First Baptist Church
205 W. Piccadilly Street
Winchester, VA 22601
(540) 662-5367
Fax: (540) 662-7947
firstbaptistwinchester.com

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Newsletter Deadline
The next TIE will be mailed on Wed. Jan. 22nd. Please submit content by 10:00am Friday, Jan 17th. Email is tie@firstbaptistwinchester.com

Bulletin Deadline
The Church Bulletin is printed EVERY Thursday Morning. Please submit content to Kathy by noon on Wednesday. Email is fbcwinc@firstbaptistwinchester.com

First Baptist Church Prayer Chain Ministries
Direct your prayer request(s) to:
Daytime Hours: Donna Walter @ 722-2230 or Linette Spicer @ 662-1120
Evening Hours: Janet Luttrell @ 667-8758 or Laura Beavers @ 667-3191

Sanctuary arrangements are needed for the 2014 calendar year. If you would like to place an arrangement in memory or in honor of a loved one, please fill out a Flower Calendar form found in each narthex or the Church Office. You may also call the Church Office to place your request.

Homebound Spotlight
Marian Cather
300 Westminster-Canterbury Drive
Laurel Court
Winchester, VA 22603
We encourage everyone to send a note to Marian Cather.
In His Love, Lori & the Homebound Team

A Loving & Caring Church
Transforming God’s Vision Into Action
This time of year is one of seemingly endless preparation. Shopping, wrapping, cooking, baking, cleaning. Good hosts are those who plan, prepare, welcome, and serve. They want their guests to be satisfied and well-fed. Unfortunately, that can clash with the challenge of maintaining healthy eating habits when “visions of cakes and cookies and peanut butter pies are dancing in our heads.” But that’s another topic for another article.

What about the other side of our holiday (holy day) preparation? The spiritual side of the coming of Christ at Christmas. During our Advent study last Wednesday night, I mentioned the distinction between our preparation to celebrate Christmas— and our preparation for Christ’s coming. They are two different activities. In the midst of December’s noise and activity and busy schedule, we can miss out on the “spiritual food” that we need.

What can we do? We can carve out time in our busy days for prayer and reflection. We can cultivate the daily habit of listening for God. Pick a room or a favorite chair or somewhere in nature where you feel close enough to feel the presence of God and hear His voice. Sometimes these moments come to us “as we go.” Use the time walking through the mall parking lot for reflection, before you tackle that shopping list. When you’re stuck in traffic or in a check-out line, instead of getting upset and raising your blood pressure, take a few long breaths and see it as an opportunity for time for yourself—use it as a prayerful moment.

Most of us have heard the saying, “It’s the Presence, not the presents.” Maybe that can help us to experience this Advent and Christmas season for what it meant to be. Maybe that can help us prepare, and welcome, and serve. May you and your loved ones receive the joy that comes from being spiritually blessed and “spiritually fed” during this special season.

Now, that’s a feast!
The Chancel Choir
rehearses
On Thursdays at 7:00pm
in the Sanctuary.
We lead in Worship from September through June. Please join us!
The Chancel Handbell Choir practices on Thursdays at 6:00pm in the balcony.

AMC Volunteers

The Administrative Management Committee is looking to recruit volunteers to help fill a need for support in various capacities throughout our campus on an as needed basis. Skill sets needed include light plumbing, electrical, and mechanical among others. Currently, these responsibilities fall on the few that are available on the Committee before being outsourced to private firms. Interested individuals will not be required to attend meetings, create reports, or have any administration responsibility. Please contact the Church Office if willing to serve in this much needed way.

Keys

The church is needing anyone in possession of church keys to notify the Church Office of such, including the number stamped on the key(s). This information is essential to both the AMC and the Safety & Security Committee. Thank you for your timely attention to this matter.

‘Souper’ Cause

Women on Mission, along with the “Son” Shine Learning Center, will be making soup and sandwiches for CCAP on January 11, 8:00am until soup done in the CEB. Anyone interested in this project is welcome. Children are invited anytime that morning to come and make cards for those in need. For questions, call Peggy Fletcher (542-1802).

A Reminder for Contributions in 2013

Offering envelopes and other contributions need to be into the Church Office by December 31st to receive credit for them on your 2013 Statement. Please be faithful to your commitment to the ministries of First Baptist Church.

Thank you for your support for the 2013 Church Budget.

