

DECEMBER 16, 2020



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

Christmas Eve Services December 24

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. Click [here](#) to register. If you are unable to register online, please contact the church office.

No 8:30 AM Service December 27

We will worship together at 10:30 AM on December 27 in person and on Facebook. The Hispanic service will worship at 12:30 PM.

2021 Budget

The proposed budget for 2021 is available to view by clicking [here](#), and the Nominating Committee Report for 2021 is available [here](#). Printed copies are available in the church office. Please note: due to the revised COVID 19 restrictions prohibiting gatherings of more than 10 people, the meetings to discuss and vote on the budget have been cancelled.

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](#).

Upcoming Church Office Closures

The church office will be closed on Christmas Day, December 28, December 31, and New Year's Day. There will not be an edition of First News on Wednesday, December 30.



Christmas Poinsettias and Advent Offering Donations

Below is a list of those who had a poinsettia delivered or donation made in their honor or memory.

In Honor of

- Marguerite Peck by "Everyone that loves her"
- Wendy Buck & Beth Tomassetti by "Members appreciating their musical talent"
- Ann Bledsoe by Ruby Outten
- Marguerite Peck by Ruby Outten
- Ann Bledsoe by her daughter, Tracy and son in law, Bob Houston
- Dennis Adams by Marcia Adkins Handbell Choir
- Beth Tomassetti by Marcia Adkins Handbell Choir
- Jeanette Lystlund by Joan Monroe Handbell Choir
- All of the Deacons and others who contacted over 100 of our older members with visits, calls, and cards during the two weeks before Thanksgiving!

In Memory of

- Thelma, Joann, Buck, and Hal by Ron Perry and family
- Jean Squires by her family
- Mary Raynor Ainsley and Ira C. Ainsley by Mary Ann, Maricar Hutchinson and Raynor Dahlquist
- Ruby Gilbert by Mary Ann Hutchinson
- Robert Chenault by Sarah Chenault

Weekly Worship Opportunities

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Join us for worship in person or online December 20 at 8:30 a.m. or 10:30 a.m.! Randy Shepley 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.)

- **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), or Crystal Howser (howsercm@live.com).

Peninsula Mobile Food Bank



The Peninsula Mobile Food Bank handed out food to those in need in our parking lot on December 10. Fresh potatoes and apples were given along with other items including a box filled with 30 pounds of food, (see box in the middle picture on the left side). Several people came out to volunteer and the weather was pleasant.

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.

Staff Contact Info

Randy Shepley, Senior Pastor: rshepley@fbcnn.org

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

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Lesley Spitzer, Worship Coordinator: lspitzer@fbcnn.org

Tamara Wilson, Ministry Assistant Connections: 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

Thank you in advance for your partnership.

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

** Recurring donations available*

www.fbcnn.org

FirstBaptistChurchofNewportNews

