



THE BEACON

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**CHURCH BASKETBALL LEAGUE GAME SCHEDULE
JANUARY 4**

DATE	CLASS	TIME	LOCATION
1/4	13U	6:30 PM	First Baptist
	17U	7:30 PM	First Baptist

COME OUT AND SUPPORT OUR TEAMS!!

Our cup runneth over!! We are good for now in bags but thank you so much to all of you who have been donating to **Operation Bed Roll!** Our students are learning to be community minded while still working hard on this project :)



Thank you,
Courtney Walker,
E.L. Wright
Middle School



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

Wednesday, December 20

- 5:30 PM RA and GA Christmas Party - Gym
- 7:00 PM Children's Movie Night - Youth SS Room

Friday, December 22

- 7:00 PM Christmas Candlelight Communion

Sunday, December 24 - Christmas Eve

- 8:15 AM Baraca Sunday School Class (record)
- 9:30 AM Worship
- 10:00 AM Baraca Service 107.7 WHQA-FM; 1280 WANS-AM

Monday, December 25 - Christmas Day

Church Office Closed

Tuesday, December 26

Church Office Closed

Wednesday, December 27

No Noon or Evening Meals, Bible Studies or Activities

Sunday, December 31 - New Year's Eve

- 8:15 AM Baraca Sunday School Class (record)
- 9:30 AM **College Day**
- 10:00 AM Baraca Service 107.7 WHQA-FM; 1280 WANS-AM
- 10:30 AM Prep for New Year's Day Meal

Monday, January 1 - New Year's Day

Church Office Closed

11:00 AM New Year's Community Meal

Wednesday, January 3

- 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

Thursday, January 4

Beacon Mailed

- 6:30 PM 13U Basketball Game - First Baptist
- 7:30 PM 17U Basketball Game - First Baptist

Our deepest Sympathy for:

Bill Elrod in the loss of his sister, Joyce Elrod.



THE BEACON

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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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CHRISTMAS WORSHIP at FBC

This FRIDAY, December 22, 7:00 PM
Christmas Candlelight Communion
Beautiful - Invite Family and Friends!

Sunday, December 24, 9:30 AM
"Love" Sunday. Special Children's Moment.
Guests? Bring them! No Sunday School.

**Through December
LOTTIE MOON /
GLOBAL MISSIONS CHRISTMAS
OFFERING**

First Baptist Church Goal: \$10,000

Books written by Lawrence Webb are available in the church office. They are \$10 each and all the proceeds go to the CBF Global Missions Offering.

**End of the year gifts
are due by
Sunday, December 31.
Give generously
and joyfully!**

Sunday, December 31 - 9:30AM
College Day

Monday, January 1 - 11:00AM - 1:30 PM
New Year's Day Community Meal
See inside for more details.

From one Minister to Another...

I have just returned to my office after participating in “A Christmas Tapestry,” this year’s presentation by our wonderful sanctuary choir, children’s choir, FBC Music Team (Addrian, Jamie, Ramona, and Kelly), and the members of the orchestra. We get to hear lots of music during this season—and some of us get to take part in making it happen—but I always find the music we share together here at church to be the most meaningful.

Hearing Amy’s beautiful reflections on the music is one of the reasons for this. I also enjoy getting to sing beside Josh—as long as he doesn’t block too much of the light! And joining voices with all our FBC choir members is a treat. And then, there’s the beauty of our sanctuary—always worshipful, but a special blessing when it’s all decorated for this holy season.

As I reflected on why this music means the most, a line from an old Bing Crosby Christmas song came to mind: “But the prettiest sight to see is the holly that will be on your own front door...” When our FBC choir loft and platform are filled with singers and players, and the children chime in from the balcony, well... let’s just say “it’s beginning to SOUND a lot like Christmas!” Again this year, we are so very blessed!

On behalf of our entire church family, I want to express our appreciation to Addrian, Jamie, Ramona, and Kelly, along with all the volunteers who assist them. Thank you for the way you serve among us with such excellence week after week.

Merry Christmas!

You have the note from our staff on the front of the Beacon, but let me add to that a personal word of Christmas greetings. I am privileged to work with an incredible church staff! I think I’m right in saying that all of us value the opportunity we have to serve together with you in this congregation.

