HURRICANE WATCH

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF FIRST BAPTIST SCHOOL

November 2026 Monthly Newsletter



WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE

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Head of School Update

By Dr. Justin Mitchell

Greetings, First Baptist Community!

As we enter the month of November, our schoolwide focus turns to Gratitude, Mercy, and Servant Leadership. These virtues are deeply rooted in Scripture and provide meaningful opportunities for our students to grow in both character and faith. As we reflect on God's goodness and His call to serve others, we are reminded of the Apostle Paul's words in Galatians 5:13: "Serve one another humbly in love." This verse challenges us to look beyond ourselves and use our gifts to bless others.

Continued on Page 2...

This month's character focus encourages students to understand that gratitude moves us from entitlement toward worship and generosity. When we recognize God's blessings in our lives, our natural response becomes one of thanksgiving and service. We are also exploring the importance of mercy, which is compassion expressed wisely and intentionally. Through classroom discussions and chapel messages, students will learn that showing mercy reflects the heart of Christ.

Our focus on servant leadership reminds us that true leadership is not about recognition but about meeting needs, accepting responsibility, and seeking the good of others. The example of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37) provides a powerful illustration of what it means to love our neighbors through action, compassion, and sacrifice.

Throughout November, students will participate in activities designed to bring these principles to life, including gratitude reflections, Veteran Appreciation initiatives, service projects, and discussions centered on mercy and justice. Together, these experiences help students understand the connection between faith and action while reinforcing this month's Beatitude:

"*Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.*"
Matthew 5:7

As we approach the Thanksgiving season, we are grateful for the many blessings God has provided through our First Baptist School family. We continue to be inspired by our students' commitment to academic excellence, spiritual growth, and service to others. We are equally thankful for our dedicated faculty, staff, parents, grandparents, alumni, and community supporters who make our mission possible each day.

November also offers exciting opportunities for learning and fellowship across our campus. From special classroom activities and field experiences to seasonal performances and service opportunities, our students continue to experience growth both inside and outside the classroom. These shared moments help strengthen the bonds of our school community and remind us of the importance of gratitude and generosity.

As we gather with family and friends this Thanksgiving, my prayer is that each of us will pause to recognize God's faithfulness and respond with thankful hearts. May we seek opportunities to extend mercy, embrace servant leadership, and reflect Christ's love to those around us.

Thank you for the many ways you support, encourage, and invest in First Baptist School. It is a privilege to partner with you in the spiritual and academic development of our students.

We invite you to stay connected through First Baptist School's website and social media channels to celebrate all that God is doing in our community.

#WeAreFB



Dr. Justin Mitchell
Head of School

CALENDAR

NOVEMBER 2026

3	Conference Day No School for Students
9	Mahjong & Moms Night Out
20	Half-Day for K2-12
23-27	Thanksgiving Break - No School



View Athletic Calendar





FIRST BAPTIST SCHOOL

Mahjong & Moms NIGHT OUT

ONLY 48 SEATS AVAILABLE!

DON'T WAIT TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT!

NOVEMBER 9, 2026

5:30-8:30 PM

Limited seats remain!

PLAY + GATHER + GIVE

Join us for the **FBS Mahjong & Moms Night Out** — an elegant evening of friendship, fun, and giving back. Hosted at Park & Grove, 48 players will gather across 12 tables for a night of social play, great food, and good company, all in support of First Baptist School.

Whether you're a seasoned Mahjong player or a complete beginner, all are welcome. "Just for Fun" tickets and sponsorship opportunities are also available. Every seat filled helps make an FBS education programs possible.

TICKETS

IN THE KNOW
school happenings

Gobble & Gather
THANKSGIVING BREAK CAMP

Gobble & Gather Holiday Camp

Gobble & Gather Camp will take place November 23-24 for our K3-4th grade students ahead of Thanksgiving! We'll have games, holiday crafts, and more! Register here!



Early Dismissal on November 20th

Please note that Friday, November 20th, has been changed to a half day. Students will be dismissed early, so please plan your pickup arrangements accordingly.



Thanksgiving Break: November 23-27

School will be closed November 23rd, through November 27th, for Thanksgiving Break. We wish all of our FBS families a restful week filled with gratitude, and we look forward to seeing everyone back on November 30th!

WANT TO SHARE YOUR PHOTOS WITH US? BE SURE TO TAG US AND USE OUR SCHOOL HASHTAG!

#WeAreFB

FIRST BAPTIST SOCIAL MEDIA

Follow along with our daily happenings on our social media pages! Below are the official school social media pages.

