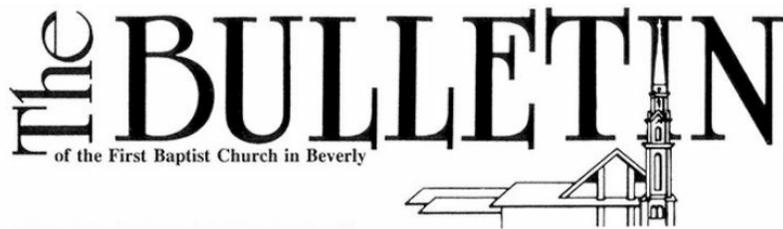


# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH IN BEVERLY

*A progressive and welcoming Christian community*



*A progressive and welcoming Christian community!*

Get Involved

Worship with  
Us

Happy Thanksgiving Eve, First Baptist family! At this time of year when we pause to reflect and offer our gratitude, we are so thankful for *you* and for the ways in which we get to share in life and community here at FBC! AND, to that end, our community has so many lively events and opportunities coming up, as Advent begins *this Sunday*, November 30th! Join us for Advent worship as we begin to explore our Advent theme, thinking together about what can happen *When Hope Dares...* Gather back at the church on Sunday afternoon to cheer on our Middle School Fellowship crew as they pass by in the Beverly Holiday Parade, collecting food donations for Beverly Bootstraps, and then be launched into the season with our second annual *Elf* \$1 community movie night at The Cabot on 12/3, Hanging of the Greens at the church on 12/5, and more! Read on to learn more about many other fun annual traditions and opportunities to move through the Advent Season together!

## Worship With Us!

Join us for our Worship Service this **Sunday, November 30th, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.**, either in person or via our *FBC YouTube Channel*.

**This Sunday, our Littlest Learners, along with our Infants and Toddlers, will begin building our Nativity Scene during the opening carol of the season during Worship!**

### *Notes for Sunday:*

- The Infant/Toddler room will be open during worship this week.
- Littlest Learners will meet during worship this week.
- Infant/Toddlers and Littlest Learners should go to their rooms as usual and their teachers/caregivers will bring them into the sanctuary to get ready for their role in building the Nativity Scene during the first carol.

## “Hope Dares to See the Light”

**Preacher: Rev. Julie Flowers**



**Sunday, Nov. 30, 2025  
First Sunday in Advent**

**Scriptures:  
Isaiah 9:2-7  
& 11:1-9**

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

- 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 child-friendly 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 with peers.
- **Cheer on our Middle School Fellowship group as they march in the Beverly Holiday Parade at 1 o'clock today! We'll have a watch party at the church for parade supporters featuring snacks and hot chocolate!**
- Sr. High Fellowship will meet at their regular time from 6:00-9:00 p.m. this week in the Youth Lounge.

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## YOUTH FELLOWSHIP NOTES FOR SUNDAY:

### Middle School Fellowship

*Sunday, November 30th: Holiday Parade and Collecting Food for Beverly Bootstraps! Meet at First Baptist at 11:15 am to get things ready to go for the Holiday Parade; head to BHS together to line up (we will provide pizza for lunch); The Holiday Parade steps off at 1:00 p.m. from BHS*

**(Please note that 8th graders are invited to attend the Sr. High program this Sunday in addition to the Holiday Parade, if they wish!)**

The Middle School Fellowship will be walking in the Beverly Holiday Parade, pushing shopping carts to collect food donations to go to Beverly Bootstraps, again this year! This is a 30+ year tradition for the Middle Schoolers at First Baptist, and we have collected tens of thousands of pounds of food donations in that time! **Please arrive at the church at 11:15 a.m. on Sunday, November 30th, dressed for whatever the weather is! Remember that we will be outside for the ENTIRE duration of the parade and following, so bring hats/gloves/mittens/jackets – dress in layers and wear comfortable shoes to walk the length of the parade route!** The group will then head to Beverly High School together to line up for the parade, and we will provide pizza for lunch at the high school while we are waiting. We will then walk in the parade, collecting food donations in our carts as we go, and then head directly to Beverly Bootstraps as the parade concludes (the route ends very near their building) to unload all the food. Once all the food is unloaded, the group will walk back to First Baptist, where we will need helping hands to disassemble our parade float, carry all the items and pieces into the church basement for storage, and ensure we are cleaned up before everyone heads home. **The pick up time at the church is usually 3/3:15 p.m., once all our jobs are done! Friends are welcome to participate in the parade with the group, as well!**

