

THE BEACON
USPS 571-380 Dated Material
Published semi-monthly
by The First Baptist Church
307 S. Manning St., Anderson, SC.
Periodicals postage paid at Anderson, SC 29621.
**Postmaster: Send address correction to
The Beacon, First Baptist Church
307 South Manning Street, Anderson, SC 29624.**



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
andersonfbc.org

THANK YOU NOTES

Dear FBC,

Thank you so much for providing the delicious and plentiful
food for our family on Saturday, It was a blessing to our family
and it was also great to be able to see some of you at the cele-
bration service.

We will miss Mom greatly, however we are so comforted
knowing she is in the presence of the Lord!

Thank you,

Danny and Joanne Walker, David and Jackie Walker and
Susan and Keith Timmerman



Thank you to everyone who packed a shoebox. We
had a record 86 boxes! What a blessing as children
and their families will learn about Jesus and his
eternal salvation.

OPPORTUNITIES AT FIRST BAPTIST

Sunday, December 7 - Second Sunday of Advent

8:00 AM Deacons Christmas Breakfast
9:30 AM Worship
10:30 AM Sunday School
11:30 AM Children's Christmas Fun Day/Dress Rehearsal

Monday, December 8

6:00 PM Men's Ministry Low Country Boil (Fellowship Hall)

Wednesday, December 10

5:30 PM Handbell Choir (above the Chapel)
6:00 PM Children's Christmas Program (Sanctuary)
Followed by Refreshments (Rock Room)
7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
Youth "Homework & Hangout" (Gym)

Friday, December 12

**9:45 AM Senior Adult Trip to the Grove Park Inn
(meet in front of the Fellowship Hall at 9:45 AM)**

Saturday, December 13

10:00 AM Christmas Choir Rehearsal and Lunch at the
Bleckley Inn

Sunday, December 14 - Third Sunday of Advent

9:30 AM A Christmas Tapestry
10:30 AM Sunday School
5:00 PM Youth Christmas Downtown Scavenger Hunt

Tuesday, December 16

10:00 AM Margaret Williams Bible Study

Wednesday, December 17

5:30 PM Handbell Choir (above the Chapel)
5:45 PM Youth and Children—Cookies and Caroling
(Meet in the Sanctuary)
7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, December 18

Beacon Published

CONDOLENCES

Pam Burnett and family on the passing of her mother,
Donna Nelson, on November 22, 2025.

Matt Lathrop and family on the passing of his grandmother,
Peggy Massey, on November 26, 2025.

MEMBERS IN ACTION

December 7

Deacons of the Week: Patricia Torbert, Offertory Prayer
Tom Allen, Visitor Outreach

Children's Worship: Leslie Walker and Sammy Gilmer

Security: Kevin McCoy and Alan Oxendine

December 14

Deacons of the Week: Susan Reed, Offertory Prayer
Marian Moorhead, Visitor Outreach

Children's Worship: Children will remain in the service.

Security: T. J. Fusco and Adam Gathers



FIRST BAPTIST
ANDERSON, SOUTH CAROLINA

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

THE BEACON

November 21, 2025 Volume 64 Issue 22



FROM THE INTERIM PASTOR

Before Thanksgiving slips too far into the background, with all the Advent and Christmas activity is in full gear, I want to take the opportunity to express my deepest appreciation for the surprise anniversary recognition in the November 23rd worship service. It was one of the most thoughtful (and stealthily executed) acts of kindness this old boy has encountered along this 50-year journey of ministry. I'm still not exactly sure how it was all carried out or the role each person played, but to the church as a whole and especially to those who came up with and executed "the plan," I thank you from the bottom of my heart.

The painting is beautifully done- by an artist that is a dear friend from Beaufort who has done family paintings of our kids and our granddaughter for us before. Miles, the child in the picture is the first-born of a wonderful Marine couple who became like family to us in a short time while serving in Beaufort. They were part of a young adult class we taught- one of the joys of our time there. Out of that class, there were weddings and baby dedications that were such happy times.

Marines move about, as do Pastors; but somehow we stayed connected with many of them. I was so honored when the Barrs asked me to come to Florida while they were on a furlough assignment from Okinawa to baptize the child I once held as a baby for his dedication. I am so grateful to them for making the long trek from Quantico to share this special moment with this church family which has blessed my life during the past year. Somehow it ties the years together... and boy, what a touching surprise!

I remember seeing the original photograph Becky took and thinking it was one of my favorite ever. I found it hard to express exactly the deep feeling that welled up in me when I looked at it. In some ways, it summed up my life as a minister. It is about relationships, about one generation making way for the next, about hope and new beginnings. But there was something more.

I looked up the word "ethereal." I think it comes close to what I feel when I look at that picture. "To be ethereal means to be extremely delicate, light and otherworldly... something that is heavenly, spiritual, or intangible." While the painting is tied to a meaningful personal event, it somehow speaks to me of heaven- of taking the hand of someone and helping them on a journey toward heaven.

I think the artist saw it too. She captured it so well. It has an ethereal quality.

Thank you for a wonderful gift. I will cherish the love I have found among you in these days together whenever I look at it.



Celebrate the season!

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT AND DECORATION OF THE CHRISMON TREE
THIS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7TH AT 9:30 AM

MEN'S LOW COUNTRY BOIL
MONDAY, DECEMBER 8TH AT 6:00 PM

The Christmas season is approaching, and the church needs help getting ready for Christmas. Meet in the Fellowship Hall for a Low Country Boil dinner and then proceed to the Sanctuary to put together the staging for the Christmas program. Tools for installing the stage will be supplied by the church. The installation should not take more than 1 to 2 hours. Please text Kevin McCoy at 864-933-4341 if you plan to attend.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS CONCERT
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10TH AT 6:00 PM
Followed by Refreshments in The Rock Room

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
A CHRISTMAS TAPESTRY (FBC'S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT)
PRESENTED BY THE FBC SANCTUARY CHOIR AND ORCHESTRA
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14TH AT 9:30 AM
(see front cover for more details)

YOUTH CHRISTMAS DOWNTOWN SCAVENGER HUNT
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14TH — 5:00-8:00 PM
RSVP to Shelby at 864-376-8698

MARGARET WILLIAMS BIBLE STUDY
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16TH — 10:00 AM IN THE BRIDAL SUITE

YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S COOKIES AND CAROLING
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17TH — 5:45-7:30 PM
Achieve Rehabilitation and Nursing Center and The Wilmary

Everyone is welcome to join and spread the joy of Christmas! Meet in the Sanctuary at 5:45 PM if you plan to attend. Pick up will also be in the Sanctuary at 7:30 PM.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21ST AT 9:30 AM

CHRISTMAS CANDLELIGHT COMMUNION SERVICE
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23RD AT 7:00 PM

MISSIONS GIVING

Have you given your Christmas offering for International and Global Missions yet? Your giving supports the work of thousands of missionaries around the world who plant new churches, baptize new believers, and share God's love with millions. 100% of the offering we receive during The Christmas Candlelight Service will go in support of missions.