

# THE OUTLOOK

## Welcome to Summer at FBCD

Welcome Decatur Farmers Market! every Wednesday afternoon 4-7 on the front lawn



## Celebrating 8 years of ministry together

with Pastor Julie & Pastor Sharyn • Sunday, May 31



Worship together  
10:30 a.m.  
in the Sanctuary



Cookout on the Lawn  
immediately following  
10:30 a.m. worship



## Among Friends

May 28, 2015


One of the things I've loved most about you these past eight years is your commitment to being a mentoring congregation. Since 2008 we have mentored **thirty-four students** from four seminaries! I hope it encourages you to see most of them here in the insert of this

issue of *The Outlook* and to read about what they're up to today. As you do, know that you have made lasting impressions on their lives that will ripple out in the Kingdom of God for years to come. Well done.

And please allow me to say once more how grateful I am for the lasting impressions you have made on Tim, Taylor and Lucy, my mother and me. (In case you missed last Sunday's message (May 24), *I Thank My God*, you can listen [here](#).)

Thank you, my First Baptist Decatur family, for the high honor of being your pastor. You will remain in my heart and in my prayers always.

With faith, hope and love...

Pastor Julie 



## Welcome to Summer at FBCD *summer highlights*

- Frolic on the Lawn
- Decatur Farmers Market
- VBS—God's Love in Action
- Fanfare Music Camp
- Youth Service Tuesdays
- Passport for Kids
- Youth on Mission—Asheville
- Sanctuary and Fresh Start music
- "Prayer"—Wednesday night study
- Yard Sale Volunteering
- Youth Beach Retreat
- Wednesday Nights in July/Aug
- Women on Mission Tuesdays
- Summer Sermon Series
- Wednesday Midday Bible Study

## Your invitation

You are invited to celebrate  
8 years of ministry together  
*This Sunday, May 31*



The schedule for this day of celebrating 8 years of ministry together with Pastor Julie and Pastor Sharyn at FBCD begins with Learning Groups, Bible Study and Coffee Talk and continues through a cookout "picnic style" on the lawn after 10:30 a.m. combined worship. Be sure to plan to stay for the entire celebration and well-wishing for Julie and Sharyn.

### Learning Groups, Bible Study and Coffee Talk

9:15 a.m. Learning Groups, Bible Study and Coffee Talk  
Learning Groups, Bible Study and Coffee Talk will be followed by Combined Worship in the Sanctuary.

### Combined Worship

10:30 a.m. Combined Worship in Sanctuary  
Worship together in the Sanctuary as we celebrate 8 years of ministry together with Pastor Julie and Pastor Sharyn. The Lord's Supper will be served and a Benevolence Offering for Missions\* will be received.

### Cookout on the Lawn

#### Noon Cookout on the Lawn

Please bring lawn chairs or a blanket as we picnic together on the front lawn immediately following worship. The cookout lunch will be provided.

# News & Events

## Celebrating 8 Years of Ministry

### Worship together

**10:30 a.m. worship on May 31**

The schedule for this day of celebrating 8 years of ministry together with Pastor Julie and Pastor Sharyn at FBCD begins with Learning Groups, Bible Study and Coffee Talk and continues through a cookout "picnic style" on the lawn after 10:30 combined worship in the Sanctuary. Be sure to plan to stay for the entire celebration and well-wishing for Julie and Sharyn.



### Cookout on the Lawn

**Enjoy a cookout lunch with Julie & Sharyn**

Please bring lawn chairs or a blanket as we picnic together on the front lawn immediately following worship. The grills will be fired up for hamburgers and hot dogs served complete with sides. Free of charge.



### Summer Sermon Series begins June 7

**Life Together: The Sins and Graces of Christian Community**

Our own Peter Rhea Jones, Professor of Preaching and New Testament at McAfee School of Theology and FBCD Pastor Emeritus, and David Gushee, Professor of Christian Ethics and Director of the Center for Theology and Public Life at McAfee School of Theology, will be preaching the summer sermon series. What a blessing and a gift to our congregation!



### Summer Wednesday Nights begin July 8

**Study on Prayer announced**

On Wednesday nights beginning July 8 we will have a 6 weeks study on Prayer led by Bob and Margie Williamson. This will be for anyone and everyone. So if you are not already in another small group, not helping lead children or youth, not in the Fresh Start Band, and not in choir rehearsal—join us. Wednesday schedule for this study will be:  
**Family Dinner** 5:30–6:30 p.m.  
**Prayer time** around the tables  
**Study on Prayer** in S216 6:30–7:30 p.m.



