

# The Towers Newsletter

216 North Main Street, Suffolk VA 23434

Website: [www.suffolkchristian.org](http://www.suffolkchristian.org)



## Pastor's Column

### Building for Hope

At our Lunch and Learn on September 15<sup>th</sup>, I introduced SCC to the Building for Hope program. Building for Hope is a two-year program for churches and their leadership funded by Lilly Endowment Inc. The program guides congregations through a journey of repurposing their underutilized facilities and other physical assets – in order to advance each congregation's mission. The program is a response to the epidemic of underutilized church facilities across the US; by reorienting these spaces, congregations and their surrounding communities are equipped to flourish.

The vision of Building for Hope is to create a movement of sustained revitalization through creative, community-based uses of underutilized church facilities. Building for Hope will help congregations see the space they inhabit in their neighborhoods as sacred spaces that should be utilized for the best and highest good for the glory of God and the blessing of others.

SCC has been selected to participate in the inaugural cohort which officially begins in early 2025. The pastor and two lay leaders will make up our team. After a zoom orientation on October 30<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m., our team will travel to Alexandria, VA for three cohort meetings: February 20-22, May 15-17, and October 16-18. We will be assigned a coach in mid-November who will walk with our team through the two-year process. In the second year, the coach will work with SCC to help us discern how God is calling us to better utilize our facilities, and then to form and implement a plan. There will be no cost to SCC or our team members to participate in this program.

Two church members are needed for this team. If you are interested in participating, and are free for the retreat days above, please let Tracy know as soon as possible. Our team needs to be in place by the Oct. 30<sup>th</sup> orientation. Thank you for prayerfully considering participating in this amazing opportunity for SCC!

### Pastor Search Update

Our Pastor Search Team continues to move forward with a very promising candidate. They are currently checking references and conducting a background check. If both parties feel that God is moving forward, the next step will be to schedule a time for the congregation to meet and interview the candidate and hear the candidate preach. Please continue to pray for the Search Team and this candidate!

In the meantime, I'm on the journey with you, Tracy



**You may now watch our service LIVE Sunday mornings!**

Go to: YouTube.com

Suffolk Christian Live Worship / Subscribe

**You also find us on:**

[www.suffolkchristian.org](http://www.suffolkchristian.org)

Facebook



The Board of Deacons Reports....from the September 11, 2024 Meeting

- \*Congregational updates were given by Dr. Hartman.
- \*The yellow envelope mission for October will be Suffolk Christian Fellowship Center, November, Beacon of Hope, December, Crossover Global Ministries.
- \*The board authorized the purchase of gift cards to Food Lion from the Food Ministries Fund, to be distributed at the Tuesday Food Pantry in Nov. and Dec.
- \*The Pastoral Search Team reported that they were talking with a new candidate.
- \*The Board voted to apply to be a participant in the "Building for Hope" program which the Old Town Community Church of Alexandria has developed (funded by a grant from the Lilly Endowment.) Pastor Tracy discovered this opportunity through the Center for Healthy Churches. There is no cost to the church. This program invites the pastor and two others to travel to Northern Virginia 3 times a year to attend seminars and discussions concerning the effective use of our church building in the future. There is no obligation or commitment on our part. The Board felt it was a great opportunity to be exposed to new thoughts and ideas that could help sustain the future of our church.
- \*The Board is seeking a church member to be our representative on the CAPS Board. As you know the Coalition Against Poverty in Suffolk seeks to help fellow citizens when they are in trouble financially and to help them regain stability in their lives through training and counseling.
- \*The fall conference will take place on Wed., Oct. 23 at 7:00pm in the sanctuary.


**Stewardship Report**  
*"We are Walking by Faith through Commitment"*  
**January-August 2024 income - \$169,129.92**  
 (includes \$20,000.00 from investments)  
**January-August 2024 expenses - \$178,366.29**  
  
**Dollars for Supply & Multiply - \$1,878.48**  
 (includes special monthly mission)

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Join us for

Journey Sunday  
School Class

Journey Sunday School Class (formerly Son Worshipers/Crusaders), has a new classroom on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, room #225 off the commons area (3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> grade classroom). Come join us for a lively discussion on the book of John.



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Reporting on Missions....

