

# NEWington News

Volume 11, Issue 1 January 2026

**Newington Baptist** 

Church

followers that demonstrates Jesus's love to all.

# ANUARY 2026 events or setting up for events, as Newington gets used frequently in the winter months by outside

\*\* Please contact the church office before planning

Wed Thu groups (esp the gym).

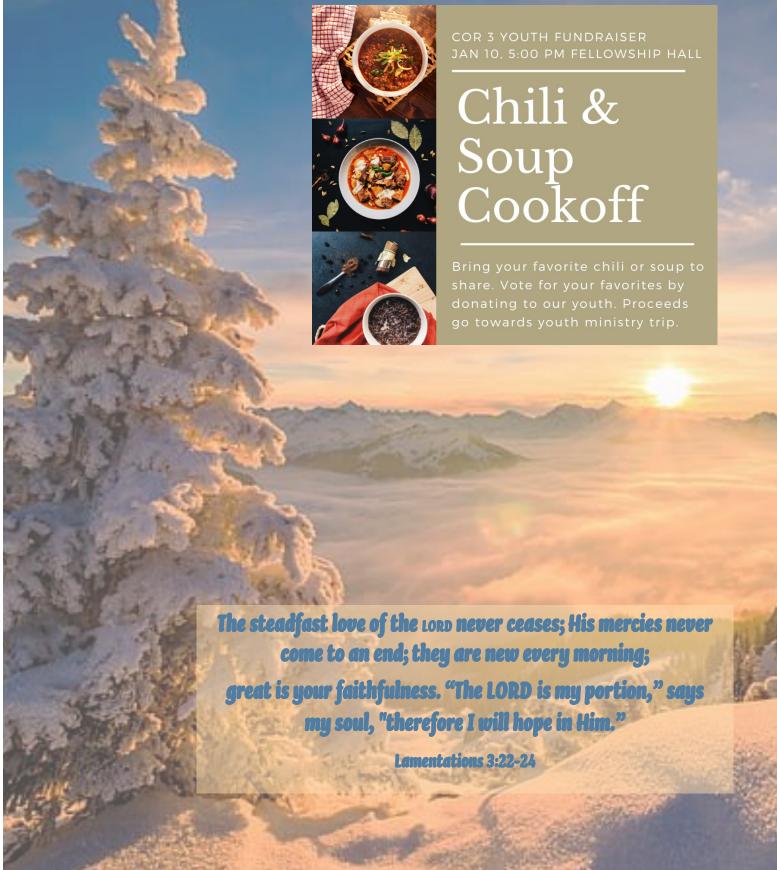
1 New Year's Day Office Closed 6:30 pm GUEST

6:30 pm GUEST

6:30 pm GUEST

18 9:00 am Sunday School 9:00 am Sunday School 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Morning Worship 6:30 pm GUEST 9:00 am Sunday School 10:30am Morning Worship 10:30 am Morning Worship 10:30am Morning Worship Quarterly Business Meeting 19 10:00 am WMU 6
9:30 am Food packing @ Bread for Life
6:00 pm Deacons
Meeting 10:00 am Clothes Closet 10:00am Women's Bible Study 6:30 pm COR3 Youth 6:30 pm Deeper Kids 6:30 pm Deeper Adults 14
10:00am Women's Bible
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9:00am Senior Men's
Prayer Mtg
11:00am Churchwide
Prayer
6:00 pm Men's Group Churchwide Prayer 6:00 pm Jubilee Unity Service 9:00am Senior 9:00am Senior Men's Prayer 11:00am Churchwide Prayer 6:00 pm Church Board 9:00am Senior Men's Prayer 11:00am 16 11:00 am Young at Heart 30 9:00 am Blood Drive 10 5:00 pm Chili & Soup Cookoff Youth Fundrais-17 10:00am Clothes Closet

6:30 pm Deeper Kids 6:30 pm Deeper Adults



# From the Pastors View: 'Newness of Life in a New Year!'

As we begin a new year, many of us may also tend to look back at the year we just completed. All of us are of course different. With different life situations, different goals, different work and callings and certainly different families.

For our family, we had our ups and downs in 2025. Certainly, with our youngest son Josh's graduation and wedding, it was an 'up'. However, Angie had some setbacks and continues to struggle in her swallowing, and we lost some loved ones—all a 'down' as we enter a new year. And so, we all are now standing at the precipice of 2026. We wonder what sort of ups and downs the new year will bring us.

