The Towers Newsletter

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

DECEMBER **2025**

Pastor's Column

Dear Suffolk Christian Church,

We are officially entering the season of Advent, which is a season of waiting for the birth of Christ on Christmas Day. If there's one thing I struggle with, it is having to wait. The DMV and the doctor's office might be my least favorite places on Earth, because I must wait. The sad truth in our culture today is we all seem to dislike waiting. We have the capability of ordering something online, and the next day the package is on our doorstep. If we want to watch a movie we have not seen in years, all we have to do is rent it on a streaming service and we can immediately watch it. Our culture revolves around the expediency of services and goods: fast food, speedy delivery, instant cash, etc. In fact, the reason why our stores are already filled with Christmas decorations is because people literally cannot wait for Christmas. I don't blame them, because I can't wait either!

Nonetheless, I want us to take a minute and pause. The simple act of waiting is a spiritual and holy action. James 5:7-8 reads, "Be patient, therefore, brothers and sisters, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near." Advent is a time of waiting, which means waiting is a part of the Christian journey. God did not call us to be impatient demanding results immediately but has challenged us to grow in periods of waiting. Soon, it will be Christmas Day, and we will experience the joy of Christ's birth and the festivities that come with the season. In the meantime, we will wait upon the Lord with hope, peace, joy, and love.

Waiting with the rest of you,

Reverend Donald Waltz

You may now watch our service LIVE Sunday mornings!
Go to: YouTube.com
Suffolk Christian Live Worship / Subscribe
You also find us on:
www.suffolkchristian.org
Facebook

The Board of Deacons Report...from the November 12, 2025 meeting

The holiday season is almost upon us and we all know how busy things get during that time. The Board of Deacons are busy with plans handling food drives, fruit baskets and preparing for the new deacons that have been selected for the coming three years.

As was announced by Rev. Waltz, the Veteran's board did come upon a supplier problem with the brass tags that are mounted on the board. A change had to be made in the appearance but it will still look outstanding. The updated boards should be back up soon.

Our work for SCC and our Lord Jesus Christ continues on a forward and productive path.

January 2025 – CAPS - $450.00
February 2025 – Genieve Shelter - $730.00
March 2025 – Western Tidewater Free Clinic - $930.00
April 2025 – SCC Scholarship Fund - $415.00
May 2025 – Crisis Pregnancy Center - $528.26
June 2025 – Meals on Wheels - $684.00
July 2025 – SCC/Suffolk Schools Partnership - $765.00
August 2025 – SCC Family Assistance - $535.00
September 2025 – Neighbors in Need -$545.00
October 2025 – Beacon of Hope in Western Tidewater -$925.00
November 2025 – Suffolk Christian Fellowship -$580.00

Stewardship Report

"We are Walking by Faith through Commitment"

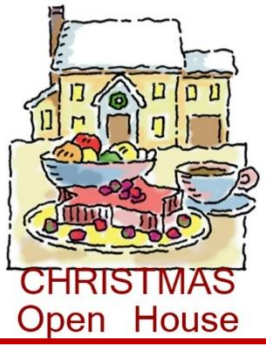
January-October 2025 income - $235,767.07
(includes $40,000 from investments)
January-October 2025 expenses - $228,197.00
Emergency Relief Fund - $391.00 (sent Mercy Chef's $2,188)

Reporting on Missions….

December's Yellow Envelope Mission: Crossover Global Ministries

crossoverglobal524@gmail.com

The mission we are supporting for the month of December is Crossover Global Ministries. This 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization was founded in 2024 by Joshua and Jennifer Worrell and Seth and Roxanne Brown. 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 Ministry is to equip local pastors and leaders, utilizing the tools given to them, to reach their youth and the community of which they are 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. Also, Crossover is helping and ministering to several Haitians who have moved to our area. Your support of this ministry is greatly appreciated.



On Saturday, December 6th, the Waltzes will have their Christmas Open House. Join us from 3pm-5pm at our home for food, fun, and festivities!

Thank you

The children of Aubrey Smith would like to express their sincere appreciation to the members of Suffolk Christian Church for the many kind gestures extended to him in recent years. Being an active member of the church family was extremely important to him and your generosity allowed him to continue that.
For all of the kind actions, as well as the thoughtful expressions of sympathy and support, please accept our gratitude.

