



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

30 Days of Listening

March 5-April 3
30 days leading up to Good Friday

- Week 1: Listening to Our Hearts
- Week 2: Listening to Scripture
- Week 3: Listening to Our Neighbors
- Week 4: Listening to the Holy Spirit
- Week 5: Listening to Our Souls

*Message series and guide using *Listening Practices for Navigating Cultural Change for Mission* from the BGA Congregational Field Staff

Save the Dates -Upcoming Easter Events

- **April 3, Good Friday Service, 6:00 pm**
- **April 4, Easter Egg Hunt, 2pm**
- **April 5, Sunrise Service (combined with Grace on Main), 6:00am, Fary Farm (outdoors, dress for weather & walking in field; bring a lawn chair—optional)**
- **Easter Breakfast (potluck after sunrise service at Grace on Main)**
- **Easter Resurrection Service, 10:30 am**

March 2026

** Please contact the church office before planning events or setting up for events, as Newington gets used frequently in the winter months by outside groups (esp the gym).

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1 9:00 am Sunday School 10:30 am Morning Worship 3:45 pm Youth: Winter Jam</p>	<p>2 6:30 pm GUEST Ministry</p>	<p>3 9:30 Bread for Life Food Packing @ Bread for Life 6:55 pm Men's Bible Study Fellowship 7:00 pm MTBA Prayer at Saluda BC</p>	<p>4 10:00 am Clothes Closet 10:00am Women's Bible Study 5:45 pm Choir practice 6:30 pm COR3 Youth 6:30 pm Deeper Kids Adults</p>	<p>5 30 Days of Listening begins 9:00am Senior Men's Prayer Mtg 11:00am Churchwide Prayer</p>	<p>6 6:30 pm GUEST ministry</p>	<p>7 9:00 am Men's Breakfast 6:30 pm GUEST ministry</p>
<p>8 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Morning Worship</p>	<p>9 6:30 pm GUEST Ministry</p>	<p>10 6:00 pm Deacons Meeting 6:30 pm GUEST ministry 6:55 pm Men's Bible Study Fellowship</p>	<p>11 10:00am Women's Bible Study 5:45 pm Choir 6:30 pm COR3 Youth 6:30 pm Deeper Kids 6:30 pm GUEST</p>	<p>12 9:00am Senior Men's Prayer Mtg 11:00am Churchwide Prayer 6:00 pm Men's Group 6:30 pm GUEST ministry</p>	<p>13 6:30 pm GUEST ministry</p>	<p>14 9:00 am Men's Breakfast 6:30 pm GUEST ministry</p>
<p>15 9:00 am Sunday School 10:30 am Morning Worship 6:30 pm GUEST ministry</p>	<p>16 10:00 am WNU</p>	<p>17 6:55 pm Men's Bible Study Fellowship</p>	<p>18 10:00am Women's Bible Study 5:45 pm Choir 6:30 pm COR3 Youth 6:30 pm Deeper Kids Adults</p>	<p>19 9:00am Senior Men's Prayer 11:00am Churchwide Prayer 6:00 pm Church Board</p>	<p>20 11:00 am Young at Heart</p>	<p>21 9:00 am Women's Conference (@Essex High School)</p>
<p>22 9:00 am Sunday School 10:30am Morning Worship</p>	<p>23 6:55 pm Men's Bible Study Fellowship</p>	<p>24 10:00am Women's Bible Study 5:45 pm Choir 6:30 pm COR3 Youth 6:30 pm Deeper Kids Adults</p>	<p>25 9:00am Senior Men's Prayer 11:00am Churchwide Prayer 6:00 pm Men's Group</p>	<p>26 Daffodil Festival 9:00am Senior Men's Prayer 11:00am Churchwide Prayer 6:00 pm Men's Group</p>	<p>27 Daffodil Festival</p>	<p>28 Daffodil Festival</p>
<p>29 Palm Sunday/Kids' Sunday Daffodil Festival 9:00 am Sunday School 10:30am Morning Worship</p>	<p>30 Daffodil Festival</p>					



