



"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

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost, August 11, 2024

"In the parable Jesus tells, God confronts the rich landowner with the most chilling words: 'This very night your life is being demanded of you.' What would we do differently if we believed that God does in fact demand our lives from us every single day, in every single way? ...If our lives have in fact been demanded of us, then how should we live? What should we leave behind? What should we carry forward? What should we give away?"

-Debie Thomas

Steeple Bells 10:30 a.m.

Prelude Beverly Sherouse

Lighting the Christ Candle Ingrid Carlson

Opening the Bible Jonah Carlson

Gathering Rev. Alan Sherouse

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

†Call to Worship Rev. Seth Hix

by Bruce Prewer

Gathered in the name of Jesus Christ, inspired by the Holy Spirit, and blessed by God,

we come to worship one, holy God.

O God, our own God, how wonderful is your name in all the earth. Your majesty is the music of the starry skies.

Yet even children of dust can sing your praises.

In the name of the Healer, the Provider and the Enabler let your gratitude and joy be made known.

O God, our own God, how wonderful is your name in all the earth!

†Hymn 353

*"For the Beauty of the Earth"* DIX

†Passing of the Peace

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Life of the Community James Dolph

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 612

*"How Firm A Foundation"* FOUNDATION

Prayers of God's People Rev. Chris Cherry

Scripture Lesson Rev. Courtney Willis

Luke 12:16-21

Sermon Rev. Sherouse

†Hymn of Response 568

*"Take My Life and Let It Be Consecrated"* HENDON

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

Stewardship Prayer Tom Townes *deacon*

Choral Offertory Summer Choir, Shelby Moss *director*

*"The Gift of Love"* Words based on I Corinthians 13; Arranged by Hal Hopson

*Though I may speak with bravest fire, and have the gift to all inspire,  
And have not love; my words are vain, as sounding brass, and hopeless gain.*

*Though I may give all I possess, and striving so my love profess,  
but not be given by love within, the profit soon turns strangely thin.*

*Come, Spirit come, our hearts control, our spirits long to be made whole.  
Let inward love guide every deed. By this we worship and are freed. Amen.*

†Benediction Rev. Sherouse

†Postlude Beverly Sherouse



# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH GREENSBORO CONNECTIONS

August 11, 2024

## TRAIL TUESDAYS | Tuesday, August 13 at 7 am

Our next Trail Tuesday will be at Osprey Trail (4907 Yanceyville Rd, Browns Summit, NC 27214.) We will gather at 7 am - look for the purple "FBC loves you" sign. All are welcome! Learn more about all Trail Tuesday dates and trails at: [fbcgso.org/trail-tuesday-2024](http://fbcgso.org/trail-tuesday-2024) or scan the QR code.



## SUMMER BOOKCLUB | Thursday, August 29 at 5:30 pm

Our last Summer Bookclub will be reading and discussing "Life after Doom" by Brian McLaren. If you have any questions or need help getting a copy of the book, please connect with Courtney Willis ([courtney@fbcgso.org](mailto:courtney@fbcgso.org)). Learn more at: [fbcgso.org/summer-bookclub](http://fbcgso.org/summer-bookclub)

## FBCKIDS AT SAFARI NATION | Wednesday, August 14 at 10 am

Join FBCKids at Safari Nation for the morning! We'll have fun with all the inflatables, jungle gym, zipline, bumper cars, and more! Please be sure to register!



## SUMMER CHOIR | Sunday, August 18 at 9:45 am

Ever wanted to see what the choir is all about? Summer Choir is a perfect place to try it out! Just show up on a Sunday morning listed at 9:45 am at the choir loft to learn an anthem to sing in worship. Come one, come all! Questions? Contact Seth Hix ([seth@fbcgso.org](mailto:seth@fbcgso.org))

## FBCYOUTH WET N WILD | Wednesday, August 13

Calling all current youth and rising 6th graders! Spend the day with FBCYouth at Wet 'n Wild. A cabana is rented, all that's needed is cash, sunscreen, and your best cannonballs!



## MIDWEEK LUNCH | Wednesdays at Noon

Each Wednesday this summer, all are invited to Midweek Lunch. Simply bring a bag lunch to the front lawn of the church to fellowship and spend time praying for those on our covenant of concerns. We will gather each Wednesday this Summer until August 28. Any questions? Reach out to Courtney Willis ([courtney@fbcgso.org](mailto:courtney@fbcgso.org)).

