

# First Christian *focus*

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER  
FEBRUARY 2023  
[WWW.FIRSTCHRISTIANHAMPTON.ORG](http://WWW.FIRSTCHRISTIANHAMPTON.ORG)

## LIVING A LIFE FILLED WITH THANKFULNESS

### Paying it forward one mustard seed at a time

The Kingdom of God is like a mustard seed. We may be a small congregation, but we do great things. In early November our "A Night's Welcome" (a ministry of HELP) guests moved in. We housed a total of 229 different homeless men, women, and children as guests in our church. Which calculated to 2645 – night stays. January 15th concluded our housing agreement with HELP. The time with our guests was very meaningful as we were privileged to have them join our worship services. Their presence in our building has been missed. Presently, we are in conversation with HELP to possibly extend a second welcome to our guests and we are looking forward to the possibility of having them return mid-February.





# A year in reflection:

## Serving our community

### A congregation coming together



School Supplies (July – August)  
Over \$1000 worth of school supplies was given to Tarrant Middle School helping numerous students be prepared to learn

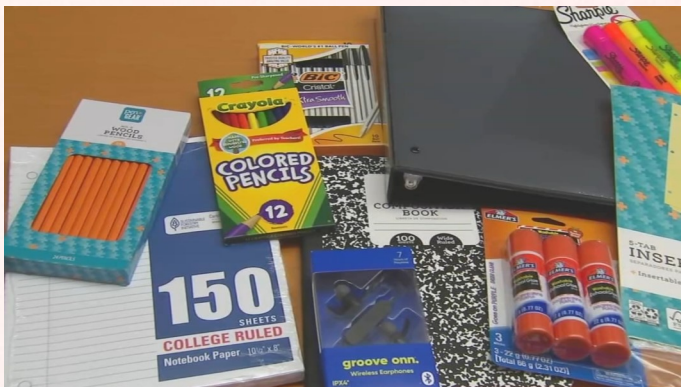
Crop Walk (September-October)  
\$1069 was given to Crop Walk along with Shoes for THRIVE and canned goods for the Food Bank

Samaritan's Purse (October - November) 41 filled boxes and \$410 donated to help spread Christianity and help children of the world have a wonderful Christmas.



Warming Tree (November-December) 5 huge bags for Four Oaks, including 19 warm coats, 30 pairs of socks, 10 stocking hats, 21 pairs of gloves/mittens, 7 scarves, 10 white T-shirts, 2 pairs of sweatpants, 2 sets of long johns, 4 sweaters, 1 flannel shirt, and 1 sweatshirt which equals 110 items to make winter more bearable for many!

New Lawnmower (October - November) When the 20 year-lawnmower burst into flames your generosity bought a new one!



THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!



# Bringing comfort where it is needed

We are looking to expand this project to include serving more facilities and adding patients who are going through dialysis treatments. To do that we will need more volunteers to make bags, fill bags, make prayer boxes, and deliver them to the different facilities, but before we can serve more facilities, we will need donations to help increase the number of bags we can make. Don't have time to shop, we will do the shopping with the help of your monetary donations. We are excited about spreading this amazing service throughout our community and beyond and we hope you will all join us in making this happen



## Operation Comfort Bags

The Salty Christians Sunday School Class is working on a project to aid patients undergoing chemotherapy and dialysis.

### Donations Requested:

Small Puzzle books & note pads  
Pen & Erasers  
Tissue packets  
Hand Lotion  
Hand Sanitizer & wipes  
ChapStick  
Emery board  
Candy & Gum  
Monetary donations

### \* Volunteers Needed For:

Sewing bags  
Making prayer boxes  
Filling & distributing bags



Sponsored by: The Salty Christians Sunday Class  
Crafter and distributed every other month  
Want more information?

