



THE BEACON

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Our deepest sympathy for:

Nan Drew and family in the loss of her husband, Ellis Drew.

Bill Wilson, Steve Wilson and families in the loss of their father, George Wilson.

Ron Cromer and family in the loss of his mother, Jean Cromer.

The family of Judge Ellis Drew, Jr., would like to thank the FBC staff and church family for the memorial service, delicious meal, kind thoughts and prayers provided during this time of loss.

In Christ,
The Drew Family

First Baptist Church Contact Information

307 S. Manning Street, Anderson, SC 29624
CHURCH OFFICE — 224-1622

Office Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 9:00 - 4:00; Fri. 9:00 - 3:00

Dr. James R. Thomason, Pastor

- Dr. Josh Hunt.....Associate Pastor
- Rev. Amy Brown.....Minister of Students
- Mr. Addrian Wilson.....Minister of Music
- Mr. Jamie Smith.....Assistant Music Director
- Mrs. Ramona Hallman.....Organist
- Mrs. Kelly Smith.....Pianist
- FBC Child Development Center.....224-2635
- Mrs. Shannon Griffin.....CDC Director

MINISTER ON CALL: (after hours & weekends)

Call: 224-1622, Press 6, leave name, number and a brief message and the MINISTER ON CALL will return your call promptly.

- facebook.com/FirstBaptistAnderson
- twitter.com/FBCAndersonSC
- www.andersonfbc.org

Opportunities at First Baptist

Sunday, November 5 - Daylight Saving Time Ends

- 8:15 AM Baraca Sunday School Class (record)
- 9:30 AM Worship
- 10:00 AM Baraca Service 107.7 WHQA-FM; 1280 WANS-AM
- 10:30 AM Bible Study
- 5:00 PM Youth Open Gym
- 6:00 PM Youth Bible Study

Tuesday, November 7

- 7:07 AM Youth Breakfast Club

Wednesday, November 8

- 12:00 PM Bible Study/ Luncheon
- 3:45 PM Youth - Open Gym
- 5:00 PM Supper - Fellowship Hall
- 5:30 PM M & M Check-In - 3rd Floor
- 5:45 PM Children's Music and Missions
- 6:00 PM Youth Bible Study
- Praise Team Rehearsal
- Conversation Café Room 212
- 6:15 PM Adult Bible Study - Chapel
- 7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
- GA & RA Check-Out - 3rd Floor

Sunday, November 12

- 8:15 AM Baraca Sunday School Class (record)
- 9:30 AM Worship
- 10:00 AM Baraca Service 107.7 WHQA-FM; 1280 WANS-AM
- 10:30 AM Bible Study
- 5:00 PM Youth Open Gym
- 6:00 PM Youth Bible Study

Wednesday, November 15

- 12:00 PM Bible Study/ Luncheon
- 3:45 PM Youth - Open Gym
- 5:00 PM Supper - Fellowship Hall
- 5:30 PM M & M Check-In - 3rd Floor
- 5:45 PM Children's Music and Missions
- 6:00 PM Youth Bible Study
- Praise Team Rehearsal
- Conversation Café Room 212
- 6:15 PM Adult Bible Study - Chapel
- 7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
- GA & RA Check-Out - 3rd Floor

Thursday, November 16

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First Baptist Church

307 South Manning Street, Anderson, South Carolina 29624 864.224.1622 / www.andersonfbc.org

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NOVEMBER 2017



We believe.
We belong.
We commit.

First Baptist's Stewardship Emphasis

Commit to give more in 2018. Commitment cards have been mailed and will also be available in this Sunday's bulletin. Then on Sunday, November 19th you will have an opportunity to put your card in the offering plate or come forward and put it on the altar as an acknowledgement of your promise to God.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19

Community Thanksgiving Service

Come worship with fellow Christians from surrounding churches as we join together to give thanks to God for all His blessings.

Hosted this year by Saint John's UMC
(515 South McDuffie Street)

From one Minister to Another...

As I write this article on the morning of October 31, I'm mindful of the fact that it was exactly 500 years ago when Martin Luther nailed his 95 theses to the door of the church in Wittenberg, Germany, unintentionally beginning what we now know as the Protestant Reformation. Luther was a devout Catholic who took issue with some of the Church's doctrines, particularly a doctrine that stated a person was saved by works rather than by faith. After reading Paul's letter to the Romans, Luther wrote, "I began to understand that the righteousness of God is that by which the righteous lives by a gift of God, namely faith...I felt that I was altogether born again, and had entered paradise itself through open gates." While Baptists do not directly descend from Luther and we would not agree with him about everything, we do share what I call a reformation heritage. As we are not perfect, we're in constant need of being reformed in order to more closely become the people Christ calls and equips us to be.

