

A progressive and welcoming Christian community!

Ministers:

Rev. Beth C. Loughhead

Rev. Julie R. Flowers
Rev. Kent D. Harrop

Director of Music: Dr. Esther Chang

Office Manager: <u>Pat Haight</u> Communication Associate: <u>Mary</u>

Powers

HNS Director: <u>Jennifer Baez</u> HCP Director: <u>Andrew DeFranza</u> Business Manager: <u>John Thomson</u> Facilities Manager: <u>Jeremy Weir</u>

Visit our Website

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Join Us On Sunday at First Baptist Church in Beverly

Christmas Sunday

December 23, 2018

10:00 a.m. Worship and Multi-Age Children's Class

Childcare is provided throughout the service for our youngest children, through Preschool. Our children in Grades 1 and up are encouraged to begin worship in the sanctuary with us - either in the Prayground space or with families in the pews, while our Kindergarten friends may begin either in Nursery Care OR in worship with their families and friends. Our Elementary aged children will be dismissed to their class time following the Stepsitters children's message!

11:00 a.m. Jesus' Birthday Party

After worship, we'll have a party, with a potluck luncheon, Christmas crafts and of course a birthday cake!! We will close, as we always do, with the singing of Christmas carols, culminating in the rousing and joyous singing of The Twelve Days of Christmas by table! See more info below on how you can contribute to the Potluck!

4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Middle School Fellowship Holiday Party

6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Senior High Fellowship Holiday Party

Mary and Joseph Look Forward Rev. Kent Harrop

Scriptures: Luke 1:26-38 Matthew 1:18-23

Mary and Joseph will be portrayed by Abby Johnstone and Adam Constantine

The Winn Family will light the candles of our Advent Wreath.

Youth in Grades 6 through 12 are invited to help us add to our Nativity Scene during the opening carol this Sunday.



Note: There will be no bulletin next week. The next Bulletin will be January 2, 2019. We wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Please join us on December 30th for a Worship Service of Story and Song at 10 a.m. in our sanctuary, as we hear stories and sing beloved carols of the season.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

Christmas Eve, December 24, 5pm and 11pm

5:00 p.m. A Service Planned with the Enthusiasm of Children in Mind

Rev. Julie Flowers, coordinating

This service includes an interactive, unrehearsed pageant in which any one – of all ages! - can choose to participate! You can choose a part (cow or donkey, angel, shepherd, sheep, star, wise person, or camel) ahead of time and come in costume OR we will have props and materials on hand here as you enter the sanctuary, to allow every one who wishes to do so to choose a part and prepare to be part of the story!

Leah Sarjoo, Nuku Aggor, and their children Elinai, Zachary, and Matthew will be lighting the Advent wreath.

Joy Ringers will be ringing (please arrive at 4:15 p.m. to rehearse) and our Children's Choir will be singing (please arrive at 4:20 p.m. to rehearse) in the service.

11:00 p.m.: Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols Rev. Beth Loughhead, coordinating

Beautiful music, beloved Christmas carols, and the story of Christmas as told in Scripture.

Our Youth Fellowship alumae will light the Advent wreath.

Both evening services include singing Silent Night in the glow of candlelight.

Holiday Events Happening This Week at FBC:

Thursday, December 20

Longest Night: 7 p.m. As the winter solstice approaches, we welcome you to a service of candlelight, music and prayer... for the healing of pain and grief and the hope found in community and in faith. Open to the wider community. This service takes place at FBC and is hosted by Saint Peters Episcopal Church, First Parish and First Baptist.

Sunday, December 23

Jesus' Birthday Party: 11 a.m. After worship, we'll have a party, with a potluck luncheon, Christmas crafts and of course a birthday cake!! We will close, as we always do, with the singing of Christmas carols, culminating in the rousing and joy ous singing of The Twelve Days of Christmas by table!

What to Bring:

Soup and desserts will be provided.

Families are asked to bring a loaf of NUT FREE sandwiches to share.

Single folks are asked to bring a bag of chips or a beverage.

Middle School Fellowship: 4pm-6pm: Our Middle School youth will meet at the home of the Karaganis family this Sunday for our annual Christmas Party. Youth attending should wear a festive sweater/outfit (if they wish) and bring a snack to share, as well as a small, silly wrapped gift (\$5 or so!) for a present pass, if they wish to participate in that activity. Youth should be dropped off and picked up at the Karaganis home. Please email <u>Julie Flowers</u> for more information or for the address/directions.

Senior High Fellowship: 6pm-9pm: Our Senior High youth will meet at First Baptist for its annual Christmas Party. We will gather in the Lounge on the main level for some celebration and some games! Youth are asked to bring a snack to share, as well as a small, silly wrapped gift (\$5 or so!) for the Yankee Swap, if they would like to participate in that event.

These will be the last Youth Fellowship programs of 2018, as neither group will meet on Sunday, December 30th. We WILL resume with our usual schedule on Sunday, January 6th, 2019!

