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NEWington News

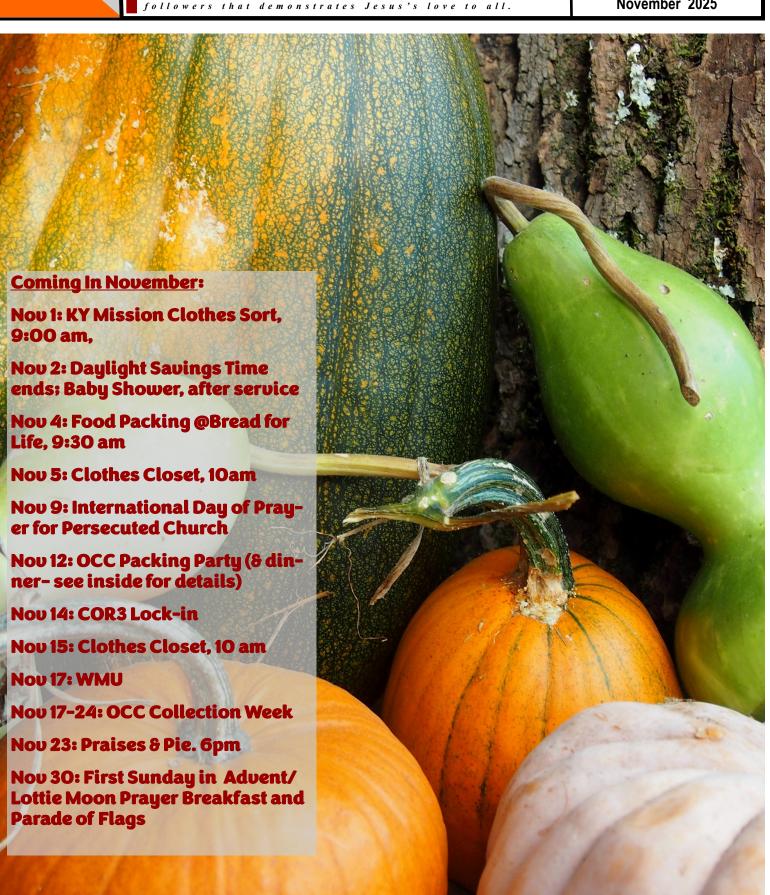
We are a welcoming community of fully devoted Christfollowers that demonstrates Jesus's love to all.

Newington Baptist Church

Volume 10, Issue 11 November 2025

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From the Pastor's View: Great Joy!

This past weekend, I was able to go to Virginia Tech's Friday night football game versus Cal Berkely. It was one of the few wins that the Hokies have gotten this year on the football field. And as a few of us drove home from the game, I thought about the excitement that thousands of fans felt that night after the win. Even seeing over one thousand male students go shirtless in under forty-degree weather during the second half.

The win felt great for us Virginia Tech fans...but was it great joy? It was not.

So, this is when God led me also to a story from our daily 'Gospels together' devotionals. The following question and story come from day three for next week in our devotionals (Nov. 10-15) that you can find on the pew at the front of the Sanctuary (near the organ).

It is when Jesus appeared to Mary Magdalene, just after He had risen from the dead. Here is what Matthew writes...

So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear <u>and great joy</u> and ran to tell his disciples.

And behold, Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!"

And they came up and took hold of his feet and worshiped him. – Matthew 28:8-9

The question then came to me (that I put in the devotional) "When have I/you been exceptionally thrilled about my/your relationship with Jesus?" Of course, I had been exceptionally thrilled within the last twenty-four hours, by the result of a football game. But had I been thrilled or had great joy recently, about what Jesus has done in saving me from my sin?

We all can get passionate about many things in our world. Whether it be for a political candidate or party near an election time like we have this week. As well we can have what we think is joy over a sports team, music group, a hobby we enjoy, or even over the upcoming Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. Or we could also get excited about the latest ice cream flavor at Short Lane.

But what I want to ask you to consider for a moment is...when was the last time you the type of **great joy** that Mary Magdalene had about your relationship with Jesus? That question alone can be convicting for many of us.

