

The Towers Newsletter

216 North Main Street, Suffolk VA 23434

Website: www.suffolkchristian.org



January

2024



January 2024 Newsletter

Thank you to everyone who helped make the Advent and Christmas season such a meaningful one here at SCC. I am grateful for all those who assisted with our potluck fellowship lunch and the reception after the cantata. Thank you to the choir, ringers, youth, children, and accompanists who led us for that special evening. I am grateful for our staff and worship leaders and all those who donated flowers to beautify our church during this holy season. There are many thankful families in our community who received food and toys due to our ministry outreach. It has been a busy season of fellowship and ministry!

Coming Up in January and February

Plan to join us in worship during in January and February. Here is what's coming up:

December 31st – Jim Goben will be preaching

January 7th - we will celebrate Deacon ordination, communion, and Epiphany

January 14th –we will celebrate the baptism of the Lord and remember our baptisms

January 21st – we will begin a new series on the Art of Neighboring. We'll explore: who is our neighbor, how do we love and serve our neighbor, what to do when we fear our neighbor and much, much more. This is a timely series as we prepare to launch two new outreach ministries in 2024.

Follow up to the November Town Hall

Thank you to everyone who attended the Town Hall in November and volunteered to develop one of our four new initiatives. The deacons spent time at their December meeting talking about how to move forward, and I will be reaching out to each team in January to help us continue this important work.

Pastor Search Update

The Pastor Search Team continues to interview candidates as they emerge. Please continue to pray for the Search Team and for our next pastor, whoever he or she may be! We are continuing to trust that God is leading us every step of the way. Until this person answers God's call to SCC, I'm on the journey with you, Tracy



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



Town Hall Meeting to be Held January 21

Please mark your calendar for January 21, 2024...this is the date for our next Town Hall meeting, which will follow our 11:00 worship service that day. The Deacons are sponsoring a potluck fellowship lunch. Chicken will be provided.... please bring sides and desserts. The topic for the day will be our church constitution. The Deacons hope to provide better understanding for the changes that were proposed at our October conference. Feedback from the congregation at that conference is being carefully considered before the constitution is offered again to our church body for approval. We hope you will attend this important meeting in the life of our church.



The Christmas Jubilee at the Rudy Theater was enjoyed by 21 of our Church Members and Friends on December 4th. We found out very quickly... "what happens in Selma North Carolina stays in Selma North Carolina." We are hoping to do this again soon. Hope you can join us.



Board of Deacons Report: 13 December 2023

The Board of Deacons met on Wednesday, December 13, 2023, for the final meeting of 2023. Alan Garner welcomed our newly elected Deacons, Lisa Carraway, Kim Parr, Robert Abernathy and Betty Johnson to the Board. He also acknowledged the members who have completed their terms and will be leaving the Board: Mike Beale, Jonathan Martin, Pat Wyatt and Evelyn Jones. Jimmy Judkins, who will serve as Chairman of the Board for 2024, recommended the approval of Ginnie Kinsey as Co-Chair and Lisa Carraway as Clerk, both of whom agreed to serve. The following items were discussed.

1. Ginnie Kinsey reported the Food Missions continues to grow and our church participated in the Suffolk Community Effort Thanksgiving Food Drive and the Holland Community Food Drive. The Board voted to establish a SCC/City School Mission. Our January Yellow Envelope will support our new initiative. Our Yellow Envelope for February will be designated for Coats for the Community. It was also reported we received our annual donation of \$5,000 from the Talmadge Darden Trust to support our Food Missions.
2. The Board voted to make a donation from the Sheltering the Homeless Mission to assist Cheryl Griffin in establishing a non-profit, Beacon of Hope in Western Tidewater, Inc.
3. The Board previously approved a request from All Saints Presbyterian Church to use our building for a second Sunday service beginning at 2:00 PM. This request has been approved by both Churches and this service will begin in January.
4. At the request of the Board, Dr. Hartman has researched several possible organizations with which we could consider an affiliation in the future. The Board chose to obtain additional information on the CBF Group. We are familiar with this group as we have used this resource to assist us in providing our special offering donations collected for distressed areas. A representative of this group will be asked to meet with the Board in either January or February.
5. Dr. Hartman will begin meeting with the four groups which were formed at our Town Hall Meeting held on November 12, 2023, to begin working on these initiatives.
6. The Board will hold a Town Hall Meeting with a covered dish luncheon on January 21, 2024, following the 11:00 AM service to give the congregation a time to ask any questions or express any concerns regarding the revisions to the Church Constitution. It is hoped all will attend.
7. Alan Garner was thanked for his service as Chair to the Board for 2023.