Bible Friends Schedule

Volunteers for the 11:00 am service for the coming Sundays are:

- Dec 15 Lynne Esslinger - Holly Nightingale
- Dec 22 Stephanie Duval - Laura Beavers
- Dec 29 JoAnne Long - Tracy Howard
- Jan 5 TBD
- Jan 12 TBD

Nursery Volunteers

Volunteers for the 11:00 am service for the coming Sundays are:

- Dec 15 Sue Spangler
- Dec 22 Donna Walter
- Dec 29 Sharon Woodard
- Jan 5 Alison Wright
- Jan 12 TBD

Children’s Story Time Speakers

Volunteers for the coming Sundays are:

- Dec 15 Kim Riley
- Dec 22 Sherry Headley
- Dec 29 Marge Davis
- Jan 5 TBD
- Jan 12 TBD

Love Offering

The Annual Love Offering is being collected for the church staff.

Envelopes are available in each Narthex. Love Offering envelopes are also included in each member’s envelope box. Offerings will be accepted through Dec. 31st.

Holiday Office Hours

December 24th 9am - 5pm
December 25th Office Closed
December 26th Office Closed
December 27th 9am - 5pm
December 31st 9am - 10pm
January 1st Office Closed

ATTENDANCE

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<th>11:00am</th>
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<td>Nov. 24</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>196</td>
<td>289</td>
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<tr>
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CONTRIBUTIONS

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<th>Needed to Date</th>
<th>Received to Date</th>
<th>Budget Over/Under</th>
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<td>$580,608</td>
<td>$551,122</td>
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DEC. 1 86 196 253 $12,096 $11,006 $568,512 $540,896 $27,616 $1,080 $73,540
Volunteer Opportunity

The Safety and Security team is asking for volunteers to serve Sunday mornings on two-person teams to monitor the area in and around the church buildings. If you are interested, or have questions, please contact Jim Hollinger or Pastor Fletcher.

Women’s Bible Study

The Wednesday Evening Women’s Study is exploring the book of 1 Peter. We break down each chapter and examine and discuss its meaning and relevance to us individually and as a group. Please join us Wednesdays at 6:30pm. It’s an enjoyable time of connecting with each other as we learn more about God’s Word.

Sundays – Every effort will be made to hold services. The early service will be canceled first to allow the weather to improve.

Weekdays – We will make a decision regarding the day’s activities as soon as possible.

Listen to the radio stations 1400AM or 92.5FM after 6:00am or go on their website (http://www.winc.fm/). We will also have an updated message on our church voice mail and our website.

Our Annual White Christmas Service

The Annual White Christmas Service will be held on Sunday December 15, 2013 at 6:00 PM in the Sanctuary. Many choirs and individuals will share their musical talents, the pastor will bring a devotional, and we will present our White Christmas gifts. A nursery will be provided.

FBC Snow Policy

Tie Publication Schedule

During the summer the Tie was printed and mailed once per month. Moving forward we will continue with this monthly schedule which significantly reduces communication costs. The website and online calendar will continually be updated and bulletin announcements will be updated each week. Each Tie will be a calendar Tie for the subsequent month and will be published later in the month. February Calendar Tie – January 22

Winter 2013/2014 Calendar

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<td>December 11</td>
<td>Children’s Pageant</td>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
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<td>December 13</td>
<td>Bill Harper Memorial Christmas Din.</td>
<td>6:30 pm</td>
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<td>December 15</td>
<td>SLC Christmas Program</td>
<td>10:00 am</td>
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<td>December 15</td>
<td>Christmas Cantata (one service)</td>
<td>11:00 am</td>
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<td>December 15</td>
<td>White Christmas Service</td>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
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<td>December 18</td>
<td>Youth Christmas Party</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
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<td>December 21</td>
<td>Singin’ Seniors Luncheon</td>
<td>11:00 am</td>
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<td>December 24</td>
<td>Chancel Choir Christmas Party</td>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
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<td>December 25</td>
<td>Christmas Eve Services</td>
<td>5:00pm, 11:00pm</td>
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<td>December 25</td>
<td>Christmas Day Office Closed</td>
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<td>January 1</td>
<td>New Year’s Day Office Closed</td>
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<td>January 8</td>
<td>Wednesday Evening Activities Resume</td>
<td>5:45 pm</td>
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<td>January 11</td>
<td>WOM/SLC Soup and Sandwiches for CCAP</td>
<td>8:00 am</td>
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<td>January 19</td>
<td>DCF Pulpit Exchange</td>
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<td>January 24-26</td>
<td>Youth Winter Retreat</td>
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Dear Friends,

I appreciate so much all of your calls, cards, and inquiries during my recovery from surgery. I’m truly blessed to be part of such a loving, caring church family. Thank you so much and hope to see you soon.

