#### JULY 2019

## The

# Suburban Connection

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# HOMECOMING WITH UNION MISSION



What a day! It is so amazing to see how God works through His people. John Gray and William, the Associate Director of all things related to homelessness, challenged us all concerning **pursuing prayer** throughout our daily lives. It seems like we have heard that many times over the past several months from our Pastor as well.

#### We were reminded that...

\*Prayer is to be a constant activity

\*Prayer is our defense

\*Prayer is our duty

\*We need to do what we have to do to

remember to pray

\*Answered prayer becomes our source of praise

Prayer is an ordinary means to accomplish a supernatural end. This must be the air we are breathing. Lord, help us to be given over to PRAYER!

#### Save the Date!

Week of Service

July  $1^{st} - 5^{th}$ 

Details inside...

**VBS** 

July 15<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>

6:00 pm – 8:30 pm Theme: "Roar" A light dinner will be

served at 5:15 pm
\*Volunteers still needed

**AYM Mission Trip** 

July 21<sup>st</sup> – July 27<sup>th</sup> Wilmington, NC

24/7 Week of Prayer

August 25<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup>

# How Long, O Lord? Psalm 13

Have you ever asked the Lord that question? "How much Longer?" In Psalm 13: 1-2, David asks the Lord 4 times, how much longer, Lord? David is not asking God to give him a specific timeline. David does not expect God to tell him the day his difficulties will end. David's question of, "how long" express more of a broken-hearted honesty before the Lord. The sense is... "God, I'm not sure how much more of this I can endure."

There was an extended season in David's life where it felt like the Lord had forgotten him (13:1). Where it seemed like his face was hidden from him (13:1). Where he was constantly wrestling with his own thoughts (13:2). Where it felt like sorrow filled his heart everyday (13:2). Where his adversaries seemed to be doing just fine (13:2). All of this while he wasn't sure how much longer he could endure.

If you live long enough, you will find yourself in one of these "how long" seasons. Living in a fallen, sinful world is really hard. There will be times when it seems like there isn't any light at the end of the tunnel...where our resources are running on empty...when exhaustion and despair is what we most feel. Is this where you are? Have you been saying to the Lord, "I'm not sure how much more of this I can take?"

Notice what David does in the midst of his anguish...HE PRAYS!

\*He prays with honesty. Part of his prayer is being completely honest with the Lord. David expresses how he truly feels. He doesn't try to act like everything is okay and he's got it all under control. NOPE! David is very "real" with God. God wants us to be real with him.

\*He prays continually. David never stops praying. That is the key – perseverance in prayer. When Jesus was filled with sorrow as He was about to go to the cross, what did He do? That's right...He prayed. David realizes that God is light and that even in his darkness, the Lord is able to "light up" his eyes. Don't ever stop praying. It is through prayer that God will give His light in our seasons of darkness.

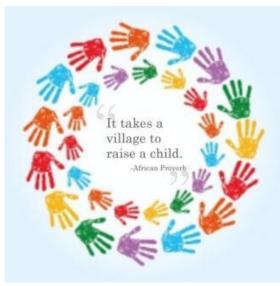
\*He prays with a focus on God's unfailing love. It's really important when we are going through hard times and it feels like God has forgotten us, to focus on how God demonstrated His steadfast love for us. This is where in our praying, we focus on the Gospel. Go to the cross. This is the dearest, most powerful picture of God's unfailing love for you. It's also helpful to recall other times in your life where God has clearly demonstrated His love for you. This will inevitably lead you to rejoice in the God of your salvation.

Persevering in prayer with you,

Pastor Todd

# Sunday School News

Perhaps you have all heard the African proverb; "It takes a village to raise a child". We believe that here at SCC. Our "village" is the church family of Suburban, with all its many facets. Sunday school is just one way we partner with families to grow together "in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ". As we study, pray, discuss and apply each weeks' lessons together we are following the Biblical injunctions to: "encourage one another, accept one another, instruct one another, serve one another, love one another." We pray our children and teens will not only learn God's truths, but also feel accepted, loved and supported. As our teachers pray for their students each week, their hearts are focused on that eternal



"village" where Jesus will reign supreme and we will see Him face to face. May God grant that every one of our kids will be there too!

