

The Worship of God

November 30, 2014

Eleven o'clock in the morning

The First Sunday of Advent

THE GATHERING

Help us to plan our lives, O Lord, as if you will never return. Help us to live our lives as if your coming is but a second away. So may our vision stretch into the future, seeing all the great things we can do on your behalf. In our work we seek to extend the boundaries of your Kingdom. We long for you, our King, to come.

Bryan Jeffery Leech

EARLY ANNOUNCEMENTS AS THE CHURCH GATHERS TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE *O Come, Divine Messiah* arr. Robert Powell

CHORAL INTROIT *Come Thou Long Expected Jesus* HYFRYDOL
Opening of the Bible Trey Johnson

CALL TO WORSHIP *Tori Houser*

Leader: The days are shorter and darkness comes early to our lives.

People: Lord, hear our prayers through the darkness.

Leader: Come, seek the Lord. Place your hope in God's mercy and love.

People: Lord, we seek your presence among us.

Leader: Look closely! God is making us ready.

People: Christ is coming! Are we ready!

Leader: Christ is coming! Are we ready!

All: Come, Lord Jesus, quickly come!

HYMN NO. 271 *Christ Is Coming! Let Creation* CWM RHONDDA

THE CHILDREN'S TIME *Advent*

CHRISTIAN GREETINGS

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

MISSION SOCIETY COAT DRIVE *Victoria Fowler*

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON *Isaiah 9: 2-7*

Minister: Today we remember the prophets of old, who demanded to be heard, who dared to speak of a child to come, unexpected liberator of the people, vulnerable incarnation of the Holiest of Holies, a new name for God.

People: Today we give thanks for the prophets among us, who bring to us surprising new visions of hope, who challenge us to think outside the box, who show us a future we never anticipated.

Minister: On this first Sunday of Advent, we light this candle of hope as a symbol of the prophets who renew our faith and remind us of what may be.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH *Amelia Lanning*

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *The Advent Candles* CRADLE SONG

*A Candle is burning, a flame warm and bright
A Candle of hope in December's dark night.
While Angels sing blessings from heav'n's starry sky.
Our hearts we prepare now for Jesus is nigh.*

MORNING PRAYER

HYMN NO. 167 *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence* PICARDY

GOSPEL LESSON *Matthew 13: 24-37*

ANTHEM *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly* Jones

SERMON *The End of the World* Dr. Ray Howell III

HYMN NO. 170 *It Came upon the Midnight Clear* CAROL

OFFERTORY PRAYER *Scott Rhodes*

OFFERTORY *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming* arr. Albin C. Whitworth

DOXOLOGY NO. 809 *OLD HUNDREDTH*

RECEIVING OF NEW MEMBERS

CHORAL BENEDICTION *Silent Night* *Stille Nacht*

POSTLUDE *The Journey to Bethlehem* *Cesar Franck*

Today's Lay Reader is Lori Gilliam.

Musicians for today's service

Beverly Khemlani - organ

Sanctuary Choir

Poinsettias:

In Memory: Bob & Marge Team by Gary and Sue Wikstrom

Wayne Hoover by his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren

In Honor: The Sterling Wall Family by Hazel Frady

The Deacons of the Week are John Thacker and Jimmy Davis.

Announcements

Sunday, 11/30

9:00 a.m. Sunday Morning Prayer Ministry
9:30 a.m. Morning Coffee Gathering

Conference Room
Second Floor Lobby

Monday, 12/1

5:00 p.m. Youth Attend Christmas Parade
5:30 p.m. Sanctuary Ringers Rehearsal

Front of Old Courthouse
Music Suite

Tuesday, 12/2

6:30 p.m. Carolyn Phillips Mission Group

Home of Lois Hill

Wednesday, 12/3

4:30 - 5:30 p.m. Senior Adult Singers
5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Child Care Babies
(inform church if you need childcare)

Music Suite
Nursery

5:15 - 6:15 p.m. * Dinner (children eat first)

Fellowship Hall

5:45 - 6:30 p.m. GA's (Grades 1st thru 5th)

Room 212

RA's

Room 202

Mission Friends

Room 225

Acteens

Room 206

6:30 - 7:15 p.m. Joyful Singers (Age 4 - 1st Grade)

Room 206

Chancel Choristers (Grades 2 - 5)

Music Suite

Middle & High School Youth

The ATTIC

Bible Study/Church Fellowship

Fellowship Hall

Quarterly Business Meeting

2015 Budget Vote

7:30 - 9:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Music Suite

*Menu: Tropical Roasted Pork Loin, Wild Rice, Sautéed Vegetables, Salad Bar,

Key Lime Pie Children: Chicken Tenders

RSVP by noon Monday

Extended Sessions:

