



MESSENGER

9:15 SUNDAY SCHOOL
10:15 WORSHIP SERVICE

Volume 60 Issue 12

DECEMBER 2024

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

HANGING OF THE GREEN

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1
10:15 AM**

*Preschool/Children's Choir,
Youth/Parent Ensemble
and Instrumental Ensemble
will present seasonal
music during the service.*

Message by Dr. Richard D. Seagle

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8
10:15 AM

Sanctuary Choir presents

*This
is
Christmas*

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15
10:15 AM

PRAISE TEAM
AND
CHANCEL BELL CHOIR

Message by Dr. Richard D. Seagle

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22
10:15 AM

ADULT ENSEMBLE

Message by Dr. Richard D. Seagle

Night of the Father's Love
by Pepper Choplin

The Awé and Mystery of God with Us

Wednesday, December 4
6:00 PM

presented by
Community Gospel Choir

Family Life Center

December 6
11-30 AM

Sunshine Friends Luncheon

MORAVIAN LOVE FEAST

Wednesday, December 11
6:00 PM

*A Service of Unity
& Fellowship with
Carols and Candles*

Christmas

Children's Nativity Service in the Memorial Garden

December 13 at
6:00 & 7:00 PM

*Hot Chocolate & Cookies
served after each presentation.*



CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS EVE at FIRST

Sunday, December 24

4:00 PM



Family Service with Carols and Nativity Scene



6:00 PM

Candlelight & Carols with Communion
(Prelude begins at 5:30 PM)

Dear Barry,

“Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts.”

— Colossians 3:16



For 21 years, you have helped bring the message and wisdom of Christ to our congregation. Through thoughtful planning, you have carried forth the good news of each season through the music ministry of our church. Your musical direction has lifted the hearts of our people, inspired them to walk more closely with the Lord, and enhanced our weekly services.

Music has the power to heal, inspire, and uplift. Thank you for spreading joy and touching lives with your beautiful melodies led through music and lifestyle. You have served the Lord with gladness here for 21 years - tirelessly, faithfully, and with great compassion for Christ's flock. Not only have you been our Associate Pastor of Music and Worship, but you have been much more. Your investment in the lives of others from senior adults to children has truly made a difference; you have given hope, laughter and encouragement to so many.

We congratulate you on this milestone of retirement and pray that God will continue to bless both you and your wife Yvonne as you enter this new chapter in your lives. Now, as the day dawns on the next chapter in your life, may God continue to richly bless you and watch over you, may the God of peace grant you peace now and always.

The words of 1 Samuel 12:24 remind us to *“be sure to fear the LORD and serve him faithfully with all your heart; consider what great things he has done for you.”* The Lord knows that you are faithful in service and your heart loves Him, so as you retire on December 31st from being our Associate Pastor of Music and Worship, be encouraged that the Lord will still use your heart, your willingness, and your spiritual gifts to serve Him in new ways that you might not have ever expected before now.

I am thankful for you, Barry, and I want you to know just how much I appreciate your faithful service to First Baptist Church of New Bern for the past twenty one years. And I believe I speak for many people.

In Christ's Love,

Attention Please:

I will need all articles for the January newsletter no later than **December 9th**. This will give me time to get it out early before the Christmas Holidays.

Thank you,
Loma

Dear Church Family,

The talent in this church was on display November 8 & 9 and my heart is happy! Thank you, thank you, thank you for sharing your wonderful talent, untold hours of sewing, crafting, cooking and tireless support of our 1st intergenerational Holiday Bazaar. Some are already talking about the next one and what they will be making. That's exciting! Over \$8,000 was collected with \$413 designated for Western NC. The remaining unsold items will be taken to western NC for those without homes, businesses and/or income so they can choose gifts for themselves or others. May you be blessed for providing those gifts!

To God Be The Glory!

Love to you all!

Judy Bills



Fall Festival – We raised \$500.00 for hurricane relief through the Cake Walk! For youth ministry, we raised \$904.52! Thank you everyone for your support in this very successful event!



