

M A R C H 2 0 2 1

The Suburban Connection

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Turn Your Clocks Forward!

Don't forget daylight savings time begins on March 14th at 2:00 am this year. If you want to make sure you aren't late for church, it's a good idea to turn the clocks ahead before you go to bed on the night of the 13th! I always love when we go forward. I know we lose an hour of sleep, but it reminds me that spring is coming, and we have that extra hour of daylight in the evening which is something I appreciate in the summer months.

We enjoyed having A.J. and Barbara Hensley with us on Sunday, February 28, during the worship service. A.J. gave an update on their ministry and shared exciting news of their expanding ministry – The Bluegrass Baptist Seminary. A.J. shared that our church was one of the three churches that has continued to support them during the COVID pandemic. He also shared about his cancer diagnosis and how God has blessed him with a cancer free diagnosis after an extensive surgery, radiation, and hormone treatments. Pastor Todd and Wendy were also encouraged by spending quality time with them over the weekend.

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Save the Date!

**Men's
Breakfast &
Bible Study**
March 6th & 20th
8:00 am

**Jon Cash
Ministries**
March 28th
During 10:15 am
Worship

Belong
March 13th
"Reflection &
Fellowship"
12:30 pm

**Easter Egg
Hunt**
April 24th
During Family
Sunday School
9:15 am



From the Pastor's Desk: "TOPPLE EVERY IDOL" By John Piper

There is no difference between the Hebrew word for "desire" and the Hebrew word for "covet." Coveting means "desiring something too much." And too much is measured by how that desiring compares to desiring God. If desiring leads you away from God rather than closer to God, it is covetousness. It is sin.

Not coveting means not desiring anything in a way that diminishes God as your supreme treasure. And not having any gods before God means the same thing: Don't treasure anything or anyone in a way that competes with God's supreme place in your life. Idolatry is what we call disobedience to the first commandment. And idolatry is what Paul called disobedience to the tenth commandment ("covetousness, which is idolatry," Colossians 3:5).

How can we keep our lives free from this dreadful condition – desiring other things more than God, coveting, being idolaters?

1. One answer is the Word of God: "I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you." (Psalm 119:11)
2. Another answer comes from Philippians. Paul described the condition we all want to be in. He said, "Whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord" (Philippians 3:7-8). That is exactly the opposite of covetousness. That is the opposite of idolatry. That is supreme satisfaction in Christ. That is freedom.
3. Does Paul have a practical suggestion that we can use to fight for this satisfaction in Christ? Yes, he does: "Brothers, join in imitating me, and keep your eyes on those who walk according to the example you have in us: (Philippians 3:17). Pick out some people whose lives show that they treasure Christ above other things. Then keep your eyes on them, as Paul said. Watch them. That is a good way to conquer covetousness.

So flee covetousness. Topple all your idols. "Count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ." Be in the Word every day. But also find those who live this way and "keep your eyes on them." What you will see, if you look carefully, is the power and beauty of Christ. This sight will satisfy your soul. And your satisfied soul will keep you from coveting and your life will make God look supremely valuable.

Pursuing satisfaction in Jesus with you,

Pastor Todd

Sunday School

Teens - do you want to have a Great start to your week? AYM Youth Sunday school class meets every Sunday morning at 9:30 upstairs in the youth room. We start with a time of worship and praise followed by conversation about God, the Bible, and how truth impacts the choices we make and how we live our lives. This is a time for questions and figuring out how to live our best life empowered by JESUS.



We are currently learning from the books of Galatians and Ephesians – what God has done for us and who we are in Christ. Please come and join the discussion!

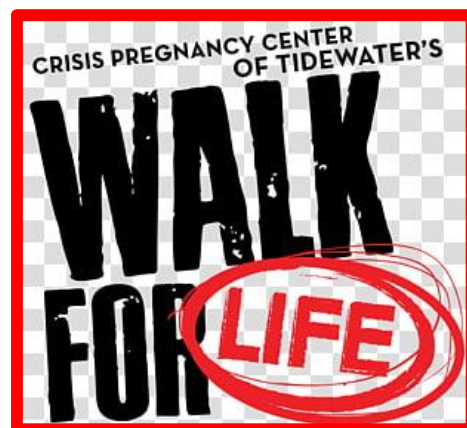
Jan Grills



Crisis Pregnancy Center

Local Missions Opportunity! Partner with Crisis Pregnancy Center of Tidewater in providing support for families in our community facing unplanned pregnancies. Simply go to <http://walkforlife.cpcfriends.org/suburbanchristianchurch> to sign up or donate to help CPC save more lives, spare more hearts, and spread the Gospel here in South Hampton Roads! The virtual walk date is **May 8, 2021**. Suburban's goal is to have 20 walkers!

