

The Towers Newsletter

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

March 2025



Pastor's Column

The Season of Lent

Our theme for Lent this year is **Everything in Between**. In our divided and binary world, this series invites us to meet God – and each other – in the middle. As we journey with Jesus to Jerusalem in the gospel of Luke, we will learn to navigate the polarities in our lives with more faith, intention and an openness to be transformed. Each week we will explore ideas that seem to be in opposition to one another. However, as we dig in, we'll find nuance and complexity, we'll see a fuller spectrum of possibilities and find that God is present in between. Plan to join us for these Lenten and Easter services:

- March 5th 7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service - Jesus sets out for Jerusalem
Theme - Intention and Action, Luke 9:51-62
- March 9th 11:00 a.m. Lent First Sunday - Parable of the Good Samaritan
Theme: Stranger and Neighbor, Luke 10:25-37
- March 16th 11:00 a.m. Lent Second Sunday – The Story of Mary and Martha
Theme: Faith and Works, Luke 10:38-42
- March 23rd 11:00 a.m. Lent Third Sunday – The Parable of the Fig Tree
Theme: Rest and Growth, Luke 13:6-9
- March 30th 11:00 a.m. Lent Fourth Sunday – The Parable of the Lost Sheep
Theme: Lost and Found, Luke 15:1-7
- April 6th 11:00 a.m. Lent Fifth Sunday – Zacchaeus Greet Jesus
Theme: Righteousness and Mercy, Luke 19:1-10
- April 13th 11:00 a.m. Palm Sunday – Jesus Enters Jerusalem
Theme: Shouting and Silence, Luke 19:29-40
- April 17th 7:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday – The Last Supper
- April 19th 8:00 p.m. Easter Vigil in the Fellowship Hall, led by our youth
- April 20th 11:00 a.m. Easter Sunday - Celebrating the Resurrection
Theme: Grief and Hope, Luke 24:1-12



You may now watch our service LIVE Sunday mornings!

Go to: [YouTube.com](https://www.youtube.com)

Suffolk Christian Live Worship / Subscribe

You also find us on:

www.suffolkchristian.org

Facebook



*The Board of Deacons Report....*from the February 12th 2025 meeting

The board is in the process of updating the Veteran's Board in the hallway on the first floor. Several are missing and several need to be added. We are asking anyone that was or is a veteran member of SCC to let us know so that we can add updates to the board. We are so very proud of all of our veterans and their names need to appear on the board.

The board is starting the process of updating our directory. This will take a good amount of time to sort through but please know that it is in the works.

The Easter season will be here before you know it and we are looking into more advertising for our Last Supper play. It would be wonderful to get more people in from the community. Additional avenues of advertising are in the works. This is a wonderful performance put on every year at Easter and this year will be no different.

Stewardship Report

"We are Walking by Faith through Commitment"

January 2025 income - \$15,294.68

January 2025 expenses - \$30,875.75



January 2025 - CAPS - \$430.00

February 2025 - Genieve Shelter - \$630.00



Reporting on Missions....

March's **Yellow** Envelope Mission: Western Tidewater Free Clinic

The mission we are supporting for the month of March is the Western Tidewater Free Clinic. This is a local mission, most worthy of our support. WTFC was opened in 2007 and serves the western Tidewater area. It is a health home for uninsured, underinsured, and under-served adults, delivering compassionate and quality care through many programs. The clinic states its mission this way, "to provide high quality, non-emergency healthcare to the residence of Western Tidewater who cannot otherwise afford it." Several of our church members were instrumental in starting this endeavor and many more continue to serve and support it today. We encourage you to please give what is in your heart to this worthy mission.

PASTOR SEARCH TEAM UPDATE

Ecclesiastes 3:11

"He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end".

The Pastor Search Committee continues its commitment to seek a pastor for our church. Our ad has been posted on 3 websites : CBF Virginia, Baptist News Global, and the Baptist General Association of Virginia (we've not tried this last one before).

It is sad and most unfortunate that our last candidate had to withdraw due to a challenging family dynamic, however the Search Team has already scheduled a meeting with a candidate that GOD has put in this path before us.

Please continue to pray for our church and the search team!



If any supplies are needed for your events or activities, please contact Priscilla Bunch. If you see supplies are low in the kitchen area, please let her know. She will be doing all the ordering of these items. Thank you!

MARCH Birthdays

Judy Eure	03/02
Kim James	03/02
Tiffany Gray	03/02
William Blake Jr.	03/07
Chase Phillips	03/07
Virginia Savage	03/08
Harden Barnett Jr.	03/09
Sue Bracy	03/09
Michael Halley	03/11
Rob Abernathy	03/13
Rebecca Padrick	03/16
Marion Johnson	03/16
Cheryl Ashcraft	03/16
Mike Beale	03/18
Scott Wilson	03/18
Stephanie Savage	03/19
Sharon Fanny	03/20
Connor Munn	03/21
Billy Wyatt Sr.	03/24
Claudia Salmon	03/24
Ed Skillen Jr.	03/24
Nick Allen	03/24
Bobby Myles	03/24
Bob James	03/25
Jimmy Fanny	03/26
Janine Joyner	03/28
Charlie Henderson Jr	03/28
Bob Richardson Sr.	03/30



THANK YOU

Dear Suffolk Christian Church Friends,

It's hard to know where to begin to thank you for all you did to make my retirement lunch and time of fellowship a very special one. The food was delicious, with such a wonderful variety of dishes to choose from. I appreciate all the time and effort the good cooks put into preparing the dishes and desserts. I know there were many who worked behind the scenes to make the day special, and I am very grateful to you. The fellowship hall looked so pretty, and your kind words and thoughts meant so much. I received many cards and gifts, as well. And I was blessed and honored to have all my family members share this special day with me.

The communion table arrangement, given by staff members and designed by Johnson's Gardens, is gorgeous and is now being enjoyed at home. 'The Bread for the Journey' presentation at the end of the worship service meant so much. Thank you, Dr. Rev. Tracy Hartman, for your encouraging words and prayer.

The love offering from the congregation was a total surprise! Thank you so much!

I have truly enjoyed my time at Suffolk Christian Church. I felt welcomed and loved from the beginning. There are friendships here that I will take with me always. I was blessed to have worked in a job I have enjoyed, but also at a place where I met so many wonderful people.

May God bless each of you,
Dae



We expect the kitchen floor to be deep cleaned the week of March 3, 2025

SAVE THE DATE FOR
VBS

June 22nd – 26th
Invite your friends!



We need Sunday school teachers for our children/youth to help us each week. You would not have to teach each Sunday if we could get several people to agree to teach on a rotating basis. Curriculum would be provided. Please contact Priscilla if this is something you could help with at our church. This would be a blessing to the children of our church.



The little red wagon will be at the North entrance every first Sunday for food pantry donations. Our food pantry is running low on items. Below is a list of items needed for our food pantry: Individual cups Applesauce; Canned fruit or individual cups of Fruit; Nabs; Individual packets Oatmeal; Pop Tarts; Small boxes of Cereal; Spaghetti Sauce, Spaghetti Noodles; Macaroni & Cheese; Canned Meats; Canned Vegetables, Canned Beefaroni or Spaghetti; Peanut Butter, Jelly, Crackers; Protein Shakes, Boxed Milk, Bottled Water.

The above is just a suggested list...if you can think of other things, please feel free to bring to our Food Pantry.

CARE AND CONCERN

The Care and Concern Committee will meet on Monday, March 3, 2025, at 7:00 pm at church. This Committee continues to provide meals for our shut-ins, provide funeral receptions for church families when requested and send cards as needed. All of this requires the help of many volunteers. We hope you will prayerfully consider joining us at our first meeting – one of only two meetings held each year. We look forward to seeing our current members as well as anyone who may be interested in learning more about the Care and Concern Committee. Please join us on March 3rd and learn how you can be a part of this worthwhile committee. We look forward to seeing everyone.

