



## DECEMBER 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Morning Worship 11:45 am Choir	6:00pm Leadership Action Team	9:30 am Food Packing at Breed for Life	10:00 am Clothes Closet/ Christmas Shop 10:00am Women's Bible Study 5:45 pm Choir 6:30 pm Deeper Adults 6:30 pm Deeper Kids 6:30pm COR3 Youth	9:00am Senior Men's Prayer Mtg 11:00am Churchwide Prayer	10:00 am -6:00pm Salvation Army Bell-Ringing at Woburn	9:00 am Men's Fellowship Breakfast 2:00 March for Jesus meeting at Gio Library 6:00 pm Community Orchestra Christmas Concert

9:00am Lotte Moon Prayer Breakfast 10:30am Morning Worship Parade of Flags 11:45 am Choir 12:00 Membership Class 12:30pm GUEST training 4:30 pm Deacons/Wives Christmas Gathering at Ghella's	6:00pm Deacons Meeting	10:00am Women's Bible Study 5:45 pm Choir 6:30 pm Deeper Adults 6:30 pm Deeper Kids 6:30pm COR3 Youth	9:00am Senior Men's Prayer Mtg 11:00am Churchwide Prayer	10:00am Clothes Closet
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**Newington Baptist Membership CLASS**  
Dec 8, 12-2pm

**Contact**  
804-693-2349  
secretary@newingtonbc.org

**Upward Basketball for kids ages 6-12 is coming to Newington Baptist Church in Gloucester this winter!**

This faith-based basketball league combines sportsmanship, practices and games with devotionals and Scripture memory.

Practices are held on Tuesdays & Thursdays beginning Jan. 21st. (All games will be on Saturday mornings)  
-First Practice will be on Sat. Jan. 18, 2025  
-First Game will be on Sat. Feb. 1, 2025  
-Final Game will be on Sat. March 22, 2025

Skills evaluations will be held Saturday, January 11 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Visit the link below to register. Early bird pricing is available through December 15!  
<https://registration.upward.org/UPW87699>

**BEHOLD the King has come**

Newington Christmas Cantata  
Sunday, December 15th during the 10:30 a.m. service

Newington Baptist Church  
**Carols & Cookies**  
Sunday, December 15th at 6 p.m.

Children's performance in the sanctuary followed by cookies and family fun in the Fellowship Hall!

Newington Baptist Church  
newingtonbc.org  
6169 Main St., Gloucester



## From the Pastor's View...Christmas Reminders

**God is with you and me!** - This is the first and greatest truth of Christmas!

*And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. - John 1:14 (ESV)*

Remember that we do not work our way to God...Jesus came to this world for us!

This year, if you have had the thought that God just doesn't care, remember Christmas. God passionately pursued us in sending Jesus, and He continues to passionately pursue you the other 364 days of the year too. The fact is that we worship a present loving God, who makes His home with us every moment of every day: Immanuel, God with us!

**God is always at work in our lives!**

*Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil. - 1 John 3:8 (ESV)*

In the Garden of Eden, just after the Fall, God made a promise. He told the serpent that eventually one would come to crush the serpent's head...the first reference to Jesus's coming to redeem us.

Christmas reminds us that even in this sinful world, God is always at work bringing light to the darkness.

**God has good news of great joy for all!**

*The angel announced to the shepherds "good news of great joy that will be for all people." - Luke 2:10 (ESV)*

Good news. Great joy. For all people. This is the most incredible proclamation of all time! Jesus is not just good news, good teaching or just good advice.

No, something incredible happened! God came to a visible place and a visible world in the person of Jesus. And He did all this to die for our sins and rise from the dead. This is what makes the free gift of salvation even possible, which is the best news ever!

*"The angel said to them, 'Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord'" - Luke 2:10-11 (ESV)*

Pastor Chris

Finally, a few key events in December:

Mon. Dec. 2 – 'Reading through the Gospels' begins

Sun. Dec. 8 @ 9 am – Lottie Moon Christmas prayer breakfast

Sun. Dec. 8 @ 10:30 am – Christmas message series begins & our Parade of Flags

Sun. Dec. 15 @ 10:30 am – Christmas Choir Cantata 'Behold'

Sun. Dec. 15 @ 6 pm – Carols and Cookies, Children's Christmas program

Tue. Dec. 24 @ 6 pm – Christmas Eve Candlelight service – 'The Gift of Jesus'