There are also several incentives on the CPC website for money raised before May 22nd! Details below:



GIFT PACKAGE GIVEAWAY

PICK YOUR PRIZE!

Fundraising Walkers who **raise \$250** before May 22nd are eligible to win. For every **additional \$250** raised, fundraising walkers earn an extra entry!

(For example, raise \$1,000 and earn 3 extra entries into the drawing!)

Winner gets to pick 1 of 3 prize package options:
ROOM MAKEOVER PACKAGE, TECHNOLOGY PACKAGE, OR VACATION PACKAGE

*This gift is compliments of generous donors.
 If vacation package is selected, the trip can be taken at a later time.
 Drawing will take place after May 22nd.

The first 500 people to enter a pledge or donation online will receive a free Chick-fil-A sandwich!

Adult Sunday School Update

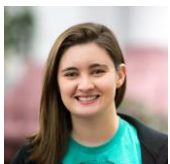
Ron Raymer leads the Adult Sunday School class which continues to have strong, steady turn out as they progress through a study of the Acts of the Apostles. The class typically has 15-20, social-distanced, mask-wearing attendees in person in the Fellowship Hall beginning class at 9:00 each Sunday and an additional 15-20 who dial-in on a conference call line to participate in the class from home. Ron sends the slides to the virtual attendees so they can follow along with the lesson and can participate in the prayer time and discussion through the speaker phone. The class occasionally gets into some lively discussions of church doctrine and procedures as the variety of religious backgrounds meld together into a single, non-denominational Suburban Christian Church body. The class has traveled through Acts 22 and plans to begin a study of Paul's Epistle to the Romans following completion of Acts. Come join the class which is open to all ages or dial in to the conference call at 612-746-7360 / conference code 809549.

Ron Raymer

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

Belong Women's Ministry

Because of COVID, our lives were turned upside down, including our spiritual lives. We have been tested in so many areas. Families have been tested. Churches have been tested. Pastors and pastor's wives have been tested. To help me in this testing, I have been writing Scripture in a 3-ringed binder for the past year. Wow! Have I been challenged! Each month focused on a particular subject (The Love of the Lord, Beating Anxiety, The Family of God, Forgiveness, etc.). God has used this little change in my routine to teach me and remind me of many things I had forgotten. We all need to be reminded from time to time, don't we? We are so quick to forget how God has blessed us, sustained us, and that He is still working – even during a pandemic. Testing is **ALWAYS** going to be a part of our Christian journey. The question is, "How are we going to respond?" It's very easy to quit running or blame God. But that doesn't help at all. It only causes more despair. God wants us to humble ourselves and learn from the testing? God's Word is full of verses reminding us that we will be tested, but the awesome thing about testing is that it will produce steadfastness. (James 1:2-4; James 1:12; I Peter 4:12-19; Job 23:10; Romans 5:3-4; I Peter 5:10) Having a solid foundation is so important during difficult times.

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Because the year has been such a challenge, we are excited to invite you to get reacquainted by having a time of "Reflection and Fellowship – When Life Gives You Lemons." Bring your own beverage, lunch, and Bibles and join us on Saturday, March 13th, at 12:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall for a casual lunch and a time of sharing, fellowship, and prayer. Be thinking about a verse or two that pulled you through this past year so we can share our challenges and victories. I'm sure we will all be blessed by spending this time together. We hope to see [YOU](#) there!