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## **Sr. High Fellowship**

*Sunday, November 30th: Game Night (8th Graders Invited to Attend)*

*6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. – Meet in the Youth Lounge at First Baptist*

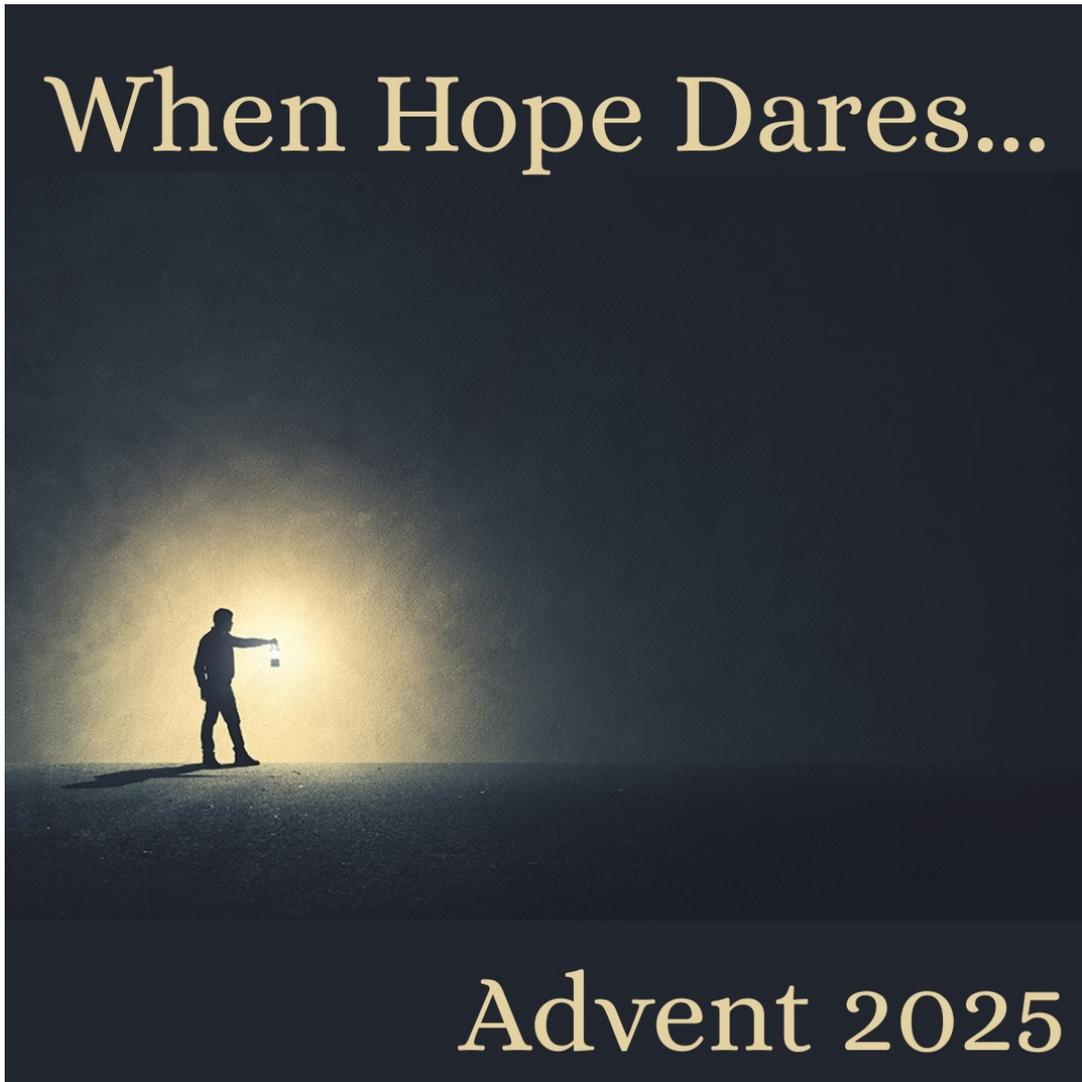
It's been a while since the Sr. High crew has gathered for a laid-back game night in the Youth Lounge, so this Sunday will provide such an opportunity! The Sr. High Fellowship will round out Thanksgiving weekend gathering together for an evening of favorite games (the church has a wide variety of board games, but youth are also invite to bring favorite board games to play and share, if they wish!) together. 8th graders are also invited to attend this program, as one of the series of programs throughout the year that we offer to help build a bridge toward Sr. High for them, as they look toward moving on to high school next year! Youth are also invited to bring a favorite peanut/tree nut free (we also welcome dairy-free and gluten-free!) snack to share the group plays, relaxes, and connects. Dinner will be provided, and the group will close the evening with the sharing of Concerns and Celebrations. Friends are welcome!