The first ever Intergenerational Pickleball Event took place on Sunday, November 10 at Creekside Park and this was very well received and attended. There was a doubles tournament which took place consisting of ten teams.

There were about 150 students present as we worshipped together as one united church during New Bern Youth Worship Night on Sunday, November 10 over at Brice's Creek Bible Church.



Intergenerational Family Game Night
Sunday, January 12, 2025
4:00 PM - 6:00 PM
Family Life Center
sponsored by Youth Ministry

Save the Date!

Youth Progressive Dinner





December 8, 2024 5:00 - 8:30 PM

Drop Off at Becky Stewart's Home

Pick Up at Tammi Newton's Home

CBFNC YOUTH SKI RETREAT

January 31 - February 2, 2025
Winterplace Resort, WV

		WORSHIP SERVICE VOLUNTEERS				
		Dec 1	Dec 8	Dec 15	Dec 22	Dec 29
DEACONS		Tracey Lorentzen Kelsie McBride	Amy Price Joey Holton	Don Brinkley Josh Bell	Cathy Chitty Pike Bobby West	Mona Quick Jennifer Emens
WATCHMEN		John Duff	Travis Blalock	Terry Hall	Mike Heiman	Dwayne Alligood
USHER TEAMS		Bobby West	Susan Williams	Todd Spear	Mike Seawell	Eddie Games
CAFÉ CONNECTION		Eddie Games	Wendy Karam	Charlotte Fuller	Kathy Swindell	Elaine Varley
GREETERS		Bunting	Hall	White	Garner	Wilkinson
CHILDREN'S CHURCH		Jennifer Benton Sarah Moore Bella Bernabi Allison Bunting	Beth Wynn Westleigh Holton Mona Quick	Elizabeth Swicegood Mary Ella Swicegood Carole hart Lori Meads	Sheree Bagley Caroline Strickland Addison Strickland	Elizabeth Swicegood Mary Ella Swicegood Carole Hart Lori Meads
EXTENDED CARE 10:15	Sonya Thurman Mandy Mueller Molly Streblow	Rebecca Sanchez Kathy Swindell Cathy Rock Mandy Mueller Molly Streblow	Kelsie Ferguson Trey Ferguson Brian Swicegood Mandy Mueller Molly Streblow	Brenda Hall Terry Hall David Zink Thaih Zink Mandy Mueller Molly Streblow	Kendal Strickland Caroline Strickland Addison Strickland Jeremy Tavares Courtney Tavares Mandy Mueller Molly Streblow	
Wednesday Night Supper	Dec 4 Terry Hall's Team Grilled Hamburgers Baked Beans Chips Dessert	<i>Moravian Themed Meal</i> Dec 11 Dwayne A.'s Team Chicken Pie Creamed Potatoes Marinated Vegetable Salad				


 *December*
BIRTHDAYS

01 Xander McBride	08 Gretchen Overby	13 Kate Amerson	15 Jensen Rocham	20 Ava Brinson	29 Teresa Allen
02 Steve Lambert	Cathy Satterley	Susie Games	16 Brian Swicegood	21 Wayne Brown	Susan Heiman
03 Debbie Lotridge	Duh Hmung	14 Sheila Austin	17 Chris Bagley	23 Chuck White	Byun Serchom
Kenneth Collins	09 H'Tiffany Ya Ksor	Mallory Hamilton	18 Ruby Franks	Whitney Denton	30 Laura Russell
Holly Thornton	10 Kevin Rock	Kit Emmerich	18 Mary Jo Roberts	H'Kailey Ya Ksor	Faye Willingham
Alec Newton	Colin Phinney	15 Julia Hudson	Rieko Evans	25 Selma Piner	31 Kenny Brownell
Lily Marsh	John Crawley	Chelsea McLamb	Ed Stinson	Mary-Catherine Gray	Anna Pearson
Alicia Wilson	11 Wayne Barrow	Matt Kaylor	19 Chris Daniels	28 Charlotte Antry	Henry Gerock
04 Carolyn Fulcher	Reagan Ferguson	Donald Geiling	20 Sharon Ward	Greyson Tucker	Honesty Spillers

