CBAC Prayer Link

(Canadian Baptists of Atlantic Canada)

November 1: Pray for CBAC's Refugee Sponsorship ministry and the churches offering hope-filled hospitality. Ask God to provide wisdom, resources, and compassion as families are welcomed and supported. Pray that newcomers would experience belonging, safety, and care.

November 8: As Remembrance Day approaches, pray with gratitude for those who have served and sacrificed. Ask God to bring comfort and healing to veterans and their families. Pray for wisdom and peace among leaders and nations.

November 15: Pray for new ordains celebrating ordination this season within CBAC churches. Ask God to strengthen them with humility, courage, and wisdom. Pray for the churches and communities they will serve.

November 22: Pray for generosity and gratitude to flourish in our churches and lives. Ask God to open our hearts to those in need. Pray that joy would be found in faithful giving and shared mission.

November 29: On the First Sunday of Advent, pray for hope to rise across Atlantic Canada and our world. Thank God for the promise fulfilled in Jesus. Ask God to prepare our hearts to wait expectantly and live faithfully in the light of Christ's coming.

First Baptist Church Amherst
902-667-2001 www.firstbaptistamherst.com
90 Victoria Street, Amherst, NS B4H 1X6
Worship on Sundays at 10:30 AM
Senior Minister Rev. Jeff G. White, B.Sc, M.Div.
jgwhite@ns.aliantzinc.ca 902-614-1011
Minister Emeritus Rev. Byron Corkum, B.A., M.Div.
Organist & Choir Director Kevin Dupuis, B.Mus, B.Ed.
Administrative Assistant Angela Marks ambapt@ns.aliantzinc.ca
Custodian Shauna McCallum
Kingdom Kids Program Leader Mackinley Mace

The Reflector

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH AMHERST

NOVEMBER 2026



Deacons Notes:

(Nancy Allen, Tammy Arseneau, Susan Colquhoun, Sandy Corkum, Debby Creamer, Marina Godfrey, Cynthia McCarthy, Greg Wilson, Sherrill Pettigrew)

From the October meeting of Deacons …

Encouragement - If you are aware of congregants who would benefit from a cheerful get well message, an encouraging word, or perhaps congratulations for some milestone event please let one of the deacons know. We will send such messages on behalf of the church family.

Our Advent Devotional Booklet 2026 - We encourage you to participate as a regular or as a first time contributor. Tell a relevant story from your own past Christmas, write a few paragraph responses to the scripture or maybe a photograph or other artwork that speaks to the passage prompt connected to one of the days of Advent. Look for a list of prompts to appear in the vestry soon. Those who have participated over the past 4 years have found this practice to be a meaningful way to enter this season of new hope, joy, love and peace.

Let your Light Shine Campaign - Will return this Advent season. Deacons will be set up in the vestry each Sunday morning to accept pledges for different coloured lights to warm our church windows - in "memory" or in "honour "of someone special. Candles may also be purchased in the office during open hours.

Church Decorating for Advent/Christmas - As in the past few years, it is welcoming to have the sanctuary partially decorated for the community caroling on November 20 following the town light-up. A few old hands know the details, but more helpers makes a lighter load for all. Plan to help as you are able on either **Monday, November 16 at 9:00 am** (the partial decorating - balcony, garland and large wreaths) or **Monday, November 23 at 9:00 am** to complete the trees and platform garlands.



Did you know? First Baptist Church offers a **Bursary for Youth Development** to help support young people connected to our church as they pursue post-secondary education!

This bursary provides financial assistance of up to **$2,000 per year** to eligible students attending accredited colleges or universities.

Who Can Apply?

Applicants should demonstrate the following eligibility criteria:

- Have an involvement with or meaningful connection to First Baptist Church Amherst.
- Demonstrate a commitment to personal growth, education, community service, or faith development.
- Be enrolled in an accredited post-secondary institution.

Interested in Applying?

Applications and further information are available through the **Church Office**.

Help us spread the word! This is a wonderful opportunity to encourage our youth, support their educational goals, and invest in the next generation!

