

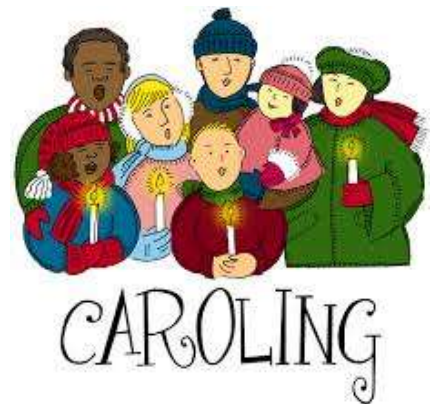
NOVEMBER 18, 2020

FIRST NEWS

SING WE NOEL!

Join us for an outdoor carol sing-along **December 6th at 5PM!**

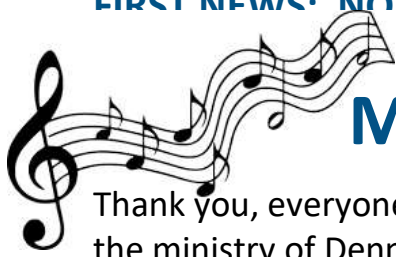
We will mask up and sing our hearts out while we bring good cheer! During the evening we will also be taking up an Advent offering where we are asking people to bring health kits for our PORT neighbors. In a gallon sized bag we are asking you to pack it with the following travel sized items: lotion, hand sanitizer, toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, tissues, hand warmers or gloves, and please include a handwritten card including a Bible verse! We can't wait!



Note from Dennis Adams

Words can never adequately say how much I appreciate every kind word, every card, every gift and every prayer on my behalf on the occasion of my retirement. A huge shout-out to those who organized the drive-thru reception and the 10:30 worship service this past Sunday! First Baptist Church, Newport News is an amazing family, and it has been a true pleasure and privilege to be part of such a loving, supportive and generous church. I will treasure our friendships and the thousands of memories we have made over the last 34 years. While I will no longer be attending First Baptist on Sundays, I will do my best to maintain our friendships and to stay in touch. Please feel free to contact me any time. God bless us all, as we press toward the mark of our high calling in Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Always much love and prayers,
Dennis



Music Ministry Updates

Thank you, everyone, for attending, either in person or online, the celebration of the ministry of Dennis Adams this past Sunday. What a remarkable service it was! Thank you to all who worked so hard to make this service possible. Also, thank you to everyone for coming to the drive through reception. We saw and got to visit with so many people. It was a very special afternoon.

Our EMMA Team (Emergency Management Ministry Action) deserves special recognition. They worked hard at both the service and drive through reception to make sure everyone was greeted with safety and enthusiasm. In addition, Jeanette Lystlund, Melita Breeden and Tracy Houston did a fantastic job planning and executing the drive through reception. Please be sure to thank them.

Now, as Dennis moves into retirement, we must continue our congregational commitment to powerful, meaningful music and worship ministry, even during this COVID season. As Dennis shared with the adult choir and Swingin' Singers, our choirs are not likely to return until March 2021 at the earliest. In early to mid-2021, our Personnel Committee will initiate the search process for a Director of Traditional Music that specializes in choral music. Our church remains deeply committed to our choral, orchestral, and handbell ministries, and we want to find the best person to lead them.

The organization of the traditional, contemporary, and digital worship services will fall to the Reverend Lesley Spitzer, in coordination with our staff and God-Centered Worship Lead Team. Throughout the pandemic, Lesley has played a vital leadership role in the organization of our services, sound, and digital platforms. Her music and worship training, along with her excellence in organization, will ensure the elements of our worship services run smoothly. You can contact Lesley at lspitzer@fbcnn.org.

Finally, let's say "thank you" to a special group of people: Ray Boyette, Guy Buck, Alice Shepley, and Lesley Spitzer. Starting this Sunday, November 22, they will rotate as the hymn leaders for our 8:30 services. Give them your thanks and encouragement with a card, call, or smile!

We will miss Dennis Adams so much as our Pastor of Music and Worship. As you can see, it takes many persons, including one not even hired yet, to attempt to fill his shoes! We give thanks to God for Dennis, and we move onward and upward, knowing that God will continue to guide and provide as we worship His Holy Name.

