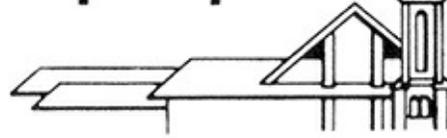


THE BULLETIN

of the First Baptist Church in Beverly



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: Pat Haight

Communication Associate: Mary Powers

HNS Director: Jennifer Baez

HCP Director: Andrew DeFranza

Business Manager: John Thomson

Facilities Manager: Jeremy Weir

Visit our Website

First Sunday of Advent

Join Us On Sunday at First Baptist Church in Beverly
Communion Sunday, December 2, 2018
10:00 a.m.: Worship

(On the first Sunday of each month, we forgo our usual Multiage Children's Class so that our children and young people can remain in and experience worship together with us, as the full family of God! Childcare is provided throughout the service for our youngest children, through Kindergarten. Older children are invited to enjoy worship this Sunday in the pew or in our flexible Prayground space at the front of the sanctuary.)

Shepherds Look Up

Rev. Julie Flowers

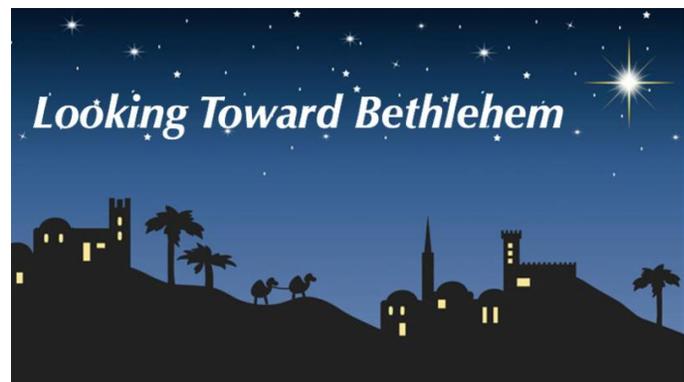
Scripture Readings:

Isaiah 9:2-7

Luke 2:8-20

*Featuring a Shepherd's Monologue
performed by Bryan Vosseler*

Brenda, Scott, Maisie, and Harper will light
our Advent Wreath this Sunday



Entering Advent as we are *Looking Toward Bethlehem*

Advent 2018 arrives this Sunday, and, with it, we enter into a season of preparation, a season of anticipation, a season of expectation, and a season of waiting. We are waiting and anticipating the birth, once again, of God's love, embodied in a tiny child, into a world that so sorely needs it.

This year our Advent worship services will be guided by the theme *Looking Toward Bethlehem*. There is an extra poignant piece to this series having been chosen; it was previously done in 1993, using monologues crafted by Beth Loughhead's father, who was also her greatest mentor in ministry, LaRue (Larry) Loughhead. When the church family learned the news that this would be Beth's final Advent season and Christmas Eve here with us, it felt only right to return to this beautiful and powerful series that had meant so much to Beth when she first brought it to First Baptist Beverly *and* that is a way to weave together so many aspects of Beth's own journey in ministry, as well as our shared journey, and our shared journey towards the manger in Bethlehem on this Christmas Eve.

Throughout Advent, we will witness Biblical characters come to life in our worship services, brought into our midst by members of our church family, sharing monologues from the perspectives of these famous people and beings. We will hear sermons preached on themes brought out in the monologues shared, in the scriptures, and in imagining what the character for each week might have been thinking and feeling – and what he or she has to teach us, present-day pilgrims, looking toward Bethlehem.

We will also welcome families from our church as our Advent wreath lighters each week, closing, at our 11:00 p.m. Lessons and Carols service on Christmas Eve, with members of our Fellowship family, as we welcome back Fellowship alumnae to light the candles.

We hope that you and your family and friends will join us this Advent season as, together, we look toward Bethlehem and await the birth of that tiny child in the manger.

Silent Auction Has One of its Most Successful Years Ever!

Now that winning bidders have picked up their prizes and paid what they owed, it's clear that this year's silent auction, a traditional part of the church's Holiday Fair, was the second most successful ever in terms of money raised. The final total came to \$4,590 which is close to \$1,000 more than last year's auction.

