

First Baptist News

FBC Lumberton is a community of faith committed to living out the love of Christ by serving God and all people.



Ordination and Installation of Deacons

Faith Story — James W. Lawson

Judy Driscoll	Tony Thompson
James Gore	John Underwood
J.W. Lawson	Chris Walters

9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship

Join us for Worship in-person
in the Sanctuary

or online on Facebook Live
facebook.com/firstbaptistlumbertonnc

or online on YouTube
youtube.com/c/lumbertonfbc/

Coming up this week. . .

Sunday, November 19

9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary
10:30 a.m. Worship Online
5:00 p.m. Community Thanksgiving Service (FBC Sanctuary)

Monday, November 20

10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting (Conf. Rm.)
5:00 p.m. ECM Re-Opening Open House Begins
5:45 p.m. Finance Meeting (Chapel)
6:30 p.m. Scouts Meeting
7:00 p.m. Deacons Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

Tuesday, November 21

7:00 a.m. Men's Prayer Group (Zoom)

Thursday, November 23 **Happy Thanksgiving!**

There will be no Wednesday night services on November 22. The offices and ECM will be closed November 23-24.

Saturday, November 25

10:00 a.m. Hispanic Ministry Bible Study (Act. Bld.)



Make this year's Community Thanksgiving Service part of your family's holiday celebrations as we thank God for his blessings!

We'll gather in First Baptist Sanctuary on Sunday, November 19th at 5 pm. Rev. Lisa Rust will be preaching and several churches will be participating in worship elements. This event is open to the community, so please invite your family and friends.



Things are progressing nicely for the renovated ECM rooms! We are loving the new colors, bathrooms in each room, and the teacher's touches to make each room unique. In a short time, we will be ready for students to move in. Finishing touches are being done now such as installing computers and phones.

You are invited to the ECM's reopening Open House! Come anytime between 5 and 7 pm. Refreshments will be available.

If you would like to place flowers in the Sanctuary in honor or in memory of a loved one, we have several dates available in 2023 and 2024. Call the church office to reserve a date. Once your date is reserved, we encourage you to contact your florist to arrange delivery of the flowers (most use Flowers by Billy—738-2279).



WELCOME!

This past Sunday (November 12) in worship Gail Johnson joined First Baptist Church. We welcome her to our community of faith!

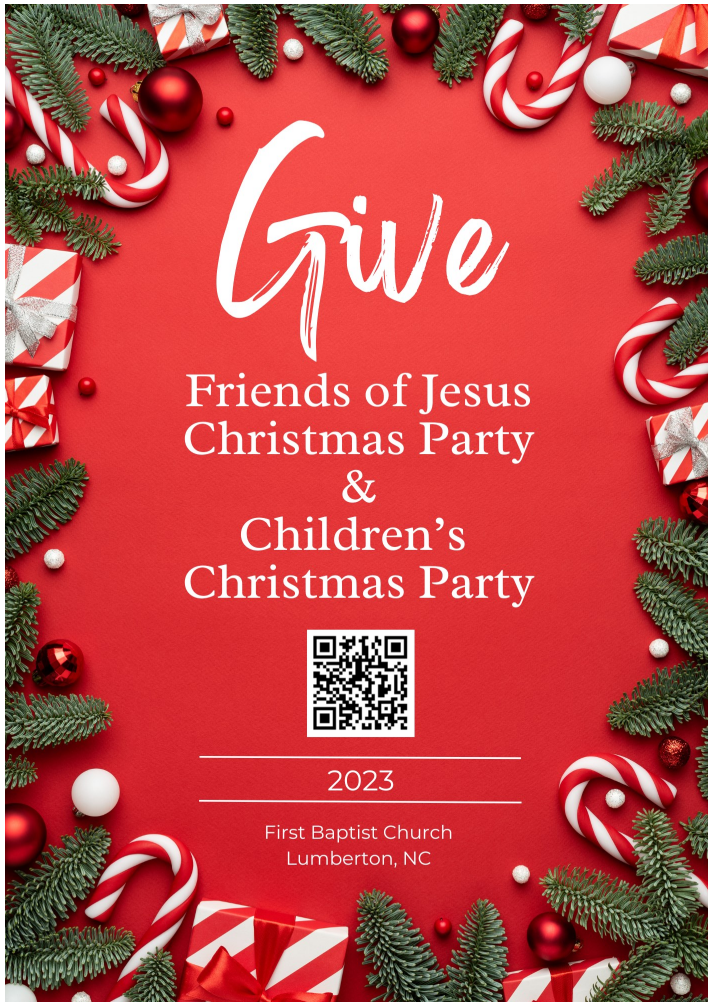
**Gail Johnson
3607B Cliffridge Dr
Lumberton, NC 28358**