SCHOOL	FINE ARTS	ATHLETICS
Facebook, Instagram	Facebook, Instagram	Facebook, Instagram, X



Holiday Festival of Lights

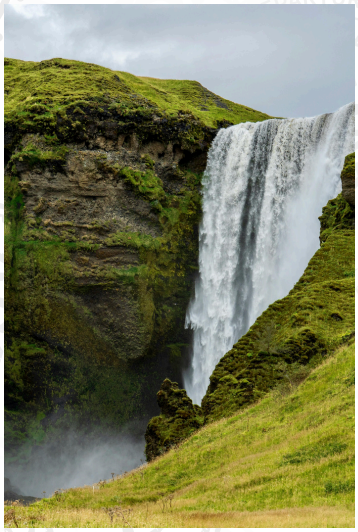
The Holiday Festival of Lights is back at James Island County Park this holiday season from November 13 – December 31, 2026! We're excited to show off this year's holiday greeting card design for the annual Greeting Card Design contest by our high school art students!

Be sure to stop by and check it out! Share any pictures with photos@fbschool.org!



UPCOMING

Travel Opportunities

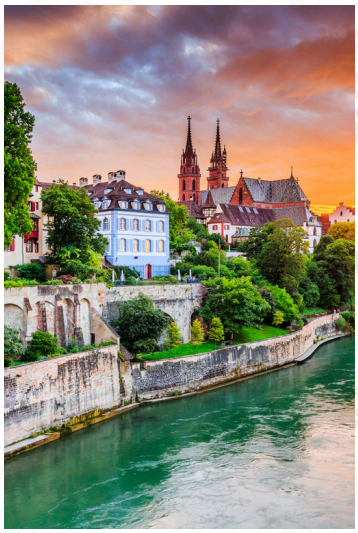


Northern Iceland

Spring 2027 | Grades 9-12

Our high school students are invited to join us as we explore Northern Iceland! This 8-day trip will allow us to visit multiple cities and explore all Northern Iceland has to offer.

Please contact Christi Crawford at crawfordc@fbschool.org for more information!



Austria, Switzerland, & Germany

Summer 2027 | Grades 6-12, and their families

Sixth graders and up, along with their families, can experience a 10-day adventure through Austria, Switzerland, and Germany next summer! Travelers will visit historic cities and sites, see breathtaking scenery, and make memories to last a lifetime.

For more information, please contact Hannah Salters at saltersh@fbschool.org!

OCTOBER

Helping Hurricanes

This recognition goes to Downtown Campus students who exemplify qualities such as loyalty, honesty, compassion, great classroom manners and Christian Values.

Congratulations to our September Helping Hurricanes!

Mrs. Schaible
Libby
Kit
Gus
Rowen
Mrs. Locklear



First Baptist School

Auxiliary Programs







Holiday Break Camp Registration (Grades K3–4th)

- **Gobble & Gather Camp** (Nov. 23–24): Registration is open!
- **Jinglebell Junction Camp** (Dec. 21–22): Registration opens Dec. 1st!

Cool Ray Visiting Extended Day

The Stingrays mascot, Cool Ray, will be here Friday, November 13th! All K2–6th grade students are welcome to join in, though please note that the regular extended day rate will apply.

Looking Ahead: Spring & Summer Sign-Ups

Registration for Spring Enrichments will open Jan. 4, 2027. Summer Camp registration will open Jan. 25, 2027 for enrolled FBS families.

Interested in our 2027 summer programs? Learn more at firstbaptistsummer.org!

SECOND GRADE SERVICE LEARNING

Second graders are once again collecting pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House this year!

If you would like to donate pop tabs, please bring them in gallon size Ziplock bags and drop them in the black bins near the library.



DOWNTOWN CAMPUS

Garden

Our students have been working in our Downtown Campus garden! This has been a wonderful space for our students to learn through hands-on activities as they grow flowers, herbs, and vegetables all year long!

If you would like to help support our garden, please visit our **Amazon Wishlist** to keep our garden supplies stocked!













GRANDPARENTS DAY

2026

We were thrilled to welcome grandparents and special friends to our Downtown Campus last month to visit with our K2-4th graders.

Grandparents were treated to breakfast or lunch and had the chance to tour campus and visit classrooms. It was a special day for all!















5TH & 6TH GRADE BEGINNER BAND CONCERT

On October 21, the FBS 5th and 6th grade beginner band had their first concert! Students demonstrated great posture, technique, and sound production while playing their 5 note scale and a few new tunes. The students also had the opportunity to teach their parents a few notes on their instruments. They all sounded great!







HURRICANE ASSOCIATION



Join the Hurricane Association!

Membership is open, and we'd love for you to be part of the team! Your membership helps support our athletes and programs throughout the year.

