



Pastor's Column

Search Team Announces Call Weekend March 14-16

The Search Team is delighted to announce that they have a pastoral candidate to present to the congregation in view of a call. The candidate and his family will be in Suffolk for a call weekend **March 14-16th**. Over the course of the weekend, there will be times for the candidate to meet with the deacons, the staff, and any members of the congregation who wish to attend a scheduled meet and greet. The candidate will preach in worship on Sunday morning. After the service, the church will go into a called business session to vote on extending a call.

Information about the candidate and a schedule of events for the call weekend will be provided as time gets closer. In the meantime, please continue to pray for the candidate, the search team, and our entire congregation as we discern next steps together.

Thank you to our Search Team for ALL of the hard work you have done. We are grateful for your persistence, your patience, and your discernment.

Building for Hope

Our participation in the Building for Hope Initiative begins this month! Our Building for Hope team will attend the first retreat at the end of February, but we have homework to do first.

Our first task is to assemble a larger team that will work alongside the Gobens and the pastor. If you are interested in serving on this team, that will begin the work of discerning how God might be calling SCC to better utilize our facilities to fulfill our mission, please let Tracy know right away.

Our second task is to work through two assignments that we will receive this week related to our building and our neighborhood. The first meeting will be Wednesday, Jan. 29th at 5:30pm in Saints Alive. Please pray about the opportunity to serve God and SCC in this way!



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 January 8th 2025 meeting

Cheryl Griffin, Director of Beacon of Hope asked the deacons if we could possibly help feed the homeless at the shelter the week of January 13th. 20 to 25 people were served breakfast, lunch and dinner. Enough volunteers from the church responded to help in this endeavor.

The Pastoral Search committee announced that a candidate will be arriving the weekend of March 13 to meet the deacons and other members of the boards of the church. They will have a meet and greet on Saturday to introduce him and his family to our church members and then he will preach the sermon on Sunday. After the service, a vote will be held to approve or disapprove the search committee's selection.

2024's missions were impressive with a total for the year of \$9,976.00.

Stewardship Report

"We are Walking by Faith through Commitment"

January-December 2024 income - \$276,981.70

(includes \$20,000.00 from investments)

January-December 2024 expenses - \$262,018.16



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 - \$900.00

December 2024- Crossover Global Ministries - \$985.00

Total missions for 2024: \$10,016.11

January 2025 - CAPS - \$335.00



Reporting on Missions....

February's **Yellow** Envelope Mission: Genieve Shelter

The mission we are supporting for the month of February is the Genieve Shelter. This very worthy organization strives to provide a safe refuge and supportive environment for the victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and human trafficking. It is a very local mission, serving Suffolk, Franklin, Smithfield, and the counties of Isle of Wight, Southampton, and Surry. All services, which include information, education, and training, focus on ending the cycle of violence. All services are free to their clients. We hope you will contribute to this life-saving mission.



Open Deacons Meeting

The deacons invite members of the congregation to attend an open session on Wednesday February 12th from 6:30pm-7:00pm in West Memorial. You are invited to bring any questions or concerns you may have.



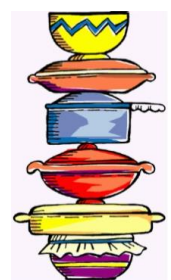
Game Nights
February 7th & 21st
7:00 PM
In the Saints Alive

CARE AND CONCERN

The Care and Concern Committee is asking that you donate your empty Cool Whip containers, Tupperware containers, etc. to the Care and Concern Committee for the use of leftovers after a funeral reception, covered-dish supper, etc. rather than throwing them away. We just ask that they are washed clean and dried. They can be left on the counter in the kitchen.

Thank you very much.

CARE AND CONCERN COMMITTEE





Elizabeth Fanny	02/02
Alana Allen	02/03
Simon Munn	02/03
Jim McCrary	02/04
Jay Baines Jr.	02/04
Sean Bilby	02/08
Alana Carollo	02/08
Susan Rawls	02/10
Debbie Topping	02/10
Vernon Gayle	02/11
Amy Hott	02/11
Rita Queen	02/13
Louise Winslow	02/15
Jim Dailey	02/15
Jackson Harry	02/16
Howie Harris IV	02/16
Victor Griffin	02/17
Jay Baines Sr.	02/17
Carmen Halley	02/18
Judy Parker	02/19
Ryleigh Harry	02/21
Julia McBride	02/22
Sharon Catala	02/23
Eddie Hawn	02/23
Cliff Thomas V	02/24
Barbara Hannah	02/25
Elizabeth Topping	02/26
Steven Brown	02/27
Marty Debranski	02/28
Mary Jane Cathey	02/29



December 23, 2024

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your gift to the ministry of Samaritan's Purse.

