

The Towers Newsletter

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



Finding God in the Wilderness



Wednesday March 2nd is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the Lenten season. 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. This year, our theme for Lent will be “Finding God in the Wilderness.” After we look at Jesus’ time in the wilderness on the first Sunday of Lent, we will move to the book of Exodus and explore Israel’s time in the wilderness.

How did the Israelites deal with uncertainty and not-knowing as they made their way from Egypt to the foreign place God was leading them to?

Where did they find God during this time of uncertainty?

What did Jesus learn in the wilderness about himself and his ministry?

What lessons can we learn from their journeys as we travel through our own time of uncertainty?

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.

Much remains uncertain in the life of the church as we continue our pastoral search process, and in our world as we continue to deal with COVID 19 and a struggling economy, and threats of war in Europe. In his book, *Whistling in the Dark*, theologian Frederick Buechner encourages us to think of the forty days of Lent as the tithe (or 10%) of a year. That approach seems very appropriate during these challenging days. So at SCC, let’s view this Lenten season as a tithe of the year ahead, and let’s ask ourselves these additional questions:

Who is God calling us to be as individuals and a congregation?

What can we give to God – on our own and as a family of faith?

What can we give to the world around us?

What gifts can we gather together as we head toward resurrection – the resurrection of Christ, the church, and our world post-pandemic?

Plan to join us throughout the Lenten season as we search for God in the wilderness. It will be a meaningful time of preparation and discovery.

On the journey with you, Tracy

Update from the Transition Team

Thanks in advance to everyone who is attending our First Town Hall Session on February 27th. We hope you enjoy reading through our history and establishing where you fall in this time-line. The Transition Team will assemble the information you provided, and we will share this information over the next few weeks. Our Second Town Hall will take place on March 13th. We will continue to look at our heritage – where we have been and where we want to go. Your input becomes more valuable as we look at our future. At the meeting on March 13th, we will again have a light lunch and meet in small groups to discuss the next set of questions, found below

Meeting #2 – March 13, 2022

1. How have you experienced Christ's love from other members of SCC? Describe what happened.
2. What are the most important things this faith community has contributed to your life?
 - a. Who or what made a difference?
 - b. How did it affect you?
3. When you think about how SCC has related to the community and work, what do you think has been most important? How do we express God's love, mercy and justice to others?
4. What recurring event most defines SCC?

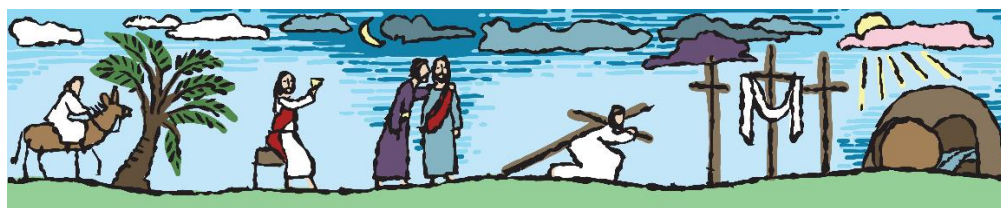
Thanks to each of you for your participation as we seek to find the person God is calling to Suffolk Christian Church. Please continue to pray daily for this person and for our Church as we look to our future.

If anyone has any questions, please do not hesitate to give any one of us a call. We know God has a plan for Suffolk Christian Church as we continue to be a Beacon on Main Street.

God Bless each of you.

The Transition Team

Transition Team: Dana Bilby, Evelyn Jones, Billy Wyatt, John Kinsey, Curtiss Johnson, Joyce Trump and Vickie Wilson



Join us for Ash Wednesday & Holy Week Worship

Ash Wednesday Service– 7:00 pm, March 2

Suffolk's Palm Sunday Processional – Time TBD, April 10

Palm Sunday Potluck & Easter Egg Hunt – April 10, 12:00 pm

Maundy Thursday Re-Enactment – 7:30 pm, April 14

Easter Vigil - 8:00 pm, April 16

Easter Worship Service – 11:00 am, April 17

Reporting on Missions....