(If you would like to do an awesome study with your kids this summer, look up and discuss all the "one another" passages in the New Testament.)

Jan Grills

# Men's Prayer Breakfast & Bible Study

The Saturday Morning Men's Prayer Breakfast for July will meet on July 6 and July 20, the first and third Saturdays of the month. The in-depth study and discussion of the Book of Acts (chapter by chapter, verse by verse, word by word) will continue with the evangelist Philip's meeting on the road from Jerusalem to Gaza with an Ethiopian Eunuch that led to his conversion and baptism. (Acts 8:26-40).

From there, the study will turn to Saul's conversion on the road to Damascus where he was going to arrest followers of Jesus Christ, and the events that led him to become, instead, a zealous servant of the Lord. It will cover Saul's preaching in Damascus' synagogues, his escape from that city (to spend three years in Arabia [Galatians 1:17]), his return to Jerusalem (and his subsequent disputes with the Hellenists), and his return to his hometown of Tarsus (Acts 9:1-31).

**The Men's Prayer Breakfast and Bible Study** is an outstanding opportunity for Bible study, prayer, and fellowship. It is open to all men, church members and non-members. All are invited to enjoy a good breakfast of scrambled eggs, sausage, biscuits, grits, sausage gravy, fruit, juice, and coffee. Come and enjoy good fellowship, and the Good News found in God's Word.

**Plan to attend and bring a friend**. It's a good, and enjoyable way to spend a couple of hours twice a month. Breakfast begins at 8:00 am and is followed by Bible study and prayer. It concludes no later than 10:00 AM.

Bob Grymes

# Overflowing Generosity of Our Food Pantry



God has allowed us to serve our community through our Food Pantry Ministry by the **overflowing generosity** of our church family. Weekly donations are brought to the church on a regular basis to help keep our pantry stocked for families going through difficult times.

Our faithful volunteers come on the **first** and **third** Tuesdays of each month to help prepare bags of food and to be an encouragement to those who stop by the church for help.

Food Pantry needs are updated weekly in the church bulletin. Please check that list to see if there is something you could pick up at the grocery store to help fill our pantry. Everything given is used to bless those in need.

If you have any questions, please contact Kathleen Staten.

#### SCC Church Staff



Rev. C. Todd Haynes Senior Pastor



Sally Harden Director of Student Ministry



Sarah Nelapaty
Director of Children's Ministries



#### 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

## Ambassador Youth Ministry

#### WHERE WE'VE BEEN: JUNE

This month was the month of graduations! I am so proud of all our seniors this year! I am sad to see them go, but so excited to see where God is leading them next. It has been an honor to lead you all. So, make sure to congratulate our graduates.

Sally Harden





#### WHERE WE'RE GOING:

#### JULY:

Week of Service: July 1st – 5th Beach Day: July 10th VBS: July 15th – 19th TEAMeffort NC Mission Trip: July 21st - 27th Hiking Trip: July 31st

#### August:

Watermarks Camp: August 4<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup>
Adventure Park Ropes Course: August 14<sup>th</sup>
Movie Night in the Embassy: August 21<sup>st</sup>
End of Summer Party: August 28<sup>th</sup>







And whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.

Colossians 3:23-24

# **AYM SENIOR NIGHT HI-LIGHTS**







And friends are friends forever
If the Lord's the Lord of them
And a friend will not say never
'Cause the welcome will not end
Though it's hard to let you go
In the Father's hands we know
That a lifetime's not too long
To live as friends













# Financial Peace University

Did you know that 89% of the people in a typical American congregation don't have a financial safety net? Shocking, isn't it? But there's HOPE! And that hope is Financial Peace University.

FPU is a 9-lesson course taught by Dave Ramsey and his team of financial experts. With FPU, we will learn step by step how to handle money using biblical wisdom and common sense.

Through life-changing videos, online tools and resources, and group accountability, our church family will learn how to create and stick to a budget, save for emergencies, pay off debt, and plan for the future.

Attending a Financial Peace University group here could help shift the giving culture in our church body! Just imagine the impact we could have on the community if we were all debt-free! Marriages and families would be strengthened. People would be freed up to be outrageously generous. This kind of hope will ignite change in our entire community!

