



**FIRST BAPTIST**  
ANDERSON, SOUTH CAROLINA

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

# THE BEACON

December 16, 2022 Volume 61 Issue 24

*A Christmas Tapestry* — December 18 - 9:30 AM  
*Longest Night Service* — December 21 - 6:00 PM  
*Candlelight Communion Service* — December 23 - 7:00 PM

**NEW YEAR'S DAY COMMUNITY MEAL**  
**JANUARY 1, 2023 - 11:30 AM**

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 (no Sunday School). We will open our gym doors to our guests for lunch at 11:30 AM. Please see the volunteer sign-up sheet on the table just outside the Deacons' Conference Room if you would like to help.

The staff of First Baptist Church wishes you peace and joy this Christmas Season and throughout the new Year.

*Adrian, Cara, Chris, Greg, Jamie, Josh, Kele, Kelly, Kendra, Mike, Naomi, Ramona, Shannon, and Sharon*

## OPPORTUNITIES AT FIRST BAPTIST

**Sunday, December 18**  
 9:30 AM A Christmas Tapestry  
 10:30 AM Sunday School  
 5:00 PM Youth Group

**Wednesday, December 21**  
 5:15 PM Fellowship Hall Doors Open  
 6:00 PM Longest Night Service  
 7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

**Friday, December 23**  
 Church Office Closed  
 7:00 PM Christmas Candlelight Communion

**Sunday, December 25 - Christmas Day**  
 10:00 AM Casual Worship in the Fellowship Hall

**Monday, December 26**  
 Church Office Closed

**Wednesday, December 28**  
 No regularly scheduled activities

**Friday, December 30**  
 10:00 AM Women's Fellowship in the Fellowship Hall

**Sunday, January 1**  
 9:30 AM Worship  
 10:30 AM Prep for New Years Day Community Meal  
 11:30 AM New Year's Day Community Meal

**Monday, January 2**  
 Church Office closed

**Wednesday, January 4**  
 5:15 PM Fellowship Hall Doors Open  
 5:45 PM Children's Music and Missions Youth Group  
 6:05 PM Bible Study  
 7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

**Sunday, January 8**  
 9:30 AM Worship  
 10:30 AM Sunday School  
 5:00 PM Youth Group

## MEMBERS IN ACTION

**December 18**  
**Deacons of the Week:**  
 Guy Eichman, Offertory Prayer  
 Steve Madden, Visitor Outreach  
**Security:** Alan Oxendine and Jerry Minyard

**December 25**  
**Deacons of the Week:**  
 Al Whitney, Offertory Prayer  
 Bob Lingle, Visitor Outreach  
**Security:** Donnie Campbell and Adam Gathers

## PLEASE NOTE

### END OF YEAR GIFTS

All end of the year gifts are due by Friday, December 30. If you have any questions please contact Kele Davenport: 224-1622 or kele.davenport@qanderwsonfbc.org

## THE BEACON

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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

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.



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 andersonfbc.org

## WOMEN'S MINISTRY

### WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP Friday, December 30th

Come join the Women's Fellowship on Friday, December 30, from 10 AM until 12 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Bring your baked goods and we will spend time bagging them for the New Year's meal. We will also have coffee and light refreshments so that you can stay and fellowship for a while. Please be sure to sign up to bring two dozen cookies or two dozen brownies. Sign-up sheets will be in your Sunday School Class folder this week.

## MISSIONS OPPORTUNITY

### INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS OFFERING

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

Given to Date: \$2560

*From One Minister to Another...*

Albert Moren’s story is extraordinary—miraculous even. Reflecting back on the event, he would write, “It was a beautiful moonlit night, frost on the ground, white almost everywhere.” It was Christmas Eve, 1914—just a few months into what was known then as The Great War—and Moren was a British soldier in a trench. Moren continued: “They sang ‘Silent Night.’ I shall never forget. It was one of the highlights of my life.”

“They” were the German soldiers hunkering down in their own trenches yards away, across “No Man’s Land.” What happened next would later be called the Christmas Truce of 1914.