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Advent 2025 is Here!**

**Read on to learn all about our theme!**

# When Hope Dares...



# Advent 2025

## Advent 2025: When Hope Dares...

*“When tragedy strikes, when trouble comes, when life disappoints us, we stand at the crossroads between hope and despair...Despair cements us in the present. Hopes sends us dancing around dark corners trusting in a tomorrow we cannot see...”* -Joan Chittister

The days are shorter, darkness falls sooner, and we are keenly aware that we stand, once again, poised at the threshold of the Advent season. Advent, this time of preparation and pondering; of waiting and watching; of anticipation and aching; these four weeks leading us to Christmas, is a season in which we are reminded of the beauty and power latent in the story of God’s decision to shatter the darkness of our night with the light of love, to be born into the world as a tiny baby. This Advent season, we are also invited to consider the hope latent in that story and to consider the incredible daring nature of hope itself.

The hope woven in and through the Advent season and the Christmas story, like the hope woven in and through our own stories, is not passive. Hope requires our optimism, our action, our courage, and our daring, because hope is, itself, daring. Hope, in the words of Joan Chittister, “sends us dancing around dark corners trusting in a tomorrow we cannot [yet] see.” Hope *dares* to imagine that *more* is yet to be – more kindness, more joy, more peace, more comfort, more justice, more equity, more *love*. Hope dares to believe these things, and this Advent, we are invited to be daring and hopeful, too.

