

HEART



SOUL



MIND



STRENGTH

# THE TIE

APRIL 2021

## Opportunities for Worship on Easter Sunday

- 7:00am - Thomason Shelter
- 8:30am - Sanctuary \*
- 10:30am - Sanctuary \*

\* Childcare Provided

# APRIL 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1		2pm Knitting Group 3:15pm 4 <sup>th</sup> & 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Activities 6:30pm Maundy Thursday Service <i>Susan Little</i>	7pm Good Friday Service	2 <i>Terrrell Kesler Frances Sumner Freddie Fridy Will Prrescott Bindy Bridgeman</i>
4 <b>Easter Sunday</b> 7am Outside Service 8:30am Inside Service 10:30am Inside Service No evening activities <i>Seth Reynolds</i>		5 7am Men's Virtual Study <i>Bryson Schultz Mary Elizabeth McCameron</i>	6 No Children or Youth Activities <i>Billy Cain Mary Ann Burroughs Barry Lynch Hannah Riddle Johnathan Griffin</i>	7 2pm Knitting Group <i>Jesse Burroughs</i>	8 <i>Laralynn Harlan Stephanie Thompson</i>	9 <i>Mattie Dasher</i>
<b>SPRING BREAK</b>						
11 Sunday Activities See Below No Youth Evening Activities <i>Carol Ann Martin Ben Little Canady Little</i>	12 3:15pm 1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade Activities 5:30pm Golf Fellowship <i>Jimmy Addy</i>	13 Wednesday Activities See Below <i>Mary Ann Hawkins Donna Fletcher</i>	14 2pm Knitting Group 3:15pm 4 <sup>th</sup> & 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Activities <i>Richy Cook Jacob Freeze</i>	15 <i>Sylvia Wells Hannah Finley Cole England</i>	16 <i>Adam Taylor</i>	17
18 Sunday Activities See Below <i>Calvin Owings Sheila Putnam Christopher George Lindin Gault</i>	19 7am Men's Virtual Study 3:15pm 1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade Activities <i>Larry Thompson Mason Addy Monica Taylor</i>	20 Wednesday Activities See Below <i>Kris Hornberger Anna Grace Taylor</i>	21 3:15pm 4 <sup>th</sup> & 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Activities	22 Great Alaska Sporting Clay Classic @ The Clinton House	23 <i>Adam Taylor</i>	24
25 Sunday Activities See Below <i>Randy Downs Mary Cooper</i>	26 3:15pm 1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade Activities <i>Madge Strickland Guy Jackson</i>	27 Wednesday Activities See Below <i>David Hardy John Kerber</i>	28 3:15pm 4 <sup>th</sup> & 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Activities 5:30pm Golf Fellowship <i>Elijah Hornberger</i>	29 <i>Celita Strickland Will Jenkins</i>	30	

## Sundays

8:30am Worship	5:45pm Youth Snack & Fellowship
9:30am Sunday School-Begins 4/18	6 pm Men's Study
10:30am Worship	6:15pm MS Music, HS Sunday School
11am WLBG Worship	
5pm MS Sunday School, HS Music	

## Wednesdays

10am Older Adult Study	6pm Youth Worship
3:15pm 3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade Activities	7pm Virtual Mixed Adult Study
4:30pm 4 & 5 Year Olds Activities	

### **Resurrection...**

Without question, the life of faith has at its center the Resurrection. This year, Easter is on the first Sunday of April. On that day, we'll join with churches all over the world and once again proclaim that Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!

Of course, since Easter happens in the springtime, the celebration of Christ conquering the grave is mirrored by what is happening in our natural world. The days are getting longer. The temperature is growing warmer. The trees and flowers are blooming. The world is coming to life again after another long winter's nap.

This year, there is yet another sign of life returning that we all feel through the coming of the Covid vaccine. Slowly but surely, most people are getting their shots. Caseloads are going down. Many of our worries are beginning to subside. And, people are starting to get out and about and be together again in a way that hasn't happened in over a year.

