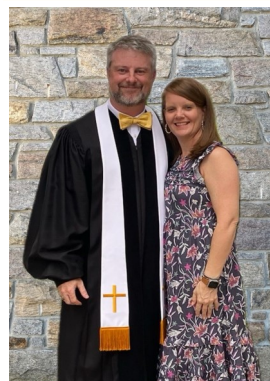




June 2024

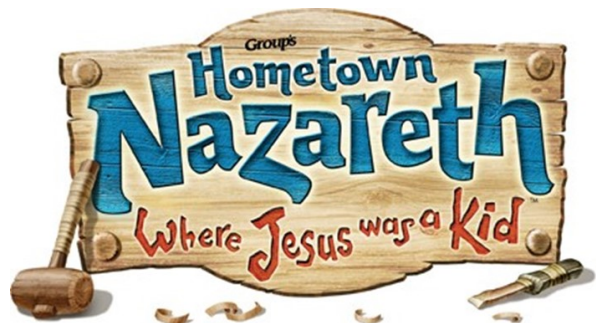
Volume LXXVI, No. 06



### John Uldrick is the New Senior Pastor at First Baptist Greenwood!

John Uldrick will lead his first service as Senior Pastor of First Baptist Greenwood on Sunday, June 2. The best gift one can give John is to encourage and support him by being present in worship on his first Sunday.

*(See the article inside for other ways to show your love and support to the Uldrick family as Greenwood becomes their new home.)*



### FBC INVITES YOU TO JOIN US FOR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!

AGES 3K to 5th GRADE

Come see Jesus as a boy with family, friends, a home, and a church!

June 23-26, 2024

5:30 pm Supper, 6:00 pm-8:15 pm VBS



### From Our New Senior Pastor Shut Up And Run

I have always had a love/hate relationship with running. I never built up any running stamina as a child. While running track and playing basketball and football as a teenager, I was never in the first group of any sprints. Running only made sense to me during the one season of my life when I committed to a consistent workout regimen with a friend. I was as healthy as ever. That discipline, lifting weights at least three days per week and running two different days, kept me fit and happy. Early mornings, five days each week, were challenging, though. It was a struggle to get out of bed well before the sun thought about peeking its head above the horizon. But, there was a distinct payoff at the end of every run. I felt energized, accomplished, and ready for the day. Now, please do not mistake that one season of my life as the clearest picture of me as a runner. After two meniscus repairs, I have a doctor's excuse not to run unless someone is chasing me with a knife!

The image of running is essential, though. Paul's use of the image in 1 Corinthians 9:24 guides much of how Christians think about running a race. Paul said, "Do you not know that in a race, the runners all compete, but only one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may win it." Misunderstanding Paul's point can be dangerous because too many are obsessed with winning. We know that in any race, only one runner wins. We thirst after winning so much that it can shape how we lose. In fact, too many of us are poor losers. Why participate if you're not going to be confident of a win? Paul urges us to prepare in the ways it takes to win. His point is not that only one Christian can succeed in spiritual pursuits or even that we are in a contest against brothers and sisters in Christ. Instead, Paul points to the effort and dedication exhibited by athletes. That kind of dedication and work is how we should prepare to pursue Christ.

So, as summer approaches, how will you choose rhythms that prepare your pursuit of Christ? Will you 'set an alarm' and make sure to show up and engage in community at First Baptist? Will you clothe yourself with patience and kindness amid all your relationships? Will you run wind sprints through holy Scripture, memorizing and imprinting verses on your hearts, producing endurance in difficult times? Will you practice prayer, building confidence even in the rocky or uneven steps you'll take in the weeks ahead? I promise, as you prepare, the payoff is worth the work! Energy, accomplishment, confidence, and readiness await!

John

### Welcoming John and Jennifer Uldrick to First Baptist Church



The First Baptist Senior Pastor Search Committee would like to host a "Southern Welcome" to our new pastor, Rev. John Uldrick, and Jennifer on Sunday, June 2. Because John and Jennifer will be staying in an apartment when they first move to Greenwood, the Senior Pastor Search Committee would like everyone to consider giving John and Jennifer a gift card to a local restaurant with a note of welcome or giving an additional gift to the Ministry Plan or to the Beverly Greer Offering for State Missions. Please bring gift cards and notes to John and Jennifer to the church office by Friday, May 31. Members of the Senior Pastor Search Committee will collect the notes and present them to the Uldricks on Sunday, June 2. In giving an additional gift to the Ministry Plan or to the Beverly Greer offering for State Missions, please be sure to note on the check and/or envelope that the funds are in honor of John and Jennifer. Thank you for welcoming John and Jennifer to FBC Greenwood in this special way!