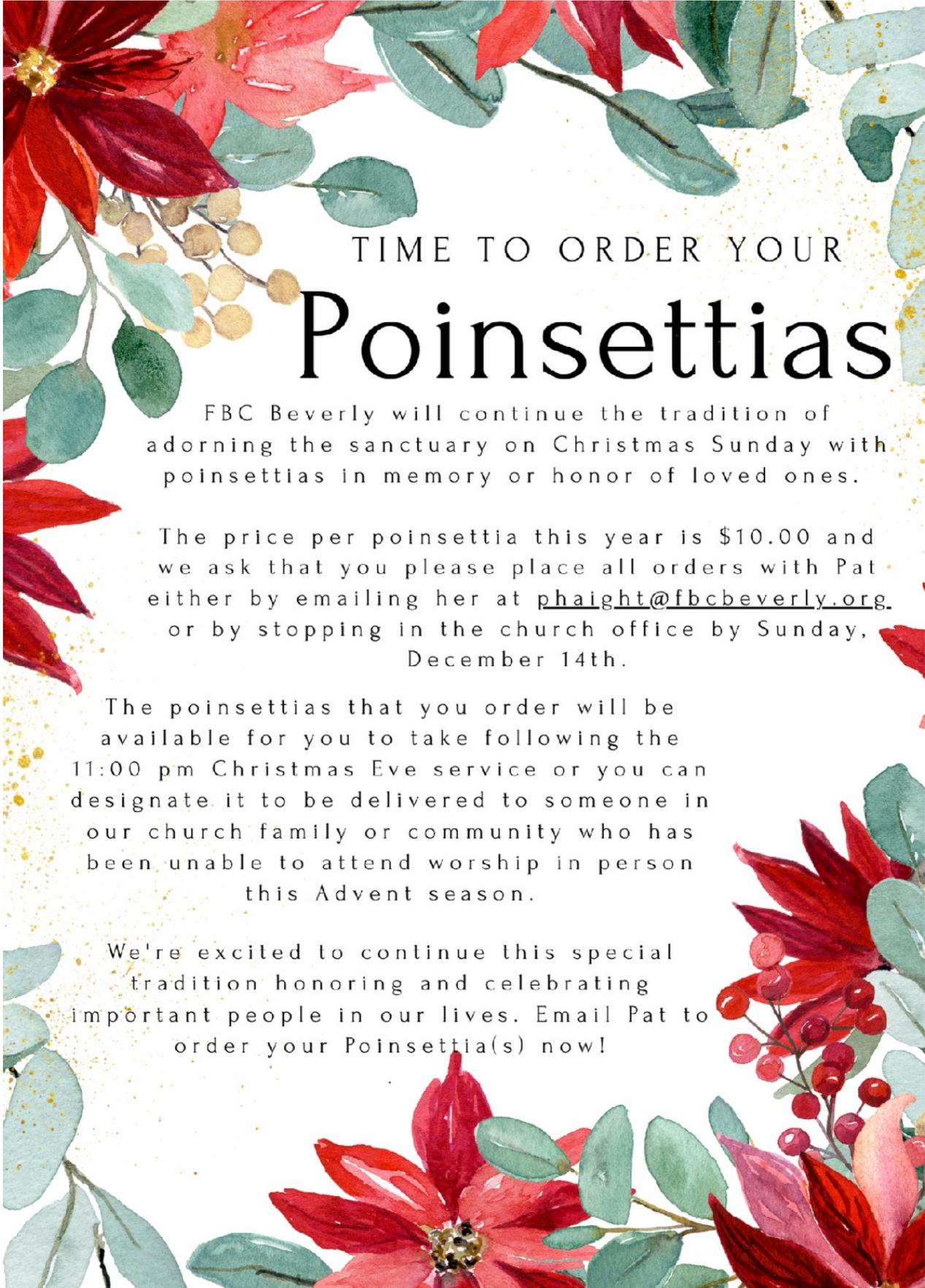
In this season of Advent that arrives when we may well feel that in our own moment of history *we* - like the prophets who cried out for what could yet be; like Mary and Joseph, trusting in an uncertain future; like the shepherds, toiling overnight in dark and cold - stand at the crossroads between despair and hope. Advent is God’s invitation to us, time and again, to *choose* hope; to choose to go dancing around dark corners trusting in a tomorrow we cannot yet see, knowing that the God of love is also the God of our hopeful tomorrows.

Join us, this Advent, as we explore our 2025 Advent Worship Theme *When Hope Dares...* together, we will consider the daring aspects of hope itself, as we prepare our hearts, once again, for the coming of the Christ Child on Christmas Eve.

Many thanks to this year’s Advent Worship Planning Team: Lauren Costa, Emily Feldman, Amy McCay, and Scott Sutera, for their work with Julie Flowers to craft this year’s Advent theme.

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Poinsettias On Sale Now for Christmas Eve!  
Orders Due to Pat by Sunday, 12/14



TIME TO ORDER YOUR  
**Poinsettias**

FBC Beverly will continue the tradition of adorning the sanctuary on Christmas Sunday with poinsettias in memory or honor of loved ones.

The price per poinsettia this year is \$10.00 and we ask that you please place all orders with Pat either by emailing her at [phaight@fbcbeverly.org](mailto:phaight@fbcbeverly.org) or by stopping in the church office by Sunday, December 14th.

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) now!

# Only \*One Week\* Until *Elf* \$1 Movie Night Presented by FBC's Fun Squad at The Cabot!

FILMS

KIDS AND FAMILY

HOLIDAY

## \$1 MOVIE – ELF

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2025

Buy Tickets



Grab some friends and family, put on your holiday best, and enjoy a festive night at the movies on the big screen. See the link below to secure your FBC FREE tickets!

Please bring a new, unwrapped toy for Pathways for Children and enjoy a to-scale gingerbread Cabot display, plus games and raffle prizes! There will be Elf-themed beverages, a photo booth, a costume contest & games!