 *December*
ANNIVERSARIES

02 Steve & Kim Wynn	22 David & Gwyn Page
09 Joe & Cathy Chitty Pike	29 Edward & Cathy Satterley
15 Harrison & Lauren Ferebee	31 Patrick & Beth Wynn
17 Travis & Allyson Blalock	31 Todd & Sonya Thurman
19 Phil & Debbie Kaylor	






Hanging of the Green

December 1, 2024

10:15 Worship Service

Children 3yr through 5th Grade will be singing. Children should wear Christmas clothing and arrive for final practice that morning @ 8:45am in the Sanctuary.



Happy Birthday Jesus

Celebrate the real reason for the season!

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15TH

During Sunday School

THE CHILDREN'S MINISTRY WILL HAVE A SPECIAL "HAPPY BIRTHDAY JESUS" PARTY WITH FUN ACTIVITIES, CRAFT & SNACK

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Merry CHRISTMAS

PARENTS / KIDS NIGHT OUT

DINNER, CRAFTS, MOVIE & POPCORN



Sign Up

DECEMBER 6

6 PM - 9 PM

DEADLINE TO REGISTER IS DECEMBER 2ND



The Kindness Manger

Christmas is coming, do you feel prepared?
Do you feel the joy of a Christmas shared?
This little manger is empty, its true, waiting for good deeds & kindness to be done by you.
Lay a piece of straw in the manger bed having done a deed of which nothing is said.
By the time Christmas is finally here, a soft bed of straw should have appeared.
Ready to receive the Babe, a newly born --
Giving cause to celebrate on Christmas morn!



Merry Christmas

Made with PosterMyWall.com

Parents, please pick up your "Kindness Manger" envelope at the Preschool Welcome Desk. One bag per family, please. Merry Christmas! Sheree



It's a Girl

JOIN US FOR A BABY SHOWER HONORING

Jenna Brinkley Clontz

SUNDAY JANUARY 12, 2025
DROP IN: 1:00 - 3:00PM
FAMILY LIFE CENTER

REGISTERED AT WWW.BABYLIST.COM

First Baptist Church of New Bern:

On behalf of the congregation of Glen Alpine United Methodist Church (GAUMC), the Burke County community and the many victims of Hurricane Helene, we would like to extend the deepest of appreciation to the members of First Baptist Church of New Bern for their generosity, time and overall outpouring of love expressed to our community in the aftermath of Hurricane Helene, which struck during the night of September 26th.

Your first delivery on Tuesday, October 15th, consisted of over seven huge pallets of food, blankets, bedding, paper products, adult and baby hygiene supplies, water, and so much more, and was coordinated by FBC's Brant Bills, and delivered by a couple also representing Baptists on Mission from Enterprise Baptist Church of Littleton, NC.

The second delivery received on Monday, October 21st, was the FBC van packed to the gills consisting of clean, warm clothes (jeans, pants, tops, sweaters, jackets, coats, hats, gloves, scarves, socks) of all sizes and of nice quality, a large tote of brand new work gloves, boots and tennis shoes, bedding, countless blankets and sleeping bags, tents and cleaning supplies. We are not sure how Cathy and Reid Chitty squeezed into the van to make this delivery! GAUMC members further sorted and labeled your clothes with regard to size, gender and type (jeans/tops/etc) to facilitate the process of identifying and matching the needed clothing item with the appropriate person in need.

Serving as a collection and distribution hub, we distributed your gifts to local community persons in need, and as of last week, we are coordinating our efforts with Morganton First Church of God to deliver the supplies and clothes directly to Spruce Pine where the need is greater.

We realize that there are so many individuals behind all of these gifts, so thank you ALL for your generosity, gifts, time, abundant love and prayers. We are grateful for our Christian brothers and sisters in this time of crisis. Please keep Western North Carolina and all those affected by the storm in your prayers.