From the Pastors View: '30 Days of Listening'

Just look at the news and you will easily see that we live in both a time of rapid cultural change as well as great disagreement or disunity. I often will hear leaders give interviews and the one thing that many will say is that they are fighting either for themselves or for us (if they are a political leader). But I often think that if you are fighting for something or someone, at times you will need to fight AGAINST someone else. And I think we don't often contemplate how this 'fighting' or 'battle' terminology is affecting us personally as we live in this world.

I share this because I think with all of the disunity or cultural change that surrounds us, many do not realize how uncertain, divided or overwhelmed they are—whether that uncertainty is politically, socially or spiritually.

This is why I would like to take the next five Sundays before we land on Easter Resurrection Sunday and spend some time as a church in a very important series called '**30 Days of Listening**'.

In times and moments like these, I think that we have the temptation to react negatively in fear, or to retreat into survival, or simply to cling to our past. However, as we will hopefully see in these thirty days, Jesus is calling us to something much different. I think He is challenging each of us personally, as long as we still have breath, to faithfully live, to boldly love and to graciously unify around His Spirit-led mission!

The Lord put on my heart this outline of messages...that we would be:

March 1 - '**Listening to Our Hearts**'

March 8 - '**Listening to Scripture**'

March 15 - '**Listening to Our Neighbors**'

March 22 - '**Listening to the Holy Spirit**'

March 29 - '**Listening to Our Souls**'

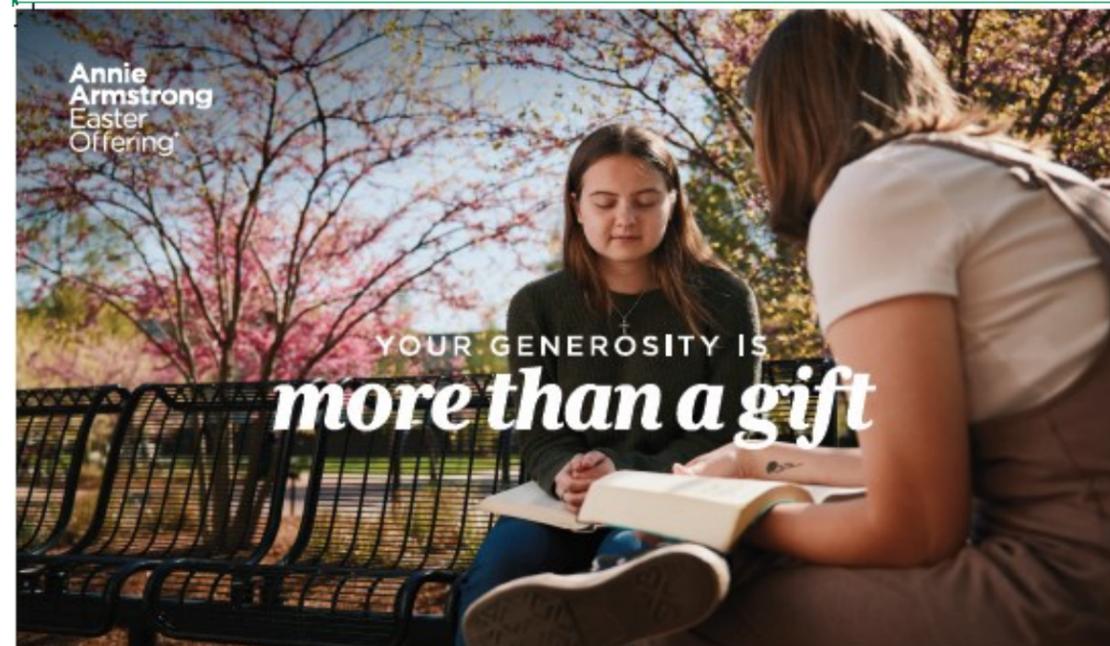
Practically then, this thirty days of listening approach begins Thursday March 5th, exactly one month/thirty days before Easter Resurrection Sunday. I want to challenge you to take a few extra minutes each day to do two things: (1) get quiet to be able to listen to the Holy Spirit in your life. (2) Begin your prayer time by asking God to clear your head of any distractions!

