



# HURRICANE REPORT

2024-2025

*First Baptist School of Charleston*









# FBS 2025-26 LEADERSHIP

## ADMINISTRATIVE LEADERSHIP

Dr. Justin Mitchell  
Head of School

Mr. Will McCombs  
High School Principal

Ms. Marshelle Grant  
Assistant High School Principal

Mrs. Susan Brooks (FBS '03)  
Lower & Middle School Principal

Mrs. Sally Casias  
Director of Lower School Admissions

Mr. Jimmy Crook  
Director of Advancement

Mrs. Debbie Mack  
Director of Enrollment

Mrs. Kristen Schwiers  
Director of Marketing &  
Communications

Mrs. Beth Switzer  
Director of Middle & High School  
Admissions

Mrs. Kammi Pisano  
Director of Human Resources

Ms. Anne Redner  
Director of Auxiliary Programs

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mr. Hank Askins (Vice Chairman)

Dr. Beverly Bradley

Mr. Robert Dempsey

Mr. Tyler Graves

Mr. Kip Hooker (Chairman)

Mr. William Koopman

Ms. Larkin Nixon

Mrs. Robin Riggs

Dr. Ed Rodelsperger

Mrs. Karen Rodelsperger

Mrs. Amanda Sapp

Dr. Jennifer Zakrzewski

Ex-Officio Members

Dr. R. Marshall Blalock (FBS '75)  
Pastor of First Baptist Church of  
Charleston

Dr. Justin Mitchell  
Head of School



Published by the First  
Baptist School  
Advancement Office

Mr. Jimmy Crook  
Director of Advancement

Mrs. Kristen Schwiers  
Director of Marketing &  
Communications

Mrs. Holly Rodelsperger  
Photography

#### Contributors

Mr. Kip Hooker  
Dr. Justin Mitchell  
Dr. Tom Anderson  
Ms. Presley Singleton  
Dr. Steven & Kristin Epstein

## GET IN TOUCH

#### DOWNTOWN CAMPUS

48 Meeting Street,  
Charleston, SC 29401

#### JAMES ISLAND CAMPUS

2055 George Griffith Blvd.  
Charleston, SC 29412

[fbschool.org](https://fbschool.org)

[info@fbschool.org](mailto:info@fbschool.org)





# TABLE OF CONTENTS

01	From the Board Chair	05
02	Letter from the Head of School	07
03	Class of 2025	09
04	Alumni Profile	13
05	Athletics	18
06	Fine Arts	21
07	Donor Profile	23
08	Financial Review	25
09	Advancement Report Circles of Giving Donors	27
10	Class Celebrations	32



# FIRST BAPTIST SCHOOL of CHARLESTON

ACADEMIC  
EXCELLENCE



CHRISTIAN  
PERSPECTIVE

Board of Visitors Luncheon 2015

# 01

## FROM THE BOARD CHAIR



# FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

by Mr. Kip Hooker

Looking back on this school year, I am filled with immense gratitude and pride for the progress we have achieved as a community. Each challenge we faced became an opportunity for growth, fueled by the dedication of our faculty, the enthusiasm of our students, and the support of our families. Together, we have navigated new territory and strengthened the bonds that unite us as a school family.

These milestones would not have been possible without a spirit of true partnership and the willingness to listen, adapt, and persevere. As a Board, we appreciate our PTO and Hurricane Association as they have sponsored spirited school events that brought us all together. The energy and commitment displayed by these groups as well as every member of our community have been nothing short of inspiring. As we reflect on what we have accomplished, it is clear that our school is at its strongest when we work side by side, united by a common mission and a shared hope for our students' future.

In recognizing the progress made, it is important to also honor those of you whose leadership and unwavering commitment have served as guiding lights along our path. This year, many of you have stepped forward, offering your time, expertise, and encouragement in ways that have made a substantial impact. Whether volunteering at events, mentoring students, or participating in strategic discussions, your involvement has strengthened our fabric and elevated our shared experience.

As we celebrate these collective achievements, let us remember to express gratitude for one another and to recognize the unique strengths each person brings to our community. The steadfast devotion and

It is this spirit of service and collaboration that has allowed us to overcome obstacles and transform aspirations into reality. Each contribution—big or small—has mattered, and every voice has played a part in shaping our direction. Our successes are not the result of any single effort, but rather the culmination of many hearts and minds working for the good of our school. tireless efforts of so many have truly made this year exceptional, setting a powerful example for future generations of students and families.

Looking to the horizon, the future of our school shines with promise. Our ambitions are not simply to maintain what we have achieved, but to build upon it. The foundations we have laid together provide stability and inspiration for the exciting chapters yet to come.

We invite every member of our community—students, parents, faculty, alumni, and friends—to remain engaged and proactive in shaping the school's future. Your input, prayers, and financial support are vital as we continue to navigate challenges and embrace possibilities.

Let us remember that our strength lies not only in our accomplishments, but in our willingness to grow, adapt, and support each other. Together, we will ensure that First Baptist School of Charleston remains a beacon of “Academic excellence with a Christian Perspective”.