Reporting on Missions....

Yellow Envelope Mission for January:

SCC/SUFFOLK SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP

Every child deserves to have all the tools available to ensure they have the opportunity to learn and grow. One of the initiatives resulting from our town hall meetings was to invest in our local schools, by helping to meet the needs of students and teachers. Children are the world's most valuable asset and appreciation and support for their education is paramount to their success!





January 2023 – Church Family Assistance - \$1,108.00
February 2023 – Coats for Community - \$865.00
March 2023 – Western Tidewater Free Clinic - \$987.00
April 2023 – SCC Scholarship Fund - \$1,567.00
May 2023– Tornado and Storm Damage - \$943.00
June 2023– Meals on Wheels - \$765.00
July 2023– Crisis Pregnancy Center - \$904.00
August 2023 – Genieve Shelter - \$921.00
September 2023 – Neighbors in Need - \$855.00
October 2023 - Sheltering the Homeless - \$1,070.00
November 2023 – Church Family Assistance - \$1,015.00
December 2023 -Supply & Multiply - \$790.00

Total 2023 missions giving to date - \$11,790.00

Stewardship Report

“We are Walking by Faith through Commitment”

January – November 2023 income - \$228,420.08
January – November 2023 expenses - \$234,571.85

Dollars for Supply & Multiply - \$623.48



In Memory of

**A donation to the General Fund in memory of
Bill and Janet Ellis has been given by Jan Ellis and Family**

**A donation in memory of Talmadge Darden has been made to the
Food Ministry of Suffolk Christian Church from
the E. Talmadge Darden Fund.**



Coats for the Community, Winter 2024

Our mission to provide warm coats to friends in our community has seen many changes since it began in 1990...that's 33 years of trying to get coats into the hands of those who need them!! We have heard people call our church the "Coats Church" and indeed we often have calls from people who might need a coat or have coats to donate. What a privilege to participate in this endeavor and to be known for this mission. What "Coats for the Community 2024" will look like is this: We continue to maintain a Coats Closet on the 3rd floor and will accept donations of gently used coats, hats, scarves, gloves and mittens. We have also purchased some coats to stock the Closet and will purchase coats for specific needs as we learn of them. The Adult Bible Class sponsors this project but it is a church wide effort and we hope you will participate with us. Class members do the purchasing with our available funds but we also invite and encourage any church member to help in this procurement process. We very much need your help to get warm coats into the arms of those who need them. Please let us know of any need you may learn about and please feel free to bring someone to church to look for a coat. The room is not locked...you can access it through the Adult Bible Classroom. We invite your participation and ideas. We are always interested in ways we can serve our community more productively. And as always our aim is to glorify our Father.

Ways you can help:

*Make a financial donation to the coats fund, to make these and future purchases possible.

*Volunteer to shop for a needed coat. (You do not have to pay for the coat yourself, but can turn in a receipt to be reimbursed.) Or if you see a great value on a coat, please purchase for the Closet. We are always in need of extra-large coats (especially 2X through 5 X.) And right now we do not have many children's coats.

*Please, please pray for this project and all individuals in need in our community. Thank you!



