



A View From The Bridge

February 2021

2020 CHRISTMAS MINISTRY UPDATE

Families from Tidewater Park Elementary celebrated a very Merry Christmas because of your generosity!

Together, we raised \$2,950 for a total of 118 \$25 gift cards. These are some of the families who received gifts cards.



Their pictures are used with their permission.



Mission Impact '20 Norfolk Area Offering Update

Goal: \$10,500

Received:
\$3,555.00

Thank you to all
who gave to the
MI'20 Offering !

BABY BOUTIQUE

Love is in the air! Baby Boutique would LOVE to help those in need of baby clothes and items. We will be available the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month by appointment only. If you know of anyone in your church or neighborhood requiring assistance, the Baby Boutique application is online at www.thebridgenetwork.org.

We also gladly accept donations. Our current needs are disposable diapers size preemie -4, wipes, new and unopened toiletries such as no tear shampoo, baby wash, lotion, swabs, petroleum jelly, etc. and new or gently used boys clothing 6-18 months for all seasons. If you care to donate, please contact The Bridge Network at (757)938-9793.

Thank you all for your support!

- Bonnie Cuthriell, Director





STAFF AND SPOUSE BIRTHDAYS

4 Yvonne Wells	Rivercrest
7 Pam Robertson	Red Bank
8 Margaret McLewin	Ingleside
9 Jeff Riggs	Awaken
11 Jenny Layne	Parksley
12 Tricia Gillespie	Bethel
13 Andrew Matthews	Zion
13 Amy Tucker	Cataylst
15 Bert Kirk	Indian River
16 Brent Hobbs	New Song
17 Jean Reilly	Southside
22 Elizabeth Brinson	London Bridge
23 Nak Hyun Cho	Tidewater Korean
24 Johnny Houston	Point Harbor

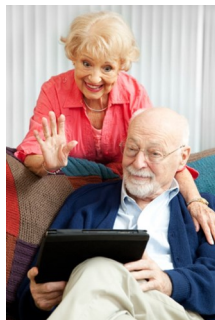


Grandparenting

Grandparents have an important spiritual role to play in their grandchildren's lives.

Great Bridge Baptist Church invites all grandparents, whether the children are little or older, to visit Legacycoalition.com. Legacy Coalition is led by Christian grandparents who understand the joys and struggles that come with intentional Christian grandparenting. Their staff of veteran ministry leaders are deeply devoted to helping you pass on your faith so multiple generations of your family follow Christ. On their website you will find resources to help in all areas such as: Long distance grandparenting, How to have meaningful conversations, How to pray for your grandchildren and much more.

They also offer a weekly webinar on Monday nights at 7pm. **February 1:** it will be "Understanding the H.E.A.R.T. of Grandparenting.". Presenter: Ken Canfield. **February 8:** It will be "Faith in an Anxious World, What grandparents Need to Know about the Mental Health of Young People". Presenter: Kara Powell.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH IDEAS/EVENTS



Kings Grant is providing a two-week Valentine themed devotional kit to help families learn what true love looks like according to scripture. The two weeks culminate with a family date night!

Adventure Church, in partnership with Mercy Drops Dream Center have started **Adopt-a-Block**. They have chosen one street and are intentionally reaching out to the individuals and families on the street through block parties, food distribution, Santa visits with gifts for children, etc. They will survey the community to determine what needs they have, how the church can help, and what changes the neighbors would like to see take place.



The Journey Church is collecting winter wear for a drive called "**Coats for Families**." Items will be distributed to men, women, and children throughout Hampton Roads. This includes jackets, hats, gloves, scarves, etc.

London Bridge is working with a local elementary school to record volunteers reading books. The librarian then merges the voiceover with the pages of the book; so, students that are struggling to read can see the words and hear the reader's voice.

