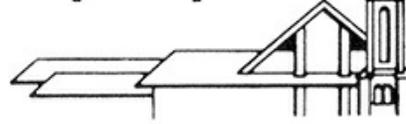


THE BULLETIN

of the First Baptist Church in Beverly



A progressive and welcoming Christian community!

FBC's YouTube Channel

ADVENT IS UPON US AT FBC BEVERLY!



See our *NEW* unboxing video of some early gifts to FBC!



WE ENCOURAGE OUR LITTLEST LEARNERS TO JOIN US AT THE START OF WORSHIP TO HELP BEGIN CREATING OUR NATIVITY SCENE DURING THE OPENING CAROL!

Click [HERE](#) to Learn More about our Advent Theme!

Hope is an essential condition for human life. We do not aspire to try new things, or to grow, or even just to persevere to the next day without at least a reasonable expectation that something good will come of it. Yet the troubles and turmoil of recent years have shaken some of the expectations that have long sustained us. Faced with shocking political unrest, momentous economic upheavals, and the staggering toll of a global pandemic, looking ahead to what comes next may fill us as much with dread as with hope.

Advent 2022:



Rediscovering Hope at the Manger

Advent is above all a season of hoping. In it we recount the long years through which God's people awaited the fulfillment of God's promises to them. In it we recall the days of expectation through which a young woman awaiting the birth of her first child passed, along with the curious words she received along the way about who that child would become. In it we recognize that even today we await the full realization of the new kin-dom of God that her child ultimately proclaimed.

One of the tools that Christians have long used to aid their Advent remembrances is the Nativity scene. This year at First Baptist Church in Beverly we have a unique opportunity to renew our experience of the Nativity through the introduction of a new Nativity set that was gifted to the church in memory of Jan Armstrong. The pieces in this new set will invite us to interact with them not as elements in a static display, but as living characters caught up in the drama of God's incarnation. Still more, they may draw us into the scene ourselves, leading us to find our own places beside the manger and (re)discover there a hope that can sustain the world.

Stewardship Is...



Love in Action



Thank
You

Debby Blanchard, pictured here at the Holiday Fair Bake Table, is introducing her granddaughter Claire to the practice of lifelong service to FBC, for which Deb was honored during the Stewardship Moment in worship this past Sunday. After serving as Clerk for the terms of three moderators, well over a decade, she stepped down this year. Her service over the years has been both in and for the youth and adult Fellowship programs, for the Bell Choir both now and "back in the day," when the Bell Choir toured, and in myriad other ways. She and her husband Bob (also a lifelong member) are the consummate hosts for paddling groups and parties at their home on Chebacco Lake, not to mention master raconteurs of FBC tales and keepers of historical fellowship artifacts.

Congratulations, again, Debby, for sharing your prodigious talents, your time and your financial resources with the FBC family.

Please Note We are now looking for a new Clerk if someone would like to help us keep meeting minutes and records of the church – it's a role that can be easily worked into the balance of work and life! – we would love to hear from you!



Investing in the Ministry of FBC Beverly for 2023
(Electronic Pledge Card)

Pledge Cards for 2023 are available and can be returned to the church office by mail OR submitted online at any time. See how folks like Scott give the gifts of their time, talents and treasures by reading his

message pictured below. A special Thank You to Loyce Thomson and Pam Constantine for their hard work organizing our 2023 Stewardship series!



Scott Gives:

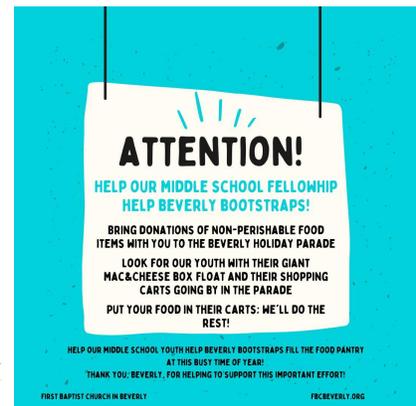
"Hello everyone, my name is Scott and I would like to talk about stewardship at FBC and what it means to me. I have been attending FBC for over 12 years now along with my family. Currently I am a member of the awesome AV (Audio & Video) team! We handle the YouTube live stream and recordings of the service. This includes managing the cameras and microphones, playing any slide shows, and displaying the lyrics to the hymns. At first look, there is an impressive, and at times, an overwhelming amount of technology at play during service. But the team works very hard every week to provide a smooth and professional product, and the best part is we have fun doing it. Prior to joining this team, I was also a Sunday School teacher, Middle School advisor, the Chair of the Staff Administration Committee, and I have served on many staff search and technology related committees. I have also participated in 2 mission/service trips to Kentucky and North Carolina. I have done all of this because I like to give back to the church and community by deploying my time and talents, while allowing me to lead by example to my 2 young girls. It has also given me opportunities outside of service to socialize and have fellowship with members of the congregation."

