



## CRADOCK BAPTIST CHURCH

96 Afton Parkway, Portsmouth, VA 23702

757-485-3500 CradockBaptist@gmail.com CradockBaptist.org

- December 2023 Newsletter -

### *A Note from Our Pastor...*

Dear Church Family,

It is all ready December and the first two advent candles have all ready been lit. This coming Sunday, 17 December we will have the Tidewater Concert Band up in the large Social Hall, so that they can fit all of their instruments. The Christmas season is one of my favorite times of the year and it is a time of Hope.

As we celebrate the coming of the Christ Child, we also should be looking for Christ's return. All of the social unrest, wars and decline of morals show us that Satan is truly in control of this world, but not of Christ. When Christ returns, He will come riding on a white horse and He comes to rule and set everything straight. He will no longer be the suffering servant, but rather the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. He comes to make everything right for His people. So what we are called to do is be busy serving our Lord, while looking for His return.

Starting in January 2024, I will be starting a series on the 15 things that have to happen before the Lord returns, thus I encourage you to come and find out what to look for. Our Lord made it clear that we would not know the time, year or season of His return, but He made it very clear that we would return to call all born again believers home with Him. So even though everything in society looks bleak, rest assured that Our Lord is still on His throne and nothing nor anybody will be able to deter Him from returning to have us join Him.

So as the New Year approaches, we can have hope and assurance that we are not left alone in this world and He knows everything that happens in our lives. In many cases, He has all ready gone before us to provide for our needs, so we can live in assurance that everything that happens to us, He all ready has a plan to take care of us. The future is bright, because we are His Church and He has not forgotten us nor left us to ourselves in this world. We can trust Him, because He is watching over us and is still in control that Satan cannot touch. So trust in Him and we will go forward into the New Year with confidence that we are not alone and He will lead the way!

In His Service,  
Pastor Dave





*For where your treasure is,  
there will your heart be also.*

- Matthew 6:21

*January 1, 2023 - November 30, 2023 Financial Information...*

Church Financials:

Income (tithes and offerings):	\$88,572.74
Expenses (utilities, salaries, et cetera):	\$88,891.43
Net Operating Total:	-\$318.69
Summary Income exceeded expenses by	-\$318.69

Year to Date:

Expense Budget:	\$88,371.54
Actual Expenses:	\$88,891.43

Church Banking Account Balances:

Checking Account:	\$35,669.31
Certificate of Deposit Value:	\$21,405.00
Capital Campaign Fund:	\$42,577.41

Endowment Fund Balance:

\$106,956.84

(Restricted Funds per Cradock Baptist Church's By-laws and Constitution)

*Christmas Eve*  
Candlelight Communion  
JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL CELEBRATION



You Are Cordially Invited to  
Our Candlelight Communion Service  
on Christmas Eve at 4:00pm  
at  
Cradock Baptist Church

# DEACONS

*Following to Lead | Leading to Serve*

## *A Note from Our Deacons...*

Dear Friends,

As always, please let any of the Deacons know how we can assist you. All of our Deacons, consider each member of our Church, to be a part of our family! May God always bless each of us! Wishing everyone a wonderful Christmas Season full of blessings from our Lord!

Sincerely,

Vernon Butler,  
Chairperson



## *Our Deacons*

Erin Bracy (2026)  
113 Channing Avenue  
Portsmouth, VA 23702  
757-404-0695 / cradockgirl@cs.com

Warren Byrd, Jr. (2022)  
405 Rock Drive  
Chesapeake, VA 23323  
757-487-1183 / HWByrdjr@yahoo.com

Michelle "Micky" Evans (2022)  
23 Rex Avenue  
Portsmouth, VA 23702  
757-256-9037/MickyE198@yahoo.com

Vernon Butler, Chairperson (2023)  
1857 Greenway Road  
Suffolk, VA 23438  
757-839-2745 / VBRossB.54@gmail.com

Thelma Carr (2022)  
8 Rodgers Place  
Portsmouth, VA 23702  
757-487-8534 / pidiel@juno.com

Phyllis Kraatz (2022)  
5871 Harbour View Boulevard, # 314  
Suffolk, VA 23435  
757-408-1480 / gwynnnpk@gmail.com

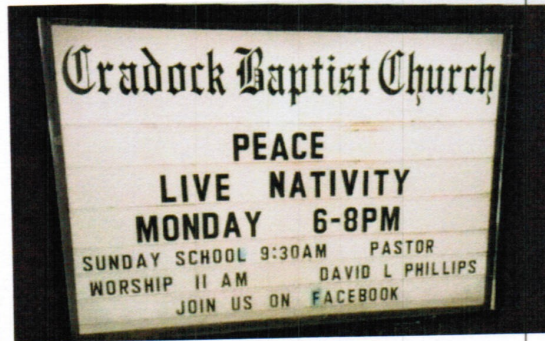
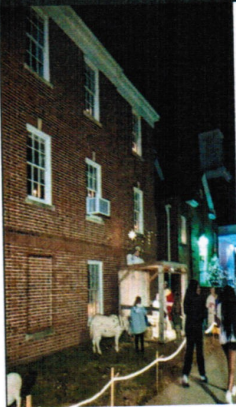
# Church Notes...



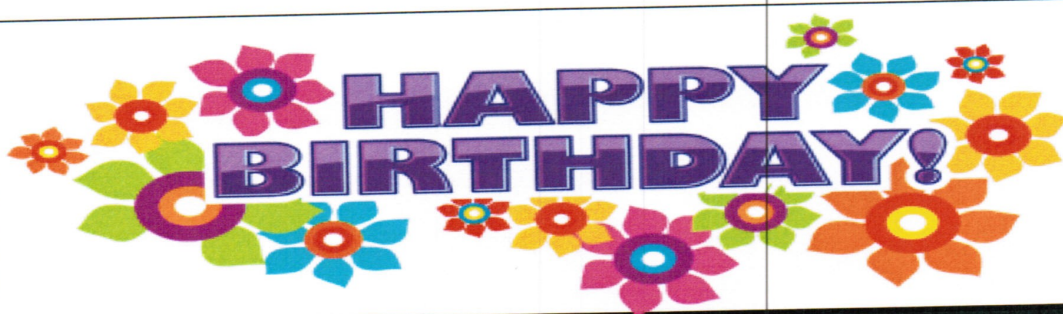
## *A Special Thank You...*



A special thank you to Erin, John, the youth, Phyllis, Micky & Thelma, who helped decorate our Church for the Christmas Season! Thanks to everyone's efforts, Cradock Baptist is ready to celebrate Jesus' birth!



A special thank you to our volunteers, Erin and Mike who made this year's Live Nativity such a wonderful success! May the Lord always bless each one of us!



DECEMBER

15 Dolores Knight  
23 Bobby F. Hartsell, Jr.  
25 Bill Davis  
25 Hazel Stafford  
26 Gina Boyce  
26 Jimmy Weaver  
27 Wayne Prince

JANUARY

3 Warren Byrd  
6 Russell Johnson  
11 Pete Byrd  
11 Mike Mercer  
13 Cody Johnson  
15 Ellen Meade  
15 Teena Wise  
20 Tammy Andrews  
22 Rich Boyce  
30 Kirsten Bracy

*May God bestow special birthday blessings to those celebrating!*





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96 AFTON PARKWAY  
PORTSMOUTH, VA 23702

2 STAMPS

MAILING LABEL



*For unto us a child is born,  
unto us a son is given:  
and the government shall be upon his shoulder:  
and His name shall be called  
Wonderful, Counsellor,  
The mighty God,  
The everlasting Father,  
The Prince of Peace”*

~ Isaiah 9:6