Best Regards,



*Chairman of The School Board*





# 02

## LETTER FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

# LETTER FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

by Dr. Justin Mitchell

Dear First Baptist School Community,

As we reflect on another remarkable year at First Baptist School, I am filled with immense gratitude for the steadfast support and faithfulness that define our community. This year, we celebrated an extraordinary milestone, 75 years of serving the Charleston community through our mission of Academic Excellence with a Christian Perspective.

Since 1949, First Baptist School has stood as a beacon of faith, knowledge, and service. Generations of students have walked our halls and emerged as men and women of character who have gone on to lead in medicine, law, education, military service, civil service, ministry, business, and countless other domains. These alumni are living testaments to the strength of our mission and the enduring value of a Christ-centered education.

As we celebrate this diamond anniversary, we do so with hearts full of appreciation for those who came before us. We stand on the shoulders of giants, visionary leaders, committed educators, faithful families who laid the foundation we now continue to build upon. Their dedication has enabled First Baptist School not only to endure, but to thrive and impact generations of young lives.

Yet we also recognize that with great legacy comes great responsibility. We now face new challenges in a rapidly evolving educational and cultural landscape. To continue our pursuit of excellence and spiritual formation, we must respond with renewed commitment, bold faith, and unified action. As the world around us changes, our mission remains steadfast, but the methods and resources required to fulfill it must adapt and grow.

That is where you, our cherished community, play a vital role. Your partnership helps us bridge the gap between rising operational costs and the growing possibilities we dream of for our students. Whether through prayer, volunteering, or financial support, every investment in First Baptist School is an investment in shaping Christian leaders who will continue to transform our world for generations to come.

As we look forward to the next 75 years, let us move forward together, strengthened by our shared history and united by our hope in Christ. With your continued partnership, we will meet the challenges of tomorrow and continue to prepare students to lead lives of purpose, service, and faith.

With gratitude and hope,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Justin Mitchell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Justin" and last name "Mitchell" clearly legible.

*Head of School*





03

CLASS OF 2025



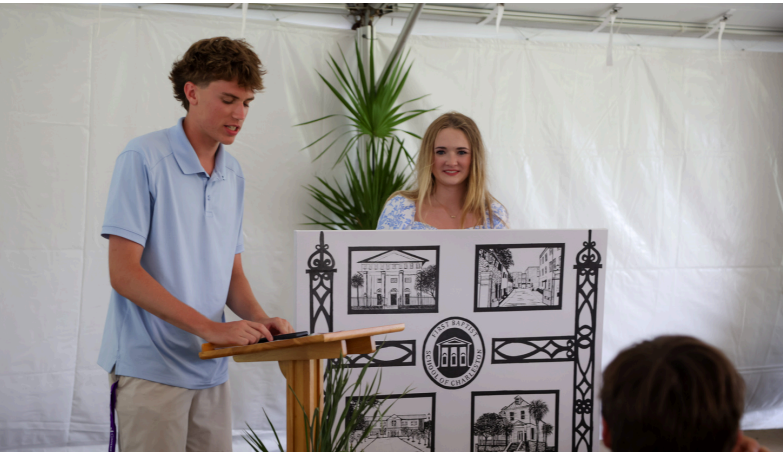


# *The 67<sup>th</sup> Graduating Class*

Kennedy Alexander  
Lindy Allston  
Passion Belton  
Alexander Bird  
Deontra Bowens  
Kathleen Brandon  
Ainsleigh Brewer  
McAlley Burr  
Jocelyn Cram-Smith  
Cooper Crawford  
Angelina Dempsey  
Fynnley Domrese  
DJ Duncan  
Hibben DuPre  
Lila Wren DuPre  
Marshall Evans  
Aiden Freiwald  
Marik Gibbs  
Brendan Gilbert  
Jackson Glenn  
Maggie Gunst  
Tanner Honeycutt  
Henry Hunt

Miranda Kidwell  
Emily LaRoche  
Ethan Larson  
Lucas Lempesis  
MacLain Luke  
Lawson Luther  
Joshua McLain  
Trent Medlin  
Jade Melanson  
Chase Mitchell  
Camp Oliver  
Kaitlin Plueger  
Allison Rodelsperger  
Khaki Rumph  
Thomas Sanders  
Libby Sweeney  
Parker Thomas  
Walker Traxler  
James Tyler  
Edings Walpole  
Cooper Wertz  
Che Woods









# College Enrollments

*\*Multiple students attending*

Charleston Southern University\*  
 Clemson University\*  
 College of Charleston  
 Converse University  
 Electrical Apprenticeship  
 High Point University  
 Lighthouse Christian College  
 Lyon College  
 Newberry College  
 North Carolina A&T  
 Norwich University  
 Penn State University  
 Presbyterian College  
 Samford University\*  
 Savannah College of Art & Design  
 The Citadel\*  
 The U. S. Military Academy at West Point  
 Trident Technical College\*  
 University of Massachusetts-Amherst  
 University of South Carolina\*  
 Vassar College



