



"Good Samaritan" by Paulus Hoffman

**THE WORLD AS IT COULD BE**  
SUMMER SERMONS ON THE PARABLES OF JESUS

First Baptist Church  
Greensboro, North Carolina  
gathers for  
**The Worship of God**

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost, June 23, 2024

*“When Jesus feeds people, he does more than fill their stomachs. He encourages hungry, needy, weary people to sit down together, to notice and attend to each other, to take pleasure not only in the possibility of their own fullness, but in the fullness of the whole. The point is not to hoard, scheme, conserve, or quantify. The point is to enjoy abundance in community. To learn that in God’s kingdom, there is enough. Not just enough for one, but for many.”*

– Debie Thomas

Steeple Bells 10:30 a.m.

Prelude Matt Messick *organist*

“Amazing Grace” arr. Diane Bish

Gathering Rev. Courtney Willis

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

†Call to Worship Rev. Seth Hix

by Joana Harader

The table of God’s love is set before us.

**Let us come to the banquet.**

The table of God’s grace is set before us.

**Let us come to the banquet.**

The table of God’s salvation is set before us.

**Let us come to the banquet.**

All are invited to the table.

***Let us come to the banquet with joy.***

## †Hymn 634

“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah” CWM RHONDDA

## †Passing of the Peace

May the peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

Life of the Community Rev. Buck Cochran

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

“I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say” KINGSFOLD

I Heard the voice of Jesus say, “Come unto me and rest;  
Lay down, O weary one, lay down your head upon my breast.”  
I came to Jesus as I was, weary and worn and sad;  
I found in him a resting place, and he has made me glad.

I heard the voice of Jesus say, “Behold, I freely give  
the living water; thirsty one, stoop down, and drink, and live.”  
I came to Jesus, and I drank of that life-giving stream,  
My thirst was quenched, my soul revived, and now I live in him.

I heard the voice of Jesus say, “I am this dark world’s light;  
Look unto me, your morn shall rise and all your day be bright.”  
I looked to Jesus, and I found in him my star, my sun;  
And in that Light of life I’ll walk, till traveling days are done.

Prayers of God’s People Rev. Willis

## Scripture Lesson

Luke 14:15-24 and John 6:1-13

Sermon Rev. Eugene Cho

*“Have You Eaten?”*

## †Hymn of Response 514

"BLESSED ASSURANCE, JESUS IS MINE" ASSURANCE

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

Stewardship Prayer Richard Wiley *deacon*

Offertory Matt Messick

*"Marching to Zion"* arr. Joel Raney

†Benediction

†Postlude Matt Messick

*"Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah"* arr. Don Hustad

# THE WORLD AS IT COULD BE

## SUMMER SERMONS ON THE PARABLES OF JESUS



Our sermons this summer focus on the parables of Jesus. The brilliant scholar of parables, Bernard Brandon Scott, has said that in the parables Jesus inspires his listeners to "reimagine the world." It can be so easy amidst injustice and suffering to become resigned to the state of the world-as-it-is. But Jesus always saw beyond this and envisioned the world-as-it-could-yet-be — what he called "the kingdom of God" or "the kingdom of heaven." He prayed that it would come "to earth as it is in heaven." He gave his whole life to making it so. And he inspired his followers to imagine this possibility by teaching them in the way most vivid, accessible and transformative: through parables.

### GUEST PREACHER: REV. EUGENE CHO

First Baptist Greensboro welcomes Rev. Eugene Cho as our preacher today. Rev. Cho is the President/CEO of Bread for the World, a prominent Christian advocacy organization urging both national and global decision makers to help end hunger. As a pastor, preacher, author, and organizational leader, he has traveled throughout the world. After serving as a Keynote Speaker of this year's Cooperative Baptist Fellowship General Assembly in Greensboro, we are excited to have him preach at First Baptist Greensboro today.



Read more about Rev. Eugene Cho and Bread for the World at [bread.org](https://bread.org)





# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH GREENSBORO CONNECTIONS

June 23, 2024

## **FBCYOUTH ON SUMMER MISSION TRIP TO SAVANNAH | JUNE 23-29**

Our youth left this morning to spend the week in Savannah, GA. They will be staying at First Baptist Savannah and working alongside several of their mission partners. Please be in prayer for Caroline Carter, Cora Carter, Avery Cox, Davis Cox, Elgin Fuller, Caleb Hix, Deborah Kayombo, Joyce Kayombo, Teresa Kayombo, LJ Kesler, Isabelle Lockwood, Molly Lockwood, JJ Moore, Sarah Moore, Zavian Torres, Caleb Wall, Finley Wallace, Perrin White, Patrick Whitehead. Along with leaders Chris Cherry, James Dolph, Thom Little, Shelby Moss, Catherine and Scott-Little this week.

