

The Towers Newsletter

216 North Main Street, Suffolk VA 23434
Website: www.suffolkchristian.org

April 2025



Holy Week Services

April 13th – Palm Sunday

9:30 a.m. Palm Sunday Parade on Main Street

11:00 Palm Sunday Worship

12:00 Pot Luck Lunch and Easter Egg Hunt

April 17th – Maundy Thursday

7:30 p.m. Last Supper Re-enactment

April 19th – Holy Saturday

8:00 p.m. Easter Vigil in the Fellowship Hall
Led by our Youth

April 20th – Easter Sunday

11:00 a.m. Worship
Please bring flowers to flower the cross!

Invite a friend to join us!





Pastor's Column

Plan to join us as we move into Holy Week and Easter. We'll begin Holy Week with the Main Street Palm Sunday procession at 9:30 a.m. with our Main Street brothers and sisters. After worship, we'll enjoy a pot-luck lunch on the grounds and an Easter egg hunt for our children. On Thursday evening we will experience one of the most meaningful services of the church year, the reenactment of the Lord's Supper. On Saturday the youth will lead us in our annual vigil at 8:00 p.m. Then, of course, we will gather on Easter Sunday to celebrate the resurrection. Each service will give us a deeper understanding of who God is and who God is calling us to be as Christ followers. I look forward to seeing you there.

Our Building for Hope Team is off to a great start. The first retreat in Alexandria was educational and inspiring, and our larger team here at SCC is meeting regularly as we begin to move through this process. Please pray that we will all bring open hearts and minds to the process and that together we will discern how God is calling us to better utilize our building to expand our mission and help us thrive into the future. If you have questions about this initiative, feel free to reach out to Jim or Carman Goben or Tracy.

Please continue to pray for our church and our Search Team as we continue to move through the transition process. Pray that God will unite us in common purpose and that God will lead the search team to the pastor that God has been preparing to lead us into the next chapter of our story.

Until then, I'm on the journey with you,

Tracy



You may now watch our service LIVE Sunday mornings!

Go to: [YouTube.com](https://www.youtube.com)

Suffolk Christian Live Worship / Subscribe

You also find us on:

www.suffolkchristian.org

Facebook



The Board of Deacons Report....from the March 12th 2025 meeting

Dollars for Missions will now support the newly created Disaster Relief Fund. This fund will be used in cases of floods, tornadoes, local and abroad disasters or any areas that need relief and aid. Any loose dollar bills will be collected from the collection plates each Sunday and will go directly to this mission. Only loose bills will be accepted. Nothing inserted into any type of envelope will be counted towards this mission. A notification of this mission will be added into the Sunday bulletin and Rev. Hartman will announce it during the Sunday service. Your generous giving, as always, is very appreciated.

The Veteran's board is coming along. Placards have arrived and we have received several names that will be added. Once again, if you know of any veteran in the church that needs their name put on the board, please let Tommy Ashcraft or Robert Boyce know. We aim to have every deserving veteran's name from SCC on the board.

Stewardship Report

"We are Walking by Faith through Commitment"

January-February 2025 income - \$38,850.68

January-February 2025 expenses - \$51,000.87

Disaster Relief Fund - \$51.00



January 2025 - CAPS - \$450.00

February 2025 - Genieve Shelter - \$730.00

March 2025 - Western Tidewater Free Clinic - \$805.00



Spring Church Conference

Our Spring Church Conference will be held on April 30th
7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Please plan to attend so that we have a quorum for voting



Reporting on Missions....

April's **Yellow** Envelope Mission: Suffolk Christian Church Scholarship Fund

The mission we are supporting for the month of April is the Suffolk Christian Church Scholarship Fund. Each year this scholarship is awarded to a member of our congregation who chooses to enroll full-time at a college or university. We encourage you to please give what is in your heart to this special mission.



In Memory of

A donation to the General Fund in memory of Everlena Ellis & Mary Virginia Ellis Vick has been given by Jan Ellis.

A memorial brick in memory of F. H. Abernathy has been given by Robert Abernathy.

A donation to the General Fund in memory of Jane & Bill Ellis has been given by Jan Ellis & Family.



If any supplies are needed for your events or activities, please contact Priscilla Bunch. If you see supplies are low in the kitchen area, please let her know. She will be doing all the ordering of these items. Thank you!

APRIL



Kasey Banton	04/01
Matthew Grandy, Jr.	04/02
Christine Burden	04/05
Orin Reams Jr.	04/07
Wendy Blausey	04/08
Charles Rawls Jr.	04/11
Jeanie Baines	04/12
April Fleming	04/12
Lindsay Goben-Giles	04/12
Bev Gayle	04/14
Diana McBride	04/14
Maggie Copeland	04/16
Emma Best	04/17
Becky Bradshaw	04/17
Rich Edwards	04/17
Bill Hannah	04/17
Noelle Grandy	04/17
Gwynne Williams	04/18
Vicki Martin	04/18
Lisa McLaughlin	04/18
Jim Goben	04/19
Kirk Alexander	04/23
Priscilla Bunch	04/23
Beth Brinkley	04/24
Benita Rhodes	04/25
Ginny Thomas	04/25
Mary Huber	04/28
Sherrill Roberts	04/28
Eric Bunch	04/29



What a joy it is to have the stained-glass window on the west wall of the sanctuary illuminated each week. This project was made possible by donations from Mr. and Mrs. James Habel and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Rawls, family members of J. Lewis Rawls in whose memory the window was originally donated.

Orin Reams conducted the identification and ordering process for the lighting and it was installed by Johnnie Winslow. Thanks to everyone who worked together on this beautiful project.



The Western Tidewater Free Clinic is collecting tote bags again this spring. Please consider donating your unused totes and cloth grocery bags. You may place them in the box in the hall outside the office. Thank you.



Thank you to Alan Garner for building the cross for Easter Sunday. Please remember to bring flowers to flower the cross!



We need Sunday school teachers for our children/youth to help us each week. You would not have to teach each Sunday if we could get several people to agree to teach on a rotating basis. Curriculum would be provided. Please contact Priscilla if this is something you could help with at our church. This would be a blessing to the children of our church.



Our Food Pantry needs several items for our weekly pantry.

Some items needed are: Applesauce (individual cups); fruit cups; Snacks (Granola bars, Nabs, Individual packs of Nuts); Individual serving packets of Oatmeal & Grits; Pop Tarts; small boxes of Cereal; Spaghetti Sauce w/ meat; Spaghetti Noodles; Macaroni & Cheese; 1 lb. bags Rice; Flavored Rice; Stove Top Stuffing; Scalloped Potatoes; Au gratin Potatoes; Dried Beans; Canned Meats; Canned Vegetables; Canned Pasta w/ Meat; Peanut Butter; Jelly; and Crackers.

Any items you can provide would be greatly appreciated.

Thanks

On behalf of Fellowship For Women, I would like to thank our congregation for the wonderful donations of clothes that made the Community Clothes Giveaway possible. I would like to say a heartfelt thank you to those who came to the work sessions to organize for the giveaway. To those who came on the event day, thank you for volunteering your time to work. We served 29 individuals on March 1 who were most appreciative and gave us their blessings for holding the distribution. This mission was very successful and needed in our surrounding community.

*In His Service,
Lisa McLaughlin*

A NOTE OF



I would like to thank Care and Concern, my church family and our friends who provided prayers, sent cards and the many phone calls to check on us following my back surgery.

I'm humbled by the outpouring of support for Betty and myself.

Thank You So Very Much!

Betty and Curtiss Johnson



FELLOWSHIP FOR WOMEN

On Monday, April 28, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. FFW will meet in the fellowship hall of Suffolk Christian Church. Our meeting will begin with dinner, a nacho bar.... if you've never done this, it's quite fun and tasty. Following the meal, there will be a "book talk" (short summary) of the book, *Praying Backwards*, by Brian Chapell. And three other ladies will briefly share their impressions of this book. It is a book about prayer and we hope you have had a chance to read it or at least the introduction and a chapter or two. HOWEVER, it is not necessary to have read the book to gain something from this meeting. Please attend anyway and bring a friend, too. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board by the office and knowing the number to expect helps us to better prepare for the evening. We hope you will join us!

