

Advent 2024 Words for the Beginning



This year our theme for Advent is, “Words for the Beginning.” Not only are we beginning a new church year, 2025 will hopefully bring a new pastor to serve among us. As a nation, the new administration is promising sweeping changes in our government. So, this Advent season we will be exploring how to prepare for new beginnings. Join us each week as we explore the theme together:

Dec. 1st:	You Are a Blessing
Dec. 8th:	We Can’t Go Alone
Dec. 15th:	Do the Good That is Yours To Do
Dec. 22nd:	Hope is Worth the Risk
Christmas Eve:	6:00 p.m. Love Knows Your Name

I also encourage you to join us for these other events during the Advent season:

Dec. 1 st	Pot luck lunch with Santa in the Fellowship Hall after worship
Dec. 7-8 th	Suffolk Christmas Tour – Please sign up Volunteers are needed to welcome the community to our Sanctuary
Dec. 9 th	5:30 p.m. Fellowship for Women – wreath making
Dec. 15 th	5:00p.m. Lessons and Carols with reception to follow

Invite a friend (or two) to join us for this meaningful season!





Pastor's Column

Pastor Search Update

Our pastor search team has been working closely with the candidate that they believe is the person we have been praying for! Currently, they are working to schedule a date for a call weekend, hopefully in early January. Typically, the search team and the deacons host the candidate and his/her spouse for a dinner on Friday evening. On Saturday, the staff and members of the congregation will have the opportunity to get to know the candidate. On Sunday, the candidate will preach in worship. After worship, the church will go into a called business session to vote on extending a call to the candidate. The search team will let us know the dates of the call weekend just as soon as they are able. In the meantime, please continue to keep them and the candidate in your prayers!

Building for Hope

The Building for Hope Initiative had a zoom orientation meeting in October for all churches participating in the program. SCC will be represented by the pastor and Jim and Carman Goben (thanks to Jim and Carman for answering the call to this important work). We will be forming a larger team that will work with Jim and Carman on this initiative early next year. If you would like to serve on this larger team, please let Tracy, Jim or Carman know. Pray for this team and this initiative that SCC will be better equipped to thrive in the days ahead!

These are exciting day in the life of our church. As always, I'm honored to be 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



Deacon's
Corner

The Board of Deacons Report....from the November 13, 2024 Meeting

The missions committee reported that so far \$3,630.00 has been given by SCC to Samaritan's Purse for western NC hurricane relief.

Twenty-five \$50.00 gift cards from Food Lion have been purchased and they will be given out at the food pantry.

Thanksgiving fruit baskets were prepared and delivered on Sunday, November 24th.

The Building for Hope orientation will soon be upon us. Carman and Jim Goben, along with our pastor will be representing SCC. A larger team will be created to take the information brought back to us and get the congregation involved.

Stewardship Report

"We are Walking by Faith through Commitment"

January-October 2024 income - \$214,529.26

(includes \$20,000.00 from investments)

January-October 2024 expenses - \$220,154.19

Dollars for Supply & Multiply - \$1,934.48

(includes special monthly mission)

Special Offering:

Samaritan's Purse for Hurricane Relief - \$3,630.00

2025 Tithing envelopes are now available.

Join us for
Journey Sunday
School Class



Journey Sunday School Class (formerly Son Worshipers/Crusaders), has a new classroom on the 2nd floor, room #225 off the commons area (3rd & 4th grade classroom). Come join us for a lively discussion on the book of John.



CROSSOVER
GLOBAL MINISTRIES

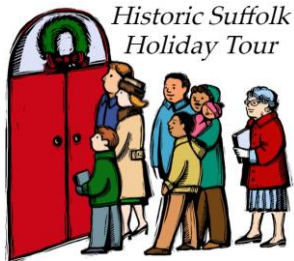
Reporting on Missions....



December's **Yellow** Envelope Mission: Crossover Global Ministries

crossoverglobal524@gmail.com

Crossover Global Ministries is a 501C (3) nonprofit organization founded in 2024 by Joshua and Jennifer Worrell and Seth and Roxanne Brown, local residents of Suffolk and Kill Devil Hills, NC. The Worrells and the Browns have been missionaries to several areas, including Haiti, Honduras, Africa, and the Philippines. God has called them to expand their ministry in the Philippines working along with the local ministry Asia Center for Missions, "Towards No More Unreached." The goal of Crossover Global Ministries is to equip local pastors and leaders, utilizing the tools given to them to reach their youth and the community of which they are a part. The organization was created as a result of God's call to spread the Gospel to unreached people groups. The aim is to develop leaders, spiritually and practically, through athletics to go out in their communities and spread the love and hope of Jesus and build His Kingdom using the 4 C's: Communication, Character, Confidence, and Consistency. Athletics opens the door to minister to young people and gives them the hope of Jesus Christ. Crossover is currently working in the Philippines having trained 20 different pastors and leaders and reaching over 225 young people through the game of basketball, home visits and kids' Bible Clubs. Your support of this ministry throughout the month of December is greatly appreciated.