The simple fact is that as we walk with Jesus day in and day out, over the span of many years, it can become a bit 'ho-hum' for us. But as I was reminded last weekend, this is when we must break through and desire more!

Yes, where we want more of Jesus. More love for Him. A deeper study into His Word. More compassion for those all around us. And more time spent walking in the power of the Holy Spirit!

As we close in on another Thanksgiving holiday, I want to challenge you to pursue something more. This season, be reminded of all that Jesus has done for you and have great joy as you are assured of His presence in your life and your salvation. There is nothing greater than that!

In Christ,

Pastor Chris Grella

- As a reminder, one way we can show our thanks to God together this month will be at our annual praises and pie service...Sun. Nov. 23 @ 6 pm in the Sanctuary.
- I want to thank Newington personally for honoring me for Pastor Appreciation month and for your overwhelming generosity. Thank you for blessing me!





Lottie Moon Annual International Prayer
Breakfast: November 30, 2025
During the Sunday School Hour,
(9 - 10 AM)

Our annual covered dish Prayer
Breakfast kicking off our Lottie
Moon Campaign is almost here!
Please bring your favorite
breakfast foods to share.



Our annual Parade of Flags will be after that at the beginning of the worship service.

BGAV Annual Meeting

November 10-12, 2025 Abingdon, VA



Each year, pastors, church staffers, lay leaders, and guests gather at our annual conference for fellowship, networking, and learning opportunities. This fall, we are gathering in Abingdon, VA, for our annual meeting. This year's theme is *Mission Forward* based on Philippians 3:14:

"I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus."

Join us as we **Decide**, **Worship**, **Learn**, and **Gather** around God's mission for our lives, churches, and communities.

UNTO US CREATED & ARRANGED BY CLIFF DUREN

Christmas Cantata "Unto Us"

Sunday, December 14
During the 10:30 a.m.
service

OCC News: Hello church family!

Our OCC packing party is coming up on November 12. We will have a potluck dinner at 6pm (please bring a dish to share a bit before 6!) then start packing boxes at 6:30pm. Everyone is welcome, bring your friends! We are still

accepting donations of all items:

- school supplies,
- -toothbrushes.
- -washcloths.
- -brushes or combs.
- -clothing, etc., and -especially good quality
- new toys.

Think of things that you would want to give your children or grandchildren for Christmas. You can place donations in the box

outside the OCC room in the basement hallway with the bathrooms.

We look forward to packing boxes together, knowing that each box will go to a child who will also have an opportunity to hear the gospel message! If you would like to help with preparations before the party, please contact Rachel Kancianic



Young at Heart senior ministry invites you for a covered dish lunch and fellowship, Friday, Nov 21st.



NOV MESSAGES - GOSPEL OF JOHN SERIES

Nov 2	Our Highest Calling/Brother Larry Biermann	Matthew 22: 36-40
Nov 9	Comfort and Trust	John 13: 36-14:10
Nov 16	The True Vine	John 15:1-17

Nov 23 Out of Place John 15:18-16:4

The Christmas Gate/1st Sunday in John 13:1-5 **Nov 30** Advent

○ COR3 Youth ②



As we enter the month of November, I am so Thankful for the support you all give our Youth Program. Thank you to our Volunteers, this program would not be successful without your help and dedication. Thanks to those who help with food and snacks and for your generosity.

We have been in the book of Philippians on Sunday Mornings. We have talked about ways to Spread the Gospel Message and ways to put into Practice what God is doing in our lives. Don't do good works to try to earn salvation, but put into practice what God is working into your life. Christ provides everything needed for Salvation for those who know and trust him.

On Wednesday evenings, we have been doing Mission Videos. We are doing a couple mission projects, one with donations from our Youth to help with OCC shipping and we are collecting hair ties for Hope for Appalachia.

New date for Chili/Soup Cookoff: January 10, 2026. This gives you a little extra time to prepare and make lots of samples to try. We are looking forward to this fun event. Youth Lock-in will be November 14 beginning at 7:30 PM. We have lots of activities planned, including some work in the Clothes Closet.