The movie starts at 6:30 p.m. but doors open at 6:00 p.m. to kick-off the Elftastic shenanigans!

*Click [HERE](#) to get your tickets & use the code BUDDY designated for FBCers!*



## Hangings of the Greens next Friday Night!

Pencil us in on Friday, December 5th from 5:00-8:00 p.m. for Hanging of the Greens! We'll begin with dinner, then work together to beautify the Sanctuary for Advent. We'll close our time with festive and fun Christmas Carol Karaoke, some favorite video clips of the season, and an interactive story for all ages! Please RSVP by Thursday, December 4, at the link below so we can plan our count for dinner. We can't wait to continue on with this fun tradition!



Friday, 12/19, at 5:30 p.m. at  
the Johnson residence,  
24 Lothrop Street

# Join us for our FBC Christmas Potluck & Yankee Swap Party!

Bring your favorite dish and a wrapped gift.



We are especially grateful to our members and friends in the community who have come forward with donations in support of the *Silent Auction* at the Holiday Fair. Whether you donated anonymously, whether your generous contribution was large, small or anywhere in between, whether you donated your time and talents, whether you purchased baskets/items in the auction, however you gave, we are so incredibly thankful for you and your support! This year, we not only had a record number of items/baskets (73 to be exact!), but we earned \$5,920, which is a blockbuster amount! In previous years, we had not yet even reached \$4,500. So, thank YOU, FBC Beverly. Your thoughtfulness and kindness made it all possible. We simply could not have done it without you!

We would also like to make a few special acknowledgements of those who have made rather large contributions this year. First, thank you to Maureen Cotton, who secured quite a few big-ticket items, including VIP tickets for four to see Cirque du Soleil in Boston. Second, thank you to Tracey Armstrong, Glen Johnstone, and Gail Biancucci. This trio provided a total of 21 gorgeous baskets this year! We also want to thank Gail Biancucci for spending extra time with us wrapping baskets and creating beautiful displays, and to Amy Puff for her willingness to jump in to help out wherever needed, which involved (among other things) the glamorous job of breaking down boxes.

Thank you again, FBC Beverly. We look forward to doing it all again next year!

With sincere appreciation,

**Doris-Ann and Brenda**

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

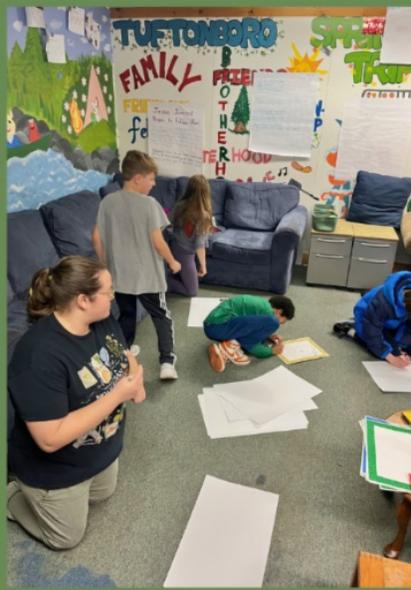
Warm up your winter with Women's Fellowship! Join us on Friday, January 9th from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at Clay Dreaming, 186 Cabot Street, Beverly for a fun night of painting and creativity! We have booked the entire studio for the evening, so please do consider joining us for this relaxed and low-pressure 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](mailto:phaight@fbcbeverly.org) by Sunday, January 4th. We look forward to seeing you there!

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**FBC Fellowship Photos from Last Weekend  
as our Middle School Group Prepped for the  
Beverly Holiday Parade & Sr. High  
Celebrated Thanksgiving!**



**BEVERLY  
HOLIDAY  
PARADE  
OR BUST!**





*FBC's Sr. High Fellowship Thanksgiving Dinner Tradition Continues!*



Looking ahead at FBC Beverly this  
Holiday Season...



*embracing gratitude this*

# Thanksgiving

The FBC Church Office will be closed on Thursday, November 27th & Friday, November 28th.

*Shalom & Thank You!*

# Word Searchers



The Word Searchers are finally moving on to Acts chapter 17! After three weeks of digesting the intense initial stages of Paul's second missionary journey, leading to his arrest and release from captivity in Philippi, this week we will track his push south into other familiar cities of Macedonia and Greece—namely, Thessalonica, Athens, and Corinth. Join us in the Conference Room at 11:30 this Sunday to see how he fares!

