

U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Non-Profit Organization
Permit No. 34
Greenwood, SC 29649

Return Service Requested

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
P.O. BOX 85
NINETY SIX, SC 29666



**LIFELINE MINISTRIES
FOOD PANTRY**
Open Each Monday, 1:00 p.m. — 4:00 p.m.

MARCH

- 5th - Eileen Huffman, Kathy Hardin, Beth Butler, Teresa Moorhead
- 12th - Alisa Smith, Peggy LaCons, Sue Jacobsen
- 18th - Celeste Hill, Ila Stephens, Joy Tollison, Grace Warner
- 25th - Sue Jacobsen, Peggy LaCons

During the month of February, Lifeline Ministries served 32 families representing 79 individuals.

March - Spaghetti Sauce & Noodles

Lifeline Ministries is open each Monday from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. to serve the 96 community. If you know of a family that is in need of food and they cannot wait until Monday to be served, please call the church office 543-2333 and we will make sure someone serves them.



First Baptist Church
Ninety Six, SC 543-2333
www.fbc96.org

Chuck Sprouse, Sr. Pastor

Michael How, Assoc. Pastor Congregational Care

Lee Collins, Family Pastor

Iris Riddle, Music Director

Linda Womack, Secretary

The News.....March 2024



PALM SUNDAY—March 24th

Regular Morning Services / Sunday School

6:00 pm Worship, Lord's Supper & Baptism in Sanctuary

EASTER SUNDAY—March 31st

7:00 AM—Sonrise Service in Picnic Shelter

9:30 AM—Sunday School

10:45 AM—Easter Worship (In MPB) No 8:30 Service



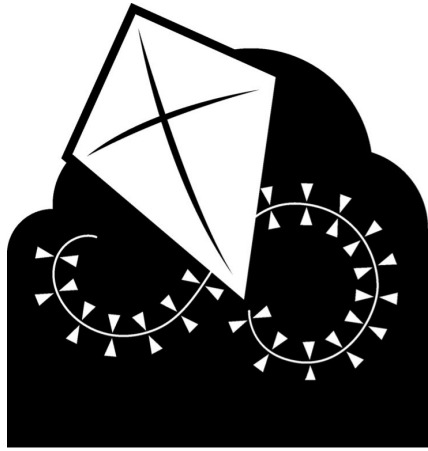
- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1- Neal Womack | 14 - Eileen Huffman |
| 2- Kathy Kilpatrick | Corrine Stiles |
| 3- Barbara Sprouse | 15 - Barbara Hall |
| 4- Betty Evans | 16 - Nelson Polatty |
| 6- Jaynette Chastain | 17 - Nancy Sprouse |
| Cathy Hayes | 19 - Preston Doyle |
| 7- Ray Anderson | 20- Emma Kate Womack |
| Deidra Collins | 24 - Tom McKellar, |
| 8- Gail Reid | Mac Reid |
| 10- Austin Sargent, | 26 - Donna Matthews |
| Lili Kate Womack | 28 - Jonathan Goff |
| 11 - Karmen Underwood | 30 - Everett Parker |
| 12 - Del Reynolds, | 31 - Danielle Gardner |
| Betsy Robinson | |
| Jessie Walker | |
| 13 - Ashlie Crittendon | |
| Jamie Cunningham | |
| Shane Gardner | |
| Sandra Lockaby | |
| Brody Parris | |



SONSHINERS Come join our Sonshiners for their shopping trip to Hamricks in Anderson on Tuesday, March 5th. We will leave the church at 9:00 am After shopping, we will eat lunch at Mama Penn's

PRAYER WARRIOR SCHEDULE






- | | | |
|-------|----|--------------------------|
| March | 3 | Linda Polatty |
| | 10 | Dianne Eddy |
| | 17 | Beth Butler |
| | 24 | Donna & Houston Matthews |
| | 31 | Bruce & Gloria Murphy |



MARCH 2024

SCHEDULES

Sunday	8:30	AM	Morning Worship
	9:30	AM	Sunday School (also Streamed)
	10:45	AM	Morning Worship (also Live-Streamed)
	6:00	PM	Sunday Night Student Ministry
Monday	6:00	PM	Men's Prayer Group
Wednesday	11:00	AM	Adult Bible Study
	6:30	PM	Adult Bible Study (also Live-Streamed)
	6:30	PM	Student Ministry Bible Study
	6:30	PM	Wednesday Night Kids
	7:30	PM	Choir Practice