*“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, ‘plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.’”*

JEREMIAH 29:11





# 04

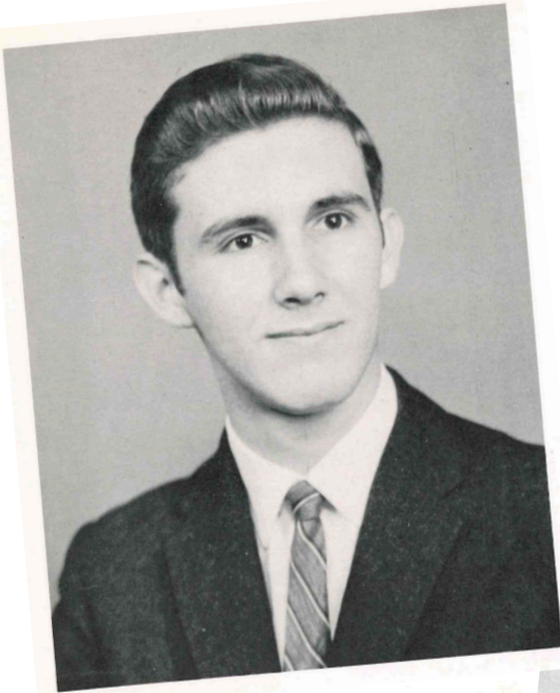
## ALUMNI HIGHLIGHT





# ALUMNI HIGHLIGHT

## Dr. Tom Anderson



THOMAS GORDON ANDERSON

"Take everyone's advice, and do as you please."

Newspaper Staff 2, 3, 4; Glee Club 2, 3, 4; Junior Academy of Sciences 2, 3; Bus Driver 4; Class Prophet 4.



TOM ANDERSON  
Science Honor Award

As a member of the first graduating class for First Baptist School, Dr. Tom Anderson was asked to be the Commencement Speaker for the Class of 2025. His professional and personal accomplishments cannot be understated. We are proud to share his bio that was included in this year's graduation program as this year's Alumni Highlight:

Tom Anderson is a member of the first graduating class of First Baptist School. Following graduation, he attended Clemson University where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Applied Mathematics. He then attended the University of South Carolina, graduating with a Master of Science degree in Physics, before returning to Clemson University where he earned a Doctor of Philosophy in Physics.

Tom briefly entered the world of academia and for three years he was an Assistant Professor in the University of Georgia system. He then returned to Charleston, enrolled in the Medical University of South Carolina, and graduated with a Doctor of Medicine degree.

Immediately upon graduating from medical school, Tom joined the United States Navy, where he served until his retirement at the rank of CAPTAIN after 30 years of military service. He performed his initial training in Family Medicine at the Naval Hospital in Charleston and immediately reported to Navy flight school in Pensacola, Florida. After successfully completing his flight training, he embarked on a two-year operational tour as a Flight Surgeon. Tom then transferred to US Naval Hospital in Bremerton, Washington where he completed his medical training in Family Medicine.



LEFT TO RIGHT: Billy Taylor, Bill Wickert, Tom Anderson, Timothy Horlitz, Freddie Files, Billy Martin, David Brandon, and Dwight Purcell.



During his navy career, Tom taught medical students and residents in various navy and civilian hospitals and he also had several operational and shipboard assignments. Noteworthy assignments included a two-year leadership role as the Senior Medical Officer in USS ENTERPRISE, the most famous warship in the world, and another eight years as a senior Flight Surgeon for a United States Marine Corps Air Wing.

He took time off from his Navy career to attend undersea medical training with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. As an undersea medical doctor and Emergency Medicine physician, Tom had many unique experiences, including taking care of injured divers on the bottom of the ocean. Later in his career, he attended Tulane University in New Orleans and earned a Master of Public Health degree with a specialty in International Health.

Following retirement, Tom became a traveling emergency medicine specialist, practicing Family Medicine and Emergency Medicine in such diverse places as the Grand Teton Mountains, the bottom of the Grand Canyon, England, the Middle East, and, as a visiting professor of medicine, in Hangzhou, China.

He and his wife Elaine, a Certified Nurse Midwife, lived in the Caribbean for ten years and now make their home in the Sonoran Desert north of Tucson.

Tom still works as a guest speaker on luxury cruise ships sailing to all parts of the world. His current research interests are in the fields of Maritime History, World Affairs, and International Geopolitics.

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## Dr. Anderson's Commencement Speech

Good evening, ladies and gentlemen.

And a special good evening to the 2025 class of First Baptist School. Congratulations on your achievement. It is an honor to be here this evening, to help you celebrate this milestone in your lives.

