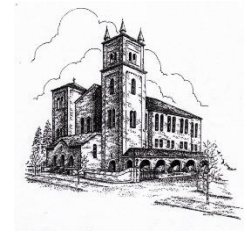


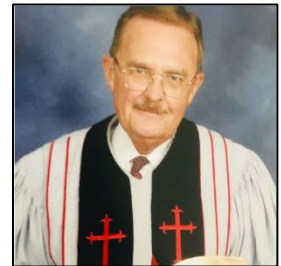
The Towers Newsletter



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

My Dear Friends,

"June is bustin' out all over . . ." as the Rodgers & Hammerstein song from "Carousel" goes. It sure is! I think we all are feeling a sense of relief that the long and dark days of Covid quarantine are easing. Last Sunday morning we opened things up a bit, and those who have been fully vaccinated did not have to wear a mask. A great day!



However, before we throw all caution to the winds, let's continue to be vigilant and practice good health habits. Our Covid Task Force and our Board of Deacons have just concluded very productive meetings in assessing our response to the CDC guidelines as well as our governor's executive orders. I am very, very proud of both groups for their careful and thorough study and discussion of the issues. We want to be safe and healthy!

So, what now? I've been reading an interesting book by church consultant and minister, Thom S. Rainer. It is entitled "The Post-Quarantine Church", and last Sunday's sermon addressed the issue of our fulfilling Jesus' Great Commission to the church. I will continue to raise these pertinent issues in future sermons and I invite you to come out -- in person! -- and join us in worship.

May the Lord bless you!

Love, Michael



—STAYING—
CONNECTED

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

MISSIONS



This Month

*"Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due,
when it is in your power to act." Proverbs 3: 27*

June Mission - The Genieve Shelter

The Genieve Shelter strives to provide a safe refuge and supportive environment for the victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and human trafficking; provide information, education, and training services that focus on ending the cycle of domestic violence.

The Genieve Shelter serves the cities of Suffolk and Franklin, the Town of Smithfield, and the counties of Isle of Wight, Southampton, and Surry. Their services include Case Management, Children's Program, Court Advocacy, Crisis Intervention and Emergency Shelter, Employment Program, Housing Assistance, and Mental Health counseling.

Services are free to clients – no payment is required.

The Genieve Shelter welcomes all donations (food, clothing, personal care products, etc.) but asks you to consider making a financial contribution that can go even further to help our clients. A financial contribution will help:

- Provide free housing,
- Stop the cycle of domestic violence,
- Help families with the maze of legal issues that arise due to domestic violence,
- End violence against women,
- Ensure that every person enjoys safety and liberty from domestic abuse.

What Can I Do? You can make a difference in our community and in the lives of others by sharing your time and talents. As a volunteer with The Genieve Shelter, your help supports our mission: to prevent and protect against domestic violence. Your volunteer hours will help victims escape the cycle of violence and prevent future family violence. One kind heart will help the hearts of others!

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



House of Worship

FROM THE HOUSE OF WORSHIP COMMITTEE

“What’s In a Name”?

Submitted by: Jim Goben, Committee Chair

Greetings fellow Christians!

Most of you reading this already know the purpose of our House of Worship Committee. However, to those who may be new to the church, the title of our committee can be somewhat of a misnomer. Perhaps a more appropriate title would be the Building Maintenance and Security Committee. But that’s a mouthful and “HOW” sounds so much cooler 😊 So, since the purpose of our committee is to ensure the upkeep of our church, as well as the safety and security of those who enter it to meet, learn, and worship, the title “House of Worship Committee” suits us just fine.

While everything our committee does is for the glory of God, most of the things we do are “behind the scenes”. You may occasionally see some repair work in progress (like, most recently, the newly repaired and painted walls outside the entrance to the balcony or the repairs to the termite damaged floor in the Beginner’s Dept) but there are also dozens of things each month that get done without many knowing about it at all. Many tasks are fairly simple things like inspecting the numerous fire extinguishers throughout the church, changing burned out light bulbs, replacing HVAC filters, cleaning debris from various water drains, pulling weeds, trimming hedges, and even ensuring our elevators and sprinkler systems are inspected by professional technicians on a regular basis.

Of course, as would be expected of a 160+ year old building, there are often major issues that arise that are way beyond our level of expertise or capabilities (like the current water leak that was detected under the crawl space in the basement and the severely damaged roof over the front entrance). When these things arise, your HOW Committee contracts with repair professionals and monitors the repairs from start to finish.