Sharing the Gift of Giving – Food Bank Update!
As we approach the holiday season, the **Amherst Food Bank** continues to appreciate the generosity and support of our community. **Items Currently Needed:** Cereal – always in high demand! **Baking supplies** – especially helpful as the holiday season approaches. **Clean glass jars** – small and medium sizes are needed. **Please Note:** The Food Bank has enough egg cartons for November, so no additional cartons are needed at this time. Donations can be placed in the Food Bank collection tote in the Vestry.

Christmas for Kids: The **Christmas for Kids** phone line will be open from **November 2 - November 26**, **Monday-Thursday**, from **10:00 am to 4:00 pm**. Families wishing to access assistance through the Christmas for Kids program are encouraged **to call 902 667 1949** during these hours. Online: christmasforkidscumberland.ca



Much Gratitude - The Deacons thank **Peter Coutts** for his direction and work on many recent improvements to our church building, especially the thoughtful modification of pews along the street-side aisle to accommodate wheelchairs. We are equally grateful for the work being carried out under Angela Marks and Mackinley Mace's direction with "Kingdom Kids" on Tuesday evenings. Beautiful things are happening! Thank you to Judy Sutherland for volunteering her time each Tuesday evening since Kingdom Kids has begun.

CPR/Defibrillator Training - We consider it wise to have some of the congregation up-to-date with CPR/Defibrillator training. A course can be arranged for those interested in being sponsored for this valuable 2-day course. Leave your name at the office or speak with a deacon, and if there is interest, a class will be arranged for sometime in the coming winter months.

A work on Security - Anyone using a key to enter the church especially outside of church hours - please be extra mindful to re- lock the door, even if you are only coming in for a short time. Thank you.



November to Remember

"Growing Forward" with Dr. Steven McMullin



In the spirit of future possibilities, let us come together to meet **Dr. Steven McMullin**, former academic dean of the Acadia Divinity College, who comes to us with a wide knowledge and experience in church renewal. The liaison committee met with Steven by zoom some months ago and were encouraged by his examples of churches who looked to their strengths in a process of renewed purpose.

Meeting time 3:30 pm, **Saturday, November 7** in the vestry. **After discussion** we will continue in fellowship at a **light supper** in the Christie Room. Dr. McMullin will also be a **Guest Speaker** for Worship on **November 8.**

Bluegrass is Coming to FBC! Get ready for an afternoon of fantastic music as **The Janet McGarry Band** takes the stage on **Sunday, November 22,** at **2:00 pm** (doors open at 1:00 pm). **Tickets: $25 each or 2 for $40**

2026 Advent Devotionals

We invite everyone to help create our **Advent Devotional Book!** Share a reflection, personal story, poem, or meaningful thought to inspire others throughout the Advent season. Our devotional will be available **in print and on our church website**, with a special contribution to enjoy each day. **Would you like to contribute?** Visit the table in the Vestry to choose a date and pick up the writing instructions. Take your assignment home and **submit your contribution by November 22.**

Share the Light, Share the Joy

Christmas Cheer Boxes: Once again, FBC, through our **Benevolent Committee/Fund**, is helping spread Christmas cheer to local families in need. This year, our church has committed to **providing 60 Christmas Cheer Boxes, plus 2 additional emergency boxes**, to help ensure families have food and support during the holiday season. The **estimated cost** is **$150 per box**. All donations are greatly appreciated and can be made through you Church Office or give through your offering envelope marked *"Christmas Cheer Food Box"*.

The **"Let Your Light Shine"** celebration is being held in our church again this Christmas Season. You may purchase a **white light [$ 10 each]** or a **gold light [$20 each]**, a **white candelabra [$50]** or **a gold candelabra [$ 100]**. The candles will shine from our church windows **"In Honour of"** or "**In Memory of"** a friend or relative. A leaflet with all the names will be printed in the **Christmas Eve** bulletin.

Advent Begins November 29

As we enter the season of Advent, we prepare our hearts for a time of waiting, reflection, and anticipation as we look forward to celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ.

