

First Baptist News

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



SCAN ME

Coming up this week. . .

Sunday, December 17

- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:30 a.m. Worship (Sanctuary)
- 10:30 a.m. Worship Online
- 4:00 p.m. Advent Book Study Group (Conf. Rm.)

Monday, December 18

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

Tuesday, December 19

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

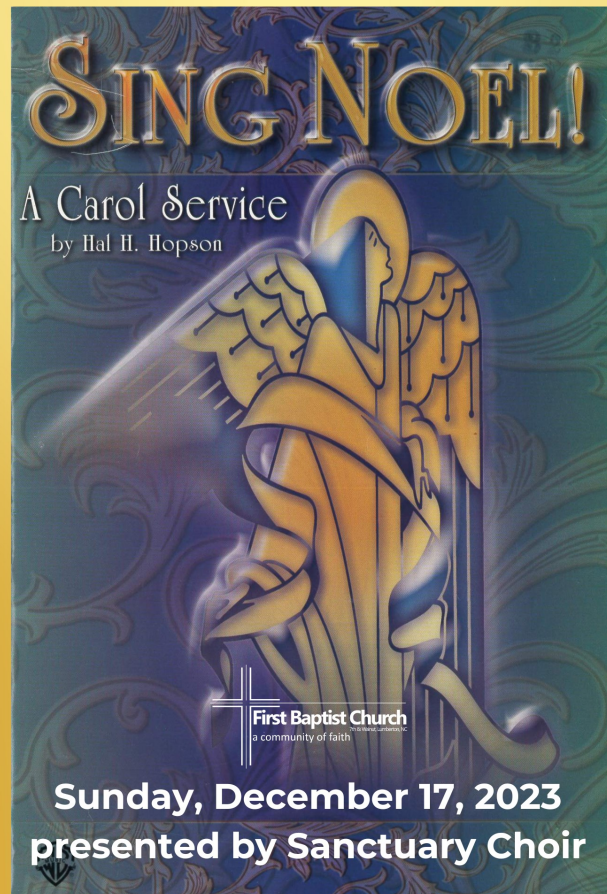
Wednesday, December 20

- 6:00 p.m. Spontaneous Nativity Program
Meal following in honor of
Helen Lawson's Retirement
- 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Give to First Baptist Church! Contributions for 2023 must be postmarked by December 31, 2023.

Here are some ways to donate to our ministry:

- Give during Sunday worship.
- Give through our secure online portal at fbclumbertonnc.org/give.
- Scan the QR code:
- Send us your contribution by mail:
606 N. Walnut Street,
Lumberton, NC
28358
- Text FBC606 to 73256 to give using your mobile device.



Preparing for Sunday, December 17, 2023 The Third Sunday of Advent

Join us for Worship in-person at 10:30 am
in the Sanctuary
or online on Facebook Live
facebook.com/firstbaptistlumbertonnc
or online on YouTube
youtube.com/c/lumbertonfbc/



Advent at First Baptist

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.

Sunday, 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 Christmas Eve 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.



**Join us Wednesday, Dec. 20th for a
Spontaneous Nativity & Dinner!**

Children who wish to participate should arrive by 5:30 pm and go to the Chapel to choose their part and get into costume. The program will start at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. At the conclusion of the service, we will have dinner to honor Ms. Helen as she retires from First Baptist. A basket for cards will be available.



The First Sunday of Advent (December 3rd) was a day full of celebrations here at FBCL. We started the morning with a church wide Christmas breakfast and then in worship our Friends of Jesus ministry led us in song. Then Sunday evening was our annual Hanging of the Green where children and adults helped us kick off the Advent season with decorations, songs, and scripture.

We are excited for this Advent and Christmas season!



We were excited to once again host the Public Schools of Robeson County elementary EC classes for their Christmas Social on Friday, December 8th.

This event is sponsored by Kiwanis of Robeson Lumberton and provides the students and staff with a meal, Christmas crafts, and gifts. Thanks to all the volunteers from our church, Kiwanis, and Lumberton Senior High School Beta Club & National Honor Society for making this event happen.



Coming Up:

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 — ECM & Offices closed

Dec. 25-Jan. 1 — Church staff out of the office

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.

Jan. 2 — Baptist Women's Meeting, 11:45 am, Act. Bld.

Jan. 3 — Wednesday night Adult Bible Study, Youth Doing Missions, and Children's Activities resume.

Jan. 8 — WMU Meeting, 11:45 am, Act. Bld.

Jan. 11 — Fun & Fellowship, 11:00 am, Act. Bld.

Jan. 12-16 — Youth Ski Trip

Jan. 20 — Community Café (host needed)

Jan. 22 — Finance will meet at 5:45 pm in the Chapel. Deacons will meet at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Jan. 24 — Quarterly Church Conference, 6 pm

Feb. 5 — WMU Meeting, 11:45 am, Act. Bld.

Feb. 6 — Baptist Women's Meeting, 11:45 am, Act. Bld.

Feb. 8 — Fun & Fellowship, 11:00 am, Act. Bld.

Feb. 10 — Valentine Banquet, 5:00 pm, Fellowship Hall

Feb. 13 — Shrove Tuesday

Feb. 14 — Ash Wednesday. An Ash Wednesday Service will be held at 6:00 pm in the Chapel.