When Dr. Mitchell invited me to speak to you tonight, I was reluctant to accept his invitation. After further reflection on my part, and a bit of

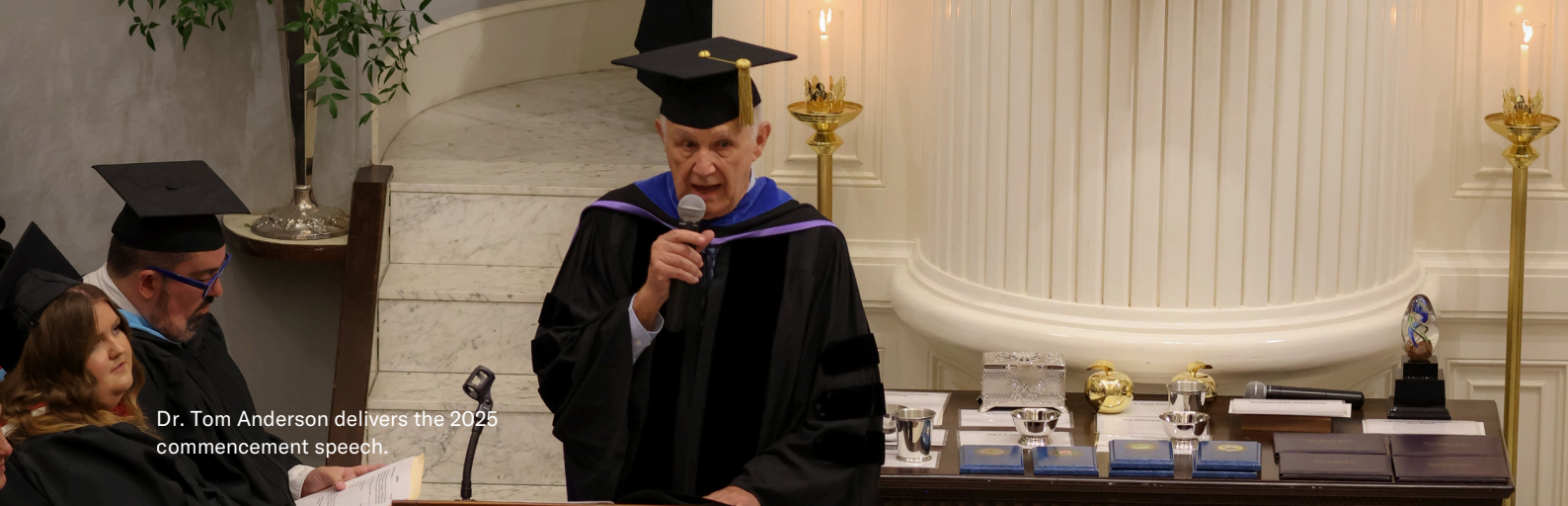
gentle arm twisting by him, I decided that I do have some things to say to you. Dr. Mitchell understands that I am not a traditional guy, and that I am going to say some things tonight that you might not hear in a traditional commencement address. I want you to know that the things I am going to tell you tonight are based on my own life experience, and everything I will say to you tonight, I believe.

It is a distinct pleasure to be back in this city, and this sanctuary. Elaine and I have lived, worked, and played all over the world, and wherever we travel, I always take great personal pride in telling people that Charleston, South Carolina is my hometown. Almost universally, people respond with a genuine expression of awe, envy, and even a silent reverence. People all over the world know how special our city is. So, my first message to you is to be proud of your roots. They are a part of who you are. You have had the privilege of living, studying, and making friends in one of the great cities of the world. Celebrate that heritage.

Sixty-five years ago, my classmates and I sat where you are sitting now. We were eager to switch our tassels and go out into the world. The world we faced then was immeasurably simpler than the one you are entering today. Your world is much more complex, uncertain, and even more dangerous than ours ever was. Your world is going to present you with many challenges, and it will also offer great opportunities. My second message for you is to face those opportunities and challenges with enthusiasm. Be eager to make a difference in the world, because the world desperately needs you.

When we are given something of value, we have a responsibility to use that gift wisely. That idea is the essence of stewardship. Let me illustrate by quoting the words of Jesus, as recorded in the gospel according to St. Luke: "For everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked." As a graduate of this great school, you have been given much. And much is going to be expected from you. It is your responsibility, and your duty, to be good stewards of the things you have been given here.

Take advantage of every opportunity to live, study, and travel abroad. Time spent in another culture can be a life-changing experience. Your college or



Dr. Tom Anderson delivers the 2025 commencement speech.

university may have a formal program for overseas study; if they do, welcome that opportunity. If your work offers you a chance to spend time in another country, be the first to volunteer. After some time abroad, you will return to your birth culture as a different person. In many ways you will be a stranger in your own home, but well on your way to becoming a citizen of the world. Nothing will better prepare you to face the challenges of the 21st century than time spent living in another culture.

Wherever you go and whatever you do, always continue your education. Formal academic programs may be one way to do this, and for those of you who will attend a college or university, I honor your decision. But your educational and professional experiences do not need to be linear. Consider taking time away from the classroom for humanitarian service, historical research, or a community service project. There is a term to describe this time away from the classroom: it is called a “gap year”. Gap years can be life-changing experiences. Mine certainly was.

