



The Towers Newsletter

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

My Dear Friends,

Gradually . . . and hopefully . . . do I detect a slight improvement in life as we have known it to these past many months??

We have been very careful, since the first of June of last year, in conducting our "in person" worship services. We have carefully added Sunday School. All of you have been very understanding and cooperative with our restrictions, and it has paid off for us.

The challenges have been large. We have met each of them and we are a stronger and better church because of these challenges. Thank you. Let me say it again: "THANK YOU!" Our church leadership has stepped up and basically said to The Virus: "You will not defeat us!"

We recognize those of you for health and safety reasons have not been able to join us in person for our services and activities. We understand this and we thank you for your caution in looking after your health and wellbeing. And, I think we all look forward to the day when we can once again gather as a loving church family.

So, hang in there! Participate in the life of our church as you can. Your leadership is working hard to provide meaningful and inspirational worship experiences as we travel toward Easter. Stay tuned! The best is yet to come!

God bless you! God bless you REAL GOOD!

Love to you all,
Michael



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

But I will restore you to health and heal your wounds,' declares the Lord, 'because you are called an outcast, Zion for whom no one cares. Jeremiah 30:1

March's Mission: Western Tidewater Free Clinic (WTFC)

WTFC is a Health Home ...Comprehensive, Coordinated, Compassionate

The Clinic was opened in 2007 with a service area of 1,400 square miles. It has since expanded to serve 2,200 square miles, which includes Suffolk, Franklin, and Isle of Wight, Southampton, Surry, and Sussex counties. In 2009, WTFC relocated to larger facilities at 2019 Meade Parkway in Suffolk.

Western Tidewater Free Clinic (WTFC) is a health home for uninsured, underinsured and underserved adults in Western Tidewater, delivering compassionate and high-quality health care through the following services:

- Medical Care, with day and evening clinics
- Dental Care, with day and evening clinics
- Vision Care
- Woman's Health Program
- Medical Specialists, Partnerships, and Referrals
- Mental Health Counseling
- One-on-one Patient Education
- Pharmacy services
- Referrals to Community-based Agencies

The mission of the Western Tidewater Free Clinic is to provide high-quality, non-emergency health care to the residents of Western Tidewater who cannot otherwise afford it.

<https://www.wtfreeclinic.org/>



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

The Celtic Cross (atop the tower on the newest addition)



Some say that St. Patrick (or St. Declan) introduced the Celtic Cross in attempt to convert pagan kings to Christianity. One theory is he took the circular pattern of the pagan sun god and combined it with the cross of Jesus Christ to represent God's light and life. Another is he took the moon goddess symbol (a circle) and marked with a cross creating the first Celtic Cross.

Other possible origins are also combinations done by Christians or missionaries.

- One is they put the cross on top of the circle (representing the sun god and moon goddess) to illustrate Christ as the supreme God.
- Another is they carved crosses from large standing stones that were originally Druid phallic symbols to disguise their original form.

CARE AND CONCERN

Because of the Covid 19 Virus, the September meeting of the Care and Concern Committee was canceled. The Committee is hoping to have a Zoom meeting to discuss future plans and you will be notified of that date. Because the last quarter of 2020 had teams to perform the duties of October, November and December such as delivering meals or taking care of other needs of our church members, it was felt that we will still have a weekly contact sign up list but it will be made up of teams of three to four people who will sign up for a month at a time. In other words, those team members would decide on the needs for their month and perform them either individually or as the entire team, depending on the need. It is felt that way no one person will be responsible for having to do everything for their sign-up period. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board and we encourage everyone to sign up as soon as possible so we may begin the duties of the Care and Concern Committee as soon as possible.

As always, we thank everyone who assist with this worthwhile Committee. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact any committee member or Elaine Abernathy or Claudia Salmon – Co-Chairs - for further information. As always, thank you all for all that you do.

Elaine Abernathy and Claudia Salmon
- Co-Chairs



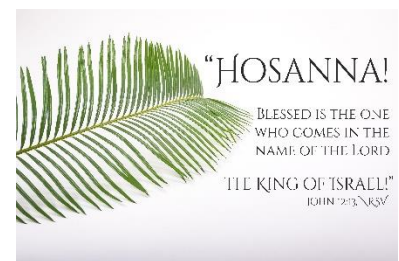
That's the point!