## YARD SALE

### Time to donate & volunteer

The Yard Sale, an FBCD tradition, will be held on the front lawn this year on October 1st, 2nd and 3rd.

The sale helps fund the many **mission projects** supported by First Baptist Church Decatur and provides **scholarships** to First School families, First Camp participants and Youth missions.

Find out all you need to know here:  
[www.fbcdecatur.com/the-yard-sale](http://www.fbcdecatur.com/the-yard-sale)



**Summer Break Wednesdays**  
 June Wednesdays and July 1  
 No Family Dinners or Activities

**Family Dinners resume July 8**  
 Wednesday night meals served 5:30-6:30 p.m., in Carreker Hall

**July and August Wednesday Nights**  
 "Wednesday Nights" resumes on July 8 and continues into the fall. For details go to [fbcdecatur.com/wednesday-nights/](http://fbcdecatur.com/wednesday-nights/)

**Support Groups this Summer**  
 Support groups meet on their own schedules, so please contact your group leader for summer dates. Support Groups listed here: <http://www.fbcdecatur.com/support-groups/>

For current events at FBCD, visit [News & Events](#) on the church website.

## Showing Appreciation

### Appreciation for Pastor Julie and Pastor Sharyn

Many folks have asked how they can express their appreciation for Julie and Sharyn's ministries during the past 8 years. On May 31st, a benevolence offering for missions in honor of Sharyn will be collected at the end of the joint worship service. Julie has requested that you honor her by continuing to give to the general fund for First Baptist Church Decatur.



## Spring Cleaning?

### Spring cleaning? Request a pickup of the good stuff

Now is the time to support missions and scholarships by donating the best of your spring cleaning discards to The Yard Sale. For instructions on dropping off items, or to request a pickup of items, please go to [fbcdecatur.com/the-yard-sale](http://fbcdecatur.com/the-yard-sale). The sale will take place on October 1, 2 and 3.



## First School Tours

### Parent tour scheduled for June 23

Applications for the fall semester are being accepted now. The upcoming informational tour of the school is scheduled for June 23 at 8 a.m. Contact Harriet Holland at 404-370-7688 or [hholland@fbcdecatur.com](mailto:hholland@fbcdecatur.com).



## Register for Summer Camp

### First Camp is gearing up for a fun summer

First Camp is open for summer! Our camp is open for elementary school aged children—grades 1-5. We begin our summer camp on June 1 with a Hogwarts themed Spirit Week and end our summer July 31 with a field trip to Lake Lanier. Register now at [fbcdecatur.com/camp](http://fbcdecatur.com/camp).



## Wedding Coordinators

Tifanie Haun and Katie Roberts have agreed to be the Wedding Coordinators for the church. Both Tifanie and Katie have experience as event planners and wedding coordinators. They are currently updating the church wedding handbook and resources. The contact email for all FBCD wedding information is [fbcweddings@gmail.com](mailto:fbcweddings@gmail.com).



## Eddie's Attic Concerts

On June 26, 27, 28 and July 1, a series of concerts at Eddie's Attic will benefit Decatur Cooperative Ministry. The concerts are arranged by the nonprofit Poverty Is Real and the series is called Amplify Decatur. Your ticket purchases will help provide funds for Hagar's House shelter for women and children, Family House transitional housing, Project Take Charge programs that prevent homelessness, and services for veterans and their families. For more information, see [www.amplifydecatur.org](http://www.amplifydecatur.org).



## Caregiver's Support Group

On Tuesday June 2, the Caregivers' Support Group will meet in the Parlor at 11:00 a.m. This group is for anyone who is caring for an elderly person or an individual with a debilitating illness. The leader is Ann Murphy, R. N.



## Women on Mission

Tuesday, June 9, Women on Mission will meet in S218 at 10:15 a.m. for study and prayer. Everyone is invited.

## Kids Wednesdays New Community for Kids

6:30–7:30 p.m.  
each Wednesday



**Preschool age**  
(3-kindergarten)  
Journey's with  
Jesus—E114

**Grades 1-5**  
Games with Purpose—in Kids Zone

## Kids News & Events

### God's Love in Action

**move • act • care • follow • share**

Each day, students will look at how God's *force* or *God's Love in Action* invites them to *move, act, care, follow* and *share*.