Dec. 30-Jan. 6 – Hosting of the GUEST ministry

## WHAT IS THE LOTTIE MOON

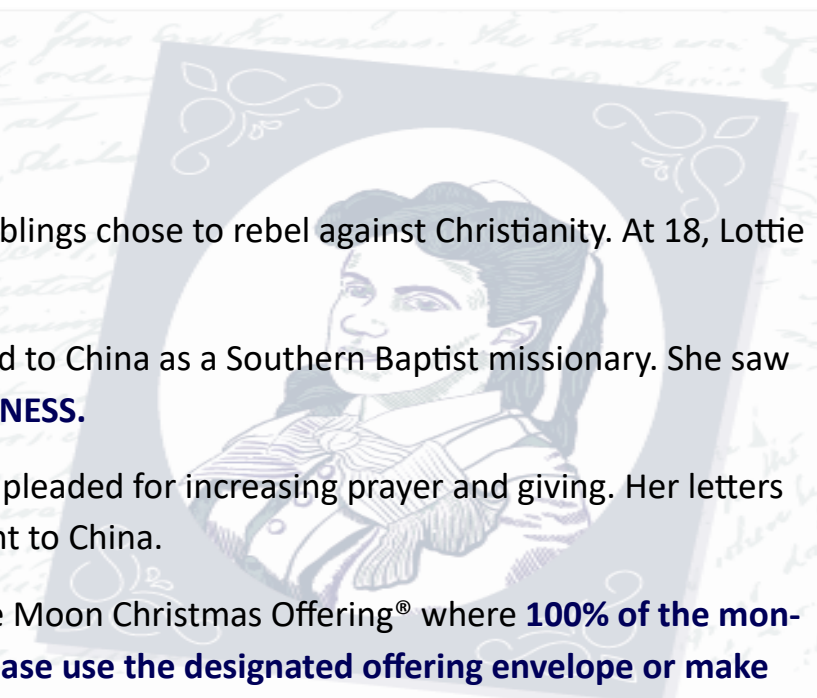
### CHRISTMAS OFFERING?

Growing up in Virginia, Lottie Moon and her siblings chose to rebel against Christianity. At 18, Lottie followed Christ

and was baptized. When she was 33, she sailed to China as a Southern Baptist missionary. She saw firsthand the world's greatest problem – **LOSTNESS.**

In letters to Southern Baptists in America, she pleaded for increasing prayer and giving. Her letters raised more support for missionaries to be sent to China.

Every year, Southern Baptists collect the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering® where **100% of the money given sends and support missionaries. Please use the designated offering envelope or make checks out to Newington with Lottie Moon in the memo line.**



Serving at last year's GUEST ministry.



G.U.E.S.T. MINISTRY IN GLOUCESTER

Newington will be a host site for the GUEST ministry to the homeless in Gloucester the week of **DEC 30-JAN 6**. They will be using our gym. Guest ministry training is at 12:30pm on Dec 8 in the Fellowship Hall or Dec 15 at 2pm at Abington Episcopal. If you are interested in providing a meal that week, sign-ups will be on the FYI bulletin board or click the link on the Newington website. For questions or more info, contact Mike Horrell at 804-815-7972 or [stonewall12@verizon.net](mailto:stonewall12@verizon.net).

## Christmas Angels

Again this year, we are planning to bless children with Christmas gifts for our jail ministry. Children have given us a list of things they would like for Christmas. We plan to have our Angel Tree set up by **Dec 1**. When you choose an angel from the tree, please write your name beside your angel's name on the list beside the tree. This will help us track the angels to make sure no gift is forgotten. Your contribution is greatly appreciated by our church, but especially by the Sheriff's Dept who organizes this project each year for the children whose parents are incarcerated during the Christmas holiday. Thank you for your kind hearts and Merry Christmas to you and your family!

