THE EPISTLE DECEMBER 2022

Merry CHRISTMAS

1268 West 38th St. Norfolk, VA 23508

"How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity" Psalm 133:1

My Sisters and Brothers, I greet you in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. We come to the end of another year of being highly favored. Some of those who started this year of 2022 with us are no longer here. We prepare to enter 2023 with faith, prayer, and unity, not knowing what may be in store for us. Nonetheless, we move into the New Year with the blessed assurance that God's plans are to prosper First Baptist.

We started the year with uncertainty. Our long-serving pastor-emeritus retired after having led us through times of turmoil and times of plenty. His leadership allowed this congregation to rise up and be led by the Holy Spirit and prayer. We continue to lift up him and our former first lady in prayer.

This year was challenging for many of us with the loss of close family members and friends and with sickness. While we are no longer in the midst of a global pandemic, we are still dealing with the impact of COVID-19. Through it all, God continues to show himself strong. He remains our Comforter, Healer, and Protector. We thank God for His grace and mercy in allowing our golden moments to continue so that we may serve him with love.

2023 will bring changes and challenges. As we make plans for the upcoming year, let us pray for guidance in doing an even greater work for Kingdom building. We await with excitement and expectation for God to reveal our next shepherd! Let us each prayerfully commit ourselves to receiving Him/Her with a spirit of love and unity.

We thank God for the leadership of our great church. We have stayed together with love and been a blessing to those in times of distress and need. On a personal note, I want to again thank the congregation for your love and support which enables me to do what God has called me to do during this Interim Period. We can't faint and get weary for God is on our side. On behalf of the senior leadership, we wish you and your families, "Happy Holidays." God bless and be safe.

> Deacon Clarence A. Wilson Jr Church Moderator

Upcoming Events for December

- 1. All presents for Angel Tree due by December 11, 2022.
- 2. Coat Drive will end on December 11, 2022.
- 3. The Angle Tree Luncheon will be held on December 17, 2022. Gifts will be given out to children from 12 P.M. 2 P.M.
- 4. The Church Christmas Program will be on December 18, 2022 during the 10 A.M. service.
- 5. Christmas Day Service on Sunday, December 25, 2022 will start at 9 A.M.
- 6. Church office will be closed Wednesday, December 25, 2022 until December 30, 2022.
- 7. There will be no noon day Bible Study or Zoom Prayer from December 20, 2022 until December 30, 2022.
- 8. New Year's Eve Service will take place on December 31, 2022 starting at 6 P.M. 7 P.M.
- 9. Church Service on Sunday January 1, 2023 will start at 10 A.M our regular time.
- 10. Evening Prayer is held every Tuesday Friday at 6 P.M. on Zoom (ID# 87260664106 and Passcode # 006677).
- Monday Night Zoom Bible Study will start at 7 P.M. (ID. 86286570708 and Passcode # 553176)

Advent



Advent has been seen as an exploration of faith, an inner search of the mind and heart. As the holiday season approaches, we often hear the language spoken of "preparing the way". Traditionally, Advent is a time of reflection and affirmation, with each week represented by a theme.

Advent guides us to explore what Christmas means to us personally and to discover that the greatest gift we can give to our family, friends and the world is ourself and our love for Jesus!

The four Sundays of Advent proclaim aspects of our divine nature- hope and faith, peace, joy and love. It starts four Sundays before December 25. Many churches will light a different candle each week to represent the four themes of Advent along with scripture and a reading about the theme, a song and prayer.

Take time as a family to plan ways to prepare your hearts and home for the celebration of the birth of the Savior.



CONDOLENCES



Brother-in-law of Sis. Esther Bradshaw

Bro. Robert Walker

Husband of Deaconess Jerldence Walker

Sis. Dora Terry

Aunt of Missionary Laura Boone

YOUR ARE INVITED

2023 NEW YEAR

EVE SERVICE

SAT 31 DEC 6 P.M.

Service will be a time to reflect and tell God thank you for keeping us another year.

First Baptist Church of Lambert's Point 1268 W. 38th St. Norfolk VA, 23503

SATURDAY MORNING MEN'S PRAYER

EVERY SATURDAY

(a) 10:00 A.M IN THE ATRIUM For More information contact Rev. Kelvin Seay



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1268 38th Street Norfolk, VA

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