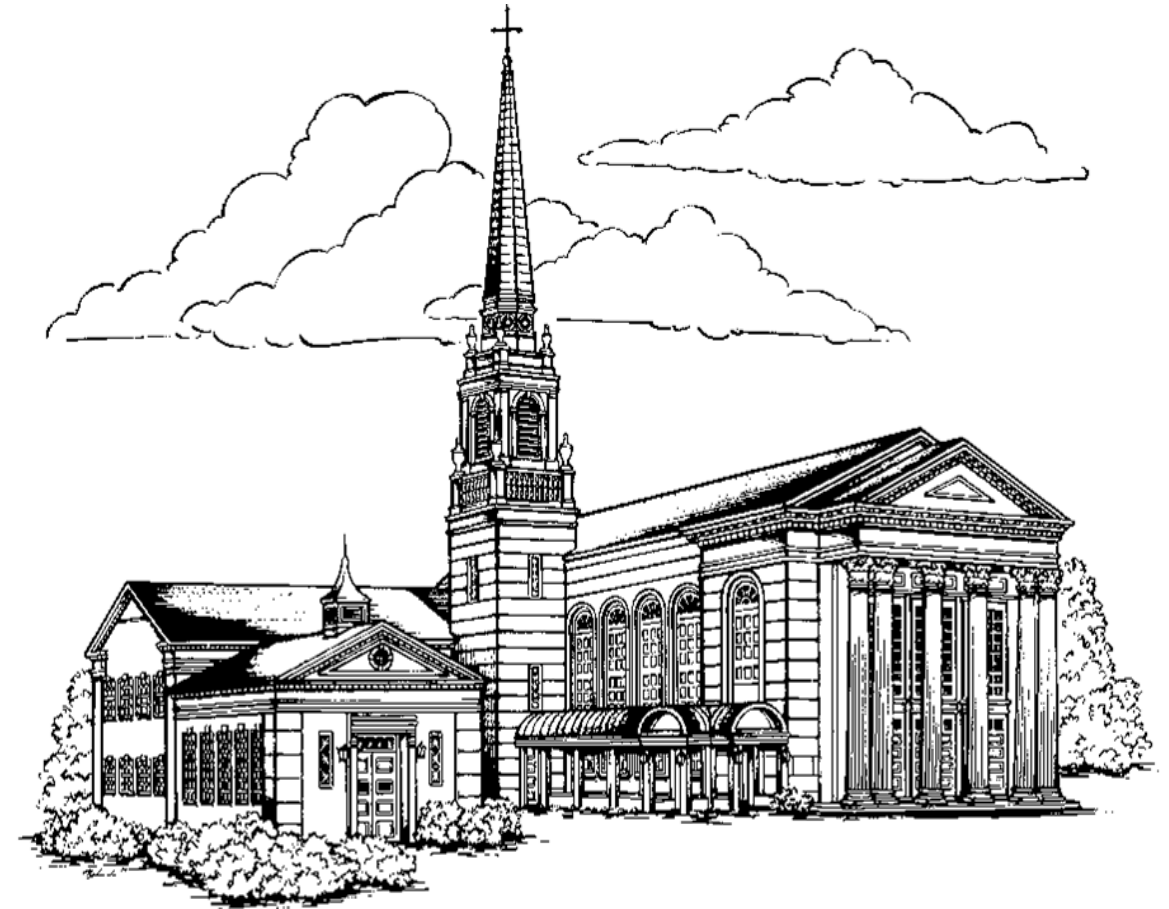
November 30: Bed Babies: Jen Fuller-Alan & Brooke Williams

Toddlers & 2 Year Olds: M/M Kevin Brown **3 & 4 Year Olds:** M/M William Hopkins

December 7: Bed Babies: M/M Jon Myers **Toddlers & 2 Year Olds:** M/M Randall Potter

3 & 4 Year Olds: Donna Sink & Anna Raye Tate

First Baptist Church Lexington, N.C.



RAY N. HOWELL III

Senior Minister

TOMMY WILSON

Associate Minister

PAUL FREEMAN

Minister of Music

JEAN ASHLEY

Martha Best Children's Center Director

It is the time of year that we give a special offering to the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship for missions. You have a Mission envelope in your packet or just mark your check for CBF Global Mission Offering. May we give so others can serve.



Coat Drive

The Missions Society at Sheets Memorial Christian School is sponsoring a coat drive. Please drop off your gently used coats at the school office (located behind Sheets Memorial Baptist Church) between December 1 - 17. All sizes are accepted. The distribution date is December 19.

Youth Fundraiser

Last Sunday's Chili Lunch and Bake Sale netted \$1,600 for our Youth Ministry. Thank you for your generous support. The funds will be used to offset the cost of Belize and Passport next summer.

Christmas Angels

Today is the last day to adopt a Salvation Army Christmas Angel. Please help us make a difference in the lives of deserving children this Christmas. Your unwrapped gifts are needed at the church by December 10.

Food Boxes

Last year we prepared 60 boxes at a cost of \$75 - \$80 each for those in need. Make checks payable to FBC. The deadline is Sunday, December 14. The boxes will be delivered on Wednesday, December 17. Contact Peggy Barnhardt or the church office if you wish to help pack boxes or deliver them.

First Baptist - 2014 Budget Through October

\$555,480 - Received

\$750,202 - Annual Budget 2014

\$194,722 - Member Contributions needed for November and December

Advent Calendar

Welcome to December - Lexington Choral Society

Saturday, December 6

5:00 p.m. - First Baptist Church Sanctuary

Christmas Party for Jesus

Sunday, December 7

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon - MBCC Children's Dining Area

Community Candlelight Service - First Reformed UCC

Sunday, December 7 - 3:00 p.m.

Nine Lessons and Carols

Sunday, December 21

11:00 a.m. - First Baptist Church Sanctuary

Christmas Eve Communion and Candlelight Service

Wednesday, December 24

5:30 p.m. - First Baptist Church Sanctuary

Online Giving

Many of you receive envelopes in the mail for your contribution to the Church. Others just send a check or have their Financial Institution send the church a check. Most Banks will allow you to set this up at no charge to you or the church. If you would like envelopes and have none please contact the church.

First Baptist is excited to announce that you can now manage your giving online! Giving online is simple and allows you to set up automatic recurring contributions and view your complete online giving history from anywhere you have access to the Internet.

Simply follow these easy steps:

1. Visit the church website at www.fbclex.org.
2. Click on the **On-Line Giving** button top of page.
3. Click on the **Create Profile** button, then
4. Follow the onscreen instructions to create an online profile and to schedule your recurring contributions.