



**FIRST BAPTIST**  
ANDERSON, SOUTH CAROLINA

307 South Manning Street, Anderson, South Carolina 29624 864.224.1622 / andersonfbc.org

# THE BEACON

December 2, 2022 Volume 61 Issue 23

**That Boy Child of Mary**  
Wednesday, December 7th - 6:00 PM  
Presented by the FBC Children's Choirs  
Followed by Refreshments in the Rock Room

**A Christmas Tapestry**  
Sunday, December 18 - 9:30 AM  
Presented by the First Baptist Church  
Sanctuary Choir, Children's Choir  
and Orchestra

## OPPORTUNITIES AT FIRST BAPTIST

- Sunday, December 4**  
9:30 AM Worship  
10:30 AM Sunday School  
11:30 AM Children's Sunday School Decorating Party/Lunch  
Youth Sunday School Decorating Party/Lunch  
3:00 PM GAMAC Messiah Sing-Along (Contact GAMAC for ticket information)
- Monday, December 5**  
1:00 PM Staff Meeting
- Wednesday, December 7**  
5:15 PM Fellowship Hall Doors Open  
6:00 PM Children's Christmas Choir Performance  
7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
- Sunday, December 11 - Third Sunday of Advent**  
9:30 AM Worship  
10:30 AM Sunday School  
5:00 PM Youth Group
- Monday, December 12**  
6:00 PM Men's Ministry Meeting/Low Country Boil
- Tuesday, December 13**  
9:45 AM Margaret Williams Bible Study/Christmas Brunch
- Wednesday, December 14**  
5:15 PM Fellowship Hall Doors Open  
5:45 PM Children's End of Year Missions Party  
Youth Group - Gym  
6:05 PM Bible Study - Fellowship Hall  
7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir Christmas Rehearsal/Orchestra
- Thursday, December 15**  
Beacon Published  
12:00 PM Third Thursday Senior Adult Pot Luck and Decoration of the Fellowship Hall
- Friday, December 16**  
5:30 PM Youth Christmas Party
- Saturday, December 17**  
10:00 AM Sanctuary Choir Christmas Program Dress Rehearsal/Lunch

## MEMBERS IN ACTION

- December 4**  
**Deacons of the Week:**  
Pat Vickery, Offertory Prayer  
Liz Marvin, Visitor Outreach  
**Children's Worship:** Jeri Liles  
**Security:** Dean Cate and Jeff Neal
- December 11**  
**Deacons of the Week:**  
Janet Geisel, Offertory Prayer  
Greg Shore, Visitor Outreach  
**Children's Worship:** Timothy Clardy  
**Security:** Roger Cason and Chad Waters

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307 S. Manning Street, Anderson, SC 29624  
CHURCH OFFICE — 224-1622

CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER — 224-2635

Office Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 9:00 - 4:00; Fri. 9:00 - 3:00

- Rev. Naomi Black-Bass, Minister of Youth and Missions  
Mr. Mike Darby, Housing Ministry Manager  
Mrs. Kele Davenport, Office Manager  
Mrs. Shannon Griffin, CDC Director  
Mrs. Ramona Hallman, Organist  
Miss Kendra Hamilton, Musician in Residence  
Dr. Josh Hunt, Pastor  
Rev. Chris Liles, Associate Pastor  
Rev. Cara Morgan, Minister to Children & Their Families  
Mrs. Sharon Royals, Communications Manager  
Mr. Jamie Smith, Asst. Music Director  
Mrs. Kelly Smith, Pianist  
Mr. Addrian Wilson, Minister of Music  
Mr. Greg Wilson, Facilities Manager

MINISTER ON CALL: (after hours & weekends)  
Call: 224-1622, Press 6, leave name, number and  
a brief message and the MINISTER ON CALL  
will return your call promptly.



Facebook: FirstBaptistAnderson  
Twitter: FBCAndersonSC  
Website: andersonfbc.org

## MISSIONS OPPORTUNITY

### INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS OFFERING

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering  
& CBF Global Missions Offering  
Through the Month of December

## BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

**CarterRose Prayer Jackson**  
**November 16, 2022**  
**7 lbs 11 ozs**

**Proud Parents:** Lauren Hamilton Jackson and her late  
husband William (Jay) Carter Jackson IV  
**Grandparents:** Stacy and Harriet Hamilton



### *From One Minister to Another...*

**Bo Prosser** returns this week to share his report with our church family. He'll also be meeting with a visioning team that will help guide our next steps as we seek more fully to live into God's will for our church. I hope that you'll be in continual prayer for this important work!

In other news, we gathered on Sunday, November 20, for a church conference. In case you missed the meeting, here are the headlines:

#### **Adoption of New Policies**

To help put together our Child Protection Policy, Chris Liles took classes with the Julie Valentine Center (a sexual assault and child abuse recovery center in Greenville), consulted with experts, studied policies from other churches, conferred with our pastoral staff, and got some assistance from our Children's Ministry Team. The result of that hard work is a policy, adopted by unanimous vote, that helps us develop and maintain practices to keep the youngest members of our church family safe. Another policy that deals with sexual harassment was also unanimously approved.