Contact First Christian Church, 1458 Todd's Ln, Hampton, VA 23666

EMAIL: OFFICE@FIRSTCHRISTIANHAMPTON.ORG  
PHONE: 757-826-0711



Worship & Wonder

## WORSHIP & WONDER Training



### DATE:

MARCH 17 6:00-9:00  
MARCH 18 9:00-4:00

### COST:

\$140 PER PERSON

### TRAINER:

ELAINE AUSTIN

### LOCATION:

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
1458 TODDS LANE  
HAMPTON, VA 23666

### FOR MORE INFO

INFO@WORSHIPWONDER.ORG



### REGISTER ONLINE:

[HTTPS://WORSHIPANDWONDER.REGFOX.COM/WW-TRAINING-HAMPTON-VA](https://worshipandwonder.regfox.com/ww-training-hampton-va)

### DEADLINE:

MARCH 10TH

## For our children:

### Teaching them about God and making it fun

As our territory increases, we must include our future: our children. Worship & Wonder uses a multi-sensory approach of storytelling as a primary means for encountering God, so God is experienced, not just learned about. This approach enables all generations, together, to bring their lived experiences into dialogue with God in the biblical stories and to share these experiences with others. If you are interested in being a part of inspiring our children and have fun doing it, let us know:

See Pastor Debbie Ott or send us an email @  
Office@firstchristianhampton.org

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



1. In your opinion how should church effectiveness be measured?
  - a. How many disciples are being made.
  - b. How many pastoral visits are being made.
  
2. When deciding how to move forward with some type of change
  - a. If the change helps us reach someone on the outside, we need to take the risk and move forward.
  - b. If it is upsetting to any members, we shouldn't do it.
  
3. Again, when thinking of change. Is your main concern.
  - a. Will this increase our ability to reach those outside the church?
  - b. How will it affect me?
  
4. When it comes to vision for ministry. Is your main concern?
  - a. Moving towards being faithful to our future.
  - b. Staying faithful to the past.
  
5. When a newcomer visits, should.
  - a. The congregation members take the visitor to meet the pastor.
  - b. The pastor should introduce him/herself.
  
6. When confronted with a legitimate pastoral concern, should the pastor?
  - a. Ask how can this need be met?
  - b. Ask how can I meet this need?
  
7. When it comes to conflict.
  - a. Be accepted as it is the price of progress.
  - b. It should be avoided at all costs.
  
8. The leadership style of the church should be.
  - a. Primarily transformational, casting vision.
  - b. Primarily managerial.
  
9. As a member of the congregation your biggest concern is
  - a. Culture and understanding how secular people think and what makes them tick, determining their needs.
  - b. Its organization, structure, constitution, and committees.
  
10. When thinking about the growth of the church, what is important?
  - a. How many unchurched people live within a 20-minute drive of the church.
  - b. How many church members live within a 20-minute drive of the church.
  
11. When looking at the community, do you ask?
  - a. How can we the church support these people?
  - b. How can we get these people to support our congregation?
  
12. When thinking about the church, do you spend more time thinking about how to
  - a. Save the congregation.
  - b. Reach the world.



## Pastor's Pen

### FOOD FOR THOUGHT

### When it comes to church are you, "Maintenance" or "Mission" minded?

As your Pastor, I believe it is important to for us as a church to understand and acknowledge whether we are more interested in maintaining church as we know it or more interested in our mission. Here is a little quiz to find out if you are maintenance minded or mission minded when it comes to church.



# UPCOMING EVENTS

## “SPREADING OUR MUSTARD SEEDS”

- Feb 8 Executive Board Meeting @ 5:30PM (Parlor)
- Feb 14 North Hampton Community Connection Meeting @ 3:00PM (loc TBD)
- Feb 15 General Board Meeting @ 5:30PM (loc TBD)
- Feb 18 Elders & Deacons training session 9:30AM-12:00PM (Parlor)
- Feb 22 Ash Wednesday Service @ 6:00PM (Sanctuary)
- Feb 23 Local CMF Meeting @ 6:30PM (Parlor)
- Feb 25 Tidewater Basketry Guild 8:30AM-4:30PM (Fellowship Hall)
- Mar 2 CWF Meeting @ 10:30AM (Parlor)
- Mar 12 Pancake Luncheon for Special Camp (men’s Ministry) after Sunday worship
- March 17&18—Worship and Wonder Training (more to follow)
- Apr 1 All Church Workday and Breakfast (more to follow)
- Apr 11 Red Cross Blood Drive 9:00AM-2:00PM (fellowship Hall)
- Apr 29 North Hampton Community Event (more to follow)

### BIRTHDAYS

Feb 10  
Robert Wright

Feb 12  
Raney Ashburn

Feb 21  
Marilyn Avis

### ANNIVERSARIES

Feb 5  
George and Jacque White

Feb 24  
Dick and Julie Compton-Haight