Coming up this month:

Nov. 20 — Hanging of the Green greenery fund memorials/honorariums due. Forms are available in the newsletter and online.
Nov. 22 — No Wednesday Night service
Nov. 23 — Thanksgiving! The offices and ECM will be closed Nov. 23 and 24.
Nov. 26 — Christ the King Sunday
Nov. 26 — Hanging of the Green Rehearsal

Coming Up in December:

Dec. 2 — Susan Welsh Sunday School Class will be packing FOJ gift bags in the Activities Building, 1:30 p.m.
Dec. 3 — Muffins for Music during 9:30 am Sunday School hour. The FOJ class will be singing carols. This event and Worship will be in the Fellowship Hall.
Dec. 3 — Hanging of the Green, 6 pm, Sanctuary
Dec. 4 — WMU Meeting, 11:45 am, Act. Bld.
Dec. 5 — Baptist Women's Bible Study, 11:45 am, Act. Bld.
Dec. 8 — Partnership for Children's EC Art/Christmas Party in the Fellowship Hall, 10 am
Dec. 9 — Children's Christmas Party
Dec. 10 — Memorial Service, 5 pm, Chapel
Dec. 11 — Friends of Jesus Christmas Party
Dec. 13 — Youth Progressive Dinner
Dec. 14 — Fun & Fellowship, 11 am, Fellowship Hall (Note location change)
Dec. 16 — Community Café, hosted by Bridge Sunday School Class
Dec. 17 — Sanctuary Choir Cantata during 10:30 Worship
Dec. 18 — Finance meeting at 5:45 pm in the Chapel. Deacons meeting at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. New elected Deacons are invited to attend.
Dec. 20 — Children's Spontaneous Nativity Program, 6 pm, Fellowship Hall
Dec. 24 — No Sunday School. Worship will be held at 10:30 am in the Sanctuary.
Dec. 24 — Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, 5 pm, Sanctuary
Dec. 25 — Christmas Day!
Dec. 25-27 — Offices & ECM closed
Dec. 31 — No Sunday School. Worship will be held at 10:30 am in the Sanctuary.
Jan. 1 — New Years Day! The offices & ECM will be closed.



Give to the Children's Christmas Party & Friends of Jesus Fund!

Children's Christmas Party Goal = \$6,000

Date of Party: December 9th

Beginning in October each year, we work with local schools to gather names of children in need. The Youth of First Baptist then invite these children to our annual Children's Christmas Party. The Youth and their families shop for necessities and a toy on the child's wish list, then send a ham home for the whole family. We hope to spend \$125.00 per child.

FOJ Christmas Party Goal = \$6,000

Date of Party: December 11th

The Friends of Jesus Ministry is also accepting donations to buy gifts for their annual Christmas party.

Please give early and generously to help make these ministry opportunities possible!

Contributions may be given in-person during Worship, or scan the QR code on the flyer to give online.

FBC Trip to Cape Cod, Martha's Vineyard, and Plymouth, MA June 2-8, 2024

\$950.00 per person with \$75.00 due upon signing. Price is based on double occupancy.

Add \$209 for single occupancy.

Final payment due 3/26/24.

Trip includes transportation, lodging, 10 meals, guided tours, museums, and much more. Sign up by calling the church office or contact Phyllis Gibson. Since this will be a popular trip, FBC members are encouraged to register for the trip during this priority registration period. Travel insurance is available at an additional cost.