Our mission emphasis will be on helping local mission partners in Decatur or the surrounding communities. The week's guide will be *Cokesbury's G-Force VBS* with some variations from our planning team. For more information or to register go [here](#).

### OTHER SUMMER DATES

<b>Fanfare Music Camp</b>	<b>Passport</b>
for grades 3-5	for grades 3-5
<b>June 22-25</b>	<b>July 18-21</b>

### UPDATES ONLINE

For more information on all children's activities, go [here](#). Contact Pastor Dale at [ddoud@fbcdecatur.com](mailto:ddoud@fbcdecatur.com).

## Youth News & Events

For the latest youth news,  
go online at  
[fbcdecatur.com/youth-updates](http://fbcdecatur.com/youth-updates)

### SUMMER DATES

**Youth Mission to Asheville**  
for grades 6-12 **June 21-26**

**Beach Retreat**  
for grades 6-12 **July 24-27**

### UPDATES ONLINE

For more information on youth activities, contact Leanna Coyle-Carr or go [here](#).

## Ovations Concert Series

### Brazilian tenor, Cleyton Pulzi in concert

May 30, 7 p.m.

Brazilian tenor, Cleyton Pulzi and pianist, Steven Morris will perform Robert Schumann's *Dichterliebe* and some of Brazil's most beautiful art songs. Pulzi recently debuted with the Sala São Paulo Orchestra as the tenor soloist for Beethoven's 9th Symphony. He was a Merola Finalist for the San Francisco Opera. His most recent recent roles include Reverend Paris in *The Crucible*, Don Ottavio in *Don Giovanni*, and Count Almaviva in *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*.

Cleyton Pulzi  
Steven Morris



## Fanfare Music Camp

For kids in grades 1-5

Monday, June 22- Thursday, June 25, 2015

Learn to move, sing and discover the rhythm of music with the popular music from the Lion King. Denise Kelly is the Music Director for the Fanfare Music Camp and is a graduate from Georgia State University in Music Education and is currently working on her Master's Degree, also in Music Education. She currently teaches for the Atlanta Public Schools. The cost is \$125 per child. For more details and to register online go to [fbcdecatur.com/fanfare-music-camp](http://fbcdecatur.com/fanfare-music-camp).



## Frolic on the Lawn

Friday Nights in June—June 12, 19, and 26, from 6-8 p.m.

No frills, no agenda. Just good company and the finest green space in Decatur. Come and join your FBCD friends on the front lawn anytime from 6-8 pm. Bring your own dinner and hang out with others on the lawn.

Come alone, or bring a friend. Bring your kids and let them play on the lawn while you visit with your friends. Come by and hang out with us before you meet your neighbors at Eddie's or Sweet Melissa's. Invite your work friends, small group, or Sunday school class to all come together!

The Fine Print:

When we say "no frills," we mean it. Please bring dinner (if you want it), a blanket or lawn chairs, and frisbees. Feel free to walk over if you live close enough! In case of rain, we'll meet and head somewhere nearby in bunches for dinner. Carreker will also be available for sudden rain surprises.

## Thank you, Devin and Phillip!

### Devin and Phillip leave for Kentucky in June

In June, Devin and Phillip Harris Davis will be moving to their home state of Kentucky to continue seminary at CBF affiliated Baptist Seminary of Kentucky. While attending McAfee, Devin has been co-administrative assistant in the front office and Phillip has worked in the First Camp program, as well as at CBF. Thank you Devin and Phillip for serving here at FBCD!



## A Note from Mary Ann

Dear Church Family,

A special thank you for nearly two wonderful years of working at FBCD. I have so enjoyed being Pastor Julie's assistant and being involved in the church community through the activities of the front office. I have gotten to know many kind and generous people and learned so much about the programs in which our church is actively involved. A book project which I committed to several years ago is finally underway and in order to meet my deadlines, I must focus my energies on the project. Because of this, I have regretfully resigned from my job at the church. Thank you all for your friendship and support and especially for giving me the opportunity to serve here at FBCD. I look forward to seeing you all on Sundays.

May God bless you,  
Mary Ann Eaddy

## Young at Heart EVENTS

### VBS Volunteers

June 15-19

Young at Heart will be recruiting help for the refreshment work for VBS, and will coordinate that part of VBS again this year. VBS is June 15-19. Volunteer sign up sheets will be in the Sunday School classes.



