

# The Towers Newsletter

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



My Dear Friends,

I had hoped that by now, February of 2021, I would be addressing you with the great news that we had defeated The Virus and that our lives would have gotten back to "normal". That is not to be. Yet.

Yes, this has in many respects been a long, dark night. Our lives have been disrupted, to say the least, and the end is not yet in sight. Thousands and thousands of our fellow Americans have died from this virus and our lives have been disrupted beyond imagination.

But there is hope in the midst of this! As the Gospel chorus tells us, "What a mighty God we serve!" None of this, absolutely none, has come as a surprise to our Heavenly Father, and He is continuing to work out His will among us. That is our Christian hope and we should embrace it even though from our human perspective we do not understand it.

Most of you will remember Dr. Robert Shuller. He founded and pastored the Crystal Cathedral in California and was a television pastor and prolific author. He was noted for his positive thinking and this was reflected in the many books he wrote. I read over some of the titles of his books and am reminded of God's grace, titles like Toughminded Faith for Tenderhearted People . . . Tough Times Never Last but Tough People Do . . . Living Positively One Day at a Time . . . and my personal favorite, Life's Not Fair, But God Is Good.

No, these book titles will not solve your problems, but maybe one or more will strike a chord within your heart to lead you to God's Word to remind you where all of this is headed.

Take heart, fellow Christians. The final chapter has not been written and God has a lot more to say to you and me. Keep doing the right thing and pray fervently every day.

Love, Michael



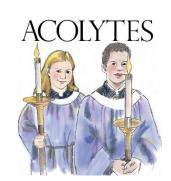
You can find the weekly services online at <a href="https://www.suffolkchristian.org">www.suffolkchristian.org</a>, YouTube or <a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/SuffolkChristianChurch/">https://www.facebook.com/groups/SuffolkChristianChurch/</a>

All your children will be taught by the Lord, and great will be their peace. Isaiah 54:13

#### FEBRUARY'S MISSION: SCC Scholarship Fund

The February special missions offering will be the SCC scholarship fund. This will be the second year that the Board of Deacons has approved this as a special focus for church missions. Members of SCC attending a level of higher learning will be eligible to apply for the SCC scholarship fund. We wish to thank those that have generously supported this special mission that offers financial support for our church members. If you have any questions, please contact Carman Goben at carmangoben@gmail.com.

If you would like to support this mission, please use your yellow envelope.



## **Acolyte Sunday**

## February 7th

Thank you to all our acolytes who faithfully serve Suffolk Christian Church. Despite there was no National Acolyte Festival in October 2020, we would like to recognize our Acolytes during the

11:00 am worship service. If you have been an acolyte in our church, please attend a practice in the sanctuary at 9:30 am. If you have any questions, please contact Sean Bilby.

## Max Lucado Bible Study

### "Fearless"

"Fearless" offers practical solutions and Scripture to life's challenges. What is fear? It is really a lack of the ability to control the outcome to a situation. This wonderful book looks at our fears over children, money, the unknown, life, and death. Come and join us for this 6-week study either on Tuesday evenings @ 7:00 pm or Wednesday mornings @ 10:00 am. The study will begin on Tuesday, February 16th, and on Wednesday, February 17<sup>th</sup>. There will be a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board outside of the church office. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Priscilla Bunch.

#### **JANUARY's MISSION: Food Pantry**

#### **Food Giveaway**

A huge thank you to everyone for your help with our Food Giveaway on January 23rd. The Lord Blessed us with a beautiful day and our volunteers distributed food bags to 150 very grateful families. Each bag contained a \$10 Wal-Mart Gift Card, 5 pounds of flour, 4 pounds of sugar, two cans of string beans, a bag of dried navy beans, a bottle of cooking oil, a box of brownie mix, a box of tea bags, a five pound bag of potatoes and a dozen eggs. We were able to provide this blessing because of your generous donations to our food pantry. We would like to thank all the Church volunteers who came out to help. Also, the City provided two very caring police officers who assisted our traffic team with stacking 60 vehicles in our south parking lot and kept it full until our food was gone. Blair Brothers provided 30 traffic cones to help keep the traffic orderly. Also, Mickey and Ann's Farmette, LLC from Southampton County donated a portion of our eggs. Lots of hands and love involved. Many thanks to each of you.

If you missed this opportunity, we are planning another one on March 13th with a March 20th rain date. Stay tuned for additional information.

















#### 2021 Deacons Ready to Serve

As we embark on a new year, the Board of Deacons stands ready to serve Suffolk Christian Church, the community and our church family. Please consider each and every member of the Board as "your" deacon and feel free to ask for assistance or prayer when needed. Anyone of the fifteen deacons listed below is just a phone call away.

Dana Bilby, Chair Evelyn Jones, Vice Chair Jonathan Martin, Secretary Rob Abernathy Mike Beale Pat Bristow Lynne Garner Jim Judkins John Kinsey Vicki Martin Jim McCrary Ed Roberts	757-539-6485 757-539-7264 757-705-9462 757-934-1422 757-934-7634 757-434-9640 757-859-9496 757-803-1465 757-539-4235 757-618-7731 757-539-7791 757-925-0307
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## Sunday, February 7th

Things will look a little different this year! In the past we have had our youth standing at the doors collecting the funds. However, this year the pots will be sitting on the tables at the south and north doors to collect funds for our Food Pantry. Your donations to the Food Pantry are greatly appreciated.



