

THE HOME PAGE

Volume No. 54

March 19, 2026

Issue No. 10

AN UPDATE FROM THE PASTOR SEARCH COMMITTEE

This week we kick-off our 40 Days of Prayer for our Pastor Search on Saturday, March 21 and Congregational Conversations on Sunday, March 22. We are excited and hope you can join us for both! Mark your calendars for the Prayer Breakfast on Saturday, March 21 at 9:00 am. There is no charge for breakfast but registration is requested so we know how much to prepare. In addition, note that on Sunday, March 22 we will have coffee and biscuits at 8:30 am and congregational conversations at 9:00 am during the Sunday School hour. **For this Sunday only, worship will begin at 11:00 am.**

PRAYER BREAKFAST

This Saturday, March 21

9:00 am in the Fellowship Hall

We will kick-off our 40 Days of Prayer for our Pastor Search. There is no charge for the breakfast. Please register by clicking below so we can prepare enough for everyone!

[Prayer Breakfast Reservations](#)

BREAKFAST AND CONVERSATIONS

This Sunday, March 22

There is no charge for the meal and no registration required! Everyone (6th grade and up) is welcome to attend. Childcare will be provided through 5th grade.

8:30 am: Coffee and Biscuits

9:00-10:30 am: Congregational Conversations

11:00 am: Worship in the Sanctuary

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER

Wednesday, March 25th

5:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall

Main Entree (\$8)

BBQ on Bun, Slaw, Baked Beans

Grilled Chicken Salad (\$8)

Cheese or Pepperoni Pizza Entree (\$5)

Please remember to **register by 12:00 pm on Monday, March 22nd.** This deadline is to give our caterer an accurate headcount.

[Dinner Reservations](#)



Palm Sunday

Sunday, March 29

10:30 am in the Sanctuary

Maundy Thursday
Communion Service

Thursday, April 2

7:00 pm in the Sanctuary

Good Friday
Tenebrae Service

Friday, April 3

7:00 pm in the Sanctuary

Easter Sunday
Celebration

Sunday, April 5

9:00 am: Potluck Breakfast

9:45 am: Easter Egg Hunt

10:30: Worship Service

All are invited to bring flowers to place on the flowering cross outside the sanctuary.

JOIN US IN WORSHIP

Sunday, March 22

11:00 am: Worship

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Prelude: *What Wondrous Love Is This?*
by the Earle Street Ringers

Offertory: *The Old Rugged Cross* by Lamar McCarrell,
Wren Smith, Melanie Wells, clarinets

Anthem: *My Savior's Love* by the Senior Adult Choir

Scripture: Mark 9:33-35

Sermon: "The Church Jesus Needs" by Bill Wilson,
Founder, Center for Healthy Churches

DEACON OF THE WEEK



Stuart Moore is the deacon of the week. I met my wife Amy during seminary at Wake Forest University School of Divinity. We married in 2008, joined Earle Street in 2014, and in 2017 welcomed our son Campbell. I'm a bit eccentric - it works for teaching middle school and serving in the children's department. I enjoy making things, building Legos, and cooking. Let's nerd out together over fantasy and science fiction, maybe even mysteries and historical fiction - all good reads.

RECENTLY HOSPITALIZED

Debbie Blume Charlotte Boehm David Clyborne

MINISTER ON CALL

March 20-22

Gary Strickland

(605) 413-7908

gary@esbcgreenville.org

ATTENDANCE REPORT

Sunday School Attendance

Sunday School..... 110

Worship Attendance

Sanctuary114

Preschoolers and Children..... 10

Total..... 124

Online Views (as of 3/19/26)..... 120

BUDGET REPORT

Report for March 8, 2026

Weekly Budget Requirements.....\$15,713

Budget Gifts (this week)\$15,726

Budget Offering Requirements.....\$172,839

Budget Gifts to Date\$136,119

Global Missions Offering.....\$7,485

THANK YOU

Dear Earle Street Family,

Thank you for all the thoughts and prayers during my recent surgery and recovery. I have felt them all and know the prayer part really helped!

Thanks!

Nancy McCarrell

GUEST PREACHER

Dr. William "Bill" Wilson founded The Center for Healthy Churches in January of 2014. This followed his service as President of the Center for Congregational Health at Wake Forest Baptist Health since 2009. Previously he was Pastor of First Baptist Church of Dalton, Georgia, where he served since 2003. He brings over 33 years of local church ministry experience to the Center, having served as pastor in two churches in Virginia (Farmville BC and FBC Waynesboro) and on a church staff in South Carolina. Bill has led each of the churches he has served into a time of significant growth and expansion of ministry. He is a certified coach and facilitator and has experience as a consultant in numerous settings and with a wide range of organizations, faith communities, and churches.

