

THE BEACON
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OPPORTUNITIES AT FIRST BAPTIST

Sunday, March 9 - Daylight Savings Time Starts

- 9:30 AM Worship
- 10:30 AM Sunday School
- 11:30 AM FBC Kids Event to Clemson Little Theater
- 5:00 PM Youth Group and Dinner

Wednesday, March 12

- 5:30 PM Handbell Choir (above the Chapel)
- 5:45 PM Children's Music & Missions (Rock Room)
Youth Group (Gym)
- 7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
Youth "Homework & Hangout" (Gym)

Sunday, March 16

- 9:30 AM Worship
- 10:30 AM Sunday School
- 11:30 AM Deacons Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
- 5:00 PM Youth Group and Dinner

Wednesday, March 19

- 5:30 PM Handbell Choir (above the Chapel)
- 5:45 PM Children's Music & Missions (Rock Room)
Youth Group (Gym)
- 7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
Youth "Homework & Hangout" (Gym)

Thursday, March 20

- Beacon Published
- 12:00 PM Third Thursday (Fellowship Hall)



307 S. Manning Street, Anderson, SC 29624
 CHURCH OFFICE — 224-1622
 CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER — 224-2635
 Office Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 9:00 - 4:00

- Miss Mary Alice Edmonds, Organist
- Mrs. Shannon Griffin, CDC Director
- Mrs. Lesley Hudgins, Financial Manager
- Mrs. Sharon Royals, Communications Manager
- Miss Natalie Rutledge, Musician in Residence
- Mr. Jamie Smith, Asst. Music Director
- Mrs. Kelly Smith, Pianist
- Mr. Addrian Wilson, Minister of Music
- Mr. Greg Wilson, Facilities Manager
- Dr. Jim Wooten, Interim Pastor

Urgent Needs (after hours, Friday's, and weekends):
 Call: 224-1622, Press 3, leave name, number and a brief
 message and someone will return your call promptly.



FirstBaptistAnderson
 FBCAndersonSC
 andersonfbc.org

MEMBERS IN ACTION

March 9

Deacons of the Week:
 Becky Campbell, Offertory Prayer
 John Bone, Visitor Outreach

Children's Worship:
 Tracey Ramsey and Liz Marvin

Security:
 Charlie Campbell and Eddie Wentzky

March 16

Deacons of the Week:
 Larry Mitchell, Offertory Prayer
 Susan Reed, Visitor Outreach

Children's Worship:
 Timothy Clardy and Kristen Gilmer

Security:
 Alan Oxendine and Greg Shore



FIRST BAPTIST
 ANDERSON, SOUTH CAROLINA

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

THE BEACON

March 7, 2025 Volume 64 Issue 5



**COMING IN APRIL
 HOLY WEEK!**

PALM SUNDAY WORSHIP
 Sunday, April 13 - 9:30 AM

**MAUNDY THURSDAY
 COMMUNION**
 April 17 - 7:00 PM
 (child care will be provided)

**CHURCH-WIDE
 EASTER FELLOWSHIP**
 Saturday, April 19 - 11:00 AM

EASTER SUNDAY
 April 20
 7:00 AM - Sunrise Service
 followed by Easter Breakfast
 9:30 AM - Easter Sunday Worship



MARCH



**BWIM | MONTH OF
 ADVOCACY**

FBC INVITES YOU TO TAKE A STEP IN AFFIRMING,
 VALUING, AND ELEVATING WOMEN IN MINISTRY

AMONG BAPTISTS THIS MARCH!



Scan the QR code or visit

WWW.BWIM.INFO/BWIM-MONTH-Of-ADVOCACY

to learn more and find ways you can participate.

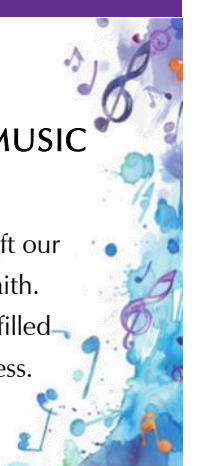
RESOUNDING FAITH

A CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP THROUGH MUSIC

Sunday, March 30 — 9:30 AM

Join us for a special 5th Sunday Music Service, where we lift our
 voices in praise and worship through powerful songs of faith.
 Experience uplifting music, heartfelt worship, and a spirit-filled
 morning as we come together to celebrate God's goodness.

Bring your family and friends for this inspiring
 time of fellowship and song!





This church has a strong tradition of openness to and encouragement of women in leadership. For decades, women have assumed the role of deacon, like Phoebe of old, working alongside men in helping to set the tone and provide the direction for the life of the church. Just as Priscilla taught the finer points of theology to a young preacher named Apollos, our Bible study classes (of all ages, including adults) have long benefited from the skills and insights of knowledgeable women who have the gift of teaching.