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

John Nemish	01/02
Summer Rice	01/03
Phil Thatch	01/06
Pat Byrum	01/06
Latane Barton	01/06
Bert Young III	01/06
Caden Fleming	01/06
Ryan Fleming	01/06
Gary Williams	01/07
Jim Thorsen Jr.	01/07
Jim Shank Sr.	01/11
Richard Savage III	01/11
Muriel Shumate	01/13
Jimmy Judkins Jr.	01/14
Jason Fanny	01/17
Jane Marie Dailey	01/19
Rylan Ashcraft	01/22
Chris Topping	01/23
Cameron Worrell	01/25
Pat Fowler	01/25
Kelly Myles	01/28
Ginnie Kinsey	01/28
June Beale	01/30
Debra Carr	01/31



January 5th

January 19th

Come join in the fun @ 7:00pm and play cards with us. Lots of laughs!

CHURCHWIDE FELLOWSHIP



In the Fall, Churchwide Fellowship voted to sponsor some type of lunch after the worship services on every 3rd Sunday to help promote more fellowship in our church. The first luncheon will be in February, immediately after the worship service in the Fellowship Hall. More information coming in February newsletter.



Women's Fellowship

NEW FELLOWSHIP FOR WOMEN

One of the initiatives coming from our recent Town Hall meeting is the idea of restarting a fellowship group for women at Suffolk Christian Church. In years past we have had a Women's Fellowship organization that included each lady in the church. It used to meet as a large body a few times a year and then was further broken into small groups called circles. The circle meetings were held once a month during the school year. Times changed and Covid happened and these meetings have ceased to be. Numerous ladies of the church have expressed interest in restarting such a group. We would like to form a leadership panel to explore how to go about doing this. If you are interested in working with a small group to get things going, please contact Beverly McGahee, Priscilla Bunch, or sign up on the bulletin board. All ladies will be invited to attend any event planned but we need a small group to help organize it. At this time, we see our purpose as promoting fellowship and unity among women and a closer connection to our Lord Jesus. Please cover this effort with your prayers.



Food Pantry Needs

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

Food Pantry Needs - Applesauce (Individual Cups); Canned fruit, Snacks (Granola Bars, Nabs, Individual Packs of Nuts), Oatmeal (Individual Servings), Pop Tarts, Small boxes of cereal, Noodles, Spaghetti, Spaghetti Sauce, Macaroni, Rice (1 lb. Bags), Dried Beans, Canned Meats, Canned Vegetables, Macaroni and Cheese, Canned Pasta, Peanut Butter, Jelly, Crackers, Protein Shakes, Boxed Milk, Bottled Water, and Flavor Packets for Water Bottles

With MUCH Appreciation,

Meals on Wheels of Suffolk & Isle of Wight

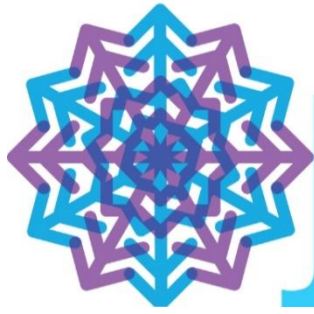
HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

One of the real joys of the Holiday Season

is the opportunity to say

Thank You

and to wish you the very best for the New Year



JANUARY 2024

Daily Bible Readings

Day #1	Psalm 42:11	Day #17	Romans 5:5
Day #2	Isaiah 40:31	Day #18	Psalm 33:22
Day #3	Psalm 121:7-8	Day #19	Psalm 130:5
Day #4	Romans 15:13	Day #20	1 Peter 1:3
Day #5	Matthew 11:28	Day #21	Isaiah 61:1
Day #6	Hebrews 11:1	Day #22	1 Peter 3:15
Day #7	Romans 5:3-4	Day #23	Colossians 1:27
Day #8	1 Corinthians 13:13	Day #24	Ephesians 4:4
Day #9	Psalm 119:114	Day #25	Proverbs 24:11
Day #10	Hebrews 10:23	Day #26	Ephesians 1:18
Day #11	Psalm 31:24	Day #27	1 Corinthians 13:6-7
Day #12	Romans 8:25	Day #28	Proverbs 10:28
Day #13	Micah 7:7	Day #29	Psalm 62:5
Day #14	Proverbs 13:12	Day #30	Romans 15:4
Day #15	Lamentations 3:24	Day #31	Ecclesiastes 3:1
Day #16	Psalm 25:5		

Commit to reading your bible 10 minutes daily.