Dr. Wilson grew up in Greensboro NC and Brentwood TN, where his father pastored local congregations. He graduated from Murray State University, and went on to receive his Master of Divinity at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and his Doctor of Ministry at the Graduate Theological Foundation in South Bend, Indiana.

Bill is a popular speaker and writer, and he brings to his role as the leader of the work of the Center a deep passion for the local church, as well as a commitment to the health and success of both clergy and congregations. He and Dr. Bob Dale have written a book together: *Weaving Strong Leaders: How Leaders Grow Down, Grow Up and Grow Together.* (2016)

He is married to Kathy and they have three children and ten grandchildren.

From the Minister Of Music and Worship

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

Youth Ensemble & Youth Handbells—I will see you at our regular rehearsal times on Sunday as we prepare for Graduation/Youth Sunday on April 26.

Earle Street Ringers—We will meet in the sanctuary immediately following the congregational conversation on Sunday.

THE FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT: How Walking In The Spirit Impacts The World In Which We Live And Serve Adult Winter Discipleship Group Wednesdays at 6:00 pm

March 25: “Walking in the Spirit of Kindness”
Led by Meredith Smith

April 1: No Activities (Holy Week)

April 8: “Walking in the Spirit of Goodness”
Led by Gary Strickland

April 15: “Walking in the Spirit of Faithfulness”
Led by Bob Walker



The Greater Way Fund was established in August 2024 to be used for additional funding for current mission partners, mission emergencies, spontaneous needs that arise or new mission opportunities. The Mission Vision Council has been tasked with evaluating opportunities presented by mission partners and other non-profits.

If you believe that your organization would benefit from The Greater Way Fund, please click the link below and fill out the request form. We will prayerfully consider your organization’s mission and request. Thank you for the work that you are doing.

[The Greater Way Fund Request](#)

DEACON NOMINATIONS TO BE RECEIVED MARCH 22 - APRIL 5

The deacon election process begins this Sunday, March 22. Nominations should be submitted no later than April 5. Members of our church are invited and encouraged to nominate those whom they believe would be good candidates to serve as deacons for the coming term of service.

A sample nomination form is included in this newsletter. Please review it carefully to note the eligibility requirements and the qualifications of those elected to serve.

There are two ways to submit the forms: online or in-person at the church. To nominate online, please click below. To nominate in-person, written forms will be available in the Welcome Center, Fellowship Hall and Vestibule and can be submitted in one of two secure lock boxes. You may nominate as many candidates as you choose, but please use one form for each individual nominee.

Nominations will close on Sunday, April 5. After confirming the eligibility of each person nominated, the Committee on Deacon Nominations (CDN) will invite all those who have been nominated to an informational meeting. At this meeting, responsibilities and qualifications of deacons will be outlined, questions will be answered, and candidates will have the opportunity to indicate if they are willing to serve if recommended by the CDN and elected by the church.

[Deacon Nomination Form](#)

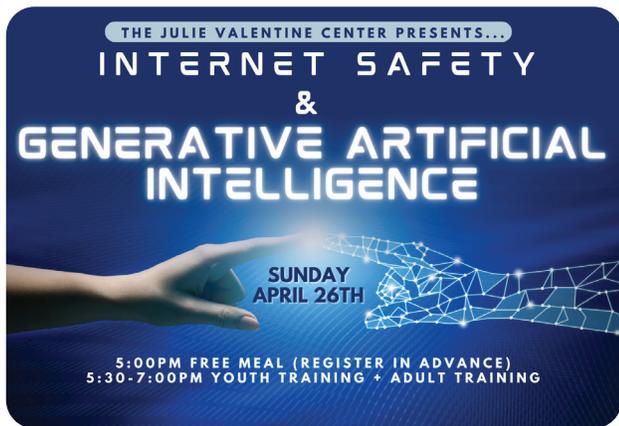
XYZ MONTHLY MEETING AND MEAL For All Senior Adults! Thursday, March 26th 11:00 am in the Fellowship Hall

XYZ will host Lynn McQueen, Director of Community Outreach of Martha Franks Baptist Retirement Community. Lynn will coach us on safety and technology tips. Please RSVP using the link below if you plan to join us for lunch. You may also call the church office to make your reservation.

[XYZ Reservations](#)

GRADUATE SUNDAY Sunday, April 26th

We will be recognizing our high school and college graduates during worship on **Sunday, April 26**. If you have a graduate you would like included in the service, please let Lucy know by **April 12** at lucy@esbcgreenville.org. Congratulations to the Class of 2026, we are so proud of you!



INTERNET SAFETY TRAINING

Sunday, April 26th

5:00 pm: Free Dinner (Please register below.)

