



EMBRACE

begins Sunday, October 6

You are embraced by God. Let that sink in for a minute. You are held by God. You are sheltered by God. You are wrapped in God's arms and wrapped in God's love. You are embraced by God.

Creation is embraced by God. All of creation. What a mind-boggling thought. The extreme distance of our universes, the distances of all universes are embraced by God's creative wonder. The whole of the oceans, the weight of the mountains, and the rage of a volcano are all embraced by God. How does God hold hot, cold, and wet all at the same time?

Embrace is God's nature; arms open to the whole of reality, to all who come to him looking to accept God's invitation of life in Jesus Christ. In fact, God's arms are open as God runs toward people who long for hope, purpose, and foundation in life. God doesn't simply wait for us in embrace. God moves forward to embrace us.

This Sunday, we will begin a sermon series that ponders our identity as the local church of believers known as FBC Newport News. As we ponder anew who God has called us to be, we will discover that we exist because of the embrace of God. We will also discover that we are embraced to embrace. God embraces us with the invitation to Embrace God, Embrace One Another, and Embrace Our Neighbors.

We were created to be embraced. We were created to embrace.
Get ready. . . . to EMBRACE.

Pastor Randy

Combined **WORSHIP**

October 6, 2024

@ 11am

Followed by:

Lunch in Payne Fellowship Hall

One Combined Worship Service This Sunday, October 6 at 11am

Join us for a time of worship with all three services worshipping one God together at 11am! This will be the beginning of a new sermon series called "Embrace". We will be exploring together as a congregation what it means to Embrace God, Embrace One Another, and Embrace Our Neighbors.

After the service, we will join together for lunch in Payne Fellowship Hall. Our Hispanic congregation will be providing the main meal (see below for the menu), and our English congregation will be providing dessert! Donations will also be accepted and the money will go towards helping mission work in Cuba and CBF Global Missions.

There will not be a service at 8:30am or 12:30pm, but Sunday Bible Study will be at the usual time.

Lunch Menu:

Mixed Chicken and Beef Fajitas & Mexican Rice

Chicken Stew & Rice with Beans

Horchata/Sweet Mexican Drink

Agua de Jamaica/Hibiscus Drink

If you are interested in providing dessert, please drop it off Sunday morning in Payne Fellowship Hall.

Hurricane Helene Disaster Response – How You Can Help

Pray: Please continue praying for all who have been affected by Hurricane Helene. Pray for persons who have lost family members and friends. Pray for persons who have lost their homes and businesses. Pray for the first responders, FEMA workers, and National Guard troops who are continuing to move through the initial phases of search and rescue and clean up. Pray for the power workers who continue working to restore power. Pray for healing.

Give: The most important tangible gift we can send to support areas devastated by Hurricane Helene is money. Especially in the hardest hit areas, it is very difficult to get needed items into communities by truck. Therefore, giving money to organizations that can purchase water, baby formula, food, etc. and airlift it to where it is needed most is our most helpful response. You can certainly give to well-known disaster response groups like the Red Cross or World Central Kitchen who are already on the ground and feeding people across Helene's Impact area. You can also give 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.

Should an opportunity arise where we can give items to the communities in need, we will let you know.

Go: The Baptist General Association of Virginia has issued a call for Disaster Response volunteers to go to Southwest Virginia during the month of October. Volunteers are needed for feeding, assessment, chainsaw, clean up, and crisis care teams. Training will be provided. We are interested in taking a team the week of October 13 – 19 or October 20 – 26. 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.

Deacon Nominations for 2025

We have an exciting announcement! It is time to nominate a new slate of active deacons for January 2025. We are looking to nominate 3-5 additional active deacons to join our current active deacons. The deacons help to support the pastor and staff in the mission of the church, ensure peace and harmony in the church, and work for cooperation in all efforts beginning January 2025.

Deacon nomination forms are available to the congregation in the church office during the week and at the Welcome Center on Sunday mornings.

