

# The Towers Newsletter

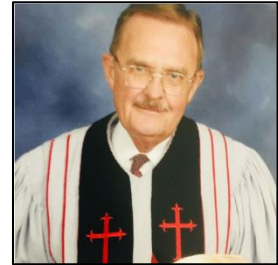
216 North Main Street, Suffolk VA 23434  
Website: [www.suffolkchristian.org](http://www.suffolkchristian.org)

JULY  
2021



My Dear Friends,

Last Sunday I told both services that "it feels almost like normal". I said that with just a little trepidation, because from the news we keep hearing, the battle is not over just yet. So, I . . . and also you, must remain vigilant.



Thinking about this "battle" we all have been fighting, I am reminded once again to say a huge, I mean a HUGE "Thank you!" to all of you who cooperated and played by the rules and did all the healthy and safe things that have brought us to the point of being able to remove the "restriction signs" which were posted around our church building. Oh my, I have even been seeing lots of hugs these past few Sundays!

The virus did not catch God by surprise. In fact, nothing surprises God, as we all know. Even if we never figure out exactly what caused this virus to hit us so hard, we can rest easy knowing that God had things in control all the time. God didn't immediately deliver us from the virus any more than he has delivered his people through all the difficulties recorded in the Bible. For example, God's people in slavery in Egypt.

We all need to "have a little talk with Jesus" to keep learning the lessons of the pandemic. We all need to allow God's Spirit to work in us and teach us the way forward. Things may never become "normal", whatever that is. But God's purposes are the same every single day: that we love and serve our Lord.

We can only do that serving in the context of the community of believers, so please pray for your/my/our church!

God bless you!

Love, Michael



You can find the weekly services online at

[www.suffolkchristian.org](http://www.suffolkchristian.org) , YouTube or

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/SuffolkChristianChurch/>

# JULY MISSION

“Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the LORD, and He will reward them for what they have done.” Proverbs 19: 17

## July's Mission: Salvation Army, Suffolk VA

The Salvation Army, an international movement, is an evangelical part of the universal Christian church. Its message is based on the Bible. Its ministry is motivated by the love of God. Its mission is to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs in His name without discrimination.

The Salvation Army operates 7,546 centers in communities across the United States. These include food distribution, disaster relief, rehabilitation centers, anti-human trafficking efforts, and a wealth of children's programs.

Our work is funded through kettle donations, corporate contributions, and the sale of goods donated to our Salvation Army Family Stores. Eighty-two cents of every dollar we spend supports our various missions across the country.

**Services Offered at the Suffolk Location include Emergency Assistance, Food Pantry, Feeding Program, Youth Program, Music Program, Adult Programs, Event Rentals, and Worship Service.**

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



\*Fully vaccinated individuals are no longer required to wear face coverings at Suffolk Christian Church. If you are not fully vaccinated, please help protect others by continuing to wear face coverings over your nose and mouth and social distance. Exceptions apply for children under 5 and those with certain health issues.

**Bible Quiz**

What was the name of the queen who refused to appear before the king of Persia and his guests and, as a result, was deposed?

A. Esther  
B. Jael  
C. Vashti  
D. Milcah

A stylized illustration of a woman's face with a crown of jewels, likely representing Queen Vashti.

Answer: C (See Esther 1:12.)





### The power of listening

"The most basic and powerful way to connect to another person is to listen," says Dr. Rachel Naomi Remen, author and integrative medicine professor.

"Perhaps the most important thing we ever give each other is our attention."

Twice in Mark 4, while teaching, Jesus urges, "Let anyone with ears to hear listen" (verses 9 & 23, NRSV). One way we show what Jesus means to us is by truly listening to his word — not just hearing sounds but being attentive and intentional. Likewise, one way we love and serve others is by respectfully listening to them: not assuming we know what they feel or mean or will say; not planning what to say even as they're still speaking, but listening deeply to learn about them and their experience.

We often think living our faith calls for great accomplishments or worldwide reach. But Remen says, "A loving silence often has ... power to heal and to connect." Don't underestimate something as basic and doable as listening as a way to practice Christlike love.



Congratulations to Sarah Burford's Grandson, **William Oswald**, for advancing from 4<sup>th</sup> grade to 5<sup>th</sup> grade at St. Peter Catholic school in Greenville, NC.

*\*Items are needed for the weekly food pantry!* Applesauce (individual cups); Snacks (Granola Bars, Nabs, Individual Packs of Nuts); Oatmeal (Individual Servings); Pop Tarts; Noodles; Spaghetti; Macaroni; Rice (1 lb. bags); Dried Beans; Macaroni and Cheese; Canned Vegetables; Spaghetti Sauce; Canned Pasta, Peanut Butter, Jelly.