It's not too late to join us in the Summer Session of FPU! Join online today and come to our next meeting Thursday nights at 6:30. You'll have access to any videos you missed once you join. Contact the church office or Clyde and Stephanie Councill at 641-6137 with any questions. Signup link: <a href="fpu.com/1091151">fpu.com/1091151</a>
<a href="mailto:stephanie">stephanie</a> Council</a>







# Seniors' Ministry

In June a small group rode the Tide to downtown Norfolk and ate lunch at the Grilled Cheese Bistro on Granby Street. They highly recommend this place. There will be no local trips in July and August.

At our regular monthly meeting Sandra Hopkins and Joshua Burns from the Virginia Beach Public Libraries Informational Services were our guest speakers. They provided a lot of great information about the library system, gave those of us who had allowed our cards to expire from lack of use a chance to get a new card, and announced that the Kempsville branch of the library would reopen the last week of June. We all enjoyed a lunch of favorite salads after the program.

Our July meeting will be the SECOND Thursday, July 11<sup>th</sup>, due to VBS being held the third week of July. LCDR Kevin and Shelia Adams, parents of nine children, will present "Life In the Military and At Home." After the program we will hold our annual indoor picnic. Hotdogs will be provided; please bring side dishes to share.

The Seniors Ministry needs you! Over the years, we have lost a number of our original members due to age, illness and death. Several of these people served on the ministry's steering committee. We are seeking new members with new energy and new ideas, including some who would be willing to contribute their time and talents to the steering committee. If you are interested in serving on the steering committee, please contact Ray McGrady.

## Operation Christmas Child Corner

Summer is well on its way! We have been collecting items, shoe boxes and cash for shipping already for two months! Our collection "tubs" are filling up nicely. This month's items are... soap, washcloths and toothbrushes. Pick up a couple each time you think of it and help to fill the shoe box gifts this year.

We are having a wrapping day, Saturday, July 27 from 1 - 3 pm for anyone who wants to help wrap the boxes. We have wrapping paper and empty shoe boxes, but please bring your own scissors and tape. If you'd like to take some home to wrap, just let me know and I'll give the paper and boxes to you. Keep praying for the recipients and the folks who will be delivering the gifts. See you in church.



the power of a simple gift

#### Outreach – Week of Service

"A New commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another."





The Week of Service will begin tomorrow and carry on through until Friday! We are excited about the opportunity to love on our community in different ways throughout this week from working with our friends at the Union Mission, to small jobs around the church. This Week of Service is a way for us to love our city through the tragedy we have so recently faced and remind people that there is a community of believers who have been radically changed by the love of Christ and that they can experience that same love. Jesus gave sacrificially, and without a second thought; join us with hearts ready to respond to this new commandment given to us by Christ our Lord.

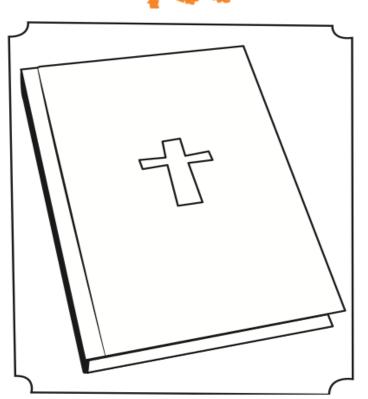
# Music Ministry – Choir Needs YOU!

Have you wondered how you can get involved in our worship ministry? Well...beginning in September, the choir will commence practicing on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 pm in preparation of the Christmas season including the Christmas cantata. We would love for several of you to join our team as we worship in song. Please contact Karen Meads if you have any questions or would like to join this wonderful ministry.



# Just for... Suburba

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Acts 1	12:23			_	Le	viticus	11:22			
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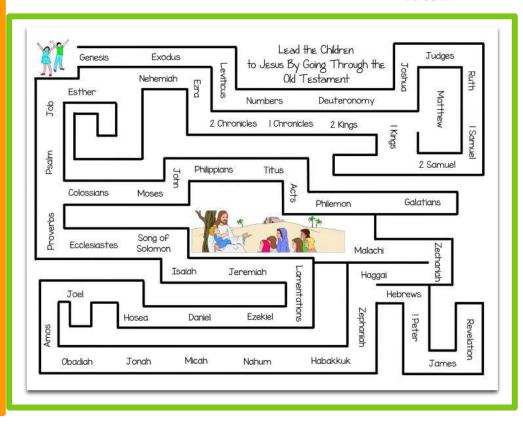


"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God"

- John 1:1

How many books are in the Old Testament?