Christmas Flowers 2023

Outside Front Wreath is in memory of **Forrest H. Cathey** given by Mary Jane, Patricia, Donna, and Barbara

Outside Front Wreath is in memory of **Thomas** given by His Family

Upstairs Balcony Wreath is in honor of **Those Who Serve Others** given by Orin Reams

Upstairs Balcony Wreath is in memory of **Deceased Class Members** given by The Adult Bible Class

Upstairs Balcony Wreath is in memory of **Dot** and **Elvin St. Clair** and **Russell Garner** given by Lynne and Alan Garner

Upstairs Balcony Wreath is in honor of **Grace** and **Tom Atkins** given by Lynne and Alan Garner

Inside Front Column Wreath is in memory of **Ann Ralph** given by Wendy, Art, Conner, and Bobby

Inside Front Column Wreath is in memory of **Bud** and **Mary Jane Writtenberry** and **Jobie** and **Marie Jones** given by Calvin and Evelyn

Side Foyer Arrangement (Credenza) is in memory of **William "Punk"** and **Betty Brantley**, **Earl** and **Amy Barrett**, **Ruth Barrett**, and **Lycurgus** and **Byrdie Barrett** given by Betty Jo Brantley Nuckols and Bruce Nuckols and Family & Marion Barrett Murphy and Family

Side Foyer Arrangement (Table Beside Christian Ed Office) is in honor of Torri Queen given by Tommy and Rita Queen

Huntboard Arrangement is in memory of **Louise B.** and **James W. Dailey** given by Jane Marie and Jim Dailey

Piano and Organ Arrangement is in memory of **Louise Bradshaw** given by Mary Lou Bradshaw

Upstairs Foyer Arrangement (Outside of Sanctuary) is in memory of **Donnie Johnson** given by Betty and Curtiss Johnson

Downstairs Newel Post Swag is in memory of **Buck Hurley & Doris Hurley Williams** given by Cheryl, Kenny, Kyle, and Shannon

Wreath North Entrance Column is in honor of **Those Who Serve Others** given by Orin Reams

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Wreath North Entrance Door is in memory of **Beverly** and **Janie Aston**, **Betty Aston McCloud**, **Ron Aston**, and **Kathy Aston Parker** given by Their Family

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Wreath Iron Gate Front Entrance is in memory of **R. E., Geneva and Bobby Johnson** given by Bobby Johnson Family

Wreath Iron Gate Front Entrance is in memory of **Warren, Emma, Jimmy, and Larry Rountree** given by Bobby Johnson Family

North Foyer Arrangement is in memory of **Lisa Noel, Mike Jacobs, and Lawrence** and **Elizabeth Burnett** given by David, Barbara, and Michaela

North Second Floor Arrangement is in memory of **John C. "Jack" Harry, III, Martha Harry Young, and Margaret Harry Heuberger** given by The Harry Family

Wreath Beside Office Door is in memory of **Richard E, Saunders, Abram and Edla Norfleet, Percy and Ida Saunders, William F. Norfleet, Robert A. Norfleet, Marianna and Robert Whitley, Doris Bailey, and Clifton Saunders** given by Margaret Saunders

Wreath Iron Gate Walkway is in memory of **Brooks Young** given by Hubert and Christine Young

Wreath Iron Gate Walkway is in memory of **Our Son, Corey** given by John and Ginnie

Boxwood Wreath is in memory of **Bonnie C. McCrary** and **Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Coggins** given by Jim McCrary & Family