The fact is that our world is not just busy...it's noisy! And with the spring coming, the amount of activity in each of our lives will increase. So, how do we tune out the noise? When we faithfully listen to Jesus, we keep our foundation in Jesus! And we will better be able to navigate the cultural ups and downs, discern the needs of those closest to us and live out the hope (not fear) of Jesus in this ever-changing world!

Finally, in preparation for our thirty days of listening, I hope to send out some helpful 'listening' prompts (by NBC Connect) that will not just remind you to participate, but also guide you in your times of listening.

Spring is coming and God is good!
Pastor Chris Grella

NBC is looking to fill the custodian position. Twenty hours/week. For an application or more info see our website under Welcome/Our Team, then click on the link. Or contact the church office for more info: 804-693-2349, secretary@newingtonbc.org



WE WILL BE HEARING MORE ABOUT THIS SPECIAL ANNIE ARMSTRONG OFFERING ON MARCH 8. PLEASE USE THE SPECIAL OFFERING ENVELOPE AND MAKE ANY CHECKS OUT TO NEWINGTON BAPTIST WITH ANNIE ARMSTRONG IN THE MEMO LINE.



Please return bottles by March 8, 2026





When a student of *The Greatest Journey* in Panama fell ill, his teacher brought the discipleship lessons to him in the hospital. Today, he teaches others the same Bible course.



Laying in a hospital bed in Panama City, Panama, Maykel only had a few days to live—or so the doctors told his parents when they informed them he had Stage 3 leukemia. Their precious son, only 11 years old, had recently heard the Gospel of Jesus Christ when he received a gift-filled Operation Christmas Child shoebox back home in the west-central province of Veraguas. When Maykel got his shoebox gift brimming with toys and other fun items, he also opened his heart to the eternal gift of salvation. As the first in his family to follow Christ, Maykel’s strong faith influenced his mother who observed, “He is not afraid of dying and believes that God will heal him.”



Now 27, Maykel leads his own classes of The Greatest Journey program. Together with his family and local Operation Christmas Child leadership, he walks many hours through nearby communities, sharing the love of Jesus, distributing shoebox gifts, and inviting children to follow-up discipleship. He also continues to serve his local church by participating in the worship band.

Young at Heart senior ministry invites you for a covered dish lunch and fellowship, Friday, March 20th.



GUEST will be using the church gym March 9-15. We will need volunteers. Sign up and donate your time at [questshelter.org](https://app.betterimpact.com/Application?OrganizationGuid=08c547ac-1618-4c40-a6f1-4760742643a0&ApplicationFormNumber=1) or

<https://app.betterimpact.com/Application?OrganizationGuid=08c547ac-1618-4c40-a6f1-4760742643a0&ApplicationFormNumber=1>

MARCH MESSAGES *30 Days of Listening Series*

March 1	Listening to Our Hearts	John 18:1-27
March 8	Listening to Scripture	Psalm 119
March 15	Listening to Our Neighbors	
March 22	Listening to the Holy Spirit	Ezekiel 37
March 29	Listening to Our Souls/Palm Sunday	
April 5	Easter Sunday	

 **COR3 Youth** 

Youth Sunday went well! Thank you to our Youth, what an amazing service!

We have been in the book of Genesis over the past month.

Genesis 12:1-9 tells the story of Abram’s pivotal call: God instructs him to leave his homeland and promises to make him a great nation, to bless him, and to make his name great. Abram obeys without a detailed map—he moves toward an unknown land, builds altars at key stops, and responds to God with a life of pilgrimage and trust.