The Belong Women's Ministry will be hosting a bridal shower for our upcoming bride, Sally Harden. **Please RSVP to Wendy Haynes by Wednesday, March 31st.**



PLEASE JOIN US FOR A BRIDAL SHOWER
HONORING

Sally Harden

4 . 10 . 2021 . 2:00 PM

SUBURBAN CHRISTIAN CHURCH
5132 BELLAMY MANOR DRIVE
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA 23464

rsvp ♥ WENDY HAYNES
757.362.8817

* REGISTERED AT TARGET



Pastor Friday Nnah Update

Our new Church and Parsonage at Akpaa Mbato Village was opened today Sunday February 28, 2021. Many Villagers and delegates from our churches were in attendance. The King of the Community was also in attendance. Thank you so much for making this happen. Pastor Friday and Precious



Due to COVID, resources of food for the orphanages and villages were scarce. Suburban sent emergency funds to help this ministry meet those needs. We are also rejoicing with him over the new building and parsonage. God is so good!



What's Happening In.... Suburban Kids

AWANA MINISTRY

Hello SCC!!! This month in AWANA we have had so much fun learning about Love, Light, and always Laughter! We learned that Jesus is the light, and He is the reason that we are loved. The ultimate Valentine. The clubbers have been working hard on their verses and ready for AWANA Award Night! Award Night is the last Sunday of the month and clubbers learn verses to earn bucks, patches, and jewels. We are so proud of amazing clubbers!

Liz Bonnett

March AWANA Themes

March 7th - March Madness Night

March 14th - Green Night

March 21st - Store Night

March 28th - Awards Night



NURSERY MINISTRY

Our nursery is now available for those of you with little ones to use during the worship service. All those serving in the nursery will be wearing masks and all toys will be sanitized and rotated to keep our little ones safe. If you would like to volunteer to serve in our nursery ministry, **WE NEED YOU!** Please speak with Stacie Raymer to save your spot for one of the Sundays during the month.





COMING TO SUBURBAN, SUNDAY, MARCH 28th SAVE THE DATE!

Jon worked as a television meteorologist for over twenty years. Today, he is an international evangelist and business owner in the restaurant industry. Jon Cash Ministries is an evangelical Christian ministry dedicated to the gospel of Jesus Christ as revealed in the Bible. The ministry works closely with Pastor Friday Nnah and his wonderful wife Precious in Nigeria and supports them with several dozen churches under his leadership including a large Christian school and orphanages.

AMBASSADOR YOUTH MINISTRY

Hello Suburban Christian Church Family!
Ambassador Youth Ministry is going strong! Every Sunday at 6:30 pm the teens meet for fellowship and to learn about the book of Revelation. We have been learning about how God has a vision for His world and that it will all come to a head and we can see all that laid out for us in Revelation. We have also been meeting every Sunday at 9:20 am for worship and a lesson. AYM Sunday School just finished a series "Truth or Dare". We learned about how the truth applies to us in our lives and how as Christians we share and show God's truth.

Due to COVID-19 concerns, the youth group will not be able to be going on our mission with Next Step Ministry, but don't worry that doesn't mean that we aren't working on something. Make sure to keep an eye out for what mission work the youth will be doing this summer. SH





Office Hours

**Tuesday – Friday
8:30 am – 4:00 pm**

**Thank you for observing office hours
when dropping off items for various
ministries of our church.**

Food Pantry

On the first and third Tuesdays of every month our food pantry is able to help families in our community who are in need of food because of the donations from you! The food pantry needs are updated in the bulletin after every distribution Tuesday. The immediate needs are always printed in bold. You may drop off donations for the food pantry during office hours (8:30 am to 4:00 pm, Tuesday through Friday).



Regularly Needed Pantry Items

Peanut Butter	Canned Fruit
Jelly	Pudding
Saltine Crackers	Jell-o Mix
Spaghetti Sauce	Ramen
Rice-a-Roni	Mac/Cheese
Cereal	Rice
Canned Vegetables	
Fresh Fruits/Vegetables	
Hamburger/Tuna Helper	

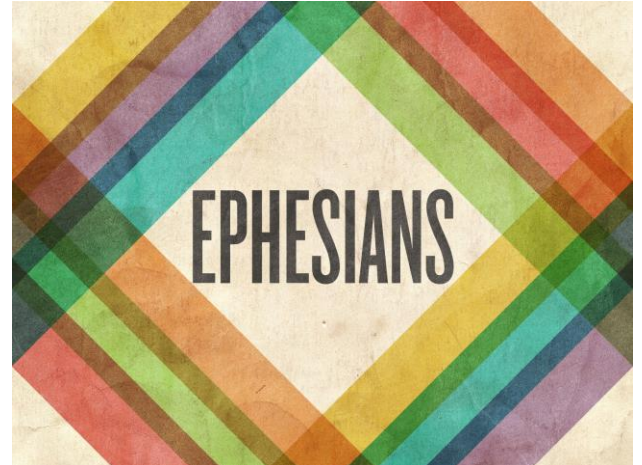


Thank you, **Amie Mitchell and Gloria Livingston** for your service in the Food Pantry Ministry and for being a light to those who come in need.