Call the office to register or register online by scanning this QR code:



Senior Adult Trip

Dec. 14, 2023 \$10
Bring \$ for Meal & Gift Shop



2023 FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

DRIVE THRU LIGHTS

6-10PM
\$10 PER PERSON
AGES 5 & UNDER FREE
Max. of \$120 per vehicle

NOV. 24, 25 & 26
NOV. 30-DEC. 3 & DEC. 7-10
NIGHTLY DEC. 14-23

COUNTRY
BUFFET
\$14 PER PERSON
5-9PM

FREE
PHOTOS WITH
SANTA
6-10PM

CANDY
SHOP
6-10PM

OPEN DAILY
GIFT SHOP
TASTING ROOM

Proudly in Partnership with Four County Electric Membership Corporation

Advent at First Baptist



December 3rd is the first Sunday in Advent this year, which marks the start of the spiritual period of preparation for the celebration of Jesus' birth on Christmas Day.

During Hanging of the Green, children and Youth help decorate the Sanctuary. The tree is decorated in Chrismons. "Chrismon" is a combination of the words "Christ" and "monogram," and means "symbols of Christ." Chrismons are gold and white, representing majesty and purity. So, the primary colors used are green, gold, and white. We include honorariums and memorials made to the greenery fund in the printed program. See the back of this newsletter for the form to contribution to the greenery fund. Forms are due November 20th.

On Sunday, December 3rd, Sunday Morning Worship will be held in Cherry Fellowship Hall at 10:30 a.m. as we prepare for Hanging of the Green that evening.

Sunday, December 3

Muffins for Music—Friends of Jesus Singing & Church-wide Christmas Party & Hanging of the Green

During the Sunday School hour (9:30 am) Sunday, December 3rd, bring your favorite Christmas treat to share as we listen to the Friends of Jesus Class sing in the Fellowship Hall. Worship will be held in the Fellowship Hall at 10:30 am. The Hanging of the Green service will take place at 6:00 pm in the Sanctuary.

Sunday, December 10 **Memorial Service**

Our annual Memorial Service will be held Sunday, December 10th at 5:00 pm in the Sanctuary. This is a special service that is designed not only for those who have lost a loved one recently, but for anyone grieving a loss no matter how much time has passed. Candles of Hope will be lit during the service and a crochet snowflake ornament will be available to those who have had a loved one pass away within the past year as a reminder of the blessings of God's presence and peace.

Sunday, December 17 **Sanctuary Choir Cantata during 10:30 am Worship**

Wednesday, December 20 **Spontaneous Nativity**

Our Spontaneous Nativity is a unique opportunity to hear the story of Christ's birth told in a unique way. It will be facilitated by children, and the best part is, no practice is required! All children are welcome to take part.

The program begins at 6, and any children who would like to participate are encouraged to arrive at 5:30. They will select their "parts" and will be guided by volunteers on how to prepare. The program will include the telling of the story, music, and an opportunity to hear the greatest story ever told.

Saturday, December 24 **Morning Worship & Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**

Worship with us at 10:30 am in the Sanctuary, on Facebook Live, or on Youtube. No Sunday School classes will meet. Our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service will be held December 24 at 5:00 pm in the Sanctuary. During the service, the Christ Candle will be lit, we'll sing carols, read the account of the birth of Jesus, and then share the light of Christ.



Children's Music/Missions will go caroling on Wednesday, December 6th at 5:30 pm! Please note that is a change from our regular meeting time. Rev. Tim Little will drive for us, and this will also be our last day of music/missions for the year.

