

The Towers Newsletter

216 North Main Street, Suffolk VA 23434

Website: www.suffolkchristian.org



March 2023



Our Lenten Journey

Lent comes from the Anglo Saxon word *lencten*, meaning “lengthen” and refers to the lengthening days of spring. The forty days represents the time Jesus spent in the wilderness, enduring the temptations and preparing to begin his ministry. Lent is also a time of repentance, fasting and preparation for the coming of Easter. It is a time of self-examination and reflection.

In the early church, Lent began as a period of fasting and preparation for baptism by new converts and then became a time of penance by all Christians. Today, we focus on our relationships with God, growing as disciples and extending ourselves, often choosing to give up something or to volunteer and give of ourselves for others.

This year, our theme for Lent will be “Forgiveness.” Over the next five Sundays we’ll look at:

God’s Preemptive Grace
Forgiveness and our relationship with God
Forgiving others
Forgiving ourselves and
Corporate forgiveness.

Each week we’ll delve into stories in Scripture that will help us live into these challenging but liberating principles. I pray that this will be a fruitful season that will lead us into a glorious Easter. As we enter this season, I offer this prayer for our reflection:

*Sometimes I need a clean slate, a fresh start, a new beginning, new life from a world of death. God, let me embrace your forgiveness so that I may know to the depths of my soul that as I offer my brokenness I am made new. Amen.**

On the journey with you,
Tracy

*Reyes-Chow, Bruce. 40 Days, 40 Prayers, 40 Words: Lenten Reflections for Everyday Life: Lenten Reflections for Everyday Life (p. iii). Westminster John Knox Press. Kindle Edition.



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



January 2023 – Church Family Assistance - \$1,108.00

February 2023 – Coats for Community - \$685.00

MISSIONS MOMENT

March's Mission: Western Tidewater Free Clinic

“And the King will answer and say to them, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.’ ” Matthew 25:40

The yellow envelope for March is designated for the Western Tidewater Free Clinic by the SCC Board of Deacons. 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 underserved adults, delivering compassionate and quality care through many programs. It states its mission this way, “to provide high-quality, non-emergency health care to the residents 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 on your heart to this mission, by using March's **yellow envelope**.



A Note from Board of Deacons:

Good day to all from the Board of Deacons! We hope you are doing well!



Items of interest from the Board:

1. New Church Ministerial Assistant (Church Secretary) -- Suzanne Flemming. Her hours are Tuesday through Friday, 9:00am until 2pm. If you are nearby on those days of the week, please stop by and introduce yourself to Suzanne.
2. Part of our facility has been leased for 12-18 months by a new start-up church, the Reformation Presbyterian Church. The mother church is based in Virginia Beach. This new church has outgrown its initial meeting location, which was held at one of the member's homes. After much searching, they found our church facility to be exactly what they needed.
3. The Pastor search team has been active, interviewing potential ministers.
4. The Board has a committee working on our Church's Constitution and will hopefully complete that task later this year. Once the Deacons have approved the updated document, it will "lie on the table" for 90 days for all to read and question before coming to the Conference for your approval.
5. The March yellow mission envelope will provide funds to the Western Tidewater Free Clinic.
6. The Board approved our Church providing meals for the Winter Shelter program for 02/13/23 through 02/21/23, and also for the Night Stay program and Winter Shelter program for 02/22/23 through 03/08/23.
7. Spring Conference will be held on Wednesday, March 29, 2023, at 7:00 pm in the West Memorial Classroom.

If you have any questions concerning our Board of Deacons, please do not hesitate to contact me or any Board member.

Lastly, DON'T BE SHY, if you would like to serve or help with/on any Board, Committee or with any of the various outreach programs we have, please contact the church office.

Finally, I ask each one of you to pray every day for your family, your church family, our Country's leaders, Armed Forces and their families and yourself. Each day our Heavenly Father gives is another opportunity to use our gifts to praise and glorify Him and help our World be a better place for all.

May God bless you all!

Alan Garner, Chairman, Board of Deacons



Suffolk Christian Church awarded seven scholarships in 2022 to our graduating high school students, college students, and a community member.

Scholarship applications will be available in the church office on March 30th. You may stop by the office to pick up applications or email the church office at suffolkchristianchurchoffice@gmail.com to have the applications emailed to you.

Students may apply for any or all of the scholarships. Applications must be received in the church office by May 16th.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Our spring church conference will be held on Wednesday, March 29th at 7:00 p.m. in West Memorial. Please plan to be a part of this important event. If you have reports for the conference, please have those to the church office by Wednesday, March 15th. Thank you!



CARE AND CONCERN

The Care and Concern Committee will meet on Monday, March 13th at 7:00 p.m. at church. The work of this Committee continues to provide meals for our shut-ins, call shut-ins on a regular basis, host funeral receptions and sends cards as needed. All of this requires the help of many volunteers. Please join us at our first meeting of only two that are held each year. We hope you will consider attending this meeting to learn more about the Care and Concern Committee and how you can be of help. Should you have any questions, feel free to contact any Committee member for additional information. We look forward to seeing you there.

Elaine Abernathy and Claudia Salmon - Co-Facilitators



Donations to the Memorial Garden Fund in memory of Mary Elizabeth Parker have been given by Joyce H. Trump, Howard Earl Godwin, Jr., Sue P. Burton, The McKeel Cousins, UDC Suffolk Chapter 173, Arlyn Winslow, Nancy B. Baines, Charlie and Diane Mathias, Curtiss and Betty Johnson, Harriet S. Wills, Louis and Ann Antone.

A donation to the Food Pantry in memory of Mary Elizabeth Parker has been given by Glynn and Janice Writtenberry.