Key themes and takeaways

- **Bold call and radical obedience** — Abram’s story models what it looks like to accept a summons that disrupts comfort and familiarity.
- **Promise and identity** — God’s pledge (“I will...”) reframes Abram’s identity: from a man of Ur to the ancestor of a multitude, showing how destiny can be reshaped by divine purpose.
- **Journey as formation** — The physical journey is also spiritual formation. Each altar Abram builds marks a moment of remembrance, worship, and recommitment.
- **Blessing with a mission** — The promise includes blessing others: Abram is chosen not merely for personal favor but to be a channel of blessing to all families of the earth.
- **Faith in uncertainty** — Abram’s trust without full knowledge offers a timeless model for facing life’s unknowns with courage grounded in relationship with God.

Practical applications

- When facing big changes, focus first on the call’s direction rather than on having every detail.
- Mark milestones (like Abram’s altars) to remember and celebrate how faith has carried you.
- See privilege or opportunity as a responsibility to bless others.

Sunday March 1st we will attend Winter Jam! Looks like a great concert!

Blessings,

Brenda H. Armistead

(804) 694-7583



We are starting off March with Dr. Seuss week! The children will be doing Dr. Seuss related activities and bringing in our favorite Dr. Seuss books to share with the class. This month we will also be talking about the changing of the seasons and what to expect when Spring is finally here!

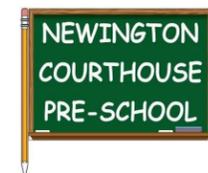
The kindergarten class is working on graphing. They are also working on blending letter sounds at the beginning and end of words, as well as writing sentences.

This month our four-year-olds will be working on sounding out words, sight words, and will continue working on their writing skills such as letter formation and pencil grip. They have been working so hard on learning about letter sounds and rhyming words and they are ready for harder things!

Our three-year-olds will keep practicing writing their names, a few of our friends are mastering that skill already! Their attention spans are getting longer, and they are enjoying listening to stories during calendar time. They will also be taking home a shamrock activity to decorate with their families and working on fun spring crafts.

We are still enrolling for our 2026-2027 school year! The three-year-old class is filling up quickly, but we still have space in all classes.

Stephanie Smith



NEWS AND UPDATES FOR FAMILIES



Egg Hunt and VBS Prep is Under Way!

Egg Hunt: Saturday, April 4th at 2 p.m.

Door prize registration begins at 1:40 p.m. in the gym. We can't wait to share the Good News of Jesus' resurrection with kids and their families!

Please keep the Egg Hunt in prayer—for the families who come, the kids we interact with, the volunteers who help, and for the weather!

We have already started collecting individually wrapped candy that can fit into plastic eggs. We filled over 5,500 eggs last year because of your generosity! Please place candy in the donation bin near the Welcome Center/Preschool area or in the bin outside the Choir Room. Thank you!

The sign-up sheet to volunteer at the egg hunt is up on the FYI board. We need many volunteers to help with check-in, hiding eggs, overseeing the hunt, running games and activities and more. Please consider signing up to volunteer! It's easy and super fun!

Heather will be ordering green Newington Kids shirts for those who want them. They are optional and cost \$14.

If you would like to order a green shirt, please sign up on the FYI Board by March 15 and see Heather to pay for the shirt.

Vacation Bible School: June 22-26 from 9 a.m. to noon:

Our VBS theme this year is **Rainforest Falls: Exploring the Nature of God**. The setting will be the Amazon rainforest. We are collecting these items as we begin our VBS preparations:

Stuffed animals, posters and more of animals such as: Sloths, lizards, snakes, butterflies, parrots and other tropical birds, jaguars/ocelots, anteaters, marmosets/howler monkeys/spider monkeys, frogs, etc. **Please note: This is the Amazon rainforest, not the jungle and not Africa. There are no tigers, elephants, lions, giraffes, baboons, lemurs, and such.*

Fake greenery/flowers: vines, large palm leaves, ferns, orchids & other tropical flowers

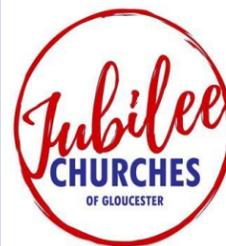
Brown packing paper that comes in most Amazon boxes (we'll turn this into vines)

You can bring your items into the classroom next to the elementary kids' classroom or you can put them in the choir room/music library.

