

# First News

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## A Special Note from a Special Guy

Dear Church Family,

After 20 years as an Associate Pastor, I feel that it is time to retire as of May 31st.

Serving in this role has been such a blessing to Jane and me, and you will never know how much it meant to be ordained as a minister through First Baptist.

I look forward to discovering new ministry opportunities in retirement as a volunteer and working alongside you as always.

Please remember that God loves you throughout all the stages of life, and I do too!

With a grateful heart,  
Walter

P.S. I will still be available for singing engagements upon request.

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## Well Done!

The first day I arrived at First Baptist Church of Newport News, Walter Satchell made sure I had keys, contact lists, and everything else I needed. Walter helped orchestrate the unloading of my boxes. Walter led me and a few others to a storage facility where some of our family items would remain until we could buy a house.



From my first days in Newport News until now, Walter has been a settling presence. Certainly he has been so much more than that: a trusted colleague, wise confidant, prayer warrior, giver of kindness and care when no one else noticed, a dear friend, but in my first days, away from my family, away from most of what I knew, Walter was a stabilizing, settling presence who knew the answers to most of my questions. From those first days until now, I have been blessed to call Walter my friend.

And now, as you most certainly read above, Walter is retiring. After May 31, he will no longer have an office in our building, show up for staff meetings, or work according to our staff timetable. This was a hard decision for him to make. He will miss this regular schedule and our staff camaraderie. We will miss his wisdom, laughter, and presence.

And yet, this is a good decision for him as well. More time to wake up when he wants, more time to connect with grandchildren and great-grandchildren, more time to care for his body and soul, and more time for trips and outings he and Jane can enjoy. He will miss the office. We will miss him in the office. I will miss him immensely.

However, Walter will still be part of our fellowship. He will still come to worship and pray because his faith matters so deeply to him. He will still love you all. He will still care and pray for us. Walter will still love our staff, members, guests, and people. I will still look forward to his wisdom. I will still look forward to his singing.

As we go through a significant month of May together, let us remember to celebrate Walter. Send him cards of thanks, give him words of congratulations, and promise to pray



## Fellowship and Fun at Our Picnic in the Park

The rain held off, so the children and their families were able to have a grand time at our "Picnic in the Park" this past Sunday, April 19th at Deer Park City Park. The falling temperatures couldn't even dampen the fun! The pizza was hot and delicious, and the smiles even warmer. The park's gorgeous azaleas were in full bloom, adding a perfect backdrop to the day. Children--and even some parents--ran, played, and had the best time being together!



for him as he retires. This is a huge decision for him, and we want him to know that he moves into retirement with our prayers and love.

May 31 will be a day to celebrate Walter. Walter and his family have shared some ideas regarding the best ways to spend that day. Be watching First News, social media, and listening in our worship services for the ways you can participate in celebrating Walter.

Congratulations, dear friend and Well Done!

Pastor Randy

## Attention Graduates and Families

On June 7, we will have Youth Sunday and Graduate Recognition at a special combined worship service at 10:30am. If you know of someone who will be graduating this school year from high school or college and would like to recognize them and their accomplishments, please submit a photo and graduation information to Nikki at [nikki@fbcnn.org](mailto:nikki@fbcnn.org) no later than May 20th. Graduates will be recognized during the service in addition to the May 27th and June 3rd editions of First News. Contact the church office with any questions.

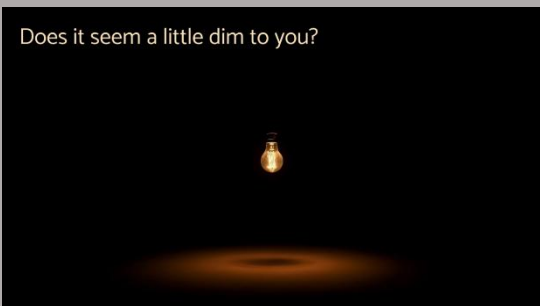
## Additional News from FBCNN

### Upcoming Events

April 23 - Vision Team Meeting at 6pm

May 6 - Wednesday Night Church Dinner - our Youth will be providing a very special dinner for us starting at 5pm in Payne Fellowship Hall

Does it seem a little dim to you?



### Shine the Light

In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

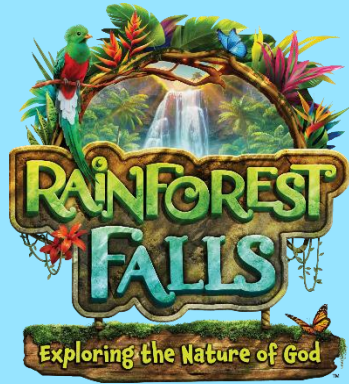
Matthew 5:16

### Legacy Giving

Over the years, FBCNN has been blessed by legacy gifts that have shaped our church's story and impact. These generous acts of faith continue to make a difference.

Recent gifts, such as Mrs. Eula Davis's donation through her IRA, helped FBCNN to pay off our loan. In earlier years, Ms. Ruby Gilbert's life insurance gifts strengthened our reserves during a critical time, helping cover legal and consulting needs related to the 2017 VDOT case. Mr. Charlie Hatchel, a car salesman, also left a portion of his estate through the Virginia Baptist Foundation, which continues to provide annual support to FBCNN.

Because of these planned gifts, FBCNN has been able to remain strong and continue serving our community.



## VBS Will Be Here Before You Know It!

We are already getting ready for this summer's Vacation Bible School! The theme is Rainforest Falls and it will be July 27-31, 2026, 9am-12:15pm. We would love if you could help us alleviate the cost by purchasing something off of our Amazon Wishlist by clicking on the button below. We plan to update it periodically as necessary. If you have any questions, please contact Sharon Hertzler at [shertzler@fbcnn.org](mailto:shertzler@fbcnn.org). Thank you so much for your support!

[Amazon Wishlist](#)

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

[Donate](#)

We invite you to consider how you might make a lasting impact through legacy giving. This can be done in simple ways—such as including FBCNN in your will, naming the church as a beneficiary, or giving through stocks, property or life insurance. Legacy giving is a meaningful way to support FBCNN—both now and for future generations.

As we care for our ministries and maintain our building, we remain committed to sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ with those around us and with generations to come.

If you are interested in including First Baptist Church of Newport News in your legacy plans, let us know by contacting Monica Garcia at [monica@fbcnn.org](mailto:monica@fbcnn.org).

## Support the Mission Through Your RMD Contributions

As you plan your financial giving this year, we invite you to consider directing your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) from your retirement account to support the ministries of First Baptist Church.

If you are age 73 or older and have a traditional IRA, you are required to withdraw a minimum amount each year from your RMD. By making a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) directly to the church, you can fulfill your RMD requirement while reducing your taxable income. It is a meaningful and tax-efficient way to support the church's mission.

# Weekly Worship Opportunities

Join us for worship in person or online Sunday, April 26 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-@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

## 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 8:30 or 11am worship service from April 19th.

April 19

# Staff Contact Info

Randy Shepley, Senior Pastor, [rshepley@fbcnn.org](mailto:rshepley@fbcnn.org)

Juan Garcia, Associate Pastor Hispanics, [jgarcia@fbcnn.org](mailto:jgarcia@fbcnn.org)

Walter Satchell, Associate Pastor Pastoral Care, [wsatchell@fbcnn.org](mailto:wsatchell@fbcnn.org)

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