Love,

Susan Jones

Please extend our sincere thanks and appreciation to the members of First Baptist church. I know Dad enjoyed the friendship and visits from so many of you.

Our family appreciates that so many of you made his memorial service a true celebration of his life.

We are so thankful to those who worked behind the scene to bring food, set up, and clean so family and friends could enjoy fellowship time.

The Family of Melvin Austin Patton
Sue, Sara, and Martha
The primary focus of this year’s Thursday morning Advent Study is on the small book, *The Case for Christmas*, by Lee Strobel. Consulting experts on the Bible, archaeology, and messianic prophecy, Strobel searches the true identity of the child born in the manger. If Jesus really was the Son of God in the flesh, then there ought to be credible eyewitness and scientific evidence that Jesus fulfilled the attributes of God and the Messiah.

We will also take a closer look at the famous editorial, “Yes, Virginia, There Is a Santa Claus,” written by a newspaper religion editor. The answer has more to do with the larger question of faith than most of us have thought about. The four sessions will be held in the lower auditorium on the following Thursdays from 10:00 to 11:30: November 21, and December 5, 12, and 19. Bob Stainback and Lori Pendleton are leading the study.

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**Adopt a Child**
- Purchase one or more toys and an outfit of clothing.

**Adopt a teenager**
- Purchase a gift or gift certificate, and or an item of clothing.

**Adopt an FBC Homebound Adult**
- Purchase a gift or remembrance.

**Assist a Family**
- Donate food (including turkeys or turkey coupons!). Gift certificates to grocery stores, the mall, retailers, or service providers are very flexible and may be used by the White Christmas committee to purchase items for families, or may be given as gifts themselves.

Additionally - Please include in the shopping bag with your gifts a roll of wrapping paper and perhaps tape and ribbon so that the families will be able to wrap the presents.

**Donate your Time**
- **Saturday, December 14th** - 9:00am to 1:00pm. We will have a work session in the CEB.
- **Monday, December 16th** - Help make homebound deliveries and other assorted tasks.
- **Tuesday, December 17th** - 9:30am to 2:00pm. Meet in the CEB to help distribute gifts & food to families.

If you would like to help, contact Shelby Comstock (662-4347) or Jae Hinson (686-5067).

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**December 2013 Newsletter of First Baptist Church Youth Group**

** DETAILS **

**Passport Sign Ups:** We have registered for 10 girls and 10 boys spots for Passport. Our spaces are already filling up. If you plan to attend, please sign up and pay your $75 deposit ASAP to hold your space! Passport Missions will run from July 7-12 in Danville, VA this year.

**Youth Group:** All youth are invited to join us for youth group every Wednesday night! We will share a meal at 5:45 in the CEB and then join in Bible study, fellowship, and fun together from 6:30-7:30 in the 301 House. There will be no Youth Group December 11-January 1. Youth Group will resume January 8. Gather on December 11th to watch the Christmas Pageant and have dinner with the church family!

**White Christmas:** The youth have adopted a 16 year old girl and a 16 year old boy. Mariah would like gift cards to DEB and Walmart. Chris would like gift cards to Game Stop or Amazon, Yu-gi-oh cards, and camouflage items in men's medium. Please bring your donations to the 301 House anytime before the White Christmas service on Dec. 15th at 6:00 pm.

**Christmas Party:** The youth will gather after the White Christmas service (around 7:00 pm) for our annual Christmas Party in the 301 House. Bring a $5 or under wrapped gift (the funnier the better) so that we can play Thieves' Christmas as we enjoy food and fellowship together.

**Winter Retreat:** Please sign up for our Winter Retreat at Hunting Ridge by January 13th! We will meet Friday evening, January 24th and return to the church after lunch on Sunday, January 26th. The theme is Grey Areas: Finding our Identity in Christ.

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**SOUPER BOWL**

The youth will be hosting the Souper Bowl on Sunday, February 2nd after the 11:00 service in the CEB. We invite you to bring your favorite soup, stew, chili, or chowder to share! This year we will also be holding our “Tongues of Fire” chili cook-off during the meal. Winners will be chosen for the hottest chili and the most flavorful! In addition to bringing your favorite soup to share, we invite you to turn in the recipe you will be using by January 13th. The recipes the youth receive in advance will be compiled into “Souper Bowl” recipe booklets that will be available for purchase at our meal. All proceeds from donations and from the purchase of our recipe booklets will be given to Bread for the World, which works to end hunger in the United States.

Thank you for your support! For more information, contact Rev. Whitesides at the church office.