## Worship in May

### Sunday—June 2 Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Scripture: Matthew 16:24-26  
Sermon: "Life Together: Commitments For a Flourishing Future—  
Follow Christ Above All Else"  
John Uldrick

Special Music:  
"O Church of God, Reach Up, Reach Out!"  
"A Jubilant Song"  
Chancel Choir

"Highland Cathedral"  
Brass Quintet; Noah Skinner, timpani; Will  
Thomas Cleveland, Interim Organist

**The Sanctuary flowers** are given by Dock Hollingsworth and members of Second Ponce de Leon Baptist Church with prayers of blessing for the ministry of Rev. John Uldrick

### Sunday—June 9 Tenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Scripture: Matthew 6:9-13  
Sermon: "Life Together: Commitments For a Flourishing Future—  
Cultivate an Active Prayer Life"  
John Uldrick

Special Music  
"The Lord's Prayer"  
Terry Gilchrist, soloist

"Hear My Prayer" - Chancel Choir

### Sunday—June 16 Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time Father's Day

Scripture:  
Sermon: "Life Together: Commitments For a Flourishing Future—  
Taking Scripture Seriously"  
John Uldrick

Special Music  
"Open the Eyes of My Heart"  
Laura Davis Atkins, soloist

"Guide My Feet" - Chancel Choir

**The Sanctuary flowers** are given to the glory of God and in memory of Angela Wyndham Powers by her family.

### Sunday—June 23 Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Scripture: Matthew 6:9-13  
Sermon: "Life Together: Commitments For a Flourishing Future—  
Seek and Share Forgiveness"  
John Uldrick

Special Music  
David Corbitt, soloist  
"A Lord-Built House" - Chancel Choir

The **Sanctuary flowers** are given by the Bowers Sunday School Class to the glory of God and in memory of class members and teachers who have passed away.

### Sunday—June 30 Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Scripture: Matthew 28:16-20  
Sermon: "Life Together: Commitments For a Flourishing Future—  
Growing in Discipleship Through Community"  
John Uldrick

Special Music  
"A Simple Song"  
from *Mass* by Leonard Bernstein  
Keith Jameson, soloist  
"Like a River in My Soul"  
Chancel Choir

## Choral Response in June and July

During John's sermon series "Life Together: Commitments for a Flourishing Future" in June and July, the Chancel Choir will be offering the Choral Response *God Be In My Head*, music by Victor C. Johnson, with words from *Sarum Primer*, 1538, based on Psalm 139:23-24. It is a beautiful setting of these words, and a daily prayer for our lives. Let these words, and the music on Sunday lead you to re-focus your commitment to FBC, to cultivating our life together as a church, and to rededicating our daily lives to being more like Christ in all we do, say, and think.

*God be in my head, and in my understanding:  
God be in my eyes, and in my looking:  
God be in my mouth, and in my speaking:  
God be in my heart, and in my thinking.  
God be at my end, and at my departing.  
Amen.*



Thank You  
from  
Layne and Dianne  
Smith

Words are inadequate to express our deep gratitude for so many gifts that we received from you. First, and most important, was the gift of welcoming and including us in your lives and community of faith. Second, we continue to cherish the spoken words, notes, and cards of blessing and encouragement that you offered us. Third, we appreciate the gift of money from the church. We are taking our four grandchildren and both daughters and their husbands to NYC in June to celebrate our 50th wedding anniversary. The monetary gift will enable us to enjoy the trip even more. Fourth, we enjoyed having access to the apartment that the church provided for us. It was lovely.

All of the above is merely the proverbial "tip of the iceberg" of the many things that make us continue to thank God for the time we shared with you. Our hope and prayer for you is that you will welcome, encourage, and support your new Senior Pastor and family as you have us. We will cherish our time with you all the days of our lives.

## Library Corner

For many years the four and five-year old Cheerful Cherubs classes have visited the church library weekly for story time, introduction to library etiquette and skills, and much to their delight, "checking out" a take home book for the coming week. Special events and holidays are celebrated throughout the year, including a finale at the end of the school year.

It gives me a "Happy Face" to share that this year, made possible by a generous grant in memory of Judge Curtis G. Shaw and Graham Shaw and in honor of June Shaw, each child will be given a personalized copy of the book, *Hope is a Rainbow*, authored by Hoda Kotb and illustrated by Chloe Dominique.

The library staff is very grateful to Charles and Susie Dibble, Columbia, S.C., for this grant from The Dibble Family Fund of Central Carolina Community Foundation.

We also acknowledge Cindy Lindahl for her time and expertise in creating the personalized book plates.

Your church library is available for children of all ages as we continue our pilgrimage of spiritual formation.