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Marriage Retreat Youth - Emerge D-NOW	2
3	4	5 9:00 am Sonshiners to Anderson	6	7 3:00 pm Good News Clubs	8	9
10  Spring Forward	11	12	13	14 3:00 pm Good News Club	15	16 10:00 am Children's Easter Party 
17 Recognition of Pastors' Wives By Women's Ministry	18	19 6:30 pm Women's Ministry Baby Shower for Cross Roads Pregnancy Center	20	21 3:00 pm Good News Club Ice Cream Party	22	23
24 6:00 pm Palm Sunday Service 	25	26	27 No Wednesday Night Kids	28	29	30
31 Easter Sunday 7:00 am Sunrise Service 9:30 am Sunday School 10:45 am Easter Worship						



We all struggle to find balance in our daily lives, and this is never more true than when it comes to our diets. We understand that a balanced diet contains a healthy amount of protein, good fats, carbs, fresh veggies & fruits, etc. It would be unhealthy to focus merely on one of these food groups and ignore the rest that we need balance for.

This Easter season I'm realizing the importance of spiritual balance. As I type this I'm grateful for many opportunities to speak the last few weeks and weeks to come. But even with that I want to make sure all areas of my life are receiving the best intentions. Leads me to this as we go into the Easter season. I go back to some pretty powerful verses. Here's what I read:

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16

For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. John 3:17

and another verse, John 3:18:

Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

Taken alone, these verses seem almost contradictory. John 3:16 is all about God's love for us, while John 3:18 is about condemnation. We can tend to forget balance when we read these two verses. Some may teach only the love, forgiveness, and endless grace of God; never mentioning sin. Some may teach only condemnation for sins and never mention the truth of love and redemption.

Let's take a balanced approach to this and realize that we need both of these verses as we speak to each other about God. A person will never know the astounding love of Jesus on the cross and what it means for their lives unless they realize their sins are what has separated them from God. Understanding sin, however, never points a person to repentance unless they know there is a loving God willing to redeem them.

As you walk with others in faith, or when you speak about the Lord, keep steadiness in mind. Always point to the redemption of the cross and strive for balance in your dealings with those around you.

I'm thankful for how much Jesus loves me and continues to show me mercy, grace and love. May you find the right balance this month and as we remember the power of salvation in Jesus.

Lee Collins
Family Minister Ninety Six FBC
864-993-6148



Thank You Notes

Many thanks to our Church family for all the cards, prayers and kind thoughts of love during Jack's health problems. We trust in God to help us through it all.
Love Esther & Jack Akers

We would like to thank our Church family for all the prayers, cards, text and calls during my recent surgery, health & recovery. We greatly appreciate the meals provided for our family during this time. We love our Church family and y'all are the greatest.
Love Beverly, Jewell & Family

Dear First Baptist Family,

I will never be able to express my thanks to all of you. The last couple of years have been rough. But you were always there. Your cards, calls, food and prayers never stopped. You loved us through it. He was blessed to be a member of this family. Now he is in his forever home. On behalf of myself, our sons and his brothers, I thank God for each and every one of you.

Your sister in Christ, Dianne Eddy

ONE CALL NOW Are you missing important church announcements? Please contact the church office to be added as one of our ONE CALL contacts. We use this automated phone system to make important announcements and sometimes quick changes. Don't worry about being overload with calls, we will rarely call more than once a week. We also would like to send an occasional text. Sign up for texts alerts by texting the word "alert" to 22300.

EMAIL PRAYER & DEVOTIONS Sign up to receive prayer request and the daily PACES devotion through emails by contacting the church at csprouse@fbc96.org.

NINETY SIX FIRST BAPTIST FACEBOOK Are you on Facebook? Please like our church page and share our post and livestreams!!

NINETY SIX FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH WEBSITE
Visit www.fbc96.org to keep up with church events and ministry.



Hallelujah! I am slowly regaining full use of my right hand! I have always called myself left-handed, but actually all I do left-handed is write and eat. I have found that I am right hand dominant. My strength is in my right hand, and I always played sports with my right hand. I am just glad to be out of the cast and on my way to a complete recovery.

The choir is working diligently as we approach the Easter season to bring some new and fresh songs focusing on the cross and the resurrection. We are looking forward to celebrating with you!

Our Easter worship schedule will be as follows:

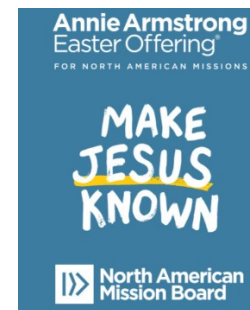
March 24 (Palm Sunday)—Usual Morning Worship Times
6:00 PM—Worship, Lord's Supper in Sanctuary

March 31 (Easter)
7:00 AM—Sonrise Service in Picnic Shelter
9:30 -----Sunday School
10:45-----Easter Worship (In MPB) No 8:30 Service

The choir has lost two members that we will greatly miss; Everett Parker and Margaret Hodgens. We thank them for their years of service to our Music Ministry and wish them well.