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Boxwood Wreath is in honor of **Our Children, Jenny Lynne** and **Matthew Stroup, Sara Beth** and **Taylor Thomason**, and **Alana** and **Mark Carollo** given by Lynne and Alan Garner

Boxwood Wreath is in honor of **Our Grandchildren, Brayden Matthew Stroup, Luke Alan Stroup, Elizabeth Taylor Thomason, Miles Joseph Carollo**, and **Evan Russell Thomason** given by Lynne and Alan Garner

Boxwood Wreath is in memory of **Paige** and **Bill Redd, Steve Redd, & Mildred Brown** given by Cheryl & Tommy Ashcraft

Boxwood Wreath is in honor of **Abigail** and **Phoebe Bilby** given by Their Parents

Boxwood Wreath is in memory of **Miss Susie I. Powell, J. W. Powell, John** and **Nancy Holland, Lillye I. Holland** and **Emma F. Eley**

Boxwood Wreath is in memory of **Kenny Martin** given by Vicki and Les

Boxwood Wreath is in memory of **Leslie and Evelyn Nelms** given by Vicki and Les

Boxwood Wreath is in memory of **Emma Rountree** given by Good Friends, Tim and Helen

Boxwood Wreath in memory of **Elton Boyce** and in honor of **Mildred Boyce** given by Robert and Marilyn Boyce

Boxwood Wreath is in memory of **Locke and Trythenea Baker** given by Robert and Marilyn Boyce

Boxwood Wreath is in memory of **John** and **Connie Taylor** given by Good Friends, Tim and Helen

Poinsettias

In Memory Of

Robert and **Mary Drew** given by Tommy and Rita Queen

Claude and **Danise Queen** given by Tommy and Rita Queen

Ruth Gibbs Sykes given by Joyce Ralph

Clinton and **Christine Fanny** given by Jimmy and Sharon Fanny

Herbert and **Jo Ann Briggs** given by Jimmy and Sharon Fanny

Charles C. Johnson given by Audrey Johnson

Joseph T. and **Ellen Louise Goodman Pierce** and **Dr. J. Michael** and

Margaret Ricketts Nemish given by John and Janet

Bonnie C. McCrary and **Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Coggins** given by McCrary Family

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Frank and **Margery Hannah** given by Billy and Barbara Hannah

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Mildred and C. C. Bracy given by Diane Mathias and Family
Earl and Margaret Rountree given by Benita Rhodes
My Dad and Our Granddad, Irvin Salmon given by Lisa, Andy, Meredith, Mary Blythe, and Danielle
Our Grandparents given by Jim, Carman, Lindsay, and Emma
Irvin Salmon given by Claudia Salmon
Jo Ann Wills given by Claudia Salmon
Hilda and Winston Meade given by Claudia Salmon
Lonnie Cones given by Rob and Elaine
Frank and Georgie Lee Abernathy given by Rob and Elaine
Lonnie Cones given by Doris Cones
David and Mary Parker given by The Family
Billy Parker given by The Family
Robert and Rachel Duke Ellis given by Jan Ellis and Family
Lena Ann Crutchlow Ellis given by Jan Ellis and Family
Mary Ellis Vick and Everlina Ellis given by Jan Ellis and Family
Bill and Jane Ellis given by Jan Ellis and Family
Nather Crutchlow Ellis given by Jan Ellis and Family
Jim Morrison given by Jan Ellis and Family
Albro and Fannie Ellis given by Jan Ellis and Family
Mary Sue Rawls Parker given by Sue Parker Burton
Beverly Stuart Burton given by Sue Parker Burton
William R. Savage, Jr. given by The Family
William R. Savage, IV given by The Family
Martha Moore Savage given by The Family
Sylvia Barnes Bilby given by The Bilby Family
Paulette Lassiter Cherry given by The Bilby Family
Mr. and Mrs. Z. Turner and Anna Goode Turner
Mr. and Mrs. Thornton Griffin given by Kenny, Cheryl, Kyle, and Shannon
Margaret and Bill Simons and Callie and Jack Harry given by The Harry Family
Our Parents given by L. H. and Pat Byrum
Old Friends given by L. H. and Pat Byrum
Earl Martin given by His Family
W. H. Edwards given by His Daughter, Kitty and Family
M. P. Askew, Jr. given by His Stepdaughter, Kitty and Family
Bill Stye given by His Granddaughter, Angela Martin and Family
Sarah Andrews Fletcher

