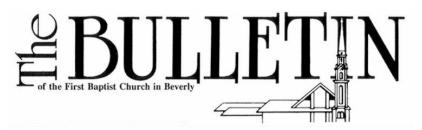
# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH IN BEVERLY

A progressive and welcoming Christian community



A progressive and welcoming Christian community!

**Get Involved** 

Worship with Us

Need help getting into the spirit of the season? We have a solution! Julie and Daniel would LOVE some helping hands this Friday night for *Parents' Night Out* and/or in the next two weeks getting things staged and ready for our Christmas Eve Services! Please *contact Julie* if interested in pitching in for Christmas Eve preparations and *contact Daniel* if available to help out with PNO this Friday!

## **Worship With Us!**

Join us for our Worship Service this Sunday, December 14th, 2025 at 10:00 a.m., either in person or via our *FBC YouTube Channel*.

This Sunday, our Elementary-Age Friends are back building our Nativity Scene during the beginning of worship!

#### **Notes for Sunday:**

- Reminder that Poinsettia Orders are due this Sunday!
- The Infant/Toddler room will be open during worship this week.
- Littlest Learners will meet during worship this week.
- The Prayground will be open as worship begins to allow our elementary-age and younger friends to enter into the quiet enjoyment of worship in a flexible childfriendly space.
- Our Elementary Class will meet following the Stepsitters children's message time during worship.
- The Youth Pew is available for youth in grades 5-12 to enjoy worship together

"Hope Dares to Change"
SCRIPTURE: MATTHEW 2:3-6





PREACHING: REV. JULIE FLOWERS MUSIC SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2025

Click HERE to join Worship via Livestream Sunday with peers.

 Middle School & Sr. High Fellowships will both meet at their regular times this week.



Come and enjoy beautiful music of the season at 10 a.m.!