Baptists have proudly planted our flag at another one of Luther's strong beliefs, too; namely, that it is the responsibility and right of each believer to read and interpret scripture as led by God's Spirit. We don't need or even want a priest, bishop, or denomination to tell us how to read or what to do. No, quite the contrary! We believe in the priesthood of all believers. It was with that very idea in mind and with great admiration for that part of what it means to be Baptist that I spoke to you this past Sunday about the issue of stewardship. Rather than prescribing what you should give or how you should respond to this congregational season of stewardship emphasis, I threw into question the simple assumption that a tithe is the only obedient response to God by sharing the story of the Rich Young Ruler, of whom Jesus commanded nothing less than 100%. I could've told about the widow's mite, also a 100% offering. I shared a bit of my own story and how giving came to be a spiritual discipline for me. I encouraged you, my fellow priests, to pray in order to seek God's will in all things, including how much you give. If you need to be challenged to give more, I want it to be God—not Josh—to be the challenger. If you need to be reassured that you're giving obediently already, I want it to be the deep assurance that can only come from God. As I promised Sunday, I've been praying for your faithful response to whatever God has placed on your heart in this regard. I know it's fashionable for Christians to grumble about stewardship emphases or stewardship sermons, but I hope we never find ourselves complaining when we're urged to be intentional about seeking God's will in everything we do, even if doing God's will proves to be a financially costly proposition.

On another note, we've had two very consequential business conferences recently. This past Sunday, we approved new committee members for 2018 and passed our 2018 church budget. When we met together for our business conference before that, we made a unanimous decision to build Harrison Pruitt Park. Voting to approve a project is a lot easier than giving to support a project. Try as I might, I haven't been able to convince our contractors to accept church member votes as payment. Please note in this edition of *The Beacon* (and throughout the church facility) the thermometer gauging our giving for what this church, in that business conference vote, deemed to be a worthwhile project. Please keep the ongoing giving, park construction, and future usage in your prayers. You'll get to hear more on this very subject from some of our children this coming Sunday morning.

I hope you'll join us as we worship together. As Martin Luther wrote, "To gather with God's people in united adoration of the Father is as necessary to the Christian life as prayer."

Peace of Christ,
Josh

Our Members in Action

November 5

Worship Childcare:

Lisa Wallace

Deacons of the Week:

Mathias Richardson, Offertory Prayer
David Stoddard, Visitor Outreach

Security:

Rusty Smith and Dewey Boyd

November 12

Worship Childcare:

Jan Page and Kathleen Barnhart

Deacons of the Week:

Tom Allen, Offertory Prayer
Larry Mitchell, Visitor Outreach

Security:

Steve Thrasher and Glenn Bolt

November Collection Committee

Haskell Bolt, Larry Mitchell, Jeff Neal, Bolt
McClain, Gwen Bolt, Al Whitney

Wednesday Lunch & Supper

November 8

Lunch

Meat Loaf, Creamed Potatoes,
Broccoli, Carrot and Raisin Salad,
Dessert, Tea/Coffee

Supper

Country Fried Steak, Rice and Gravy,
Broccoli, Corn, Dessert, Tea/Coffee

November 15

Lunch and Supper

Turkey and Dressing, Gravy, Green Bean
Casserole, Sweet Potatoes, Cranberry
Sauce, Dessert, Tea/Coffee

Lunch & Supper Reservations

**Please contact the church office by
Noon on Tuesdays to make or
cancel your reservations.**

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4

YOUTH GATHERING — 6:00-9:00pm

(Time TBD. Check for email/text from Amy)

The Hatchetts' Home

(200 Gable Dr., Belton)



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19

Youth Friendsgiving - 6:00pm

Amy's home: 132 Herd Park Court, Anderson

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 21

College Friendsgiving - 6:00pm

Amy's home: 132 Herd Park Court, Anderson

NEWLY ELECTED DEACONS

DEACONS WHO WILL BEGIN THEIR SERVICE IN 2018:

Kathy Adams, Skip Brown, Timothy Clardy,
Guy Eichman, Michael Hatchett, Ray Kimbrell,
Mike Lowe, Jim McCombs, Jerry Minyard, Sonny Reed,
Susan Reed, Ginger Smith and Chad Waters

DEACON OFFICERS FOR 2018:

David Stoddard, Chair
John Nichols, Vice Chair
Leslie Walker, Secretary

**OPERATION
CHRISTMAS CHILD**



Shoeboxes are available in the foyer. Each shoebox has the potential to reach 12 people. Return filled shoeboxes by November 12. Call/text Cathy Drew: 864-617-1014 with any questions.



**WELCOME
NEW MEMBERS**



**William and April
McBride**