Additionally, with the news of tragic events occurring in places of worship all over the country these days, your HOW Committee ensures that one committee member roams the hallways and monitors the entrances from the time the early worship service begins at 8:45 am until everyone has left after the 11:00 am worship. This not only keeps you safe while you attend Sunday School and worship in the sanctuary but also ensures that our youngest Christians are safe in the nursery, Beginner’s Dept, and children’s Sunday School classes each week.

To say that the HOW Committee stays busy is an understatement and that’s why **WE NEED YOUR HELP!** We currently only have 10 members on our committee (we are allowed by church constitution to have 12) and half of those are members who just finished serving a 3-year term on the committee at the end of last year but were gracious enough to voluntarily serve an additional year (with approval from the Executive Board, of course).

(HOW continued)

You **do not** have to be an experienced carpenter, electrician, plumber, or security guard to serve on our committee (but if you are, we'd LOVE to have your help). Nor do you have to be a man!!!! We need people (male, female, young, old, short, or tall) who can pull weeds or inspect fire extinguishers just as much as we need people who can repair a broken toilet or a termite damaged floor. And we also need people who are simply available during the day to sometimes come to the church, provide access to repair technicians, and stay until their work is complete.

We have an absolutely beautiful church that is a very safe and secure place in which to worship. It's a challenge keeping it that way, but there is strength in numbers! We have two positions that can still be filled this year and we will need many more to fill vacancies next year. So please let me or any other HOW Committee member (Jimmy Fanny, Charles Parr, Douglas Parr, Jonnie Winslow, Robert Boyce, Bill Shumate, Travis Myles, Neal Davis, and Bennett McBride) know if you are interested in joining us.

(And, if it's that "commitment" word that is keeping you away, we will gladly welcome volunteers to assist us anytime).

Thank you for your consideration and God bless you all!

Jim Goben

Chair, House of Worship Committee

gobenjames@gmail.com

757-650-7300



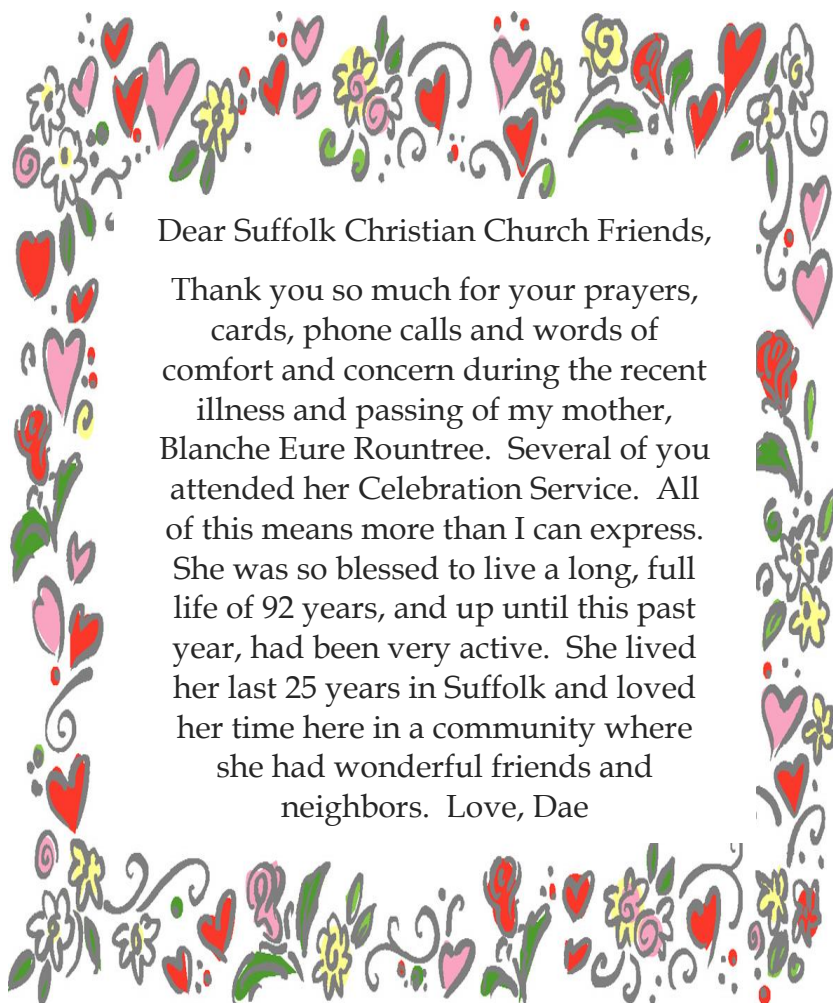
Congratulations to Alex Joyner, RN for being selected as a winner of the 2021 Nurse Excellence Award – Novice Nurse at Sentara Obici Hospital. This award was based on nominations by her peers and nursing leaders. Alex is the daughter of Chip and Janine Joyner.