Elaine Abernathy and Claudia Salmon – Co-Facilitators



FELLOWSHIP FOR WOMEN

On Monday, March 24, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. FFW will meet in the sanctuary of Suffolk Christian Church. Sean Bilby will talk to us about the church's stained glass windows, sharing the history and theology represented in these beautiful works of art. Following his presentation, we will assemble in the Fellowship Hall for dinner. Please sign up on the bulletin board. We hope you will be able to join us and remember you are always welcome to bring a friend.



Women's Fellowship Clothing Ministry

Thank you to all who have donated to the Women's Fellowship clothing drive. The distribution date will be Saturday, March 1, 2025, from 9:00am to 2:00pm. Thanks to each and every one of you for your support with this worthwhile project. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Lisa McLaughlin at (757) 593-6109.



Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

The Adult Bible Class will sponsor the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on March 4th from 5pm - 7pm in the Fellowship Hall. We will be serving pancakes, sausage, apples, and beverages. There will be no cost for this, but donations are appreciated and will go toward class missions.

Friday Game Nights

March 7th
March 21st





CALLING ALL MEN....

Fellowship for Women cordially invites you to attend a Fellowship for Men's Breakfast on Sunday, March 30, 2025, at 8:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall. Stayed tuned for additional information. We hope you will plan to attend and bring a friend.



Acolyte Sunday March 2nd

If you have been an acolyte this past year, please plan to attend on March 2nd. Acolytes will be recognized during the 11:00 am worship service. We are always looking for new acolytes to serve in our church. If you have any questions, please contact Sean or Priscilla.



We will have a covered dish lunch on Sunday, March 23, following the worship service. This will be truly a COVERED DISH LUNCH, as there will be NO Fried Chicken provided by the church. Following the lunch we will play a few games of BINGO. So, bring your favorite dish to share and bring your luck for BINGO, as we share in this time of fellowship.

**Please sign up on the bulletin board if you plan to attend.

BINGO				
15	28	37	51	73
6	17	32	45	61
9	15	★	60	70
12	26	44	52	66
7	22	34	48	72

BOARD OF FINANCE NEWS

Jim Goben, Chair

Greetings, fellow Christians! As I write this, we are expecting one of the largest snow storms in many years to pass through our area. I pray that God will be with you all and keep you safe and warm.

The Board of Finance would like to express their sincere thanks to all of you for your continued faithful and generous offerings to our wonderful church. We ended last year on a great note. So far, January and February have been good months, too. So, as rare as it seems sometimes, our Board feels like it can really breathe. However, things will continue to need repair and replacement, the furnace (and the AC later this year) still needs to run, and we will always have bills to pay. So please continue with your generous tithing.....it really does make a difference.

One more thing.....As we mentioned in last month's newsletter, the Board of Deacons announced a couple of months ago that we would make the 5th Sunday of any month a "Sunday of Extra Giving". December 2024 was one of the months and your response to our call for extra giving was extraordinary. Please don't forget that March also has 5 Sundays. I'm sure you'll hear about it again ☺ but please mark it on your calendar now and on March 30th, give just a little extra as you are able.

Thank you for your continued support of God's church and its many missions! To God be the Glory!!!