As we celebrate Christ's birth, home looks very different this year for survivors of Hurricanes Helene and Milton. Samaritan's Purse continues to come alongside these families to bring relief and offer the eternal hope of the Gospel. As we mud-out houses, clean up debris, and help people rebuild, we pray many will come to know the comfort that only comes from a relationship with God through His Son, Jesus Christ. **"For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace"** (Isaiah 9:6).

Your gifts and prayers are a crucial part of our ministry in over 110 nations. Thank you for your partnership. God Bless you, and Merry Christmas!

Sincerely,
Franklin Graham
President

Thank You!

We would like to extend our sincere gratitude to you for your generous donation of \$705.00, it helps us maintain our commitment to serving the community. Just as much as the increased cost of living affects our patrons, the increased cost of operations presents a challenge that we are able to overcome with God first and partners like you. Our hope is that together we can continue to provide programs and services that assist our most vulnerable in their fight to overcome poverty.

Lorna Slaughter,

Co-Founder and COO
Suffolk Christian Fellowship Center



Starting Tuesday, February 4th

7:00 pm

“Where Do We Go from Here?”

By Dr. David Jeremiah

Through *Where Do We Go From Here?* we will discover how God can give us the strength and courage to live as powerful Christians in today’s culture—to not be filled with doom but of victory. The “sky is not falling,” but rather, the King is coming! Do not curse the day, live fully in it! It is our time in history and our specific mission as believers to live a life filled with the hope of His glorious return.

This is a **10-week** study. The **book** cost is **\$10.00** and the **study guide** is **\$10.00**. Please sign up on the bulletin board outside of the church office if you would like to attend. Please make sure to check if you want the book and study guide.

If you have any questions, please contact Priscilla.

Wednesday Morning Bible Study

This Bible Study group meets at 10:00 in the conference room and is currently discussing the book, *Holy Moments*. This will be the topic through February 12. This class will not meet on Feb. 19 but will resume the following Wednesday (Feb. 26.) A new study (which has not been decided) will start then and carry on into the spring. All are welcome!



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.



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.



In Memory of

**A donation to the Food Pantry Ministry in memory of L. H. Byrum
has been given by Johnnie and Vicki Winslow**

**Donations to the Memorial Fund in memory of Maxine Barnett have been
given by Jim and Gloria Judkins, Hubert and Christine Young**

Music Board-

The Music Board is proud to announce that Dana Bilby has agreed to remain on as our choir director. She has done a great job, in Janet's absence. We are so fortunate to have her. We wish Janet our get well wishes and hope she will be able to come back. Thanks to all of you for your ongoing support. The chancel choir presented a Christmas program on December 15, 2024, with carols and scripture readings. It was very inspiring.

Kitty Martin,
Music Board Chairman



On Feb. 24, 2025 FFW will meet at 3:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall at Suffolk Christian Church. We are planning an afternoon of fun playing Bunco. Bunco is a very simple dice game that is easy to play and lots of fun. (If you've never played before, no worries...you will pick it up quickly.) There will be prizes! We will begin the afternoon with dessert, an assortment of pies. ☺ (If you would like to contribute a homemade pie, just let us know.) Please sign up on the bulletin board at church so we will know how many tables to set up. Remember you are always welcome to bring a friend. We hope you will join us.

BUNCO



Women's Fellowship Clothing Ministry

Thank you to all who have donated to the Women's Fellowship clothing drive. The last date to donate will be Sunday, Feb. 16. The distribution date will be Saturday, March 1, 2025, from 9:00am to 2:00pm. Some dates we will be sorting the clothes will be Jan. 28, Jan. 30, Feb. 4, and Feb. 6 at 10:00am. More dates will be determined if needed. Because of the large amount of clothes we have already received, we will need lots of volunteers to help with this. Remember many hands make light work. Thanks to each and every one of you for your support with this worthwhile project. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Lisa McLaughlin at (757) 593-6109.

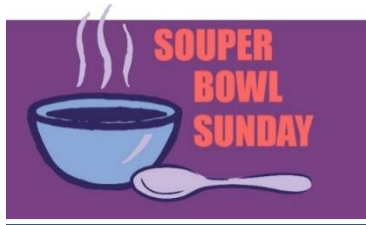


The elder of the two elevators, near the south entrance has been retired from use. It had served the church well for many decades but due to its unsafe condition it can no longer be operated. Please use the large Otis elevator near the north entrance.



Keeping Our Church Clean

We had the Sanctuary and most of the 1st floor carpets cleaned in December, as well as the Fellowship Hall and kitchen flooring. The results were excellent. Please help keep our church home tidy by cleaning up after ourselves.



February 9th

On Sunday, February 9th, the children/youth will be at the north and south doors collecting funds for our Food Ministries. The Food Ministries fund helps our Food Pantry and other food ministries in the community when needed. Thank you in advance for your donations to this ministry of our church.



Acolyte Sunday March 2nd

If you have been an acolyte this past year, please plan to attend on March 2nd. Acolytes will be recognized during the 11:00 am worship service. We are always looking for new acolytes to serve in our church. If you have any questions, please contact Sean or Priscilla.