5:30 - 7:00 pm: Training

The Julie Valentine Center will be leading our youth and adults through Internet Safety Training and Generative Artificial Intelligence. This training is open to youth and adults of all ages. Childcare will be provided if there is interest. More details will be provided soon. If you plan to join for the free meal before training, please sign up below. You may also call the church office at 864-233-5332.

Internet Safety Training

Food Drive to Support



We invite you to prayerfully consider donating the following items:

- Rice, pasta, dry beans, and lentils
- Canned vegetables and fruits
- Canned proteins (tuna, chicken, beans)
- All purpose flour
- Cooking oil and basic spices (sugar, salt, garlic powder, etc.)
- Baby formula and diapers
- Culturally diverse, shelf-stable foods

Collection will be in the Welcome Center.



FOOD DRIVE TO SUPPORT RISE CAROLINA

As part of our mission to love our neighbors and serve those in need, our church is hosting a food drive to benefit Rise Carolina, a local organization that supports refugees and immigrants as they begin new lives in our community. Refugees and Immigrants face many barriers such as limited transportation, language differences, and the high cost of resettlement. We will be collecting shelf stable and culturally appropriate food as well as baby supply items in the ESBC Welcome Center. Let us be the hands and feet of Christ by extending hospitality, compassion, and practical support to our new neighbors. Thank you for your generosity and faithfulness in serving others.



OPERATION INASMUCH

Saturday, April 25th

Inspired by Gospel of Matthew 25:40 — “Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me” — Operation InAsMuch is all about turning our faith into action. This is a church-wide opportunity to step outside our walls and serve others in practical, meaningful ways.

This year, we are offering seven different service projects, giving everyone a chance to participate in a way that matches their gifts, interests, and abilities. Whether you enjoy hands-on work, encouraging others, organizing, cleaning, or building there is a place for you!

We will be serving Chick-fil-A biscuits at 8:00am. Please sign up for breakfast so we will have a good count for breakfast.

In the afternoon, we will host a cookout from 2:00–5:00 pm at a local apartment complex in partnership with The Church Without Walls. We encourage you to sign up for a morning service project and then join us for this special time of fellowship and outreach in the afternoon.

Please click the link below to view all available service opportunities and sign up. We look forward to serving together!

OIAM Breakfast Reservations

OIAM Projects

SAMPLE 2026-2027 DEACON NOMINATION FORM

2026-2027 DEACON NOMINATION FORM

Those eligible for election must be at least 21 years of age, have been a church member for no less than two years, and must be on the active church roll. Deacons who are rotating off will not be eligible for election for one year. Deacons serving unexpired terms will be eligible for re-election. Staff members and their immediate family (parents, children, spouses, and siblings) will be ineligible for election.

While we recognize we are all flawed, imperfect people, in constant need of God's grace, we ask that as a spiritual leader, a deacon of Earle Street Baptist church should strive to be:

- A **committed follower of Christ**, growing toward a mature faith;
- **Actively involved** and participating in the life of the church, using one's gifts through appropriate service in the church;
- Committed to **seeking God's vision for the church**, have the interest of the whole church at heart, and working to help the church carry out its vision and mission;
- A peacemaker within the congregation, **seeking unity in Christ**;
- Demonstrating a life of **positive personal witness** to all they meet;
- Demonstrating a **consistent witness in their home life**;
- **Practicing stewardship** of time, talents, testimony, and treasure;
- **Temperate** in all areas of one's life;

(Scriptural basis for deacon ministry: Acts 6:1-4; Romans 12:1-8; Romans 16:1-2; 1 Timothy 3:8-13)

In addition to staff members and their immediate families, the following people are **INELIGIBLE** for nomination because they are currently serving either as a Deacon or on the Committee for Deacon Nominations or have a spouse who is a Deacon.

D=Deacon, S=Spouse, C=CDN

Chuck Adams (C)	Monte McKinney (D)
Brittney Clow (D)	Jan McKinney (S)
Dana Collier (D)	Keith Merck (D)
Neil Collier (S)	Stuart Moore (D)
Curtis Dobbins (C)	Martha Newton (D)
Randy Ellenburg (D)	David Newton (S)
Miriam Ellenburg (S)	Denise Plumblee (S)
Noellen Groff (D)	Phil Plumblee (D)
Helen Hewitt (D)	Grey Register (D)
Jan Hubble (C)	Rebecca Register (S)
Derek Lord (D)	Bill Smith (C)
Anna Kay Lord (S,C)	Calder Standridge (D)
John Love (D)	Donna Walker (C)
Joyce McCarrell (D)	Libby Young (D)
	Kurt Young (S)

The following people are currently serving as a deacon but are **ELIGIBLE** for nomination because they are currently service an unexpired term:

Linda Kirkland

Bob Walker

Nomination for Deacon:

Why I believe this person would serve well as a deacon (optional, but encouraged):