We would also like to thank, **Linda Fry** for crocheting washcloths and lap blankets as a special item for our Food Pantry Ministry guests.

Saturday Morning Men's Prayer Breakfast and Bible Study

The Saturday Morning Men's Breakfast and Bible Study continues to meet on the first and third Saturdays of each month. This month we will meet on March 6th and March 20th and will conclude our in-depth study and discussion of the **Book of Ephesians** with a chapter by chapter, verse by verse, word by word, comprehensive study of **Chapters 5 and 6**.



In **Chapter 5**, Paul gives instruction in Christian living as "imitators of Christ" by walking in love, as Christ loved us;" engaging in nothing of an impure or immoral nature. He further gives instruction for relationships between wives and husbands and, in **Chapter 6**, between children and parents.

Also in **Chapter 6**, Paul admonishes Christians to "put on" and to "take up the whole armor of God" so as "to withstand" and "to stand firm" against ungodly schemes and to "keep alert with all perseverance."

The Men's Breakfast and Bible Study is an outstanding opportunity for the study of God's Word, prayer, and fellowship for men of all ages; church members and non-members.

The breakfast and the Bible study are open to all men and all are invited to enjoy a good, homemade breakfast of eggs, sausage, pancakes, biscuits, grits, sausage gravy, fruit, orange juice, and coffee. Come and enjoy good fellowship, and the Good News found in God's Word.

Breakfast begins at 8:00 AM and is followed at 8:30 with Bible Study and prayer. It concludes by about 9:30 AM, leaving plenty of time for Saturday morning obligations.

PLEASE JOIN US!



Operation Christmas Child Corner

Thank you to those who have been bringing in donations for the shoebox gifts! We have a good start on our collection already. The biggest need that is upcoming is the empty boxes. Try to collect as many as you can from friends or stores that you can. To purchase the printed cardboard shoe boxes from Samaritan's Purse, it is \$25.00/box of 50 plus a \$14.00 shipping fee. You can order them online and have them shipped directly to the church if you wish. We will need lots of boxes, in 2020 we used 574.

The other thing we are working toward is fully funding the shipping donations for our boxes. The suggested donation is \$9.00/ box. For 500 boxes, that adds up to \$4,500.00. If we start saving now, we will have enough by this year's collection date. If you donate online, please let us know how many boxes you funded so we will be able to tell how much more is needed.

Keep praying for the children.
Lynn



Operation Christmas Child Update

MISSION NOT IMPOSSIBLE

If any place can be called the end of the earth it's Wotje—a tiny atoll (a ring-shaped reef, island, or chain of islands formed of coral) that is part of the Marshall Islands in the North Pacific. This past summer, 340 children—most of them orphans—attended a festive Operation Christmas Child outreach event and received gift-filled shoeboxes. Many of them didn't know what a gift was until they lifted the lid of their box. "Through the gifts you can see the brightness in their eyes and the excitement they see when they discover that someone really loves them," one ministry partner said. "It's the love of God in a tangible way. You feel it right there in front of them in their hands. They are overwhelmed."



MARSHALL ISLANDS . . .

Cartons of shoeboxes travel by sea to reach children on remote islands with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

FAMILY SUNDAY SCHOOL EASTER EGG HUNT

Hi Parents and Suburban Kids,
On **Sunday, April 4th**, during the Family Sunday School hour, we will be having a special Easter Sunday School lesson followed by a Family Easter Egg Hunt. On this particular Sunday, we will begin just a few minutes early - (**9:15 am**)! So, mark your calendars and set your alarms to join us in celebrating the resurrection of our Lord!



