

"The Glory of Christ," Stephen B. Whatley

First Baptist Church
Greensboro, North Carolina
gathers for
The Worship of God
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 21, 2025

Steeple Bells 10:30 a.m.

Prelude Jerry Davis *trumpet*, Landry Duvall *organ*
“O God, Beyond all Praising” Arr. David Howard Pettit

Lighting of the Christ Candle Carter Lyles

Opening of the Bible Molly Lyles

Gathering Rev. Alan Sherouse
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

†Call to Worship James Dolph *acting youth minister*

Remember, O people, the needs of the poor and the suffering of the downtrodden,
and hold to account all who are in high positions,

for God our Savior desires everyone to know the truth that they are loved.

God will raise the poor from the dust and make them sit with princes.

So let us offer supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings for all,

for the Lord is high above all nations, yet nothing is below God’s notice.

**There is one God; and in Christ Jesus one mediator between God and
humankind, who gave himself a ransom for all. Praise the Lord!**

Based on Amos 8: 4-7 and Psalm 113

†Hymn No. 108

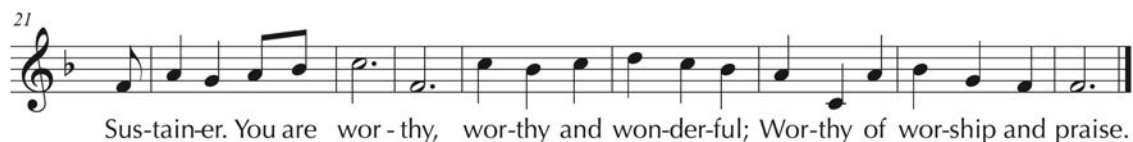
“Come, Christians, Join to Sing” MADRID

†Passing of the Peace James Dolph

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

†Sung Acclamation "Worthy of Worship" JUDSON



Life of the Community Rev. Courtney Willis

Bible Presentation Rev. Amy Starr Russell & Christy Jones *FBC Kids Sunday School Director*

Kindergarten: Nora Conover, Clara DeWitt (1-Grade), Ryder Harris, Charlie Johnson, Paige Johnson, Conley Kling, Ian Martin, Tate Pendry, Ally Windsor, Grant Wood

Third Grade: Finn Culbreth, Jake Gill, Wright Johnson, Aiden Kane, Henley Purcell, Thomas Rodgers, Benjamin Stone, Nathan Wall, Hardy Wise, James Wood

Congregational Prayer:

Children of God, we embrace you on your journey of faith. May these Bibles be a guide, lighting your steps. May you find wisdom within their pages. May you know the love of God and of us, God's people, as we learn and grow together. In the name of the one who welcomed all children with open arms, Amen.

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

†Hymn No. 309

"Wonderful Words of Life" WORD OF LIFE

Prayers of God's People Rev. Starr Russell

Scripture Lesson Tyler Smith *pastoral intern*
Luke 16:1-13

Sermon Rev. Sherouse

†Hymn of Response

"Born of God, Eternal Savior" BEECHER

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



Born of God, E - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life, of truth and grace,
Christ, as you have lived for oth - ers, so may we for oth - ers live;
Come, O Christ, and reign a - mong us, grant - ing love and joy and peace;
5 See the Christ - like host ad - vanc - ing, high and low - ly, great and small,
Hu - man One, whose birth in - car - nate hal - lows all our hu - man race,
Free - ly have your gifts been grant - ed, free - ly may your ser - vants give.
Hush the storm of strife and pas - sion, bid its cru - el dis - cords cease.
9 Linked in bonds of com - mon ser - vice, an - swer - ing the Sav - ior's call.
Come a - gain, in all your glo - ry; come to us, in - spire and lead;
All the wealth that we may gath - er is for use in caus - es just.
By your pa - tient years of toil - ing, by your si - lent hours of pain,
13 Je - sus Christ, we hear your plead - ing that your peo - ple should be one.
Fill us with your lov - ing - kind - ness; heal our wrongs, and help our need.
We are stew - ards of the boun - ty loaned to us in sol - emn trust.
Quench our fe - vered thirst for plea - sure, shame our self - ish greed for gain.
Grant, O grant our hope's fru - i - tion: here on earth, your will be done.

Stewardship Prayer Alan Johnson *deacon*

Offertory Sanctuary Choir, Jerry Davis trumpet

Blow Out the Trumpet Joseph Martin

Blow out the trumpet of God in Zion.

Let all the people of God shout for joy!

Blow out the trumpet of God in Zion.

Let all the people of God shout for joy!

Lift up your eyes and your voice to heaven,

singing and praising the name of Him who rides upon the wind.

Forever and ever, His truth endureth. Ever and ever His love for me shall live.

Blow! Blow! Blow! Alleluia!

Sing Alleluia to the Lord.

Blow out the trumpet of God. Alleluia, Amen!

†Response “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow” OLD HUNDREDTH



†Benediction Rev. Sherouse

†Postlude Landry Duvall organ

“Come, Christians, Join to Sing” Arr. Carolyn Hamlin

The sanctuary flowers are given to the glory of God in honor of the Sherouse family — Bea, Warner, Della, Jack, Jenny and Alan — to recognize Alan's twelve-year anniversary as our Senior Pastor. With appreciation by Alan's Pastor Search Committee: Kelly Cornett, Scott Culclasure, Hazel Fisher, Thom Little, Matt Messick, David Rowe, Becky Starnes, Monica Vaughan and Gayle Wiley. The flowers are also given in loving memory of our Pastor Search Committee colleague, Ken Brannon.