Graham Williams of the Fifth London Rifle Brigade described what he saw – and heard: *“First the Germans would sing one of their carols and then we would sing one of ours, until when we started up ‘O Come, All Ye Faithful’ the Germans immediately joined in singing the same hymn to the Latin words Adeste Fideles. And I thought, well, this is really a most extraordinary thing – two nations both singing the same carol in the middle of a war.”*

Thousands of troops—British, Belgian, French, and German—pulled themselves out of their fortifications to celebrate Christmas together that year. They exchanged gifts of cigarettes, food, buttons, and hats. A pause in the fighting provided both sides opportunity at last to bury their dead. Thousands had already died in World War I by that Christmas and millions more would be killed by war’s end, but against all odds, there was a bit of peace on earth that Christmas Eve night.

In our own bitterly-divided times, let us pause to remember the peace described in Moren’s Christmas story, and more importantly in the story that took place so many years ago in a lowly manger in Bethlehem. Let us not become too entrenched in the worry and darkness that comes with this life, and instead strive to serve one another, worshipping the Christ child and reflecting on the hope, peace, joy, and love that God provided for us that beautiful, moonlit night.

We’re honored to be able to create some space for you to worship, serve, and reflect this Christmas season.

On **Christmas morning**, we’ll gather at 10:00 am for a simple worship service in our Fellowship Hall. We’ll enjoy some refreshments beforehand. Dress warmly and casually!

On Friday evening, December 23, we’ll gather in the sanctuary for our annual **Candlelight Communion Service**.

On Wednesday evening, December 21, we’ll have our second annual **Longest Night Service**, a service that reflects the reality that even in the midst of the joy of this season, many among us are grieving the death of a loved one, financial hardships, strained relationships, or other things that weigh heavily on us. On this longest night of the year, we gather to celebrate that God is present with us, even in the darkness.

This Sunday morning, December 18, our choir, children, and orchestra will lead us in worship with **The Christmas Tapestry**.

Finally, don’t forget our annual **New Year’s Day Community Meal**. Please include this event in your prayers. Want to serve? A sign-up sheet is available outside the Deacon Conference Room.

With the angels let us claim and proclaim this Christmas season, “Peace on earth, good will to all people.”

Peace of Christ,

*Josh*



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1  9:30 AM Worship  11:30 AM New Year’s Day Community Meal	2 Church Office Closed	3	4 5:45 PM Children’s Music and Missions  5:45 PM Youth Group  6:05 PM Bible Study  7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir	5	6	7 9:00 AM-12:00 PM All-Committee Summit
8 9:30 AM Worship  10:30 AM Sunday School  5:00 PM Youth Group	9 1:00 PM Staff Meeting	10	11 5:45 PM Children’s Music and Missions  5:45 PM Youth Group  6:05 PM Bible Study  7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir	12 The Beacon Published	13	14
15 9:30 AM Worship  10:30 AM Sunday School  5:00 PM Youth Group	16  Church Office Closed	17	18 5:45 PM Children’s Music and Missions  5:45 PM Youth Group  6:05 PM Bible Study  7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir	19 Noon  <b>T</b> HIRD HURSDAY Senior Adult Ministry Location TBD	20	21
22 9:30 AM Worship/Deacon Ordination  10:30 AM Sunday School  11:30 AM Deacons’ Meeting/ Training Luncheon  5:00 PM Youth Group	23 1:00 PM Staff Meeting	24 10:00 AM The Margaret Williams Bible Study	25 5:45 PM Children’s Music and Missions  5:45 PM Youth Group  6:05 PM Bible Study  7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir	26 The Beacon Published	27	28
29 9:30 AM Worship  10:30 AM Sunday School  11:30 AM Church Conference  5:00 PM Youth Group	30 1:00 PM Staff Meeting	31	<b>STAFF ANNIVERSARIES</b> Cara Morgan - January 19 - 2 years			

**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!**



Dean and Dale Cate