Patricia Hogge



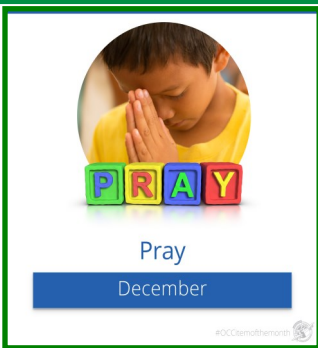
The Angel tree tags for the children of the Gloucester Jail inmates are now available on the tree across from the welcome center Please return your angel with the gifts no later than **Sunday, December 15th.**





**Thank you for your generous support  
of Operation Christmas Child!**

**Thank you to all the volunteers who helped pack and load boxes for pickup. This year during Newington's packing party, 320 boxes were packed to send to children around the world! In addition, area churches and individuals brought shoeboxes to bring the total to 2700 boxes. These were packed in 182 cartons and began their journey to the processing center in NC. From there the boxes will be distributed to pastors around the world hosting outreach events in places where people may not know Christ and invite them to follow Him. Included in each box is a gospel story booklet, The Greatest Gift and an invitation to participate in the Greatest Journey discipleship program.**



I love to see new faces attend our Youth Group. We have had several new ones and always welcome more!

On Saturday, Nov. 16<sup>th</sup> we held our first 2025 Fundraiser. Chili and Soup Cook-Off. What a fun time! We raised \$1252. Congrats to Abby Morgan, Best Soup and Ron Michaud, Best Chili winner. Everything was delicious! Thank you Newington for your support.

Wednesday, Nov. 20<sup>th</sup>, we held our Friendsgiving! We also decorated the Youth Room for Christmas. What a fun night!

Save the date....Feb. 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025 we will have our second Fundraiser. Valentine Dinner and Newlywed or Married Couples game. I'm still looking for some contestants.

A special thanks to all who provide food, drinks, snacks and money to purchase food. We appreciate your generosity and know we can always count on being fed well. A sign-up sheet is posted on the board if you would like to provide a meal for Wednesday night Youth.

On behalf of COR3 Youth, thank you Newington Baptist for all you do to support our Youth.

Blessings always,

Brenda H. Armistead, Youth Director

(804) 694-7583 [Nbccor3youth@gmail.com](mailto:Nbccor3youth@gmail.com)

**GREETERS!! If anyone would like to be a greeter on Sunday mornings, please contact Billy Hogge at 757-814-0472**



**LOTTIE MOON POST OFFICE**

**DEC 1-JAN 1**

The Lottie Moon Post Office will be open Dec. 1- Jan 1 for Christmas cards to Newington members. Postage is a donation to the Lottie Moon/ International Mission Board Offering. Write checks to Newington/memo Lottie Moon/IMB. This is a nice way to say Merry Christmas to your church family!

**Choir News:**  
*Our Sanctuary Choir will be on break following our Cantata on Sunday 12/15. We plan to restart rehearsals on Wednesday, January 8<sup>th</sup> at 5:45 in the choir room. We hope to see you there!!*

**December Message Titles**

Dec 1	There's NO Place Like Home	Mark 6:1-13
Dec 8	The Magnificence of Christmas	John 3:16
Dec 15	Christmas Cantata: Behold	
Dec 22	The Hope of Humanity	
Dec 24	The Gift of Jesus	
Dec 29	The Vision of an Architect	Habbakuk 2:1-4

**Mission: We, at Newington exist...  
To spread the Good News of Jesus to people of all ages (both locally and globally) and to help them grow in relationship with Him.**



Newington Kids:

Thanks to everyone who has prayed for, volunteered for, and supplied donations for our children’s ministry in 2024. Thanks to our amazing teachers and nursery workers, to those who help with snacks and set-up and more. You are part of something life-changing and significant—helping kids learn about Jesus and grow in their faith. We are so thankful that Newington values children as part of the church here-and-now, not just in the “future!”

To recap:

- It takes 35 volunteers to run our regular Sunday and Wednesday children’s programs (Sunday School, KidzWorship, Deeper Kids, Nursery).
- It takes approximately 40 volunteers to run any special event program (Egg Hunt, VBS, Fall event, etc.)
- All in all, approximately 70 distinct volunteers helped with children’s ministry at Newington this year. That’s amazing!
- We had around 120 kids at VBS and over 200 at both the egg hunt and candy caravan!
- We are bringing back our children’s Christmas program this year after taking a break since covid!
- We had a great year of “Kids’ Sundays” on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday weeks with children serving by greeting, taking up the offering, helping with announcements, and more.
- Our Wednesday night and Sunday morning programs have grown both in number and also spiritual benchmarks. Ms. Heather keeps a running prayer list for kids who consider Newington their “church home” whether they attend once a month or every week and, over time, that list has grown to 36 kids.