We could use some new choir members and welcome those who have a heart that belongs to Jesus and desire to sing praises to His name. We practice each Wednesday after evening Bible Study.

*Because of Grace,
Iris*



**Annie Armstrong
Easter Offering**
FOR NORTH AMERICAN MISSIONS

Our Church Goal is \$ 3,000

Invite! Invite!! Invite!!!

Are you familiar with Jesus' disciple Andrew? Andrew was Peter's brother. Like many others, he is often known more as he relates to his more famous brother, than on his own merit. When I think about Andrew, I recognize him as the disciple that was always bringing others to Jesus. It was Andrew who brought Peter to Jesus (John 1:40). Andrew was the one who brought the young man with the loaves and fish to Jesus (John 6:8). When a few Greek worshippers approached Philip, he was unsure what to do. Philip brought them to Andrew and Andrew brought them and Philip to Jesus (John 12:20-22). It is also interesting to note that Andrew is often mentioned in the Bible when he is forging connections between people and Jesus. Are you like Andrew? Who are you bringing to Jesus?

Do you know that the top reason anyone attends a new church is the invitation of a friend or family member? About 80% of your neighbors are receptive to an invitation to church. At best, most churchgoers invite someone once or twice a year. Almost a third of churchgoers never invite anyone. Inviting someone to a worship service or church event is not evangelism, but this invitation is a significant first step to cultural change in our church and in your life. We want to be an inviting church made up of inviting members.

The last Sunday of March is Easter Sunday. I am sure that you have family members and friends who are unchurched that would welcome an invitation to sit with you on Easter Sunday. Who comes to your mind when you think about unchurched family and friends? Start by praying for them for one week. Follow that by planning a time to invite them to our Easter service. Be prepared to give them the time (10:45) and place (the MPB) for our Easter Service. Make sure you ask them to sit with you and that will remove first time guests' greatest fear—where do I sit? Share with them how you and others dress for church to remove first time guests' second greatest fear—what do I wear? If you feel led, offer to pick them up for our Easter worship. You may even want to invite them to your home for lunch afterwards.

I love Andrew, he was always bringing people to Jesus. Perhaps there is a Peter, a young boy with loaves and fish or Greeks desiring to worship in your circle of influence. Invite them to join you at church this Easter. Actually, you don't even have to wait for Easter, invite them to join you at church anytime. We have been asking God to create a praying culture within our church. Let's also ask Him to establish an inviting culture within our church family. See you Sunday!!

On Eagles' Wings, *Chuck*



PASTORS' WIVES APPRECIATION

March is Pastor's Wife appreciation month. We will honor our Pastors' wives on March 17th during the second service. Please

let Cindy Sprouse, Joy How and Crystal Collins know how much you love and appreciate them. We will have baskets out for appreciation cards.

CROSSROADS PREGNANCY CENTER BABY SHOWER

Women's Ministry will host a baby shower to benefit Crossroads Pregnancy Center on Tuesday, March 19th at 6:30 pm Any baby items are appreciated but they prefer NO newborn items.

ONE-CHURCH MORNING WORSHIP

We will meet together as One Church Family at 10:45 in the MPB on Easter Sunday, March 31st.

BAPTISM SERVICE

Our next baptism service is planned for March 24th at 6PM. This will be a special time as we celebrate and worship through baptism and the Lord's Supper!! If you are a candidate for baptism and want to know how you can participate in this service, please contact Preacher Chuck.



Edith & Tony Towns

By Letter

Nick Parker

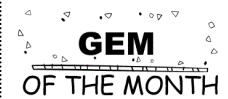
By Statement



CHILDREN'S EASTER PARTY

Saturday, March 16th
10:00 am—12:00 pm
5th grade & under

Crafts, Easter Gospel presentation, the Egg Hunt, & Pizza for lunch.



Marlene Bailey
101 Summer Place S
Ninety Six, SC 29666

Please encourage her by sending her a note or card.

“Casting all your care upon Him; for He careth for you.” 1 Peter 5:7

GEM MINISTRY Each week we have people visiting members of our church and community who are no longer able to attend worship services. It is our goal to Go to them, Encourage them and to Minister to their needs. If you would like to know more about our GEM Ministry, contact Michael How or Sandra Lockaby.



Growing Forward Together

Thank you for your continued support of our Growing Forward Together Offering. We began this offering after paying off our MPB in March 2017. Through this offering we have purchased a bus, paved parking areas and replaced flooring throughout the church. We are preparing now to replace 90% of the flooring in our Educational Building and areas of our MPB. We will also consider selling our church van and small bus and replace them with a small bus that does not require a CDL driver's license. These are all important areas of improvement that we need to address as we grow forward together following God's vision to Reach—Equip—Send for His glory.



... just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. ROMANS 6:4