### PASTORAL STAFF

**CHRIS CHERRY**, YOUTH & FAMILIES

**BUCK COCHRAN**, MISSIONS & COMMUNITY

**SETH HIX**, MUSIC (INTERIM)

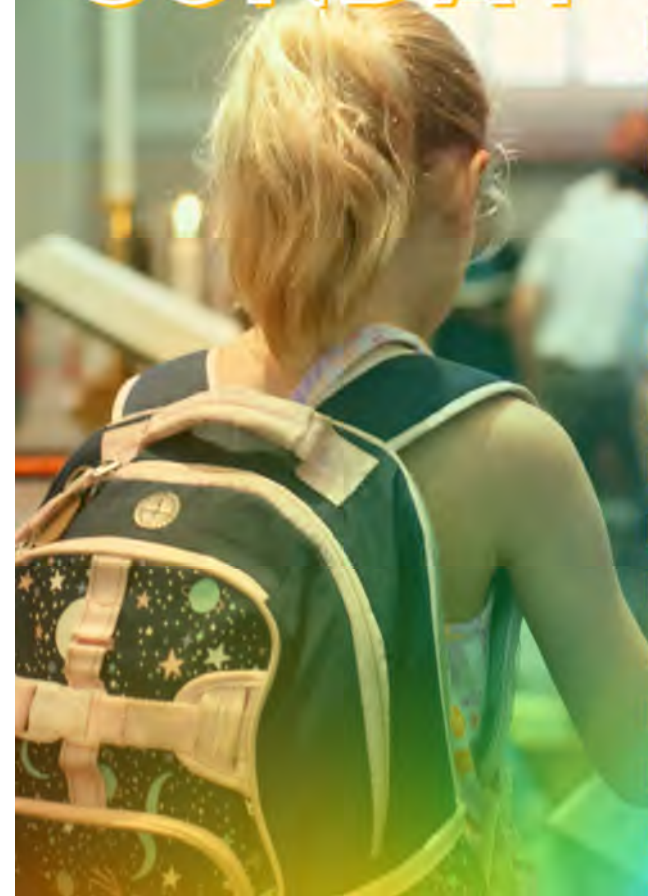
**ALAN SHEROUSE**, SENIOR PASTOR

**AMY STARR RUSSELL**, CHILDREN & FAMILIES

**COURTNEY WILLIS**, FORMATION & CARE

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# BACK TO SCHOOL SUNDAY



## Sunday, August 25

Worship on Back to School Sunday will feature a blessing for all of our students, educators, and administrators. We will share our theme for the 2024-2025 school year, as well as a prayer for the new year.

During the weeks leading up to Back to School Sunday, we are hosting a School Supply Drive for the Teacher Supply Warehouse of Guilford Education Alliance. All are welcome to bring donations to the admin office until August 25, when all are invited to bring donations to the sanctuary!

## WISH LIST



- Markers & Pens
- Pencils & Erasers
- Paper (Construction, Graph, Copy)
- Notebooks (Composition & Spiral)
- Scissors
- Tape & Glue
- Two-Pocket Folders
- Post-It Notes & Index Cards
- Binder Clips & Staples
- Arts & Crafts Supplies

...AND MORE!





There are so many ways to a part of the life of the church this summer! Grab a copy of the complete church wide summer calendar today. Or you may download it at [fbcgso.org/summer-at-fbc-2024](http://fbcgso.org/summer-at-fbc-2024) or scan the QR code.



### AUGUST

13 | FBC Youth at Wet-N-Wild | 10 am - 5 pm

14 | FBCKids at Safari Nation | 9 am

Midweek Lunch | Noon

14-16 | Inspiro Preseason Camp

17 | Parent Social | 7 pm

18 | FBCKids and Families Sunday School at Double Oaks

Summer Choir | 9:30 am

FBCYouth Open Gym/Skate Night

INSPIRO Rehearsal Resumes | 4 pm - 6 pm

21 | FBC Missions Habitat Work Morning | 8 am

FBCKids @ MPB Children's Museum | 9 am

24 | 6th Grade Retreat | 9 am - Noon

25 | Back to School Sunday

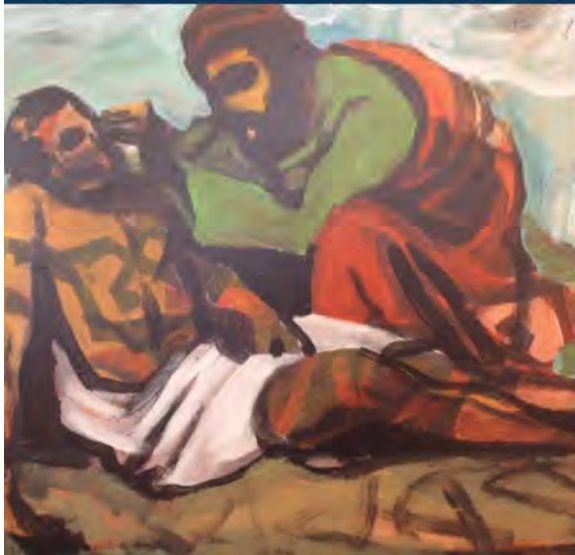
Parent Meeting | 9:30 am

27 | Trail Tuesday | 7 am | Laurel Bluff Trail

28 | Midweek Lunch | Noon | Front Lawn

29 | Book Club | 5:30 pm | Adirondack Chairs

## 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.



First Baptist Church  
Greensboro