



## **Back to School 2020: A Year Unlike Any Other!**

Most public school students in Hampton Roads including all the Peninsula return to school on Tuesday, September 8. Due to COVID 19, however, this school year will be markedly different. Nearly all the school systems in our area are starting out with virtual learning for the next 9 weeks (Poquoson will have some in-person learning). Teachers are trying to learn a new digital platform (Canvas) at lightening speed, parents are trying to figure out how to support their children and work, single parents are working on solutions for supervising and caring for their children while they work, and many families across the Peninsula with limited internet service and technology are wondering if they will simply fall further behind. We have not even mentioned the struggles principals, administrators and school staff members are facing.

Finally, students across our region and nation are having to learn to do school connected to technology and disconnected from their personal time with their friends. Many have lost the opportunity to play Fall sports, participate in marching band and enjoy other extra-curricular opportunities.

I am reminding you of these realities for one reason. I want you to PRAY. Pray daily for our teachers in public and private schools who are learning to teach in new ways. This is a huge challenge for all of them. An updated list of our church members and attendees who teach is included below. Please pray for them by name and for the administrators and staffers who lead and support them (call the church office if you know someone we need to add to the list). If you have extra time to pray open the school website of school closest to you and pray for each person by name on the faculty list. Just PRAY....

PRAY for parents. Pray for them as they support their children learning virtually. Pray for those who have chosen to homeschool their children, especially new homeschooling parents. Pray for the anxiety parents face as they love and encourage their children during these new school days. Pray for their patience, encouragement, and relief from anxiety. Just PRAY....

PRAY for students. Pray for them when the technology fails. Pray for them when they do not understand assignments. Pray for them when they miss their friends. Pray for them when they struggle to learn through a connection to a computer screen. Pray for them when they feel lonely, anxious, and scared. Just PRAY....

Friends, I know we will get through this. Our teachers will adapt, learn, and find ways to inspire the next generation even in these nine weeks. Parents will love their children and find strength in God's grace. Students will persevere, and grow through adversity. It will, however, be a tremendous challenge. As a church family, let's commit to PRAY them through these days.

Teachers and School Staff from FBCNN

Elementary

Shellye Wardensky

Amy Hall

Gail Robinson

Carol Gratton

Amy Woodard

Cheryl Wilkerson

Amber McCarthy

Julie Casebolt

Middle

Lisa Mason

Chris Pennington

High

Patty Patton

Alice Shepley

Kevin Wilder

Liz Wilder

Kolby Keller

Hannah Park

NNPS Staff-Mary Keeling

HPS Staff-Val Wolfe

## **Reports Coming out Tuesday, September 8 at 5:00 p.m.**

Since the pandemic season began, we have not held in person or virtual regular church conferences as a church family. Like everything else during this pandemic, your Vision Team and Ministerial staff have erred on the side of safety. Hopefully, we can resume these regular conferences by the end of the year in some fashion. However, we want to continue to keep you updated on all that is happening. We use our newsletter and social media posts to pass along important information, but we are also putting out additional reports for your information.

You may have noticed that last week, you received a thorough report from our Stewardship Team. They have worked hard to manage your sacrificial gifts during this pandemic season. If you did not see or read that report, then you will have another chance next week. On Tuesday, September 8 at 5:00 p.m., we will email out reports from our Vision Team, Lead Teams, ministerial staff members and we will re-send the financial report we shared last week. This is simply another way to keep our entire church informed about how God is at work at FBCNN during these days.

Be on the lookout for these reports and celebrate all God is doing in our midst. Thank you for your prayers, faithfulness, and giving during these extraordinary times.

## **Weekly Worship Opportunities**

Thank you for your patience last Sunday as we were part of many affected by a worldwide internet outage. (Just another item to add to the list of things that have happened in 2020.)

Join us for worship online September 6! We will be participating in Communion so be sure to have your elements ready. Randy Shepley will be preaching at the 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. worship services. If you have any technical difficulties watching the services on Facebook Live, please send us a direct message on Facebook so we can help troubleshoot the issue.

The following is a list of weekly events that can be accessed on the First Baptist Church of Newport News Facebook page, youth events that can be accessed on their Instagram page-@fbcnn youth, and young adult events that meet using Microsoft Teams. (The 8:30 and 10:30 Sunday worship services will also be uploaded to the website, [fbcnn.org](http://fbcnn.org), each Monday, and can be accessed by clicking on the Resources tab.)

- **Sundays:** 8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship (Facebook Live)  
9:30 a.m. Youth Sunday Bible Study  
9:45 a.m. Children's Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship  
(Facebook Live)  
12:30 p.m. Hispanic Worship (Facebook Live)
- **Mondays:** 7:30 p.m. The Bridge Young Adults
- **Tuesdays:** 8:00 p.m. Young Adult Couples

### FBCNN Facebook Live Videos

If you missed Sunday's service and do not have a Facebook account, you can click [here for 8:30](#) or [here for 10:30](#) to watch it on our Vimeo page.

You are invited to drop by our Pre-K-5th Grade  
**Back-to-School Blessing**  
**Today, September 2**  
**5:30-7:30pm**



Have your adult drive you on up to the playground area and grab a back-to-school gift bag. We will say a prayer for you as you begin your school year. Please have everyone stay in your vehicle.

We hope to see you!

*Mrs. Susie and Mrs. Sharon*

### **Back to School Prayer Slide Show**

We want to highlight all our students and teachers as they return to school with a slide show. Will you please email Susie, [swebb@fbcnn.org](mailto:swebb@fbcnn.org), a photo of yourself (if you are a student, a teacher, or a school employee) or of your children (all grades-Preschool through college!) by September 9 so we can share with our church family all those we can pray for this school year?