Beth's Farewell Dinner and Celebration

January 6, 2019 at 10:00am



Please join us to celebrate Rev. Beth Loughhead's tenure at FBC!

We invite you to enjoy Beth's final serm on at First Baptist Church in Beverly, followed by a luncheon and a special program of thanks in celebration of Beth and her family. The program will feature a very special closing ceremony to end our time together.

Please <u>RSVP for the meal</u>; to learn how to participate in the gift-giving please <u>em ail Julie</u> Flowers

Don't miss this wonderful farewell as we send Beth on with love to the next steps of her journey.

Location: First Baptist Church in Beverly, 221 Cabot St., Beverly

Date: Sunday January 6, 2019

Time: 10:00 am Worship with Beth's final Sermon at FBC and the sharing of Communion 11:00 am Dinner to Honor Beth in Wilbur Hall (the gym)

12:45pm Farewell Program in the Sanctuary

Cost: Free

RSVP: Contact Pat Haight at phaight@fbcbeverly.org

To Volunteer: Contact Jan Armstrong at <u>jan3gram@comcast.net</u> or Andrea Stackpole at astack101142@hotmail.com

The poinsettias decorating our sanctuary this Christmas are given in memory and in honor of those listed below:



In Memory of

Trevor James Barbin by Mom, Dad, Emma, Dwight & Faith

Gram, Eleanor Beaton by Colby, Heidi, Jessica, Brian, Wendy, Tim and Sandy

Anthony & Michael Biancucci by The Biancucci Family

William Blanchard by The Bitler Family

William Blanchard by The Robert Blanchard Family

Philip & Marguerite Bugler by David Steedman

Barbara & "Buzz" Busineau by The Robert Blanchard Family

My Son-in-law, William Frederick (Biff) Cappelmann by Margaret Davey

Dr. Alan Carlson by Colby, Heidi, Jessica, Brian, Wendy, Tim and Sandy

Betty & Harold Clark by The Arm strong-Johnstone and McCay Families

My Husband, John Crombie, Our Daughter Barbara Roberts, and Our Parents by Shirley Crombie

Ruth Cunha by The Family

My Husband, John E. Davey, Sr. by Margaret Davey

My Grandchildren, John E. Davey III and Rachel Fielding Davey by Margaret Davey

My Parents, Esther & Harold Fielding by Margaret Davey

Jim Fisher by The Family

Chester Flowers by The Flowers Family

Rev. Donald A. Fonda, Jr. by His Wife, Jeanne

Robert & Kathleen Hannigan by The Biancucci Family

Etta Irving by The Robert Blanchard Family

Loved Ones by Dianne & Rich Cashman

Loved Ones by Rich & Dianne Cashman

Loved Ones by The Crean Family

Loved Ones by Karen & Bob Popadic

Our Loved Ones by Andrew & Laurie Mott

Our Dear Parents, John & Betty Nichols by Their Loving Family

Carol Olson by The Flowers Family

Our Parents by Anne & Brad Barbin

Monica Popadic by The Popadic Family

Lurana & John Porter by Loy ce & John Thomson

Victoria & Will Raymond by The Stackpoles

Louise and Elaine Sangster by The Armstrong-Johnstone and McCay Families

Clay Stackpole by His Family

Mary & Lawrence Steedman by David Steedman

John by His wife, Evelyn Wightman and His Friend, Beverly Sweet

Grace Waldron and Hilda Holt by Loyce & John Thomson

Phyllis & Raymond Wilber by The Armstrong-Johnstone and McCay Families

Willa Williams and Doug Johnstone by The Armstrong-Johnstone Family

In Honor of:

Beth Loughhead by The Bitler Family

Beth A. Bugler-Steedman by David Steedman

Memorial Donations

Trevor James Barbin by The Armstrong-Johnstone Family

Trevor James Barbin by Julie Flowers

Luke Loughhead Gubbins by The Armstrong-Johnstone Family

Luke Loughhead Gubbins by Jan & Ed Armstrong

Luke Loughhead Gubbins by Julie Flowers

Rev. Dr. LaRue A. Loughhead by Beth, Jim, Anna Mei and Matt

Kristin Thomas by Jan & Ed Armstrong

Volunteers Needed: Supper and Sweets

Beverly's New Year's Eve Monday, December 31

FBC will be serving supper and sweets to Beverly New Year's revelers once more. We need

volunteers to help with this fun night when the church opens its doors to the community. Volunteers are needed in two shifts, 2pm to 5pm and 5pm to 8pm. Please let Beth Loughhead (bloughhead@fbcbeverly.org) if you want to sign up for a shift.