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH GREENSBORO

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

September 21, 2025

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS | Sunday, September 28 at 4 pm

Bring a beloved pet and join us in the Outdoor Chapel for a special Blessing of the Animals service. Rooted in the tradition of St. Francis of Assisi, who celebrated God's love for all creatures, this service is a way to give thanks for the joy our pets bring and to ask for God's care over them. Afterward, we'll gather across the street at Double Oaks for a chance to connect with friends and neighbors as we celebrate the gift of animals in our lives together. All animals must be on leash or confined.

FALL BOOKCLUB | Starting Monday, September 29 at 5:30 pm

Come be a part of our Fall Bookclub! We have some wonderful books we will read and discuss together. Our first book will be "Consider the Birds" by Debbie Blue. We will gather together in the Living Room at 5:30 pm on September 29 to discuss. Learn more about all the books we will read at: fbcgso.org/fall-book-club-2025.

TRAIL TUESDAY | September 23 at 7 am

Our last Trail Tuesday is this Tuesday, September 23! We will meet at Laurel Bluff Trail Part II (5966 Lake Brandt Rd, Greensboro, NC 27455). After traveling north on Lake Brandt, park on the right across from the lake, just before the pumping station. This is a hard trail! Let Courtney Willis (courtney@fbcgso.org) know if you have any questions.

REALM SUPPORT APPOINTMENTS

We want to be sure everyone is making the most of REALM, our church's tool for accessing the directory and registering for events. Do you have questions or need help navigating REALM? Schedule a one-on-one appointment with Keighley or Alisa in the church office, and we'll be glad to walk you through anything you need! Sign-up for a time slot at the QR code or email info@fbcgso.org.



FALL FEST VOLUNTEERS | Saturday, October 18, 3:30 - 5:30 pm

We need LOTS of volunteers for this wonderful community event. You can help set-up before Fall Fest (2:30-3:30 pm), be a general event guide, a cotton candy twister, popcorn popper, pumpkin painting monitor, inflatables monitor, or a part of clean up afterwards (5:30-6pm). If you want to help, we will find a job that works for you! Sign up at: fbcgso.org/fall-fest-2025 or scan the QR code.



MIDWEEK | Wednesdays starting at 5:30 pm

We are excited to be together once again on Wednesday evenings for a meal, celebrations, prayer, music and programming for all ages. Our meal this week is BBQ! Please reserve your meal by end of day on Monday so we have an accurate head count for food. If you would like to make a standing reservation, please contact Keighley Johnson (keighley@fbcgso.org) or sign up for meals at: fbcgso.org/fall-midweek-2025 or scan the QR code.



For adults, we will have multiple class options over the course of the season. We will begin with two choices:

Christian Messaging In 60's Civil Rights Music taught by Rev. Rick Spell

During this four-week class, we will look at and listen to the music of the 1960's that helped define and illuminate the Civil Rights Movement. As we reflect on the lyrics of the music, we will see the intentional Christian messaging within much of the music of the era and the historical context that helped frame those lyrics.

Naming God taught by Rev. Courtney Willis

This class will be a study of how and why we call God by the names that we do. We will take a look at the varied names God has been called through time and explore how that impacts the words we use to describe God now. Together, we will study the invitation we have to consider why what we choose to call God matters- for our theological understanding, our faith, and our love for the world.

WELCOME, ERNA BYNUM!

You may have seen a new face around the building in recent days as we have welcomed Erna Bynum to our Logistics Team! Erna and her husband are long-time Greensboro residents. She enjoys reading and gardening in her free time. Her cooking is beloved by her immediate and extended family as well as her friends and neighbors. Feel free to say hi to Erna when you see her around the building!



Our Covenant of Concerns prayer list is available at all times at: fbcgso.org/prayerlist or you may scan the QR code.

PASTORAL STAFF

ALAN SHEROUSE, SENIOR PASTOR

CHRIS CHERRY, YOUTH & FAMILIES*

AMY STARR RUSSELL, CHILDREN & FAMILIES

LANDRY DUVALL, MUSIC & WORSHIP

COURTNEY WILLIS, FORMATION & CARE

*Chris Cherry is on Sabbatical through September 28

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

COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES NOMINEES

After reviewing congregational submissions and prayerful deliberation, the Committee on Committees is pleased to present the following members who have agreed to serve as church leaders in the following capacities starting October 2025. We will have a called Church Conference on Sunday, September 28.

BUILDING & GROUNDS

Ted Hand
John Thornton
Cynthia Townes

CHRISTIAN ASSISTANCE

Karen Anderson
Clare Johnson
John Setchfield

ENDOWMENT TRUST

Laura Lomax

FINANCE

Jackson Britt-Spencer
Sarah Frye
Anita Wilson

MISSIONS

Beverly Johnson
Jill Pegram
Brandon Pendry
Laura Wall

PERSONNEL

Kara Cox
Debbie Huneycutt
Rick Spell

PASTORAL DISCERNMENT

Nancy Allison



Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact any member of the Committee on Committees: Cheryl Angel, Darlene Biffle, Megan Kesler, Graham Lyles, Tammy Miller, Ben Norman, Beth Shaffer, Gayle Wager, Joe White and Richard Wiley.