### Baltic Sea Cruise

August 15-25

A Baltic Sea Cruise, with option of extra days in Copenhagen.

\$500 due at sign up. Contact Bob Williamson to sign up or to get more information. Registration is still open.



## Wednesday Daytime Study

### New Schedule for Summer

The Wednesday Morning Senior Adult Bible Study will be making a change in the schedule.

Beginning June 24, the Wednesday Senior Adult Bible Study will be meeting from 4-5 p.m. every Wednesday instead of 10 a.m..

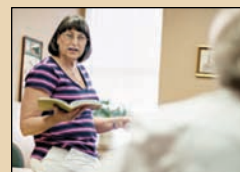
Margie and Bob will still be leading the study and we will begin a new year long curriculum series on that starting date.

There will be *no Bible Study June 10 or June 17* due to VBS and other scheduled events. *Be sure to join us on the 24th.* In the same room—S216—and a fresh pot of coffee will be ready when you get there.

Anyone and everyone is welcome. Just plan to show up and bring your *Bible*.

## Know More

[www.fbcdecatur.com/senior-adults](http://www.fbcdecatur.com/senior-adults)



## Sharing in Prayer

### Christian Sympathy

To Helen Zappia in the death of her friend Chris Early.

To Gwen Cottrell in the death of her brother-in-law, Val Robinson, in early May.

## New Members

### Welcome!

Jeff Ward  
Joining by statement of faith.



Janice Merchant  
Joining by transfer of letter.



## 2015 By the Numbers

### MINISTRY ACTION PLAN (M.A.P.)

#### Through May 24, 2015

Offerings last week.....\$15,164  
(average needed per week.....\$24,519)

Offerings received YTD.....\$427,478  
Offerings YTD (behind) budget.....(\$87,426)

#### YTD through April 30, 2015

Offerings + other income received.....\$370,105  
Church expenses.....\$409,057  
Surplus/(Deficit).....(\$38,952)

### PROGRAMS OUTSIDE OF M.A.P.

#### Through May 24, 2015

Special Missions.....\$7,168  
Benevolence Offerings.....\$2,812



Giving Online

## Worship in June

### Fresh Start and Sanctuary worship times each Sunday in June

Fresh Start at 8:45 a.m.

Learning Groups, Bible Study and Coffee Talk at 10 a.m.

Sanctuary at 11:15 a.m.

## Decatur City Church Update

Recent conversations with the Decatur City Church leaders indicate that potential rental space at FBCD for their weekly service is no longer being pursued at this time. Many thanks to the FBCD staff and congregants who assisted with considering the previous inquiry from the Decatur City Church.

## Visit the website

### Your go-to place for FBCD information

[www.fbcdecatur.com](http://www.fbcdecatur.com)

Browse the site from your computer, your smart phone or tablet. Explore each section to find the information most useful to you. Check out the **News & Events** section regularly. **Need to find something?** Enter it in the **Search Box** in the footer (at the bottom of every page!).

## Contact Us

Main Office—404-373-1653

Fax—404-370-7692

First School—404-370-7688

Activities—404-373-2442

Website—[www.fbcdecatur.com](http://www.fbcdecatur.com)

E-Mail—[fbcd@fbcdecatur.com](mailto:fbcd@fbcdecatur.com)

308 Clairemont Avenue

Decatur, Georgia 30030

## Office Schedule

### Regular Office Hours

Monday–Thursdays—9 a.m.–5 p.m.

Fridays—9 a.m.–Noon

## Wednesday Dinner

Wednesday nights—5:30–6:30 p.m.

Carreker Hall

[Complete menus online](#)

### Menu

No Wednesday Family Meals in June.

Meals resume on July 8. Look for the menus online or in the July Outlook.

### Meal Prices

Adults—\$6.50 Students—\$5.50

Children (10 and under)—\$3

Family Maximum—\$25

## Weekend Contacts

To reach a staff member for weekend pastoral emergencies, please call their cell phone number (below).

### Pastors on call

Sharyn Dowd (770) 329-7929

Julie P-R (678) 602-7209

Bob Williamson (770) 633-4651

### Deacon on call

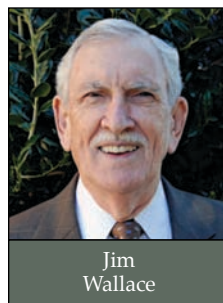
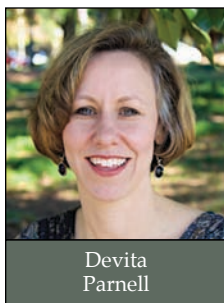
May 29-31—Devita Parnell

June 5-7—Peggy Smith

June 12-14—Jim Wallace

June 19-21—Carol May

June 26-28—Scott Winn



# A Mentoring Congregation

Since 2008 we have mentored thirty-four students from four seminaries!

