

J A N U A R Y 2 0 1 8

The Suburban Connection

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From the Pastors Desk: Our Year Verse 2018

Save the Date!

AWANA Resumes

January 14th

Normal Sunday
night activities
resume at 5:00 pm

Children's Church

January 13th

Leader/Volunteer
Meeting at 8:30 am in
Suburban Kids room

Life Groups

January 18th

Leader/Host
Meeting at 7:00 pm
Contact Pastor
Todd for more info.

Senior Breakfast

January 27th

8:00 am
Please sign up on
the AYM board

“For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

Mark 10: 45

MISGUIDED AMBITION

How would you like to be called “Sons of Thunder” ...doesn't it sound pretty cool? Well, the brothers, James and John, had received this nickname from Jesus. It was probably because of their aggressive and ambitious nature. In Mark 10, we see that nature in James and John as the “Sons of Thunder” ask Jesus to give them prestigious positions of power and authority. Hey Jesus, will you do for us whatever we ask? We would like for you to give us the positions of highest honor – a seat on your right and on your left. We want to be your closest advisors. We want to share in your glory and honor. James and John desired positions and titles of greatness. They wanted to be seen, to be known as great and they thought they would beat the other 10 disciples to the punch by being the first to ask Jesus for this “greatness.” Apparently the 12 had been talking about this, they certainly had been thinking about it because when the other 10 caught wind of what's going on they were furious. Why were they angry? Well, it definitely wasn't a righteous indignation...oh no, it was a selfish indignation. It was a prideful anger.

Continued...

Pastor Todd's Christmas with the Children

On Sunday, December 3rd, at both services, Pastor Todd read to the children "The Tale of The Three Trees". It was a wonderful time, a tradition that was started many years ago by our Pastor Jimmy Meads. The children loved it and to top it off each child received a chocolate covered marshmallow afterwards as a treat!

Christmas Cantata 2017

"Down from His Glory" was the Christmas cantata for 2017. It's always a blessing when the children are a part of such a special time and they sang a huge part of this cantata! Special thanks to the choir, musicians, children, parents, sound crew, those who serve behind the scenes, and especially our choir director for another wonderful Christmas cantata! We are blessed to have a choir director who prays over each cantata and goes where God leads!

Warm up your voices! Tuesday rehearsals resume January 15, 2018 at 7:00 pm. Our Easter cantata is only 12 weeks away! Cantata rehearsals will be starting at the end of January. If you would like to sing or play an instrument for the cantata, please contact Karen Meads or the church office.



Suburban Kids

What's Happening In...

Children's Church



Happy New Year! This month in children's church, we will discover some exciting events where God used Peter to spread the gospel to others and learn about the conversion of Saul which led to Paul's first missionary journey. Suburban Kids will find out how people hear about Jesus.

December 24th was the "Happy Birthday Jesus" party in Children's Church during both services. What a treat! They listened to a short lesson, made a fun craft, sang happy birthday to Jesus, ate mini cupcakes and at the end each child received a gift. Our Children's Church leaders love your children!

Sunday School News

We want to thank Nick Nicolas for his many years of faithful, loving service to the SCC Sunday school and welcome Dean Rose as our new assistant Sunday school superintendent. He has been enthusiastic about learning all his new responsibilities and will be a valuable part of our team. You will be seeing him picking up the attendance and helping with security.

December was a busy time for many of our classes, with so many wonderful ways to celebrate the birth of Jesus! Our middle school and 4th & 5th grade classes had parties at the homes of their teachers. These are important times of building friendships and having fun together! Mrs. Wendy and Mrs. Lois' class made and decorated Christmas cookies and brownies for the 4th police precinct near the church. Ron Raymer's adult class had a potluck finger food dinner and fun ornament exchange. We are so thankful for warm fellowship with others who love our Lord.



Seniors' Ministry

The Seniors Ministry sponsored its annual evening of Christmas caroling on Friday, December 15th. We traveled to the homes of several of our older church members and we had a wonderful evening. Even though our group was small, we enjoyed bringing our shut-ins some warm Christmas cheer.

Our next meeting will be January 18th, 2018, at 11:00 am. Pastor Todd will share his thoughts and plans for the year. The menu will be soup and salad. Also bring a friend or two!

These programs are planned and sponsored by the Seniors Ministry, but they are open to all ages. If you have suggestions for programs, please talk to one of the members of the Steering Committee. We are always looking for new ideas!