Newington Children's Wing Renovation Update:

The Properties Team continues to work hard on renovating our new nursery and classroom for our Sonbeams Sunday School Class. They are down to the last few projects for that room renovation and then we'll begin decorating the hallways, adding a check-in desk, and more!

Thank you, Newington! ~ Heather King



From the Deacons...Jubilee Churches of Gloucester – February update:

In January, Jubilee Churches (of which Newington is a part of) provided support to **FOUR** homes in our community with \$2,230. All of those financial requests were eviction prevention and in Dominion power assistance.

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

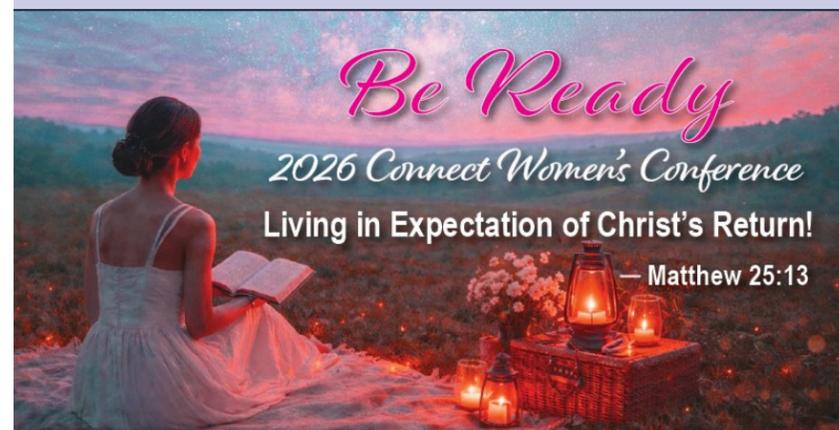
Thanks to the generosity of Jubilee Churches, we were able to assist a mother with four children in helping her to remain in her rental home and preventing eviction. After a recent separation from her husband, the household experienced a sudden loss of income, and past-due rent accumulated quickly. Through partnership with other local agencies, along with support from friends and family, we were able to help stabilize the situation and prevent the eviction. So, because of this collaborative effort, the family was able to remain in their home while the mother secured full-time employment and child support assistance resumed. This is a strong example of how our partnership and collaboration with Jubilee churches and GUEST can prevent homelessness, especially for households with young children.

A reminder too, Jubilee works w/ our GUEST ministry. We are hosting GUEST in our Newington gym for a second and final week, beginning next week...**Mon. March 9 – Sun. March 15.**

**Intercessors Needed! Come join us on Thursdays at 11:00 am in the media room.
For more info contact Vickie Pruden.**

God is calling for intercessors—men and women who will lay their lives on the altar to fight the devil, as readily as they would have to fight the enemy on the western front. 1 Thess 5:16-18

Prayer is beyond any question the highest activity of the human soul. Man is at his greatest and highest when upon his knees he comes face to face with God. Rees Howells



March 21, 9am-3pm, \$40

Essex High School, Tappahannock, VA

Contact Vickie Pruden or scan code for more info



 **WMUV NEWS** Ladies of NBC, You are all invited to the **MTBA/WMUV Spring Meeting on April 11 at 11:00 am at Newington. Our speaker is a missionary who served in Africa. Join us!**

We will be taking donations of packaged snacks for the Gloucester Sheriff Dept until March 15. Please leave them in the marked bin across from the Welcome Center.