Poinsettias

In Honor Of

Those Who Serve Others given by Orin Reams

Our Church Staff given by Tracy Hartman

Priscilla Bunch given by Audrey Johnson

Jody, Steve, Charlie, Summer, Lucca, and J. M., and Gwynne given by John and Janet

My Mother and Our MeeMaw, Claudia Salmon given by Lisa, Andy, Meredith, Mary Blythe, and Danielle

The Suffolk Christian Church Audio Visual Team~Jim, Jonathan, and Edie given by Carman

Kelly, McKenna, Bobby, and Lillie Myles given by Rob and Elaine

Lee, Lauren, Grey, and Gracie Abernathy given by Rob and Elaine









Doris Cones given by Rob and Elaine

Our Children, Brandon and Christopher given by Tommy and Cheryl

Our Grandchildren, Rylan and Allison given by Tommy and Cheryl



January 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>Start the New Year with a Prayer</p>	<p>1</p>  <p>Happy New Year!</p>	<p>2</p> <p>1:00p Saints Alive</p>	<p>3</p> <p>7:00p-Board of Christian Ed 7:30pm Narcotics Anonymous</p>	<p>4</p> <p>10:00am Thursday Crafters 7:00pm Chancel Choir</p>	<p>5</p>  <p>Friday Game Nights Game night 7:00pm</p>	<p>6</p>
<p>7</p> <p>10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Sunday Service 12:00pm De-decorate church</p> <p>2:00pm & 5:00pm All Saints Presbyterian Church</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p> <p>1:00p Saints Alive 3:00p Food Pantry</p>	<p>10</p> <p>6:00pm All Saints Pres. Church 6:30p-Board of Deacons 6:30pm Narcotics Anonymous</p>	<p>11</p> <p>10:00am Thursday Crafters 2:00p Prayer Team 7:00pm Chancel Choir</p>	<p>12</p> <p>6:30p All Saints Pres. Church-minister ordination</p>	
<p>14</p> <p>10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Sunday Service</p> <p>2:00pm & 5:00pm All Saints Presbyterian Church</p>	<p>15</p>  <p>Add Your Voice</p>	<p>16</p> <p>12:00p Saints Alive Potluck 3:00p Food Pantry</p>	<p>17</p> <p>6:30p-Board of Finance 7:30pm Narcotics Anonymous</p>	<p>18</p> <p>10:00am Thursday Crafters 7:00pm Chancel Choir</p>	<p>19</p>  <p>Friday Game Nights Game night 7:00pm</p>	<p>20</p>
<p>21</p> <p>10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Sunday Service 12:00pm Town Hall meeting & potluck</p> <p>2:00pm & 5:00pm All Saints Presbyterian Church</p>	<p>22</p> <p>7:00p Exec. Board Meeting</p>	<p>23</p> <p>1:00p Saints Alive 3:00p Food Pantry</p>	<p>24</p> <p>6:00pm All Saints Pres. Church 6:30p-HOW meeting 7:30pm Narcotics Anonymous</p>	<p>25</p> <p>10:00am Thursday Crafters 7:00pm Chancel Choir</p>	<p>26</p> 	<p>27</p>
<p>28</p> <p>10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Sunday Service</p> <p>2:00pm & 5:00pm All Saints Presbyterian Church</p>	<p>29</p> 	<p>30</p> <p>1:00p Saints Alive 3:00p Food Pantry</p>	<p>31</p> <p>7:30pm Narcotics Anonymous</p>	