We all want to have meaningful lives. To find real meaning in our lives, we should turn to our faith, our family, and our community. Our faith and our spirituality offer us a profound sense of connection to something greater than ourselves, and a deeper understanding of our existence. Our families, including our extended families, give us a sense of belonging and shared experiences that help define who we are. And our communities allow us to connect with others and find fulfillment in relationships and collective experiences.

This evening is a commencement, the beginning of your life after graduation. As you begin this new part of your life, you are going to need a set of principles to guide and direct your journey through life. We all

do. There is a term for these guiding principles; they are called core values. Our core values are those ideas in which we believe and to which we commit our lives. That commitment guides and directs our actions and our behavior as we go through life. The idea of core values is deeply embedded in our religious heritage. Moses presented the Ten Commandments to the people of Israel to serve as a moral and spiritual code to guide them to a better life. That same code of values has continued to influence the moral and ethical behavior of cultures and civilizations throughout history.

Our core values are important to us because they help us define our boundaries and choose what really matters to us. They are our moral compass, a guide to our decision-making and our behavior. They matter because they are the foundation for our actions, and our overall approach to life. If we know what our core values are, we know who we are. But as important as core values are, they are not a rigid set of rules. They are a living, dynamic guide that will change as you gain experience and, hopefully, wisdom. That wisdom will guide you in strengthening your values and your beliefs. It will help you choose new values that add meaning to your lives and assist you in discarding older values that are no longer relevant.

There is evil in the world. You are going to meet men and women whose meanness, cruelty, and hatred define their lives. You need to be prepared to face these people. The New Testament contains many passages that offer us guidance for facing evil. We learn that we have a moral responsibility to oppose evil in all its forms: injustice, prejudice, and cruelty. And you have the tools you need to triumph over evil, your core values. Use your courage to confront wrongdoing, your wisdom to discern truth from deception, your compassion to practice kindness



rather than vengeance, and your integrity to remain true to your values. With these tools, you have the strength to confront evil and the power to make the world a better place. Tonight, I challenge each of you to live as if your values are the most important thing in your life, because they are. They will become the cornerstone of your character. They will define the kind of man or woman you will become, the kind of wife or husband you will be, and the kind of father or mother you will be to your children. Your commitment to your values will determine how you will be judged by your family and friends, by your community, and ultimately, how you will be judged before God.

I will close by summarizing these ideas. Celebrate the past, the friendships, and the experiences you have enjoyed here. Embrace the future with excitement, anticipation, and courage. Be a good steward for everything you have been given. Take advantage of

every opportunity to travel, live, and study abroad. Consider taking a gap year for travel, service, or simply to learn more about the world. Never stop learning. Find meaning in your life by turning to your faith, your family, and your community. Treat everyone you meet with civility, kindness and respect. Oppose evil wherever you find it. And always remain true to your beliefs and your values.

To the faculty and staff who have guided you with their wisdom, to the families and friends who have supported you with their love, and to all of you who have inspired each other with your determination, thank you for making this evening possible.

Finally, Class of 2025, congratulations on your graduation, and welcome to the commencement of the rest of your lives. I sincerely wish for each of you a rich, full, and meaningful life.



# *Academic Excellence with a Christian Perspective*

## MISSION STATEMENT

A photograph of a girls' basketball game. In the foreground, a player in a purple jersey with "FIRST" and the number "23" is dribbling the ball. She is being defended by a player in a dark blue jersey with "CKIAM" on it. Other players are visible in the background. The scene is set in a gymnasium with bleachers.

# 05

## ATHLETICS

The Varsity Girls Basketball team had a successful season finishing as the SCISA 4A State Runner-up.



# ATHLETIC REVIEW

by Ms. Presley Singleton



The Varsity Girls Basketball team had an excellent season winning SCISA 4A Region II and finishing as SCISA 4A State Runner-up. The girls team was 10-0 in the region with an overall record of 29-3. There were notable victories against some of the top teams in the southeast. One of the most exciting games would have to be the buzzer beater in the semi-finals against defending state champion Heathwood Hall. The Varsity Girls Basketball Team returns several girls with college scholarship offers, and with this talented bunch, much is expected in the 2025-26 season.

First Baptist Track and Field runner, James Tyler, won the 2025 SCISA State Championship for the second straight year. James set many records while attending FBS to include the fastest 3200 time in SCISA Track and Field this season and the second fastest in history of SCISA. James signed a DI track scholarship to Charleston Southern University.

The Varsity Boys Soccer Team won the 2025 SCISA 3A State Championship. First Baptist has not won a Boys Soccer SCISA State Championship since 1991. The boys soccer team had a region record of 6-2 and overall record of 15-4, finishing 2nd in the region. They fought through so much adversity as injuries plagued them throughout the year. Some of the top players were sidelined for the remainder of the season. With a backup freshman goalie, several backups in the field and players playing different positions than earlier in the season, this group made an incredible run and faced Pinewood for the second year in a row in the finals. This time the Hurricanes defeated Pinewood Prep with a score of 3-2. The boys soccer team has a bright future with young boys who are now quite experienced in big games.