Happily,  
Libby



# Music Notes

## We Welcome Dr. Will Cleveland, Interim Organist

Dr. Will Thomas Cleveland joins our FBC Greenwood music ministry as Interim Organist beginning Sunday, June 2. He currently serves as the Director of Music and Organist at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Greenwood. He holds the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Organ Performance from The Fred Fox School of Music at the University of Arizona in Tucson. Dr. Cleveland holds the Master of Music degree in Organ Performance from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, and the Bachelor of Music degree in Sacred Music from Carson-Newman University in Jefferson City, Tennessee. His dissertation entitled *Rhythmic Freedom in Mendelssohn's Six Organ Sonatas*, focuses on rhythmic performance practice techniques in Felix Mendelssohn's Six Organ Sonatas, Opus 65. He is an active concert organist. He recently was the organist in the *Illuminare* presentation on Good Friday at First Presbyterian Church, Greenwood, and played the Thanksgiving service here at FBC this past year. We are excited and thrilled to welcome Will to our music ministry this summer.





## From the Spiritual Formations Committee

The beautiful labyrinth and the landscaping around it are almost complete! The Spiritual Formations Committee is so grateful to the Bowers-Rodgers Foundation for providing the funding in memory of Bubba Fennel and Richard Jackson and in honor of Blake Kendrick, who first envisioned a labyrinth from his office window.

The labyrinth is a replica of the one at Chartes Cathedral in France, and if you walked it or walked by it, you may have thought you were in a meadow in the countryside of France! Sod will soon replace the ryegrass. The labyrinth will soon be ready to be dedicated after our new pastor arrives!

Even though the landscaping is not complete, a holder for brochures was recently added near the entrance to the labyrinth. The brochure gives information about the labyrinth and suggestions to guide your thoughts as you walk the path. Everyone is invited to walk the path, whether as a solitary spiritual experience or as a group experience with your Sunday School class, circle, or prayer group.



## Help Needed on Sunday

Help is needed on Sunday with the sound and camera crew. To learn more about the position or for questions, please contact Keith Jameson at 229-5557 or keithjameson@hotmail.com.



## What's It Going to Get You? CBFSC

One of the phrases often heard in making a decision is "What's It Going to Get You?" Sometimes the answer to the question is simple -more education or skills, a new job, a promotion, or the option to network. Sometimes the answer to the question is nothing more than personal satisfaction.

In relation to the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of South Carolina, the answer to "What's It Going to Get You?" is partnerships with other like-minded congregations and missions involvement.

**PARTNERSHIP:** CBFSC is a partnership between forty-eight CBF churches across the state of South Carolina. Because of the collaborative effort between these churches, CBFSC seeks to assist churches in SC in areas such as advocacy, Baptist Women in Ministry (BWIM), children and youth camps, children and youth protection from abuse, church endowments and estate planning, disaster response, grants for coaching and spiritual direction, seminary scholarship support through the Marion D. Aldridge Scholarship Fund, and staff support with insurance and retirement planning. As one can see, a network of cooperative churches can do more and have a greater impact in sharing God's love together than any one church can do on its own.

**MISSIONS:** CBFSC achieves its mission commitments through:

- Innovative long-term partnership commitments with Carolina Immigrant Alliance, Koinonia of Columbia, Metanoia, The Off Ramp, Palmetto Works, and Together for Hope,
- Collaborative annual mission grants; and
- Equipping the local church project grants.

So, what does a partnership with CBFSC "Going to Get You?"

**A LOT!!**

## Church Family News

Christian Sympathy is extended to the families of:

- Timothy Beals, father of Kristen Beals
- Gary Coleman, brother of George Coleman
- Betty Jean May, sister of Jimmy May

**Greenwood Rehabilitation:**

Barbara Carson

**Hospice:** Ted Okerlund

**Home:** Chuck Stowe



## May Diaconate Update

The May Diaconate meeting was held on May 19 at 6:00 pm. In addition to receiving reports from the staff, the Diaconate approved the following:

- a recommendation from the Personnel Committee to increase the honorarium for Guest Ministers from \$150.00 to \$250.00 and Guest Musicians from \$125.00 to \$200.00.
- a First Baptist Foundation Request of \$1,000.00 from the Youth Committee to help offset the cost of Passport Summer Camp.



April 28 – May 19, 2024

Monthly Need	\$ 82,367.45
Monthly Gifts	86,101.00
Ministry Plan Req'd YTD	380,157.40
Ministry Plan Rcv'd YTD	328,707.02
Ministry Plan YTD Deficit (Under)	(51,450.38)
Sunday School Att. (Avg)	161
Worship Attendance (Avg)	205



## Volunteer Openings

There are openings in the Children's Ministry for the 2024-2025 school year. Please contact Anna Burch if interested in filling a position.