These forms explain deacon qualifications as they appear in our by-laws and the Bible. Please review the form's instructions, prayerfully consider nominating members to be reviewed by staff, interviewed by a deacon nominating team, and elected by the church. Please be sure to sign your form so your nominee(s) will be included.

The deadline for turning in deacon nomination forms will be Sunday, October 20. Thank you participating in this process!

NEWPORT NEWS POLICE DEPARTMENT



CHAPLAIN

Canned Food Drive



Join us in making a difference in the lives of those in need. Your contribution can help alleviate hunger and provide essential sustenance for families in our community. Together we can make a positive impact!

When

September 9, 2024 - October 11, 2024

What to Donate

Canned goods, dry pasta, rice, peanut butter, cereal and other non-perishable food items

Drop off locations

- Police Headquarters - 9710 Jefferson Avenue
- Central Precinct - 611 Dresden Drive
- North Precinct - 13785 Warwick Blvd
- South Precinct - 3303 Jefferson Avenue

Questions

Please let us know if you'd like a box for your organization! (757) 975-5100 or cyod@nnva.gov



ALL DONATIONS WILL BENEFIT THE VIRGINIA PENINSULA FOODBANK

Newport News Police Chaplain Sponsored Food Drive

The Chaplains of the Newport News Police Department are sponsoring a Food Drive to support the Virginia Peninsula Foodbank. As many of you know, Walter Satchell is a chaplain for NNPD and would like our help in collecting non-perishable food items. You can drop off your donations in the sanctuary foyer on Sunday mornings, or in the church office Monday through Thursday 8:30am-4:30pm. Thank you for your help to keep families in our community fed!

Budget 2025

Budget season for 2025 is coming and we need your prayers! As a Stewardship team, we want to present a budget that helps us all to continue moving forward into God's calling. A budget that continues to push us to reproduce of God's love in all we do. A budget that will help us to continue to EMBRACE God, EMBRACE one another and EMBRACE our neighbor. Please pray for the budget process of 2025!
At the same time, **thank you!** Thank you for your current donations and support to the ministry and mission of our church. Your continuous support will help us finish strong this 2024 and set ourselves for the upcoming year. **THANK YOU!**

Staff October Birthdays

10/7 - Nikki Reid

10/9 - Sharon Hertzler

Take a moment to wish them a happy birthday!

Upcoming Events

October 6 - One Combined Worship Service at 11am (see article above for more information)

October 13 - Quarterly Church Conference at 5pm; reports will be in First News next week and will be available at to pick up at the Welcome Center on Sunday, October 6.

October 20 - College/Young Adult Lunch immediately following the 11am service, all young adults and college students are invited to join Randy Shepley for lunch.

November 3 - Requiem Concert at 4pm, members and active participants who have passed away during the past year will be remembered as well.

PERFORMING ARTS STUDIO

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
NEWPORT NEWS

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH
CHRISTOPHER NEWPORT UNIVERSITY

LESSONS AVAILABLE IN:

- BRASS
- VOCAL
- PIANO
- WOODWINDS



Performing Arts Studio

Registration has begun for the Fall Term of our Performing Arts Studio. We are excited to accept students in Middle through High School and adults. 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).

Weekly Worship Opportunities

Join us for worship in person or online Sunday, October 6 at 11am! Randy Shepley will be leading us in worship with Juan Garcia translating.

The Sunday worship services are streamed directly to our [website](#) and can be accessed by clicking on **Upcoming**



Digital Ministry Team Needs You!

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, lspitzer@fbcnn.org.

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

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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-@fbcnnyouth.

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*

(* All 3 services will be combined in one worship service at 11 am on October 6)

Mondays

7:00 p.m. Young Single Adults

Wednesdays

6:00 p.m. Handbell Rehearsal (resume 9/11)
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 link below to watch the service from 8:30am and 11am this past Sunday.

[September 29](#)

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

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

Nikki Reid, Executive Assistant, nikki@fbcnn.org

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