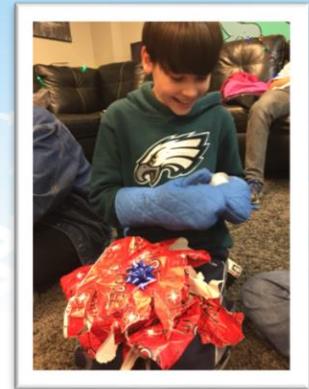
AMBASSADOR YOUTH MINISTRY - AYM

Where We've Been: December

My Goodness! Was December busy or what?! Dinner at Nonna's and Youth Sunday all in one weekend, and a visit to Union Mission the next weekend. We celebrated Christmas together on the 20th. The boys and girls went head to head to see who does Christmas better. We decorated gingerbread houses and tried to wrap presents, but it was a little cold out, so we had to wear our mittens. Then, God blessed us with a snowball fight! Some of our students came decked out in their ugliest Christmas sweaters, and it was awesome! Then right before the new year, we went to the Virginia Beach Fieldhouse for an all-nighter! We started the night at 7 pm and went until 7 am. There were sports, laser tag, video games, and bubble soccer (if you've never heard of it, look it up). Most of our students stayed up all night, and some crashed.

Where We're Going: January

January is going to be slightly slower, to give the kids a break. We will be finishing up in Philippians. We will be starting "Hello God, It's Me", a lesson that focuses on hearing God and knowing when it's Him and when it's not. Everyone hears from God whether you know it or not, the hard part is knowing if it's God or if it's our fears. Come and learn how to focus on the voice of God and turn the volume down on all the noise that drowns Him out. At the end of the month, THE SENIOR BREAKFAST IS BACK! Join AYM on Saturday, January 27th for a good old fashion southern breakfast – ON US! Please sign-up on the AYM board if you plan to come. Don't worry there will be plenty of coffee. Can't wait to see what God has planned for the New Year! God Bless!



SCC Church Staff



Rev. C. Todd Haynes
Senior Pastor



Sally Harden
Director of Youth Ministry



MISSION: WHY DO WE EXIST?

To glorify God, by making disciples of Jesus Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit.

VISION: WHAT WILL THAT LOOK LIKE?

A growing faith in God
A growing love for God
A growing love for others

ACTION: HOW WILL THIS HAPPEN?

Drawing near to God
Pursuing community
Reaching our world

Visit us on Facebook! Search for "Suburban Christian Church" on www.facebook.com

We want to hear from you! Contact us at newsletter@sccvb.org

Mother's Day Out

As we return to start the new year, we continue with the letter "M". On January 4th, our theme day for the week will be McDonald's Day. The kids love this theme day because a McDonald's lunch will be served to them. They will also get their pictures taken next to a very large pack of French fries. Our theme day on January 12th will be nursery rhyme day for the letter "N". We just love seeing the children come dressed up in their cute costumes. On January 18th, for letter "O", the theme will be our Olympic games. This is a fun-filled morning as all the children compete and all will receive a gold medal at the end of the games. Our last theme day for the month of January will be on January 26th. For letter "P" we will have pajama day. This is another favorite for the kids because they get to wear their pajamas to school. We will have pancakes for our snack and later in the morning a movie with popcorn! In our Bible time classes, we will be moving from the Old Testament stories into the New Testament with stories about Jesus' life. We look forward to what 2018 has in store for us. Happy New Year!



Bellamy Women

What a great time everyone had at our annual ornament exchange on December 7th! Andrea Hoover's home was festively decorated, and everyone felt right at home. Taste buds were heightened due to the variety of foods brought to share. Kathy Herring led us in the best Christmas game yet to cause us to get out of our comfort zone and have FUN! Mrs. Andrea even had activities for our youngest participants. 😊 Finally, we enjoyed seeing the various Christmas ornaments that were brought to exchange (over and over). We can't forget about Troy who served and survived a night of giggling ladies. Blessings to all as we begin 2018. It is our prayer that we grow together in love and in Him.



“Down From His Glory”



continued from the Pastor's Desk...