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

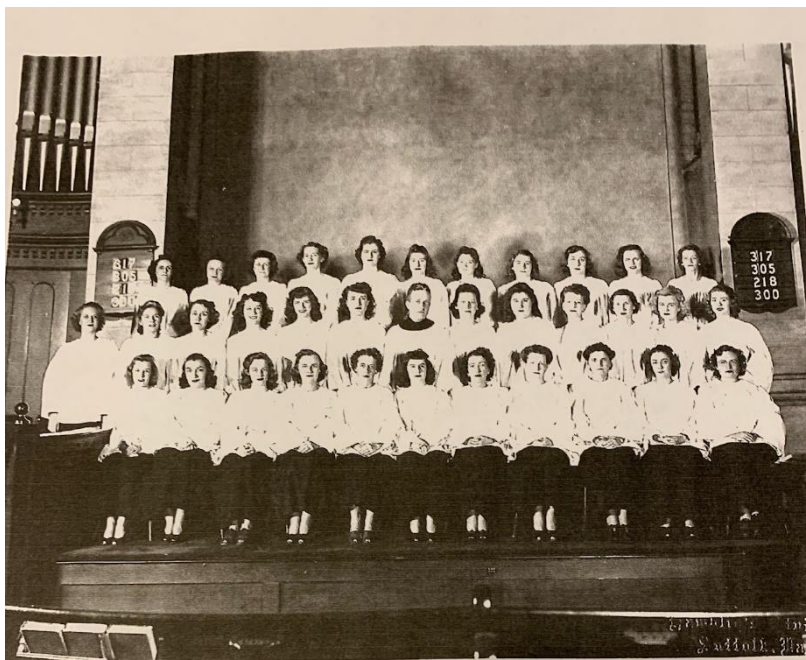
The yellow envelope for March is designated for the Western Tidewater Free Clinic by the SCC Board of Deacons. This is a local mission, most worthy of our support. WTFC was opened in 2007 and serves the Western Tidewater area. It is a health home for uninsured, underinsured and underserved adults, delivering 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 make a contribution to this mission, by using March's yellow envelope.

In addition to supporting local missions, we continue as a church to strive to help others beyond our own shores. In the past few years, we have concentrated our efforts on the people of Haiti. We have two funds, the "Haiti Mission Fund," money supplied through individual fund-raising efforts and "Dollars for Supply and Multiply," money supplied by one dollar bills placed in the offering plate on Sunday mornings. (This fund was previously called "Dollars for Haiti.") We hope you will continue to contribute one dollar each week to grow this fund so that more can be done to help the people of Haiti. The balances of each fund will be reported in the Sunday bulletin.

Church Conference, March 27, 2022

There will be a Church Conference after church services on **March 27, 2022**. If you have any questions regarding Board Reports, please direct them to that Boards' Chairperson.

Please have all conference reports to Amy Peterson by March 16.



A Step Back In Time

Check with Elaine Abernathy to see the full-size version of this picture of the choir. This was taken in the sanctuary prior to the stained glass windows. We think it was taken in the 1940's.

The family of William E. Martin wants to thank you for the prayers, flowers, food and visits. They have been so much appreciated. Words cannot express how much we feel blessed.

Kitty, Jonathan, Angela & Michelle



Dear, Dear friends of Suffolk Christian,

Words cannot express my appreciation for your loving letter and generous gift. Our time with you was indeed special and that you still remember us is indeed special and now that Tom is gone you still hold me close.

Lovingly, Colleen Britton



Dear Suffolk Christian Church Family,

My mother has truly appreciated the phone calls and visits from church members. She has felt so isolated due to her homebound status. We especially want to take the opportunity to thank the Care & Concern committee for the yummy Brunswick stew, cornbread & cake. It truly hit the spot. I hope you all will continue to lift my mother up in prayer. She misses my dad so.

Love, Barbara Hannah & Mary Jane Cathey

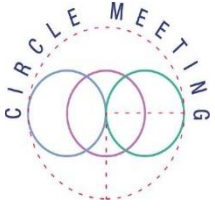


Dear Congregants of Suffolk Christian Church,

Thank you so much for your generous, tax-deductible donation of \$725 to Meals on Wheels of Suffolk & Isle of Wight. Thanks to this allocation, we will be able to continue offering our services to the most vulnerable in our community during this unprecedented time. Because of you, these individuals will have access to food security, locally; and with an organization that prides itself on treating each of its recipients with the dignity and respect they deserve.

With all my gratitude,

Angelica M. Yankauskas, Meals on Wheels



The Afternoon Circle will meet at 1:00 in Saints Alive on Monday, March 7th. All are welcome to join us!

The Evening Circle will meet Monday, March 7 at 7 PM in the conference room. We will continue our book study of *Anxious for Nothing* by Max Lucado. Please feel free to join us.

