



FBC grads

First Baptist Church recognized three members who are members of the Class of 2017 on Sunday, May 7, during the morning worship service. Being honored were GCHS graduates Jami Dueitt and Mary Grace Turner, as well TreAnna Bradley, who earned a Bachelor's Degree in Fine Arts / Creative Writing from Belhaven University. Shown (L-R) are Deacon Chairman Willie Zehner, Mary Grace Turner, Jami Dueitt and new pastor Adam Wyatt. Bradley was unable to attend due to commitments at Belhaven's campus in Jackson.

Contributed Photo

Awards

Continued from Page 3

Green and Dakota Martin with \$300 scholarship awards for their participation in non-traditional programs.

On behalf of the Mississippi Construction Education Foundation, Dr. Wallace presented Randy Strickland and McGwire Denmark with \$500 scholarships for their outstanding work in the construction and manufacturing trade programs.

He also presented Kaitlyn Lott with a \$1,000 scholarship from the Mississippi Cattlemen's Association and a \$300 award from the Greene County Cattlemen's Association. Lott also claimed a \$1,000 Josh Davis Memorial Fund Scholarship from the Mississippi Jr. Beefmaster Breeders Association.

Dr. Wallace then welcomed Mrs. Bobby Hicks and welding instructor Dale Box to the podium to recognize the winners of the Garrett Hicks Memorial Foundation Welding Awards. Each of the recipients received on-site job boxes in memory of Hicks' legacy. The recipients were Brayden Lott, Drake McCalip, Michael McCarty, Cory Smith, Randy Strickland, Rossan Brewer, McGwire Denmark, James Storment, Brent Dearman, Colton Crager, Tommy Scrimshire, Elijah Monk and Hunter Tillman.

GCHS alumni Justice and Ariel Johnson represented their family in presenting scholarships in memory of Rev. T.T. Johnson and Rev. Mike Lewis for \$3,000 each to Tatyana Collins and Cierra Ward.

Shee Dueitt, a GCHS graduate and current member of the Screen Actors Guild was next at the podium and presented the Jennifer McNeal Theater Scholarship in honor of the former GCHS drama teacher. The award was given to GCHS Drama Club member Jared Woullard.

Kathryn Bolton Dist. represented the Greene County Republican Party and presented Mason Clark with that organization's \$250 cash scholarship.

In honor of her late sister, GCHS graduate Grace Norris presented \$500 Lauren Norris Memorial Nursing Scholarships to Sydney Courtney and Jami Dueitt.

The Becky Hodges Memorial Scholarship, honoring the memory of the former GCHS instructor, was awarded to Charlsie Hicks as the school's outstanding English student.

The Carli Brewer Memorial Scholarship, presented annually by Brewer's family, was awarded to Cloud Dueitt.

And, the Anthony Crabtree Memorial Scholarship, presented to a band student who excelled in music, was presented to Halle Tribble.

First State Bank representative Paul Walters announced Tricia Brazell as his bank's cash scholarship recipient.

The Greene County Farm Bureau Federation Agricultural Scholarship was presented to Charlsie Hicks.

The Excellence in Leadership scholarship is an award funded by a private donor to a student who shows leadership skills

and has committed time to servicing his or her community. The \$500 Excellence in Leadership scholarship for 2017 was presented to Jared Woullard.

Dickson then presented two \$750 Coca-Cola Company scholarships to Mary Grace Turner and Hunter Garretson.

On behalf of the Generation Free Youth Advisory Board, Dickson presented one of the groups members with a \$4,000 scholarship. Zach Dale was the award recipient.

The South Mississippi Planning and Development District's \$750 scholarship was presented to Allie Prentiss.

Tamika Miller represented the Ladies Variety Club at the event and presented Destiny Street with the civic club's \$150 annual Citizenship Award.

Greene County Miss Hospitality Dani Ellzey presented the first annual Hospitality Scholarship to Charlsie Hicks.

Jennifer McNeal presented the Three Arts Club scholarship to Julie Burnett.

Representatives with the Americal Legion Post #80 of Perry County presented Jared Woullard with the club's Citizenship Award.

Leakesville Lodge #420 awarded its scholarship to Cassie Dearman.

Several community colleges and 4-year schools were on hand to present scholarships. Jones County Junior College led the way with JCJC recruiter Claire Garretson and her father Charlie Garretson, the school's Vice President of Advancement, presenting a host of awards.

Earning the school's Academic Excellence Scholarship were Allison Tingle and Jared Woullard. Full tuition Bobcat Scholarships were Dawson Walley and Destiny Smith.

Several students earned tuition assistance from JCJC based on their ACT scores. Full tuition scholarships were awarded to Charlsie Hicks, Destin Davis, Destiny Smith, Juli Burnett and Tricia Brazell. Shelby Csaazar also received a full tuition ACT scholarships, along with half room and board and a \$500 book/fee scholarship.