Historic Suffolk
Holiday Tour

*Saturday, December 7th and
Sunday, December 8th
1:00 - 5:00 pm*



The Suffolk-Nansemond Historical Society is sponsoring a return of the Holiday Tour in downtown Suffolk on Saturday, December 7th and Sunday, December 8th from 1:00-5:00 pm. The Historical Society has invited Suffolk Christian Church to participate in the tour by opening our sanctuary to the tour guests. The Board of Deacons has approved our participation. We need volunteers to help prepare for the tour as well as volunteers to help on the two days of the tour. Please let Beverly McGahee or Joyce Trump know if you are willing to participate in this special event.

Special Visit



Sunday, December 1st
Immediately Following
11:00 am
Worship Service

We will have our annual potluck lunch and a visit from Santa immediately following the 11:00 am worship service on Sunday, December 1st. The Board of Christian Education will provide fried chicken and beverages. We ask that you bring side dishes and dessert to the potluck. If you plan to attend, please sign up on the bulletin board outside of the church office by Tuesday, November 27th, so we will know how much chicken to order. If you should have any questions, please contact Priscilla.



Beginning December 1st read one chapter of the book of Luke in the Bible each day and reflect on these words.

There are 24 chapters.

On Christmas Eve, you will have read an entire account of Jesus' Life and wake up on Christmas morning knowing WHO and WHY we celebrate!



Greetings,

Cards
from
Care & Concern

The Care and Concern Committee serves the church in various ways to include our card ministry. We are seeking volunteers to assist in this mission by sending cards to our church members offering support, get well wishes, condolences, etc. Cards and postage stamps are provided. Each volunteer handles the cards for their assigned month. Anyone wishing to participate in this ministry please let me know.

Blessings,

Carman Goben

carmangoben@gmail.com

757-650-736



Randy Rhodes	12/03
Hunter Haslett	12/05
Saniya Allen	12/05
Evelyn Jones	12/06
Debbie Alexander	12/06
Charlie Mathias Jr.	12/08
Savannah Marx	12/09
Grace Atkins	12/11
Suzanne Cox	12/11
Bennett McBride	12/11
Sara Keene	12/11
Conner Blausey	12/12
Chip Joyner Jr.	12/13
Carman Goben	12/13
Susanne Reid	12/15
Terry McGahee	12/19
Margaret Saunders	12/20
Wanda Cadwell	12/20
Travis Myles	12/20
Bill Carr	12/22
Mary Blythe McLaughlin	12/22
Richard Rock	12/26
Patty Allen	12/26
Pam Briggs	12/27

Part time Bookkeeper Job Description

Title: **Bookkeeper**

Location: Suffolk Christian Church, 216 N. Main St, Suffolk, VA

Reports to: Board of Finance, Suffolk Christian Church

Position Summary:

The Bookkeeper will maintain accurate and detailed financial records for the Suffolk Christian Church and administer the financial needs of the church including: recording contributions and income, the payment of bills, the preparation of bi-weekly payroll and other financial duties that may become necessary. If interested, please contact Elaine Abernathy - 757-620-2317, or Jim Goben - 757-650-7300.



ForKids is one of the largest service providers to children and families experiencing homelessness in Virginia. They serve 14 cities and counties in Hampton Roads by providing housing solutions, education and critical services.

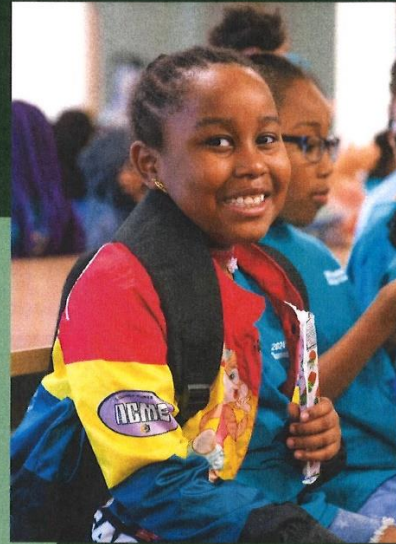
The ForKids organization helped numerous children last year to have a brighter Christmas morning. We will be collecting toys this year for this organization. The tubs will be put out by the Christmas tree in the south foyer on the 1st floor by Sunday, November 24th. Please return the toys (unwrapped) to the church no later than Wednesday, December 11th. All toys will be taken to the organization on Thursday, December 12th. There is a list of suggested toys/items in the newsletter. Your support of this organization is greatly appreciated by those in our community and will bring smiles to children who may be less fortunate that we are at this time. If you should have any questions, please contact Priscilla Bunch.