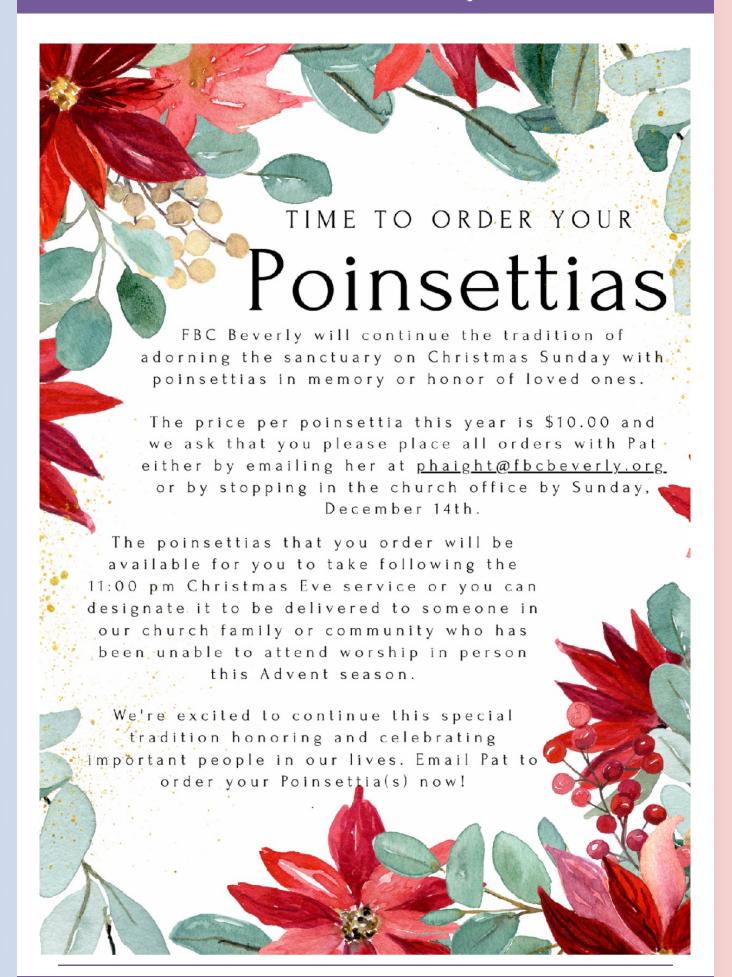




## FBC'S MUSIC SUNDAY!

Please join us for our Advent Season Music Sunday Service of Worship! All are welcome this Sunday, at 10:00 a.m. as our many choirs and musical groups, under the direction and coordination of our Music Director and organist Dr. Esther Chang, lead in a beautiful and festive worship service where the music leads the way. The music featured is seasonal music with wide variations in style and feel - from a beautiful piano and flute duet performed by Esther and Cindy Shupp, to moving choral pieces performed by our Sanctuary Choir, to the festive sounds of the handbells played by our Celebration Ringers, to the catchy and upbeat music of our Worship Ensemble, and more! This service invites us to consider the ways in which music itself - performing it, hearing it, enjoying it, and allowing it to stir our souls - is an act of worship, and Esther will share more in our service about how this is so. Come and worship - and let this Advent tradition stir your soul and touch your heart, too!

## Poinsettias On Sale Now for Christmas Eve! Orders Due this Sunday, 12/14



## YOUTH FELLOWSHIP NOTES FOR SUNDAY:

#### Middle School Fellowship

Sunday, December 14th: Gift Shopping for Toy Donations 4:00-6:00 p.m. - Meet in the Youth Lounge at First Baptist

After a fun-filled afternoon of glowstick games last Sunday, the Middle School youth and advisors will be heading out for a December service project program together. The group will gather at the church at 4 p.m. to head out for some holiday shopping together – but it will be holiday shopping as an act of service, as the group goes shopping for gifts that will be donated to be given to children whose holidays may need a little extra cheer. Youth are encouraged to bring \$5 to contribute to the shopping effort if they are able, but this is in no way required. Friends are welcome to come join in shopping trip, too. Youth and advisors will have a chance for a hot chocolate stop on the way and will return, gifts and hot chocolate in hand, to FBC in time for regular pick-up at 6 p.m.

### Sr. High Fellowship

Sunday, December 14th: Holiday Cookie Decorating 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. – Meet in the Youth Lounge at First Baptist

The Sr. High Fellowship youth and advisors spent last Sunday getting in the holiday spirit by shopping for toys to be donated to children whose holidays need a little brightening – and this Sunday they will lean into the holiday spirit with some festive cookie decorating fun! All the ingredients needed for the evening will be provided (including gluten-free options!), so all youth need to bring are themselves (and invite a friend)! Everyone is invited to bring a favorite cookie decorating item/addition (peanut and tree nut free, please!) as well, if they wish. Dinner will be provided, and the evening will close with the sharing of Concerns and Celebrations, as usual!

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Click
HERE to
view our
Web
Calendar

An Extra Holly Jolly PNO is Coming Up this Friday Night!



As part of the Beverly Main Streets Holiday Stroll happenings, our Parents' Night Out guests and others will enjoy a special costumed workshop presented by History Alive beginning at 6:30 p.m. History Alive, an immersive historically-themed theater company based in Salem, will be introducing the kids to historic Christmas folk songs, movement games, and dances, such as:

Jolly Red Nose - a sitting, singing circle game

There Was a Pig - a sitting, singing and rhyming circle game

Deck the Hall with a Circle Dance - dancing and singing

Jingle Bells - singing with shaking instruments

Judi Jorge (a local artist) will also be visiting FBC with her therapy dog Peanut starting at 4:00 p.m.!

More details, courtesy of Beverly Main Streets, are available

at: https://bevmain.org/events/holidaystroll/.

## **Speaking of this Friday Night's PNO...**

We could really use some extra hands for our big Parents' Night Out coinciding with the Beverly Holiday Stroll! Please let Daniel know ASAP if you are available (the event runs from 6:00-8:30 p.m.) Volunteers must either have a CORI on file with us OR contact Daniel so he can run a CORI check if interested in helping out. Thanks so much in advance for having the heart of a volunteer!