Join here!

Support H.A. with a Donation

Every gift, big or small, helps support our athletic programs and students.

Give today!

Volunteer in the Concession Stand

Our concession stand is a big part of game day, and we can't run it without our volunteers. Whether you can give one shift or several, your help makes a real difference.

Sign up here!

Parent Teacher Organization



Here come the holidays!

The holiday season is just around the corner, and we wanted to share a few reminders as we prepare for this wonderful time of year!

Faculty & Staff Favorite Things
As the season of giving approaches, we want to make sure all families have access to our wonderful teachers' and staff members' Favorite Things lists! Whether you're looking for a little way to show your appreciation or planning ahead for holiday gifts, these lists are a great resource.

You can find everyone's **Favorite Things lists** through the Google Drive link below:
https://drive.google.com/drive/u/1/folders/1qCTfyxFeEsm9_EZsq_AFZOK0T9uDOX9K

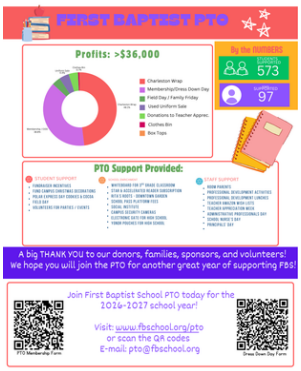
Upcoming Dress Down Day
Mark your calendars! Our next Dress Down Day is Friday, November 20!

Happy Thanksgiving!
On behalf of the PTO, we wish you and your families a wonderful Thanksgiving filled with joy, gratitude, and time together. We are especially thankful for our amazing FBS community!

As always, please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions at **pto@fbschool.org**.

Warm wishes,
Lindsay Loewer

2025-26 PTO Year-in-Review





College & Career Readiness Department Newsletter

MR. CHRIS CHAMBERS
& MRS. SHANNON ROY

What's Happening in November?

This November, we are helping students discover their God-given strengths and take thoughtful steps toward their futures. For our younger students, that means exploring interests and possibilities through YouScience. For our seniors, it includes learning how to pay for the next step after graduation.

Grades 7–9: Discovering Strengths Through YouScience
Our 7th-, 8th-, and 9th-grade students have been working through YouScience, a career exploration tool that helps them better understand their aptitudes, natural strengths and interests.
During November, we will begin sharing results with students as they complete their assessments. Together, we will explore what their results reveal about their strengths and how those strengths connect to different career possibilities.

Students do not need to have their futures figured out right now! Our goal is to build confidence, encourage curiosity, and introduce opportunities they may not have considered. These results can provide a starting point for exploring classes, extracurricular activities, and future educational pathways.

Continue the Conversation at Home
Once your student has reviewed their results, ask them to share what they learned. A few questions to get the conversation started:

- What strength stood out to you?
- Did anything about your results surprise you?
- Which career possibilities would you like to learn more about?
- What activity, class, or experience could help you explore an interest?

Encourage your student to stay open to new possibilities. Their results are a tool for exploration, and they have time to develop their abilities and discover new interests.

Sophomores, You will be exploring YouScience in Q3 after the holidays. See you all then!

Juniors, you are on deck for meetings with Mr Chambers! Both students and parents - be on the lookout for communication from Mr. Chambers about setting up a meeting to discuss your future prospects, beginning in Mid-November.

Senior Families: Financial Aid Workshop — November 5
How will your family pay for the next step after graduation? Seniors and their parents/guardians are invited to join us for a financial aid workshop:

Thursday, November 5, 2026
6:00–7:30 p.m.
First Baptist School — James Island Campus

We are pleased to welcome back **Mr. Joshua Haugh, Director of the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships at The Citadel**, who will discuss:

- **FAFSA:** Free Application for Federal Student Aid
- **CSS Profile**
- **Scholarships**

Whether your senior is considering a four-year college, two-year college, trade program, or certification program, this workshop will help your family better understand financial aid options and prepare for the year ahead.

Please contact **Chris Chambers**, who works with students in grades 10–12, with questions about the workshop or college planning.

Finish the Semester Strong
November is a good time to review academic progress and make adjustments before the end of the semester. Encourage your student to check FACTS regularly, address missing assignments, and reach out to teachers when help is needed.

Setting aside a few minutes each week to review grades, update a planner or calendar, and break larger assignments into smaller steps can help students stay organized as the holiday season approaches. Asking for help early is an important part of becoming an independent learner.

We are thankful for the opportunity to partner with your family as students grow in confidence, discover their gifts, and prepare for the opportunities ahead. Wishing your family a wonderful Thanksgiving season!

