

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.

MAY

- 6th - Eileen Huffman, Kathy Hardin, Beth Butler, Teresa Moorhead
- 13th - Alisa Smith, Peggy LaCons, Sue Jacobsen
- 20th - Celeste Hill, Ila Stephens, Joy Tollison, Grace Warner
- 27th - Sue Jacobsen, Peggy LaCons

During the month of April, Lifeline Ministries served 23 families representing 74 individuals.

May - Mayonnaise, Mustard, Ketchup

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.....May 2024



**SUNDAY, MAY 12TH
 Honoring Our Mothers**

The Ninety Six First Baptist Church will send a donation to Open Door Christian Center in honor of all of our mothers.

...do not forsake your mother's teaching. Bind them always on your heart. When you walk, they will guide you. Psalms 6:20b-22



- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 - Mike Balchin | 18 - Chuck Sprouse |
| 6 - Bryan Roller | 20 - Davis Goff |
| 7 - Blair Benjamin,
Coltley Anne Gibert,
Jack Roberts,
Blake Roller, | Sue Jacobsen
Matthew Walton
Larry Wightman |
| 11 - Phil Hodgens | 22 - Vanessa Owens |
| 12 - Ken Polatty | 24 - Steve Byrd |
| 14 - Jimmy Brock
Lee Collins
Leonard Smith
Preston Sprouse | Novie Cleveland V
27 - David Crittendon
28 - Mary Price Burch
29 - Tina Price
30 - CT Hallman
31 - Lee Terry |
| 15 - Judy Ouzts
Brycen Owens | |
| 16 - Ricky Able,
Marjorie Blalock
Brenda Garron
Monia Gragg,
Hunter Kidd
Blaize McGinnis | |

PRAYER WARRIOR SCHEDULE

- | | | |
|-----|----|---------------------|
| May | 5 | Jamie Cunningham |
| | 12 | Suzie & Andy Morrow |
| | 19 | Alisa Smith |
| | 26 | Sissy Copeland |



SONSHINERS The Sonshiners will meet on May 7th at 11:00 am for their monthly covered dish fellowship. We extend an invite to any senior adult to join us and be a part of our monthly fellowships.



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	2	3	4 9:30—12 <i>Miracle League at</i> Women of Joy—Myrtle Beach, SC
5 <i>Cookies for Schools due</i> 3:00 pm <i>Baby Shower for Danielle & Tyler Gardner</i>	6	7 11:00 am <i>Sonshiner's Fellowship</i>	8	9	10	11
12 	13	14	15	16	17	18 9:00 am <i>Men's Breakfast</i> 
19 <i>Graduate Recognition Sunday</i> 	20	21 6:30 pm <i>Grandmother/Mother/Daughter/Carry a Girl to Tea</i>	22 <i>Last Night for Wednesday Night Kids</i>	23	24	25
26 5:00 pm <i>Deacon's Meeting</i>	27 	28	29	30	31	



May has always been my favorite month of the year next to December. It's a birthday month for me and my oldest brother. It's the anniversary of the first date for me and Crystal. We also have school winding down and the bittersweet finale of graduation. Proud of our Seniors and others for graduating and planning out their next life steps. Thankful for their journeys so far and what's to come. Enjoy these last few days as one chapter ends and another begins. So yeah May is a packed month.

These two verses were in my thoughts a lot three years ago and continue to be in my thoughts this May. I'm so thankful for the refuge and comfort of God's love that has sustained our family.

"But I will sing of your strength, in the morning I will sing of your love; for you are my fortress, my refuge in times of trouble." Psalm 59:16

"Honor her for all that her hands have done, and let her works bring her praise at the city gate." Proverbs 31:31

May is the month for Mother's Day. This year will be the third Mother's Day without my mom. Three years ago in April she started going down and would make it all the way to my birthday weekend. It was a tough time seeing her go down but also tough to know she wasn't going to be with us anymore. I've had many days with tears, laughs, and withdrawals thinking of her. I think about her every day and it's still hard to drive by our old house. There's many days I go to dial her number but quickly realize she's not gonna answer. I don't know if there is ever a true timetable on the grief process. It definitely can be up and down depending on days. And with new transitions in life I certainly would love to have those convos with her.