## Welcoming Jay Godbolt, FBS Athletic Director

We are also pleased to announce Jay Goldbolt as our new Athletic Director. He is an Air Force veteran with nearly 30 years of athletic experience in various settings. Jay has over 450 career wins as a varsity basketball coach. He is a three-time State Champion and was selected as Region Coach of the Year 14 times. In addition to those honors, Jay was also recognized as Coach of the Year by the SC High School Sports Report, SCISA, and The Post and Courier. Under his leadership as athletic director, his teams earned five state championships. Jay looks forward to guiding First Baptist Athletics and continuing our mission of the total development of each student athlete.





# SCISA AAAA STATE CHAMPIONS





# 06

## FINE ARTS





# FINE ARTS

The First Baptist Arts programs illustrated the combined power of creativity and commitment this year by continuing to push forward with time honored arts infused traditions that have come to be woven into the First Baptist School experience.

The music programs from both campuses presented the annual service of Nine Lessons & Carols in the Sanctuary as well as a smaller spring concert highlighting our student band and choir in the Fellowship Hall. Student artwork adorned the halls of our downtown campus all year and our 5th annual James Island Campus Art & Photography Show in May featured the largest amount of high school student work yet.

The FBS Dance Program celebrated their 15th Annual Spring Showcase, featuring 100 students in grades K3 through 12. Through community collaboration with "Dramakids," extracurricular drama students in 1st through 12th grade presented "The Little Mermaid, Jr." to round out our year in the arts!





No Kill  
South Carolina  
2024



07

DONOR SPOTLIGHT







## DONOR SPOTLIGHT

### Dr. Steven and Kristin Epstein

*The financial contributions of our Parents, Grandparents, Alumni, and staff are critical to the success of First Baptist School. We would like to take a moment to highlight one family whose loyalty to First Baptist School is well known and let them tell you why they are such dedicated supporters of our school.*

Hello! We are Steven and Kristin Epstein, proud residents of Awendaw, SC, and parents to three wonderful children currently attending First Baptist School (FBS). This fall, Briggs will be entering 3rd grade, Keller Grace will be in 2nd grade, and Brady will join K3. We also recently welcomed our newest addition, Klara Mills, a 2-month-old future Hurricane! Kristin, an alumna of First Baptist, is thrilled that her children get to experience the same incredible school she once attended. We truly love being part of the First Baptist community!

Steven is a veterinarian in Mt. Pleasant and the owner of Animal Medical Center of Mt. Pleasant. Kristin works part-time as an embalmer at J. Henry Stuhr Funeral Chapels and is excited to help coach the Tropical Storms cheerleaders this upcoming year. Go Canes!

We wholeheartedly support the mission of First Baptist School and are committed to giving back in every way we can. Whether it's donating to the First Baptist Auction, participating in fundraisers, serving as a room mom, or volunteering at events, we are grateful for the opportunity to contribute. This school has been a blessing not only to our children but to our entire family.



A photograph of a social gathering, likely a luncheon, with people seated at tables. In the foreground, two women are seated at a table covered with a dark grey cloth. The woman on the left has long blonde hair and is wearing a dark blue polo shirt with a name tag. The woman on the right has long brown hair and is wearing a dark blue short-sleeved top. They are both smiling and appear to be in conversation. On the table in front of them is a glass of iced coffee, a smartphone, and some papers. In the background, other people are visible, including a man in a grey suit and a woman with blonde hair. The setting appears to be an indoor space with large windows and modern decor.

# 08

## FINANCIAL REVIEW



# FINANCIAL REVIEW

## 2024-2025

Total Revenue	\$8,272,182.79
Tuition & Fees*	89%
Fundraising & Gifts	3%
Other Programs/Revenue	6%
Investment Income	2%

\*After deductions for financial aid and sibling/prepay discounts

Total Expenses	\$8,007,316.54
Salaries & Benefits	67%
Instructional Expenses	3%
Co-Curricular Expenses	5%
Physical Plant Operations	11%
Transportation	1%
General Operating Expenses	9%
Budgeted Athletic Expenses	2%
FBS Foundation Expenses	2%