While our state, our nation and world will continually focus on resolutions that will probably be abandoned in just a few weeks, as followers of Jesus we can follow and embrace somethina far more important! And that is a complete transformation towards living in the newness of life that only Jesus can bring us.

This year, may we all remember a few key points about who each of us are in Jesus:

### You are a brand **NEW CREATION!**

No matter how many years you have been following and obeying Jesus, we all can live each day with excitement, as we remember that we are new creations. No, we are not just improved versions of ourselves. Listen to how Paul states it,

> Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. - 2 Corinthians 5:17 (ESV)

This means essentially, that our past does not define us! We are called then by Jesus, to embrace a new self in a new year that will also reflect God's glory and righteousness to a world that is filled with challenges.

Second, we need to remember this year that,

You can find great STRENGTH in God's PROMISES!

O course, this year will bring each of us a few challenges. If we only knew now what they will be! But the one thing we should remember is that we will face a challenging 2026 with Jesus, a loving Savior who has already overcome this world!

So, as a result of this fact, remember these following **PROMISES**...

## God will deliver us renewed strength!

they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint. - Isaiah 40:31 (ESV)

# God has a planned future for us!

For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope - Jeremiah 29:11 (ESV)

### We can/will grow in grace and mercy each day!

Resolve to spend time in your church family community this coming year.

God hears our prayers! Prayer will help you find your peace and guidance.

### God will enable us to shine HIS light!

Resolve to show His love to others, being THE source of hope in this world.

Again, as we begin 2026, may we always hold onto the hope that we have in Jesus, trusting that He is, and will do new things in us.

Happy New Year. Pastor Chris Grella



Save the date: Feb 28, Hope for Appalachia Boxes packing at Hermitage Baptist Church, 10:00-12:30 pm, lunch in-Appulachia cluded. Sign up will be on FYI board.

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**NEWINGTON BAPTIST CHURCH** 

# Quarterly Business Meeting

All are welcome; only members may vote Jan 18th after the service. Come hear what God is doing at Newington!

### Paid Sub. to Cover for Admin Asst:

The church office is seeking a substitute administrative assistant on an as-needed basis, tentatively scheduled for one day per week from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, Monday to Thursday. Responsibilities include answering phone calls, taking messages, and composing and printing both the church bulletin and newsletter. Applicants must be current church members. Salary upon request.

# **Newington Church App**

Newington has a church app that is available through Tithe.ly or scan here:







You can access messages, Deeper Adults Bible study (during the school year), Year in the Gospel readings, message notes, events, and more.



Coming in Feb.

CPR Class, Feb 7. 10:15 am

CPR with AED will be about 2 hours and will cover adult/child/ Infant CPR.

\$30/person. There will be more info and a sign-up on FYI board later in lanuary.





An Australian family tucked their photo inside the Operation Christmas Child shoebox they packed with prayer. Samay and his mother, Bopha, in Cambodia, praise God for how He used this gift to point both of them to the Savior, Jesus Christ.



Last year, Bopha and Samay attended an outreach event simply out of curiosity. She didn't expect her son's decision for Christ to spark a transformation in their home.



"I remember there was praise and worship that the children danced to and a Gospel presentation where the teacher spoke about the love of God," she said. "Many children were there, and they wanted Jesus to be in their hearts."

This year, Samay is on the other side of the experience—helping hand aut shoebox gifts. As he places each box in front of a child, he guiet-

ly prays they too will come to know Jesus as their Lord and Savior.

**Young at Heart** senior ministry invites you for a covered dish lunch and fellowship, Friday, Jan 16th.



**GUEST** will be using the church

volunteers. Sign up and donate

your time at guestshelter.org or

https://app.betterimpact.com/Application?

OrganizationGuid=08c547ac-1618-4c40-a6f1-

4760742643a0&ApplicationFormNumber=1

# JANUARY MESSAGES

Jan 4	A Prayer for the New Year	Philippians 1:1-11
Jan 11	God's Design for our Local Church	Ephesians 3:7-13
Jan 18	Glory Revealed	John 17:1-5
Jan 25	Living for Jesus	John 17:20-26
Feb 1	Youth Sunday	



# ○ COR3 Youth ②







# Cor3 Youth

We wish you all a Happy and Healthy New Year!

Save the Date: January 10, 2026 will be our Chili/Soup Cook-Off beginning at 5:00 P.M. This is always a fun fundraiser, and you all have had an extra added bonus for the competition, with this being postponed for two months. With the postponement, lots of extra time to practice your recipes. We are looking forward to this! Make sure you sign up on the FYI board. If for some reason you forget to sign up, no worries come

on out and join us!

