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

Newington Baptist Church

Volume 10, Issue 5
May 2025

COMING IN MAY:

**MAY 1: NATIONAL DAY OF
PRAYER GATHERING, 6:30 PM**

MAY 7 & 17: CLOTHES CLOSET

MAY 9: PRESCHOOL MOTHER'S TEA

MAY 10: MEMBERSHIP CLASS

MAY 11: SOCK IT TO ME SUNDAY

MAY 13: VBS PREP PARTY

MAY 16: YOUNG AT HEART

MAY 22: MEN'S GROUP, 6PM

"Listen, O heavens, and I will speak; hear, O earth, the words of my mouth. Let my teaching fall like rain and my words descend like dew, like showers on new grass, like abundant rain on tender plants." Deuteronomy 32:1-2

May 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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From the Pastors View: 'Kentucky Bluegrass'

Recently, I tried to plant some new grass seeds in our front yard at home. (Many thanks to Gerald German who came over to help till and prepare the ground for us!) And after about a month, we have seen some varying success on those seeds growing.

Now in the other areas of our front yard that we did not till, rake and plant seed, I am told that those areas contain a type of grass called Kentucky bluegrass. So, I decided to consult 'Professor Google' to find out that Kentucky bluegrass is more of a cold season grass seed. Which begs the question, why did the builders of our home plant this in Gloucester, Va back in 2007?!

But, just hearing the name Kentucky Bluegrass does remind me of some of the beautiful areas that I was able to see just a few weeks ago in Eastern Kentucky (just about an hour north of Rocky Top, Knoxville Tennessee). Several of us from Newington were able to minister into the schools in McCreary County during Holy week, the days leading up to Easter. I know some of you heard our testimony and saw the pictures from the trip this past Sunday. But again, the trip was nothing short of phenomenal! It was amazing to see how God moved in the hearts of not only the children, but also us as team members from all over the Mid-Tidewater region of Virginia.

Now before I share a story that impacted me, I was overwhelmed to briefly get to know many Pre-K through eighth graders...and all in the span of about 80 hours. By God's grace, I was able to share and pray with 143 kids in 18 small groups.

Two brief examples from these ministry opportunities: first, I was able to share my testimony and challenge seventeen seventh grade boys in a "small" group, with the Gospel and at the same time, challenging them to act like young men in how they respected the young ladies in their classes. Then, a few minutes later, I felt God leading me to share that same testimony and challenge to over one hundred eighth graders!

But the most impactful moment for me came from a second-grade boy that I was able to get to know on Tuesday, our first day. It really set the tone for me, for the rest of the week in Kentucky. This boys name is James, and he has the coolest Kentucky hills accent.

As I got to know James, and five of his friends in this small group, he shared that his dad was in prison and his mom did not want to spend any time with him. I was floored. I was shocked. And it broke my heart. I grieved for James, this young seven-year-old boy who still has the majority of his life in front of him. But when I asked James (and the others) how I could pray for him,

Save the Date! Fifth Sunday Covered Dish Lunch June 29th

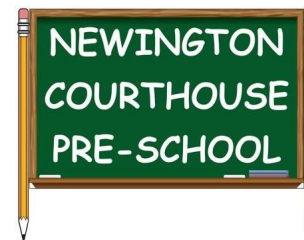
Join us after the service for a covered dish/potluck lunch. Bring a dish to share. The church will provide beverages as well as fried chicken.

July 20th, Picnic and Baptism at the home of Bobbi Morgan. For those who would like more info about baptism, please contact Pastor Chris.



Ladies Year in the Gospels Discussion Group

Tuesdays @ 8:00 am in office conference room. Contact the church office for more info. * This is not a typical Bible study, but a discussion about what God is teaching us as we go through the *Year in The Gospels* daily devotions on our own.



It's the end of the preschool year! In May we will be celebrating mother's Day with a mother's day tea and we will be celebrating the end of the year with our field day and picnic. We look forward to spending these special days with our preschool families, celebrating how much our preschoolers have learned and grown.

Our three year olds have gained social skills as well as academic skills. They have learned to share and walk in a line, as well as writing their names and using scissors. We are so proud of all their hard work and look forward to welcoming all of them back next year!

The fours class is ready for kindergarten! They can sound out words, count to 100 and name rhyming words. They have also learned to work together as a team to build puzzles and do simple math. We wish them well in kindergarten.

We are still enrolling for the three's class for September, call for more information (804-654-9949). We will also be enrolling for a kindergarten class! This is exciting news for the preschool and we ask everyone for joining us in prayer as we open up this new class.

Stephanie Smith

Our Mother's Tea is May 9 at 11:00 am!



Hygiene Items

May

A NEW GENERATION IS COMING TO FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST THROUGH OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD AND ITS FOLLOW-UP PROGRAM, THE GREATEST JOURNEY.