Game Nights
6:45 PM
March 4
March 18



Congratulations



Hudson Cruize Drames

February 15, 2022

Parents: David and Amy Drames

Grandparents: Suzanne and Len Cox



Happy Birthday !!!!

Kim James	March 2
Judy Eure	March 2
William Blake Jr.	March 7
Virginia Savage	March 8
Harden Barnett, Jr.	March 9
Sue Bracy	March 9
Maxine Barnett	March 10
Michael Halley	March 11
Rob Abernathy	March 13
Adalmaris Torres	March 14
Cheryl Ashcraft	March 16
Marion Johnson	March 16
Mike Beale	March 18
Scott Wilson	March 18
Stephanie Savage	March 19
Sharon Fanny	March 20
Connor Munn	March 21
Nick Allen	March 24
Billy Wyatt	March 24
Claudia Salmon	March 24
Ed Skillen	March 24
Bobby Myles	March 24
Bob James	March 25
Jimmy Fanny	March 26
Charlie Henderson	March 28
Janine Joyner	March 28
Nancy Cocco	March 30
Bob Richardson	March 30

UPDATED COVID-19 PROTOCOLS

With the surge in new COVID cases, our COVID-19 task force met on to review our protocols for gathering. At this time, the team is encouraging us to wear masks and to renew our commitment to social distancing and hand sanitizing. Thank you for doing your part to help us remain healthy!



MARCH MEMORIALS

Donations to the Memorial Fund in memory of Jack Harry have been given by Austin and Mary Hart Darden, Sue P. Burton, Richard Savage, Bill and Hunter Duggan and family

A donation to the Memorial Fund in memory of Margaret Heuberger has been given by Bill and Hunter Duggan and family

A donation to Care and Concern in memory of Earl Martin has been given by Mack and Brenda Wright

A donation to the Memorial Garden in memory of Earl Martin has been given by Calvin and Evelyn Jones

Donations to the Memorial Fund in memory of Earl Martin have been given by Emma Winslow, Johnnie and Vicki Winslow

Donations to the Memorial Fund in memory of Forrest Cathey have been given by William and Jacqueline King, Harry and Karen McMillan, Bud and Mary Lynn Yost, Harden and Beth Barnett, Bob and Belinda McCall, Sarah and Stephen Fortney, Ron and Linda McCall, Mike and Jennifer McCall, Red and Karen Ramey, Steve and Anne Cabell Pearce, Frank and Sally Rawls, Susan Slack, Peter and Crystal Jackson

Donations to the Memorial Fund in memory of Irvin Salmon have been given by Joyce H. Trump, David and Cynthia Salmon, Ben and Peggy Ellis, Bill and Dae Nixon, Sue P. Burton, Harden and Beth Barnett, Alyce Morgan, Thomas Moore, Billy and Phyllis Wright, Jim and Jane Marie Dailey, David and Patti Blair, William and Rhonda Phippkins, Audrey Smith and Kevin Smith, Ron Pier, Loyd and Cathie Bradshaw, Billie Harry, L. H. and Pat Byrum, Nancy Pichel, Tim and Juanita Thornton, Curtiss and Betty Johnson, P.J. and Pat Fowler, Glenn, Amy and Jennifer Hott, Tracy P. Carr, Arlyn Winslow, Carroll G. Frohman, Richard Savage, Jim and Elaine Salmon

A donation to Care and Concern in memory of Irvin Salmon has been given by Mack and Brenda Wright, H. Jan Ellis

Donations to the Music Fund in memory of Irvin Salmon have been given by Mike Brinkley and Beth, Sara Carter

Donations to the Memorial Garden in memory of Irvin Salmon have been given by Rodney and Judy Brown, Calvin and Evelyn Jones, Lynn and Susie Writtenberry

A donation to the Food Pantry in memory of Irvin Salmon has been given by Jim and Wanda Thorsen



A **Memorial Garden Fund** has been established within the Memorial Fund. Any donations made to this garden fund will go directly to the upkeep and future plantings in the garden. If you would like to give to this fund through a donation or a memorial, please be sure to designate this fund on your check or envelope. Thank you.

Closing our Post Office Box

Effective February 1, 2022, our post office box was closed. All mail will be delivered here at the church at **216 N. Main Street** address.