How many books are in the New Testament?



# What's Happening In... Suburba

### Children's Church

I wanted to take a moment to let each of you know the plan for the elementary children's church, grades 1-3, this summer. As we have been praying about the best way to move forward in serving you and your families with excellence, we have concluded that it would be important to take the months of July and August for families to concentrate on worshipping together. In our busy culture of hectic schedules, it can be hard to collect the whole family together to focus on one thing at the same time. What better place to have that time together than in church, where each family member can enjoy the closeness of sitting together, learning with one another as we worship God?



As you enjoy this precious time of discipling your children in the pews we will continue to pray and plan for September. I will be seeking feedback and input from each of you personally to know how best to continue to support you and your children in their spiritual journey of trusting and obeying Jesus. With this in mind, please feel free to let me know of any thoughts or ideas you have in this regard by either emailing me at childrensministry@sccvb.org or calling or texting me at #757-647-3626.

I will also be praying for wisdom and ability for each of us to grasp and apply the truths God is communicating to us personally through the sermons even as we seek to guide our children to do the same.

Junior Children's Church for children 4 years old through Kindergarten will still be offered throughout the summer months.

Our rising 1st graders will transition to Children's Church in September on Promotion Sunday, when all the children move to their new Sunday school classes.

Your fellow parent in the pew,

#### Sarah Nelapaty

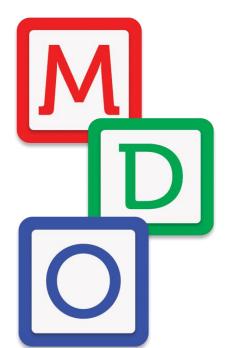


#### **Parent Reminders:**

\*We have the Suburban Kids Page and "Sermon Notes" page in the foyer for all children to enjoy during the worship service.

\*We need more volunteers in Children's Church for the fall semester. Is God speaking to you about serving? Our Children's Ministry is a great place to start!

\*Junior and Children's Church Training will be held on Saturday, July 27 from 9:00 – 11:00 am.



# Mother's Day Out

It's hard to believe that we are beginning our 41st year of Mother's Day Out. Pastor Jimmy began this ministry and God has been faithful to guide and inspire us as we minister to many families over the years. That's a WOW! Praise God for His continued guidance and grace as we serve our community.

We are excited that our classes are filling up for the 2019/2020 school year. We currently have only a few openings for our 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  to young 3-year-old (non potty trained) class.

We will also be offering early drop-off in the mornings in the fall. Details on this program will be provided at orientation.

Mother's Day Out runs Tuesday – Fridays from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm, September through May. Please call the church office for enrollment information or if you have questions about this ministry.

Andrea Hoover

## Nursery

We are enjoying watching your babies and toddlers learn and grow! We are excited about the growth we've been experiencing in our numbers in Nursery. This is such an answer to prayer! Along with this growth comes the need for more helping hands to care for each child well. We would be grateful for **seven more adult volunteers** who would be willing to serve during one service each month. Please join us in sharing God's love with our little ones.

Mary Deuell #757-270-5820 (<u>grillsy7@msn.com</u>) or Stacie Raymer #757-589-5731 (<u>sraymer@odu.edu</u>) would love to hear from you!



Happy & Healthy Fun Summer Activities to Enjoy with the Whole Family

\*Collect old toys and clothes and donate them.

\*Build a fort with blankets and chairs.

\*Have a pajamas-only day.

\*Make a rainbow out of fruit. Eat it.

\*Do a random act of kindness for a neighbor or friend.

\*Watch the sunset and thank God for his beautiful creation.

\*Decorate your driveway with sidewalk chalk.

Some suggestions were taken from My Healthy Classroom

# AWANA Awards Night – June 2nd











AWANA awards night was a blast! We would like to thank Mr. Tim Jackson for being a SUPER AWANA COMMANDER and ALL the teachers for the time they have given to help our children learn God's Word and for making AWANA such fun!



