Why was this particular auction so successful? It's true that there were more items up for bid than ever before (97 items in all), but it's hard to pinpoint exactly what put the auction so much over the top. Perhaps it's another example of the "stone soup" philosophy or the Biblical principle of the "loaves and fishes." So many contributed such thoughtful items that the whole added up to a resounding success. Special thanks go to Tracey Armstrong, Glen Johnstone and their extended family for creating such creative and generous baskets and other themed sets, and to Brian Gregory and Boston Private Bank and Trust for donating the two sets of Premium Club seating tickets to a Celtics game. Thanks also to the church members who donated unique handmade items, including the quilt from Arlene Trask, the crocheted unicorn from Julie Karaganis, the seascape painted by Evelyn Wightman, original photographs from Marty Lincoln, Ami Stockellburg, and John Thomson, floral arrangements by Lue Hayes, the manger scene by Heidi Bissel, and the knitted shawl from Margaret Blotcher. Thanks to everyone who made a donation, and to Natalie Nathan who was ambitious in soliciting donations from downtown businesses and restaurants that are the church's neighbors.

And finally, thanks to everyone who bid on the items. If there were no bids on so many lovely things, no money would be raised. Whether you donated to the auction, bid, were a winner or just enjoyed looking, you were part of making the auction and the fair at large a wonderfully successful event for both church people and the community at large. It was rewarding to hear many of the winners comment when they were picking up their prizes that First Baptist church was a very friendly place to be.

2019 Pledge Drive is Off to an Excellent Start

Beth Loughhead's recent sermon on "Yu u Nobunto," Archbishop Desmond Tutu's concept of sharing, abundance and welcome, surely applies to the start of the 2019 pledge drive. During the first week of the drive when the congregation had the opportunity to place their pledge cards in Max Raines' hand-crafted model of the church, close to \$100,000 was pledged to the church! What an enthusiastic response! The amount included 11 pledges from people who were either new to the church or hadn't pledged last year. This is an affirmation that the church is a vibrant and growing place, and that its programs and ministries are attracting new supporters.

But there is still a significant way to go before the drive reaches its ultimate goal of reaching and surpassing last year's pledge total of \$194,880. In order to keep initiating new programs while continuing to support those that are already in existence, the church needs the support of those who haven't yet submitted a pledge. Pledge cards are available in the pews on Sunday morning or from the church office. If you call or email the church office, Pat Haight, the church's Financial Secretary, will be happy to mail you a pledge card or answer any questions you might have about your current pledge.

Your RSVP Needed: Hanging of the Greens is This Friday

Come and help us get our church home ready for the Advent and Christmas seasons!

This Friday, November 30, 5pm-7pm (or so)

This fun and festive family-friendly event has been designed to allow people of all ages to come and have fun and play a role in getting our church ready for the holidays!

There will be dinner starting at 5 p.m. Gather around the table with your family and our church family. We will then spread out around the church to decorate every nook and cranny – there are jobs for children, grown-ups, and everyone in between!

We'll end the evening all together in the sanctuary, singing favorite Christmas carols and enjoying a few seasonal movie clips, as well as hearing a story of the season.

Please come and join us – and invite friends and neighbors. This event is open to everyone!

PLEASE NOTE: We DO need a count to order food AND to ensure that we have the numbers to make the event happen – so PLEASE RSVP to Julie Flowers by emailing jflowers@fbcbeverly.org OR by calling the church office at 978-922-3295!



[CLICK HERE TO RSVP](#)

Does Your Apple Pie Taste... Unusual?

It seems as if there was an unusual ingredient added to at least one of the frozen apple pies sold at the holiday fair, making it far less tasty than usual. If the pie you bought and baked seems to be a bit oversalted, please call the church office. We will gladly reimburse you the cost of your pie or a new pie will be made for you for the Christmas holiday, minus the extra salt! Most of the pies are as delicious as ever but if you happened to be unlucky enough to have been given one with this extra ingredient, we apologize!

December Book Group: Short Stories by P. D. James

The next Book Group meeting is scheduled for **Friday, December 9 at 2:00 p.m.**

Since the Christmas season is quickly approaching, the Book Group will be meeting early in the month on Friday, December 9 at its permanent new time of 2:00 in the church lounge. The book selection is "Sleep No More," a short book made up of six short stories by P. D. James, who is considered the late 20th century successor to Agatha Christie as the "Queen of Crime" and master detective novelist. The Guardian writes that "It is difficult to imagine a more pleasing afternoon than one spent beside a fire or radiator, with a pot of tea and autumn rain against the window, while settling in for a series of delightful shocks." These tales are compulsively readable, and follow twists and turns to surprising endings. "The Murder of Santa Claus" even has a Christmas theme.

New members are always welcome, so feel free to take a break from Christmas frivolity and engage in some amusing and macabre reading discussion.