### Children's Church

Adult

First Sundays in February, April, June, August, October, December

Youth

Second Sundays in February, April, June, August, October, December

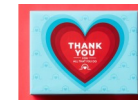
### Music Makers Choir Teacher

(4K-1st)

### Nursery Sunday School

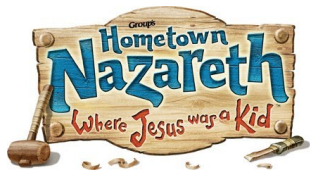
(Every Other Week)

### CIA Leaders



## Thank You, Wednesday Night Leaders

Anyone who missed M&M Night on June 15 missed a special treat. The Bright Beginnings Music Activities group, Music Makers Younger Children's Choir, and Young Musicians Older Children's Choir shared the music they learned this year. The CIA groups then told about the various studies and activities they did this year and ended the program by giving everyone present an opportunity to experience hands-on mission activities. Thank you, Terry and Alice Gilchrist, Lewis and Betty Walker, Lou Hilley, Claire Hudson, Jonah Maze, and Kayla Beard for leading the music groups. Thank you Claudia Burch, Ann Drummond, Brittany Dunlap, Jennifer Hudson, Erin Nodine, Amanda Moon, Kathleen Snead, Shawn Snead, Catherine White, and Anna Burch for leading the CIAs.



### VBS 2024

June 23-26

Supper — 5:30 pm  
VBS — 6:00 pm -- 8:15 pm

3K-5th Grade  
(Those who were 3K  
in the 2023-2024 school year)

### Invite friends!

RSVPs due Tuesday, June 18!  
A registration form is in the Sunday  
bulletin or you may register by contacting  
Anna Burch or the church office.

On Thursday, June 27, the Children's  
Committee will host a Family Fun Night  
to end VBS! Be on the lookout for more  
details next week!

\*VBS Decoration Party is  
Sunday, June 20 at 5:30 pm  
in the Fellowship Hall.



### Help Make Vacation Bible School a Success—Volunteer!

Volunteers are needed for Vacation  
Bible School. Please contact Anna Burch  
(aeburchfbc@gmail.com) if you are  
willing to help. We will be decorating for  
VBS on Thursday, June 20 at 5:30 pm if  
you are available to help!



### Splash Pad Fun

While the older kids are at Camp Prism,  
the younger kids will have a splash pad  
night, Wednesday, July 17, 6:00 pm-7:00  
pm! Alice and Terry Gilchrist will be there,  
since Anna Burch will be at camp, and will  
provide an icee treat!

# Youth News



Passport 2024  
July 15-19

Pfeiffer University  
Misenheimer, NC

Begin praying for the seventeen youth  
and four counselors going to Passport this  
summer. Reminder to youth, the \$90.00  
**deposit is due by Sunday, June 30.**



### Congratulation, 2024 Graduates!

#### High School Class of 2024

Evie Craig  
Claire Hudson  
Jonah Maze  
Meg Mauldin  
Nina Moore (also earned an associate  
degree from Piedmont Tech)  
Carson Nave  
Caroline Smith  
Nathan Smith  
Lydia Turner  
Jackson Williams

#### College Graduates

Joe Benjamin  
Erin Nichols  
John Turner  
Annalise Uldrick  
Haile Vipperman

#### Graduate School Graduates

Kayla Beard  
Chelsea Lloyd  
Lane Riley



The Connections Intergenerational  
Sunday School class will not be held this  
year. Youth and adults who usually  
participate in this class will attend their  
regular classes.



722 Grace Street    Greenwood, SC 29649  
(864) 229-5557    (864) 229-2561 Fax  
Website: fbcgwd.org

### Cheerful Cherubs

(864) 229-2787    www.cheerfulcherubsfbc.com

#### Ministers and Staff

John Uldrick  
Anna Burch  
David Jennings  
Keith Jameson  
Lauren Coker  
Will Thomas Cleveland  
Claudia Burch  
Mary Frances Thompson  
Linda Miller

Senior Pastor  
Minister to Children  
Minister of Administration  
Church Music Director  
Part-Time Interim Youth Leader  
Interim Organist  
Director of Cheerful Cherubs  
Ministry Assistant  
Financial Assistant

john.uldrick.fbcg@gmail.com  
aeburchfbc@gmail.com  
jenningsdaj@gmail.com  
keithjameson@hotmail.com  
laurencoker@gmail.com  
willthomasclleveland@gmail.com  
claudiaburch5@gmail.com  
gfbcsc@gmail.com  
lindamillerfbc@gmail.com

Helping Hands Ministry Information Line .....(864) 229-8051

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED