

The Towers Newsletter

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

 FEBRUARY 2022



This month we will continue to celebrate the season of Epiphany as the Scriptures shed new light on who Jesus is each week. On February 7th we will explore Jesus' dedication in the temple in Luke 2:22-40. On February 13th, we'll read the story of Jesus calling his first disciples. The last two weeks of the season we'll struggle with how Jesus calls us to live. We'll end the month with Transfiguration Sunday where Jesus will be transformed into light. Plan to join us each week as God surprises us time and time again and we see how these passages relate to us in these challenging days.

We will also hold our first two Town Hall meetings this month. Please continue to pray for the transition team, our congregation, and the pastor that God is preparing to call to live and serve at Suffolk Christian Church. Please participate in the meetings, your voice and your story matters!

Finally, you are invited to join me in West Memorial on Wednesday January 26th from 1:00 – 2:30 p.m. for a presentation by the Lilly Endowment entitled: Exploring the Pandemic's Impact on Congregations: What Do We Know and What Do We Still Need to Learn? This workshop will report new findings from two recent surveys (from August and December 2021) of 4000 churches about how they and their clergy are faring and the challenges and possibilities facing faith communities. It will provide an overview of an extensive Lilly Endowment-funded research project led by Hartford Institute for Religion Research to track what the next five years will look like for faith communities, their leaders and members. Finally, it will explore ways that congregations can participate and be informed by this ongoing research and take advantage of the resources produced.

On the journey with you,
Tracy



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Update from the Transition Team

The transition team met together on Sunday, January 16th to begin planning our first two Town Hall Meetings that will explore our history and heritage. Please put these dates on your calendar and plan to come and share your experiences and stories of Suffolk Christian Church: February 13, 2022 and February 27, 2022 after worship in the Fellowship Hall. A light lunch will be provided at each meeting. Please sign-up on the bulletin board outside the church office so we have plenty of food!

In addition to building a timeline of our church, we will be discussing the following questions as we enjoy lunch together:

Meeting #1 – February 13, 2022

1. What I like most about this congregation is...
2. Reflect on your entire time at Suffolk Christian Church (SCC) and remember a time when you felt most alive, most motivated and excited about your involvement:
 - a. Describe the circumstances and your involvement
 - b. Who was involved?
 - c. How did you feel?
 - d. What was happening?
3. What are the essential, central characteristics or ways of life that make SCC unique?
4. What is most important about SCC?

Meeting #2 – February 27, 2022

1. How have you experienced Christ's love from other members of SCC? Describe what happened.
2. What are the most important things this faith community has contributed to your life?
 - a. Who or what made a difference?
 - b. How did it affect you?
3. When you think about how SCC has related to the community and work, what do you think has been most important? How do we express God's love, mercy and justice to others?
4. What recurring event most defines SCC?

Please think and pray about these questions over the next few weeks and come ready to share your story.

Unable to make these meetings? We will schedule zoom meetings for those who are unable to attend. Please call the church office if you would like to register for a zoom meeting. You may also write out your answers and mail them to the church office. Every voice is important in the process, and we want to hear from you!

Transition Team: Dana Bilby, Evelyn Jones, Billy Wyatt, John Kinsey, Curtiss Johnson, Joyce Trump and Vickie Wilson



Notes from the Board of Deacons



February is here and we all pray the January weather and illnesses within our Church are beginning to decline. Thanks to everyone for your help in keeping our Church a safe place to worship.

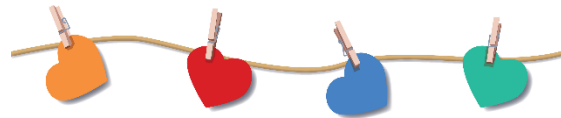
We would like to thank Joe Simmons for bringing us a very inspirational message in January. Due to bad weather in the Richmond area, Dr. Hartman was unable to make the trip to Suffolk. Joe stepped in at the last minute and reminded us all how much our God loves us as He gave us His only Son. Our congregation is so blessed with our lay members. As you say your prayers today, please thank the Lord for each of them.

February is going to be an exciting month as we begin our Town Hall Meetings. Your participation is so important as we seek our permanent minister. If at any time you have questions or concerns, please let us know.

Please remember to keep the Transition Team, Dr. Hartman, and our congregation in your prayers each and every day.

God's blessings to each of you.

Evelyn Jones, Chair
Board of Deacons



I love my church family!



February's Mission: Meals on Wheels

Please use your yellow envelope this month to support this very worthwhile mission. Meals on Wheels receives no government funding which makes your donation so important to them. People in our community who need help with the provision of their daily meals can sign up to receive 2 each day, Monday through Friday. One meal is cold and one, hot and each is prepared and packaged by Obici Hospital. Our church sponsors a team and has numerous volunteers who participate but can always use more help. Our SCC team delivers the Friday route to the Chuckatuck area and there are always two volunteers who travel together. Kitty Martin is the chair of our team and she says this mission warms her heart because people are always so appreciative. Carmen Halley, one of our volunteers, says a huge part of this mission is the contact between volunteer and recipient. It is sometimes the only person they see in a day. Carmen says it takes about an hour to deliver to 10-15 people and her turn (with Michael) comes around every 5-6 weeks. Even under Covid conditions people have faithfully delivered meals although for now they are usually left at the front door. Perhaps God is calling you to this mission. If you are willing to serve Him in this way, please let the church office know or talk to Kitty.

Winter Bible Study



Winter Bible Study

Please consider joining us for a new Bible study this winter. We will be talking about the book *Heaven* by Randy Alcorn. This study will last seven weeks and there are accompanying DVDS. There will be two sessions, one on Tuesday night at 7:00 p.m. and one on Wednesday morning at 10:00 a.m. The sessions will start Feb. 8, 9. Randy Alcorn has researched all aspects of heaven for many years and he has written a very compelling book. His work is grounded in scripture and he says it is a myth that the Bible says very little about heaven. If YOU would like to know more about heaven please sign up on the bulletin board.

Church Conference, March 27, 2022

There will be a Church Conference after church services on **March 27, 2022**. If you have any questions regarding Board Reports, please direct them to that Boards' Chairperson. Please have all conference reports to Amy Peterson by March 16.



Updated Covid-19 Protocols



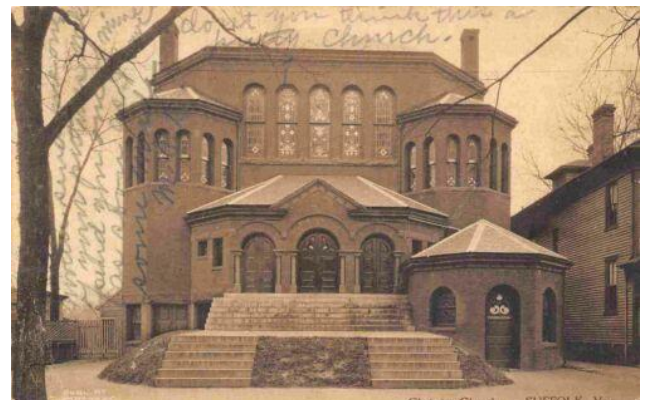
UPDATED COVID-19 PROTOCOLS

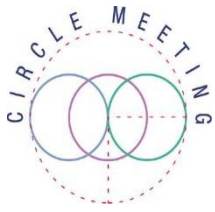
With the surge in new COVID cases, our COVID-19 task force met on to review our protocols for gathering. At this time, the team is encouraging us to wear masks and to renew our commitment to social distancing and hand sanitizing. Thank you for doing your part to help us remain healthy!

A Step Back In Time

The new church building, which encompasses our present-day sanctuary, cost \$40,000.00 and was the largest sanctuary in the city at that time, with a seating capacity of about 600 people. It was the second public building in Suffolk to be wired for electricity. A dedication service was held on Sunday, January 28th, 1894.

Except from "History Suffolk Christian Church 1860-1960"





The **Afternoon Circle** will meet on February 7th at 1:00. All are welcome to join!

The **Evening Circle** will meet February 7 at 7PM in the conference room. Please join us as we study Max Lucado's book *Anxious for Nothing*. We are just getting started. Come join us!

Game Nights
6:45 PM
February 4
February 18



A measure of love

Jesus says one golden rule sums up the law.

Directions: Match the word parts from the ruler to the incomplete words in the first three Bible verses. Then add the bolded letters (in order) to Matthew 7:12 to complete that verse.

Do not seek **re** ____ or bear a grudge against anyone among your ____ople, but **love** your **neig** ____ as yourself.

LEVITICUS 19:18, NIV

Learn to do **right**; seek jus _____. Defend the ____pressed. Take up the cause of the ____less; **plea**d the ____e of the widow.

ISAIAH 1:17, NIV

He has shown you, O mortal, what is go ____ To act **justly** and to **love** me ____ and to walk ____ly with your God.

MICAH 6:8, NIV

So in ____ything, do to ot ____ what you would ____ve them d ____ to you, for this s ____ms up the ____w and the Proph ____s.

MATTHEW 7:12, NIV

father ____
 pe ____
 ____venge
 ____od
 ____rcy
 op ____
 ____hbor
 humb ____
 cas ____
 ____tice

Answer: revenge, people, neighbors, justice, oppressed, fatherless, case, good, mercy, humbly, everything, others, have, do, sums, Law, Prophets

FEBRUARY Birthdays

Happy Birthday !!!!

Elizabeth Fanny	Feb. 2
Simon Munn	Feb. 3
Alana Allen	Feb. 3
Debbie Clements	Feb. 4
Jim McCrary	Feb. 4
Jay Baines, Jr.	Feb. 4
Sean Bilby	Feb. 8
Alana Garner Carollo	Feb. 8
Debbie Topping	Feb. 10
Susan Rawls	Feb. 10
Amy Hott	Feb. 11
Vernon Gayle	Feb. 11
Rita Queen	Feb. 13
Louise Winslow	Feb. 15
James B. Dailey	Feb. 15
Jackson Harry	Feb. 16
Howie Harris	Feb. 16
Victor Griffin	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
Elizabeth Topping	Feb. 26
Steven Brown	Feb. 27
Marty Debranski	Feb. 28
Mary Jane Cathey	Feb. 29

The 2022 boxes of tithing envelopes are available for pick up in the foyer outside of the sanctuary on the second floor. If you did not receive a box of envelopes and would like one, please notify Dae Nixon.



FEBRUARY

Donations to the Memorial Fund in memory of Jack Harry have been given by Dale and Helen Kelley, Hazardous Material Team Operations, H. Glenn James, Kay Culpepper, Wayne and Debbie Wiggins, Bill Chorey, Betsy Brothers, Richard and Joyce Pond

A donation to Care and Concern in memory of Jack Harry has been given by H. Jan Ellis.

Donations to the Memorial Fund in memory of Earl Martin have been given by Beth Polson, Joyce Trump, Bill and Dae Nixon, Jim and Becky Bradshaw

A donation to Care and Concern in memory of Earl Martin has been given by H. Jan Ellis.

Donations to the Memorial Fund in memory of Forrest Cathey have been given by Suzann Stimpert, Rebecca Pinner, Lin and Martha Callis, C. F. and Linnie Jordan, Jim and Becky Bradshaw, Joe and Nancy Webb, Frank and Mary Margaret Black, Ed Walter, Marshall and Cathey Brown, Mills and Gin Staylor, George Birdsong

A donation to Care and Concern in memory of Forrest Cathey has been given by H. Jan Ellis.

Closing our Post Office Box

Effective February 1, 2022, we will no longer receive mail at our **P. O. Box 1457** address. All mail will be delivered here at **216 N. Main Street** address. Several of you have used an auto payment method from your banking institution to send funds to the church. Please notify them of this change.