Home Devotions for Advent

Advent Home Devotions will be available beginning this Friday at the Hanging of the Greens and on Sunday too. Instead of a booklet, this year, the devotions will come in a mason jar. Beautifully illustrated gifts tags will be printed each one having an Advent prayer, activity, conversation starter, or social media prompt. As each day unfolds, you simply draw a card - and day by day, week by week, prayer by prayer, action by action, together we count down to that holy night when God slips into the world. These home devotions will involve a little bit of crafting as you cut out the gift tags and tie ribbons to them and it also includes the traditional lighting of the Advent candles each Sunday. So stop by the Hanging of the Greens this Friday or church on Sunday to pick up your mason jars, tags on card stock and string/yarn to take home and use throughout the season!



Art from the Heart

Evelyn Wightman turned 87 recently.

Recently she took up painting. Evelyn donated this piece, which reflects her love of the ocean, to the 'silent auction' for the Holiday Fair. Her painting led to back and forth bidding, with Leslie Brennan having the highest bid! Thank you to Evelyn for sharing this beautiful painting as a fundraiser for FBC. Evelyn's sharing is representative of the generosity of many volunteers who made our Fair a wonderful success.



This Week in Youth Fellowship

Middle School: Holiday Movie Watching!

Sunday, December 2nd, 4pm - 6pm

Come to the church for a relaxed afternoon enjoying a movie to kick off the season. Bring a favorite movie-watching snack to share – we'll provide the drinks and the movie! Friends are welcome, too!

Senior High Fellowship Karaoke

Sunday, December 2nd, 6pm - 9pm

You asked for, so we're going for it – it's a KARAOKE NIGHT!

Come ready to sing along - or just clap along in the audience, depending on your comfort level - for a fun night of music and song! We will have dinner together, as well! As always, friends are welcome.

Side note: we are searching for a portable/home-use karaoke machine for our use this evening - if anyone in the church family has access to such a thing, please email Julie at jflowers@fbcbeverly.org as soon as possible! Thank you!

Words of Thanks Following this Year's Amazing Holiday Parade!

THANK YOU to Henry's Market for the kind use of the shopping carts we used to collect donations of food items.

THANK YOU to Anne and Brad Barbin for the use of and for being drivers of their truck to pull our float.

THANK YOU to Todd Pheulpin for the use of his van and for his time picking up and transporting the shopping carts.

THANK YOU to our wonderful Middle School youth (and a special high school helper, too!) for giving their time to help others today and so many days.

THANK YOU to the amazing volunteer advisors who give their time each week to work with our youth.

THANK YOU to Beverly Bootstraps for all their work on behalf of our community.

THANK YOU to the Beverly Holiday Parade Committee and volunteers for another great year.

THANK YOU to the Beverly community for your generous spirit. Together we collected 745 pounds of food for Beverly Bootstraps to be able to share with those who need it in our community.



FBC welcomes you to enliven your holiday season!

There are services of worship to stir your soul!

Sunday Mornings at 10 a.m.

The worship services will include a dramatic presentation by a character from the first Christmas story, from a gentle shepherd to a cruel king named Herod. Our sanctuary is beautifully decorated for the season and our Prayground uniquely welcomes children.

A Sunday filled with Music

December 16

The service will feature Christmas carols from around the world, presented by vocal and handbell choirs.

Longest Night

December 20 - 7 p.m.

As the winter solstice approaches, there will be a service of candlelight and prayer, offering prayers for the healing of the pain and grief in our world and in our own hearts.

Christmas Eve

December 24: 5pm and 11pm

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

The 5 o'clock service is planned with the enthusiasm of children in mind.

The 11 o'clock service is a breathtaking service of Lessons and Carols.

Add a little joy with these fun events!

Hanging of the Greens:

Decorate, Dine and Sing!

November 30, 5 p.m.

Join in decorating the church, sharing a great meal and sing songs of the season! (more info above)

Parents' Night Out

December 14, 6 p.m.

Open to everyone!

Christmas Party with Room for a Crowd

December 14, 6p.m.

All the adults of the church are invited to "crowd in" at our annual Christmas Party with Room for a Crowd at the home of Dianne and Rich Cashman, 9 Dyer Road, Beverly.

Bring a dish to share for a potluck dinner and a gift for Yankee Swap (\$15-20).

RSVP to richanddianne@comcast.net

Christmas Caroling

December 16, 2:30 p.m.

Spread cheer around Beverly! Join in this fun afternoon of singing and warming hearts!

Jesus' Birthday Party!

Sunday, December 23, 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 joyous 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 drink.

Coming Up at FBC!