# 09

## ADVANCEMENT REPORT



# ADVANCEMENT REPORT

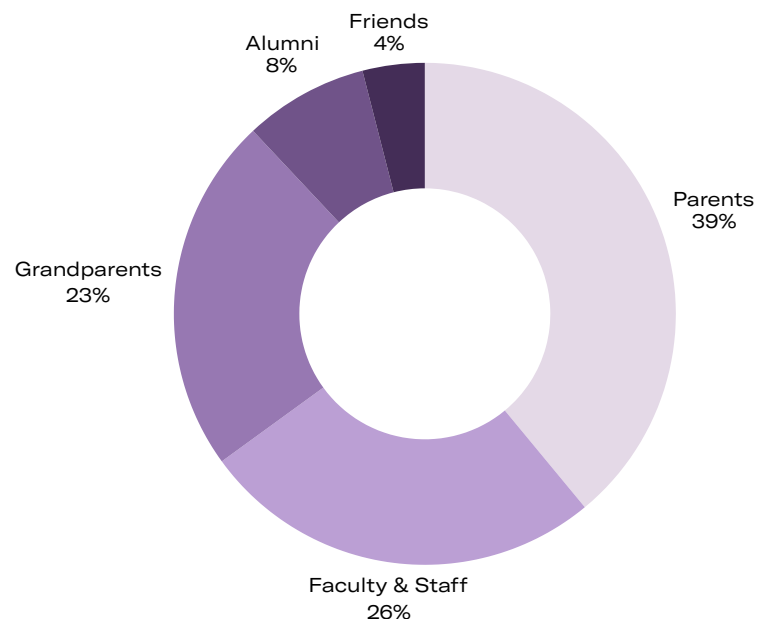
## Loyalty Fund Breakdown

Each year, private support to First Baptist School plays a critical role in preserving the school's place as one of Charleston's best private institutions for quality education and affordability. In 2024-2025 the Loyalty fund raised \$48,930, with \$12,930 being donated by the First Baptist School's faculty and staff (26%), with the balance being raised by Parents, Grandparents, Alumni and Friends.

In 2025-2026 we have a goal of reaching \$100,000 for the Loyalty Fund. These unrestricted funds go to help in "Bridging the gap to greater possibilities."

As a small token of our appreciation, for everyone who makes a contribution of \$100

or more we would like to send you this year's Loyalty Fund Supporter sticker suitable for your car, office window, or anywhere else you would like to show your "Hurricane Pride"! Additionally, for any gifts of \$500 or more we have an accompanying lapel pin as an additional token of our appreciation.







## FBS Friends & Family Oyster Roast

On Sunday, October 20, 2024 the FBS Friends and Family Oyster Roast was held at the Island House. There were over 150 people in attendance as a recognition of their financial support of First Baptist School. We are looking forward to hosting another Oyster Roast again in 2027 to once again thank all of our financial supporters.

## 2026 Biennial Live & Silent Auction

We will host our Biennial Silent and Live Auction on March 21, 2026. We are looking forward to once again being at the Harbour Club in Charleston. In 2024 \$44,465 was raised to support our school. We are looking forward to another night of great food, music, and fellowship. Save the date in your calendars now and look out for additional information as we get closer to the event.

*Save  
The  
Date*



# 2024–25 CIRCLES OF GIVING DONORS

## Hamrick Circle (\$5,000+)

*Elizabeth & Shawn Willis*  
Hope Lant  
*Robert & Dana Marchant*  
Sarah Christopher  
Dr. & Mrs. Steven Epstein  
Ted Finucan

## Sustainer's Circle (\$4,999–\$2,000)

David & Ann Westerlund  
*Aaron & Emily Beasley*  
*Daniel & Anna Wartinbee*  
Billy & Delana Haynes  
Mary Nelle Floyd  
Robert & Barbara Sanders  
Will McCombs

## Builder's Circle (\$1,999—\$1,000)

*Kip Hooker*  
George Sudyk  
*Jeniffer Cookke*  
Marshelle Grant  
Mr. & Mrs. Danny Willis  
Allyn Schoderbek  
Sue & Wilbur Wise  
*Walter & Michelle Hiott*  
Lawrence & Cassandra Bradham

Emery Macpherson  
Musselman, Jon J Musselman  
Construction  
John Peeples  
Trudie Ficks  
Andrew Pojani  
Anne Dollason  
Chris & Staci McLain

## Church Street Circle (\$999—\$500)

Marshall Blalock  
Ashley Tylus  
Brooke Hanckel  
Paula Gomez  
Debbie Mack  
Leonard Kupersmith  
Shannon Roy  
Laura Shope  
Michael & Karen Stavrinakis  
Jonathan Harvey  
Karen & G.E. Rodelsperger  
Dr. Justin Mitchell

## Meeting Street Circle (\$499—\$200)

Marianne Allen  
Stephen Swanson  
Anna Laszlo  
Chelsea Meadows  
Thomas & Barbara Bell  
Dan & Betty Wartinbee  
William & Suzanne Freeman  
Joe & Sylvia Harvey  
Elizabeth Maiorany  
MJ Mintz  
Caroline Clum  
Deanna Fuller  
Jenna Schmidt  
Kristen Schwiers  
Douglas Mueller

Susan Brooks  
Helen Brown  
Lydia Taylor Edwards  
Anna Gervais  
Christina McCoy Crawford  
Elizabeth Switzer  
Holly Rodelsperger

