

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH IN BEVERLY

A progressive and welcoming Christian community

Need help getting into the spirit of the season? We have a solution! Julie and Daniel would LOVE some helping hands next week to get things staged and ready for our Christmas Eve Services! 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 the 18th or Tuesday the 19th, *please let Julie know via email ASAP* and include what times you are available those days to assist! Julie will align the time slots and be sure to let everyone know. Helping prepare for Christmas week services is fun, joyful, and festive - a GREAT way to spend some time together with FBC Friends too! Many hands make light work, so please consider joining in and lending yours!



A progressive and welcoming Christian community!

Get
Involved

Worship with
Us

Join
-US-!
Celebrate Christ's birth with carols from
around the world this Music Sunday! 🛎️
Stay for Jesus' Birthday Party
right after Worship 🎂

This week's Music Sunday theme is
"Carols from Around the World!"

FBC BEVERLY'S
SEMIANNUAL

MUSIC
SUNDAY

SUNDAY,
DECEMBER 17, 2023

Presented by Music Director,
Dr. Esther Chang



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
IN BEVERLY



We hope you can join us Sunday for a *Celebration of Carols from Around the World* with 10 pieces from a wide variety of countries (such as Canada, Ireland, Scotland, Venezuela, Ukraine, Spain, West Indies, England and even Korea!) and traditions being sung by our Sanctuary Choir and two pieces performed by the Celebration Ringers!

After Worship when you are all geared up after the wonderful sounds of the season, everyone is encouraged to **stay for some crafting, caroling, treats and fun at Jesus' Birthday Party Celebration in Wilbur Hall!** Adam Costa will provide our music and lead our caroling at Jesus' Birthday Party and Elly Flowers will be coordinating fun craft tables for all ages!

We will gather for a time of joyful celebration together, culminating with a hilarious and beloved tradition of singing *The Twelve Days of Christmas* (and acting it out!) by table! This is an event for ALL ages, so everyone should come for some festive fun!

Worship With Us!

Join us this **Sunday, December 17th at 10:00 a.m.** for Worship either in person or via our *FBC YouTube Channel* for the **Third Sunday in Advent.**

Our 3rd and 4th graders will continue building our Nativity Scene at the front of the Sanctuary during the first carol this week. (Middle School and Senior High Youth should save-the-date for the morning Worship Service on 12/24, because that is their big chance to contribute to the scene, which includes adding a **BRAND NEW PIECE to our set that just arrived this year!)**

Notes for Sunday:

- The Infant/Toddler room will be open during worship this week.
- Littlest Learners will meet during worship this week.
- Sunday School Class continues this week. The Prayground will also be open for the enjoyment of our Elementary and younger friends & their families to use during worship.
- The Youth Pew is available for youth in grades 5-12 to enjoy worship together with peers.
- Regarding Middle School and Senior High Youth Fellowship groups, please see the scoop below as we round out 2023 together and embark on 2024!

"...THE INNKEEPER OPENED THE DOOR, ANYWAY"



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17TH, 2023, FBC BEVERLY
THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT & MUSIC SUNDAY



MEDITATION DELIVERED BY REV. JULIE FLOWERS
FEATURING SCRIPTURES FROM LUKE 2:1-7

Click [HERE](#) to join Worship via Livestream on Sunday

Photo features our 1st and 2nd graders this past Sunday helping add Joseph to the Nativity Scene alongside one of our Elementary Class teachers, Eva!



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Click [HERE](#) to view our Web Calendar



"HANUKKAH ROCKS" CONCERT A SUCCESS!



A huge thank you to Brian Gregory and Cynthia Sullivan for their vision and hard work to make Saturday afternoon's fun-filled concert happen and for bringing together nearly 200 people for this interfaith, rocking event!

Additional thanks goes to everyone who volunteered to assist with setting up, helping with the bake table, and those who staffed the concert, as well as thanks to the clean up crew!

It was a show for the books!

**Longest Night Service
Thursday, December 21st**

7:00 pm: 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
Sunday, December 24th**