Christmas Poinsettias



With the many adjustments that we are making due to COVID for this year, we are offering a new way to honor or remember someone through Christmas Poinsettias. Here are two ways you can participate:

1. Purchase a poinsettia on your own and deliver it to someone who may need a visit, cheering up, or may need to see a smiling familiar face.
2. In lieu of giving a poinsettia, mail in or drop off a \$10 donation to the Christmas offering in honor or memory of someone.

If you would like to participate in either way, please call or email (nikki@fbcnn.org) the church office and provide the name(s) of those you wish to honor or remember by December 7. A list of those participating will be published in the December 9 and 16 editions of First News.

Small Groups at FBCNN

Would your Sunday School class or Bible study like to have a meeting space in the church building? We have designed a plan for small groups (25 or less) to meet in person. There are three room set-ups available: lecture style (16-20 people), circle seating (8-10 people), and tables with chairs (up to 25 people). Safety protocols and guidelines have been created to help your group have a wonderful opportunity to safely meet in person. Rooms will be available beginning November 30. Contact Nikki Reid in the church office to learn more and schedule a room for your group.

Children's Families-Advent Devotions

We have prepared Advent devotions for families with children (through 5th grade), and we would love for you to drive by on Sunday, November 29 from 2-3 p.m. to pick them up! There is a family devotion and Advent coloring sheets for each week as you teach your children at home about Advent and the birth of Jesus. Come on out to pick up your booklet (and say hi to Mrs. Susie and Mrs. Sharon)!

More Advent Information will be in First News Next Week!

Peninsula Mobile Food Bank



The Mobile Food Bank came out in the pouring rain last Thursday, but the rain did not stop the volunteers or those that needed help from coming. It was a blessing to see everyone pull together to help those who need food. The Food Bank will return to our parking lot Thursday, December 10 at 1:30 p.m.

Office Hours

November 23-27

Monday and Tuesday: 8:30 a.m.-4:30p.m.

Wednesday: 8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Thursday and Friday: Office Closed



PORT

PORT (People Organizing Resources Together) is an annual winter shelter for the homeless in our area. Due to the pandemic, things will be different this year. FBCNN will still be hosting PORT December 30-January 6. (**We are listed as Site B on the signup page.**) There will also be two other sites hosting PORT to prevent overcrowding. All meals will be prepared and served at Temple Baptist. After the guests eat dinner they will be taken to the overnight shelters. Here are a few ways you can help:

- Pray for the volunteers, workers, and guests.
- Signup to prepare and/or serve meals at Temple Baptist. Shifts are available for several dates (not just for our week), and are 1:30 p.m. to approximately 6:30 p.m. If you are interested in volunteering please click the volunteer signup link below.
- Check in and assist guests for our week. Shifts will be 6:30 p.m.-9:00p.m. All of the overnight shifts will be covered by LINK and the Sheriff's Department.

To sign up for PORT click [here](#). If you have any questions, contact Nikki Reid, Linsey Wyne (linsey.wyne@gmail.com), or Crystal Howser (howsercm@live.com).

Weekly Worship Opportunities

Join us for worship in person or online November 22 at 8:30 a.m. or 10:30 a.m.! Ethan Brown will be preaching. 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, each Monday, and can be accessed by clicking on the Resources tab.)

- **Sunday:** 8:30 a.m. Traditional Service (In Person or Facebook Live)
9:30 a.m. Youth Sunday Bible Study
9:30 a.m. Children's Sunday School Grades 1-5
10:00 a.m. Preschool & Kindergarten Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Contemporary Service
(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.

Upper Room Devotional

Copies of Upper Room devotionals for November-December are available and can be picked up in the church office.

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. 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.

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.
- **Through 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 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 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

[Give Online](#)

Staff Contact Info

Randy Shepley, Senior Pastor: rshepley@fbcnn.org

Dennis Adams, Associate Pastor Music: dadams@fbcnn.org

Michael Adams, Associate Pastor Youth: madams@fbcnn.org

Ethan Brown, Associate Pastor Young Adults: ebrown@fbcnn.org

Juan Garcia, Associate Pastor Hispanics: jgarcia@fbcnn.org

Walter Satchell, Associate Pastor Pastoral Care: wsatchell@fbcnn.org

Susie Webb, Associate Pastor Preschool and Children: swebb@fbcnn.org

Monica Garcia, Financial Coordinator: monica@fbcnn.org

Sharon Hertzler, Ministry Assistant Preschool and Children: shertzler@fbcnn.org

Nikki Reid, Executive Assistant: nikki@fbcnn.org

Tamara Wilson, Ministry Assistant Connections: twilson@fbcnn.org

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