Throughout the four Sundays of Advent, we are reminded of the gifts of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love. May this special season encourage us to slow down, share kindness, and let Christ's light shine through us as we prepare for Christmas.

Advent Bible Study—Luke's Songs of Advent

Jeff will lead a weekly study time looking at the songs of the season. We will meet in the parlour over noon hour, so you can bring your lunch. At each session we will explore a song from Luke's Gospel, and a few carols, old and new. If you can, let Jeff know if you plan to attend.

Wed Nov 25	**Joy to the World**	(and other songs)
Luke 1:46-55	'Magnificat'	Song of Mary
Wed Dec 2	**O Come, O Come, Emmanuel**	(and other songs)
Luke 1:67-79	'Benedictus'	Song of Zechariah
Wed Dec 9	**Angels We Have Heard on High**	(and other songs)
Luke 2:2:14	'Gloria'	Song of the angels
Wed Dec 16	**Hark the Herald Angels Sing**	(and other songs)
Luke 2:29-33	'Nunc Dimittis'	Song of Simeon

A Festive Friday in Amherst!

Friday, November 20 will be filled with Christmas treats, music and community celebrations!

11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
FBC Christmas Tea & Sale – White Elephant Table

Enjoy a variety of sandwiches and sweets, warm fellowship and the joy of the Christmas season. Tickets are $12.00 in advance from the Church Office.



5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
Holiday Light-Up

Gather at Victoria Square for music and hot chocolate, with the official Light-Up at 6:30 p.m.



7:00 p.m.
ARHS Band Christmas Sing-Along

After the Light-Up, join the ARHS Band here at FBC for a festive Christmas sing-along.



Month of November 2026 at FBC

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 **10:30 am** Worship Service **All Saints' Day** Clocks back	**2** **10:00 am** Tant. Seniors College **1:00 pm** Line Dancing **4:00 pm** IODE	**3** **10:00 am** Tant. Seniors College **1:00 pm** Book Club **1:00 pm** Christmas Tea Mtg. **6:00 pm** Kingdom Kids	**4** **4:00 pm** Bd. of CE	**5** **1:30 pm** Christmas Cheer Meeting **7:00 pm** Choir Rehearsal	**6**	**7** **1:00 pm** Birthday Party Christie Room (Private Event) **3:30 pm** "Growing Forward" Dr. Steven McMullin
8 **10:30 am** Worship Service: Guest Speaker: Dr. Steven McMullin	**9** **1:00 pm** Line Dancing	**10** **9:00 am** Cookie Crew **10:00 am** Tant. Seniors College **6:00 pm** Kingdom Kids **6:30 pm** Bd. of Mgmt.	**11** **Remembrance Day** **Church & Office Closed**	**12** **1:30 pm** Tant. Seniors College **7:00 pm** Choir Rehearsal	**13** 	**14**
15 **10:30 am** Worship Service	**16** **9:00 am** Christmas Decorating **1:00 pm** Line Dancing	**17** **10:00 am** Tant. Seniors College **6:00 pm** Kingdom Kids	**18** 	**19** **7:00 pm** Choir Rehearsal	**20** **11:00 am** Christmas Tea **6:00 pm** Town Light-up **7:00 pm** ARHS Band Sing-a-long	**21** **6:00 pm** Town Christmas Parade
22 **10:30 am** Worship Service **2:00 pm** Janet McGarry Band	**23** **9:00 am** Christmas Decorating **1:00 pm** Line Dancing	**24** **10:00 am** Tant. Seniors College **6:00 pm** Kingdom Kids	**25** **12:00 pm** Advent Study	**26** **7:00 pm** Choir Rehearsal	**27**	**28** 
29 **10:30 am** Worship Service Hanging of the Greens 1st Sunday of Advent	**30** **1:00 pm** Line Dancing	**1** **6:00 pm** Kingdom Kids	**2** **12:00 pm** Advent Study	**3** **7:00 pm** Choir Rehearsal	**4** **6:00 pm** Wedding Rehearsal (Private Event)	**5** **3:00 pm** Wedding Ceremony (Private Event)