Light, sky, land, and water appeared out of nothing. Next came vegetation, animals, and mankind. God called forth all these things simply by speaking, "Let there be..." (Genesis 1). While the story of creation may sound

familiar, it is an entirely new concept for many boys and girls in Mongolia. At Living Stone Church in Nalaikh, just an hour's drive outside of the capital of Ulaanbaatar, children are hearing this amazing Bible story and many others through The Greatest Journey, Samaritan's Purse discipleship program for Operation Christmas Child shoebox recipients. Each of the 12 lessons proclaims Good News that confronts commonly held secular and animistic worldviews in Mongolia. "The first lesson is always exciting for me to teach, because it is a very different idea that the world was created by God," said Buyankhishig, a church leader.



Young at Heart will meet on May 16th at 11:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. Join us for a covered dish lunch and fellowship!

'Sock it to Me' Sunday May 11
Newington donates men's black socks to benefit the Mattaponi Reservation Healing Eagle Clinic. Drop off any donations across from the Welcome center. "



May Messages

May 4 YOUTH SUNDAY

May 11 A Mother's Love

Matthew 20: 20-23

May 18 God Bless Us

Psalms 67

May 25 Guest Speaker

he simply said that he hoped that more people would come to know Jesus as he recently had! Wow, what a perspective!

That moment and that story of James will be a special marker for the year 2025 in my life. Yes, James and the many other children I was able to meet were very special. They are created in the image of God. And this is why we went. We wanted them to know and trust in Jesus as we each have. So, it was awesome to see the Holy Spirit move among many of these kids, as well as our team, that took the step of faith to go over the span of these five days.

However, James was also convicting to me! Here is a young boy, who loves Jesus greatly. He knew that his life was not altogether great. However, James truly had an eternal perspective in regard to this world, his friends, and even his parents who did not care as much to spend time with him.

May we all live this month and year with the heart and eyes of a child!! What greater privilege than to know and trust in Jesus!

In Christ,
Pastor Chris Grella



As I write this I cannot believe it's May! Fuge Camp is approaching quickly. Thank you to everyone who helped in making our 2nd Peanut Butter Egg Fundraiser a success. We raised \$1138 so far.

Our wonderful Youth will be leading our service on May 4th. Catherine King and Walker Stippel will be bringing the message. We are looking forward to this special day and hope you will make plans to join us.

Proverbs 22:6 "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it."

Blessings,

Brenda H. Armistead COR3 Youth Director
(804)694-7583

NEWS AND UPDATES FOR FAMILIES



Our VBS preparations are going strong!

True North VBS
June 16-20
9 a.m. to noon
for ages 4 through entering 6th grade

Here's how you can help:

- * **Be in prayer for our volunteers, the kids who come, and their families!**
- * **Help out at our VBS Prep Party on Tuesday, May 13 at 6 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall!** We'll be cutting nametags, making signs, and creating things like flowers, rocks, falling snow, snowshoes and more! *Please note that children might be able to help with some of these projects, but they need to be supervised by an adult at all times.*
- * **Donate items for our VBS snack.** We'll be placing a donation list on the FYI board in late May. If you can help bring in any of the items, we'd appreciate it! You can mark them for VBS and leave them in the kitchen the week before we begin.
- * **Tell your family, friends and neighbors about VBS and be sure to register early!** You can register at this link: <https://vbspro.events/p/events/newingtonvbs2025>
- * **Volunteer the week of VBS. We REALLY need crew leaders and substitutes!** You can sign up on the FYI board to help or register as a volunteer at the same link:
<https://vbspro.events/p/events/newingtonvbs2025>
Volunteers can wear their Newington Kids shirts from the past or Newington church shirts if they like. If you want a Newington Kids shirt (they are optional!), please be sure to include that on the sign-up sheet and tell me what size and color (red or blue) that you want! I don't order extra so please let me know by May 25. They are \$14 and money is due when you receive the shirt.

~Heather King~
757-592-7632, heatherking@cox.net



New Deeper Adults Series and Dinner! Starting June 25-July 23

Join us for a 5 week study using the material by Dann Spader called 4 Chair Discipling. Come for a meal at 5:45 pm. Group discussion/study will begin at 6:30 pm.

This is a great opportunity to invite friends. Video study with Pastor Chris facilitating discussion.



Take your NEXT STEP into deeper Bible study and discipleship...

Is your NEXT STEP at Newington to find out about becoming a member? Join us for our next Membership Class, May 10 at 10 am.

NEXT



Is your NEXT STEP to be more involved in the prayer ministry at Newington? Come join us for the prayer meeting on Thursdays at 11:00 am

Is your NEXT STEP to serve through hospitality?

Meal Ministry—When someone in our NBC family is going through a challenging time, we can show our love and support by providing meals for them. If anyone in our church family is having major surgery, welcoming a new baby, experiencing an illness or truly difficult time, let's ensure they will be well fed. The Meal Train® website will be used to facilitate this. If any church member finds themselves in a tough situation and needs meals, please call Judy Ward at 804-693-4494 to initiate the process.



Hebrews 13:16: "And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased."

God bless you all! Judy





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