

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF FIRST BAPTIST SCHOOL

December 2025 Monthly Newsletter



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Head of School Update

By Dr. Justin Mitchell

Greetings, First Baptist Community!

As the first days of December unfold, we find ourselves drawn into the beauty and mystery of Advent, a season not only of preparation but of promise. In the Gospel of Luke, we read the angel's reassuring words to Mary: "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus" (Luke

Continued on Page 2...

1:30–31). These words speak to the hope, peace, and joy that the Christmas season holds for all of us. At First Baptist School, that spirit is already alive and well across both campuses. The halls have been transformed into places of festive warmth, thanks to the incredible efforts of our parent-led Christmas Committee. On November 30th, families joined together for a "Deck the Halls" event, and the results are stunning. From twinkling lights to handmade touches, each space now reflects the joy of the season. I want to offer my sincere thanks to every family that contributed their time, creativity, and community spirit. You've helped set a stage for celebration that our students, faculty, and guests deeply appreciate.

The month ahead is rich with tradition and meaningful moments. On December 3rd, we gathered to induct new members into the National Honor Society, a milestone that recognizes not only academic excellence, but also leadership, service, and character. It is an honor for our students to publicly commit to these values, especially at a time of year when giving, integrity, and reflection are so deeply woven into the fabric of the season. We're also looking forward to our annual Lessons & Carols service, which will take place on Thursday, December 14 at 5:00 PM in the First Baptist Church Sanctuary. This event has become a treasured part of our school's Christmas tradition, blending sacred scripture and music in a way that invites us all to pause and prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ. I warmly invite you and your family to join us for this evening of reverence and renewal. For many, a highlight of the season is our youngest students' joyful presentation of the Christmas story. The Preschool and Kindergarten Christmas Program will be held on Monday, December 18 at 9:00 AM, and I can promise it will be a delight. These little ones have been practicing with enthusiasm, and their genuine excitement is a beautiful reminder of the wonder of Christ's birth.

In the midst of our celebrations, I'm pleased to share an exciting update on the James Island weight room project. Over Thanksgiving break, contractors worked diligently on rerouting buried electrical lines on the site where the building will go, a complex task that is still underway. This week, crews are completing piping for electric and irrigation, with concrete pad preparation scheduled for next week. We anticipate digging the footers to begin just before Christmas and final electric rerouting to be completed during the Christmas break (with a limited power outage). Barring unforeseen delays, we're on track for project completion by the end of January. Thank you for your continued support and patience as we bring this important upgrade to life on our James Island Campus.

As we journey through Advent and draw nearer to Christmas, I hope each of you finds time to slow down, to gather with those you love, and to reflect on the promise of Emmanuel, God with us. Thank you for the joy and trust you bring to this community. It continues to be my honor to walk alongside you in this season and throughout the year. Wishing you a blessed Christmas and a New Year filled with grace, hope, and growth,

We invite you to stay up-to-date with current events by following First Baptist School's social media and our school webpage. #WeAreFB

Be blessed,

Sustin Mitchell



CALENDAR

DECEMBER 2025

14 Lessons and Carols

15-18 First Semester Exams

18 Half-Day

19 Exam Make-up Day and Teacher Workday

22 Christmas Break Begins - No School



View Athletic Calendar





IN THE KNOW school happenings



Jingle Junction Camp | Dec. 22-23

We are excited to host a two-day Jingle Bell Junction Camp for currently enrolled FBS students in grades K3-4th! This fun-filled camp will be packed with engaging activities designed to entertain and inspire. Campers will enjoy a mix of seasonal crafts, handson projects, outdoor games, and interactive learning experiences. It's the perfect way for kids to have fun with friends, explore their creativity, and have an unforgettable Christmas break! Register <u>HERE</u>!

Lessons & Carols Service

Our annual Lessons & Carols service will take place Sunday, December 14th at 5:00 pm in the First Baptist Church sanctuary. We hope you can join us for this special Christmas service!





Spring Enrichments Registration

Spring Enrichment registration will open for registration on January 6th! Check out the spring schedule <u>here</u>!



