



First Baptist Surfside

December 12, 2024 Newsletter

Christmas time is here! Like most of us, Christmas is a busy season for my family. As I look at my calendar, every night except one is booked between now and the new year! Part of me is tired from just looking at what is coming up! On the other hand, I am so excited for Christmas. Even though it is busy it is always a special time to get out of our routines and focus on what matters most. It gives opportunities to spend time with family and serve others, but most importantly to remember the gospel of Jesus that alone is our true hope.

I want to invite you to be a part of some special ways to celebrate Christmas over the next few weeks.

Christmas Caroling – Dec 15th – this Sunday we will gather at the church at 4pm then divide into groups to go caroling. We will go to homes of several of our church members and show them the love of Christ. After we will return for cookies and hot chocolate. You do not have to be a good singer, just have a smile on your face. I promise you will be blessed!

Candlelight Service – Dec 22nd – our special candlelight service at 6pm is a sweet time for the entire family. We will celebrate Christ, remember those in our church who have passed this year, and reflect on the Christmas narrative. This is one of my favorite times of worship for the entire year!

Let me also remind you that on both December 22nd and 29th we will have only one combined worship service at 10:00am.

I hope you will take time to celebrate the birth of Jesus this month and will invite others to come with you. During Christmas people are more often open to spiritual things. Who is a friend, a neighbor, or a coworker who you could invite to worship with you?

In Christ,

Pastor Nathan

Weekly Schedule

Sundays

- 9:00 AM: Worship Service & Small Groups
- 10:30 AM: Worship Service & Small Groups
- 4:00 PM: Choir Practice (Not December 15)
- 5:00 PM: Students (Resumes January 12, 2025)
- 5:00 PM: Surfside Kids (Resumes January 12, 2025)
- 5:30 PM: Adults (Resumes January 12, 2025)

Tuesdays

- 7:00 AM: Men's Bible Study/Breakfast at Bob Evans
- 6:00 PM: Celebrate Recovery

Wednesdays

- 10:00 AM: Prayer Meeting

Small Groups Meet Throughout the Week at Various Locations

Upcoming Schedule

Friday, December 13

- 1:00 PM: Food Pantry

Saturday, December 14

- 10:30 AM: wMu

Sunday, December 15

- 8:30-12:30: Lottie's Mission Market
- 4:00 PM: Christmas Caroling

Sunday, December 22

- 10:00 AM: One Worship Service (No Small Groups)
- 6:00 PM: Christmas Candlelight Service

December 23-26

- Christmas Holiday: Office Closed
- Reopens Monday, December 30

Sunday, December 29

- 10:00 AM: One Worship Service (No Small Groups or Evening Activities)

Wednesday, January 1

- New Year's Day: Office Closed

Sunday, January 5

- No Evening Activities

Use of Kitchen Reminder!

The use of the refrigerator and freezers are available for the upcoming scheduled activities. No leftover food items are to be left in the refrigerator, freezer, counters, cupboards, or pantry. Please dispose (or take with you) all food not used at the event.

Sunday's Worship Guide

Incredible Incarnation How Does The Incarnation Bring Joy? 1 John 1:1-4

- I True Joy Is Obtainable (1)
- II True Joy Is Found In Jesus (2)
- III True Joy Is Life Changing (3-4)

New Member Commissioning

We believe that the Bible emphasizes the importance of church membership. On Sunday **January 12**, we will present all of our new members to the church. If you have begun the membership process but have **not** been presented to the church, please contact the church office or Pastor Nathan.



Lottie's Mission Market Sunday, December 15 8:30 AM—12:30 PM

Lottie's Mission Market is a fundraiser for our Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. We have handmade items that will be placed in the breezeway December 15. All items will be available for donation only. So take what item you like and leave what you can.



Churchwide Christmas Caroling Sunday, December 15 at 4:00 PM

Meet in the sanctuary at 4 PM to go caroling. Afterwards return to the Fellowship Hall for some hot chocolate, cookies and fellowship!

Long Range Planning Committee

You unanimously approved the Long Range Planning Committee of Fred Alley, Linda Armstrong, Liz Bahnsen, John Ellis and Austin Handy. They will start meeting after the first of the year.



Because of your generous donations, we were able to provide about 100 gifts to 10 children this year at Christmas.

FOOD Pantry



Surfside Community Ministry Food Pantry

2nd and 4th Fridays at 1 PM

(No Food Pantry December 27)

Pantry Needs (Non Perishable Items)

Please do NOT bring outdated items!

Boxed rice
Bottled juice
Canned fruit

Crackers
Jelly
Noodles

Spaghetti Sauce
Soup
Boxed or canned milk

Canned veggies
Canned meat (SPAM, chicken, etc.)
Instant mashed potatoes

**Christmas Candlelight Service:
Sunday, December 22 at 6:00 PM**

ONE 10:00 AM WORSHIP SERVICE

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29