

First News

November 6, 2024

Yates Elementary School Action Team Thanksgiving Bags

It's that time of year when we have an opportunity to share God's love through the gift of food. We will be distributing bags with a list of groceries to provide Thanksgiving dinner to those less fortunate. Special bags along with a list of needed items for a complete dinner will be available Sunday morning. Your donations are due by November 22 and can be placed on the carts located in the sanctuary foyer and children's foyer. If you have any questions, please call Karon Garcia at 757-593-1904. Thank you for your generosity and love.
God Bless!

Parents Morning Out

There are still a few spots available for Parents Morning Out hosted by the FBCNN Girl Scout Troop. This event will take place on Saturday, November 16 9am-noon and is for children ages 3 to 10. Click on the button below for more information and to reserve a spot.

[Registration Link](#)



Embracing God, Embracing One Another, Embracing our Neighbors Through *Dawnings*

This weekend, our church will begin a *Dawnings* journey where we listen for God's guidance in how we are called to Embrace God, Embrace One Another, and Embrace Our Neighbors over the next 12 – 18 months. *Dawnings* is a journey of prayer, conversation, and listening as we look toward the new dawn of what God is doing in our church, community, and world. This journey is led by certified facilitators who help guide the prayer and conversation. Pastor Juan Garcia is a certified *Dawnings* facilitator and he will be joined by Pastor Brian Harfst, an Associate Pastor at Centerville Baptist Church in Chesapeake to shepherd us through this reflective journey.

Dawnings will begin with a leadership retreat on November 8 – 9. The group will pray and listen for

Thanksgiving Churchwide Dinner Sunday, November 17 @ 5:30 Payne Fellowship Hall

Everyone is invited to come to a Thanksgiving meal at FBCNN! The church is providing the meat and we are asking that you bring a side dish or dessert to share. Please bring the side dish or dessert by 5pm to allow us to have time to set up all of the food. This will be a great time of food, fun, and fellowship!

Hurricanes Helene and Milton Disaster Response – How You Can Help

Pray: Please continue praying for all who have been affected by Hurricanes Helene and Milton.

Give: The most important tangible gift we can send to support areas devastated by Hurricanes Helene and Milton is money. You can give donations to our church through the mail, in person, or online and all of your contribution will go to Helene disaster recovery through the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship and the Baptist General Association of Virginia. Please memo your contribution for Helene Disaster Response. So far, we have collected \$4,565!

Go: Volunteers are needed for feeding, assessment, chainsaw, clean up, and crisis care teams. Training will be provided. We are interested in taking a team later on

God on behalf of our congregation and community. What we hear, we will share at congregational gatherings in the first quarter of 2025. In these gatherings, you will also have the opportunity to listen for God's voice and add your thoughts to the *Dawnings* experience. Our goal? To see how God is calling us to Embrace God, Embrace One Another, and Embrace Our Neighbors through the whole of 2025 and beyond.

What can you do? Pray for our *Dawnings* leadership retreat. Pray for the following participants:

Randy Shepley, Walter Satchell, Juan Garcia, Monica Garcia, Lesley Spitzer, Nikki Reid, Gloria Keene, Danny Adkins, Kolby Keller, Lisa Mason, Grete Johnson, Reyna Hoell, Leonardo Sarmiento, Alejandra Martillo, Daniel Garcia Hernandez, Luis Daniel Lebron, Nikki Funez, Gabriela Gonzalez

Pray for our church family to hear clearly how God is calling us to Embrace God, Embrace One Another, and Embrace Our Neighbors. Pray diligently and daily for God's new dawn to break forth in our midst. A new Dawn is at hand: a Dawn of Embracing God, Embracing One Another, and Embracing Our Neighbors.

this year when volunteers will be in greater need according to reports from BGAV. Men and women are both welcome to go and you do not need to be a church member to participate. The work will be hard and it is likely we will have limited creature comforts. However, we will have the privilege of embracing our neighbors with the arms of Jesus. Please email Nikki Reid (nikki@fbcnn.org) if you are interested in going.

Flood Buckets: The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship is collecting flood buckets containing cleaning supplies and distributing them to areas affected by Hurricane Helene and Hurricane Milton. You can help by filling up a bucket. Simply click the button below to find instructions and a list of items needed for the buckets. (Printed copies will be available at the Welcome Center or in the church office.) Buckets can be dropped off at church and we will make sure they are delivered to CBF. Thank you for your willingness to help and embrace our neighbors as they begin the cleanup following the hurricanes.

[Flood Bucket Instructions](#)



Wonderful Performance of Fauré's Requiem

On Sunday, November 3, the First Baptist Church Sanctuary Choir hosted six additional choirs from the peninsula in a community performance of Fauré's Requiem. This performance, under the direction of Dr. John Irving, brought together 50+ area musicians in a multi-denominational choir and a small chamber ensemble to perform for the glory of God. Churches joining us for this performance included Grace Episcopal Church, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church, Hilton Presbyterian Church, Hampton Baptist Church, and Menchville Baptist Church. Thank you sanctuary choir and musicians for your dedication to music ministry, John for your leadership and direction, Authentic Community for your warm welcome and the reception, security team for greeting and guiding our guests, sanctuary sound team for balancing beautifully the vocals and instruments, and the church staff and family for your support of this community outreach!