Elizabeth Fanny	Feb. 2
Simon Munn	Feb. 3
Debbie Clements	Feb. 4
Jim McCrary	Feb. 4
Jay Baines, Jr.	Feb. 4
Sean Bilby	Feb. 8
Alana Garner	Feb. 8
Earl Martin	Feb. 9
Debbie Topping	Feb. 10
Amy Hott	Feb. 11
Vernon Gayle	Feb. 11
Rita Queen	Feb. 13
James B. Dailey	Feb. 15
Jackson Harry	Feb. 16
Howie Harris	Feb. 16
Victor Griffin	Feb. 17
Millie Strickland	Feb. 17
Jay Baines, Sr.	Feb. 17
Carmen Halley	Feb. 18
Judy Parker	Feb. 19
Ryleigh Harry	Feb. 21
Julia McBride	Feb. 22
Eddie Hawn	Feb. 23
Cliff Thomas	Feb. 24
Barbara Hannah	Feb. 25
Marty Debranski	Feb. 28
Mary Jane Cathey	Feb. 29

Youth/Young Adult Meeting Saturday, February 13<sup>th</sup> 6:00 pm

Let's get together to discuss some ideas! If you can attend, please let Priscilla know by Friday, February 12<sup>th</sup>. If you can not attend and you have some ideas, please let me know.





#### Memorials

Donations to the Memorial Fund in memory of Robert (Bobby) Johnson have been given by Jimmy and Gloria Judkins, and his friends at the Thursday Lunch Group.

#### In honor of

A donation to the Care and Concern ministry in honor of Jimmy Judkins has been given by Emily King.



#### **Special Monthly Missions**

January 2020 – Coats for Community - \$577.00
February 2020 – Scholarship Fund - \$773.00
March 2020 – Western Tidewater Free Clinic - \$946.00
April 2020 – Children and Youth Fund - \$865.00
May 2020 – Crisis Pregnancy Center of Tidewater - \$720.00
June 2020 – Genieve Shelter - \$860.00
July 2020 – Salvation Army - \$815.00
August 2020 – CAPS - \$1,125.00
September 2020 – Clothing Ministry - \$640.00
October 2020 – Night Stay - \$1045.00
November 2020 – Meals on Wheels - \$935.00
December 2020 – Veterans of the Cross - \$1,374.00
Special Monthly Missions total for \$2020 - \$10,675.00

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**January 2021 – Food Pantry - \$935.00** 

## **Stewardship Report**

"We Are Walking by Faith through Commitment"

January-December income – \$276,902.29 January-December expenses - \$277,602.35

Dollars for Haiti - \$3,652.00

Total funds given to Haiti missions to date - \$2,300.00



## **Daily Scripture Readings**

We love because He first loved us. 1 John 4:8

Day 1	Ephesians 2:4-10	Day 15	Titus 3:4-5
Day 2	Zephaniah 3:17	Day 16	Luke 12:6-7
Day 3	Galatians 2:17-21	Day 17	1 John 5:1-5
Day 4	Psalm 136:1-9	Day 18	Jeremiah 31:3
Day 5	Romans 8:31-34	Day 19	Ephesians 3:14-19
Day 6	Romans 8:36-39	Day 20	Isaiah 43:4-5
Day 7	Romans 5:1-11	Day 21	John 10:7-11
Day 8	Deuteronomy 7:9	Day 22	John 10:14-18
Day 9	Ephesians 1:3-6	Day 23	1 Corinthians 13:1-13
Day 10	1 Peter 5:6-10	Day 24	Lamentations 3:22-23
Day 11	Psalm 86:8-15	Day 25	Philippians 2:1-8
Day 12	Isaiah 41:10-13	Day 26	Matthew 5:43-48
Day 13	John 15:12-17	Day 27	Matthew 6:25-29
Day 14	1 John 4:7-21	Day 28	John 13:31-35

Commit to spending 10 minutes every day to reflect and meditate on God's word. Write down your thoughts on what you have learned from the scripture every day.

## February 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 7:00pm Deacon's Meeting	2 Presentation of the Lord in the Temple (Candlemas) 7:00pm Executive Board Meeting	3 7:00pm Board of Christian Ed	4 6-15pm Masque Chancel Handbell Choir	5 11:30am Meals on Wheels	6
7 Acolyte Sunday SOUPER Bowl Sunday 9:30am Kings Ringers 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Worship Service	8	9 3:00pm Food Pantry	10 7:00pm Board of Deacons	11 10:00am Thursday Crafters 2:30pm Prayer Team 6:45pm Masque Chancel Handbell Choir	12 11:30am Meals on Wheels	13 6:00pm Youth/Young Adult Meeting
14 St. Valentine's Day 9:30am Kings Ringers 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Worship Service	15 George Washington's birthday	16 2:30pm Food Pantry 7:00pm Max Lucado "Fearless" Bible Study	10:00um Max Lucado "Fearless" Bible Study 7:00pm Board of Finance	Choir	19 11:30am Meals on Wheels	20
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