SUNDAY SCHOOL SING-A-LONG



Esther is hosting Sunday School Sing-a-Long after worship this week to get ready learning songs to sing in the 5 o'clock Christmas Eve service, so we want to encourage all of our friends in elementary school and younger to come after worship time to sing!

Reminder that there will be **NO Zoom Coffee Hour** this Thursday as we celebrate the **Thanksgiving Holiday**. We look forward to seeing you next Thursday!



Holiday Parade Reminder: Please bring food donations for Beverly Bootstraps to give to our Middle Schoolers on the 27th as they walk by in the parade! You can't miss the giant Mac & Cheese Box!

**FYI* there will be NO Word Searchers this week. We'll look forward to getting back together next week!*



***Please RSVP to Daniel by Wednesday, November 30th to ensure we have a headcount to order enough food to fuel the decorating and caroling fun for this fan-favorite, holiday tradition at FBC!**



Last month our Theology On Tap hit the neon lights! For December we will meet at 8:00 pm on Tuesday, December 6th; Location To Be Announced!



We're so happy to bring back PNO to FBC Beverly and the greater community. Don't forget, we could always use volunteers so please email Daniel or Julie if you are willing to help out – either AT the event OR doing some shopping for dinner items ahead of time and dropping food off at the church.



HOLIDAY FAIR RECAP

It took so many hands to get the church set-up Friday, to keep it hopping all day Saturday, to run the Cake Raffle and sell baked goods and raffle tickets; to donate to, or oversee, or bid on the Silent Auction; to help us welcome Santa, straight from the North Pole; to organize crafters; to help people find Grandpa's Attic treasures, to cook and serve a delicious breakfast and lunch; ...and then to clean things all up again to reset the church to be ready for Sunday! It would take hundreds of photos to show the magnitude of all those people and then some (because to everyone who ATTENDED the Fair... to shop or as a crafter or to visit Santa or play in the Cake Raffle and more - thank YOU, too!) Thank you. Saturday was truly a day when the church family and whole community rose to the occasion, came together, and just hit the biggest of home runs.

It wasn't only about what tasks we accomplished, what money was raised, or how quickly the whole church was cleaned and tidied back up... it was about how warmly we welcomed, how big we loved, and how hard we cheered one another on. It was about joy shared, helping hands extended, and memories made. It was about pitching in and helping out.

It was about community. *Thank you, FBC Beverly!*

Shalom and Love,
Julie





Middle School Fellowship should meet at the church at 11:30 AM to help get ready for the parade. We will provide pizza lunch for our middle schoolers and head over to Beverly High School to get lined up for the 1:00 PM parade step-off. We will be back at the church for pick-up around 3:00 PM.

Senior High Fellowship will meet at 6:00-9:00 PM as usual for a Holiday Movie Night at the church. Dinner will be provided; youth are encouraged to bring a favorite movie-watching snack to share with the group and to come in pajamas/comfortable clothes if they wish and/or to bring a pillow or blanket or sleeping bag – whatever they want for a comfortable movie night in the Youth Lounge!



Opportunity to Support River House Residents

As you know for many years FBC has been a strong supporter of the River House Shelter. The Social Concerns Committee would like to offer another opportunity for FBC to provide support by collecting items needed by residents. We will offer a basket in the Narthex for you to donate: Gloves, Sox, Underwear, Toiletries such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, razors, shaving cream, combs, and reusable water bottles. We will have this basket available through Sunday, December 11th for you to contribute. The Residents truly appreciate the support they receive from FBC so thank you in advance for your contributions! Contact Leslie Brennan with any questions at 978-360-0944.



You won't want to miss Music Sunday, December 18th featuring all new performances!



Check out all of FBC Beverly's most recent sermons!

[First Baptist Church in Beverly](#) | 978-922-3295 | bulletin@fbcbeverly.org | www.fbcbeverly.org

STAY CONNECTED