March












**A donation to the General Fund
in memory of Herbert and JoAnn
Briggs given by Jimmy and Sharon
Fanny**

**A donation to the Memorial Garden
Fund in memory of Richard Rock
given by the Chancel Choir**



- March 1 Titus 2:11
- March 2 Philippians 2:3
- March 3 Ecclesiastes 5:2
- March 4 2 Samuel 22:28
- March 5 2 Chronicles 7:14
- March 6 Proverbs 14:27
- March 7 Psalm 25:9
- March 8 Daniel 10:12
- March 9 Ephesians 3:16-21
- March 10 John 1:16
- March 11 Genesis 1:26
- March 12 Malachi 4:2
- March 13 2 Samuel 22:4
- March 14 Numbers 6:24-26
- March 15 2 Corinthians 4:6
- March 16 Psalm 1:1
- March 17 Proverbs 11:30-31
- March 18 3 John 1:4
- March 19 2 Thess. 2:15
- March 20 Psalm 37:8-9
- March 21 Leviticus 20:8
- March 22 Psalm 27:4
- March 23 Hosea 6:1-2
- March 24 Joel 2:12-13
- March 25 Matthew 6:14-15
- March 26 Daniel 9:9
- March 27 Acts 3:19
- March 28 James 5:20
- March 29 Numbers 14:19
- March 30 Psalm 118:14
- March 31 Genesis 15:6

MARCH

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Women's Fellowship Clothing drive 9:00a-2:00p
2 9:15am Handbell Choir 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Sunday Service Acolyte Sunday	3 7:00pm Care & Concern	4 1:00p Saints Alive Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper 5:00p-7:00p 7:00p-Bible Study	5 10:00a-Bible Study 6:30pm Narcotics Anonymous bus. meeting	6 10:00am Thursday Crafters 7:15pm Chancel Choir	7  7:00pm Game Night	
9 9:15am Handbell Choir 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Sunday Service	10 6:30p-Joint meeting, Exec.Board, Board of Finance, Board of Bldg. & Grounds	11 1:00p Saints Alive 3:00p Food Pantry 7:00p-Bible Study	12 10:00a-Bible Study 6:30pm Board of Deacons 7:30pm Narcotics Anonymous	13 10:00am Thursday Crafters 7:15pm Chancel Choir	14	15 
16 9:15am Handbell Choir 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Sunday Service	17 	18 12:00p Saints Alive Potluck 3:00 Food Pantry 7:00p-Bible Study	19 10:00a-Bible Study 6:30pm Board of Finance 7:30pm Narcotics Anonymous	20 Hello Spring! 10:00am Thursday Crafters 7:15pm Chancel Choir *Newsletter articles for April due	21  7:00pm Game Night	22
23 9:15am Handbell Choir 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Sunday Service 12:00p Churchwide Fellowship-Potluck w/Bingo	24 4:00p-Fellowship for Women(fellowship hall)	25 1:00p Saints Alive 3:00p Food Pantry 7:00p-Bible Study	26 10:00a-Bible Study 7:00pm Board of Bldg. & Grounds 7:30pm Narcotics Anonymous	27 10:00am Thursday Crafters 7:15pm Chancel Choir	28	29 
30 8:30am Fellowship for Men's Breakfast 9:15am Handbell Choir 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Sunday Service *Day of extra giving	31					

Easter Arrangements, Sprays, and Lilies

If you would like to place an order for any of the items listed below, in honor of or in memory of a loved one, please contact Cheryl Ashcraft at 757.418.4553.

The deadline to order is Tuesday, April 15. No orders will be accepted after that date.



- Spray on the inside front column \$50
- Spray on the inside front column\$50
- Piano/Organ Arrangement\$40
- Huntboard arrangement \$45
- Second floor foyer.....\$40
- South vestibule arrangement.....\$40
- North entrance floral spray (columns)\$40
- North entrance floral spray (columns)\$40
- North entrance floral spray (doors)\$40
- North entrance floral spray (doors)\$40
- South outside entrance floral spray\$40
- Front outside floral spray\$40
- Front outside floral spray\$40
- North vestibule arrangement\$40
- North second floor vestibule arrangement\$40
- Pascal Candle\$40
- Wreath outside of office door\$40

Sprays/Arrangements In Honor/Memory of: [Circle one]

Given by:

--

Easter Lilies

Quantity	Total (\$20 each)



Lilies In Honor/Memory of: [Circle one]

Given by:

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Please make your check marked
 "Easter Flowers" payable to:
Suffolk Christian Church

Suffolk Christian Church
 Attn: Cheryl Ashcraft
 216 North Main Street
 Suffolk, VA 23434