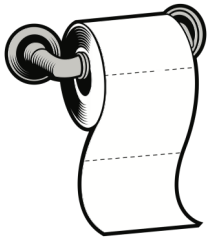


Point Harbor is hosting the **Coupled** series with recognized speakers covering hot topics to set people up for a God-centered year. The series includes: Mark Gungor with the Couples' Comedy Event, the Thrive Parenting Seminar, Ken Coleman from Dave Ramsey, and Vernon Hines for a Date Night with the Laugh Therapist.

We love
because He first loved us!
1 John 4:19



WHAT TOILET PAPER TELLS US ABOUT THE FUTURE (PART 1)



How did you feel last year when toilet paper became almost impossible to find? Some people expressed their anger on Facebook, targeting hoarders who must have been stocking full cases of the precious paper. Stores posted signs at the entrances to

indicate whether they had any in stock. Remember how excited you were to find what, on every day prior to the crisis, was on a full aisle that you mundanely pushed your cart down because you were “getting low” in your home supply? If you were like us, we pulled out our phones and called one another, strategized how to go down separate check out lines so we could acquire more than one package, and made special space for extra packs in closets so we would have plenty during “the great toilet paper drought of 2020.”

Social psychologists have a name for what we all experienced: **the principle of scarcity**; and, if we can see it coming, we can plan ways to leverage it for the gospel. Simply put, it means we all put a higher value on things that are perceived as rare while devaluing things that are seen as common or abundant. i Scarcity pushes us to buy an item, to hunt for it. “Black Friday” items last only one day, on a first-come basis, with a limited supply, so people plan their shopping trips strategically, wait in lines outside of stores and even fight to get what is rapidly disappearing.



Carey Nieuhof addressed scarcity and how it affects the church’s future in a recent blog. ii People lose interest when there is an overabundance of something; preaching is one thing they can take or leave right now because it is everywhere – on Facebook, YouTube, television. There is an oversupply of recommendation information for churches, also. Blogs, emails, texts; it seems, to the pastor who

is looking toward the future, everyone has an opinion. Preaching, as valuable as it is to the kingdom of God,

will not necessarily be what draws people back to church. Subscribing to an author’s path of future prosperity has lost its appeal because there are so many authors with ideas.

What is the one thing people cannot get right now?

What is more scarce than toilet paper was last year at the discount store? **Fellowship. Relationships.**

Friendships. COVID has separated us unnaturally from one another and the need to connect will compel people to search out the places that can offer these “scarce” experiences as society begins to open up. Try thinking of ways your church can bring people together and how you can share the gospel of Jesus Christ with them as they gather. What could you change about your worship service or outreach ministries that would provide what people need; a place to meet and build real connection?



i [What Is the Scarcity Principle? - Explore Psychology](#)
ii [The New Scarcity: Why Content Alone Won't Generate Future Growth for Your Church or Organization - CareyNieuhof.com](#)



New Library Resource

“Forgiving What You Can’t Forget”

By: Lysa Terkeurst

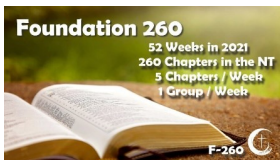
In “Forgiving What You Can’t Forget” Bible study, you will learn what the Bible says about letting go of resentment and finding peace. You’ll learn a step-by-step plan to free yourself from hurt, disempower triggers that hijack your emotions, deal with difficult relationships, and discover life-giving freedom we all desperately need.

Call the office to reserve, 757-938-9793.



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CHURCH NEWS



King's Grant: encouraged the entire church, students through adults, to read the New Testament through in 2021. Using **Foundations 260**, they are urging people to read one chapter a day Monday through Friday, five chapters a week, to complete the NT in one year. The plan is also available on the YouVersion Bible app.

Emmaus Baptist Church in Poquoson: located at 814 Yorktown Road, is seeking a full-time Director of Technology and Youth. For a job description, you may visit their website: www.ebcmin.com (under About) or www.thebridgenet.org (under Resources). To apply, send your resume and cover letter to Personnel@ebcmin.com. Review of applications will begin January 31.

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