**Saints Alive
Let the Games Begin!**

After fifteen months of staying-at-home, quarantining-at-home, wearing masks - it's time to break out of the house.

Saints Alive will open back up June 15 from 2:00 - 4:00 pm . We have plenty of room, many different card games, soft drinks and snacks, but best of all, we have good friends and good fellowship and good times. Come and see what all the excitement and fun is about. Any questions, call Carmen Halley 539-3922



Dear Suffolk Christian Church Friends,

Thank you so much for your prayers, cards, phone calls and words of comfort and concern during the recent illness and passing of my mother, Blanche Eure Rountree. Several of you attended her Celebration Service. All of this means more than I can express. She was so blessed to live a long, full life of 92 years, and up until this past year, had been very active. She lived her last 25 years in Suffolk and loved her time here in a community where she had wonderful friends and neighbors. Love, Dae



Dear Suffolk Christian Church Friends,
 Thank you all for the meals, calls, texts and cards while I was ill. I really felt the prayers and love from the Suffolk Christian Church Family. I am grateful to you all! God Bless! Love, Amy



Happy Birthday !!!!

Meredith McLaughlin	June 1
Johnnie Winslow	June 3
Hannah Fleming	June 4
Robert Whitmore	June 6
Steve Rice	June 6
Lili McNeil	June 7
Aaron Whidbee	June 8
Brooks Henderson	June 8
Jennifer Hott	June 9
Forrest Cathey	June 11
Zachary Harry	June 11
Janet Rock	June 12
Mark Winslow	June 13
Julie Maschino	June 13
Scott Munn	June 14
Judy Twiford	June 15
Debbie Spivey	June 15
Kim Parr	June 16
Bobby Johnson, Jr.	June 16
Lilliee Myles	June 19
Cheryl Griffin	June 21
Vickie Wilson	June 21
Amaya Allen	June 22
Raina Allen	June 22
Tim Copeland	June 22
Joe Jones	June 26
Barbara Ascher	June 27
Andy McLaughlin	June 28
Janet Nemish	June 29
Neal Davis	June 29
Pat Hawn	June 29



**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.



Memorials

Donations to the Bus Fund in memory of Larry Rountree have been given by Helen Crolley, and Marsha Miller.

Donations to the Music Fund in memory of Peggy Hemphill have been given by Margaret Saunders, and Curtiss and Betty Johnson.

A donation to Care and Concern in memory of Peggy Hemphill has been given by Jane Arthur.

A donation to CAPS in memory of Peggy Hemphill has been given by Mel Hemphill.

A donation to Care and Concern in memory of Blanche Rountree has been given by Jane Arthur.

Stewardship Report

"We Are Walking by Faith through Commitment"

January - April income - \$87,590.40

January - April expenses - \$92,798.22

Dollars for Haiti - \$3,808.00

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 - \$955.00

May 2021 - Crisis Pregnancy Center - \$601.00

INFORMATION



Graduation time is quickly approaching. If you have a child graduating from high school or college this year and have not sent me their information, please send to Priscilla Bunch via text or email @ pbunch1@charter.net no later than **Sunday, May 30th**.

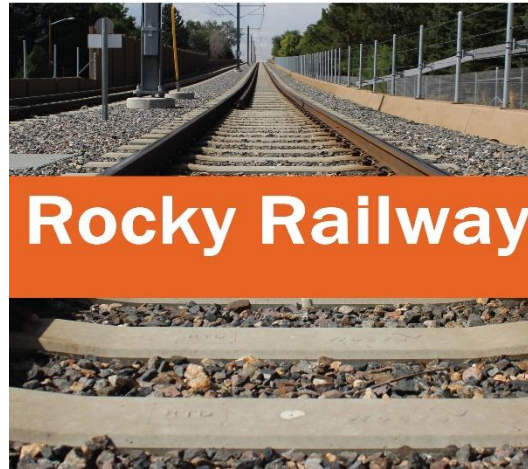


**Celebrating
our Graduates**

June 6th

On Sunday, June 6th, during the 11:00 am service, we will be honoring our graduates. If you are graduating this year from high school or college, please plan to attend. **Graduates: please wear your cap and gown.** We will meet in the West Memorial Bible Class at **10:45 am**. Looking forward to seeing all our graduates.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



Sunday, August 8th – Thursday, August 12th

I am so excited to be able to announce we will be having VBS this year. Please mark your calendars and invite children to attend. This is a wonderful opportunity to spread the love of Jesus. Please pray how you can help this year. We will be following any CDC guidelines which are in effect at the time of VBS. The Board of Christian Education are still working on the final details. If you have any questions, please contact Priscilla Bunch.