Thank you!



Special Monthly Missions

January 2021 - Food Pantry - \$1,200.00
February 2021 - Scholarship Fund - \$840.00
March 2021 - Western Tidewater Free Clinic - \$845.00
April 2021 - Children's/Youth Fund - \$965.00
May 2021 - Crisis Pregnancy Center - \$651.00
June 2021 - Genieve Shelter - \$657.00
July 2021 - Salvation Army - \$935.00
August 2021 - CAPS - \$1,085.00
September 2021 - Food Pantry - \$830.00
October 2021 - Meals on Wheels - \$725.00
November 2021 - Night Stay for CAPS - \$1,075.00
December 2021 - Veterans of the Cross - \$1090.00
Total for 2021 - \$10,898.00
January 2022 - Church Family Assistance - \$470.00



The 2021 tithing statements have been mailed. If you have any questions, please contact Dae Nixon, Financial Secretary

Souper Bowl Sunday



Sunday, February 13th

We will have our Youth/Children standing at the North and South doors as you leave church to collect your donations for Souper Bowl Sunday. The donations will be given to our Food Pantry. Thank you for your continued support of our Food Pantry.



We will be listing our College Students in our weekly Prayer Guide. Please look over the Prayer Guide and if we have omitted a student, please let Priscilla Bunch know as soon as possible. As the students return to college, we want to pray for their safe return.



FEBRUARY



Daily Scripture Readings

Day 1:	Joshua 1:9	Day 15:	Colossians 3:14
Day 2:	Psalms 109:26	Day 16:	Romans 8:37-39
Day 3:	1 Corinthians 13:13	Day 17:	2 Thessalonians 3:5
Day 4:	Zephaniah 3:17	Day 18:	Psalms 86:15
-Day 5:	1 John 4:7-8	Day 19:	John 15:13
Day 6:	1 John 4:9-10	Day 20:	Psalms 63:3
Day 7:	Jeremiah 29:11	Day 21:	Jeremiah 31:3
Day 8:	John 3:16	Day 22:	Galatians 2:20
Day 9:	Ephesians 2:4-5	Day 23:	1 John 4:16
Day 10:	Psalms 136:26	Day 24:	1 John 4:18
Day 11:	John 15:9	Day 25:	Romans 5:8
Day 12:	Isaiah 54:10	Day 26:	1 John 3:1
Day 13:	Ephesians 3:18-19	Day 27:	Jude 1:20-21
Day 14:	Ephesians 5:25	Day 28:	Psalms 36:7

Commit to reading your bible 10 minutes each day. Meditate on the scripture you have read and how it applies to your life.

“We love because He first loved us.” 1 John 4:19





December 31, 2021

"A rising tide raises all ships." Over the past years Supply and Multiply has had numerous organizations come alongside us to encourage us and support the calling place on the ministry. Organizations like Learning to Hope in Haiti have stayed at our guest house, loved on the elderly, sang and brought supplies to the Matthew 25 House, and continued to pour into the schools and orphanages in Montrouis. We have had other organizations like World Race come to grow with God, love others, and make a difference in the world. We had a student pilot from Missionary Flights International serve alongside a mission team to gain a better understanding their mission field. We have medical students from schools come and work with our elderly and provide them with physical therapy and most recently they've been working with our vision impaired in the use of a walking stick.

We are excited to share with you some ways that Supply and Multiply will be working with other organizations in Haiti and other locations to meet the needs of Haitians. We will start the year working with an organization in the Dominican Republic that comes alongside Haitian children, housing them in an orphanage which provides for them a home, education, and most importantly, the love of Christ. We will also be ministering to Haitians that live in bateyes, a term used to refer to a rural community of sugarcane workers. They work under the most oppressive conditions. In February will be working with the Tim Tebow Foundation to host the Night to Shine event in Montrouis Haiti. Night to Shine is an unforgettable prom night experience, centered on God's love, for people with special needs ages 14 and older. Many of the attenders are people that we minister to in various ways in Montrouis.