#### **Passage of the 2023 Church Budget**

The church also unanimously approved First Baptist's Ministry Budget for 2023. This document, which included narrative budgets from our ministerial staff describing their vision for the coming year, was the result of hard work from members of our Stewardship Committee, Personnel Committee, and pastoral staff. As Charlie Thornton indicated in his report to the church on behalf of the Stewardship Committee, the hard work with any budget is to support it with generous, cheerful giving. May we as a church rise to the occasion!

As the Personnel Committee shared with the church, **the 2023 Ministry Budget includes some shifts in our pastoral staff**, effective January 1, 2023:

**Cara Morgan** shifts from part time Minister to Children to full time Minister to Children and Senior Adults. She will continue her current weekly time commitment to our children that we have come to appreciate so much, but she will also add ten hours per week to her schedule to serve the senior adults in our church. Early in the new year, she'll be meeting with the Senior Adult Ministry Team to do some assessment and some dreaming for this vital ministry.

**Chris Liles** shifts to a focus on administration, which will in the coming year include liaising with our church Bylaws Committee as they update that document, developing a much-needed written personnel policy in line with industry standards, liaising with the Buildings and Grounds Committee and outside contractors for necessary facilities work vis-à-vis the church visioning process, and more, in addition to his day-to-day work as our church administrator and Associate Pastor.

**Naomi Black-Bass** will continue to serve as our Minister of Youth, but she will shift from being our Minister of Missions to our Minister of Connections. In her new role, Naomi will facilitate us in our care for one another and connection to one another. As we implement the visioning process in the coming year, Naomi will lead us to consider how we invite, welcome, and connect to persons who visit our church; how we connect to our broader community; how we serve one another within our church body, particularly in our Family Ministry and in our Pastoral Care.

Of course, these three ministers will continue to assist in planning and leading in worship, and all three will continue to be a part of our pastoral care team. I'm truly honored to serve with them and have a front row seat to witness how they use their considerable gifts for ministry to serve our church.

#### **Election of Deacons**

Finally, our church elected 15 persons to serve as our newest class of deacons, some of them for the first time: Kathy Adams; Linda Chadbourne; Joe Drennon; Dale Ellenburg; Jeri Liles; Jerry Minyard; Larry Mitchell; Marian Moorhead; Jeff Neal; Kelly Neal; Sonny Reed; Susan Reed; Carlie Taylor; Glenn Torbert; and Katherine Wilson. These individuals have covenanted before God to support our church with their prayers, their giving, their attendance, and, true to the biblical account of the first deacons, their leadership in addressing any issues with a mature, generous, loving, Christ-like spirit. That kind of covenant is welcome in any organization, but it is crucial for the church. Thank these folks for their willingness to serve. Promise them you'll pray for them as they engage in their deacon ministry.

Church family, thank you for your discipleship as we plan for a new year—and a wonderful new chapter—in the life of our church.

Peace of Christ,

## More This Christmas Season

**MEN'S MINISTRY LOW COUNTRY BOIL**  
Monday, December 12, at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall  
Following supper, volunteers will help set up the sanctuary stage extension in preparation for "A Christmas Tapestry."

**THE MARGARET WILLIAMS BIBLE STUDY AND CHRISTMAS BRUNCH**  
Tuesday, December 13, at 9:45 in the Fellowship Hall  
We'll bring homemade food dishes and gather for a Christmas Brunch in the Fellowship Hall. We will have our Bible Study after brunch. For more information about the menu or Bible Study, call Judith Wright.

**THIRD THURSDAY (Senior Adult Ministry)**  
Thursday, December 15, at Noon in the Fellowship Hall  
After a potluck meal (the church will provide the entrée, you provide the sides!), we will share in a time of singing Christmas carols and decorating the Fellowship Hall for our Christmas Day Service.

**LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE**  
Wednesday, December 21, at 6:00 PM in the Chapel

**CHRISTMAS CANDLELIGHT COMMUNION**  
Friday, December 23, at 7:00 PM

**CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE**  
Sunday, December 25 - 10:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall  
Casual Dress, Donuts, Muffins, Coffee/Juice

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## NEW YEAR'S DAY COMMUNITY MEAL

### JANUARY 1, 2023

We're excited to welcome our neighbors back to First Baptist for our New Year's Day lunch! We will have Worship as usual at 9:30 AM in the Sanctuary (casual dress). We will open our gym doors to our guests for lunch at 11:30 AM. Our menu will be Chili with fixin's, Cornbread, Dessert, and Drink.

Servants are needed to drive buses, welcome and pray with our guests, for food serving lines, beverage refilling, carrying supplies between our kitchen and the gym, setting up tables, distributing blankets and children's materials, and cleaning up following the meal. We welcome donations of warm blankets. Most importantly, we encourage our church family to pray for everyone involved in this meal.

**Schedule for Servants**  
**Donate Blankets Now Through January 1:** Sundays in the vestibule or weekdays at the church office  
**Welcome Guests / Serve Lunch / Distribute Blankets & Children's Materials:** Sunday, January 1, from 11:00-1:00 PM (Gym)  
**Clean-up:** Sunday, January 1, at 1:00 PM (Gym and Fellowship Hall)

Please see the sign-up sheets located outside the Deacon Conference Room to sign up to serve in one of the areas listed above.