HIGH SCHOOL & COLLEGE STUDENTS

It has been a while since we were able to meet as a group. Let's plan to meet in the church parking lot on Friday, June 4th, at 6:30pm. Please let Priscilla Bunch know if you plan to attend. Bring your dinner and lawn chair!

Meals On Wheels volunteers....

Interested.. call Kitty Martin..757-377-6552...for more info



It is a blessing to meet the recipients. They are happy to see the volunteers delivering.

Sometimes, you may be the only person, they see through the course of their day.

Thank you, Kitty Martin
Team organizer, for Suffolk Christian Church



To help offset the cost of Vacation Bible School this year, we will have a Giving Tree. The tree will have tags with items needed for VBS and will be placed on the table outside of the Board of Christian Education office. Most of these items can be purchased at the Dollar Tree or Walmart. These items will be used to make decorations for the church and crafts. If you can take a tag, please return the item to the church no later than Sunday, June 20th. There will be a tub outside of the Board of Christian Education office for your items. If you have any questions about your tag, please see Priscilla Bunch. The Board of Christian Education appreciates you supporting our Vacation Bible School this year.



We are collecting plastic mason jars (such as mayonnaise jars) which will be made into lanterns. If you are in Lowes or Home Depot, please check to see if they have any empty carpet rolls. These can be used to make signs/railroad crossings. Large boxes are needed to make a train. If you have any PVC pipe you would like to discard, we will take it. These can be used for signs as well and can be used to put in the ground to hold signs.

A graphic for the month of June featuring the word "June" in a blue cursive font. Below the text is an illustration of a wooden wheelbarrow with a red handle, containing a green plant and a red flower. A blue watering can is positioned to the right of the wheelbarrow, and a shovel is stuck into the ground in front of it. The entire scene is set on a patch of brown soil with small white flowers.







June

Bible Reading Plan

Day #1:	1 John 1:5-7	Day #16:	Luke 17:3-4
Day #2:	1 John 1:8-10	Day #17:	Matthew 6:12,14-15
Day #3:	1 John 2:1-4	Day #18:	Psalm 86:3-5
Day #4:	1 John 2:5-8	Day #19:	Psalm 103:1-4
Day #5:	1 John 2:9-11	Day #20:	Psalm 32:1-5
Day #6:	1 John 2:12-14	Day #21:	Ephesians 1:3-7
Day #7:	Matthew 18:21-22	Day #22:	Colossians 1:9-14
Day #8:	Matthew 5:23-24	Day #23:	James 5:15-16
Day #9:	Mark 11:24-25	Day #24:	Romans 3:21-24
Day #10:	Colossians 3:12-13	Day #25:	Romans 3:25-26
Day #11:	Ephesians 4:26-27	Day #26:	Luke 7:44-50
Day #12:	Ephesians 4:31-32	Day #27:	Micah 7:18-19
Day #13:	Psalm 103:8-12	Day #28:	Acts 2:37-39
Day #14:	2 Corinthians 2:5-8	Day #29:	Romans 8:1-4
Day #15:	2 Corinthians 2:9-11	Day #30:	John 8:1-11

Commit to reading your bible 10 minutes each day and meditate on the scripture you have read.

June 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 7:00pm Board of Christian Ed	3 10:00am Thursday Crafters 6:45pm Masque Chancel Handbell Choir	4 11:30am Meals on Wheels 6:30pm High School & College Students Meeting	5
6 Graduate Sunday 8:45am Worship Service 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Worship Service	7 	8 3:00pm Food Pantry	9 7:00pm Board of Deacons	10 10:00am Thursday Crafters 2:30pm Prayer Team	11 11:30am Meals on Wheels	12 
13 Memorial Sunday 8:45am Worship Service 9:30am Kings Ringers 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Worship Service	14 	15 2:00pm Saints Alive 3:00pm Food Pantry	16 7:00pm Board of Finance	17 10:00am Thursday Crafters	18 11:30am Meals on Wheels	19
20 8:45am Worship Service 9:30am Kings Ringers 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Worship Service	21 	22 2:00pm Saints Alive 3:00pm Food Pantry	23 7:00pm House of Worship	24 10:00am Thursday Crafters	25 11:30am Meals on Wheels	26 
27 8:45am Worship Service 9:30am Kings Ringers 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Worship Service	28	29 2:00pm Saints Alive 3:00pm Food Pantry	30	