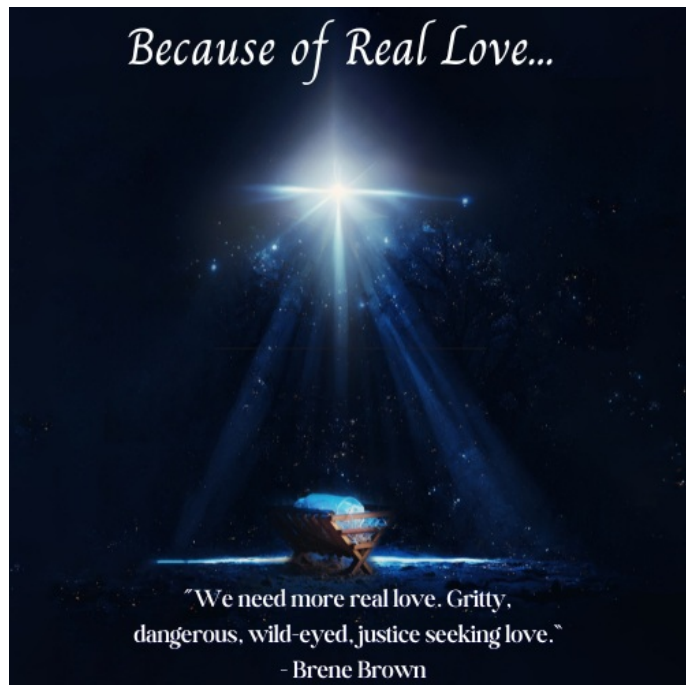
10:00 am: 4th Sunday of Advent
Worship Service
5:00 pm: Christmas Eve Service
Planned with the
Enthusiasm of Children in Mind
11:00 pm: Candlelight Service of
Lessons & Carols

CHILDREN INVITED TO SING!

ESTHER IS ASKING ALL ELEMENTARY-AGED CHILDREN AND YOUNGER WHO WOULD LIKE TO SING IN THE 5:00 P.M. CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE TO PLEASE STAY FOR A BRIEF REHEARSAL IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE 10:00 AM WORSHIP SERVICE ON THE 24TH!

What's more joyful than children singing at Christmas time?!

WE WOULD LOVE AS MANY VOICES AS POSSIBLE TO COME LEARN THIS FUN, EASY AND JOYFUL SONG!



Follow along with us as we explore the leap of faith our characters took:

Because of Real Love...

You can now visit the [Advent 2023 webpage](#) to see new Advent updates and resources!

The [Advent Home Devotions booklet](#) is posted on our site as a resource to be used for weekly devotions OR with your Advent candle lighting at home each week.

Members of our AV Tech Team will be lighting the candle during Worship for the Third Sunday of Advent this week!

Youth Fellowship Scoops & A Call for Alumni Volunteers!

Both Middle School and Senior High Fellowship groups will meet this week for their final gathering of 2023.

Middle School Fellowship meets at FBC from 4:00-6:00 p.m. for their Holiday Party! You are invited to bring a peanut/nut-free treat or snack to add to the celebration as we share in festive food, drinks and of course some favorite holiday-themed games too!

Senior High Fellowship meets this Sunday from 6:00-9:00 p.m. at Kaelyn's House located at 9 Old Town Road as Kaelyn and her family have generously offered to host our Holiday Party! Everyone is asked to bring a festive, nut-free/peanut-free treat or dessert, please!

Fellowship groups will not meet on 12/24 or 12/30, but will joyfully reconvene on January 7th in the New Year with bowling and celebrating Dave's birthday for Middle School and Life After Fellowship in the youth lounge for Senior High!

Julie is looking for COLLEGE-AGED (Class of 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023) Youth Fellowship Alums to serve, as is our FBC tradition, as the greeters, ushers and candlelighters at the 11:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service.

Alums of these Fellowship Class Years should [RSVP to Julie](#) if they are able to assist with that special role in this service!



Join us on Friday, December 15 from 6:00 pm to whenever the fun runs out for a *Christmas Potluck and Yankee Swap Party* planned with the enthusiasm of adults in mind! This is a potluck meal, so please bring either an entree, side or dessert. After noshing and (egg) nogging, there will be a wild and hilarious Yankee Swap! The party is at the Constantine home at 7 Devon Ave. Please RSVP to phaight@fbcbeverly.org or to Pam or Dave.



Friday, 12/15 at 6:00 p.m. at
The Constantine Residence

Join us for our Christmas Potluck & Yankee Swap Party!

Bring your favorite dish and a wrapped gift.



**VOLUNTEER AS A
CHRISTMAS
HELPER!**

**MONDAY, 12/18 AND/OR
TUESDAY, 12/19!**

WE HAVE LOTS OF FUN JOBS TO
HELP GET YOU IN THE SPIRIT +
MAKE CHRISTMAS WEEK RUN
SMOOTHLY AT FBC!

Volunteers would be VERY much Appreciated ahead of FBC's upcoming Christmas Services

Julie and Daniel would LOVE some helping hands next week to get things staged and ready for Christmas Eve Services! 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 the 18th or Tuesday the 19th, **please let Julie know via email ASAP** and include what times you are available those days to assist! Julie will align the time slots and be sure to let everyone know. Helping prepare for Christmas week services is fun, joyful, and festive - a GREAT way to spend some time together with FBC Friends too! Many hands make light work, so please consider joining in and lending yours!