With sincere appreciation,

Susan Chitty Pitts
Glen Alpine United Methodist Church



FROM DIRECTOR OF FINANCE DESK ~ SANDY O'BRIEN

2025 OFFERING ENVELOPES

The counting team and I would like to THANK YOU for using your offering envelopes. 2025 offering envelopes will be ready for pick up on Sunday, December 22, 2024. The offering envelope boxes will be on the credenza in the breezeway between building A & B. Please note that some envelope numbers have changed; **please do not use 2025 offering envelopes until January 1, 2025**. If you are enclosing cash in your envelope, make sure your name and the amount is on the outside of the envelope, so your account can be credited correctly. If you do not receive envelopes and would like a box, please sign your name, address and phone number to the "DO NOT HAVE ENVELOPES" sheet on the credenza with 2025 offering envelope boxes, or call the church office.

Please turn in all your 2024 receipts for financial payment as soon as possible, so I can make sure you are reimbursed out of 2024 budget. Also remember all contributions must be in the office or postmarked by Tuesday, December 31st to be credited to your 2024 contribution statement. If you have any questions or concerns, please call me.



CHURCH FAMILY

Alan Ashe	Mary Ann Jones	Ty Smith
Valeria Barrow	Howard Mathews	James Warren, Sr.
Reid Chitty	David Page	Jewel Watson
Tommy Daniels	Gwyn Page	Kimsey Welch
Rieko Evans	Greg Pearson	Kathy White
Breanna Gray	Cathy Pike	Faye Willingham
Barbara Gwaltney	Selma Piner	Ken Wooten
Mary Lou Harrell	Lynn Rausch	Ellen Young
	Bobby Reece	

CARE FACILITY & RETIREMENT* RESIDENTS

Cypress Glen—GVL
Elizabeth Brinkley

NC Veterans Home - KIN
Mary Ellen Kirschner

Champions-WIL
Doris Dyson

Merrill Gardens - NBN
Sylvia Pina

Homeplace
Christine Peedin
Rudy Rowe

Riverpoint Crest - NBN
Jewel Watson

McCarthy Court
Dot Smith

Spring Arbor - KIN
David & Gwyn Page

Woodland Terr - CARY
Louise Blizzard*

CHURCH FRIENDS

Jerry Ashley (<i>L.B. Pope</i>)	Sandy O'Brien (<i>Wayne O'Brien, BIL Jerry Hardin</i>)
Jo Ann Banks (<i>Wanda, Chris, & Donna</i>)	Anna Pearson (<i>Granddaughter Blythe, cousin</i>)
Jennifer Bernabi (<i>nephew</i>)	Keith Russell (<i>dad Archie Russell</i>)
Judy Blythe (<i>Fran Eaves</i>)	Melodie Seagle (<i>mother</i>)
Jan Burke (<i>Neal Cobb</i>)	Richard Seagle (<i>cousin Andrew Hall</i>)
Lisa Chitty (<i>parents, friend Sherry & family</i>)	Kathy Swindell (<i>Linda Lupton</i>)
Sandra J. Dail (<i>Tommy Gaskins</i>)	Jeremy Tavares (<i>Dennis Dowdy's mother</i>)
Janet Doughty (<i>mother</i>)	Beth Wagner (<i>Marian Elmore, John Wiltrout</i>)
Eddie Games (<i>cousin</i>)	Kathy White (<i>Buddy Kirschner</i>)
Anita Gray (<i>Breanna Gray, Jim Baldrige</i>)	Jane Wooten (<i>friend</i>)
Phil Kaylor (<i>William & Peggy; John & Martha</i>)	Ken Wooten (<i>mother</i>)
Karen Killingsworth (<i>father</i>)	Beth Wynn (<i>Lori Saunders, Lori M.S. Marx</i>)
Lori Hale (<i>brother in law</i>)	<i>Persecuted relatives of our church families</i>
Brandy Holton (<i>father</i>)	<i>Pray for our country</i>
Matt Kaylor (<i>friend Alicia</i>)	
Emma Little	
Jim/Claudia McManamey (<i>niece</i>)	



December 29, 2024

9:00 AM

Adults meet in the FLC

Let's Celebrate the Holidays with Games, Bible Study, Donuts, Juice & Coffee

What's Praying the Scriptures?