**PICKLEBALL... IT'S KIND OF A BIG DILL!**



**SEE YOU ON THE COURT AT  
FBC BEVERLY MONDAYS @ 7:00 PM!**



**8:00 O'CLOCK @  
KITCHEN TABLE**

500 ML • 7.5% ALC.  
**FBC'S THEOLOGY ON TAP**  
• HANDCRAFTED WHEAT BEER •



**TUESDAY,  
12/2/2025**

**LOCALLY  
BREWED IN  
BEVERLY, MA**

JOIN US ON SUNDAY, 12/7/25  
AFTER WORSHIP FOR FBC'S...

# YOUTH CLASS



**Youth in grades 5-12 are invited to  
stay immediately after worship!**

IT'S ALL ABOUT THE GREENS!

## Save Friday, December 5!

5:00-8:00 P.M. FOR FBC'S  
"HANGING OF THE GREENS,"  
FRIENDS!

## Order Your Christmas Poinsettias

PLEASE REACH OUT TO PAT  
IN THE CHURCH OFFICE AT:  
PHAIGHT@FBCBEVERLY.ORG  
TO PLACE YOUR ORDER BY  
SUNDAY, 12/14. THE COST IS  
\$10 PER POINSETTIA.



**FBC'S**  
**PARENTS' NIGHT OUT!**

Join us on Friday, December 12th for our **Parents' Night Out (PNO)** at the First Baptist Church in Beverly from 6:00-8:30 p.m.!

This month boasts extra festive fun as FBC is part of the Downtown Holiday Stroll! You won't want your youth to miss it!

**FREE**



**CAROL SINGING & SHARING OF HOLIDAY TRADITIONS!**

**Christmas Party Luncheon!**  
**Monday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m.!**

**WIT & WISDOM**

“

Despair cements us in the present. Hope sends us  
dancing around dark corners trusting in a tomorrow we  
cannot see...

”

— Joan Chittister

## PENCIL IN FBC

November

27 & 28

Thursday-Friday

### Church Office is Closed

We wish you and yours a Happy Thanksgiving! Reminder that the church office is closed as our staff takes time to enjoy the holiday with family and friends.

November

30

Sunday

### Beverly's Holiday Parade!

Bring your non-perishable food donations for Beverly Bootstraps and come enjoy the Beverly Holiday Parade! Our Middle School Fellowship will once again be walking in the parade with their now-famous Mac&Cheese float, pushing their shopping carts to collect those food donations! Come out for the parade and support our youth – and share food for our neighbors! – all at the same time!

December

2

Tuesday

### Church Council Meeting

FBC's next Church Council meeting will take place this evening at 7:00 p.m.

### Theology On Tap

Join us at the Kitchen Table located at 392 Cabot Street in Beverly at 8:00 p.m.! Be sure to bring your thirst for fellowship and hunger for lively conversation about life and faith!

December

3

Wednesday

### \$1 Community Movie Night Showing of *Elf* at Off Cabot

Don't miss our second annual community movie night sponsored by our very own FBC Fun Squad!

December

5

Friday

## Hanging of the Greens

Help hang greenery around the church as we carol right along and share in this festive annual tradition together! We'll decorate the Sanctuary from 5:00-8:00 p.m. as we prepare FBC (and our hearts!) for the rest of Advent and the upcoming Christmas season.

December

7

Sunday

## Youth Class Meets!

For those in grades 5-12, stay after worship for Youth Class! This Sunday School class meets in the Youth Lounge right after worship for an hour and explores questions about faith, the church, and how we put it all together in our lives!

December

12

Friday

## 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 Winter Stroll sponsored by Beverly Main Streets.

December

15

Monday

## Wit & Wisdom's Christmas Party Luncheon

Retiree Crew: Save-the-Date for lunch alongside caroling and sharing of holiday traditions kicking off at 11:30 a.m.!

December

19

Friday

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

Pencil in 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!

## CONTACT US

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**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
IN BEVERLY**

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Phone: 978-922-3295 (Main)

[Contact Us](#)

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