Email Daniel by clicking HERE to help with PNO this Friday night!





# Volunteers Welcomed as we prep for Christmas Services at FBC!

If folks are available and interested in helping to prep Longest Night Service candles, Christmas Eve candles, the Christmas Eve ornament gift, and Christmas Eve pageant props on Monday, Thursday, or Friday of next week (12/15, 12/18, 12/19). Please let *Julie know via email ASAP* and include what times

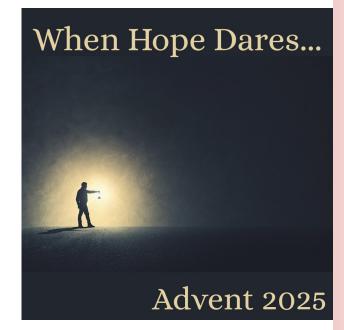
you are available those days to assist!

Julie will align the time slots based on what our volunteers share about their availability and will let everyone know at what specific times the festive teams of Christmas helpers will be gathering. Helping prepare for Christmas week services is fun, joyful, and festive - a GREAT way to spend some time together with FBC Friends too!

## Take a Read: Week 2 Weekly Devotional

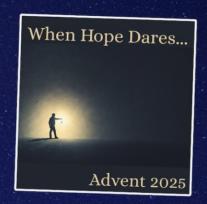
**J** oin us as we move through this season of preparation and expectation guided by using our weekly Advent home devotions. Each week of Advent - and continuing on through Christmas and up until Epiphany - a new devotional tool courtesy of Advent Planning Group member Scott Sutera and his wife Jess! Print copies will continue to be available as well at the rear of the sanctuary. Help yourself if you prefer a hard copy!

Week 2 Weekly Advent Devotional in PDF Form









You are warmly invited to the following services offered at First Baptist Church in Beverly this Advent Season:

Longest Night Service

Sunday, December 21st at 7:00 pm for a brief service of music and candlelight that offers a quiet space for worship and reflection as we draw nearer to Christmas.



## Christmas Eve Services Wednesday, December 24th

5:00 pm: Christmas Eve Service
Planned with the Enthusiasm of
Children in Mind and featuring our
Unrehearsed Christmas Pageant for
all who would like to participate!

11:00 pm: Candlelight Service of Lessons & Carols

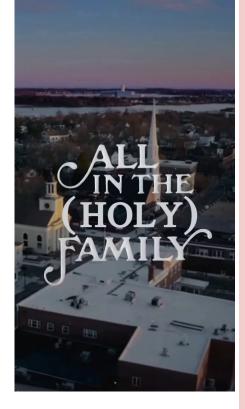




Nativity Scene Shorts are BACK! In case you missed the first three, the images are linked in order from left to right below for a good holiday chuckle!









## Save-the-Date for Friday, 1/9 as Women's Fellowship goes Clay Dreaming Together in the New Year!

Warm up your winter with Women's Fellowship! Join us on Friday, January 9th from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at Clay Dreaming, 186 Cabot Street, Beverly for a fun night of painting and creativity! We have booked the entire studio for the evening, so please do consider joining us for this relaxed and low-pressure creative adventure. We will provide cheese and crackers, chips and dips, wine and non-alcoholic beverages. All you need to do is bring yourself in some casual clothes and choose a piece of pottery you would like to paint!

The Church will cover the studio fee of \$10 per person. Pottery projects are approximately \$35 each, with some costing less. Anyone who needs assistance paying for their project can receive assistance from the Church. Others pay at Clay Dreaming on the night of the event.

Please RSVP to the Church Office at *phaight@fbcbeverly.org* by Sunday, January 4th. We look forward to seeing you there!