They say God's timing is always perfect. They also say timing is everything. And sometimes they say if you didn't have bad timing you wouldn't have none at all. But the timing for us is now and I guess you can say we are feeling a lot of those old sayings in one big ball. But to know we can still celebrate my Mom is what warms my heart. We can celebrate my wife Crystal who has been a rock for our family. She is not only the best nurse I know but she loves our family with great passion and patience.

I'm thankful that both my girls have had great role models in their life so far. And as I celebrate year 48 around the Sun this month I can say that my life is blessed and full. If you have your Mom, Aunts, Grandmothers still with you make sure to invest as much time as possible and never take that for granted.

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



COMMUNITY OUTREACH The Women's Ministry Outreach will be having an event on Saturday, June 8th to reach out to our community at Cypress Mills Apartments. We will be

providing a hot dog lunch (prepared by the Men's Ministry), Bible lesson along with games and activities for the residents. We will also pass out flyers for our upcoming VBS. A sign up sheet will be placed in the Welcome Center for anyone wishing to serve with preparations/set up, activities during the event and with clean up. Set up will begin about 9:30 am before the 11:00 am event. We will be thankful for any assistance you may be able to provide and ask that you prayerfully consider serving.

BABY SHOWER The Women's Ministry is sponsoring a Drop In Baby Shower for Danielle & Tyler Gardner on Sunday, May 5th from 3-5 PM at the Cateechee House. It's a girl! They are registered on Amazon & Walmart.com Tyler & Danielle have been serving with our Youth Ministry on Wednesdays & Sunday. Tyler is the grandson of Bill & Lisa Gardner.



GRANDMOTHER/MOTHER/DAUGHTER/CARRY A GIRL TO TEA The Women's Ministry will be having a Tea on Tuesday, May 21st at 6:30 pm. Save the date! We will have a sign up sheet in the Welcome Center to decorate a table with decorative paper/plastic plates. We will also be putting out a sign up sheet for food. We encourage you to come decorate a table and invite others.

COOKIES FOR SCHOOLS The Women's Ministry will be taking cookies to all Ninety Six schools for Teacher Appreciation Week on Monday, May 6th. We need donations of cookies! Please drop off your cookies on Sunday, May 5th in the MPB kitchen. Bagged, Bakery or Homemade are appreciation. Any questions, please contact Lisa Wood.



VBS SAVE THE DATE *The Great Jungle Journey: An Epic Cruise from Genesis to Revelation* is scheduled for June 23rd—June 26th



Thank You Notes

Many thanks to everyone who made my big 9-0 birthday rodeo/party such a wonderful time and poured out so many blessings on me! Thank you so much for your many cards, kind words and generous gifts. I am blessed beyond measure to have such friends and fellowship at 96FBC Love and appreciate you all and look forward to continuing to serve God together in the times ahead. God Bless, Gerald Sprouse



Noteworthy

Growth is a wonderful thing! Growth encourages and excites. Growth brings about opportunities which can sometimes be a challenge. Growth brings about change, and change can be a positive thing, but for some a negative thing. The mindset of some is to keep the status quo, maintain control with a "go with the flow" philosophy of how things have always been done. In ministry, when God is moving, maintaining isn't something to work towards; just maintaining is actually saying, "God, we are good right where we are." Maintaining is the fastest way to deflate a moving of the Spirit in ministry.

Our Music Ministry has experienced some growth, especially in the choir, but that doesn't mean that we sit back and coast. Although we have had some growth, attendance at rehearsal and in worship has suffered due to work, sickness, time away, etc. There are people with vocal talents and gifts sitting in our pews each Sunday, and I am pretty sure that God gives people these gifts and talents to give back to God for His Kingdom work. I am making a new "prayer pledge" to ask God to move in the hearts of those who have vocal gifts and talents; that they would have a desire to serve our Lord and His Church. I am praying specifically that God would send our choir two new altos, tenors and basses. I am asking God to work among those already in our Music Ministry with a spirit of passion and joyfulness; that their very countenance would glow as they sing. I am asking God to equip me, our musicians, choir, praise teams and sound and media teams with a fresh anointing of the Holy Spirit for His glory and honor.

We covet your prayers as we seek God, serve God and submit our Music Ministry into His hands. If you know God is leading you to be a part of our Music Ministry, please give me the honor of speaking with you.