This past year, we’ve seen children pray to receive Jesus as their Savior and get baptized. Our Deeper Kids group is studying the Gospels this year after spending last year on The Sermon on the Mount. Their memory focus is on John 3:16, The Lord’s Prayer, the New Testament Books, and The Apostle’s Creed. Our KidzWorship lessons this year have taken us “Through the Bible.” We’ll begin a new year-long series in January on “The Heart of God,” which will focus on different attributes of God’s character throughout Scripture. The J.O.Y. Sunday School class (grades 2-5) finished a study on Mark recently and is now learning about the Tabernacle, and The Sonbeams class (ages 4 through 1<sup>st</sup> grade) continues to learn each week about the Bible and how Jesus loves them!

We can’t wait to partner together in 2025 to continue loving kids and teaching them about Jesus! ~Heather King~

### Carols and Cookies Info Sunday, 12/15 Program at 6 p.m. in the sanctuary

Parents, please drop off kids who are participating in the program at 4:30. We will hold our only practice on the stage at that time! We will feed them pizza for dinner, get them into costumes, and begin the program at 6 p.m. After they change out of their costumes, they will join their families downstairs in the fellowship hall for cookies and Christmas activities.

## NEWS AND UPDATES FOR FAMILIES

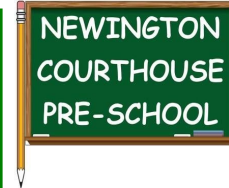


**Bell-Ringing 2024** \* As part of Newington’s outreach to our community, we are supporting the Salvation Army by helping with its bell-ringing. This year Newington will have one day of bell-ringing: Friday Dec 6th at both doors of Walmart (pharmacy entrance and produce entrance). The day has 4 two-hour shifts at each location, starting at 10:00 am and finishing by 6:00 pm. We still need only a few people to cover the Friday Dec 6, 4-6pm shift. Ring by yourself, bring family members or a friend; make it fun! Chairs or a stool are allowed. Look for the sign-up sheet on the FYI board or contact Buddy King with any questions: 804-694-5554.



**The March for Jesus is on Saturday, Dec 7 and will be part of**

**the Christmas parade on Main St. Those interested in participating should meet at 2:00pm in the Gloucester Library parking lot. For more info or to register go to [www.GoodNewsGloucester.com](http://www.GoodNewsGloucester.com). or talk with Bob Boudreaux.**



**It's the most wonderful time of the year! We have been practicing our Christmas songs and learning about the birth of Jesus!**

**The four year olds have been practicing counting to 20, recognizing AB patterns and working on their cutting skills.**

**Our three's class has been working on tracing their names, matching shapes and learning to zip their coats by themselves.**

**Our Christmas program will be Dec. 5 at 6:00, you are welcome to join us and hear our pre-schoolers sing about the meaning of Christmas.**

**Stephanie Smith**

**CLOTHES Closet**

**DEC 4, CHRISTMAS SHOP OPEN 10AM-12PM**

Clothes Closet Entrance around front of building to the left  
For more info call 804-693-2349

**Lottie Moon Annual International Prayer Breakfast: December 8, 2024**  
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.

Newington Baptist Church  
**Carols & Cookies**  
Sunday, December 15th at 6 p.m.

Children's performance in the sanctuary followed by cookies and family fun in the Fellowship Hall!

Newington Baptist Church  
newingtonbc.org  
6169 Main St., Gloucester





# DECEMBER 2024

Phone: 804-693-2349  
E-mail: nbc@newingtonbc.org

Newington Baptist Church  
A place to find NEW life in Christ ...

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Morning Worship 11:45 am Choir	2 6:00pm Leadership Action Team	3 9:30 am Food Packing at Bread for Life	4 10:00 am Clothes Closet/ Christmas Shop 10:00am Women's Bible Study 5:45 pm Choir 6:30 pm Deeper Adults 6:30 pm Deeper Kids 6:30pm COR3 Youth	5 9:00am Senior Men's Prayer Mtg 11:00am Churchwide Prayer 6:00 pm Newington Courthouse Preschool Christmas Program	6 10:00 am -6:00pm Salvation Army Bell-Ringing at Walmart	7 9:00 am Men's Fellowship Breakfast 2:00 March for Jesus meeting at Glo Library 6:00 pm Community Orchestra Christmas Concert
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For the calendar for when outside groups use the church facility, please contact the church office.