If prayer stands as the place where God and human beings meet, then I must learn about prayer. Most of my struggles in the Christian life circle around the same two themes: why God doesn't act the way we want God to, and why I don't act the way God wants me to. Prayer is the precise point where those themes converge. --Philip Yancey

MARCH Birthdays

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
Ann Nurney	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



Fabric and Yarn Update by Muriel Shumate



Ephesians 4:11 "It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers." He also gave some to be able to knit and sew for ministering.

Some time back I requested fabric and yarn for the Seaman's ministry by the Portsmouth Baptist Association. I received quite a bit of both. Last year I sewed, if I remember correctly, 146 ditty bags and then found the Portsmouth Baptist Association is not filling the bags any more for lack of somewhere to store and fill them, so I gave them to our group that ministers in Hatti. In 2019 I knitted 22 ski caps and Suffolk Christian Homeless ministry asked for them for them, so they were used for the homeless. In 2020 I completed 22 caps which have not been distributed as yet due to the Covid scare. I have knitted all the yarn donated.

The Suffolk Chapter of the UDC identified a need at Autumn Care for lap robes and provided many to the home. As the Portsmouth Baptist Association is not doing ditty bags at this time, I am using the fabric that I received to make lap robes for the residents of Autumn Care. So far, I have completed ten and have fabric to do a few more. Eight of these have not been distributed as the home is not accepting anything at this time due to Covid. There is always a need for lap robes, and they will be welcomed when they can accept them.

It makes me feel good to take left over fabric and yarn that was stored in someone's closet and use it for those who have a need. It is a good example of how God uses people and things in unique ways.

Not bragging about what I do, just thought you would like to know what is happening to all the fabric and yarn I received.

Muriel Shumate



**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 Meats (Spam, Chicken, Corned Beef, Tuna Fish, Beef Stew); Canned Vegetables; Spaghetti Sauce; Canned Pasta, Peanut Butter, Jelly



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

The adults/young adults are meeting in the West Memorial Bible Class right outside of the sanctuary. They are studying the book of Genesis and would love to have some new members.

The children are meeting in the Beginners Department on the 1st floor. We would love to have your children join us for some fun filled Sunday school lessons.

We are maintaining social distancing and encourage all to wear their masks.



Friday, March 12th

6:30 pm

Come join us for a fun filled movie night in the fellowship hall. We will maintain social distancing and encourage the children to wear their masks. Parents, please feel free to drop off your children and enjoy some time alone. The children should be picked up no later than 8:00 pm. Please let Priscilla Bunch know if your children will be attending by Thursday, March 11th. We look forward to seeing your children for movie night.



Friday, March 19th

6:30 pm

Youth/Young Adults will be meeting to discuss possibilities of a bible study. Please join us! Please let Priscilla know if you will be attending by Thursday, March 18th. I look forward to seeing you all.

March Food Giveaway

First, we want to thank everyone for all your donations to this mission of our church. We will take donations through Sunday, February 28th.

We will be doing another Food Giveaway on Saturday, March 13th, from 11:00 am until all 200 bags are distributed to people of our community.

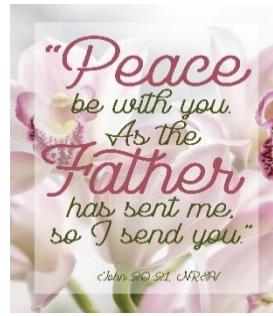
We need volunteers to work the distribution tables. The cars will enter the South parking lot and the distribution tables will be set up in the North parking lot. You will only need to "safely" place the food item in their vehicle. Masks will be required.

If you would like to help with this mission, please sign up on the bulletin board outside of the church office.

This food giveaway does not replace our Tuesday Food Pantry which is being held from 3:00-4:00pm every Tuesday except the 1st Tuesday of the month.

Thank you all for your help and your prayers as we help those in need.

Cheryl Ashcraft 757-418-4553; Priscilla Bunch 757-539-8930; Evelyn Jones 757-636-2077