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**Questions? Contact**

**Rev. Kristin Adkins Whitesides**
- church: 540-662-5367
- e-mail: kristin@firstbaptistwinchester.com

Medical Releases and Trip Covenants are available in the 301 House or on our website: www.firstbaptistwinchester.com/youth
January 2014 Birthdays

1  Lauren Adams   15 Ed Chandler   25 Marian Cather
1  Mary Jolliffe  15 Shelby Comstock  25 Doris Farr
1  Matthew Simmons 15 Shane Everhart  25 Dottie Grin
3  Mattie Fries  15 Susan Mathias   25 Stuart Martin
4  Paul Hylton  15 Linda Simpson  25 Wesley Everhart
4  Courtney McCalley 15 Betty Sacra  26 M.H. Barr
5  Margaret Hovatter 16 Thelma Cook  26 John David Beavers
6  Jane Mehaffey  16 Lynne Hotell  26 Anna Kate Shurley
5  Kathlene Saunders 17 Stacey Francisco 26 Saedie Wilson
6  Lynda Risinger  18 Evelyn Esslinger 27 Dougie Brumback
7  Todd Diehl  18 James Johnston  27 Robert Palmer
7  Hudson Edwards  18 Jae Hinson  28 Ginny Carmell
9  Patricia Bowers 18 Robin Painter  28 Natasha Chapman
9  Ricky Bragg  19 Isaac Knittle  28 Sherry Headley
9  Bonnie Stickley 20 Bill Breeden  28 Krista Winston
10  Steve Barnett 20 Miles Oliver  29 Bruce Boppe
13  Milton Aquila  22 Stacie Brown  29 Paul Sweet
13  Mary Moore  22 Bradley Hatton  30 Jimmy Gordon
14  Bryan Fletcher 22 Ben Rhodes  30 David Headley
14  Holly Conde  23 Tina Crabill  31 Allison Hinson
14  Katherine Sumner 23 Emerson Fletcher 31 Dallas Norris
14  Katherine Sumner 23 Emerson Fletcher 31 Diana Zombo

New Opportunity 2014 for Children and Youth to study music!

M.H. Barr, a member of our congregation and accomplished, professional instrumentalist, is offering to teach young students, starting at age 8, in group setting to learn an instrument. The instruments are: trumpet, trombone, saxophone, and percussion.

There is an option of renting instruments from a local music store for those involved. There is no cost for the lessons. The goal would be to learn to use music to glorify God in Worship.

If you are interested please call M.H. Barr at 550-1296.

Lori’s “Senior Moments”

“Who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle’s.” Psalm 103:5

The Gift of Aging
by June Weaver

My body’s older, Lord, and doesn’t move as spryly as it once did, but I thank You for this gift of aging. As I move through life more slowly, I capture more of what is going on around me: the beauty of nature, the kind words of friends, the smiles of children eager to learn the mysteries of life, the needs of others. There’s the joy of not having to race my way to the top. The bliss of knowing who I am-Your child. The joy of being content whatever You give me to do. I no longer have to strive to make more money. I know from past experiences that “enough” will always come from You. Instead of feeling that the best years are gone, I appreciate the true beauty of this time in my life- the surety of Your constant presence and acceptance of Your will.

The Chancel Choir presents
I Hear the Prophet Callin’
by Pepper Choplin
A Christmas Cantata
Sunday, Dec. 15, 2013 11:00a.m. (one Service)

This is a fresh new way of telling the Christmas Story. There are many different styles of music in this Cantata including: Appalachian folk, Irish folk, Early American melodies and even Cajun rhythm! May God bless us with a fresh understanding of Christ’s birth into the world. Come and join us for this special celebration!

Wednesday Night Activities

Wednesday night activities continue with dinner and fellowship at 5:45pm in the CEB. Permanent reservations can be made by calling the Church Office or filling out a dinner reservation card and marking it “permanent.” Then you only need to call the Church Office if you cannot come. If you expect your attendance to be irregular, please call the Church Office for a weekly reservation by the preceding Monday. Noon that day is the deadline!

ADULTS: $5.00     YOUTH: $4.00     CHILDREN UNDER 10: $3.00
CHILDREN’S PLATE (CHICKEN NUGGETS): $2.00    MAXIMUM FAMILY TOTAL: $15.00

Youth Bible Study/Fellowship begins at 6:15pm in the 301 House. Adult Bible Study, Women’s Study Group, and Preschool Program and Choristers begin at 6:30. Wednesday night activities will resume on January 8, 2014 following the Christmas break.