Karen & Kevin

December BIRTHDAYS

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
Ryder Bunch	12/15
Terry McGahee	12/19
Margaret Saunders	12/20
Wanda Cadwell	12/20
Travis Myles	12/20
Mary Blythe McLaughlin	12/22
Patty Allen	12/26
Pam Briggs	12/27

Make This Season Bright

ForKids Holiday Toy Drive

Suggested List

Teens, ages 13-18: Art supplies and craft kits • Friendship bracelet kits • Manicure and makeup sets • Perfume/body spray sets • Multicultural hair product sets • Jewelry, watches, purses, and belt bags • Skateboards, bikes, rollerblades, scooters with helmets • Electronics- Bluetooth speakers, wireless earbuds/ headphones, small cameras • Small drones • Lego sets • Sport items- basketballs, footballs, soccer balls • NFL + NBA merchandise • Posters/wall art • Cozy slippers and robes • Cozy socks • Cozy blankets • Hoodies

Ages 9 – 12: Arts, crafts, and slime making kits • Jewelry sets and purses • Multicultural dolls • Hair accessories • Lego sets • Musical instruments • Skateboards, bikes, scooters with helmets • Sport items- basketballs, footballs, soccer balls • Minecraft, Roblox, Fortnite items • Remote control cars • Sensory Toys

Ages 5-8: Arts and crafts 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, scooters with helmets • Sensory

Toys Infants & Toddlers: Popular character toys • Mega blocks • 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

Christmas Stocking Drive

Ends Thursday, December 4th

You can spread joy and love this holiday season.

Drop off your stockings by the church no later than Thursday, December 4th. They have to be delivered to The Salvation Army by Friday, December 5th. If you have any questions, please contact Priscilla. When you drop off your stocking, please let Priscilla know so she can mark your name off of the list. Thank you!

JOIN US FOR

CHRISTMAS PARADE CONCESSIONS

DECEMBER 13TH
5:00 PM UNTIL

IF YOU CAN PROVIDE SOME BAKED GOODS, PLEASE SIGN UP ON THE CHURCH BULLETIN BOARD. PLEASE INDICATE WHAT YOU WILL BE ABLE TO PROVIDE. ALSO, IF YOU CAN HELP DURING THE CONCESSIONS, PLEASE SIGN UP.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT PRISCILLA.

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.
Also needed: Toilet paper, paper towels, shampoo, deodorant, paper plates, laundry detergent, soap, tissues, napkins, toothbrushes, and toothpaste.

Any items you can provide would be greatly appreciated.

Just a reminder that the December "meeting" of FFW is a field trip!! Two vans will be leaving SCC on Monday, Dec. 8, 2025 for a bus trip to Smithfield, NC to the Rudy Theater to see a Christmas program. Thanks to all who have signed up to go…we now have maximum participation for this event. ☺ The next regular meeting of FFW will take place on January 19 at 4:00 p.m. (early because of possible weather concerns and being out later on a winter's night.) The program (TBA) will be followed by a soup supper. We hope you will join us and we ask that you please sign up on the bulletin board by the office. Remember…. you are always welcome to bring a friend!

A note of many thanks to all who donated clothes, set up, helped and cleaned up for the Community Clothes Giveaway on Nov. 15. Your efforts were blessed by the many recipients receiving winter clothing items from this church mission. As we blessed those, we were the real receivers of blessings.

Much Love,
Lisa McLaughlin

Please Join Us for "A Thrill of Hope"
Sunday, December 14, 2025
at 5:00PM

Celebrate the season with *A Thrill of Hope*, a dynamic Christmas musical that retells the story of Christ's birth through four inspiring themes—**Hope, Love, Peace**, and **Joy**. Composer Joel Raney has woven together familiar carols into beautiful medleys that capture the heart of Advent and Christmas. The performance culminates in an uplifting celebration of the true joy of the season.

Come share in the music, message, and meaning of Christmas with us!
Please join us for a reception in the Fellowship Hall following the musical.

Dear SCC friends,
Thank you so much for the calls, texts, cards, food, flowers, and visits. I truly appreciate the outpouring of love, kindness, and thoughtfulness. I am getting better and stronger each day.

God is good and faithful!
Blessings to all
Love,
Kim Parr

Meals on Wheels

Anyone interested in doing Meals on Wheels delivery, please contact me 757-377-6552 or kbsalon@gmail.com for more info. Volunteering for this mission can be very humbling. The recipients are very appreciative.