We are seeing signs of rebirth at church too. Our numbers in worship and in other activities are beginning an upward trend. Our youth recently had their first major event in months with their in house retreat. Our Sunday School returns in earnest for all ages on April 18th. And, plans for summer feel much more hopeful this year than they did last year. There is a sense that the hallways and classrooms of First Baptist Church Laurens are coming to life again.

But, we must also be honest that there is much work left to do. Even as more and more people are vaccinated and a sense of safety and normalcy returns, we have a year of new habits that have been created that we'll need to break. It has been a long time since many of us have been in church, in person, on a weekly basis and we have created new routines that will be tough to overcome. So let me encourage you and your family to help us in this regard. As soon as you begin to safely get out and about again as a family, make your return to regular worship and other normal church activities a first priority. The quicker you embrace a return to the normal routine of church and worship the better. It will benefit you, your family and our church.

Easter, Spring, the vaccine, new activities at church - they are all such needed and hopeful signs. So help us and help yourself by doing your part as we all embrace the joy of coming to life again....*Rickey*

### **Annie Armstrong Easter Offering**

Each Lenten and Easter season, Baptists give to the work of those who serve us as missionaries in North America. We encourage you to help us during this Holy Season of the year as we seek to support our Baptist missionaries in a tangible, monetary way. We will gladly receive your offering at any time during April.

**Sunday School Restart-** We will return to in-person Sunday School on Sunday, April 18. This restart will also include programs and activities for our youth and children. More specific details on our return are being completed and will soon be made available to the class leadership. In the meantime, all Adult I and II classes are encouraged to continue meeting virtually. If you have specific questions or concerns, please contact Tommy in the church office or at [tommy@fbclaurens.org](mailto:tommy@fbclaurens.org).

### **FBC Sunday School on the Radio**

**Our Sunday School on the radio** meets each Tuesday from 3:00-3:30pm on WLBG. During April, we will continue in our study of Luke. Broadcast dates, teachers and sessions for the month are as follows:

- |          |                 |                          |
|----------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| April 6  | Jeanne Lindley  | Session 5: "Resurrected" |
| April 13 | Bill Craig      | Session 6: "Sinners?"    |
| April 20 | Martha Garrison | Session 7: "Cornerstone" |
| April 27 | Mike Lindley    | Session 8: "Remembered"  |

For more information on our current Sunday School opportunities, please contact Tommy Cox at the church office, or at [tommy@fbclaurens.org](mailto:tommy@fbclaurens.org).

### **Current Adult Bible Studies at a Glance:**

#### **Sunday**

- Men's Bible Study on Temptation at 6:00pm in Craft Room.

#### **Tuesday**

- Men's Bible Study on Temptation at 7:00am. This group meets virtually. Contact Tommy to sign up.

#### **Wednesday**

- Study of the Resurrection Stories of Luke & John - Older Adult Morning Bible Study. Led by Rickey Letson, 10-11am in the Sanctuary. (Will not meet April 7)
- Study of Galatians- A virtual study led by Tommy Cox from 7:00-8:00pm. Contact Tommy to sign up.

### **Children and Youth Music Ministry**

What a joy it was to hear our 3, 4 and 5 year olds sing in worship on Palm Sunday! Nothing brings us greater joy than to hear little ones singing (and sometimes screaming) their praises to God!

Our children's handbell choirs and youth handbell choirs are practicing and preparing to lead in worship in the coming weeks. The schedule is included below so that parents can get it on their calendars!

- Sunday, April 18, 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Handbell Choir
- Sunday, April 25, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Handbell Choir
- Sunday, May 2, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Handbell Choir
- Sunday, May 9, Middle School Handbell Choir
- Sunday, May 16, High School Handbell Choir

If you're interested in sending birthday cards (or just a card of encouragement) to our **homebound members**, give Adair a call and she'll be glad to get you a list of addresses and birthdays!



