

First News

December 22, 2021



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
NEWPORT NEWS

*Christmas
Eve*

— 5 PM —

FAMILY SERVICE

Candle Light
Service



CHRISTMAS EVE - 7PM



No Midweek Café, Kmotion, or Youth Group Tonight or Next Wednesday, December 29

Midweek Café, Bible Study, Kmotion, and Youth will not meet tonight, December 22.

Save the Dates

Dec. 24 Family Christmas Eve Service 5pm

Dec. 24 Candlelight Christmas Eve Service 7pm

Dec. 27, 28, 31 & Jan. 3 Church Office closed.

Door Access Control Update

Effective Wednesday, 12/22, at 4:00 PM, the door access control system will be operational and persons who have been issued keycards and fobs may use them to access the facility. The old key punch locks will be deactivated.

To open a door you will need to swipe your card or fob in front of the card reader which is a rectangle box with a red light on it adjacent to the door. You will hear the door click open. After you enter, the door will lock back automatically.

Each of the five doors (office, slate foyer, library, fellowship hall and preschool) have a video camera and intercom system and you may also press the button and be let in during office hours.

On Sundays and certain events the five doors may be programmed to unlock and re-lock during high access times. This system will provide much greater security for our church members, staff and guests. Let the office know if you have any problems.

Sunday Schedule for December 26 & January 2

There will only be one English worship service at 10am on December 26 and January 2. Sunday Morning Bible Study will not meet either of these Sundays.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

As we move toward Christmas Day and the end of 2021, I am filled with emotions. First, I am overflowing with gratitude for you, the family of First Baptist Church of Newport News. You continue to participate in person and online during the ongoing COVID pandemic. I read an article in the Associated Press earlier this week entitled *Across the US, Houses of Worship Struggle to Rebuild Attendance*. As we have seen, this struggle during the pandemic is real, and yet, you continue to show up. You continue to invite guests and our attendance continues to move onward and upward. Even persons who are not able to attend during this season are praying, checking in with one another on the phone, and connecting via social media. I am grateful for your faithfulness and encouragement. The pandemic season is a pruning season for churches, and yet, we already are seeing the buds of new growth and a new future. Advent and Christmas are seasons of hope, and I am so thankful for all of the signs of hope we are seeing.

Second, I am grateful for your generosity. We are very close to giving the entire budget this year. If we finish out the year strong, I am confident that we will surpass our budget in giving! This is with giving over \$10,000 to the Love Our Schools Advent offering, giving to the Lottie Moon

Advent Offerings

We THANK YOU for your contributions in this Advent season. We had a great start but we still need your help. Together we can do this. There are three opportunities for giving this year:

- Loving our local community by making a special donation that will be used to give a gift card to every teacher, school worker, and bus driver for Yates, Gildersleeve, and Menchville. (These donations will need to be received by December 14 in order for us to get the gift cards to them before Christmas break.)
- Loving our international community by making a donation to Lottie Moon Christmas offering
- Loving our international community by making a donation to CBF Global Missions

Please be sure to designate the specific Advent Offering on your donation.

Christmas Offering, and the CBF Offering for Global Missions. I invite you to continue your generosity through the end of the year. You will see the end of year giving information later in this newsletter so give as you are led. Thank you!

Finally, I am filled with excitement and anticipation for 2022. God is calling us onward into new adventures and I cannot wait. I am looking forward to our journey together next year. It is time to dream big and I know we are all looking forward to the future.

In closing, from my family and our staff to you, may you experience the full wonder and joy of this Christmas season and may the One who is making all things new prepare you for the adventure and blessing of 2022. Stay safe, stay well, and watch for the Light!

Pastor Randy

A Great Way to Help Campbell Webb

Church Family,

Many of you know that Susie and Jeff Webb's daughter, Campbell, has been battling leukemia since the spring. The family has suffered tremendous heartbreaks and prolonged hospital stays, but on September 7th, Campbell was blessed with a bone marrow transplant. The journey will continue to be long, and challenges no doubt lay ahead, but we are rejoicing about Campbell's road to recovery.

As your prayers have been the greatest gift, cards, Facebook messages, and gift baskets have also blessed the Webbs. That being said, many of you have asked about other ways to support this special family.

In response, Jeff and Susie have partnered with the Children's Organ Transplant

First Baptist Cups

Need a unique idea for a Christmas gift? Want to show your support for our church and have the opportunity to tell

others about us and the God we serve? We have a great solution! You can pick up a 20 oz. tumbler just like the one pictured for a \$10 donation. The tumblers are double wall stainless steel construction with spill resistant lid and BPA-free. You can pick them up at the Welcome Center on Sunday mornings or at the Church Office during regular office hours. The proceeds from the cups will go towards the ministries of First Baptist.



Association (COTA). COTA is a nonprofit organization that receives tax deductible contributions to help offset transplant-related expenses. Transplant families, like the Webbs, are the beneficiaries of COTA funds.

If you would like to find out more about this organization or give to COTA in Campbell's honor, please visit www.COTAforCampbell.com. The site also features personal updates and future fundraising events specific to [COTA in honor of Campbell](#). Contact Lisa Mason for more information, lmason@fbcnn.org.

New Online Giving Platform

As we move forward, we would like to inform you that we are switching our Online Giving Platform to Subsplash. This new platform offers substantially lower transaction fees, ACH transactions, and an option for donors to cover the cost of online giving so that your entire offering can go to the work and ministry of the church. Subsplash will also provide a phone and TV app for our church that will integrate with our website and become a home for our sermons, media, group messaging and notifications, and event information. We are excited to go on this new journey with you! Click on this [link](#) to give now. Please let us know if you have any questions.

If you need offering envelopes for 2022 please contact Monica at monica@fbcnn.org or 757.930.0911.

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

DONATE

Weekly Worship Opportunities

Join us for worship in person or online Sunday, December 19 at 8:30am or 11am! 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 11 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
11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship
11:00 a.m. Extended Session - infants through age 4
12:30 p.m. Hispanic Worship

Mondays

7:00 p.m. Young Single Adults

Wednesdays

5:00 p.m. Library Open
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
6:30 p.m. Children's KMotion (Music, Missions, and Fun!)
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 link below.

December 19

[8:30am](#)

[11:00am](#)

Charitable Contributions

Thank you for your contributions and continuous support to FBCNN!

The end of the year is upon us and we are hoping to end this year strong. Donors must deliver checks to the church by Thursday, December 30 in order to claim a charitable contribution deduction for 2021.

Checks that are placed in the church offering during the first worship service in 2022 will not qualify for a charitable contribution deduction in 2021, even if the check is predated to 2021 or was actually written in 2021. However, checks that are *written, mailed, and postmarked in 2021* will be deductible in 2021, though these may not be received by a church until 2022. You can also go online to www.fbcnn.org or use Bill Pay through your own bank's website. Happy New Year! May God bless you this coming 2022!

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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