

Welcome Back to Wednesdays: Starting TONIGHT September 15!

We are so excited to return to our Wednesday night programming for the first time since March of 2020 due to the pandemic. We will still follow our COVID protocols which require all unvaccinated persons in the building to wear masks at all times, requiring masks for everyone in the children and youth areas, and strongly recommending masks for all vaccinated persons.

Here is our Wednesday night schedule:

- 5:30 – 6:30** Mid-Week Café in the Fellowship Hall
- 6:00 – 7:20** Handbell Rehearsal
- 6:30 – 7:30** Adult Spiritual Formation Groups
- 6:30 – 8:00** Youth Group Gathering and Worship
- 6:30 – 8:00** Children's KMotion (Music, Missions, and Fun!)
- 7:30 – 8:30** Adult Choir Rehearsal

What is the Mid-Week Café?

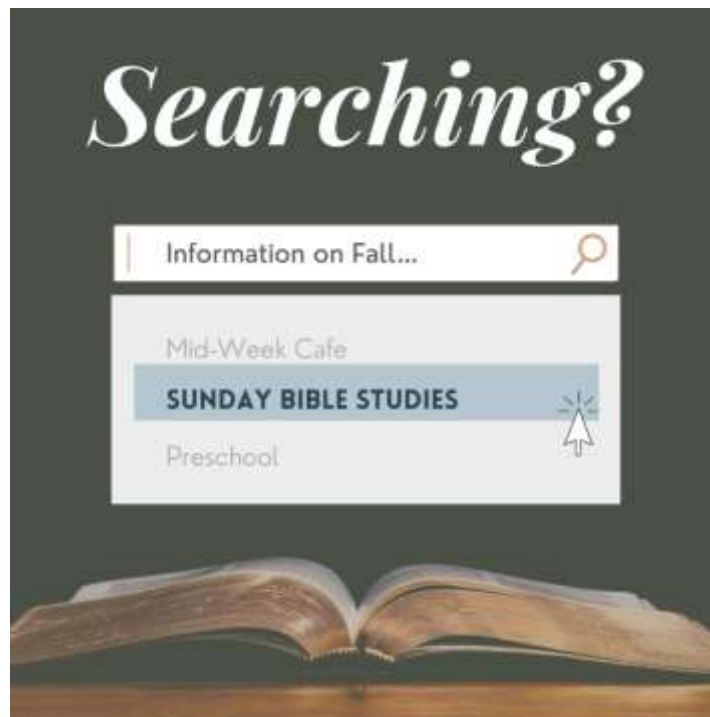
Mid-Week Café is the new name for our Wednesday night meal experience. We will have tables in the Fellowship Hall that are set up and ready for conversation. Much like our summer picnics, we are inviting folks to pick up their favorite food from a local restaurant, or from home, and bring it to the church for conversation, laughter, and meeting new people. The church will provide drinks and paper products. You bring your food, family, and friends to join in the fun.

Why are we setting up for a "Bring your own food" Mid-Week Café? First, Cecil and June Simpkins who have organized our Wednesday night meals for years, are not able to continue with these efforts. Please tell them thank you for all of their hard work and sacrifice over the years to make our Wednesday night meals happen. They have served generously and tirelessly, and we thank them for the years of energy they have spent on our behalf.

Second, allowing people to bring their own food means that everyone can bring what they want and handle their own dietary considerations. This way, people will have exactly what they want to eat!

Finally, we are hoping to create an indoor environment like our summer picnics where people enjoyed getting to know new people and where new friendships were forged.

The Mid-Week café is an evolving concept. We will learn what works and what we can improve as we go along. We look forward to seeing you tonight at the Mid-Week Café and in all of our Wednesday night offerings.



Fall Sunday Bible Study

All our current opportunities are listed below with their room numbers, but we will continue to add more Bible Study offerings over the coming weeks. We look forward to renewed growth in discipleship and community this semester!

Bible Studies:

- **Journey through Scripture** – 143 (**New Class for Adults**) Teacher: John Hertzler
- **King's Daughters** - 148 Teachers: Joy Kilgore, Mary Merritt, Rita Hyatt
- **Agape I** - 144 Teachers: Peggy White, Ray Boyette
- **Crossroads** – Mary Merritt Hall Teacher: Harvey Perkins
- **Faith Class** - A/V Room Teacher: Terry Gunnels
- **Spirit Seekers** - 141
- **Women of All Ages** - 145 Teacher: Sandy Droessler
- **Young Adults** – 147 Teachers: Amanda Tilley, Kevin Prussia, Ethan Brown
- **God and the Pandemic** – [Zoom](#) Teacher: Paul Morris



Special Bible Study Opportunity: God and the Pandemic

As we look forward to resuming many of our in-person small groups this Fall, the reality of COVID and the Delta Variant mean that many of us are not yet ready or able to be back in our physical building. We all, however, need connection, community, and discipleship whether in-person or through a digital option. If you are unable to join us for in-person Bible Study then I am excited to announce our digital only small group based around N.T. Wright's book *God and the Pandemic*. Paul

Morris will be leading the discussion as he helps us wrestle with God's presence in our Pandemic reality – and you don't even have to read the book! Join via zoom at 9:30am this Sunday. Just click this link to join:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89613019774?pwd=ZWw1RDZXbUN5Nk1oUjZlRU5FZE1yZz09>

Make sure to invite the people you know who can't be in-person yet!

September Staff Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays:

9/9 - Beth Tomassetti

9/21 - Walter Satchell (he's turning 119!)