- **April 6-8:** No weekly children's activities (Spring Break)
- **April 18:** Sunday School Restart!
- **April 27-29:** Last week of weekly children's activities



Thanks to everyone who donated, volunteered, and/or prayed for our 2021 Winter Retreat. It wasn't the kind of retreat we're used to or might have hoped for but our students made the best of the situation and we had a fun and rewarding weekend. Our students are blessed by the support and love of this church family!

**April Student Ministry Important Dates**

- April 4, 7, and 11 - no Student Ministry Activities
- April 18 - In person Sunday School resumes at FBC, youth classes resume meeting on Sunday mornings. Sunday night schedule will remain the same.

**2021 Summer Intern Search**

Current college students or 2021 graduates interested in serving as the 2021 Student Ministries intern should contact Andrew ASAP for more information.

**Wheel Chair Ramp Local Missions Project**

Saturday, April 17, 2021

We have received requests to build wheelchair ramps for two families in our community. In turn, we are looking for volunteers to help build the ramps on Saturday, April 17th. Our hope is to split into two crews and to finish the projects by early afternoon. If you have interest in helping, please contact Jim Cothran who is going to coordinate the work. Jim can be reached at [jcothran@prtctnet.com](mailto:jcothran@prtctnet.com) or 981-2296.

**Our FBC Golf Fellowships continue in April!**

We have two dates scheduled for this month:

- Tuesday, April 13, sign up by 5pm April 12
- Thursday, April 29, sign up by 5pm April 28

For each of these rounds, we will play a 9-hole Captains Choice format at Lakeside Country Club with a shotgun start at 5:30pm The cost per golfer is \$20. You may sign up by contacting the church office, or by emailing Tommy at [tommy@fbclaurens.org](mailto:tommy@fbclaurens.org). Mark your calendars and plan to join us!

**Great Alaska Sporting Clay Classic**

To Benefit Steven & Natalie Hall, SEND North

Friday, April 23, 2021 - The Clinton House

Outdoor enthusiasts are encouraged to participate in this great afternoon of fellowship and support of the missionary work that Steven and Natalie do in Alaska through SEND North. Of course, our FBC work in North Pole, Alaska is in conjunction with SEND. For more information or to participate, contact Steven directly at [theakhalls@gmail.com](mailto:theakhalls@gmail.com).

**MINISTER ON CALL**

One of our ministers will be on call every weekend, so if you have a need, please don't hesitate to call us! The minister on call schedule is:

March 29-Apr 4	Adair Rogers	864-923-1631
April 5-11	Tommy Cox	864-684-7424
April 12-18	Andrew Corley	864-923-5841
April 19-25	Rickey Letson	678-230-8341
April 26-May 2	Adair Rogers	864-923-1631

**THE TIE NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION**

First Baptist Church	U.S. Postage Paid
300 West Main St	Permit No. 70
Laurens, SC 29360	Laurens, SC 29360

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**Worship in March at First Baptist Church**

April 4	<i>Believing Without Seeing</i> Mark 16:1-8, John 20:29
April 11	<i>Charcoal Grace</i> John 21:1-15
April 18	<i>Peace Be With You</i> Luke 24:36b-48
April 25	<i>Voices</i> John 10:11-18

**Financial Record - March 2021**

March Needs:	\$84,423.35
March Giving:	\$91,222.57
2021 Needs to Date:	\$274,375.56
2021 Giving to Date:	\$249,798.04

**Senior Adult Wednesday Morning Bible Study 10-11am Each Week, In the Sanctuary**

Join us for music, prayer and Bible study on Wednesday mornings in the Sanctuary. Being in the Sanctuary gives us plenty of room to spread out and keep our distance. As you come, we also ask that you wear a mask to help keep yourself and others safe. In April, we will be studying the Resurrection Stories from the gospels of Luke & John. Rickey leads the study time and several of our wonderful musicians take turns sharing beautiful instrumental pieces of our faith with us. We would welcome you to join us!