Happy New Year!

Blessings,

Brenda H. Armistead, Youth Director



# NEWINGTON COURTHOUSE PRE-SCHOOL

# Happy New Year!

Last month we celebrated Christmas with our Christmas program. We are so proud of all of our preschoolers and kindergarteners, they did so well singing for their families!

In January our four year old class will be focusing on rhyming words and beginning letter sounds, this will be the first step to reading some sight words! They will also be

working on counting to 100.

The three year old class will work more on recognizing their letters and numbers and following two steps directions.

We will soon be opening for enrollment for the 2026-2027 school year, be on the look out for more information.



Stephanie Smith

## Opportunities to Sing in the New Year!

# Newington Sanctuary Choir:

Join our Newington Sanctuary Choir! We practice on Wednesday nights from 5:45 to 6:25 in the choir room from January 7th through early summer to prepare special music for offertories throughout the winter/spring. (Please note we add additional Sunday afternoon rehearsals during Christmas choir season, but only practice on Wednesdays the rest of the year).

# Jubilee Unity Service Choir:

Newington is hosting the Unity Service for the Jubilee Churches on Thursday, January 22nd. The service is at 7 p.m. We will be holding a Unity Choir that will practice all together at 6 p.m. that night in the choir room. That is the only practice required for participation! All are welcome to join in even if you don't normally sing with us. I will be distributing the music for the anthem in advance to the other churches and to Newington. We will also practice it together at the first three Newington choir practices in January for those who would like more practice options. (Wednesday January 7, 14, & 21st at 5:45). Please help us sing together in song!

# Mid-Tidewater Baptist Association Joint Choir:

The MTBA will be creating a special joint choir that will sing at the Spring Meeting at Zoar Baptist Church on Sunday, April 26th. This choir will be rehearsing several Sunday afternoons in preparation for the spring meeting. Their first rehearsal will be on Sunday, February 22nd at 3 p.m. at Saluda Baptist Church. Please contact Sue Smith by email directly to let her know if you want to participate (<a href="mailto:theroost@va.metrocast.net">theroost@va.metrocast.net</a>). Contacting Sue in advance helps her order the right amount of music.

Please see Heather King with any questions about these opportunities: 757-592-7632, <a href="heatherking@cox.net">heatherking@cox.net</a>



2025 Cantata



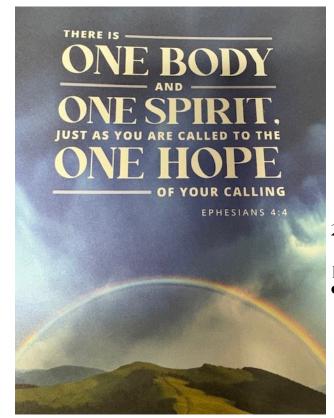
# From the Deacons: Jubilee Churches of Gloucester – December update:

In November, Jubilee Churches (of which Newington is a part of) provided support to **SEVEN** homes in our community with \$2,542 Those financial requests included rent and Dominion power assistance. For the year so far, Jubilee collectively has helped 55 households with over 25,000!

Here is just one example of how Newington's Jubilee support was used in November:

Because of the faithful giving of the Jubilee Churches, we were able to help a family facing a sudden financial hardship. The client, who lives with serious autoimmune disorders and has a history of cancer, was struggling to care for herself physically. Her husband left his full-time job to become her caregiver and now drives for Uber when he can. When their only vehicle broke down, even that limited income stopped temporarily. Although they were able to catch up on October's rent and fees once the car was repaired, they fell behind for November and received a five-day pay-or-quit notice. So, thanks to help from the Jubilee Churches, we were able to step in during this difficult moment. This was the first time the family had ever asked for help, and they expressed deep gratitude for the compassion shown to them. Your generosity helped prevent homelessness, brought relief to a struggling couple, and reminded them that they are not alone. Again, thanks!!

A final reminder too, Jubilee works with the GUEST ministry in our area. We are now hosting GUEST in the gym, beginning **Mon. December 29 - Sunday January 5.** 



# Jubilee Unity Service, Thurs, Jan 22, 6:00 pm at Newington

Join us as we gather together with other Jubilee churches to worship and show unity in Christ to the Gloucester community. There will be a Unity choir (see previous page) worship and prayer, culminating the week of prayer for Christian unity.

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (WPCU) 2026 will take place from January 18 to January 25. This annual event invites Christians worldwide to pray for unity among different denominations and communities. There will be an open prayer time at Newington at 12:15 pm on Thurs, Jan 22.