GOSPEL CORRECTION

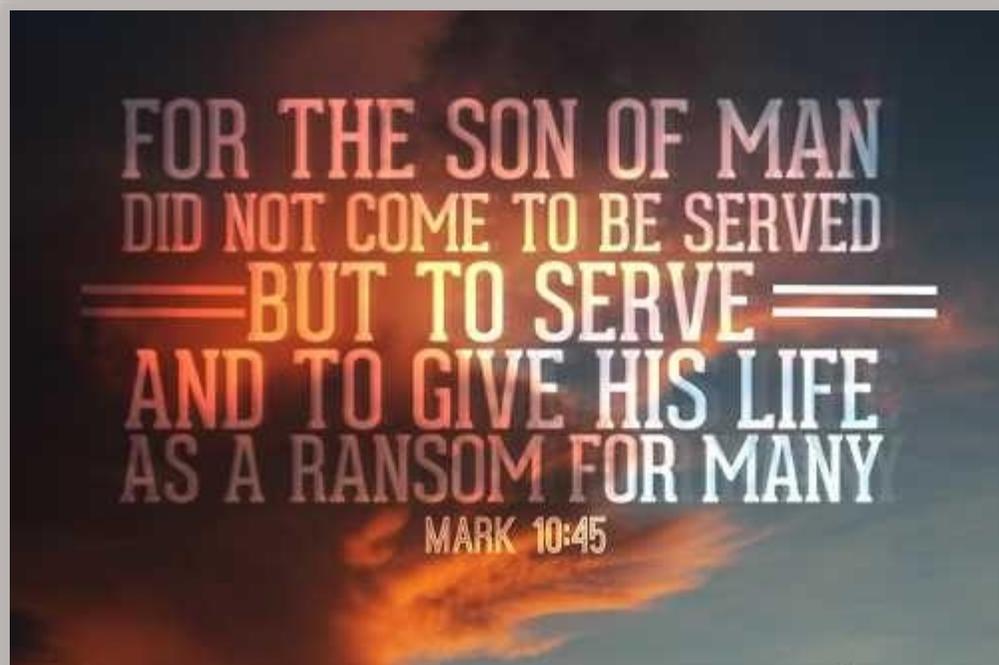
Jesus explains what true greatness really is. Jesus says that even the greatest person to ever live, "The Son of Man," (read Daniel 7:13-14) came not to be served, but to serve by laying down his life on a cross so that you may be set free. This is the Gospel! This is the God-man not giving his disciples a bunch of rules to keep, or even an example to follow. This is the King of kings telling His followers that He has come into the world to serve them. He will serve them by becoming a sacrifice for them, to deliver them from sin and death.

True greatness is most clearly seen in the glorious Gospel of Jesus Christ. As the disciples will grow in their understanding of the Gospel, it will transform them from the inside out. Their understanding of "true greatness" will eventually change. They will become some of the greatest "servants" the world has ever seen. The Gospel serving Son of Man will take these misguided, ambitious Sons of Thunder and turn them into humble, caring servants of their fellow man.

It is my prayer that God will create in us through the Gospel-serving of Jesus, a people, a church full of servants. That we will truly find our joy in making those around us joyful. That we will use our gifts, abilities, and talents for the good of others in 2018.

To God Be the Glory,

Pastor Todd



Operation Christmas Child

NOW is the time to decide what you want to do for Operation Christmas Child in 2018. Do you want to hand make some special gifts to help fill the shoeboxes? Or, do you want to commit to putting aside a little money each week to help with shipping? You'll be surprised how much money you can save by not buying one coffee or soft drink per week! Whatever you decide, remember to **PRAY**. Prayer is essential for the ministry to be successful.

We will be having our first 2018 OCC workday on Saturday, February 24th from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm. Plan to bring your lunch, your sewing machine and any projects you're working on that you can share with others.



Life Groups

Life Groups are a vital part of our church. Last year we enjoyed a series of sermons by Pastor Todd on the Gospel. Each Life Group was impacted by the power of the Gospel as they went through the same study titled "The Gospel Revolution" by J. D. Greear.

Pastor Todd will be having the annual Life Group training on Thursday, January 18th at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. If you are currently hosting or leading a group or are considering hosting and leading, please make plans to attend this important training. We're praying and trusting God to do great things through our Life Groups in 2018!

Men's Ministry

The men's fellowship meets every month on the first and third Saturdays. Join us as Bob Grymes continues our study through the book of Romans.

We will be accepting nominations for Sweetheart of the Year and voting will be during the first meeting in February.

Mark your calendars for the Sweetheart Banquet which will be held on February 17, 2018. More details to come.



2018
Happy New Year!