# FOUR Festive Spreads from last week to get you into the Spirit of the Season!







# MIDDLE SCHOOL FELLOWSHIP (K) GLOWSHIP CANCEL COMMONTH CO













# Sr. High Fellowship















Shopping for Toy Donations

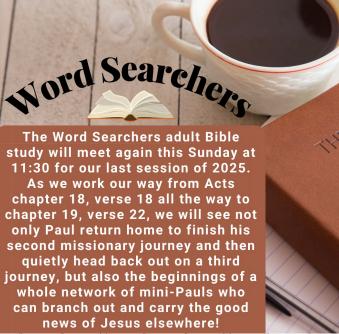
Looking ahead at FBC Beverly this bustling season...



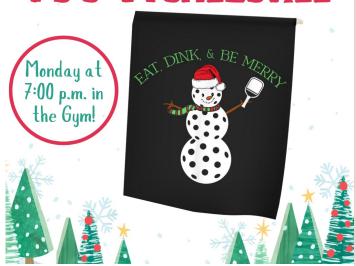
**Zoom Coffee Hour Link** 







# FBC PICKLEBALI









66

When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him, and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it has been written by the prophet...'

- Matthew 2:3-5

## PENCIL IN FBC

December

12

Friday

December

14

Sunday

December

15

Monday

December

19

Friday

December

21

Sunday

## Parents' Night Out

Children and youth (through Middle School age) are welcome for this free monthly program offered from 6:00-8:30 p.m. While the young people are being fed and cared for by FBC's team of dedicated PNO volunteers, their parents and caregivers might choose to stroll, eat, and shop along Cabot Street, enjoying that evening's Holiday Stroll sponsored by Beverly Main Streets.

## Music Sunday at FBC!

Join us for sounds of the season presented by Esther and our incredible choirs, soloists, ensembles, and instrumentalists!

# Wit & Wisdom's Christmas Party Luncheon

Senior Crew: Don't miss a festive lunch alongside caroling and sharing of holiday traditions, all kicking off at 11:30 a.m.!

# Christmas Potluck and Yankee Swap at the home of the Johnsons!

All adults of the church are invited for a festive Friday night kicking off at 5:30 p.m. at 24 Lothrop Street! Bring a favorite dish, a wrapped gift, and your sense of humor for plenty of laughs, games & fun!

# Christmas Sunday & Jesus' Birthday Party with Sing-a-Long!

Join us at 10:00 a.m. for Christmas Sunday worship followed immediately by our annual birthday party for Jesus and Sing-a-Long in Wilbur Hall. Our carols of the season will culminate with a hilarious interactive rendition of the Twelve Days of Christmas!

## Longest Night Service

At 7:00 p.m. all are welcome to join a service of music and candlelight that offers a quiet space for worship and reflection as we draw nearer to Christmas.

December

24

Wednesday

Christmas Eve Early Service

Join us at 5:00 p.m. for this special service planned with the enthusiasm of children in mind and featuring an unrehearsed Christmas Pageant in which everyone can choose a role and participate that evening!

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Join us at 11:00 p.m. for this joyful service of lessons and carols.

December

25

Thursday

Christmas Day

Merry Christmas! The church office is closed as we celebrate with our loved ones.

December

26

Friday

Church Office is Closed

We're still celebrating and look forward to reconnecting on Sunday, December 28th at worship!

December

28

Sunday

Service of Story and Song

Join us for this joy-filled, festive worship service at 10:00 a.m.!

January

1

Thursday

Happy New Year!

Reminder that the church office will be closed for New Year's Day. Happy start to 2026!

January

4

Sunday

**Epiphany & Communion Sunday** 

Join us at 10 o'clock for Communion Sunday Worship and please provide your own Elements of Communion if joining over livestream.

January

9

Friday

Women's Fellowship Goes Clay Dreaming!

The Women's Fellowship Crews is heading to Clay Dreaming from 6:00-8:00 p.m.! Reminder to RSVP by Sunday, January 4th to the church office at *phaight@fbcbeverly.org*.

## **CONTACT US**



Phone: 978-922-3295 (Main)

**Contact Us** 

THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH IN BEVERLY 221 Cabot Street, Beverly, MA 01915 bulletin@fbcbeverly.org

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