All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness. 2 Timothy 3:16

# **AWANA Missionary Update**



Did you know we have an AWANA missionary to our AWANA club? Meet Brian and Joanelle Lunger and their two children, Katelynn and Ethan. They live in Delaware. They have served in children's ministry over 18 years and in AWANA for the past 7 years. The Lord called them to be AWANA missionaries in Delaware, but God had bigger plans! Recently their footprint has expanded, and now they are also serving churches in Eastern Virginia and Eastern Shore Maryland. Pastor Todd had the opportunity to meet Brian when he stopped by the church not long ago to introduce himself. Please keep this family in your prayers as they serve AWANA ministries in several churches.

# Missionary Update – Beth Wayland

In April, **With** had its 2<sup>nd</sup> annual retreat entitled Rest in the Wrestle. Beth began the retreat with this question, "Where are you as you come into the weekend?" The attendees shared some of the raw places that they found themselves in and God met us over the course of the next two days. Fred spoke out of Philippians and set the weekend with looking at Day 1 which is Resurrection, Day 2 which is our time here on earth and Day 3 is when we will be with God. Day 2 realities are difficult. Sometimes life is troubling. Fred even scrapped his talk on Saturday night, and we talked as a large group, asked questions, struggled and encouraged one another in places that felt hopeless and hard. We left with an invitation to continue to realize living in Day 2 is an invitation to trust.



#### A few ways you can pray for Beth this summer:

- She's in a support raising season and would appreciate your prayers for provision.
- She's planning and preparing to lead a team of 15 women on a soul care trip to England August 20<sup>th</sup> -31<sup>st</sup>. Pray for connection, beautiful weather, rich times with God.
- •She's also planning and preparing to teach the spiritual direction course again at Richmond a week after she gets back from England, so she is preparing for that as well.

It's a very full summer and she could use some prayer for rest as she is not sleeping much since April.

She has been awake for three hours almost every night.

Beth says, "Thank you for partnering with me in prayer, support and encouragement. Your friendship is a gift."

# Coming this fall...Prayer Mosaic

Do you struggle with feeling like you don't know how to pray? Perhaps with what you should pray about or for? Does the thought of praying in front of others send you into panic and you instantly break out in a sweat?



Well, you are not alone, it's a common struggle. The good news is that it doesn't have to be that way and God is waiting excitedly to hear your prayers. In fact, He is expecting them and is pleased to work through them.

Coming in October, we will gather for a time of guided prayer. We will spend time at various stations offering the Lord our adoration, our repentance, our thanksgiving, and our requests. We will spend time growing a deeper connection with the Lord and each other.

# Stay Tuned For More Details!!!

Emily Mizenko

# Questions?

Please feel free to contact any of the Belong gang at:

belonginfoscc@gmail.com

Amber Funderburk
Carol Brooks
Christen Haynes-Bulaski
Emily Mizenko
Marsha Utley

Wendy Haynes

# Thank You So Much

We would like to thank Phyllis Wiggins who has faithfully cleaned our church for many years. She began in 2003 and makes sure everything is spic and span before we worship together every Sunday. Her side kick, Hollice, always lends a hand in any way he can to help as well. Even as she was recovering from her knee surgery, Hollice came to make sure things were "as they should be", as Phyllis says. We also want to thank Andrea Hoover and Samantha Settle for chipping in to help clean the kitchen and restrooms while Phyllis was away. Phyllis is recovering nicely and praises God for His continued healing.



# Hospitality Is the Norm at Suburban

We would also like to thank Charlotte Laws and her hospitality team for making church dinners a blessing to us all and providing a place for grieving families to gather with friends and loved ones. She faithfully prepares the Fellowship Hall for events and calls on willing servants to help provide delicious receptions for those experiencing loss and grief. Of course, she would say she doesn't do it alone...



God is refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Psalm 46:1





# Can you feel it? The excitement is building!

There's a stampede coming.

The whole church is going to be part of the fun.

# Don't get left behind! Sign up NOW to be a part of Vacation Bible School



July 15 – 19 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Participants register at secub.org

Volunteers sign up on the

sheet in the foyer.



Even if you can't attend, you can be a part of the outreach by donating items. Check the list in the foyer to see what is needed.