THE HOME PAGE

Volume No. 54 October 22, 2026 Issue No. 41



Dear Earle Street Family,

What a remarkable weekend we've shared. Laura and I came to Greenville with hopeful hearts, and we leave with a deep sense of gratitude, joy, and anticipation for the life and ministry we'll share with you.

We are especially indebted to the Pastor Search Team. Their integrity, grace, and extraordinary care throughout this process have meant more to us than they know. They have represented you so very well. We've also come to appreciate the dedication and giftedness of your staff and lay leaders, whose faithful work has sustained and strengthened this congregation. I'm eager to join all of you in building upon that good work, discovering together how God might use our shared gifts to serve one another and the wider community.

Please continue to hold our beloved Tabernacle family in prayer as they absorb the news of our departure. Pray that these final weeks of ministry will be meaningful and that we will finish well, with gratitude for all we've shared and trust in all that God will continue to do among and through them.

Above all, we give thanks and praise to God, who has sustained us, prepared the way, and brought our lives together in this remarkable season. Laura and I are steadily praying for you, eager to discover what God has in store for us in the years to come. Throughout this weekend, you've greeted us with those wonderful words, "Welcome home." You've made us feel that welcome in countless ways. By God's grace, we look forward to joining you in extending it to many others.

With affection and great hope,

Sterling and Laura

If you would like to send Sterling and Laura, Laura's mother, Brenda, and family a note of thanks, excitement and prayer, please mail cards to:

Sterling and Laura Severns
13530 Craigs View Court
Ashland, VA 23005





THE GREAT EARLE PUMPKIN PATCH

We are already ahead of where we were this time last year, and we still have so many fun things ahead!

On Sunday, October 25th, we are pumpkin carving in the patch! Join us from 2:00-4:00 pm!

Volunteer in the Pumpkin Patch

HALLOWEEN ON EARLE

Saturday, October 31st
5:00 - 8:00 pm

Every year, Earle Street becomes a destination for thousands of trick-or-treaters. Families drive from all over the Upstate to visit our little street. Our Earle Street neighbors are welcoming, embracing the festive chaos that is halloween. The past few years we have had a team pass out candy, open our building for restrooms, hand out information about the church and just be a smiling face to all. This year, instead of passing out candy we will be handing out slices of pizza!

If you are available to help, please sign up at the link below. In addition to setup and handing out pizza, we need delivery drivers to pick up the pizza! We've secured a great deal but need help getting it here. We know this month brings a lot of fun fall events and we thank you for supporting this one!

Register for Halloween on Earle

JOIN US IN WORSHIP

Sunday, October 25th
9:15 am: Sunday School
10:30 am: Worship
Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

Anthem: *Be Still My Soul* by the Sanctuary Choir

Scripture: Psalm 46

Sermon: "And Know That I am God"
by Gary Strickland

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to **Bruno and Diane McKelvey** on the birth of their grandson, Rowan Joseph McKelvey.

DEACON OF THE WEEK



Joyce McCarrell has been a member of Earle Street since 2006. Joyce and her sister, Nancy (also a member of ESBC), closed their restaurant, The Cafe @ Williams Hardware, in 2018 after a successful 10-year run. In addition to her new duties as deacon, Joyce is a member of the Gleaners Sunday School class and plays handbells with the Earle Street Ringers.

ATTENDANCE REPORT

Report for October 18, 2026

Sunday School Attendance 142

Worship Attendance
Sanctuary 205
Preschoolers and Children 19
Total 224

Online Views (as of 10/21/26) 121

BUDGET REPORT

Report for October 18, 2026
Weekly Budget Requirements $15,713
Budget Gifts (this week) $9,826
Budget Offering Requirements $659,930
Budget Gifts to Date $510,545

Global Missions Offering $20,992

WELCOME HOME



CINDY HINES
Cindy Hines joined on Sunday, October 18th by statement of faith.

MINISTER ON CALL

October 23-25
Lucy Wilkinson
(864) 270-6436
lucy@esbcgreenville.org

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER
Wednesday, October 28th
5:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall

Main Entree

Turkey and Dressing, Gravy, Mixed Vegetables

Grilled Chicken Salad

Cheese or Pepperoni Pizza Entree

Please make your reservations by 12:00 pm on Monday, October 26th. This is to give the caterer an accurate headcount. Please be aware that we may not be able to add you to the count if you miss the deadline.

Register for Wednesday Dinner



Register for the Luncheon







SEPTEMBER CHILDREN'S LOVE OFFERING

A huge thank-you to our wonderful church family for your generous support of our September Children's Love Offering and Activity Night! Together, we contributed $373.39 and 305 items to the RISE Carolina Food Pantry, supporting their wonderful new initiative serving refugees in our area. We are so grateful for a congregation that encourages our children to love their neighbors and find meaningful ways to serve His kingdom. Thank you for helping our children put their faith into action!

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS PRAYER TAG BEADS

During our Blessing of the Backpacks, each person attending or working in a school received a prayer tag featuring Philippians 4:6–7. We promised to add charms and beads throughout the year as a tangible reminder of our continued love and support for our school friends. The time has come to add our first charm! You'll find a basket of pumpkin charms at the Welcome Center. Please take a moment to pray over these charms as they are prepared to be added to the prayer tags in November. May each pumpkin serve as a reminder that our church family is lifting these students, teachers, and staff members up in prayer throughout the school year.



EARLEKIDS FALL BAKE SALE

Thank you for your support during the bake sale! Our kids raised $753 for Habitat for Humanity Greenville!

CHURCH CONFERENCE
Wednesday, November 4th
6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall

- Budget Discussion
- Leadership Report Changes
- Change to Constitution and Bylaws

In addition to other items, we will be voting on updating the "Officers & Staff Members" section of the Constitution to remove Assistant Treasurer and Financial Coordinator as church officers in accordance with the changes previously adopted by the church eliminating these positions as part of the formation of the new Financial Stewardship Council.

GOAL JUSTICE
Community Problems Assembly
Thursday, November 5th
6:30 - 8:30 pm

Earle Street Baptist is a member of Goal Justice (Greenville Organized for Accountable Leadership), an organization of over 34 faith organizations who strive to "do justice" in our community. In order to do this, each faith organization holds "house" meetings where members identify issues that concern them. When the issues are identified, the organizations meet in a Community Problems Assembly to vote on issues that the Goal Justice group will focus on and present to governmental organizations to encourage them to address them. This year's Community Problems Assembly will be held at Earle Street Baptist on Thursday, November 5, from 6:30 to 8:00.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS
CHILD SHOEBOXES
Shoeboxes Due November 11th

If you wish to participate in packing shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child, you will find empty boxes in the Welcome Center, vestibule and on the first floor. Boxes should be turned into the Welcome Center by November 11th. If you have any questions, please contact Mary Arrowood.

From the Associate Pastor and Minister Of Music and Worship

Janice Hinnant (ext. 202) – janice@ESBCgreenville.org

Earle Street Ringers—We will rehearse at 8:45 am Sunday morning. See you then! No rehearsal in the afternoon.

Youth Ensemble and Handbells—No rehearsals this Sunday afternoon.