## 2008-2009

**Lauren Colwell** (McAfee 2009)  
Associate Minister for Spiritual Formation and Families at FBC Savannah, GA (6 years). Ordained in 2009 by FBC Rome, GA.



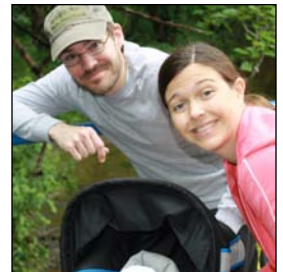
**Crystal Ham** (McAfee)  
Education Specialist in the Counselor Education Program at the University of South Carolina (concentration: marriage, couples & families). Plans to become a Licensed Professional Counselor.



**Tara Jonick Hope** (McAfee)  
Finishing a degree in Early Childhood Education at Mercer. Married Chris Hope in 2009. Daughter Claire was born November 2013. They live in Marietta.

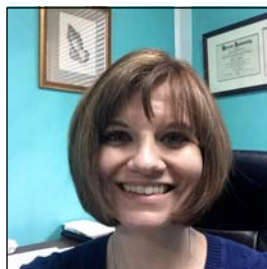


**Peyton Montooth Dawes** (McAfee 2010)  
Middle School Teacher in Austin, Texas. Ordained in 2010. Married Zach Dawes, Jr., June 2010. Baby William Reed Dawes born April 10, 2015.

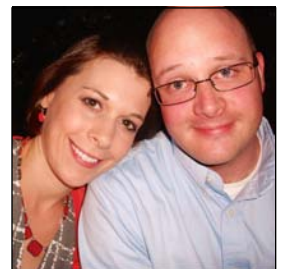


## 2009-2010

**Jessica Asbell** (McAfee 2010)  
Minister to Children at First Baptist Church of Roswell, GA, since 2012. Ordained by FBC Decatur in 2010. Has written Children's Sunday School lessons for the Annual Bible Study by Smyth and Helwys. Lives in Woodstock, GA.



**Lauren Penny Mitchell** (McAfee)  
*Update not available at this time.*



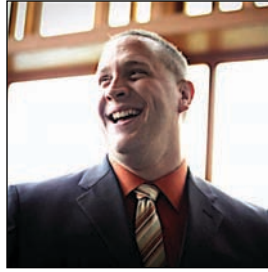
**Carrie Dean** (McAfee 2009; FBC Resident)  
Co-Pastor of Edgewood Church, Atlanta. Ordained (with husband Nathan) by FBC Decatur in 2010. Children, Oliver Finn (1/10) and Lyra Grace (10/12). Married to Nathan since 2002.



**Kate Perry** (McAfee)  
*Update not available at this time.*



**James Touchton** (Columbia)  
 Protestant Chaplain at Ithaca College,  
 Ithaca, NY. Ordained by FBC Decatur in  
 2010. He and wife Samara have three  
 children: Ezekiel and Zoe (twins; 3/13)  
 and Eliana 11/14.



**Sarah Sheehan Reddish** (Candler 2012)  
 Clinical Pastoral Education  
 Administrator for the Care and  
 Counseling Center of Georgia and a  
 Th.M. student at Candler School of  
 Theology. Living in Decatur.



**Nate Mutispaugh** (McAfee 2010)  
 Account Manager/Sales Representative  
 at Cellular Sales of VA, LLC. Lives in  
 Blacksburg, VA. He and Sarah have a son,  
 Lincoln (2 ½) and are expecting a baby  
 any day now.



**Lindsey Richardson** (McAfee 2011)  
 Minister to Families with Children at  
 Second-Ponce de Leon Baptist Church  
 in Atlanta. Ordained by First Baptist  
 Church of Madison in 2012.



**2010-2011**

**Sarah Hedgis** (Candler 2012)  
 Director of the Episcopal Mission Center  
 with the Office of Family and Young  
 Adult Ministries in the Episcopal Diocese  
 of Pennsylvania. Lives in Philadelphia,  
 PA. On June 13, 2015, Sarah will be  
 ordained to the transitional Diaconate as  
 a part of her journey towards ordination  
 to the Priesthood in the Episcopal  
 Church.