Beverly's New Year Eve Event Info:

Bring your family to Downtown Beverly for a safe, fun, family-oriented New Year Celebration. There are all kind of activities and events planned in and around the Beverly's Downtown area that are designed to entertain and keep families engaged throughout the afternoon

When: Monday, December 31, 2018 3:30-7 pm

Location: Downtown Beverly

Prices: Buttons: \$8 Phone: 978.922.8558

Em ail: info@beverly mainstreets.org

More information here: Beverly New Year 2018

Christmas Caroling: Taking Love on the Road

On December 16th carolers climbed aboard the Cocoa Express (church van) to bring Christmas cheer to members and friends of FBC who due to health or mobility reasons, are unable to gather with FBC for worship. We sang at Essex Park, Turtle Creek, Turtle Woods and homes. In this photo we were invited into the home of long time member Barbara Crawford, who delighted us with tales of her time with FBC on the Allagash River trips. Thank you to the Lay Visitation Team for organizing this wonderful event.



Supporting Literacy In Nicaragua

AMOS Health and Hope, our mission partner in Nicaragua, has established a lending library in Nejapa, the urban community where the headquarters are. It has books for very young children and up, as well as parenting and community resources. Tricia Harrop will be leaving January 24, 2019 to do short term mission work at AMOS. Books in Spanish for youth are being collected to take with her. The books range in price from \$8 to \$25. Examples include Spanish editions of the Harry Potter series, Lord of the Rings series, The Diary of Anne Frank, and The Book Thief. If you would like to purchase a book please contact Tricia at td.harrop@gmail.com or you may make a donation: Checks made out to 'First Baptist Church' notation: FBC Nicaragua Health Fund. All donations must be received by January 11th. Thank you!

The Gift of Heat

The members of the Board of Deacons are hoping that you will join the in their annual Christmas giving by once again making a contribution to help Beverly Bootstraps provide heat to help individuals and families in our community stay warm this winter. Many of our neighbors benefit from this assistance as they try to keep their homes and families warm and fed. The folks at Beverly Bootstraps say this need can be significant through the winter months. We can all imagine the worry and suffering that would come from the lack of heat. With your help, *The Gift of Heat* program can be a substantial source of support.

Cash or checks are accepted. Please make your check out to the **First Baptist Church**, with a memo to *Gift of Heat* and return it to the church office at 221 Cabot Street, drop it into the offering plate or deposit it in the collection can in the back of the sanctuary on Sunday. We will gather all the donations and forward one total check to the *Gift of Heat* at Beverly Bootstraps.

In addition, our Change for Good collection on the last Sunday of December (December 30) will be designated for the *Gift of Heat*.

Please return your donations by January 6.

2018 Pledge Payment Reminder

Just a gentle reminder to please bring your 2018 pledge payments up to date by December 31. Your contributions to the ministries of this church are vital, and much appreciated!

Help FBC When Shopping on Amazon

Just a reminder for folks doing some or all of their Christmas (or any) shopping through Amazon, that if you log in using the following URL, a percentage of your purchase total will go to the church as a contribution from Amazon: http://smile.amazon.com/ch/04-2253860

Stepsitters

Stepsitters (our children's message time during worship) on the Second Sunday of Advent with Rev. Julie Flowers.



This Winter! All Church Intergenerational Fun Night

One Friday per month, we'll gather at FBC for an intergenerational fun night! Stay tuned for more details on Pickle Ball Night and Board Game Night currently in the works for February and March.

January 25th 6 – 8 p.m. Pizza and Fun @ FBC Gym for Volleyball and 'Kin-Ball'! (similar to a large beach ball, perfect for all ages and abilities in lobbing the ball over the net for fun and points). This event is for all church family members and friends, as well as any one you would like to invite to come and join you! Our hope is to have a relaxed and silly evening for all ages to help break up some of the chill of winter. Please join us and invite a friend or two along, as well!



Coming Up at FBC!



Thursday, December 20 7:00 p.m. - Longest Night Worship Service

Friday, December 21
Jack and Marie's 60th Anniversary Luncheon
8:00 p.m. - The Messiah at First Parish

<u>Saturday, December 22</u> 12:30 p.m. - Lunch Program Sunday, December 23: Christmas Sunday
9:45 a.m. - Morning Cafe
10:00 a.m. - Worship and Children's Class
11:00 a.m. - Jesus' Birthday Party
4:00 p.m. - Middle School Fellowship
6:00 p.m. - Senior High Fellowship

Monday, December 24 5:00 p.m. - Worship 6:00 p.m. - Monday Night Supper 11:00 p.m. - Worship

<u>Tuesday, December 25</u> Church Office Closed for Christmas Day

> Wednesday, December 26 Church Office Closed

Saturday, December 29 12:30 p.m. - Lunch Program

Sunday, December 30 9:45 a.m. - Morning Cafe 10:00 a.m. - Worship

Monday, December 31
2-8 p.m. - Supper and Sweets for Beverly's New Year
6:00 p.m. - Monday Night Supper

<u>Tuesday, January 1</u> Church Office Closed for New Year's Day

Check Out Last Week's Service, A Sunday Filled with Music at fbcbeverly.org/music



First Baptist Church in Beverly | 978-922-3295 | Email | Website

STAY CONNECTED