Book talk



Thank you

We received a phone message from Roger with Samaritan's Purse, thanking our church for participating in Operation Christmas child last year and our support of the U.S. disaster relief ministry. He said that he has asked for the Lord's blessings upon our church.



The Food Pantry has been purchasing eggs for those people who attend the pantry each week. Since eggs have gone up in price and also become harder to secure, the stores are limiting how many can be purchased at a time; therefore, we have not been able to continue to purchase them at the present time. If you are able to purchase a dozen or two to help out please bring them on Sunday mornings and place them in the cooler at both the North and South entrances. If you are unable to bring them on Sunday mornings, please bring them during the week and someone in the office will put them in the refrigerator.



Game Nights

Come join us for lots of fun & fellowship @ 7:00 pm
in the Saints Alive.

April 4th

April 11th

Mark your calendars.

Covered Dish Luncheon & Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday, April 13th

We will have our annual Churchwide Covered Dish Luncheon and Easter Egg Hunt immediately following worship service. The Board of Christian Education will provide fried chicken and beverages. Please bring a covered dish/dessert with you to share with others. **Please sign up on the bulletin board outside of the church office if you plan to attend by Sunday, April 6th.** We hope to see you there...invite someone to come with you.



Maundy Thursday Service – 7:30 pm

Reenactment of The Lord's Supper

April 17th

**Come join us for a moving service...you won't be
disappointed.**



We will have our annual Easter Vigil on Saturday, April 19th. All school aged-college students are invited to participate during the vigil. All students will meet in the Conference Room @ 5:00pm to prepare for the service. The congregation is invited to attend the vigil at 8:00pm in the fellowship hall. This is always a very moving service, and we hope you will attend to support our children/youth. Dinner will be served to the children/youth so please let Sean Bilby or Priscilla Bunch know who will be attending so we will have enough food for everyone participating in the service.



Vacation Bible School
"True North"
Trusting Jesus in a Wild World
June 23rd – 27th

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!
INVITE YOUR FRIENDS!

We will learn how Jesus is our unmovable, unshakable friend forever. When we wonder, feel alone, feel powerless, need hope or need help, we can always *trust* Jesus. Come and join us for a time of fun, fellowship and learning about Jesus' love for us!

**Third Annual
Blessings Banquet**

COALITION AGAINST POVERTY IN SUFFOLK
FUNDRAISER DINNER

APRIL 26, 2025 | 5:00 PM

**WESTMINSTER REFORMED
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

3488 GODWIN BLVD.
SUFFOLK, VA 23434

Please RSVP by April 4th to Priscilla Bunch so we can contact CAPS on the # of people coming from SCC.

Sunday, March 23rd

Thank you to everyone who came for our Churchwide Covered Dish & Bingo. Thank you to everyone who provided prizes for the bingo and those who helped set up. Thank you, Sean Bilby, for being our caller.





1st – 1 Corinthians 1:18

2nd – Mark 8:34

3rd – John 3:16

4th – Matthew 10:38

5th – Galatians 2:20

6th – Hebrews 12:2

7th – Romans 5:8

8th – Luke 14:27

9th – Colossians 2:14

10th – 1 Peter 2:24

11th – Philippians 2:8

12th – Mark 15:30

13th – Romans 6:23

14th – Galatians 6:14

15th – Luke 9:23

16th – Luke 23:43

17th – Colossians 1:20

18th – Romans 8:1

19th – Galatians 3:13

20th – Matthew 16:24

21st – Psalm 91:1-16

22nd – 1 John 2:2

23rd – 1 Peter 2:24-25

24th – Isaiah 53:5

25th – Matthew 27:32

26th – Matthew 7:17

27th – John 19:17

28th – Acts 5:30

29th – John 3:14

30th – Luke 23:26

Commit to reading your bible 10 minutes each day and meditate on what you have read in the scriptures.