## **FBCKIDS LUNCH & PLAY | FOLLOWING WORSHIP**

Today is our FBCKids first Lunch and Play of the summer! Families are invited to head to LeBauer Park for food (bring a picnic or order from Parkside Pull-Up) and play on the playground or splash pad. No sign-up required. If you have any questions, connect with Amy Starr Russell (amy@fbcgso.org)

## **SUMMER BOOKCLUB | June 27 at 5:30 pm**

Join us this summer as we gather together for Summer Bookclub! This Thursday is our first gathering where we'll discuss our June book "Small Things Like These" by Claire Keegan. Learn more about all our summer books and dates at: [fbcgso.org/summer-bookclub](https://fbcgso.org/summer-bookclub) or scan the QR code. If you have any questions, connect with Courtney Willis (courtney@fbcgso.org).



## **SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL | SUNDAYS STARTING JULY 7**

Correction to last week's Connection announcements - July 7 is the correct start date for our Summer Sunday school! Rev. Courtney Willis will continue teaching Sunday school based on the Formations literature. She will teach in person as well as continuing to teach online. All are welcome to attend summer Sunday school in the chapel throughout the summer.

## **THE CHURCH VAN FUND**

The Finance Committee invites the Congregation to give a special gift toward the purchase of a new church van. A generous member has offered to give a matching contribution of half the cost of a new van, leaving approximately \$35,000 to raise. We have raised \$8,687 over the last three weeks. If you would like to make a special gift beyond your usual offering towards the new van purchase, please indicate "Church Van" in the memo section of your contribution check, or if giving online use the category of "Church Van" in the dropdown menu to designate your gift at [fbcgso.org/give](https://fbcgso.org/give) or scan the QR code.



## CHARLESTON YOUTH AND PARENTS MISSION TRIP | JULY 26-28

We have an exciting opportunity to take a group to Charleston, SC to volunteer with a First Baptist Greensboro ministry partner, Metanoia. This trip will be a great opportunity to both serve and learn more about this innovative ministry while working together as a family. Deadline for this trip is July 1. If you have any questions, connect with Buck Cochran. Learn more about the trip and sign-up at: [fbcgso.org/charleston-mission-trip](https://fbcgso.org/charleston-mission-trip)



## TRAIL TUESDAY | Starting Tuesday July 2 at 7 am

Trail Tuesday will return this Summer! We had such a wonderful time together last year on the trails all around Greensboro that we're hitting the trails again this summer. We will gather at 7 am starting Tuesday, July 2 at Piedmont Trail (6045 State Rd 2347, Greensboro, NC 27455). All are welcome! Learn more about all Trail Tuesday dates and trails at: [fbcgso.org/trail-tuesday-2024](https://fbcgso.org/trail-tuesday-2024) or scan the QR code.



## VBS VOLUNTEERS | July 15-18, 2024

We are in need of some more volunteers to make it a successful and a meaningful week! We have many opportunities to get involved and no special skills are needed other than a willingness to pitch in. We could also use some help the week before VBS transforming the church with decorations for VBS! Please fill out a short form and let us know your interest and availability: [fbcgso.org/vbs-2024](https://fbcgso.org/vbs-2024) or scan the QR code. You can also register your child for VBS!



## MUSIC AND ARTS CAMP | AUGUST 5 - 9

Campers who have completed 1st - 5th grade can enjoy music of many styles as they develop their voices individually and discover the joy of singing and making music in community. Cost is \$50 for the week! Sign-up by July 1 at [fbcgso.org/summer-2024](https://fbcgso.org/summer-2024)



## FAMILY MISSION TRIP | October 4-6, 2024

We know Summer just started but we wanted families to save a Fall date of October 4 - 6, 2024 for our Family Mission Trip! We will return to the Asheville area for another weekend of service and fellowship. When we say family, we mean it in the broadest way possible - all are welcome to join in on the adventure! More details to come soon. If you have questions, please connect with Buck Cochran.

## 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

1000 WEST FRIENDLY AVENUE, GREENSBORO, 27401 | 336-274-3286 | [FBCGSO.ORG](https://fbcgso.org)



First Baptist Church  
Greensboro