

First News

September 14, 2022



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
NEWPORT NEWS



Kickoff Was a Great Start to Fall Wednesday Night Activities

There was a wonderful turnout of all ages from both our English and Hispanic congregations. We enjoyed hot dogs, chips, fresh fruit, and ice cream sandwiches together. On the softball field, there were two bounce houses, soccer game, bubbles, devotion, games, hula hoops, and more! Thank you to our staff, Joyanne Manning, and all of the other volunteers who made this event happen.

Tonight we will start our regular Wednesday night activities at our usual time 6:30-8pm. (Sanctuary Choir will be 7:30-8:30pm.) Midweek Café will be held in Payne Fellowship Hall at 5:30pm, where people bring their dinner and fellowship together.

Come join us and see what is happening at First Baptist!

Sermon Conversations Start Tonight!

Each Wednesday night after Midweek Café in Payne Fellowship Hall Randy Shepley will begin Sermon Conversations. These conversations will be discussions about topics that arise from the previous Sunday's sermon. Come join this group and delve deeper into God's word!



This week we combine the practices of mindful meditation, unceasing prayer, and breath prayers into a discipline known as “Lectio Divina”, or “Divine Reading.” Dr. Irene Kraegel, in her book “The Mindful Christian”, describes Lectio Divina as a “way of centering our attention on biblical words in order to open our hearts to God’s present-moment movement in our souls” (40-41).

Unlike those we have discussed so far, this practice does take intentional time and space. First, find a comfortable, quiet place that affords un-interrupted reflection. Lighting a candle and/or turning on relaxing music to acknowledge the presence of God can be helpful. Next, pick a particular verse or passage of Scripture. Let’s walk through the steps of Lectio Divina using Jesus calming the storm in Luke 8:22-25.

First, read the passage aloud 2-3 times. Each time, focus your mind on comprehending the meaning of the verse(s). What words are used? What’s the context? Who are the characters? Get to know the passage.

Then enter into the story. Use your 5 senses as you imagine getting into a wooden boat with Jesus and the other disciples. What do the waves feel like hitting the hull? Smell the salty air, feel the breeze on your face. Imagine the storm brewing: the sky darkens, and the waves begin to rise. What emotions do you experience in the storm, with no protection, and the boat taking on water? Then, imagine Jesus waking up and rebuking the storm, calming the wind and the waves, and bringing peace and protection. What do you feel now?

Next, shift your focus to what God is saying to you. Focus on specific words or ideas. Some find it helpful to journal what they’ve experienced.

Finally, let the experience wash over you. Our devotional lives tend to be one-sided as we talk to God, whether that be in prayer or fervent study of a passage. Take time to be present and allow God to work in your heart and speak to you.

Lectio Divina can be a powerful journey, combining the spirit, mind, and body, allowing us to experience God on a deeper level. I encourage you to carve out time to practice this profound discipline as you seek to know Jesus more intimately (Jn. 17:3).

In This Together; Through Christ Alone,
Myles W. Shipp

Yates Action Team "Grands with Grands"

Karon Garcia, Georgia Mann, Gail Robinson, and Sharon Hertzler went to Yates Elementary School Tuesday morning for the Yates Action Team's event "Grands with Grands," where they served Pillsbury Grands Cinnamon Rolls, coffee, and water to children who attended with their grandparents. About 150 people attended and the families were very appreciative.



Principal Suzanne Ramirez attended as well, (standing in the middle of the first picture). Alina

Snyder, who attends First Baptist and goes to Yates, was there with her grandparents (second picture). Thank you to everyone who made this event a success and be on the look out for more opportunities to serve our neighbors across the street.





Free Guest Wifi

Our Guest Wifi network will now be password free! While maintaining our internet security, this change will enable our guests to more easily access internet on our property. If you have previously connected to this network and experience an internet issue, you may need to forget and rejoin the network the first time you connect. Feel free to reach out to Ethan if you have any issues. Network Name: FBCGuest

Staff Birthdays & Anniversaries

Anniversary

September 3 - Beth Tomassetti

Birthdays

September 9 - Beth Tomassetti

September 21 - Walter Satchell

Take a moment to wish them a happy anniversary and/or happy birthday!

Upcoming Events

September 22 - Red Cross Blood Drive
1-6pm in Payne Fellowship Hall. Sign up to donate [here](#).

September 25 - Church Quarterly Conference at 5pm in Payne Fellowship Hall

Mentorship Program at Yates

We have been asked to provide much needed mentorship to a select group of young people at Yates Elementary School. What a great opportunity! If you would like to volunteer to be a part of this ministry, please contact Karon Garcia at (757) 593-1904 or email her at keckwerth@cox.net.