### Happy Birthday !!!!

Shannon Griffin	July 2
Myrtle Etheridge	July 3
Becky Sharrett	July 3
Makenna Brezovic	July 4
Donald Bracy	July 5
J.M. Nemish, Jr.	July 5
Charlotte Parr	July 5
Beth Barnett	July 5
Jennifer Worrell	July 6
Shaun Allen	July 8
Eloise Byrd	July 8
Erin Matthews	July 9
Bryant Saldana	July 9
Glenn Hott	July 10
Elton Bailey	July 11
David Ascher	July 11
Helen Johnson	July 13
Beth Simpkins	July 18
Fran Winslow	July 19
Emily King	July 20
Alan Garner	July 20
Janet Simmons	July 20
Debbie Munn	July 22
Edie Matthews	July 23
Curtiss Johnson	July 23
Steven Thorsen	July 26
Justin Topping	July 26
Gary Munn	July 27
Will Rhodes	July 28
Sarah Rhodes	July 28
Robert Boyce	July 29
Josh Worrell	July 29
Alex Joyner	July 31



If you borrow something from the church (chairs, tables, kitchen items, etc), please use the sign-out sheet in the office. Thank you!

## Memorials

A donation to the Bus Fund in memory of Larry Rountree has been given by Joseph E. McClenny.

A donation to the Music Fund in memory of Blanche Rountree has been given by Eloise Byrd and Robin Huffman.

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

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

A donation to the Food Pantry in memory of Kenny Martin has been given by Vicki Martin.

A donation to the Memorial Fund in memory of Jenny Smith has been given by Douglas and Pixie Russell.

Donations to the Memorial Fund in memory of Ann Phillips Harrell Nurney have been given by Lin and Martha Callis, James and Rebecca Habel, Coffman Charities (William S. Coffman, John H. Coffman), Bill Chorey, John and Carol Rowe, Allison Griffin and Suzanne Griffin, Henry G. Simpson, Eddie and Jackie White, Curtiss and Betty Johnson, Robb, Scott, Bradshaw and Rawls, P.C., Glenn, Amy and Jennifer Hott, Charles and Kim Parr, Joyce H. Trump, Walter B. Paxton, Don and Kay Goldberg, Lynnette Holmes Park, Joseph and Nancy Webb, Ronald and Ruth Tolbert, Tung and Jeanne Cheng, Tom and Gail Pruden, Cathy Allsbrook, Ms. Carroll G. Frohman, Marjorie McLemore, John and Janet Nemish.

## Stewardship Report

*"We Are Walking by Faith through Commitment"*

January - May income - \$108,580.90

January - May expenses - \$111,385.16

Dollars for Haiti - \$3,963.00

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



**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 - \$631.00

June 2021 - Genieve Shelter - \$470.00

## Children's



Friday, July 9<sup>th</sup>

7:00pm

Come join us for a fun filled movie night. We will attempt to have the movie outside but if weather conditions are not favorable, we will watch it in the fellowship hall. Please bring your chair or beach towel and bug spray. We will have popcorn and drinks for you to enjoy while we watch our movie. Please let Priscilla know if you plan to attend by Wednesday, July 7<sup>th</sup>.

## Children's Wednesday Morning



Bible Study

July 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>

10:00 am – 12:00 noon

We are going to try something new this summer. We will have Wednesday morning bible study time for children from **kindergarten – 5<sup>th</sup> grade**. We will have a bible story, craft, snack, game time and music. This will be on the basis as a mini VBS each week. Come join us! Please contact Priscilla Bunch if you have any questions. Please let Priscilla know if your children will be attending. Parents: You are more than welcome to drop your child off and enjoy some “free” time to yourself.

## Youth/Young Adults Meeting



6:30 pm

Friday, July 9<sup>th</sup>

We will meet at the church and help with tidying up the church yard. Come to work and then we will have time for fellowship.

## Fellowship Hall & Kitchen Clean Up

Friday, July 9<sup>th</sup>

9:15 am



Ladies, Gentlemen, Youth, Young Adults & Children: Our Fellowship Hall storage areas and Kitchen needs some attention. The closet next to the stage in the fellowship hall needs to be cleaned out. We need to clean out some cabinets, wipe out cabinets and organize things in our kitchen. If we all work together, we can get a lot accomplished in a short period of time. Please let Priscilla Bunch know if you can help. Hope to see you on July 9<sup>th</sup>.