Additional News from FBCNN

Upcoming Events

November 8-9 - Dawnings Conference (see article above for more information)

November 17 - Churchwide Thanksgiving Dinner (see article above for more information)

Ways of Giving Thanks (cont'd.)

provide and empower us to reach our November and December needs this year, just as God did last year and in previous years.

November Staff Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays:

11/1 - Wendy Buck
11/3 - Lesley Spitzer

Anniversaries:

11/1 - John Irving
11/30 - Monica Garcia

Take a moment to let them know you are thinking about them!

Help Wanted

The Children's Ministry needs your help! We need volunteers (18 years and over) in the nursery to watch children ages 4 and under during both the 8:30am and 11am services. It will be a once a month commitment for either service. All volunteers will be background checked. Please email Sharon Hertzler at shertzler@fbcnn.org. Come be a blessing to these precious children and you will be blessed as well!

Deacon Nomination Forms

It is not too late to turn in a Deacon Nomination Form! Please prayerfully consider someone to nominate for deacon. Full details, instructions, and form can be [downloaded here](#).



We are thankful God is growing our church family. We do not have our statistics compiled for 2024, but we know that from 2021 – 2023, our English-speaking worship service attendance grew 27%. Our Hispanic service grew at a similar percentage during this time frame. We have continued to see worship growth during 2024 as well. In addition, our Vacation Bible School attendance grew 61% from 2023. Our adult choir, Ladies Bible Study, K-motion Children's Group (Wednesday Nights), Wednesday night mom's group, Wednesday night Hispanic Bible Study, and Wednesday night youth ministry are all seeing steady growth, our Preschool continues to thrive, and our influence in the community, state and world for the Kingdom of God continues to grow. Our impact on Yates Elementary School, support for the local classical music scene, and partnership with the NNPD for the sake of our whole community continues to gain notice and affirmation. These are only a few of the ways God is at work in us.

We need your financial help to continue and expand this good work. Please consider giving generously to our General Fund before the end of 2024. Every dollar you give goes to expand the kingdom work of our congregation. Please be as generous as you can so we can grow the generosity of our EMBRACE. THANK YOU!

Other ways to give:

IRA contributions

Generally, distributions from a traditional IRA are taxable when received. However; you can make a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) 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 and it is not recognized as income on your tax

Ways of Giving Thanks

As we approach the conclusion of 2024, we would like to thank you for the generous giving you contribute to our church budget. Without your generosity, we cannot Embrace God, Embrace One Another, and Embrace Our Neighbors. Your generosity honors God and serves people. Thank You!

As you are aware, the end of the calendar year is the most important time for church giving. During November and December, we historically give 22% of our general fund offerings. Last year, for example, we gave \$270,000 in November and December to our general fund in order to close the gap in our budget giving. This year, in order to meet our budget for 2024, we will need to give \$305,840 in November and December. Yes, this is a little more, but it is certainly possible. Even more important, we know all things are possible for the God who “owns the cattle on a thousand hills.” We believe God will

(continued next column)

return. As such, you do not take a donation deduction either.

The distribution must come directly from the IRA account to the Church not through you the owner of the account.

Donating stocks

Gifted stock avoids federal capital gains tax and most donors can also claim an income tax deduction for the stock's full market value (state income tax deductions may also be available in some areas).

When a donor gives appreciated securities (stocks, bonds, mutual funds, etc.) to FBCNN, FBCNN can sell the securities and pay no taxes, leaving 100% of the donation for ministry (rather than the donor selling the securities, paying up to 29.8% in Federal and Virginia income tax, and giving only the after-tax amount for FBCNN's ministry). Contact your broker and let our Financial Services Coordinator, Monica Garcia know how you want the contribution designated, such as the General Fund.

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, November 10 at 8:30 and 11am! Randy Shepley will be leading us in worship.

The Sunday worship services are streamed directly to our [website](#) and can be accessed by clicking on **Upcoming Live Stream** tab located on the home page. If you miss a service, you can click on **Sermon Library** in the **Resources** tab to select the service you missed. (Services are listed in chronological order with the most recent on top.)

The following is a list of weekly events. Learn more about children's events on Facebook and youth events on their Instagram page-@fbcnn youth.

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
11:00 a.m. Hispanic Bible Study
12:30 p.m. Hispanic Worship

Mondays

7:00 p.m. Young Single Adults

Wednesdays

6:00 p.m. Handbell Rehearsal
6:30 p.m. K-Motion & Youth
6:30 p.m. Hispanic Prayer and Bible Study
7:30 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal

Thursdays

10:00 a.m. Swingin' Singers

Click on the button below to watch the combined worship service from 8:30 or 11am this past Sunday.

[November 3](#)

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, lsplitzer@fbcnn.org

Monica Garcia, Financial Coordinator, monica@fbcnn.org

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

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

Nikki Reid, Executive Assistant, nikki@fbcnn.org

Lindsay Rew, Preschool Director, preschool@fbcnn.org

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