



Awake My Soul by Mike Moyers

First Baptist Church  
Greensboro, North Carolina  
gathers for  
**The Worship of God**  
Second Sunday after the Epiphany, January 14, 2024

Begin here: *Beloved.*

Is there any other word needs saying, any other blessing  
could compare with this name, this knowing?

*Beloved.*

Comes like a mercy to the ear that has never heard it.  
Comes like a river to the body that has never seen such grace.

*Beloved.*

Comes holy to the heart aching to be new.  
Comes healing to the soul wanting to begin again.

*Beloved.*

Keep saying it and though it may sound strange at first, watch how it becomes part of you,  
how it becomes you, as if you never could have known yourself anything else,  
as if you could ever have been other than this: *Beloved.*

-“Beginning with Beloved” by Jan Richardson

Steeple Bells 10:30 a.m.

Prelude Baker Lawrimore

Lighting the Christ Candle JJ Moore

Opening the Bible Jonah Carlson

Gathering Rev. Alan Sherouse

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

†Call to Worship Rev. Seth Hix

adapted from Rev. Thom M. Shuman

On that first day, when time began:

**You gave birth to creation;**

Light danced through the shadows;

**The waters of hope flowed free and clear.**

On that first day at the Jordan, when redemption began:

**You spoke of life for all your children,**

As your child stepped into the waters of forgiveness.

**On this first day of the week, when we begin anew:**

You call us to faithfulness as we open our hearts to you,

**Full of hope, grace overflowing, we worship the One who makes all things new.**

†Hymn 5

*“Come, Thou Almighty King”* ITALIAN HYMN

†Passing of the Peace

May the peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

Life of the Community Rev. Courtney Willis

Time for Children Rev. Amy Starr Russell

Children (first grade and younger) may attend Junior Church and will return to the sanctuary during the Hymn of Response.

†Hymn 289

*“Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling”* IN BABILONE

Prayers of God’s People Rev. Buck Cochran

Gospel Lesson Rev. Courtney Willis

Mark 1:4-11

Sermon Rev. Sherouse

†Hymn of Response 558

*“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”* BEECHER

If you would like to become a member of this congregation,  
you are invited to speak to a pastor at this time.

Stewardship Prayer Hazel Fisher *deacon*

Choral Offertory Sanctuary Choir

*“Gracious Spirit Dwell with Me”* 13th Century Plainsong melody; arranged by K. Lee Scott

†Benediction Rev. Sherouse

†Benediction Response

O — star of won-der, star of night, star with roy-al beau-ty bright,

west-ward lead-ing, still pro-ceed-ing, guide us to thy per-fect light.

†Postlude Baker Lawrimore



# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH GREENSBORO CONNECTIONS

January 14, 2024

## HIGH SCHOOL RETREAT

Some of our High Schoolers are away on the High School retreat this weekend in Virginia. Please pray for Caroline Carter, Cora Carter, Avery Cox, Chris Cherry, Tory Watkins Cherry, Danielle Delgado, James Dolph, Elgin Fuller, Isabelle Lockwood, Molly Lockwood, Shaun Martin, Grace Wall, Avery White, and Berkley Willis as they spend time together learning about the retreat theme "Limitless."

## FREE COLLEGE LUNCH

Welcome back to College Students who are returning from winter break! Join us in the Cafe for a free lunch and short Bible study after the worship service. The Cafe is located in a separate building that is accessed from the parking lot. Text Catherine Scott-Little (336) 404 5684 if you need help finding it.

## RISE AGAINST HUNGER MEAL PACKING EVENT | Sunday, January 21 at 3 pm

We will be joining with our friends from Rise Against Hunger once again to package meals for people facing hunger around the globe. It will be a fun event that will make a difference in peoples' lives. This event is for all ages! Mark your calendars and we hope to see you there.

## MIDWEEK | Wednesdays starting at 5:30 pm

Join us Wednesday evenings for Midweek! We have a new class for adults, along with programming for children and youth. Our Adult programming through February 7 is entitled "Travelers on a Journey," and will feature a closer look at our future as First Baptist Greensboro. This Wednesday's meal is BBQ! You may reserve your meal at the QR code, at [fbcgso.org/midweek-2024](http://fbcgso.org/midweek-2024) or contact Keighley ([keighley@fbcgso.org](mailto:keighley@fbcgso.org)) in the church office.



