

DECEMBER 2, 2020



## **SING WE NOEL!**

Join us for an outdoor carol sing-along this Sunday,  
**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!



## **Advent Sermon Series**

December 6-Do Not Be Afraid to Bring Peace  
Luke 1:46-55

December 13-Do Not Be Afraid to Practice Joy  
Luke 2:1-14

December 20-Do Not Be Afraid to Choose Love  
Luke 2:15-20

## **Christmas Eve Services**

**December 24** CHRISTMAS EVE

**5:00 PM-Outside**

**6:30 PM-Inside**

The service at 5:00 PM will be held near the sanctuary entrance and includes worship leaders of all ages and congregational singing. Outdoor heaters will be used to keep everyone warm. The service at 6:30 PM will be a traditional Christmas Eve service held inside our sanctuary. Christmas music will be part of the service but there will not be congregational singing. Masks are required to be worn at both services. We are also asking everyone to register for the service they would like to attend. A registration link will be sent out in First News next week. If you are unable to register online, please contact the church office.

## **Noontime Prayers for Advent**

Advent is a special season in the life of the church. In Advent we remember the hope of the Israelites as they prayed for God's Messiah to bring liberation. We remember with joy our own restless hearts made whole in the healing presence of Christ's love. And we look with peace towards the future of Christ's coming reign - a new Advent for all creation. As a practice of this special season, the ministers will be leading a noontime prayer on Facebook, Monday through Friday each week of Advent. We will be using the readings from *The Divine Hours* which have prayers for morning, noon, and night. By using this written liturgy, we are joining in one voice with Christians around the world who offer these prayers every day. If you would like to follow along or incorporate some of these additional prayers into your spiritual practices, you can find each days prayers by clicking [here](#).

## **2021 Budget**

The proposed budget for 2021 will be sent out via email December 9 and copies will be available in the church office December 9. The budget will also include the schedule for question and answer sessions and approval.



## **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](mailto: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.

## **Special Prayer Request**

This year has presented us with a variety of reasons to pray. A virus spreading across the globe, civil and political unrest in our country, and those who are struggling from the repercussions of any of these are just a few items to add to our prayers. A member of our congregation has asked that in addition to praying for first responders, doctors, and nurses, we take time to pray for the scientists and researchers who are trying to understand COVID-19 and create a vaccine.

## Weekly Worship Opportunities

Join us for worship in person or online December 6 at 8:30 a.m. or 10:30 a.m.! Randy Shepley will be preaching. Gather your communion elements if you are worshipping from home since we will be observing the Lord's Supper in both 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 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.

## **PORT**

**We have a special need for people to sign up for our week. Please click on the link below to choose your date and time.**

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

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## **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)  
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)  
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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)  
Lesley Spitzer, Worship Coordinator: [lspitzer@fbcnn.org](mailto:lspitzer@fbcnn.org)  
Tamara Wilson, Ministry Assistant Connections: [twilson@fbcnn.org](mailto:twilson@fbcnn.org)  
Church Office: 757-930-0911



HOW TO GIVE AT FBCNN

ONLINE \*      MAIL      AUTOMATED THRU YOUR BANK

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 offering envelopes for next year 2021** or need more information please contact

Monica at 757-930-0911 or by email at [monica@fbcnn.org](mailto:monica@fbcnn.org)

**Thank you** in advance for your partnership.

*"...for God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7*

*\* Recurring donations available*

[www.fbcnn.org](http://www.fbcnn.org)

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