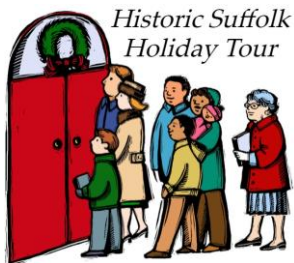
## October's **Yellow** Envelope Mission: Suffolk Christian Fellowship Center

The mission we are supporting for the month of October is Suffolk Christian Fellowship Center.

This organization works to bridge the service gap for under-resourced and food insecure communities in Suffolk and Western Tidewater.

"How can we lend a helping hand to those experiencing hardships?" seems to be the motivating question for all that Suffolk Christian Fellowship Center does. Providing food, ministerial and counseling services, as well as clothing and household items as they become available, Suffolk Christian Fellowship Center is always seeking ways to serve our community and provide hope and encouragement to our citizens. During COVID, Co-founder/ COO Lorna Slaughter started a mobile food pantry to go out into the community and reach those citizens that were unable to get to food resources. This has continued after seeing the need in our outlying communities. Lorna is always looking for ways to expand food insecurity services in our area for those that cannot get to their food pantry but are in need of food. In addition to their regular daytime hours, they have recently added evening hours and an evening shift in Northern Suffolk for working families.

Please support this much needed ministry in our local community.



*Historic Suffolk  
Holiday Tour*

*Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup> and  
Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>  
1:00 - 5:00 pm*



*The Suffolk-Nansemond Historical Society is sponsoring a return of the Holiday Tour in downtown Suffolk on Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup> from 1:00-5:00 pm. The Historical Society has invited Suffolk Christian Church to participate in the tour by opening our sanctuary to the tour guests. The Board of Deacons has approved our participation. We need volunteers to help prepare for the tour as well as volunteers to help on the two days of the tour. Please let Beverly McGahee or Joyce Trump know if you are willing to participate in this special event.*



*In Memory of*

**A donation to the Memorial Fund in memory of  
Mary Bunch Gardner has been given by Audrey Johnson**

**A donation to the General Fund in memory of Lena Ann Crutchlow Ellis and  
Buck Ellis has been given by H. Jan Ellis and Family**

**A donation to the Fellowship for Women Fund in memory of Jack Harry has  
been given by Tommy and Rita Queen**

*In Honor of*

**A donation to the General Fund in honor of the Board of Deacons  
has been given by the Family of Hugh Gray**

**A donation to the General Fund in honor of Jan Ellis  
has been given by the Family of Hugh Gray**

**A donation to the General Fund in honor of Joyce Trump  
has been given by the Family of Hugh Gray**

**A donation to the General Fund in honor of the Congregation of Suffolk  
Christian Church has been given by the Family of Hugh Gray**



Jody Rice	10/02
Lisa Carraway	10/03
Douglas Parr Jr.	10/04
Nita Bagnell	10/05
Jim Coppola	10/05
Chloe Worrell	10/05
Willow Young	10/05
Sandy Jones	10/08
Forrest Hannah	10/09
Frances Carr	10/10
James Bradshaw	10/11
Carl Saunders	10/11
Nell Williams	10/14
Carolyn Gwaltney	10/16
Michelle Martin	10/18
Sarah Burford	10/19
Emma Bailey	10/21
Ann Griffin	10/22
Madelyn Grandy	10/23
Erik Fanny	10/24
Gloria Judkins	10/26
Elaine Abernathy	10/26
Lucas Fleming	10/26
Mills Staylor Jr.	10/30
Logan Sigler	10/30
Caitlyn Hannah	10/30



Every Tuesday, there is a group who meet in the Saints Alive at 1:00 pm to play cards. They meet on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 12:00 noon for lunch...bring your own.

We have Game Nights during the month on Friday evenings @ 7:00 pm. Bring a snack to share with the group. Usually, the group plays cards but are always open for new games.

Look at the monthly calendar for these dates and come join in the fun and fellowship. This is a great opportunity to meet others in the church you may or may not know.