Church Quarterly Conference September 25 at 5pm Payne Fellowship Hall

Come out and hear about all of the wonderful things that have been and will be happening at FBCNN! More information will be sent out via email soon.

Swingin' Singers

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands.

Back to school means back to singing. All senior adults (55 and up) are welcome to join the Swingin' Singers to make a joyful noise on **Thursdays** from **10-11 am**. The Swingin' Singers connect every Thursday through song, fellowship, and prayer. Want to hear more? Ask Swingin' Singers Co-Directors - John Irving or Janet Rippy.

Sanctuary Choir

Serve the LORD with gladness; Come before His presence with singing.

Join our Sanctuary Choir and sing together on Wednesdays from 7:30-8:30 pm for rehearsal and Sundays at the 8:30 am Traditional Service. In addition to participating in weekly services, the

Ladies Fall Bible Study

There will be a 7 week Bible Study of Hosea beginning Wednesday, October 5th through Wednesday, November 16th from 9:30-11:30am in Room 144.

To sign up and order your book, please contact Georgia Mann at 757-595-3990 or email mann.georgia@aol.com by Monday, September 19, 2022.

Alma Hunt Offering for Virginia Missions Emphasis Week September 11-18, 2022

Since 1976 the Alma Hunt Offering for Virginia Missions has been a joint venture between Woman's Missionary Union of Virginia and the BGAV. This annual offering supports missions and ministries and makes possible other special ministries, outreach projects, and initiatives of WMUV and BGAV.



Ukraine Updates

Thank you for your continued support and prayers for the lives impacted by the war in Ukraine. Half of the money collected is going to Camp Harghita in Romania and the other half to Project Ruth. Both of these organizations have been taking in refugees and providing assistance to those affected by the war.

To continue supporting Ukraine, send your donation to First Baptist and designate "Ukraine Relief Fund" in the memo. We will be sending these funds out on a regular basis so they can be used quickly.

Sanctuary Choir looks forward to seasonal, musical offerings. This fall the choir will be performing John Rutter's *Requiem* with chamber orchestra at FBCNN and will be joined by other church choirs from our greater community. You do not want to miss this beloved work which offers hope and comfort to singers and audience alike.

All who love to sing are invited to join! If interested contact John (Director of Choral Ministry) at jirving@fbcnn.org for more information.

Weekly Worship Opportunities

Join us for worship in person or online Sunday, September 18 at 8:30 am and 11:00 am! 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 streamed directly to our [website](#), and can be accessed by clicking on Sermon Library in the Resources tab.

Sundays

8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship
9:45 a.m. Adult Bible Study
9:45 a.m. Children's Bible Study
9:45 a.m. Infant-Preschool Bible Study
9:45 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

5:30 p.m. Midweek Café

Download Our App

Stay connected with your church family!

Download Now

Available on the Apple, Android, Amazon, and Roku App Stores

You can download our app on your phone, smart TV or Roku player. This will give you the opportunity to get push notifications (notifications that pop up on your phone) that will allow you to stay informed. In the event of bad weather, we will be able to notify everyone if we need to make changes to our Sunday morning services and Bible Study or Wednesday night activities. You can also watch past and present services, see upcoming events, and more. If you need assistance in downloading the app contact Ethan or a member of our Tech Team for help.

- 6:00 p.m. Handbell Rehearsal
- 6:15 p.m. Library Open
- 6:30 p.m. Adult Spiritual Formation Group
- 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

Thursdays

- 10:00 a.m. Swingin' Singers

Thanks to our new FBCNN app, we are able to stream our services directly to our website!

Click on the link below to watch the service from 8:30 & 11 this past Sunday. (Services are listed in chronological order with the most recent at the top.)

[September 11](#)

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

[DONATE](#)

WAYS TO GIVE FINANCIALLY



IN PERSON



MOBILE APP



ONLINE



MAIL OR AUTOMATED BANK DRAFT

- **Stock contributions:** If you wish to give stocks to First Baptist Church, please give the church's name to your broker to process the transaction. If you need more information, please contact Monica Garcia at monica@fbcnn.org or at the church office number.
- **Required Minimum Distributions (RMD):** If you are 70½ or older and have an IRA (Individual Retirement Account), you can make your Charitable Contribution to the Church via your Broker/Banker. The RMD must come directly to the Church from your Broker/Banker. Please contact your Broker/Banker for this option.

"Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart." Psalm 37:4

Staff Contact Info

Randy Shepley, Senior Pastor, rshepley@fbcnn.org

Ethan Brown, Associate Pastor Young Adults and Digital Ministry, ebrown@fbcnn.org

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

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

Lesley Spitzer, Associate Pastor Worship and Creative Arts, lspitzer@fbcnn.org

Monica Garcia, Financial Coordinator, monica@fbcnn.org

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