What a blessing to hear folks in our church and community describe our church staff as the “dream team.” Those who know our office staff, Sharon and Janice, custodian Greg, and hostess Chrys, include them in these praises as well. I also hear accolades directed toward our CDC staff—all to say that it’s a joy to be associated with this entire group!

I am mindful of the fact, however, that the folks I’ve mentioned so far are only part of the team. You, the members of FBC, compose most of it. Together, we have a spirit and relationship that many other churches would love to have! We really shouldn’t gloat, though. Instead, we should simply recognize our blessings and thank the Lord for them!

Here’s what else we should do: realize what a great time this is to invite others into the life of First Baptist. Let’s make sure that the warm and caring sense of family we experience here is extended to everyone. I believe there are plenty of folks in our community who would love to call FBC their church home—our calling is to help them discover this!

During this Christmas season, there are people who are questioning what life is about. Point them to Him who is the Way, Truth, and Life. Some feel estranged. Share with them the power of reconciliation in Christ.

Some are overwhelmed by life’s responsibilities and need to know that in Christ, they can find the strength to do what needs to be done. Look for ways to share the blessing of Christmas with others this year.

See you Friday evening at Candlelight Communion and Sunday morning for Christmas Eve worship. It’s almost here!!!

In a Spirit of Partnership...

James R. Thomason, Pastor

Our Members in Action

December 24

Worship Childcare:

Paula Ballentine

Deacons of the Week:

Jerry Neal, Offertory Prayer
Howard Murphy, Visitor Outreach

Security:

Jeff Neal and Charlie Campbell

December 31

Worship Childcare:

Robin Gardner

Deacons of the Week:

Joe Drennon, Offertory Prayer
Dewey Boyd, Visitor Outreach

Security:

Ed Sokol and Bradley Orr

December Collection Committee

Becky Campbell, Steve Madden, Mathias Richardson, Tom Allen,
Alicia N. Darby, Charlie Ballentine

Wednesday Lunch & Supper

December 20 and 27

**No Noon or Evening Meals
or Bible Studies**

**Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year!**

NEW YEAR’S DAY:

Once again, First Baptist will have the opportunity to begin a new year by practicing hospitality. On January 1, 2018, we’ll open our doors to welcome our neighbors for lunch, conversation, and a warm blanket. As always, loving volunteers are needed to help assist with this annual FBC tradition. Though some blankets have been purchased with FBC’s missions giving, we’re happily accepting donations of either blankets or money to purchase blankets to distribute. Sign-up sheets are located at the bulletin board near the Deacon Conference Room.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Church Office Closed No School 11:30am Annual New Year’s Community Meal	2	3 Noon and Evening Meals and Bible Studies Resume	4 6:30 - FBC 13U Basketball 7:30 - FBC 17U Basketball Beacon Mailed	5	6
7 9:30am Foundations: AUTHORITY Luke 4:31-37 6:00pm Youth Bible Study	8	9 7:07am Youth Breakfast Club 6:30 - FPC 13U Basketball	10 Noon and 6:15pm Bible Study 6:00 Youth Bible Study	11 6:30 - FBC 15U Basketball 7:30 - FPC 17U Basketball 7:30 - FBC Girls Basketball	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Family Promise Week						
9:30am Foundations: SERVANTHOOD Matthew 20:20-28 (Deacon Ordination) 6:00pm Youth Bible Study	 Martin Luther King Jr. Day No School 6:00pm Stewardship Mtg.	No School 6:30pm - FPC 15U Basketball 7:30 - FBC Girls Basketball	Noon and 6:15pm Bible Study 6:00 Youth Bible Study	Basketball Tournament Starts		
21 9:30am Foundations: CONFIRMATION Mark 9:2-8 11:30am Deacons’ Meeting 6:00pm Youth Bible Study	22	23 10:00am Margaret Williams Bible Study	24 Noon and 6:15pm Bible Study 6:00 Youth Bible Study	25 Beacon Mailed	26	27
28 9:30am Foundation: WORSHIP Luke 19:45-48 11:30am Church Conference and Luncheon 3:30pm Basketball Banquet 6:00pm Youth Bible Study	29	30	31 Noon and 6:15pm Bible Study 6:00 Youth Bible Study	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Harrison Pruitt Park For Church. For Community.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Contributions Needed: \$200,000 Harrison Pruitt Fund: \$400,000 33k → Total Cost: \$600,000</p> </div>		