*Because of Grace,
Tris*



Jillian & Jonathan Goff

By Letter
Bennett & Holden Goff
By baptism

Mary & James Krimm

By Letter / Statement

The future of a church is the continuation of those who have made up its past. The Ninety Six First Baptist Church, originally known as Ninety Six Baptist Church, was founded on the Bible as the true infallible Word of God and a strong faith in God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit; three persons in one essence and of equal glory. There have been many Kingdom advances through the years under the leadership and through the sacrifice of many faithful Christian men and women. The first mark made by our ancestors as recorded in the original Book of Minutes was made on Sunday afternoon, January 17, 1875. The original members had a mission to reach the lost and make disciples of all nations. That mission still drives the ministries and membership of the Ninety Six First Baptist Church today.

The Ninety Six First Baptist Church was established with twenty-two members and the original building was erected in the late 1800's. A tornado struck Ninety Six on April 16, 1943. The tornado damaged Ninety Six First Baptist as it did much of Greenwood County. A picnic shelter was added in 1958 and an educational building was added to the church in 1965. The original sanctuary, which had been damaged by the tornado, was replaced with the existing sanctuary in 1980. The original church bell that was damaged by the tornado was restored in 1976, the year America celebrated her 200th birthday. It was discovered under the steps of the old sanctuary and it now rings daily from the steeple of the current sanctuary. The church added a Multipurpose building to its facilities in 2008. The home at 103 Cateechee was purchased in 2012. A building and the property at 204 West Main Street was purchased in 2020 and a new digital sign was placed on that property. Two additional homes and property, 109 and 105 North Church Street, were purchased in 2022.

The history of our church is rich and we look forward to our 150th anniversary celebration in January. We have scheduled The Down East Boys for Friday January 17th 2025 to celebrated the day that it all started. Our ancestors met for the first time to pray, plan and proceed forward with a Baptist church in Ninety Six. We will meet 150 years later to worship and celebrate all that God has done and all that He will do in the future. Some of the most precious people that I have ever known have transitioned away from us and into heaven in recent years. It is often hard to hold back my emotions as I think of them. Yet, it is with great passion that I want to move forward building on the spiritual bricks that they have laid. While it is easy to see and emphasize the growth of our church facilities, the most part of our history is the Gospel foundation that is deep and wide enough to handle future expansion.

One more note. I have challenged our church this year to be a praying church and an inviting church. I have seen firsthand that we have been faithful in these areas. Let me add to that challenge and encourage everyone to help us be a welcoming church. That can include saving the best seats and parking for our guests. That can be taking the initiative to speak to people that we don't know. That can be helping guests and their families find the nursery, Wee Church, Sunday School

Classes or restrooms. We are long overdue getting a Welcoming Ministry back up and running and we will need folks to lead and serve. Our history is rich and our future is promising. I can't wait to see what God has in store for the spiritual family known as the Ninety Six First Baptist Church. See you Sunday!!

On Eagles' Wings, *Chuck*



GRADUATE RECOGNITION SUNDAY MAY 19th

**We will be recognizing our graduates during our
Worship Service at 10:45.**

If you or anyone in your household who regularly attends 96 FBC is graduating from high school, college or any institute of higher learning this year, please notify Lee by Sunday, May 5th.

ONE-CHURCH MORNING WORSHIP We will meet together as One Church Family at 10:45 in the MPB on June 30th. It has always been our desire that no matter how many worship services we have, that we remain One Church Family.

BAPTISM SERVICE We hope to see five people baptized on April 28th!! Our next baptism service is planned for May 26th during our 10:45 worship service. 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.



Growing Forward Together

We are continuing to see progress with our flooring, outside steps, sidewalks and bathrooms. As many of you know coordinating several contractors to work on a single project takes a lot of time, but the end result will be worth it. Thank you for your continued patience. We still have a few projects to go before we transition to a Capital Stewardship Campaign to build a new Lifeline Ministries. Thank you for your continued faithfulness to sacrificial giving.



MEN'S MINISTRY BREAKFAST We will meet on Saturday, May 18th at 9:00 am for breakfast. Speaker will be Lee Collins. All men, children and/or grandchildren are welcome. Please sign up in the Welcome Center with name and number attending.

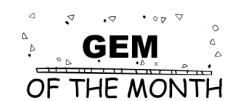
LBA MEN'S RALLY The LBA Men's Rally will be Monday, April 29th at 7:00 pm at First Mt. Moriah Baptist Church. Speaker will be Rev. David McIntyre. Menu will be Chicken Bog. We will leave the church at 6:15 pm

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.



Pat & Johnny Vickers
1409 Scotch Cross Rd. E.
Greenwood, SC 29646

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.