January 2022 – Church Family Assistance - \$615.00
February 2022 – Meals on Wheels - \$635.00

Stewardship Report

"We are Walking by Faith through Commitment"

Dollars for Supply & Multiply - \$1,343.00
Haiti Missions Fund - \$1,378.00
Souper Bowl Offering - \$431.00

***A special gift of \$5,000.00 was given to our Food Pantry from the E. Talmadge Darden Fund**

Tuesday Afternoons – Time Change



The Saints Alive group will continue to meet on Tuesdays but we will meet at **1:00 pm** instead of 2:00 pm. On the 3rd Tuesday of each month we will meet at **12:00 noon** for a potluck lunch. We are always looking for new members to join the group for fun, games and fellowship. Hope to see you there!



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

The adults/young adults are meeting on the 3rd floor (in the old Youth Room). The class is currently studying the book of Exodus.

They are always looking for new people to join their class.

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.



Find us on:
www.suffolkchristian.org
Facebook
YouTube



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:	1Corinthian16:13&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.

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 757.934.1646.

The deadline to order is **Sunday, April 10**. No orders will be accepted after that deadline.



- Spray on the inside front column \$50
- Spray on the inside front column\$50
- Huntboard arrangement \$45
- Second floor foyer.....\$40
- South vestibule arrangement.....\$40
- North entrance floral spray\$40
- North entrance floral spray\$40
- South outside entrance floral spray\$40
- Front outside floral spray\$40
- Front outside floral spray\$40
- North vestibule arrangement\$40
- Pascal Candle\$40

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

Given by:

Easter Lilies

Quantity	Total (\$15 each)









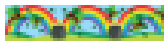



Lilies In Honor/Memory of: [Circle one]

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

March 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Ash Wednesday <i>March 2, 7:00 PM</i></p> 		<p>1 1:00pm Saints Alive 7:00pm Bible Study "Heaven" by Randy Alcorn</p>	<p>2 Ash Wednesday 10:00am Bible Study "Heaven" by Randy Alcorn 7:00pm Ash Wednesday Worship 7:30pm Narcotics Anonymous 7:30pm Board of Christian Ed</p> 	<p>3 10:00am Thursday Crafters 6:45pm Chancel Handbell Choir 7:30pm Chancel Choir</p> 	<p>4 11:30am Meals on Wheels 6:45pm Game Night</p>	
<p>6 9:30am King's Ringers 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Worship Service 12:00pm Transition Team Meeting 2:00pm Zoom Town Hall</p>	<p>7 1:00pm Afternoon Circle 7:00pm Evening Circle</p> 	<p>8 1:00pm Saints Alive 3:00pm Food Pantry 7:00pm Bible Study "Heaven" by Randy Alcorn</p>	<p>9 10:00am Bible Study "Heaven" by Randy Alcorn 6:30pm Board of Deacons 7:30pm Narcotics Anonymous</p>	<p>10 10:00am Prayer Team 10:00am Thursday Crafters 6:45pm Chancel Handbell Choir 7:30pm Chancel Choir</p>	<p>11 11:30am Meals on Wheels</p>	
<p>13 9:30am King's Ringers 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Worship Service 12:00pm Town Hall Meeting & Lunch</p> 	14	<p>15 12:00pm Saints Alive Potluck 3:00pm Food Pantry 7:00pm Bible Study "Heaven" by Randy Alcorn</p>	<p>16 10:00am Bible Study "Heaven" by Randy Alcorn 6:30pm Board of Finance 7:30pm Narcotics Anonymous</p>	<p>17 St. Patrick's Day 10:00am Thursday Crafters 6:45pm Chancel Handbell Choir 7:30pm Chancel Choir</p> 	<p>18 11:30am Meals on Wheels 6:45pm Game Night</p>	19
<p>20 9:30am King's Ringers 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Worship Service 5:00pm Deacon's Dinner</p>	<p>21 Newsletter Articles Due</p> 	<p>22 1:00pm Saints Alive 3:00pm Food Pantry 7:00pm Bible Study "Heaven" by Randy Alcorn</p>	<p>23 10:00am Bible Study "Heaven" by Randy Alcorn 6:30pm House of Worship 7:30pm Narcotics Anonymous</p>	<p>24 10:00am Thursday Crafters 7:30pm Chancel Choir</p>	<p>25 11:30am Meals on Wheels</p>	
<p>27 9:30am King's Ringers 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Worship Service 12:00pm Church Conference</p>	28	<p>29 1:00pm Saints Alive 3:00pm Food Pantry</p> 	<p>30 7:30pm Narcotics Anonymous</p>	<p>31 10:00am Thursday Crafters 6:45pm Chancel Handbell Choir 7:30pm Chancel Choir</p>	