*Parents of minors, emailing a photo gives us permission to post and share the photo online; for safety reasons, please refrain from having your child's name in the photo.*

## **Hello to All Our Pendemic Pals!**

As the summer wraps up it is time to bring our Pendemic Pal event to a close. Originally, we wanted to celebrate these new connections by bringing everyone together, but seeing as COVID hasn't gone anywhere, we unfortunately won't be able to at this time. If you haven't already, this is an opportunity to send final letters to your Pal, or, if you'd like to continue conversing with your Pendemic Pal, we'd love for you to do so.

If you have any suggestions or if you enjoyed this endeavor, we would love to hear from you! Your feedback is important, so please send us an email or Facebook message about your experience.

Thank you all so much for participating! We hope that you all made some amazing connections!

Thank you and God bless,

Your Pendemic Pals

Rebecca Hinson

Ethan Brown

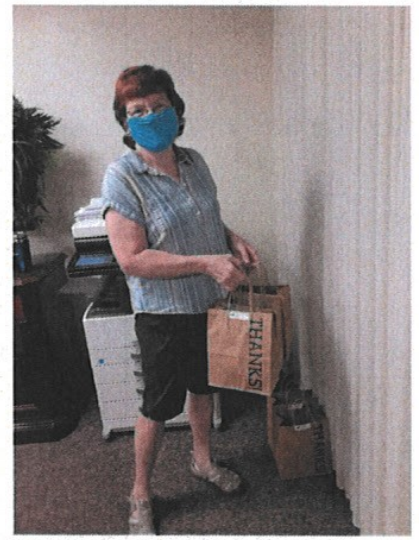
Investment in the Next Generation Lead Team



Every two weeks throughout the Summer, we would like to show support for a locally owned restaurant on or near our mile that has struggled throughout the pandemic. We encourage you to order a meal (eat in or take out) from each restaurant at least once during the two weeks, leave a good tip, and be encouraging and tell them you are from First Baptist. The restaurant for this week is Got Fish? located near AMC 24 in Hampton. You can check out their menu and hours on their [website](#).

### **Gift Bags for Yates Teachers**

Gift bags were delivered last Thursday to welcome teachers back to school at Yates Elementary. A special thanks goes to Melita Breeden, Jackie Hornsby, Mary Ann Hutchinson, Misty and Caspar Prussia, Jim Rea, and Anthony Wardensky, for putting these bags together and delivering them to Yates.



## Staff Anniversaries for September

Send a note to thank our wonderful staff and help them celebrate their work anniversaries as they continue to support FBCNN throughout this time!

- September 1 - Dennis Adams
- September 3 - Beth Tomassetti
- September 4 - Susie Webb

## Office Closed Monday, September 7

The Church Office will be closed Monday, September 7 in observance of Labor Day.

## Prayer Requests

If you have a specific prayer request that you would like the ministerial staff to pray for, you can send it confidentially to [prayer@fbcnn.org](mailto:prayer@fbcnn.org). This email address is monitored only by the staff of FBCNN. If you have permission from the person and would like them added to the prayer list at church please mention that in your email.

## **Building Usage**

As a reminder, our building is still currently closed due to COVID-19 restrictions. If you need to work on something in the building please check with the Church Office beforehand. We can let you know of the guidelines that are in place and remember that the mandate from Governor Northam requires masks to be worn. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

## **Staff Contact Info**

Randy Shepley, Senior Pastor: [rshepley@fbcnn.org](mailto:rshepley@fbcnn.org)  
Dennis Adams, Associate Pastor Music: [dadams@fbcnn.org](mailto:dadams@fbcnn.org)  
Michael Adams, Associate Pastor Youth: [madams@fbcnn.org](mailto:madams@fbcnn.org)  
Ethan Brown, Associate Pastor Young Adults: [ebrown@fbcnn.org](mailto:ebrown@fbcnn.org)  
Juan Garcia, Associate Pastor Hispanics: [jgarcia@fbcnn.org](mailto:jgarcia@fbcnn.org)  
Walter Satchell, Associate Pastor Pastoral Care: [wsatchell@fbcnn.org](mailto:wsatchell@fbcnn.org)  
Susie Webb, Associate Pastor Preschool and Children: [swebb@fbcnn.org](mailto:swebb@fbcnn.org)  
Monica Garcia, Financial Coordinator: [monica@fbcnn.org](mailto:monica@fbcnn.org)  
Sharon Hertzler, Ministry Assistant Preschool and Children: [shertzler@fbcnn.org](mailto:shertzler@fbcnn.org)  
Nikki Reid, Executive Assistant: [nikki@fbcnn.org](mailto:nikki@fbcnn.org)  
Tamara Wilson, Ministry Assistant Connections: [twilson@fbcnn.org](mailto:twilson@fbcnn.org)  
Church Office: 757-930-0911

# FBCNN Stewardship Needs

**Thank you for your generosity in supporting the mission of FBCNN!**

**There are several ways to continue to support:**

- **Mail your Offering Envelopes:** All funds will go to the General Fund to cover operating expenses like salaries, utilities, etc. unless otherwise designated. We will continue to record your donations for the end of the year contribution statements.
- **Thru Your Bank Online Services:** Call your bank or go to your bank's website and select **Bill Pay**. You will only need the church's address, and you can set the amount and frequency you desire. There is no cost to you or the church.
- **Online Giving:** Go to [fbcnn.org](http://fbcnn.org) and click on the "Resources" tab and then the "Online Giving" tab.
- **Stock Contributions or Charitable Bequests:** If you wish to give stocks or charitable bequests to FBCNN, provide the church's name and address to your broker or lawyer to process the transaction.

If you need more information, please contact Monica Garcia at [monica@fbcnn.org](mailto:monica@fbcnn.org) or at the Church Office, 930-0911.

*"Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:6-8*