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

ATHIETICS













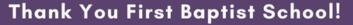








CHICKEN COOP MISSION PROJECT UPDATE



Last spring, First Baptist families participated in an Easter missions project to help build a chicken coop for orphans and widows in India. The chicken coop at the children's and widows' home is almost complete and ready to get started. Global Partners in Life appreciates your support! If you want to learn more about our projects, please visit our website: globalpartnersinlife.org







Second Grade Service Project

Calling all pop tab collectors! Our 2nd graders are collecting pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House. We're gathering them in gallon Ziploc bags, which can be dropped off in the black trash can located to the left of the printer in the library. While our visit isn't until May, we encourage everyone to start collecting now – the more, the merrier!

FIRST BAPTIST SCHOOL OF CHARLESTON

12th Biennial Live & Silent Auction

Tave the Date

SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 2026

HARBOUR CLUB AT WESTEDGE 22 WESTEDGE ST. SUITE 700 CHARLESTON, SC 29403

TICKETS ON SALE EARLY 2026

BUSINESS SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE





Holiday Festival of Lights

The Holiday Festival of Lights is back at James Island County Park this holiday season from November 14 – December 31, 2025! 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!







Auxiliary Programs

Our students have truly enjoyed this semester's fall enrichments. Get ready for more! Registration for Spring 2026 Enrichments opens on January 6th.

Check out our spring schedule here!

Upcoming Holiday Camps



Jingle Bell Junction

We are excited to host a two-day Jingle Bell Junction Camp for currently enrolled FBS students in grades K3-4th! This fun-filled camp will be packed with engaging activities designed to entertain and inspire. Campers will enjoy a mix of seasonal crafts. hands-on projects. outdoor games, and interactive learning experiences. It's the perfect way for kids to have fun with friends. explore their creativity, and have an unforgettable Christmas break!

December 22-23, 2025 7:30am-2:30pm

Register Here





Merry Christmas!

FBS families,

As the holidays quickly approach, I want to ensure that all families have access to the lists of Favorite Things for our amazing staff and teachers! You can find their lists of "Favorite Things" through the following <u>Google Drive</u>

Please don't hesitate to reach out to the PTO if you have any questions! pto@fbschool.org

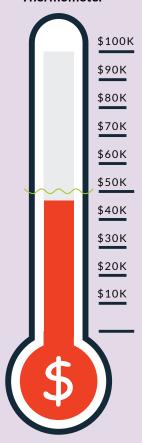
Lindsay Lower

ADVANCEMENT

UPDATES

Mr. Jimmy Crook Director of Advancement

Loyalty Fund Thermometer



Help us meet 50% of our \$100,000 goal by the end of 2025!

Giving Tuesday

We would like to thank all those donors who made their Loyalty Fund contribution on Giving Tuesday! There are still December 2nd checks being received through the mail, and we fully expect to exceed our "mini goal" of reaching 50% of the 2025-2026 campaign goal of \$100,000 by December 31st. As the year comes to a close, we continue to ask that you prayerfully consider First Baptist School in your year-end giving plans.

FBS Live & Silent Auction

Once again, we would like to thank all our confirmed sponsors for the upcoming auction! Please make sure to thank these individuals when you see them at any school functions or when visiting their businesses. We are looking forward to seeing everyone on March 21st!

Alumni Milestones

Finally, everyone is reminded that the Advancement office is also responsible for our Alumni Relations to include items like supporting our class reunions and gatherings. We also have a special webpage for our alumni to let us share your special achievements and milestones like marriage anniversaries, birth announcements or special career milestones. Let us share your news to the entire First Baptist School community! Share your milestone https://example.com/here/baptist/

Jimmy Crook
Director of Advancement
crookj@fbschool.org



Hello First Baptist Families,

Applications for new students for the 2026-2027 school year, including siblings of current students, opened on November 10th. If you need to submit an application for a new student, we encourage you to do so promptly. Additionally, re-enrollment for current students for the 2026-2027 school year will begin in January.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out!

Sally Casias Lower School Admissions casiasa@fbschool.org

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



FIRST BAPTIST SCHOOL

RESOURCES



FACTS LOGIN



STUDENT HANDBOOK



PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION (PTO)



SMART TUITION LOGIN



SCHOOLHOUSE FARE LUNCH



DRESS CODE



FACULTY/STAFF DIRECTORY



ACADEMIC CALENDAR



ONLINE GIVING