Worship with Us

606 N. Walnut Street
fbclumbertonnc.org

Sundays

9:30 a.m.—Sunday School

10:30 a.m.—Worship

*In-person in First Baptist Sanctuary
or via Facebook Live or YouTube*

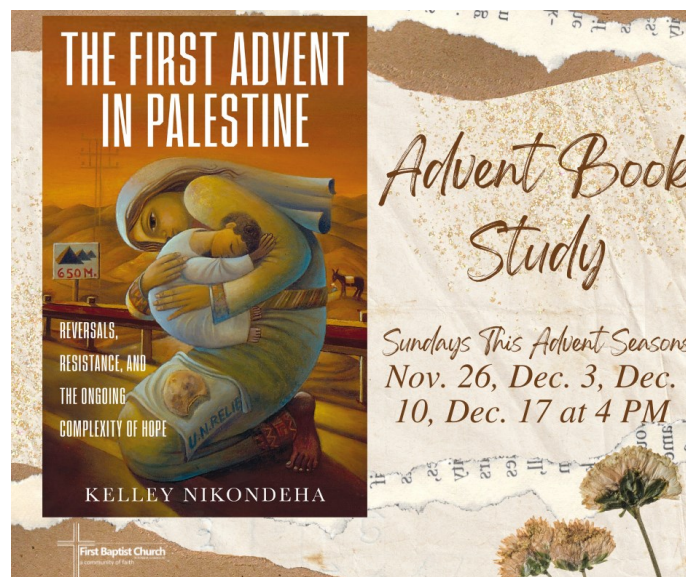
Wednesdays

6:00 p.m.—Adult Bible Study,
Children's Activities,
Youth Doing Missions

*Adult Bible Study, Children's activities, and
Youth Doing Missions will not meet
December 13-27, 2023*

*Scan the QR code on the front of the newsletter
to access our website and social media pages.*

As an element of Worship, we invite you to light The Christ Candle. This invitation is open to all ages, individuals or families. The Christ Candle is lit at the beginning of Worship and stays burning through the service as a visual reminder of God's presence and light in our lives. Contact the Church Office or any of the ministers if you would like to light the candle.



We will have an Advent Book Study Sundays at 4 pm in the conference room. We encourage you to purchase your copy of the book, "The First Advent in Palestine: Reversals, Resistance, and the Ongoing Complexity of Hope" by Kelly Nikondeha, in advance. It can be purchased on Amazon at <https://a.co/d/2DeNgDa>.

In the book, Nikondeha guides the reader to revisit the birth of Jesus in the context of his birth. A context that was marked by social upheaval, resistance, and oppression, and challenges us to think how that reality has something to say to us today as we revisit the First Advent.

If you prefer, you may complete this form online. A link to the form is available in emails from the church. Contributions are accepted in cash, check, or online. Please contact Kandace about online giving options.

Hanging of the Green Sunday, December 3, 2023

It is time to begin collecting donations for the annual Hanging of the Green! We would like to include your honorariums and memorials in this year's program. Please complete this form and return it to the church office no later than Monday, November 20, 2023.

I would like to contribute \$ _____ to the Hanging of the Green Fund.

Please print names as they should appear in the program.

In memory of: _____

And/or

In honor of: _____

Given by: _____

Phone: _____



Person of the Week

Send a card, letter, or other remembrance to our very special person this week.

*Thinking
of you*

**Margaret Wilson
1170 Linkhaw Road
Room 203
Lumberton, NC 28358**

Servants this Sunday

*The ECM Entrance remains closed. Please enter for
Worship at the Sanctuary vestibule.*

9:30 Sunday School Entrance Greeters

6th Street Ramp, 9:00—9:30 am (Handicap)
Brenda & James Britt

10:30 Worship Entrance Greeters

Sanctuary Vestibule 10:00—11:30 am
Ann & John Underwood

Security Monitor — John Underwood

Nursery — Ashlynn Cox, Jenna Davis

Extended Session — Pattie Ramsaur

Contact Us...Our office hours vary!

Kandace will be out of the office November 22-29. Her husband will have knee surgery on Nov. 27th and her kids are out of school for winter break. She will still be available by email (kandaceramsey@fbclumbertonnc.org). Please call the office to make sure someone is in the office before stopping by.

Office Phone: 910-739-4336

Website: www.fbclumbertonnc.org

General Email: office@fbclumbertonnc.org

Rev. Tim Little — Minister of Music and Facilities;
timlittle@fbclumbertonnc.org

Rev. Josh Owens — Senior Pastor;
joshowens@fbclumbertonnc.org

Mr. Len Power — Building Superintendent;
lenpower@fbclumbertonnc.org

Mrs. Kandace Ramsey — Administrative Assistant;
kandaceramsey@fbclumbertonnc.org

Rev. Doug Reedy — Associate Pastor of Youth,
Young Adults and Missions;
dougreezy@fbclumbertonnc.org