Supply and Multiply has been blessed from its inception to partner with individuals, churches, businesses, and communities to serve the Haitian population. All of the additional ministries that Supply and Multiply is working with and coming along side do not take from any of the existing programs. It strengthens them. Right now during this most difficult season when it's hard to have our feet on the ground in Haiti or host mission teams in Montrouis due to the instability, we are walking in obedience, faith, and wisdom.

God has opened doors for us to continue to serve the Haitian community in a new capacity. We will be working with those that have escaped the oppression and ills of Haiti and unfortunately fallen into another one in the Dominican Republic. We will continue to support and encourage the Supply and Multiply staff and ministries in Haiti. When we are in the Dominican Republic we are prayerful that some of the Supply and Multiply Staff will join us. This will allow us to encourage them. In addition, it will allow them to serve their native countryman and bring supplies and resources back with them to Haiti. It also continues the desire of people who have partnered with Supply and Multiply to go on mission and leave the walls of their church.

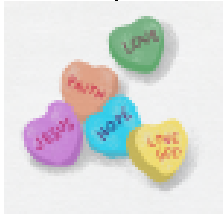



We see everything that God is doing as His provision and ordained steps. I started this letter by saying a rising tide raises all ships and I'll end it by reemphasize that point and add one more thing. To the extent that we participate with what God is doing together as the kingdom of believers, when we bring Christ compassion and His message to the world, we give Him the ultimate glory and ultimate praise that He is deserving of and due.

We ask for your prayers for the Nation of Haiti. Specifically, for there to be an established government, open roads and port, functioning hospitals and medical centers, schools filled with students, and most importantly for Christ to enter into the hearts and minds of people to transform the evil and encourage and bring hope to the believers.

In His Love,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Paul Chagnon".

February 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 2:00pm Saints Alive	2 7:00pm Board of Christian Ed 7:00pm Music Committee Meeting 7:30pm Narcotics Anonymous	3 10:00am Thursday Crafters 6:45pm Chancel Handbell Choir 7:30pm Chancel Choir	4 11:30am Meals on Wheels 6:45pm Game Night	
6 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Worship Service	7 1:00pm Afternoon Circle 7:00pm Evening Circle	8 2:00pm Saints Alive 3:00pm Food Pantry 7:00pm Bible Study "Heaven" by Randy Alcorn	9 10:00am Bible Study "Heaven" by Randy Alcorn 7:00pm Board of Deacons 7:30pm Narcotics Anonymous	10 10:00am Thursday Crafters 10:00am Prayer Team 6:45pm Chancel Handbell Choir 7:30pm Chancel Choir	11 11:30am Meals on Wheels	
13 Souper Bowl Sunday 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Worship Service 12:00pm Town Hall & Lunch	14 Valentine's Day 	15 2:00pm Saints Alive Poduck 3:00pm Food Pantry 7:00pm Bible Study "Heaven" by Randy Alcorn	16 10:00am Bible Study "Heaven" by Randy Alcorn 7:00pm Board of Finance 7:30pm Narcotics Anonymous	17 10:00am Thursday Crafters 6:45pm Chancel Handbell Choir 7:30pm Chancel Choir	18 11:30am Meals on Wheels 6:45pm Game Night	19
20 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Worship Service 5:00pm Deacon Dinner	21 Newsletter Articles Due President's Day 	22 2:00pm Saints Alive 3:00pm Food Pantry 7:00pm Bible Study "Heaven" by Randy Alcorn	23 10:00am Bible Study "Heaven" by Randy Alcorn 7:00pm House of Worship 7:30pm Narcotics Anonymous	24 10:00am Thursday Crafters 6:45pm Chancel Handbell Choir 7:30pm Chancel Choir	25 11:30am Meals on Wheels	26
27 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Worship Service 12:00pm Town Hall & Lunch	28	