## JANUARY BOOKCLUB | Thursday, January 25 at 5:30 pm

At our January bookclub, we will revisit a book we read in the Fall, "Saving Grace: Speak Your Truth, Stay Centered, and Learn to Coexist with People Who Drive You Nuts" by Kirsten Powers. We have more to discuss and would love for you to join us! If you need help getting a copy of the book, connect with Courtney Willis ([courtney@fbcgso.org](mailto:courtney@fbcgso.org))

## FEBRUARY LUNCH & LEARN | Monday, February 5 at Noon

The Senior Adult Council is pleased to offer a series of "Lunch and Learn" events featuring various topics for adults of ALL ages! Our February event, "Support for Family Caregivers." Our speaker is Alexis Williams, Executive Director of Caregiver Connect. Our topic will be "Responsible Aging - Myth vs. Reality: Navigating Change." There also will be free Cone Health Wellness Screening mobile unit as a part of the program. If you know of friends who could benefit from this topic, please invite them. Cost is \$10 per person. Reserve your spot no later than Wednesday January 31 at [fbcgso.org/lunch-and-learn](http://fbcgso.org/lunch-and-learn) or scan the QR code. If you have any questions, reach out to Margaret Crawford ([mimicraw@gmail.com](mailto:mimicraw@gmail.com)).



## SANCTUARY AND HANDBELL CHOIR REHEARSALS RESUME

The New Year is a great time to check out the Sanctuary or Handbell Choir! Sanctuary Choir rehearsals are on Wednesdays at 7:15 pm in the choir room. Handbell Choir rehearsals will start back tonight at 5:30 pm in the Handbell Room. If you are interested in being a part of the music ministry, contact Seth Hix ([seth@fbcgso.org](mailto:seth@fbcgso.org)).

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our Sunday school classes have returned from the holiday break! If you have been interested in joining a Sunday school class, this is a great opportunity to check one out. You are welcome to reach out to Courtney Willis about which would be a good fit for you, or read about our classes at: [fbcgso.org/sundayschool](http://fbcgso.org/sundayschool)

## GREECE TRIP | May 5-13, 2024

The deadline to be a part of the trip to Greece is tomorrow, January 15. This trip, led by Rev. Courtney Willis and friend of First Baptist Greensboro, Dr. Jason Myers is an exploration of Paul's missionary journey through Greece! All are welcome to join us on this exciting opportunity to travel, learn more about the early church, and grow in our faith together. If you have any questions, contact Courtney Willis ([courtney@fbcgso.org](mailto:courtney@fbcgso.org)).

## PASTORAL STAFF

**CHRIS CHERRY**, YOUTH & FAMILIES

**BUCK COCHRAN**, MISSIONS & COMMUNITY

**SETH HIX**, MUSIC (INTERIM)

**ALAN SHEROUSE**, SENIOR PASTOR

**AMY STARR RUSSELL**, CHILDREN & FAMILIES

**COURTNEY WILLIS**, FORMATION & CARE

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# LOOKING AHEAD

## January

14 | INSPIRO: Triad Youth Choir | 2:30 pm  
Handbell Choir Rehearsal | 5:30 pm

15 | Offices Closed for Martin Luther King, Jr Holiday

17 | Midweek | 5:30 pm  
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal | 7:15 pm

21 | INSPIRO: Triad Youth Choir | 2:30 pm  
Rise Against Hunger | 3pm in the Gym

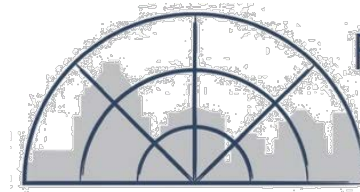
24 | Midweek | 5:30 pm  
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal | 7:15 pm

25 | Bookclub | 5:30 pm

26 | Merge (Ministry for 4th & 5th Graders)

28 | INSPIRO: Triad Youth Choir | 2:30 pm  
Youth Group | 4 pm

31 | Midweek | 5:30 pm  
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal | 7:15 pm



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Greensboro