APRIL 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<p>1</p> <p>1:00p Saints Alive</p> <p>7:00p Bible Study</p>	<p>2</p> <p>10:00a Bible Study</p> <p>7:00p Board of Christian Ed.</p> <p>7:30pm Narcotics Anonymous</p>	<p>3</p> <p>10:00am Thursday Crafters</p> <p>7:15pm Chancel Choir</p>	<p>4</p>  <p>7:00pm Game Night</p>	
<p>6</p> <p>9:15am Handbell Choir 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Sunday Service</p>	<p>7</p> 	<p>8</p> <p>1:00p Saints Alive</p> <p>3:00p Food Pantry</p>	<p>9</p> <p>6:30p Board of Deacons</p> <p>6:30pm Narcotics Anonymous bus. meeting</p>	<p>10</p> <p>10:00am Thursday Crafters</p> <p>7:15pm Chancel Choir</p>	<p>11</p>  <p>7:00pm Game Night</p>	<p>12</p> 
<p>13</p> <p>9:15am Handbell Choir 9:30am Palm Sunday parade 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Sunday Service 12:00pm Easter Potluck & Egg Hunt</p> 	<p>14</p> 	<p>15</p> <p>12:00p Saints Alive Potluck</p> <p>3:00p Food Pantry</p> <p>7:00p Bible Study</p>	<p>16</p> <p>6:30p Board of Finance</p> <p>7:30pm Narcotics Anonymous</p>	<p>17</p> <p>10:00am Thursday Crafters</p> <p>7:15pm Chancel Choir 7:30pm Maundy Thurs. Last Supper Reenactment</p>	<p>18</p> 	<p>19</p> <p><u>Easter Vigil</u></p> <p>5:00pm Children/Youth</p> <p>8:00pm Congregation</p>
<p>20</p> <p>9:15am Handbell Choir 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Sunday Service</p> 	<p>21</p>  <p>*Newsletter articles for May due</p>	<p>22</p> <p>1:00p Saints Alive</p> <p>3:00p Food Pantry</p> <p>7:00p Bible Study</p>	<p>23</p> <p>7:00p Board of Bldg. & Grounds</p> <p>7:30pm Narcotics Anonymous</p>	<p>24</p> <p>10:00am Thursday Crafters</p> <p>7:15pm Chancel Choir</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p> <p>*Suffolk Earth & Arts Festival (parking lot use)</p> 
<p>27</p> <p>9:15am Handbell Choir 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Sunday Service</p>	<p>28</p> <p>5:30p Fellowship for Women (fellowship hall)</p>	<p>29</p> <p>1:00p Saints Alive</p> <p>3:00p Food Pantry</p>	<p>30</p> <p>7:00pm Church Conference (Sanctuary)</p> <p>7:30pm Narcotics Anonymous</p>			

Easter Arrangements, Sprays, and Lilies

If you would like to place an order for any of the items listed below, in honor of or in memory of a loved one, please contact Cheryl Ashcraft at 757.418.4553.

The deadline to order is Tuesday, April 15. No orders will be accepted after that date.



- Spray on the inside front column \$50
- Spray on the inside front column\$50
- Piano/Organ Arrangement**Sold**.....\$40
- Huntboard arrangement \$45
- Second floor foyer.....\$40
- South vestibule arrangement.....\$40
- North entrance floral spray (columns)\$40
- North entrance floral spray (columns)\$40
- North entrance floral spray (doors)\$40
- North entrance floral spray (doors)\$40
- South outside entrance floral spray\$40
- Front outside floral spray\$40
- Front outside floral spray\$40
- North vestibule arrangement\$40
- North second floor vestibule arrangement\$40
- Pascal Candle\$40
- Wreath outside of office door\$40

Sprays/Arrangements In Honor/Memory of: [Circle one]

Given by:

Easter Lilies

Quantity	Total (\$20 each)



Lilies In Honor/Memory of: [Circle one]

Given by:

Please make your check marked
 "Easter Flowers" payable to:
Suffolk Christian Church

Suffolk Christian Church
 Attn: Cheryl Ashcraft
 216 North Main Street
 Suffolk, VA 23434