There's still time to place your Poinsettia Order for Christmas

FBC Beverly will continue the tradition of honoring loved ones with poinsettias as we typically do during Advent, and ask that you please place all orders with Pat at phaight@fbcbeverly.org by Sunday, December 17.

The price per poinsettia this year is \$10.00 and you can sign up to have your poinsettia(s) included in the sanctuary display this month in memory or honor of a loved one. The poinsettias that you order will be available for you to take following the 11:00 pm Christmas Eve service, or you can designate it to be delivered to someone in our church family or community who has been unable to attend worship in person this Advent season.

We're excited to continue this special tradition, honoring and celebrating important people in our lives.

Email Pat to order your Poinsettia(s) for this year



A Lifebridge North Shore Community

Social Concerns Collecting for River House Shelter this Holiday Season

We will have a box in the Narthex if you could donate any of the items listed to the right. All donations will be delivered to the River House on Wednesday, December 20th.

We appreciate your generosity and support of the Beverly Community and these women who could use our help.

River House Shelter Website

The Social Concerns Committee is collecting items for the River House Shelter. River House is now housing women and is in need of:

- Hats
- Scarves
- Gloves
- Mittens
- Socks
- Deodorant
- Razors
- Shaving cream
- Shampoo and conditioner
- Toothbrushes and Toothpaste
- Tissues
- Laundry Pods
- Anti-Bacterial wipes
- Reusable Water Bottles
- Reusable Laundry Bags
- Band Aids
- Hand and Toe Warmers
- Chapstick
- Sleeping Bags

Looking Ahead...

Together Again!

Zoom Coffee
Hour
Thursdays
@ 10am



Lectio Divina
continues Friday
with Daniel and
Friends at 5:00 pm.

Join us in the
Lounge or via
Zoom!



Word Searchers

The Word Searchers adult Bible study will meet slightly later this Sunday at 11:45 am, in order to let ourselves enjoy the first part of Jesus' Birthday Party in the Fellowship Hall. Then we will dive into the content for the third Sunday in Advent from Will Willimon's book and video series *Heaven and Earth*, with a reflection on "Light" and a focus on John 1:6-8, 19-28.

FBC PICKLEBALL

Monday at 7:00 p.m. in the Gym!



Come, Let Us Worship

FBC'S

PODCAST

The Weekly Worship Podcast of First Baptist Church in Beverly, Massachusetts



NEW EPISODE:

"...Joseph Didn't Care What They Thought Anyway" featuring Rev. Manny Faria from December 10, 2023



Poinsettia Orders are due to Pat by this Sunday, 12/17, Friends!

“

⁴ And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David

⁵ To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. ⁶ And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. ⁷ And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. — Luke 2:4-7

”

PENCIL IN FBC

December

15

Friday

Christmas Pot Luck & Yankee Swap Party

Come Join the Fun at 6:00 p.m. on the 15th! It's a Christmas Pot Luck and Yankee Swap Party designed with the enthusiasm of adults in mind. Please bring either an entree, side or dessert. Location is the Constantine home at 7 Devon Avenue; Please RSVP to Pat at phaight@fbcbeverly.org or to Pam or Dave... we can't wait!

December

17

Sunday

Music Sunday AND Jesus' Birthday Party!

It's a busy time of year, yet we've found a way to double the fun at FBC! On Sunday the 17th join us for Music Sunday followed by Jesus' Birthday Party in Wilbur Hall. Come for the music, stay for the cake and get ready to celebrate the birth of the baby Jesus!

December

21

Thursday

Longest Night Service at FBC

Join us from 7:00-8:00 p.m. for this reflective service on the longest night of the year as we continue onward in our Advent journey. An uplifting service of music and prayer!

December

24

Sunday

Christmas Eve Services

Our regular 10:00 a.m. Worship Service will be held for the Fourth Sunday of Advent. We will also be holding our usual Christmas Eve services at 5:00 p.m. (geared toward youth which includes our very fun Christmas Pageant!) as well as our Candlelight Service of lessons & carols at 11:00 p.m. These services are in addition to our regular 10:00 a.m. service offered in person or via livestream.

December

25&26

Monday & Tuesday

Merry Christmas!

The church office will be closed on Monday the 25th and Tuesday the 26th in honor of the Christmas holiday. We'll look forward to reconnecting on Wednesday, the 27th!

January

1&2

Monday & Tuesday

Happy New Year!

As we ring in 2024, the church office will be closed on Monday the 1st and January the 2nd. We look forward to catching up on Wednesday, January 3rd!

January

2

Tuesday

Theology On Tap

We're back at Post starting at 8:00 p.m. for this informal and fun FBC fellowship group-join us for the first time in 2024!

CONTACT US



**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
IN BEVERLY**

Phone: 978-922-3295 (Main)

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

[Contact
Us](#)

[Recent
Sermons](#)

[Donations](#)