Please Join Us For Good Food & Fellowship
Son” Shine Learning Center Registration 2014/2015
School Year

REGISTRATION: Members of First Baptist Church Exclusively January 3-11, 2014.
APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED: 9:30 a.m.-12:00 noon Monday-Friday
If you are interested, Please Respond Quickly

Please note the changes to the schedule for one Four Year Old class and the Pre-K class for the 2014/2015 school year.

Four’s will meet-Monday through Thursday and Monday through Friday (new)
Pre-K will meet-Monday through Friday (new)

REGISTRATION FOR CURRENT STUDENTS/SIBLINGS: JANUARY 11-31, 2014

QUESTIONS?? Call Sherry Schryver @ 662-1071

Hunting Ridge Retreat
Fall Guidelines

Wood Cutting Rules
Church members needing firewood can call HRR Director Brian Bayliss 662-9004, to request location and permission to cut wood. Please leave the ash trees at the Ridge in order to control the Asian Long-Horned Beetles or White-Spotted Sawyer Bugs at a central location.

The policy is to cut one load for the retreat for every two loads cut for yourself. Leave the HRR load at the wood pile in front of the tractor shed, unless otherwise directed by Brian. Any questions can be addressed to Jim Christiansen 667-3873. Please take care when cutting wood at the Ridge.

Hunting at the Ridge
Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) in the local deer population is being monitored by the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (DGIF) with the help of local hunters and the published programs listed in the newspapers and online. Check out www.cwd-info.org for additional information. Pick up a CWD handout at the Ridge before you hunt, at the store, or go online to www.dgif.virginia.gov. After obtaining the rules, permission and time to hunt at the Ridge, you may encounter or harvest a CWD deer. Do not be alarmed, but do not attempt to contact, disturb, or remove the animal. You should contact the Verona DGIF office (540) 248-9360, as well as, notify Director Brian Bayliss. Enjoy the outdoors, we will overcome this setback in time.

Youth Library
In an effort to provide our youth (ages 11-18) with Christian-themed books, movies, and music, we are developing a library in the 301 House. If you have items you would like to donate, please leave them in the church office. Of course, monetary donations are welcome as well. Thank you so much for helping to foster the Christian growth and development of our young people. Contact Kristin Whitesides in the church office or Kathryn Mayberry for more information or if you have questions.

FBC Telephone Directory
Need an electronic copy of the church telephone directory for your computer desktop? Email the church at tie@firstbaptistwinchester.com and we’ll be happy to email you the current version.

A Christmas Program will be Presented Prior to the Bill Harper Memorial Christmas Dinner

The dinner will be held on Wednesday, December 11th, at 6:30pm in the CEB. The cost is $6.00 for adults, $5.00 for youth and $4.00 for children.

The Preschoolers and Schoolagers will present a Christmas program prior to the dinner at 6:00pm in the Sanctuary. Children will meet in the Schoolage Room at 5:30pm.
We will open the book. Its pages are blank. We are going to put words on them ourselves. The book is called Opportunity and its first chapter is New Year’s Day. — Edith Lovejoy Pierce

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<td>8:30 AM Worship Service</td>
<td>9:45 AM Sunday School</td>
<td>11:00 AM Bible Friends</td>
<td>11:00 AM Worship Service</td>
<td>2:30 PM Hispanic Service (CEB)</td>
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<td>9:00 AM SLC (CEB)</td>
<td>5:45 PM Fellowship Dinner (CEB)</td>
<td>6:15 PM Youth Bible Study &amp; Fellowship (Sanc.)</td>
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<td>9:30 AM 2nd Sunday Fellowship (LA)</td>
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<td>11:00 AM Bible Friends</td>
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<td>5:30 PM Personnel Committee (Church Office)</td>
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**WEEKLY JANUARY SCHEDULE 2014**

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<td>8:00 AM Praise Chorus</td>
<td>8:30 AM Worship Service</td>
<td>9:45 AM Sunday Library Opens</td>
<td>9:45 AM Sunday School</td>
<td>11:00 AM Worship Service</td>
<td>Nursery (1’s - young 3’s)</td>
<td>Bible Friends (older 3’s - 1st Grade)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>9:00 AM SLC (CEB)</td>
<td>11:30 AM Al-Anon (301)</td>
<td>6:30 PM Preschool Program/Choristers</td>
<td>7:00 PM Church Council (CEB)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Abbreviations in the Tie**

AMC     Admin. Management Com.  
301     301 House  
CEB     Children’s Ed. Building  
CO     Church Office  
HRR     Hunting Ridge Retreat  
LA     Lower Auditorium  
MBC     Men’s Bible Class  
Sanc.     Sanctuary  
WOM     Women on Mission  
SR     Schoolage Room  
BSC     Bible Seekers Class