**Mark your Calendars!  
October 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>  
Come join in the fellowship!**

A Special Thank you from:



**Meals on Wheels was our special monthly mission for June**

*Dear Friends of Meals on Wheels of Suffolk & Isle of Wight,  
"Today, I'm writing to sincerely thank you for your generous donation of \$825.00 to Meals on Wheels of Suffolk & Isle of Wight. I continue to be so touched by the generosity of our community..."*

*I'm very proud of the work we do here at Meals on Wheels of Suffolk & Isle of Wight! From January 1<sup>st</sup> through June 30<sup>th</sup>, we have delivered 19,622 meals to 156 individuals in need. Your donations make this possible.*

*We are so grateful to have you as a continued donor and supporter of our mission..."*

*Sincerely,  
Jennifer Homan  
Executive Director*



### Food Pantry Needs

Our Food Pantry is running low on items. We need canned meats, beefaroni, canned spaghetti, macaroni & cheese, boxed pasta salads, canned vegetables, fruit cups, snack items, individual packets of oatmeal, individual packets of grits, pop-tarts, and granola bars. Thank you in advance for supporting our Food Pantry.



- January 2024 – SCC Suffolk Schools Partnership - \$1,465.11
- February 2024 – Coats for Community - \$870.00
- March 2024 – Western Tidewater Free Clinic - \$916.00
- April 2024 – SCC Scholarship Fund - \$775.00
- May 2024 – Crisis Pregnancy Center-\$510.00
- June 2024 – Meals on Wheels - \$825.00
- July 2024 – SCC Family Assistance - \$975.00
- August 2024 – Genieve Shelter - \$610.00
- September 2024 – Neighbors in Need - \$405.00



## Learning Together To Enhance Our Prayer Life



Are you timid to pray aloud?  
Do you feel your prayer life needs a boost?

Please join us for a  
**1-day WORKSHOP ON PRAYER**

Saturday, October 19, 2024

10am - 2pm

SCC Fellowship Hall  
(A light lunch will be served)  
Please bring Bible, paper, pen.

Sign up on the church bulletin board

Sponsored and led by the SCC Prayer Team



Have you moved? Telephone number changed?  
Email address changed? In order to keep our  
Church Family Directory current, please contact the  
church office at [suffolkchristianchurchoffice@gmail.com](mailto:suffolkchristianchurchoffice@gmail.com)  
or by phone at (757) 539-9182 to update your contact  
information.



Our fall church conference will be held on Wednesday October 23rd at 7:00 p.m. in the  
Sanctuary. Please plan to be present for this important meeting.



**Our church has several fall activities coming up. Please see the bulletin board outside of the church office to see how you can help with the Children's Fall Festival or Fall Bazaar. This is a great way to get involved with the community as we have visitors attending these activities.**



**Saturday, October 26th**

**5:00 - 7:00 pm**

**Fall Festival**

**7:00 - 8:00 pm**

**Trunk or Treat**

**Come join us and bring a friend.**

**We will have hot dogs, hamburgers, chips, popcorn and beverages. There will be games, cake walk and a haunted house.**







The October meeting of FFW will take place on Monday, October 28, at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. We are sponsoring a Hymn Sing for Women and will be inviting the ladies of other churches to join us as we lift our voices in song. We will be singing the old familiar hymns of our faith and also hope to have some guest soloists. Light refreshments and a time of fellowship will immediately follow. This is a perfect night to invite a neighbor or a friend to join us. Please sign up on the bulletin board. All are welcome.



The Board of Christian Education will be sponsoring our annual Fall Bazaar on Saturday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, from 9:00 am – 2:00 pm. If you have any items you could donate for the Country store, please contact Priscilla Bunch. If you know anyone who would like to be a vendor, please have them contact Priscilla as well. Priscilla's contact information by email is [pbunch1@aol.com](mailto:pbunch1@aol.com) or she can be contacted at her home phone #. There will be a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board outside of the Board of Christian Education office. Please invite your friends to come out for some good food, fun and fellowship.



JOIN US

Saturday, November 2nd  
9:00AM - 2:00PM

for FOOD,  
crAftS, and  
so MuCh more!

at

Suffolk Christian Church  
216 N. Main Street  
Suffolk, VA 23434



The Board of Christian Education would like to “thank” everyone for your donations and help during our annual 9/11 cookout. It was a great day of fellowship.