Mark your calendars!
December 6th and 20th at 7:00 pm
Come join in the fellowship!

Make This Season Bright

ForKids Holiday Toy Drive



Teens, ages 13-18:

- Art supplies and craft kits
- Manicure and makeup sets
- Small drones
- Jewelry, watches, purses, and belt bags
- Skateboards, bikes, rollerblades, scooters with helmets
- Electronics - Bluetooth speakers, wireless earbuds
- Lego sets
- Sports items- basketballs, footballs, soccer balls
- Cozy slippers, robes, eye masks
- Multicultural hair product sets
- Hoodies
- Cozy Socks
- Cozy Blankets
- NFL team merchandise

Ages 9-12

- Arts, craft, and slime making kits
- Jewelry sets and purses
- Multicultural dolls
- Hair accessory sets
- Lego sets
- Musical instruments
- Skateboards, bikes, roller blades, scooters with helmets
- Sports items- basketballs, footballs, soccer balls
- Minecraft, Roblox, Fortnite items
- Star Wars, Transformers, superhero items
- Remote control cars

ForKids

**Donations accepted
Nov 27 - Dec 15
M - F, 9 - 5**

ForKids Chesapeake
1001 Poindexter St.

ForKids Suffolk
119 W. Constance Rd.

Ages 5-8

- Arts & craft kits
- Dinosaur sets
- Popular character dolls and figurines
- Multicultural dolls
- Hot Wheels sets
- Board games
- Bristle Blocks
- Dress-up and nail decorating kits
- Kitchen play sets
- Skateboards, bikes, roller blades, scooters with helmets

Infants & Toddlers

- Popular character toys
- Mega Bloks
- Baby Einstein
- Counting or stacking toys
- Fisher Price toys
- Little Tikes
- Musical Instruments
- Wooden puzzles
- Scooting toys
- Tool and construction sets
- Tonka Trucks
- Wagons
- Vtech and LeapFrog



**Skip the holiday lines
and order items easily
using the Amazon
ForKids Holiday Wishlist.**

**Thanks to you, every
child will receive 3 toys
this holiday season.**

New and unwrapped items and brand new coats only. **Please no toy weapons, weapon accessories, squirt guns, swords, machine guns, or ninja sets.**

**To download this flyer visit:
ForKids.org/host-a-drive.**

**For more information
Call (757) 622-6400
E-mail donations@forkids.org**

Donate to ForKids at:
www.forkids.org



The little red wagon will be at the North entrance every first Sunday for food pantry donations. Our food pantry is running low on items. Below is a list of items needed for our food pantry:

Individual cups Applesauce; Canned fruit or individual cups of Fruit; Nabs; Individual packets Oatmeal; Pop Tarts; Small boxes of Cereal; Spaghetti Sauce, Spaghetti Noodles; Macaroni & Cheese; Canned Meats; Canned Vegetables, Canned Beefaroni or Spaghetti; Peanut Butter, Jelly, Crackers; Protein Shakes, Boxed Milk, Bottled Water.

The above is just a suggested list...if you can think of other things, please feel free to bring to our Food Pantry.



January 2024 - SCC Suffolk Schools Partnership - \$1,465.11

February 2024 - Coats for Community - \$870.00

March 2024 - Western Tidewater Free Clinic - \$916.00

April 2024 - SCC Scholarship Fund - \$775.00

May 2024 - Crisis Pregnancy Center-\$510.00

June 2024 - Meals on Wheels - \$825.00

July 2024 - SCC Family Assistance - \$975.00

August 2024 - Genieve Shelter - \$610.00

September 2024 - Neighbors in Need - \$480.00

October 2024 - Suffolk Christian Fellowship Ctr -\$705.00

November 2024 - Beacon of Hope - \$830.00



In Memory of

Donations to the Food Pantry Ministry in memory of L. H. Byrum have been given by Wayne and Faye Byrum and the Sunbury High School Class of 1961.



The next meeting of FFW will take place on Monday, December 9, at 5:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall at church. Debra Carr is planning a delightful evening meal for us. And Helen and Tim Johnson will have the program—they will demonstrate how you can make a Christmas wreath using greenery from your own yard. We are also going to have a gift exchange. ☺ Please bring a wrapped gift (between \$5-\$10.) Choose something you love (examples: favorite candy, gift card, lotion, lip balm, etc.) Do not put your name on the gift. We hope you will join us for dinner and this Christmas program. It is important to sign up on the bulletin board at church so we will know how many to prepare for. Remember you are always welcome to bring a friend.