A donation to Care and Concern in memory of Mary Elizabeth Parker has been given by The Board and Staff of Riddick's Folly House Museum.

Stewardship Report

"We are Walking by Faith through Commitment"

January 2023 income - \$22,624.50

January 2023 expenses - \$20,794.76

Souper Bowl offering for Food Pantry - \$318.00

Dollars for Supply & Multiply - \$1,912.48

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 Monday, April 3. 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

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

Given by:

Easter Lilies

Quantity	Total (\$15 each)



Lilies In Honor/Memory of: [Circle one]

Given by:

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



Birthdays

Judy Eure	March 2nd
Kim James	March 2nd
Virginia Savage	March 8th
Harden Barnett Jr.	March 9th
Sue Bracy	March 9th
Michael Halley	March 11th
Rob Abernathy	March 13th
Marion Johnson	March 16th
Cheryl Ashcraft	March 16th
Scott Wilson	March 18th
Mike Beale	March 18th
Stephanie Savage	March 19th
Sharon Fanny	March 20th
Connor Munn	March 21st
Bobby Myles	March 24th
Claudia Salmon	March 24th
Billy Wyatt Sr.	March 24th
Ed Skillen Jr.	March 24th
Bob James	March 25th
Jimmy Fanny	March 26th
Janine Joyner	March 28th
Charlie Henderson Jr	March 28th
Bob Richardson Sr.	March 30th
Nancy Cocco	March 30th

JOIN US FOR Sunday School

Come join us for Sunday School at 10:00 am each Sunday.

The adults have 2 different classes on the 3rd floor. They are always looking for new people to join their classes.

The children are meeting in the Beginners Department on the 1st floor. We are always looking for more children to join us for a fun filled Sunday school lesson.

Sunday school is a great way to meet people and have fellowship.



Friday Nights – 6:45 pm

March 3rd, 17th and 31st

Come join us for fun and fellowship.

Bring a snack to share with others!

Thanks

With love, from Vicki & Les

Thank you to the members of my church who contributed money to Les and I. We pretty much lost everything and our beloved pets. Thank you for thinking of us in such a thoughtful way. We are looking forward to moving back home.

We have received a Thank You letter from the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship for the \$1,635.00 gift received from our church for Ukraine Relief in 2022.



Daily Bible Readings





Day 1:	Matthew 6:28-34	Day 16:	John 8:31-38
Day 2:	Matthew 8:24-27	Day 17:	John 14:8-14
Day 3:	Matthew 9:1-8	Day 18:	John 20:24-29
Day 4:	Matthew 9:18-26	Day 19:	Acts 3:11-16
Day 5:	Matthew 9:27-31	Day 20:	Acts 11:19-23
Day 6:	Matthew 17:14-20	Day 21:	Acts 15:7-11
Day 7:	Matthew 21:19-22	Day 22:	Romans 1:1-7
Day 8:	Matthew 25:14-23	Day 23:	Romans 1:9-17
Day 9:	Mark 9:14-29	Day 24:	Romans 10:9-17
Day 10:	Mark 11:20-25	Day 25:	1Corinthian 16:13&14
Day 11:	Luke 7:1-10	Day 26:	Hebrews 6:1-3
Day 12:	Luke 8:9-15	Day 27:	Hebrews 11:1-10
Day 13:	Luke 8:43-48	Day 28:	Hebrews 11:11-21
Day 14:	Luke 18:1-8	Day 29:	Hebrews 11:22-31
Day 15:	John 3:27-36	Day 30:	Hebrews 11:32-39
		Day 31:	Proverbs 3:1-6

Commit to reading your bible daily for at least 10 minutes and meditate what you have read.



MARCH

2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 10:00am God of the Way book study 7:00pm Board of Christian Education 7:30pm Narcotics Anonymous	2 10:00am Thursday Crafters 6:45pm Chancel Handbell Choir 7:30pm Chancel Choir	3 6:45pm Game Night	4
5 9:30am King's Ringers 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Sunday Service 4:00pm Reformed Pres. Church	6	7 1:00pm Saints Alive 7:00pm God of the Way Book Study	8 10:00am God of the Way book study 6:00pm Reformed Pres. 6:30pm Board of Deacons 7:30pm Narcotics Anonymous	9 10:00am Prayer Team 10:00am Thursday Crafters 6:45pm Chancel Handbell Choir 7:30pm Chancel Choir	10	11
12  9:30am King's Ringers 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Sunday Service 4:00pm Reformed Pres. Church	13	14 1:00pm Saints Alive 3:00pm Food Pantry 7:00pm God of the Way Book Study	15 10:00am God of the Way book study 6:30pm Board of Finance 7:30pm Narcotics Anonymous	16 10:00am Thursday Crafters 6:45pm Chancel Handbell Choir 7:30pm Chancel Choir	17 6:45pm Game Night 	18
19 9:30am King's Ringers 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Sunday Service 4:00pm Reformed Pres. Church		21 12:00pm Saints Alive Potluck 3:00pm Food Pantry 7:00pm God of the Way Book Study	22 10:00am God of the Way book study 6:00pm Reformed Pres. 6:30pm House of Worship 7:30pm Narcotics Anonymous	23 10:00am Thursday Crafters 6:45pm Chancel Handbell Choir 7:30pm Chancel Choir	24	25
26 9:30am King's Ringers 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Sunday Service 4:00pm Reformed Pres. Church	27	28 1:00pm Saints Alive 3:00pm Food Pantry 7:00pm God of the Way Book Study	29 10:00am God of the Way book study 7:00 Church Spring Conference 7:30pm Narcotics Anonymous	30 10:00am Thursday Crafters 6:45pm Chancel Handbell Choir 7:30pm Chancel Choir	31 6:45pm Game Night	