HOW TO: Using the YouVersion Bible App for your iPhone or Android

Key Features – Verse of the Day, Verse of the Day image to share, Verse of the Day story with devotional, access to thousands of devotional plans, electronic Bible in many languages & versions.

*Head to your phone's "store" where you can download apps.

*Search for YouVersion Bible App. It may come up as The Bible App Free from Life.Church (the icon is a brown Bible with the words **Holy Bible** on it).

*Choose to Install

*Once your app is installed, you will need to create an account. It will ask for an email address & password.

*To view the daily verse devotional, click on the "open story" button. You will see a Welcome statement, the scripture verse, a video by someone explaining the verse in more depth, a reflection page, a devotional page, a prayer, the daily verse image, and closing statement.

*To click through each page simply tap on the right side of the page.

*There is a "Plans" tab at the bottom. Click on this to find a devotional plan that suites you.

*There are plans that cover just about every topic you could want. Simply scroll down to find the plan you want to start. You can even do multiple plans at the same time!

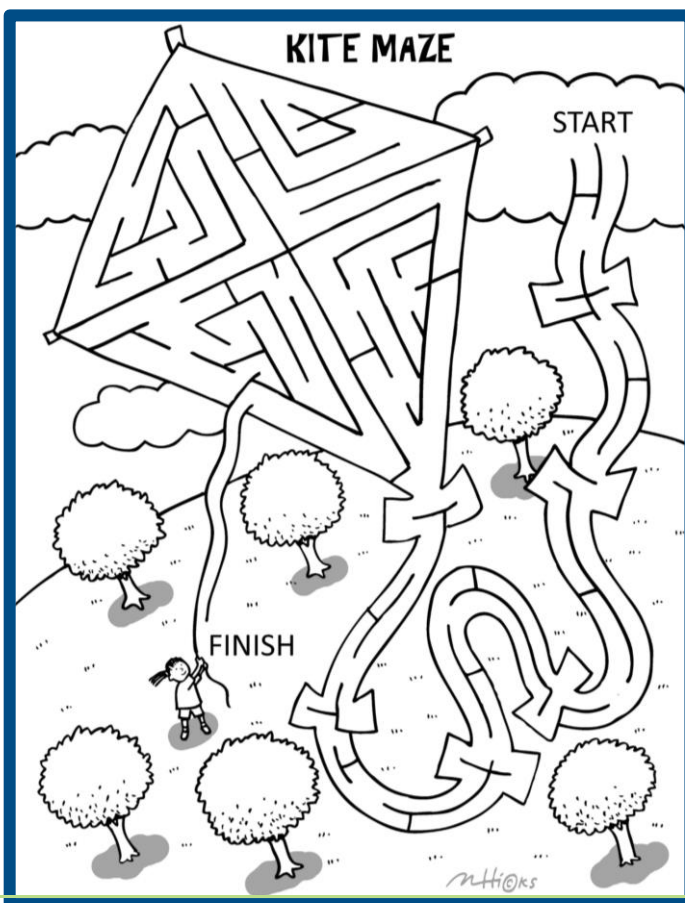
*The "Read" tab will give you access to the Bible. You can choose the language and version of the Bible, as well as changing the font style & size. There is also an option for you to hear the verse being read to you. While you are in a specific verse (1 Corinthians 10: 12 for example), at the top right corner you will see an icon that looks like a black dot with a flat diamond shape inside it. Tap that to access videos related to that verse.

*You can also highlight verses to save them by holding your finger on the first word of the verse for a second, once you lift your finger, the highlighter option should come up. You can choose what color highlighter you want to use as well as make notes or bookmark.

This app is full of useful things to help you keep your ideas in one place, your favorite verses handy and you will always have your Bible at your fingertips. Play around with it and have fun exploring!



Just for... **Suburban Kids**



DID YOU KNOW the Bible describes God as a lion and a lamb? Look up the following verses and see.

Revelation 5:5

"Weep no more; behold the _____ of the tribe of _____, the Root of David, has conquered."

John 1:29

"Behold, the _____ of _____, who takes away the _____ of the world."

WHAT'S THE ANSWER? Pastor Todd played a certain sport when he was growing up. You must be in good shape to play the game and work as a team. What do you think the sport was? Write your answer in the blank, then bring it to Pastor Todd to see if you have the correct answer. If you do, you get a prize!

I think the sport was _____.