



It's Good to Be HOME!

My friends, the sabbatical season has ended, and I am celebrating being home with our church family. I enjoyed the richness of our communion services this past Sunday, the reception between the services was very special, and the return to the office a couple of days ago was a joyful occasion of celebration. Thank you for the warm welcome you have all shared with me. I am so grateful to you, and I look forward to sharing stories throughout the following days and weeks.

Before going any further, I want to thank our staff and lay leaders for their good work during our sabbatical season. Pastor Juan did a tremendous job leading our staff and the church as a whole, and all our staff members picked up extra responsibilities to make sure our church life flowed well during my absence. In addition, so many of our lay leaders stepped up to care for our church family. I cannot say thank you enough to our staff and lay leaders for their incredible leadership and sacrifice during our sabbatical time.

I also want to thank each of you. Thank you for praying for me while I was on sabbatical. Thank you for praying for my family. Thank you for being present for church activities. Whether it was worship, Sunday Morning Bible Study, Dinner Church, VBS, the Back to School Bash, whatever event or activity was happening, you all showed up to support the ministries of our church during our sabbatical time. You also showed up during this sabbatical time through giving generously to our general budget, supporting our VBS wish lists, participating in our youth ministry fundraisers, and giving to our Compassion ministry. You were generous with your time, talents, treasure, and prayers and I am deeply grateful to you.

Now, as we begin this new, post-sabbatical era together, I want to urge all of us to remain faithful in prayer, serving, and giving. Let's grow in generosity and in love. This is a wonderful time to recommit to join our church family in worship and find your way to a Sunday morning Bible study class. This is the perfect time to bring your children/grandchildren to our Wednesday night youth and children's activities and to join us for our Pastor's Bible Study conversation on Wednesdays at 6:30 pm in Payne Fellowship Hall. Finally, this is an excellent time of year to catch up on your tithes and offerings from the summer, or to make a new sacrificial commitment to giving to the mission of our church, for the sake of the Kingdom of God. In short, this is the perfect time to renew your commitment to spiritual growth.

This Sunday, we will begin a sermon series on the most important area of spiritual growth: love. The series is called *Embracing Love* and we will focus on how God loves us, how we are to grow in loving God, how we learn to love others, and how we love ourselves in a way that glorifies God. We will also look at why it is so easy to say we love everybody even when our thoughts and actions are far from loving everybody. I look forward to seeing each of you this Sunday, in person, or online, as we begin the journey of *Embracing Love* together.

Thank you again for your faithfulness during our sabbatical season. You are a remarkable people, and I am humbled and grateful to serve as your pastor.

Randy Shepley



Everyone is welcome to bring out their creative side and help the youth at the same time! All supplies will be provided. The tiles will then go in the youth room ceiling once they have dried. If you have any questions, contact Kolby at kkeller@fbcnn.org.

Grands with Grands at Yates Elementary

Our Yates Action Team under the leadership of Karon Garcia went to Yates Elementary School this past Friday, September 8th for the Team's event "Grands with Grands." In celebration of Grandparents' Day, Pillsbury Grands Cinnamon Rolls, coffee, milk, and water were served to the children and their grandparents. About 165 people attended, and the families were very appreciative. Pictured is



the team consisting of Sharon Hertzler, Karon Garcia, Susan and Kris Keyes, Robert and Georgia Mann, and Tracy Houston with Principal Suzanne Ramirez (pictured on the far right), who attended as well. It was great to see First Baptist's Sheree Mosby there with her grandchildren (pictured). Also, a girl who comes to our VBS every year was very happy to see Starshine Sharon and her crew leader Karon Garcia (pictured).

PERFORMING ARTS STUDIO

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
NEWPORT NEWS

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH
CHRISTOPHER NEWPORT UNIVERSITY

LESSONS AVAILABLE IN:

- BRASS
- VOCAL
- PIANO
- WOODWINDS



Registration has begun for the Fall Term of our Performing Arts Studio. We are excited to accept students in Middle through High School. For more information and to sign up please follow the link to the form, [here](#).