Thank you,
Kitty Martin

Our Annual Christmas

POTLUCK LUNCHEON

Sunday,
December 7th

12:00 NOON

Please sign up on the bulletin board outside of the church office prior to Tuesday, December 2nd.

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

Merry Christmas!

Each day from December 1-24, place one non-perishable food item in your Blessing Box and **bring it to church on Sunday, December 28th**. We can give these boxes to our Food Pantry recipients on Tuesday, December 30th.

1. Box of stuffing mix
2. Instant mashed potatoes
3. Jars of turkey or chicken gravy
4. Canned yams
5. Cranberry sauce
6. Green beans
7. Cream of mushroom soup
8. French fried onions
9. Paper plates
10. Paper towels
11. Canned corn
12. Cake mix or brownie mix
13. Can of icing
14. Box of dry cereal
15. Box of shelf-stable milk
16. Canned or dried beans
17. Rice
18. Peanut butter
19. Box of crackers
20. Bag of sugar
21. Box of tea bags
22. Boxed macaroni & cheese
23. Spices (salt, pepper, onion powder, garlic powder, etc.)
24. Canned meat (ham, turkey, etc.)

FOOD PANTRY CHANGES

As we all know, things have changed during the government shutdown. I have noticed restaurants aren't as full as they were prior to the shutdown. Even though the shutdown has ended for now, people are still suffering.

We have decided to provide the recipients with a meal each week to go along with breakfast and snack items.

The first week we provided them with items to make a Chicken Cobbler and last week items to make chili. These items include the meat to go with each meal.

If you have any simple recipes with just a few items, please give your recipe to Priscilla Bunch. We are in the process of collecting simple recipes to provide meals for our recipients.

We also would appreciate donations of items from the congregation.

DECEMBER 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 10:00-11:30am Kalamoo Lego Club	2 1:00pm Saints Alive 7:00pm Bible Study	3 6:00pm Board of Christian Ed. 7:30pm Narcotics Anonymous	4 10:00am Thursday Crafters *Deadline for stockings for Salvation Army 6:00-7:00pm Kalamoo Lego Club 7:15pm Chancel Choir	5 7:00pm Game Night	6 The Waltzes Christmas Open House 3pm-5pm at their home, food, fun, and festivities.
7 9:15am Handbell Choir 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Sunday Service *Deadline ForKids toy donations 12:00 Churchwide Christmas Potluck w/Santa 	8 9:00a Fellowship for Women (NC fieldtrip) 10:00-11:30am Kalamoo Lego Club	9 1:00pm Saints Alive 3:00pm Food Pantry 7:00pm Bible Study	10 6:30pm Narcotics Anonymous bus.meeting 6:45pm Board of Deacons	11 (Decorate church) 10:00am Thursday Crafters 2:00pm Prayer Team 6:00-7:00pm Kalamoo Lego Club 7:15pm Chancel Choir	12 	13 5:00pm Christmas Parade Concessions
14 9:15am Handbell Choir 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Sunday Service *Deadline ForKids toy donations Christmas Cantata 5:00pm 	15 10:00-11:30am Kalamoo Lego Club 	16 12:00pm Saints Alive Potluck 3:00pm Food Pantry	17 6:30pm Board of Finance 7:00pm Board of Bldg. & Grounds 7:30pm Narcotics Anonymous	18 10:00am Thursday Crafters *Newsletter articles for Jan. due	19 7:00pm Game Night	20
21 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Sunday Service 	22	23 1:00pm Saints Alive 3:00pm Food Pantry	24 6:00pm Christmas Eve Serv. 7:30pm Narcotics Anonymous	25 Merry Christmas! 	26 	27
28 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Sunday Service	29	30 1:00pm Saints Alive 3:00pm Food Pantry	31 7:30pm Narcotics Anonymous			

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 8th

	~~2 Outside Front Wreaths~~ Sold	$85 each
	3 Upstairs Balcony Wreaths	$85 each
	~~2 Inside Front Column Wreaths~~ Sold	$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~~ Sold	$40
	~~North Second Floor Foyer Arrangement~~ Sold	$40
	~~Wreath Beside Office Door~~ Sold	$50
	~~2 Wreaths Iron Gates Walkway~~ Sold	$30 each
	Miscellaneous items (greens, candles, etc.)	$100

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

_____

_____

Given by: _____

_____

Poinsettias (42 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