Work Anniversaries:

9/3 - Beth Tomassetti

9/4 - Susie Webb



Over the last year we have all seen the benefit of technology allowing us to worship together, remain connected, and interact with people who may never enter our doors. Even as we hope for more in-person interactions in the coming months, we want to continue to invest in our digital ministry and its unique opportunities to love and serve our communities in Hampton Roads and around the world.

If you have experience in graphic design, video production, audio mixing, or if you just like technology and are willing to learn or interact with people online we need your help. We want you to be part of our digital ministry team. Contact Ethan at ebrown@fbcnn.org to learn more.

Save the Dates

**September 15: Wednesday
Night Activities Begin**

**October 3: Hispanic
Congregation 15th Anniversary
Celebration Service**

Join us as we celebrate the 15th anniversary of our Hispanic congregation during one combined worship service at 11:00am! Stay tuned for more information on this special event.

Security Enhancements at FBCNN

For more than a year, and in consultation with multiple security experts, we have analyzed our safety and security vulnerabilities and now are close to making much needed enhancements. The first phase of our efforts is to secure our perimeter doors. It has been decades since we have changed locks on the doors allowing access to the facility. Over the years, there has been no accountability for keys to the church. At times, doors are found unlocked. Unauthorized people have wandered into the church causing disruption. For the safety and security of our staff, members and guests, we need to better control access to the church building.

For several months the Building & Grounds Committee and Administration Lead Team have worked on a plan. This plan was recently shared with the Vision Team, and they approved to move forward with the plan implementation. In Phase 1, we will change locks on all the perimeter doors. The issuance of keys to the new locks will be limited to staff and three non-staff member roles. Temporary keys will be issued to a few roles. To access the church during non-service times you must go to the office door and either use the punch lock or buzz the office for access. Obviously, on Sundays, the main sanctuary doors will be unlocked.

In Phase 2, which will occur within about 60 days of Phase 1, a door access control system will be installed. There will be five doors (Office, Slate Foyer, Library, Fellowship Hall, and Preschool) that will have a keycard reader. Active members will be issued a keycard to swipe at the reader which will allow the member to gain access to the facility. Also, at these five doors will be a camera

Retirement Reception for Nancy Thomas

All are invited to a retirement reception for Nancy Thomas on Saturday, October 16, 2021, 2-4PM, in Payne Fellowship Hall. Come out and celebrate Nancy and all of the years of hard work she has given to our church!

Weekly Worship Opportunities

Join us for worship in person or online Sunday September 19 at 8:30a.m. and 10:30 a.m.! Randy Shepley will be leading us in worship.

If you have any technical difficulties watching the service 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. Learn more about children's events on Facebook and youth events on their Instagram page-@fbcnnyouth.

The 8:30 and 10:30 Sunday worship services are uploaded to our [website](#) each Monday, and can be accessed by clicking on the Resources tab.

Sundays

- 8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship
- 9:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study
- 9:30 a.m. Children's Bible Study
- 9:30 a.m. Infant-Preschool Bible Study
- 9:30 a.m. Youth Bible Study
- 10:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship
- 10:30 a.m. Extended Session - infants through age 4
- 12:30 p.m. Hispanic Worship

Mondays

- 7:00 p.m. Young Single Adults

Wednesdays

and intercom. People can buzz the office to gain access if they don't have a keycard.

As Phase 2 nears, we will communicate the exact process to get a keycard for accessing the church. Keycards will be issued based upon the role of the member. For example, members who are active on committees will be issued keycards so they can come and perform their ministry. Other members who may only come on Sundays may not need a keycard. During this process we will also do a regular/common key recall. More on this later.

The intent is to secure the church while still allowing access to those who need it. We ask for prayers, support and patience during this challenging project.

Blessings,

Kris Keyes, Chair – Building & Grounds
Rob Brown, Chair – Admin Lead Team
Harvey Perkins, Chair – Vision Team
Randy Shepley – Sr. Pastor

5:30 p.m. Mid-Week Café
6:00 p.m. Handbell Rehearsal
6:30 p.m. Adult Spiritual Formation Groups
6:30 p.m. Youth Group Gathering and Worship
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7:30 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal

[FBCNN Facebook Live Videos](#)

If you do not have a Facebook account you can watch services on our Vimeo page by clicking on the links below.

September 12
[8:30am](#) [10:30am](#)

Make a financial contribution to FBCNN today by clicking on the link below.

DONATE

Donation Opportunity for Those with IRA Required Minimum Distributions (RMD)

Congress has approved a permanent charitable giving tax break, known as the "IRA charitable rollover". The rollover is available for those who are 70 1/2, though if your 70th birthday is July 1, 2019 or later, you do not have to take withdrawals until you reach age 72. You can make a Qualified Charitable Distribution from your IRA of up to \$100,000 to a charity, such as First Baptist Church. The donation will count toward your IRA required minimum distribution.

The distribution is not recognized as income on your tax return. As such, you do not take a donation deduction either. With the change in the recent Tax Legislation, the Standard Deduction has doubled thus itemized charitable deductions will no longer be needed to be kept track of. By donating all or part of your IRA RMD to the church, you receive the benefit of a reduced Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) in that the RMD to charity is not taxed, which helps the opportunity of obtaining lower cost for your Medicare Part B and Prescription Drug premiums.

The distribution must come directly from the IRA account to the church not through the owner of the account. Let our Financial Services Coordinator, Monica Garcia, know how you want the contribution designated, such as the General Fund.

Rick Eloffson, Treasurer FBCNN

Staff Contact Info

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