Recognized for earning half tuition scholarships were Brent Dearman, Cassidy Dearman, David Denmark, David Dulaney, Hunter Garretson, Johnathon Dueitt, Justin Vickers, Kristian Howard,

LeeAnna Dunnama, Mary Grace Turner and David Wilson. Garretson was also awarded a baseball manager's scholarship.

Quarter tuition ACT scholarships were offered to Alexis Collier, Allie Prentiss, Andrew Grimes, Anna Denmark, Ashleigh Norris, Ashley Adolf, Ashton West, Brittany Blankenchip, Dakota Martin, Daniel Miller, David Brantley, Dawson Walley, Destiny Street, Emily Seals, Halle Tribble, Hunter Sumrall, Jade Byrd, James Storment, Matthew Erkhart and Zach Dale. Grimes was also awarded a Fine Arts Scholarship during the event.

The final two scholarship awards from JCJC went to Lezley Beech, who earned a Career and Technical Excellence Scholarship, and Allison Tingle, who was awarded and Honors College Scholarship.

In all, the Garretsons awarded students with the equivalent of \$40,000 in scholarship funds per semester.

Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College also got in on the action, awarding two scholarships during the event. GCHS baseball standout Kole Kittrell was recognized for his receipt of over \$6,000 in scholarship funds to continue his playing career at MGCCC. Halle Tribble was also honored for earning a half tuition Academic Incentive scholarship from the school in Perkinston.

Two GCHS softball players were awarded full tuition scholarships to continue their playing careers at Pearl River Community College beginning this fall. Mary Grace Turner and Jordyn Kittrell were both recognized by Coach Bray for this honor. Lexie Collier was also awarded a half tuition Academic Honors Scholarship from PRCC during the event.

A Bay Area Scholarship was presented on behalf of the University of South Alabama to Isaiah Taylor. The Mobile university also issued a \$14,000 Presidential Scholarship to Tricia Brazell.

Aaron Flowers, of The University of Southern Mississippi, presented an Academic Excellence Scholarship to Jade Byrd.

William Carey University Director of Admissions Alisa King was on hand to present Shelby Csaazar with the highest award issued by the university. Csaazar, who is already

enrolled on WCU's Hattiesburg campus, earned the William Carey Scholar award valued at \$54,780 over four years.

Greene County administrator and Mississippi State alumnus Dawn Wallace issued several scholarships on behalf of the university and the George-Greene MSU Alumni Association. Charlsie Hicks was presented with the Maxwell V. Rush Jr. Memorial Scholarship, as well as a \$6,000 Valedictorian scholarship and a freshman Academic Excellence Scholarship. Hicks also received scholarships from MSU based on her being named Greene County's 2017 Distinguished Young Woman and for servings as her school's student body president.

Hodges also issued Juli Burnett scholarship awards a Freshman Academic Excellence, along with the George-Greene Alumni Association and James C. and Elyvette P. Robertson Loyalty scholarships.

Dickson awarded Cassidy Dearman with two scholarships to attend the University of Mississippi in Oxford. Dearman was presented with an Academic Excellence Scholarship and Bledsoe Scholarship from Ole Miss, totalling over \$15,000 in education funding.

GCHS basketball standout Destiny Street will continue her playing career and education next fall at Spring Hill University in Mobile. Street was presented with a full tuition scholarship to Spring Hill worth \$80,000 over four years.

While applause for the students being recognized was steady throughout the evening, the biggest ovation by far went to Daniel Miller. The capacity crowd rose to its feet to honor Miller when it was announced he had made the decision to serve his country as a United States Marine.

Bray wrapped up the awards ceremony by congratulating the full Class of 2017.

"Tonight has been an amazing night of recognition for the Class of 2017," Bray said. "You have worked hard to achieve this. Congratulations on a job well done."

Prior to McGwire Denmark closing the event with prayer, classmate Mariah Porter walked to the podium to invite all in attendance to join the graduates in the school cafeteria for a reception.

Kelsey

As Friday night, May 19 came to a close, so did a chapter of your life. You're saying goodbye to high school and embarking on a new journey. We don't know where this new road will take you, but we do know who does. Remember to always keep God first and trust Him. We are so proud of you and excited to see where this new journey will take you!

"For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans to prosper you and not harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future."
Jeremiah 29:11

We love you, Kels! Daddy & Mama

Congratulations Graduates of 2017!

We wish you continued success in your next phase of life!

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Hunter Kyle GARRETSON

Before you Pray - Believe
Before you Speak - Listen
Before you Spend - Earn
Before you Write - Think
Before you Quit - Try
Before you Die - Live

We are so proud of you and pray for God's blessings on your life.

We love you!
Nana and Papaw Miller
(Dorothy & Truman)