Mission Opportunity

The SCC Fellowship for Women will be conducting a Community Clothes Giveaway in 2025 late winter or early spring. The date for this event will be determined. We are in the collection phase of this mission at the current time. The purpose of this mission is to provide free clothing to the homeless population and surrounding community members in need.

How can you as a congregation help? Please bring gently used donations of clothes, shoes, socks, hats, gloves, scarves, coats, sweaters, suits, pajamas, robes, purses and belts for all ages of women, men, children and infants. Please be mindful of the condition of the donated items as being free from stains, tears, broken zippers and missing buttons.

There are collection totes in the first-floor library and north side entrance to place collections in. If you need help getting your items to church, please call the church and a member of the FFW will be happy to pick up your donations and get them to church.

Thank you very much for helping with this much needed mission.



Join us December 15th at 5:00pm

for

**Lessons and Carols featuring the Chancel Choir
and Handbells**

DECEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1</p> <p>9:15am Handbell Choir 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Sunday Service 12:00pm Potluck with Santa</p> <p>Special visit</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>1:00p Saints Alive</p>	<p>4</p> <p>6:30pm Narcotics Anonymous 6:30p Board of Christian Ed.</p>	<p>5</p> <p>10:00am Thursday Crafters 7:15pm Chancel Choir</p>	<p>6</p> <p>7:00 pm Game Night</p>	<p>7</p> <p>1-5pm Suffolk Walking Tour</p>
<p>8</p> <p>9:15am Handbell Choir 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Sunday Service</p> <p>1-5pm Suffolk Walking Tour</p>	<p>9</p> <p>5:30p Fellowship for Women (fellowship hall)</p>	<p>10</p> <p>1:00p Saints Alive 3:00p Food Pantry</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Deadline: ForKids Toy donations 6:30p Board of Deacons 7:30pm Narcotics Anonymous</p>	<p>12</p> <p>10:00am Thursday Crafters 5:30p Decorate church 7:15pm Chancel Choir</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>9:15am Handbell Choir 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Sunday Service</p> <p>5:00pm Lessons and Carols program</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p>12:00p Saints Alive Potluck 3:00p Food Pantry.</p>	<p>18</p> <p>6:30p Board of Finance 7:00p Board of Bldg. & Grounds 7:30pm Narcotics Anonymous</p>	<p>19</p> <p>10:00am Thursday Crafters</p> <p>*Newsletter articles for January due.</p>	<p>20</p> <p>7:00 pm Game Night</p>	<p>21</p> <p>hello winter</p>
<p>22</p> <p>9:15am Handbell Choir 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Sunday Service</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>No Food Pantry 6:00p Christmas Eve Service</p>	<p>25</p> <p>7:30pm Narcotics Anonymous</p>	<p>26</p> <p>10:00am Thursday Crafters</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Sunday Service</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p> <p>No Food Pantry</p>				

The Christmas season is approaching quickly, and it is time to be thinking about placing your order for Christmas greenery, arrangements, and poinsettias. 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 for orders is Monday, December 9th

	2 Outside Front Wreaths	\$85 each
	4 Upstairs Balcony Wreaths	\$85 each
	1 Inside Front Column Wreaths	\$50 each
	1 Side Foyer Arrangement Sold	\$40
	1 Huntboard Arrangement Sold	\$50
	Piano/Organ Arrangement Sold	\$40
	Upstairs Foyer Arrangement (outside of Sanctuary) Sold	\$40
	1 Downstairs Newel Post Swag Sold	\$40
	2 Wreaths North Entrance Columns	\$50 each
	2 Wreaths North Entrance Doors Sold	\$50 each
	2 Wreaths Iron Gates Front Entrance	\$30 each
	17 Boxwood Wreaths Outside Windows	\$30 each
	North Foyer Arrangement	\$40
	North Second Floor Foyer Arrangement Sold	\$40
	Wreath Beside Office Door Sold	\$50
	2 Wreaths Iron Gates Walkway	\$30 each
	Miscellaneous items (greens, candles, etc.)	\$100

Greenery/Arrangements in Honor/Memory of: [Circle one]

Given by: _____

Poinsettias (51 poinsettias are needed to fill the poinsettia tree)

Quantity	Total (\$15 each)

Poinsettias In Honor/Memory of: [Circle one]

Given by: _____

Please mark your check "Christmas Flowers" and return with your order form to the church office, Attention: Cheryl Ashcraft