First News

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH NEWPORT NEWS

July 12, 2023



VBS is Just Around the Corner! July 24-28 9am-12:15pm Age 4 - Completed 5th Grade

We are excited about all of the fun we have planned for Vacation Bible School! We still need plenty of volunteers so please <u>click here to sign up</u>. If you can't volunteer for the week there are other ways to get involved! You can ask Sharon Hertzler at <u>shertzler@fbcnn.org</u> or Rebecca Hinson at <u>rhinson@fbcnn.org</u>. You can help alleviate the cost of VBS by purchasing something through our Amazon Wishlist. <u>Click here to see what they need</u>. Thank you so much church family for your help and we look forward to rocketing children on an out-of-this-world adventure that's light years of faith-building fun!

VBS Decorating Day

Join us on Thursday, July 20th at 10am to decorate the areas in the church we will be using for Stellar Vacation Bible School the following week. We need help decorating Stations upstairs and downstairs, hallways, and the Youth Room. Help transform the church into spaceships, galaxies, the moon, and more!

VBS Leaders' Meeting and Lunch

All VBS Leaders, please attend a final meeting on Sunday, July 23rd at 12:15pm in Payne Fellowship Hall. We will go over VBS plans, answer any questions, you will get your Stellar t-shirt, etc. We will have Wawa sandwiches, chips, fruit, and cookies available for lunch. Thank you in advance for all of your help!



Passport Camp for Youth Recap

This past week, I had the privilege of taking the youth to Passport summer camp in Spartanburg, SC. What a trip! We had been in prayer as youth leaders and a church that this would be an impactful time for our youth, and God did not disappoint. The chaperones and I had that chance to watch our youth not only have fun and grow as a unit of friends, but also as a unit of believers. They heard about how the love of God is an "Upside Down" love and that Jesus calls us to live an "Upside Down" faith in which we think about people, see people, invite people, and love people the way that He has instructed us to in the Bible. They were encouraged to embrace others and to invite them to the table the way Jesus did. Their eagerness to lead in camp worship, learn about global missions, and to contribute to mission work within the local community surrounding Converse College was not left in South Carolina but has followed them home to Newport News. They hope to implement what they learned into our own youth group including mission work in our area. Sunday, 23 July, a few of our youth will share pieces of their camp experiences in each service. We can't wait for y'all to hear their enthusiasm as we already are looking towards next year!

Sabbatical Stories

Greetings, dear friends! We have not seen each other for a few weeks now, and yet, you are never far from my heart and present in my prayers. Thank you for praying for me during these first six weeks of my sabbatical. I thank you as well for praying for my family. Thank you as well for praying for and encouraging our church staff. Though I have not talked with them, I know they are leading and serving with deep devotion to you and the God who called them. Thank you for loving them in these sabbatical days.

I am currently in Stavanger, Norway and tomorrow, I leave for Regent's Park College of Oxford. At the recently concluded Baptist World Alliance gathering, I was blessed by shared meals, walks, and conversations with old and new friends. In these six weeks, I have embraced the beauty of nature and the disturbing wonder of solitude. I have read, prayed, and journaled. I have eaten good food. I have found a home in a place I have never been but will never forget.

I left on sabbatical praying over five words: rest, cease, heal, growth, and renewal. Healing is at the center of these words and the more I encounter the healing stories of Jesus, the more I realize it is not my job to heal; it is my responsibility to rest in the presence of Jesus. After all, Jesus is the Healer. On my sabbatical journey, I have found healing moments in unexpected places and people. I am grateful.

I am grateful to you, my church family, for this season of rest, healing, and growth. I look forward to sharing it with you when I return in September. For now, know that I pray for you, think of you, and love you. I leave you with these words from Henri Nouwen's book *Sabbatical Journey:*

God's vision [for] our human life is a mission to proclaim the unconditional love of God to this world.

Thanks be to God!

Pastor Randy

July Staff Birthday

July 28 - Kolby Keller

Take a moment to wish Kolby a Happy Birthday this month!

Upcoming Events

<u>July 13</u> - Peninsula Mobile Food Bank will be in our parking lot at 2pm. If you know of anyone with food insecurities please let them know about this opportunity.

<u>July 24-28</u> - Stellar Vacation Bible School, (see article above for more information)

Giving to Ukraine

We are still sending donations to support those affected by the war in Ukraine. These donations are equally divided between Project Ruth and Gennady and

Speakers During Randy's Sabbatical

<u>July 16</u>: Juan Garcia, Associate Pastor Hispanics

<u>July 23</u>: Mark Snipes, Coordinator, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Virginia (CBFVA)

<u>July 30</u>: Becky Glass, Executive Director, Peninsula Pastoral Counseling Center

<u>August 6</u>: Ken Pruitt, President, Leland Theology Center

<u>August 13</u>: Gennady and Mina Podgaisky, CBF Field Personnel/Ukraine

<u>August 20</u>: Myles Shipp, FBCNN member and Riverside Hospice Care Chaplain

<u>August 27</u>: Lesley Spitzer, Associate Pastor Worship and Creative Arts, will lead a panel conversation

September 3, 10: Chuck Harrison, Director, Peninsula Baptist Association

Continue to keep Randy in your prayers as he rests, ceases, heals, grows, and renews.

Mina Podgaisky's ministry in Ukraine. So far we have collected \$8,140.





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

Weekly Worship Opportunities

Join us for worship in person or online Sunday, July 16 at 8:30am & 11am! Juan Garcia 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*

6:00 p.m. Handbell Rehearsal*

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 (will resume September 7)

*These Wednesday night activities will resume in September.

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

in downloading the app contact a member of our Tech Team for help.

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

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

July 9

DONATE



- 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

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