Sunday, February 16th

We will have our annual Chili & Baked Potato Luncheon in the fellowship hall immediately following the 11:00 am worship service. Tickets will be **\$10.00** each and will be available beginning Sunday, February 2nd, in the downstairs foyer after worship each Sunday and in the Church office, Tuesday-Friday.

WHAT A WAY TO END THE YEAR!

Jim Goben, Board of Finance Chair

Greetings fellow Suffolk Christians! At our first Board of Finance meeting for 2025, our Church Treasurer, Judy Eure (who will tell you herself that she's often the bearer of doom and gloom), was almost giddy when she announced that our total income for the month of December 2024 was just shy of \$47,000. That's not a typo, friends. \$46,738 in total revenue was received in just one month! Considering that \$2,000 of that was earmarked for missions and we received a generous one-time payment from the city for right of easement, we still received over \$31,000 in loose offerings for the month! That is almost TWICE the amount we have been receiving in a "typical" month. All I can say is "thank you" and "praise the Lord".

Earlier in the month of December, the Board of Deacons announced a new initiative to make the 5th Sunday of any month – beginning with December 2024 - a Sunday of extra giving, encouraging everyone to dig a little deeper, if possible, and give a little extra in their offerings. This initiative most certainly played a huge part in the "extra" income we received in December. We have 4 months in 2025 that will have 5 Sundays (March, June, August, and November), so it is my prayer that we will continue this trend of giving so generously - not only during our normal monthly offerings, but even more so on those 5th Sundays!!

After paying all the bills and salaries for the month of December, we still ended the month with a "surplus" of almost \$24,000 and an overall surplus of \$9,000 for the year. This is an incredible outcome! Earlier last year the Board of Finance had to make the difficult, but necessary, decision to withdraw \$20,000 from one of our investment accounts just to help make ends meet. Our December income has helped to significantly offset that withdrawal and is a wonderful way to end the year!

Thank you all so much for your generosity and support of our church and its missions!

To God be the glory!!





FEBRUARY

Daily Bible Readings

Day 1: 1 Corinthians 13:1-2

Day 2: 1 Corinthians 13:3-4

Day 3: 1 Corinthians 13:5-6

Day 4: 1 Corinthians 13:7-8

Day 5: Proverbs 17:9

Day 6: 1 Corinthians 16:14

Day 7: Colossians 3:12-14

Day 8: 1 John 4:7-8

Day 9: 1 John 4:9-10

Day 10: 1 John 4:11-12

Day 11: 1 John 4:13-14

Day 12: 1 John 4:15-16

Day 13: 1 John 4:17-18

Day 14: 1 John 4:19-21

Day 15: Romans 8:37-39

Day 16: Ephesians 4:14-15

Day 17: Mark 12:29-31

Day 18: Matthew 5:43-44

Day 19: Matthew 5:45-46

Day 20: Matthews 5:47-48

Day 21: Psalm 94:18-19

Day 22: Psalm 63:1-2

Day 23: Psalm 63:3-5

Day 24: John 13:34-35

Day 25: 1 John 3:1












Day 26: Romans 13:8

Day 27: Ephesians 4:2-3

Day 28: John 15:12-13

Commit 10 minutes each day to read the verses, meditate on them and reflect on what they mean to you.

FEBRUARY 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Sunday Service	3  peace LUKE 21:4	4 1:00p Saints Alive 7:00p Bible Study	5 10:00a Bible Study 6:30pm Narcotics Anonymous bus. meeting 7:00pm Board of Christian Education	6 10:00am Thursday Crafters 7:15pm Chancel Choir	7  7:00pm Game Night	8 
9 9:15am Handbell Choir 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Sunday Service 12:00pm Souper Bowl Sunday	10	11 1:00p Saints Alive 3:00p Food Pantry 7:00p Bible Study	12 10:00a Bible Study 6:30pm Board of Deacons 7:30pm Narcotics Anonymous	13 Main St. Daycare (Heather) Use parking lot for emp. 10:00am Thursday Crafters 2:00p Prayer Team 7:15pm Chancel Choir	14 *Set up in fellowship hall 	15
16 9:15am Handbell Choir 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Sunday Service 12:00pm Chili & baked potato lunch	17 	18 12:00p Saints Alive Potluck 3:00p Food Pantry 7:00p Bible Study *Newsletter articles for March due	19 6:30pm Board of Finance 7:30pm Narcotics Anonymous	20 10:00am Thursday Crafters 7:15pm Chancel Choir	21  7:00pm Game Night	22 
23 9:15am Handbell Choir 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Sunday Service	24 3:30p Fellowship for Women (fellowship hall)	25 1:00p Saints Alive 3:00p Food Pantry 7:00p Bible Study	26 10:00a Bible Study 7:00pm Board of Bldg. & Grounds 7:30pm Narcotics Anonymous	27 10:00am Thursday Crafters 7:15pm Chancel Choir	28	