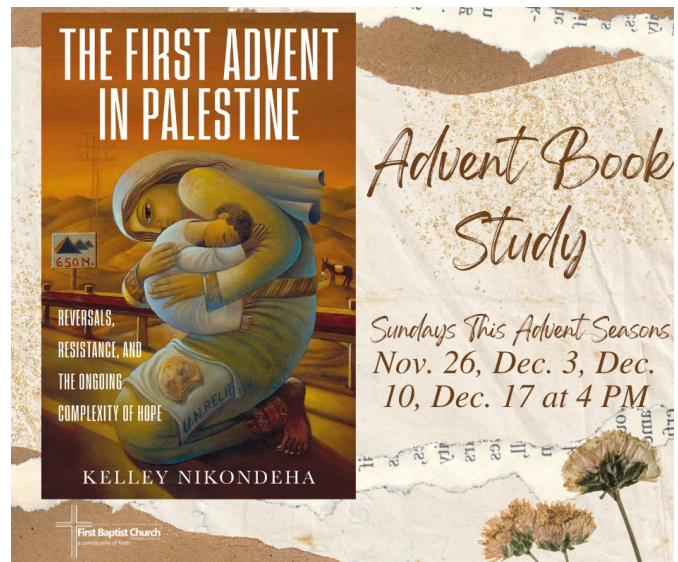
Feb. 17 — Community Café (host needed)

Feb. 26 — Finance will meet at 5:45 pm in the Chapel. Deacons will meet at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.



Participants in our children's choir went to visit a few of our homebound church families on December 6th during Children's Caroling Night.

These young carolers were assisted by some wonderful adult volunteers/teachers who we thank for their continued work with our young musicians. These kiddos gather on Wednesday evenings for music and missions at 6:00 p.m., which resumes meeting January 3, 2024!



Our final Advent Book Study is this Sunday at 4 pm in the conference room.

Worship with Us

606 N. Walnut Street
fbclumbertonnc.org

Sundays

9:30 a.m.—Sunday School

10:30 a.m.—Worship

In-person, Facebook Live, 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

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.



Altar Flowers *Reservations*

If you would like to place flowers in the Sanctuary in honor or in memory of a loved one, we currently have all Sundays available in rest of 2023 and for all of 2024. Call the church office or sign up at the Info Table near the green staircase 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).

Hosts for Community Café

On the third Saturday of each month, we host Community Café. This is a program offered through downtown churches to help feed the hungry in our community. If your Sunday School class, small group, or group of friends are willing to host anytime in 2024, please contact Rev. Doug Reedy or the church office.



While we primarily collect canned goods on the first Sunday of each month, we will accept them any Sunday! Especially during this season, there is a great need for food. Donations are sent to Robeson County Church and Community Center and/or Lumberton Christian Care. After speaking with RCCC, they are still in need of dry goods such as cereal and peanut butter, which we have collected for them previously. Both of these items are enjoyed by all ages. Bring your donations and place them in the collection bins located around the church or bring them to the office. Thank you for helping feed the hungry of our community!

TEN YEARS AT FBCL!

THIS MONTH WE
CELEBRATE OUR
ADMINISTRATIVE
ASSISTANT
KANDACE RAMSEY!



Join us in celebrating our own Kandace Ramsey who this month is celebrating ten years on staff here at First Baptist Lumberton! Kandace helps oversee all of the day-to-day operations of the church assisting with worship and discipleship resources, facilities management, finances, personnel, communications, and so much more. Senior Pastor Josh Owens says of Kandace, "She is a consummate professional who is skilled in a variety of ways, and our ministries are fortunate to benefit from her many talents and attention to detail. She is a great colleague and a vital part of our team!" Be sure to drop a note of thanks and join us in celebrating her milestone with us here at First Baptist Lumberton!



Servants this Sunday

Please enter for Worship at the Sanctuary.

9:30 Sunday School Entrance Greeters

6th Street Ramp, 9:00—9:30 am (Handicap)

Jimmy and Billie Dail

ECM Entrance, 9:00 — 9:30 am (Handicap)

Sue O'Tuel

10:30 Worship Entrance Greeters

Sanctuary Vestibule 10:00—11:30 am

Brenda and James Britt

Security Monitor — Jerry Long

Nursery — Ashlynn Cox, Jenna Davis

Extended Session — Katherine Martin

Person of the Week

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

*Thinking
of you*

**Judy and Jim Driscoll
4900 Willow Oak Dr.
Lumberton, NC 28358**



**DEC. 25-27
& JAN. 1**

We wish a Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year!



Contact Us...Our office hours vary!

It's a busy season and we are in-and-out of the office! 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;
jshowens@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;
dougreedy@fbclumbertonnc.org



This year's Children's Christmas Party was a big success! Thanks to your contributions and to the work of Youth, their parents, and Rev.

Doug, we were able to help 44 kids. Each family also received a ham and other Christmas treats.

Trinity Episcopal Church's Advent Noontime Concerts

December 20 — Mary Carol Warwick
Composer/Performer

Each concert begins at 12:00 noon and will be followed by a free luncheon in the Parish Hall.