**Brandon Tubbs** (McAfee 2011)  
 Minister of Students, First Baptist Church  
 of Morrow. Ordained to Gospel ministry,  
 2011. Married to Charlotte for 12 years.  
 Daughters Abigail and Caroline are 4  
 years old!



**Jane Hull** (McAfee 2011)  
 Pastor of Union Christian Church  
 (Disciples of Christ), Watkinsville GA,  
 since 2013.  
 Milestones: daughter Emily (Josh) has  
 two children, Liam (2 ½) & Annabelle  
 (1 month). Emily has just been called  
 to FBC Winston Salem as Pastor. Son  
 Andrew married Sarah in 2013.



**Rusty Anderson** (McAfee)  
*Update not available at this time.*

**Anna Knippel** (McAfee 2011)  
 Director, Collaborative Initiatives at the  
 American College of Rheumatology in  
 Atlanta (working to address health  
 disparities related to rheumatic diseases).  
 Getting married March 2016.





**2011-2012**

**Jason Ranke** (McAfee 2012)  
Interim Minister of Children and Youth,  
Oakhurst Baptist Church, Decatur GA.  
Will be ordained to the Gospel ministry  
on June 6, 2015 by Oakhurst Baptist.



**2012-2013**

**Mary Alice Birdwhistell** (Truett)  
Associate Pastor at Calvary Baptist  
Church in Waco, TX. Ordained by  
Calvary Baptist in August of 2012.



**Billy Roberts** (McAfee 2012)  
Currently a stay-at-home dad. Lives in  
Atlanta with wife Katie and son Sam, born  
September 11, 2014. Active member of FBC  
Decatur.



**Heather Burke** (McAfee 2013)  
Minister to Children at First Baptist Church  
of Conway, SC since 2013. Ordained by FBC  
Decatur in 2013. Recently bought a condo!



**Angela Sutton** (Candler 2014)  
Ordained by Friendship Baptist Church,  
November 2014. Plans to pursue a DMin.  
Lives in Atlanta.



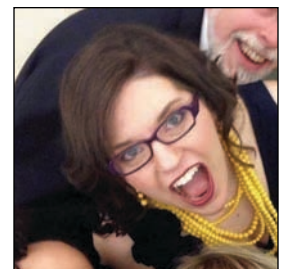
**Dallas Flippin** (McAfee 2013)  
Ph.D. Student at Marquette University,  
Milwaukee, WI. Focus: Religious Studies  
with a concentration in Judaism and  
Christianity in Antiquity. (Still) married  
to Beth!



**Maureen Williams** (Candler)  
Founder and Senior Pastor of Oasis  
International Worship Center, Stone  
Mountain, GA.



**Emily Holladay** (McAfee 2013)  
Associate Pastor (Children and Families)  
at Broadway Baptist Church, Louisville,  
KY. Set a personal record in the Kentucky  
Derby miniMaration (13.1 miles). Blogs  
at [www.revonthedee.com](http://www.revonthedee.com).



**Katie McCracken** (McAfee 2013)  
Admissions & Career Specialist for Cincinnati COOKS—a culinary job training program at the Freestore Foodbank in Cincinnati, OH.



**Sheila Otieno** (Candler 2015)  
Headed to Duke University for a ThM. Planning to pursue a PhD in Religion and Ethics.



**Ben Neal** (McAfee 2013)  
Chaplaincy and Pastoral Counseling Assistant for Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. Completed 5 units of CPE and a Residency at Emory. Ordained by FBC Decatur in 2015. Lives in Chamblee, GA. In 2014 Ashley and Ben welcomed baby Maximilian!



**Blake Tommey** (McAfee 2014)  
Director of Baptist Collegiate Ministry at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville. Marrying Lesley-Ann Hix in fall of 2015.



**2013-2014**

**Amy Violette** (Truett)  
*Update not available at this time.*



**2014-2015**

**Heather Mooney** (Truett 2015)  
Chaplain at Hillcrest Hospital in Waco, TX. Graduates from Truett in August 2015.



**Parker Ebling-Artz** (Candler 2015)  
Worship Leader at FBC Decatur and full-time resident chaplain for Emory University Hospitals beginning in July (1-year appointment). Hopes to pursue ordination and is discerning his calling as it relates to church ministry and chaplaincy. Married Hannah Ebling in October of 2013.