Thanks Newington for your support!

Blessings,

Brenda H. Armistead Cor3 Youth Director (804) 694-7583





If anyone would like to be a greeter for next year, please give me a call at 757-814-0472. Billy Hogge



There will be a GUEST training GLOUCESTER UNITED in the Fellowship Hall after the service on Dec 7. Lunch is

included. For questions, see Mike Horrell. Save the dates: GUEST will be using the church gym Dec 29-Jan 4. More info and sign-ups to come!



We want to give our sincere thanks to MBC and all those who generously blessed us for Pastor Appreciation! We are so grateful for your partnership in the Gospel, prayers, gifts and kind words. Thanks you for blessing us!-Pastor Chris & Angie

NEWS AND UPDATES FOR FAMILIES



Thank you!

Thanks to everyone who helped make Candy Caravan our best yet! We appreciate all the donations of candy, all the volunteers, all the trunks, and all the prayers!

Christmas Programs

Please join us at Newington as we celebrate the GOOD NEWS of Jesus's birth through song!

Sunday, December 7th during the 10:30 a.m. worship service

Our KidzWorship Kids will be sharing their program, "Kids Sing Christmas" as part of our worship service on Sunday, December 7th. Practice CDs will be going home in November, as well as a sign-up sheet to let Ms. Heather know what costume they would like. We are practicing the songs on Sunday mornings during KidzWorship.

Sunday, December 14th during the 10:30 a.m. worship service

The Newington Christmas Choir will be singing the cantata, "Unto Us" during the service. We look forward to rejoicing in the news that "from His throne a Redeemer has come, a Prophet, Priest, and Savior; God incarnate, Light of the World lying in a manger."



From the Deacons...Jubilee Churches of Gloucester - October update:



In September, Jubilee Churches (of which Newington is a member of) provided support to **NINE** households in our community with \$3,507. Those financial requests included rent, Dominion power assistance.

Here is just one example of how Newington's Jubilee support was used in September.

Jubilee Churches was able to step in and help a local neighbor who was facing the threat of losing her home. After faithfully working as an assistant manager at a local convenience store, she suddenly saw her hours reduced in August when sales dropped. With less income, she quickly fell behind on her rent. By September, she

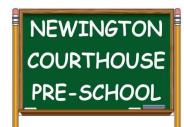
had received a five-day eviction notice with a balance of \$1,860, which included a \$130 late fee. But thanks to the support of Jubilee Churches, we were able to act quickly. The client herself contributed \$500 from her paycheck, showing her commitment to regaining stability. The Samaritan Group stepped in with \$400. Together, these efforts lowered her balance to \$830. With her hours now fully restored for September, she confidently told us she will be able to cover October's rent without issue! Praise God! Stories like this remind us that even a short setback can put hardworking families at risk—but with compassion and partnership, we can make all the difference.

Newington, because of your generosity to our NBC deacon fund, we were able to support Jubilee and this family (along with others) was able to avoid homelessness and keep a roof over their heads. The deacons in mid-October sent \$1,000 for the Jubilee fund.

A final reminder too, Jubilee works with the GUEST ministry in our area. We will be hosting the GUESTs beginning **Monday December 29 - Sunday January 5.** Please consider signing up and helping us with a shift or two, giving love and care to those without homes or food. Thanks! For more info, please talk to Mike Horrell.

ALSO...mark your calendars:

Training for the GUEST ministry at Newington will be held **Sunday . Dec. 7th** right after church. Lunch provided!!



During the month of November our classes will be learning about being thankful and how we can give to others. We will be doing a food drive, families can donate non-perishable foods that will be donated to the food pantry. They will also be practicing songs for our upcoming Christmas program.

Our three year olds have been working hard on recognizing their names, using scissors and recognizing numbers and letters. We have also been practicing fire safety such as stop, drop and roll.

The four year old class has been working on making AB patterns, counting objects in a group and writing their names.

Kindergarten will continue to work on writing short sentences, doing simple math and adding to their sight words. The preschool will be closed November 26-28 for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Stephanie Smith



NOVEMBER 2025

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