Day 1 - 1 Peter 3:9-11

Day 2 - 1 Peter 5:6-7

Day 3 - Proverbs 3:21-24

Day 4 - Proverbs 16:7

Day 5 - Isaiah 9:6

Day 6 - Isaiah 12:2

Day 7 - Isaiah 26:3

Day 8 - Isaiah 32:17

Day 9 - Isaiah 41:10

Day 10 - Isaiah 53:5

Day 11 - Isaiah 54:10

Day 12 - Romans 5:1

Day 13 - Romans 8:6

Day 14 - Romans 12:18

Day 15 - Romans 14:17

Day 16 - Romans 15:13

Day 17 - John 16:33

Day 18 - Hebrews 12:14

Day 19 - Psalm 4:8

Day 20 - Psalm 29:10-11

Day 21 - Psalm 119:165

Day 22 - 1 Corinthians 14:33

Day 23 - Philippians 4:4-7

Day 24 - Philippians 4:8-9

Day 25 - Colossians 3:15

Day 26 - Galatians 5:22-23

Day 27 - James 3:17-18

Day 28 - Matthew 5:9

Day 29 - Matthew 6:31-33

Day 30 - 1 Thessalonians 5:23

Day 31 - 2 Thessalonians 3:16

Commit to reading your bible 10 minutes each day and reflect on your readings.



Memorials

Donations to the Memorial Fund in memory of Robert (Bobby) Johnson have been given by Hal and Nancy Rogers, Ricky and Judy Mays, Seth Jones, Mike and Fran Duman, Marilyn B. Copeland, Shirley and Donna Burton, Sue. J. Stewart, Jim and Becky Bradshaw, John and Julie Johnson, Maurice and Faye Copeland, Barry and Marsha Winslow, Jane W. Aston, June B. Thorpe.

Stewardship Report

"We Are Walking by Faith through Commitment"
(final 2020 report)

January-December income - \$277,002.29
January-December expenses - \$277,552.35

January 2021 income - \$16,317.80
January 2021 expenses - \$18,753.77

Dollars for Haiti - \$3,652.00
Total funds given to Haiti missions to date - \$2,300.00



Special Monthly Missions

January 2020 - Coats for Community - \$677.00
February 2020 - Scholarship Fund - \$773.00
March 2020 - Western Tidewater Free Clinic - \$946.00
April 2020 - Youth and Children - \$865.00
May 2020 - Crisis Pregnancy Center - \$720.00
June 2020 - Genieve Shelter - \$910.00
July 2020 - Salvation Army - \$815.00
August 2020 - CAPS - \$1,275.00
September 2020 - Clothing Ministry - \$640.00
October 2020 - Night Stay - \$1,045.00
November 2020 - Meals on Wheels - \$985.00
December 2020 - Veterans of the Cross - \$1,374.00

Total to date for 2020 - \$11,025.00 (final report of missions for 2020)

January 2021 - Food Pantry - \$1,170.00
February 2021 - Scholarship Fund - \$700.00

Souper Bowl Offering - \$224.00

March 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 7:00pm Max Lucado "Fearless" Bible Study	3 10:00am Max Lucado "Fearless" Bible Study 7:00pm Board of Christian Ed	4 10:00am Thursday Crafters 6:45pm Masque Chancel Handbell Choir	5 11:30am Meals on Wheels	6
7 9:30am Kings Ringers 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Worship Service	8	9 3:00pm Food Pantry 7:00pm Max Lucado "Fearless" Bible Study	10 10:00am Max Lucado "Fearless" Bible Study 7:00pm Board of Deacons	11 10:00am Thursday Crafters 2:30pm Prayer Team 6:45pm Masque Chancel Handbell Choir	12 11:30am Meals on Wheels 6:30pm Movie Night 	13 11:00am Food Give Away 
14 Daylight Savings Time 9:30am Kings Ringers 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Worship Service 	15	16 3:00pm Food Pantry 7:00pm Max Lucado "Fearless" Bible Study	17 St. Patrick's Day 10:00am Max Lucado "Fearless" Bible Study 7:00pm Board of Finance	18 10:00am Thursday Crafters 6:45pm Masque Chancel Handbell Choir	19 11:30am Meals on Wheels 6:30pm Youth/Young Adult Meeting	20 1st Day of Spring 
21 9:30am Kings Ringers 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Worship Service	22	23 3:00pm Food Pantry 7:00pm Max Lucado "Fearless" Bible Study	24 10:00am Max Lucado "Fearless" Bible Study 7:00pm House of Worship	25 10:00am Thursday Crafters 6:45pm Masque Chancel Handbell Choir	26 11:30am Meals on Wheels	27
28 Palm Sunday 9:30am Kings Ringers 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Worship Service 	29	30 3:00pm Food Pantry	31	 MARCH		

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 Monday, March 29. 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 (\$12 each)



Lilies In Honor/Memory of: [Circle one]

Given by:

Due to the Covid-19 Virus and limited office hours, please mail your checks and order form to the church.

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

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