If you have any questions please feel free to contact Lesley Spitzer (lspitzer@fbcnn.org) or John Irving (jirving@fbcnn.org).



Collecting Plastic Bags for Thrive

Bring your old plastic grocery bags to KMotion tonight, Wednesday, September 13th! The children will have fun working on this mission project together as they prep the bags, and we will be helping out Thrive!

Upcoming Events

September 13 - Bible Conversations with the Pastor will begin in Payne Fellowship Hall at 6:30pm

September 14 - Peninsula Mobile Food Bank will be set up in our parking lot. Please let anyone in need of food assistance know about this opportunity.

September 21 - Red Cross Blood Drive 1-6pm in Payne Fellowship Hall [Sign up here to donate](#).

September 22 - Ceiling Tile Fundraiser 6:30pm (see article above)

Who is Taking Care of What Ethan Used to Do?

Many of us have heard this question from people in our congregation. Here are some of the things Ethan took care of and who is taking care of them now. Rebecca Hinson has taken on the responsibility of the young adult group that meets every Monday night off campus. She also handles posting events on our social media, and updates, events, and worship service information on our app. John Hertzler teaches young adults on Sunday mornings. Lesley Spitzer and Kolby Keller make sure our services are streaming and interactive on Facebook each Sunday. Lesley also has taken on responsibility for maintaining our digital ministry. Kris Keyes and Nikki Reid are handling building repairs, projects, and maintenance performed by contractors. As you can see, Ethan wore many different hats while he was on staff! Continue to keep all of the volunteers and staff members in your prayers as they ensure that these vital components of FBCNN are taken care of so we can continue to spread God's word and grace to our community.

Ladies Fall Bible Study

There will be a 7 week study of Isaiah by Melissa Spoelstra beginning Wednesday, October 4th through November 15th from 9:30-11:30am in Room 144.

To sign up and order a book please email Georgia Mann at manna.georgia@aol.com or call 757-595-3990.

The last day to sign up is Wednesday, September 20th.

Staff Birthdays and Work Anniversaries

Birthdays:

September 9 - Beth Tomassetti

September 21 - Walter Satchell (He's 100!)

Anniversaries:

September 3 - Beth Tomassetti

Praying for Ukraine

Our faith is strong in God!!! Let us persist in our prayers for Ukraine. After our last contribution to BGAV - Project Ruth and to CBF - Gennady and Mina Podgaisky's ministry, we have continued to receive donations to *Ukraine Relief*. [Click here to read an article by Gennady Podgaisky about a visit to Ukraine in April of this year.](#)

"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me."

Matthew 25:35-36



Digital Ministry Team Needs You!

A large portion of our digital ministry team has headed off to college. Our tech team provides outreach to our community and to our homebound members through broadcasting each service. This team also enhances our in-person worship by running our sound and projection systems. For this worthy ministry to continue, we need your help. We will train you, no experience required! For more information, contact Lesley Spitzer, lsplitzer@fbcnn.org.

Download Our App

Stay connected with your church family!

Download Now

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

Thanks to our FBCNN app, we are able to stream our services directly to our website, as well as Facebook and our app! 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.)

[September 10](#)

Weekly Worship Opportunities

Join us for worship in person or online Sunday, September 17 at 8:30am & 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-@fbcnn youth. 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

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

[DONATE](#)



We are thankful to God for this year's blessings, and we THANK YOU for your continuous support to FBCNN. Please consider taking time to pray as our stewardship team and our church enter in this budget season.

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

Matthew 6:21

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

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

Sharon Hertzler, Director of Children and Preschool Ministry, shertzler@fbcnn.org

Rebecca Hinson, Ministry Assistant, rhinson@fbcnn.org

John Irving, Director of Choral Ministry, jirving@fbcnn.org

Kolby Keller, Director of Youth Ministry, kkeller@fbcnn.org

Nikki Reid, Executive Assistant, nikki@fbcnn.org

Lindsay Rew, Preschool Director, preschool@fbcnn.org

Church Office: 757-930-0911

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