# OCTOBER

*Daily Bible Readings*

Day 1: Psalm 23:4

Day 2: Psalm 27:1

Day 3: Psalm 91:4

Day 4: Psalm 18:32

Day 5: Psalm 56:3-4

Day 6: Psalm 34:7

Day 7: 1 John 4:4

Day 8: 1 John 5:4

Day 9: 1 John 3:8

Day 10: Romans 8:37

Day 11: Romans 16:20

Day 12: James 4:7

Day 13: Ephesians 6:10-11

Day 14: 2 Timothy 1:7

Day 15: 1 Corinthians 15:37

Day 16: 2 Corinthians 10:3-4

Day 17: 2 Corinthians 2:14

Day 18: Luke 10:19

Day 19: Isaiah 41:10

Day 20: Isaiah 54:17

Day 21: John 16:33

Day 22: John 8:12

Day 23: Colossians 2:15

Day 24: Hebrews 2:14-15

Day 25: 1 Peter 5:8-9

Day 26: 1 Peter 1:13

Day 27: 2 Thessalonians 3:3

Day 28: Exodus 14:14

Day 29: Proverbs 30:5

Day 30: Revelation 12:11

Day 31: Revelation 20:10



# OCTOBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1  1:00p Saints Alive  7:00p Bible Study-Angels	2  10:00a Bible Study-James  7:00p Board of Christian Education 7:30pm Narcotics Anonymous	3  10:00am Thursday Crafters  7:30pm Chancel Choir	4   <b>Game Night</b>  7:00pm Game Night	5  
6 9:15am Handbell Choir 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Sunday Service	7 	8  1:00p Saints Alive 3:00p Food Pantry  7:00p Bible Study-Angels	9  10:00a Bible Study-James  6:30p Board of Deacons 6:30pm Narcotics Anonymous bus.meeting	10  10:00am Thursday Crafters  7:30pm Chancel Choir	11  Now the <b>God of hope</b> fill you with all <b>joy and peace</b> in believing that ye may abound <b>in hope!</b> <small>Romans 15:13-14</small>	12  <b>National Acolyte Festival</b>
13 9:15am Handbell Choir 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Sunday Service	14 	15  12:00p Saints Alive Potluck 3:00p Food Pantry  7:00p Bible Study-Angels	16  10:00a Bible Study-James  6:30p Board of Finance 7:00p Board of Building & Grounds 7:30pm Narcotics Anonymous	17  10:00am Thursday Crafters  2:00p Prayer Team  7:30pm Chancel Choir	18   <b>Game Night</b>  7:00pm Game Night	19 10:00a-2:00p Prayer Workshop (sponsored by Prayer Team) (fellowship hall)
20 9:15am Handbell Choir 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Sunday Service	21  *Newsletter articles for November due.	22  1:00p Saints Alive 3:00p Food Pantry  7:00p Bible Study-Angels	23  10:00a Bible Study-James  7:00p Fall Church Conference 7:30pm Narcotics Anonymous	24  10:00am Thursday Crafters  7:30pm Chancel Choir	25	26 Children's Fall Festival 5:00 -7:00p Halloween Party 7:00-8:00p Trunk A Treat 
27 9:15am Handbell Choir 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Sunday Service	28  7:00p Fellowship for Women (Sanctuary)	29  1:00p Saints Alive 3:00p Food Pantry	30  7:30pm Narcotics Anonymous	31 10:00am Thursday Crafters Happy Halloween!   7:30pm Chancel Choir		

The Christmas season is approaching quickly, and it is time to be thinking about placing your order for Christmas greenery, arrangements, and poinsettias. 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. **\*\*\*At this time, we do not have current pricing. We hope to have current prices by the end of October.**

The DEADLINE for orders is Monday, December 2nd

	2 Outside Front Wreaths	
	3 Upstairs Balcony Wreaths	
	1 Inside Front Column Wreaths	
	1 Side Foyer Arrangement	
	1 Huntboard Arrangement	
	Piano/Organ Arrangement	
	Upstairs Foyer Arrangement (outside of Sanctuary)	
	1-Downstairs Newel Post Swag	
	2 Wreaths North Entrance Columns	
	2 Wreaths North Entrance Doors	
	2 Wreaths Iron Gates Front Entrance	
	17 Boxwood Wreaths Outside Windows	
	North Foyer Arrangement	
	North Second Floor Foyer Arrangement	
	Wreath Beside Office Door	
	2 Wreaths Iron Gates Walkway	
	Miscellaneous items (greens, candles, etc.)	\$100

Greenery/Arrangements in Honor/Memory of: [Circle one]

\_\_\_\_\_

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Poinsettias (55 poinsettias are needed to fill the poinsettia tree)

Quantity	Total

Poinsettias In Honor/Memory of: [Circle one]

\_\_\_\_\_

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_