We have had women serve on the ministerial staff down through the years. Pretty much every Sunday, a woman has a role in worship leadership – saying a prayer, leading a responsive reading, offering a word of welcome. Our pulpit is no stranger to women, who like Philip’s daughters in Acts, have the gift of preaching.

Sadly, it is not so everywhere. At First Baptist, we do not think much about it. It is just natural to us, as it should be, that both women and men use the gifts God has given them in various roles of leadership. Girls who grew up in this church have been nurtured to believe in the possibilities of what God can do with their lives. Some have gone on to seminary and now serve other churches throughout our country.

It is a rich heritage that we celebrate. God’s kingdom has benefited beyond measure from the witness this church has borne.

All of this occurs to me as I have been reminded that March is Baptist Women in Ministry month. It is a time to reemphasize the importance of being intentional in offering encouragement and opportunity for women to use their gifts in answering God’s call to service.

I am grateful for those women who have served alongside me, both clergy and lay leaders, in my fifty years as a pastor. These colleagues have enriched my life, broadened my understanding and enhanced my ministry.



As we enter the season of Lent, we are invited to pause and reflect as we walk together toward the cross. This journey is not just a personal one but a communal one, where we unite in the shared experience of sacrifice, repentance, and renewal. Lent offers us an opportunity to clear away distractions and focus on what truly matters—our relationship with God and one another. It is fitting that, this year, we begin our pastoral transition process with our first Congregational Conversation in the season of Lent.

As a community of faith, this season is a time to lean on each other in prayer and fellowship, supporting one another as we move toward the culmination of Holy Week and into the future that God has in store for us. The events of Holy Week—Jesus’ triumphal entry into Jerusalem, His Last Supper with the disciples, His crucifixion, and His glorious resurrection—offer a powerful reminder of the depth of God’s love for us.

As we approach these sacred moments, let us encourage one another to be intentional in our reflections, making room for God to speak into our hearts. Together, we can prepare our minds and spirits for the joy and hope that Easter brings, remembering that the resurrection is the ultimate victory over sin and death. This Lenten season, let us walk together as a family of faith, anticipating the renewal and resurrection that awaits us.

Jim Wooten, Interim Pastor

CHURCHWIDE MINISTRY

CONGREGATIONAL CONVERSATION #1, March 23, immediately following worship.

We are excited to welcome Dr. Bill Wilson with the Center for Healthy Churches to preach in our March 23 morning worship service and then to lead us in our first Congregational Conversation. It is “all hands on deck” when we hold these Congregational Conversations, so make every effort to take your place at the table. These events are pivotal for the success of our transitional journey and every voice is needed. We hope to have the fellowship hall filled to capacity. As they used to say in the day: “Be there or be square!”

TAKE A LOOK AT THE NEW SCREEN IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL

We are excited to announce that, through a generous gift for which we are most grateful, our fellowship hall now includes a 98 inch TV screen—a much-needed addition that enhances this space and makes it ideal for a variety of large-group presentations. It came just in time for the three Congregational Conversations that will be an important part of our Pastoral Transition process, but the ability to project information to the wider group will enhance a wide range of activities from Bible studies to social engagements to church conferences and beyond.

In addition to addressing the need for video projection capabilities in the fellowship hall, the Building and Grounds Committee also developed a proposal to improve the sound projection and acoustical quality in the room by installing a new audio system. They submitted their proposal to the Stewardship Committee which approved funds from a non-budgeted account to cover the expenses. We expect the system to be installed in the very near future.

All of this is an effort to continue to upgrade the quality and maximize the functionality of what is arguably the second most important room, utilized by the largest variety of our church membership, in our entire church facility. We hope you will enjoy the improvements.



DEACONS MINISTRY

DEACON ELECTIONS

Our church has elected 11 dedicated individuals to serve as our newest class of deacons:
Tom Allen, Jack Anderson, Skip Brown, Charlie Campbell, Timothy Clardy, Elizabeth Marvin, Mathias Richardson, Thomas Roach, Ann Self, Greg Shore, and Marie Turner

We are grateful for their willingness to serve and invite you to keep them in your prayers as they step into their deacon ministry.

WELCOME!

NEW MEMBERS
Jason, Elizabeth Monroe,
and Zachariah Johnson
Joined March 2, 2025



SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY



Thursday, March 20
at noon in the Fellowship Hall

**Don Saxon will speak on
Military Service and Sacrifice**



Cost: \$10.00; Menu: Baked Ham, Yeast Roll, Pinto Beans, Cheesy Potatoes, Banana Pudding

Please make a reservation by
3:00 PM on Thursday, March 13.