



# LIFE TOGETHER

**A Virtual Small Group Investment in Your Spiritual Growth**  
**Starts: Wednesday, October 7 @ 7:00 pm**  
**Ends: Wednesday, November 18**

Perhaps the most challenging part of the COVID 19 season has been the loss of personal connection. While we have learned to virtually gather and connect via technology, we have all struggled with the disconnect from friends, family, and our spiritual community, the church.

In his book, *Life Together: A Discussion of Christian Fellowship*, Dietrich Bonhoeffer pondered how a church can deepen fellowship with Jesus and one another through the practice of the ancient ways of faith. Bonhoeffer is particularly interested in how a church grows deep community and mature disciples in a time of crisis. *Life Together* was written in 1938 and it is the reflections of Bonhoeffer on his time leading and building community in an underground seminary opposed to the Nazi movement in Germany from 1935-1937.

Starting on Wednesday, October 7, you can participate in a *Life Together* seven-week study on spiritual community. The study will conclude on Wednesday, November 18. Each group time will begin at 7:00 pm and conclude at 8:15. The meetings will take place on Zoom and include a large group seminar time and a small group time for conversation and prayer. If possible, we will substitute some in-person meeting time for Zoom connections.

Reading the book *Life Together* is part of the small group experience. You are welcome to read the book ahead of time, but there will be a reading plan that will take us through the seven weeks. Coupled with scriptural study, we will learn truths and practices of Christian community and discipleship.

A word of warning: *Life Together* is a small book, but Bonhoeffer is a challenging, provocative writer. So, be prepared! As part of our group times, we will cultivate understanding together!

If you are ready to sign up, click on this [Zoom sign up link](#) or contact Nikki Reid in the church office. We will have copies of the book in the church office for purchase.

I hope you will join us for the soul-deepening experience of *Life Together*.

### **Weekly Worship Opportunities**

Join us for worship in person or online September 27! 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  
(In Person or Facebook Live)  
9:30 a.m. Youth Sunday Bible Study  
9:45 a.m. Children's Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship  
(In Person or Facebook Live)  
12:30 p.m. Hispanic Worship  
(In Person or 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.

### **Young Adult Ministry at CNU**

Despite many of the frustrations and disappointments during this season of COVID-19, our Young Adult Ministry has had an exciting development over the last month. Through a partnership with the BGAV, I will be serving as the campus minister for the Baptist College Ministry at Christopher Newport University as part of my ongoing role through this church to help young adults in Hampton Roads follow Jesus faithfully. While the nature of this partnership will continue to adapt and grow over the coming months and years, initially, I will be helping to advise and mentor the BCM student leaders as we work to intertwine our ministries. In this time I have been reminded that God has never stopped working and his Kingdom is breaking into the world in so many places. I am excited and hopeful that we can participate in that work by loving CNU students well. As you think about us, I welcome your prayers for myself, our Young Adult ministry, our BCM student leaders, and the CNU students we will interact with.

Blessings,

Ethan Brown

### **Preschool and Children's Sunday School**

Preschool and Children's Sunday School will start a new format October 4. We will have live Sunday School sessions each Sunday via Zoom. Grades 1-5 will meet at 9:30 AM and Preschool & Kindergartners will meet at 10 AM. An email will be sent to families with children closer to the start date with Zoom log in information, or you may email [Susie.swebb@fbcnn.org](mailto:Susie.swebb@fbcnn.org) to get the information. Lessons will still be recorded so families can play them at another time if needed. We look forward to interacting more with the children through these live Sunday School sessions each week beginning October 4. (Recorded lessons will continue to be posted on Facebook for the remainder of September.)

## **Yates School Supplies Needed**

We have received a call from Yates that they have a number of students unable to do school work due to a lack of school supplies. We would appreciate you helping by buying and bringing some of these items to church by Sunday, September 27. The items will be put in individual bags for students to be dropped off by bus drivers at the students' bus stops.

### **Items Needed:**

Wide rule notebook paper  
Wide rule composition books  
Pocket folders with prongs  
Crayons  
Colored pencils  
Individual pencil sharpeners  
Glue sticks  
Pencils

Many thanks and blessings to all of you for your support! Call Mary Ann Hutchinson, 757-876-1224, if you have any questions.





Every two weeks throughout the Summer and into the Fall, 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 and next is Vinny's Pizza and Pasta located on Oyster Point. You can check out their menu and hours on their [website](#). Be sure to click on the Oyster Point location when ordering.

### **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*