Thursday, November 29

6:00 p.m. Celebration Ringers

7:30 p.m. Sanctuary Choir

Friday, November 30

5:00 p.m. Hanging of the Greens

Saturday, December 1

12:30 p.m. - Lunch Program

Sunday, December 2

9:00 a.m. - Spiritual Seekers Class

9:45 a.m. - Morning Cafe

10:00 a.m. - Worship

11:15 a.m. - Adult Bible Study Trip to Semitic Museum departs

11:20 a.m. - Adult Classes

4:00 p.m. - Middle School Fellowship

6:00 p.m. - Senior High Fellowship

Monday, December 3

6:00 p.m. - Monday Night Supper

Tuesday, December 4

9:30 a.m - Staff Meeting

12:30 p.m. - Lunch Program

7:00 p.m. - Lay Visitation

8:00 p.m. - Theology on Tap

Wednesday, December 5

4:30 p.m. - Lectio Divina

6:00 p.m. - Joy Ringers

7:15 p.m. - Harborlight Ringers

Thursday, December 6

6:00 p.m. Celebration Ringers

7:30 p.m. Sanctuary Choir

DECEMBER 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	26	27	28 4:30pm: Lectio Divina 6:15pm: Joyringers 7:15pm: Harborlight Ringers	29 6:00pm: Celebration Ringers 7:30pm: Sanctuary Choir	30 5:00pm Hanging of the Greens	1 12:30pm: Lunch Program
Advent Begins 2 9:30am: Seekers Adult Class 9:45: Morning Cafe 10:00am: Worship (No Children's Class) 11:15am: Field Trip to Semitic Museum 11:20am: Adult Education 4:00pm: MS Fellowship 6:00pm: SH Fellowship	3 6:00pm: Monday Night Supper	4 12:00pm: Staff Appreciation Lunch 12:30pm: Lunch Program 7:00pm: Lay Visitation 8:00pm: Theology on Tap	5 4:30pm: Lectio Divina 6:15pm: Joyringers 7:15pm: Harborlight Ringers	6 6:00pm: Celebration Ringers 7:30pm: Sanctuary Choir	7 2:00pm: Book Group	8 11:00am: Women's Fellowship Brunch 12:30pm: Lunch Program
9 9:00am: Seekers Adult Class and Yoga 9:45am: Morning Cafe 10:00am: Worship and Children's Class 11:20 am: Adult Education and Children's Choir 4:00pm: MS Fellowship 6:00pm: SH Fellowship	10 6:00pm: Monday Night Supper	11 12:00pm: Beverly Multifaith Meeting 12:30pm: Lunch Program 7:00pm Staff Administration Meeting	12 4:30pm: Lectio Divina 6:15pm: Joyringers 7:15pm: Harborlight Ringers	13 6:00pm: Celebration Ringers 7:30pm: Sanctuary Choir	14 6:00pm: Parents' Night Out 6:00pm: Christmas Party with Room for a Crowd at the Cashman's	15 12:30pm: Lunch Program
Music Sunday 16 9:00am: Seekers Adult Class 9:45am: Morning Cafe 10:00am: Worship and Children's Class 11:20 am: Adult Education 2:30pm: Christmas Caroling 4:00pm: MS Fellowship 6:00pm: SH Fellowship	17 6:00pm: Monday Night Supper	18 9:30am: Staff Meeting 12:30pm: Lunch Program	19 4:30pm: Lectio Divina 6:15pm: Joyringers 7:15pm: Harborlight Ringers 7:30pm: Trustees of Endowment	20 7:00pm: The Longest Night Service	21 12:00pm: Jack and Marie's 60 th Anniversary Luncheon (RSVP) 8:00pm: The Messiah at First Parish	22
Christmas Sunday 23 9:00am: Seekers Adult Class 9:45am: Morning Cafe 10:00am: Worship and Children's Class 11:00am: Jesus' Birthday Party 4:00pm: MS Fellowship 6:00pm: SH Fellowship	24 5:00pm Worship 6:00pm: Monday Night Supper 11:00pm Worship	25 12:30pm: Lunch Program Church Office Closed for Christmas Day	26 Church Office Closed	27	28	29
30 9:45am: Morning Cafe 10:00am: Worship	31 6:00pm: Monday Night Supper 3:30pm: Beverly First Night	1 Church Office Closed for New Year's Day	2	3	4	5

Check Out Last Week's Service at fbcbeverly.org/sermons

Yu u nobunto

Rev. Beth C. Loughhead preaching
Ephesians 2:19-22 and Matthew 18:21-22

Rev. Beth Loughhead preaches on the topics of forgiveness, acceptance, and welcome. If you want to know what the title actually means then be sure to watch!



First Baptist Church in Beverly | 978-922-3295 | [Email](#) | [Website](#)

STAY CONNECTED