FBS FRIENDS & FAMILY OYSTER ROAST



Thank you to everyone who joined us on Sunday, October 25th, for the FBS Friends & Family Oyster Roast! On a golden autumn afternoon in true Lowcountry style, our school family gathered around the fire for freshly roasted oysters, good conversation, and plenty of laughter.



It was a joy to celebrate the friends, families, and supporters who make First Baptist School such a special place, and we're grateful to each of you who came out to share the afternoon with us.

We couldn't have hosted such a successful event without the generous help of Island Outdoor Kitchen and Catering, Blackbird Market, and Island House, as well as Hunter Ford and Dallas Brewer, who provided the music.

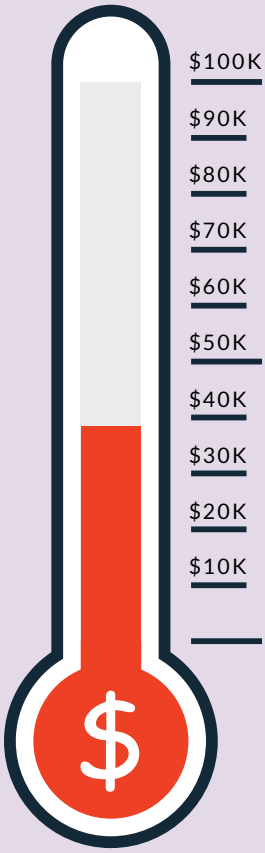




ADVANCEMENT

UPDATES

Mr. Jimmy Crook
Director of Advancement



The 2026-2027 Loyalty Fund Campaign is making strong progress toward our goal of $100,000. We are delighted to announce that we have already raised **$42,000** in this year's campaign.

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the **FBS Friends & Family Oyster Roast** on October 25th! We hope you will join us for our next event on Monday, November 9th: **Mahjong & Moms Night Out**! Seats are nearly sold out, so reserve yours soon. Custom FBS Mahjong bags and mats will also be available for purchase at the event. For guests who want to enjoy the evening without playing Mahjong, "Just for Fun" tickets are available. It promises to be a delightful night, and we look forward to seeing you there!

GivingTuesday: December 1st, 2026, is Giving Tuesday, a worldwide movement dedicated to building a world where generosity is part of everyday life. We hope First Baptist School families, alumni, and friends will use this day to support the Loyalty Fund, which helps provide services, professional development, and school improvements. Celebrated on the first Tuesday after Thanksgiving since 2012, Giving Tuesday is a wonderful opportunity to come together, and we invite everyone to join us in our effort to raise $100,000 for First Baptist School.

GIVING TUESDAY





The 2025-2026 Annual Report is available now! View the report here.

Donate Online







ADMISSIONS UPDATES

Applications for admission to First Baptist School of Charleston open on Monday, November 9th. If you know someone who is considering FBS, we'd love for you to share your love for our school and encourage them to apply and become part of our school community. Your personal story is one of the best ways to help another family see what makes FBS special.

As always, please reach out if you have any questions!

Sally Casias, casiass@fbschool.org
Director of Lower School Admissions

Beth Switzer, switzerb@fbschool.org
Director of Middle & High School Admissions

MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL PREVIEW NIGHTS

Mark your calendars for two upcoming preview nights:

- **Middle School Preview Night:** Tuesday, November 10th, 5:30-6:30 pm, for current 6th grade students and their families
- **High School Preview Night:** Tuesday, November 17th, 5:30-6:30 pm, for current FBS 8th grade students and their families

Around Campus



































FBS APP



Stay up-to-date with the First Baptist School App! This is a **FREE** app that ties in to FACTS where you can find information on academics, athletics, resources, and more!

If you already have the app, please be sure you are updated to the most current version for best functionality.

Get the app here for iPhone or Android!

FIRST BAPTIST SCHOOL

RESOURCES



FACTS
LOGIN



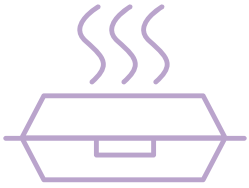
STUDENT
HANDBOOK

PTO

PARENT TEACHER
ORGANIZATION (PTO)



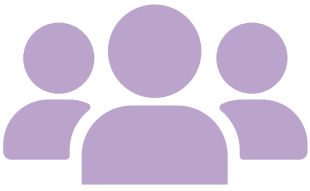
SMART TUITION
LOGIN



SCHOOLHOUSE
FARE LUNCH



DRESS CODE



FACULTY/STAFF
DIRECTORY



ACADEMIC
CALENDAR



ONLINE
GIVING

These resources can always be found on the Resources page of our website.