## Game Night Returns



Friday, July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 6:30 pm

I have had several people ask me about Game Night. The time has come to return our Game Nights at SCC. We will meet on Friday, July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. Please let Priscilla Bunch know if you plan to attend.

## Vacation Bible School



## Volunteer Meeting

Sunday, July 18<sup>th</sup>, 9:15 am

*If you can help with Vacation Bible School this year, please plan to attend an informational meeting in the Saints Alive at 9:15 am. We will have coffee, juice and donuts. With our Vacation Bible School being a little different this year due to the pandemic, I would like to let our volunteers know our plans. Please pray about how you can help this year! In order to have a successful VBS, we need many "hands". Please plan to attend the meeting.*

## Vacation Bible School



August 8<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>

5:30 pm Dinner

6:00 – 8:00 pm VBS

Invite your neighbors & friends to attend. Please see Priscilla Bunch if you need some flyers and registration forms to pass out to your neighbors and friends.

There will be a bulletin board outside of the Board of Christian Education office with details about VBS and ways you can volunteer this year.





Day 1:	Isaiah 40:29-31	Day 16:	Psalms 103:2-5
Day 2:	Isaiah 43:2	Day 17:	John 8:36
Day 3:	Isaiah 54:10	Day 18:	John 10:10
Day 4:	Isaiah 54:17	Day 19:	John 14:13-16
Day 5:	Isaiah 61:1	Day 20:	Luke 11:9-13
Day 6:	Exodus 14:14	Day 21:	Matthew 6:31-33
Day 7:	2 Corinthians 4:17-18	Day 22:	Proverbs 3:5-6
Day 8:	2 Chronicles 7:14	Day 23:	Romans 10:9-10
Day 9:	James 1:5	Day 24:	Revelation 2:7
Day 10:	James 4:7	Day 25:	Revelation 3:5
Day 11:	Philippians 4:19	Day 26:	Deuteronomy 31:8
Day 12:	Psalms 18:3	Day 27:	1 Peter 4:1-2
Day 13:	Psalms 19:7	Day 28:	Colossians 3:3-4
Day 14:	Psalms 37:4	Day 29:	Malachi 3:10
Day 15:	John 3:36	Day 30:	Ephesians 3:16-19
		Day 31:	2 Samuel 7:28

Commit to reading the scripture each day and mediate on what the scripture means to you. The scripture above is some of God's Promises.

## July 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						
				<b>1</b> 10:00am Thursday Crafters	<b>2</b> 11:30am Meals on Wheels 6:30pm Game Night 	
<b>4</b> Independence Day 8:45am Worship Service 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Worship Service 	<b>5</b> Independence Day Observed	<b>6</b> 2:00pm Saints Alive 	<b>7</b> 10:00am K-5 Bible Study 7:00pm Board of Christian Ed 7:30pm Narcotics Anonymous	<b>8</b> 10:00am Thursday Crafters 2:30pm Prayer Team	<b>9</b> 9:15am Fellowship Hall & Kitchen Clean Up 11:30am Meals on Wheels 6:30pm Youth/Young Adult Clean Up Project 7:00pm Children's Movie Night 	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b> 8:45am Worship Service 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Worship Service	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 2:00pm Saints Alive 3:00pm Food Pantry	<b>14</b> 10:00am K-5 Bible Study 7:30pm Narcotics Anonymous	<b>15</b> 10:00am Thursday Crafters	<b>16</b> 11:30am Meals on Wheels 6:30pm Game Night 	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b> 8:45am Worship Service 9:15am VBS Volunteer Meeting 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Worship Service	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 2:00pm Saints Alive 3:00pm Food Pantry 	<b>21</b> 10:00am K-5 Bible Study 7:30pm Narcotics Anonymous	<b>22</b> 10:00am Thursday Crafters	<b>23</b> 11:30am Meals on Wheels	<b>24</b> 
<b>25</b> 8:45am Worship Service 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Worship Service	<b>26</b> 	<b>27</b> 2:00pm Saints Alive 3:00pm Food Pantry	<b>28</b> 10:00am K-5 Bible Study 7:00pm House of Worship 7:30pm Narcotics Anonymous	<b>29</b> 10:00am Thursday Crafters	<b>30</b> 11:30am Meals on Wheels 6:30pm Game Night 	<b>31</b>
						Office hours are Tuesday ~ Friday, 9:00 am ~ 2:00 pm. If you need assistance outside of office hours, call Rev. Halley at 757-620-2628.