Using God's Words to Effect Change in All of Life's Situations

Learn more about how to "Pray the Scriptures" as we adopt this as our Sunday School emphasis during the Winter and Spring for 2025. We will share our prayers on the 5th Sunday in March.



Look for the daily Advent Devotion Cards from the Christian Education Committee for December 1—31!



OFFERING FOR
GLOBAL MISSIONS

2024 - 2025 Offering for Global Missions

Behold...A New Thing

Isaiah 43:19

100% of your gifts for the Offering will support the long-term presence of CBF Field personnel serving in the United States and around the world.

December has been a traditional time for Baptists to collect an offering for the work of missionaries serving around the world. We encourage you to make a special gift this December to support our field personnel serving to share the Good News. Offerings can be placed in the offering plate or be sent/brought to the church office and designated for the Offering for Global Missions.

FINANCIAL RECORD JAN - OCT 2024

Needed YTD: \$969,040 Received YTD: \$958,949

Ladies,

A new Bible Study will start in January.

Stay tuned for more information in next month's newsletter!



First Baptist Church

239 Middle Street P. O. Box 1463
 New Bern, NC 28563
 Church office located at 409 Pollock St
 Phone: (252) 638-5691
 www.fbchurch.com



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Dated Material

Please Deliver Promptly

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

Newsletter articles are due in the church office no later than 9:30 AM on the third Monday of each month. All articles must be written out—none over the phone or verbally, please.

Dr. Richard D. Seagle, Senior Pastor.....	Richard@fbchurch.com	Ext 124
Rev. Barry E. Templeton, Associate Pastor of Music & Worship.....	Barry@fbchurch.com	Ext 125
Rev. Kerry Q. Peeler, Associate Pastor of Christian Education.....	Kerry@fbchurch.com	Ext 127
Rev. Jeremy L. Slagle, Associate Pastor of Youth and Family Life.....	Jeremy@fbchurch.com	Ext 121
Mrs. Sheree Bagley, Director of Children's Ministry.....	Sheree@fbchurch.com	Ext 128
Loma Brown, Secretary.....	Loma@fbchurch.com	Ext 122
Sandy O'Brien, Director of Finance.....	Sandy@fbchurch.com	Ext 126
Bette Jo Oglesby, Organist.....	Bettej.oglesby@gmail.com	
Gwyn Rice, Food Service Manager.....	Gwyn69@hotmail.com	Ext 107
Tyler Barker, Grounds Custodian.....	jamestyerb42@gmail.com	
Kit Emmerich, Buildings Custodian.....	Chemmerich2020@gmail.com	

Save the Dates for Seasonal Happenings

Sunday, December 01 - 10:15 AM

1st Sunday of Advent

Hanging of the Green

with Preschool & Children, Youth/Parent Ensemble, and Instrumental Ensemble

Wednesday, December 04 - 6:00 PM

Community Gospel Choir presents

Night of the Father's Love by Pepper Choplin

Friday, December 06 - 11:30 AM

Sunshine Friends Luncheon

Sunday, December 08 - 10:15 AM

2nd Sunday of Advent

Sanctuary Choir presents

THIS IS CHRISTMAS by Mary McDonald

Wednesday, December 11 - 6:00 PM

Moravian Love Feast

Friday, December 13 - 6:00 & 7:00 PM

Children's Nativity Service in the Memorial Garden

Sunday, December 15 - 10:15 AM

3rd Sunday of Advent

Praise Team and Chancel Bell Choir

Wednesday, December 18 - 10:00 AM

Staff Caroling at Shut-ins

Sunday, December 22 - 10:15 AM

4th Sunday of Advent

Adult Ensemble

Tuesday, December 24 - CHRISTMAS EVE

4:00 PM – Family Service with Live Nativity
 6:00 PM – Candlelight & Carols with Communion
 (Prelude begins at 5:30 PM)