## Purple & White Club (\$199—\$1)

Mick & Cindy Johnston  
Hollis Haynes  
Norman & Eve Berlinsky  
Terrence & Jane Abbott  
Ray & Beth Gaydos  
Lynn Gervais  
John & Danyelle Blitch  
Waitus & Greer Avant  
Cynthia Rohrer  
Terrence & Jane Abbott  
Leondas Cole  
Stephen Holderness Jr.  
Darrell Knapp  
Ellison & Jeanne Livingston  
Althea Salters  
Roberta Freer  
Katherine Dollason  
Eva Rizzardi  
Susan & Roger Gilbert  
Helen Brown  
Rodger & Nancy Abramovic  
Dean & Linda Kutz  
Paul Roof  
Ruth Taylor  
Carolina Smoak  
Brandy Brown  
Cynthia Fleming  
Erin Jackson  
Susan Bridges  
Courtney Fuller  
Hope Murphy  
Kammi Pisano  
Ashley Schaible  
Tammy Speer  
Joseph Riley Matheson  
Monica Ball  
Chelle Carter



Joy Demarest  
Lisa Hartman  
Kayla Hatchell  
Amanda Kropiewnicki  
Katherine Ladd  
Laura Lempesis  
Elliott Locklear  
Andrew Murphy  
Sally Rhodes  
Sally Casias  
Heidi Doyle  
Robert McNamara  
Kelly Blalock  
Taylor Conrad  
Winston Helms  
Natalie Simpson  
Jodi Truluck  
Jennifer Walpole  
Hannah Salters  
Jamaal Birch  
April Davis

Anne Redner  
Lauren Shorter  
Jennifer Yohe  
Jon Durham  
Julie Kroeger  
Matthew Lambert  
Mara Redmond  
Bailey Dallas Clark  
Dane Clark  
Thomas Graham Haley  
Kayla Houghton  
Reagan Lethco  
Presley Singleton  
Alex Snider  
Debbie Bowers  
James Cannon  
Susan Cram-Smith  
Crystal Hawkins  
Jennifer Hughes  
Chad Hudson

## Scholarships

### *Brodie Scholarship*

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Brodie

### *Melissa Legare Brown*

#### *Scholarship*

Annie Boyce

Megan Davis

Dan & Gloria Legare

Carrie Lanning

Benjamin & Kathryn Newton



## WAYS TO GIVE

# Supporting First Baptist School

Your gift is an investment in the future of our children for generations. Your investment may be made as either a one-time gift, an annual gift, or a monthly gift.

Giving is available online, by mail, through gifts of stock, or by company matching.

Learn more at  
[fbschool.org/ways-to-give](https://fbschool.org/ways-to-give)



SUNNYSIDE  
FARMS  
E.H. WALPOLE & SON

10

CLASS CELEBRATIONS

The 1975 Mens and 1980 Ladies State Basketball  
Championship teams celebrated with a reunion  
this past year.





# CLASS CELEBRATIONS

The Class of 1975 celebrated their graduation from First Baptist School fifty years ago with numerous smaller gatherings throughout the year. From small groups meeting for lunch locally, to trips abroad, and larger groups getting together to celebrate both the 1975 Mens and 1980 Ladies State Championship Basketball teams. These alumni continue to cherish the memories and friendships they formed while attending First Baptist School.

We are looking forward to next year's gathering for the Class of 1976. If you are interested in planning a reunion or any other alumni gathering for you and your classmates, please contact Jimmy Crook at [crookj@fbschool.org](mailto:crookj@fbschool.org) and he would be happy to assist.

We are also working on a comprehensive alumni contact list with current mailing and email addresses. Please also reach out to Jimmy Crook if you would like to assist with this important project.





## ALUMNI

# Keep in Touch

We love celebrating the achievements and milestones of our alumni! Whether it's a career milestone, a marriage anniversary, or a birth announcement, we want to hear from you. Share your news with the First Baptist School community, and we'll proudly feature your announcement on our Facebook page and website.

Let us join in your joy and celebrate your special moments together! Simply scan the QR code to upload your announcement and any photos you'd like to share.

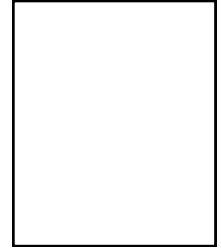






# FIRST BAPTIST SCHOOL

48 Meeting Street, Charleston, SC 29401



## Upcoming 2025-26 Important Dates

- Oct 24 Grandparents Day
- Oct 31 Homecoming
- Dec 14 Lessons & Carols Service
- Mar 21 12th Biennial Live & Silent Auction
- May 29 Class of 2026 Commencement

## LEAVE A LEGACY

# Planned Giving

Bequests and other planned gifts create a lasting legacy at First Baptist School, providing ongoing support for generations to come. With thoughtful planning, you can achieve a balance between your personal, family, and charitable goals while making a meaningful impact. There are many innovative and creative ways to include First Baptist School in your estate and financial plans.

To explore giving strategies that align with your vision, please contact Jimmy Crook, Director of Advancement, at [crookj@fbschool.org](mailto:crookj@fbschool.org).

If you've already included First Baptist School in your will or estate plan, we'd love to hear from you! Please complete our confidential Will and Estate Survey by scanning the QR code.

