

M A R C H 2 0 2 4

The Suburban Connection

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Mrs. Teresa Spruill turns 90!

Mrs. Teresa Spruill (Terry) was born on January 29, 1934. On January 28, she was given a wonderful birthday surrounded by family and friends. Her private care giver, Terry Garner, planned the entire event. Mrs. Garner faithfully cared for Mr. Marvin until he passed, and she has been caring for Mrs. Teresa since.

Mrs. Teresa was born in New York. Her father was a pharmacist and she basically lived at the pharmacy her father owned when she was a child. After Terry relocated to the Virginia Beach area, she was a dedicated teacher and substitute.

While doing post graduate work in nutrition, she met Marvin Spruill. They were married on December 3, 1994. She embraced Marvin's family and was very close to her mother-in-law, Velna. She and Marvin had a house in

Beech Bay on the Albemarle Sound in North Carolina where they loved to spend their time. They often invited friends and family to join them, and their guests didn't go without. Waking up to coffee brewing and breakfast, lunch, and dinner served with joy was a delight shared by all who visited. She is known for her baked Ziti and "Meatballs and Sauce" and found joy serving in her kitchen. She also learned to cook "southern food" and tried to cook what the family liked (collards – one of Marvin's favorites).

Terry and Marvin were very active and faithful members of Suburban Christian Church and in the church Marvin grew up in, Holly Neck Church of Christ, when they were at their house in North Carolina. She was also active in the local Washington County women's group and was always looking for ways to help others.

Carol Ouzts and Cindy Hitchings, Terri's daughters-in-law, are very thankful for Terry. Carol has said, "I think the first thing Terry thinks about when she gets up every morning is 'who can I help today?'" Cindy has also said that Terry helped her without being asked during some challenging times and that she didn't know what she would have done without Terry.

Mrs. Terry has been challenged with some health issues the past several years, but she still tries to come to some of Suburban's events when she can.

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Save the Date!

**Men's
Breakfast &
Bible Study**
March 2nd & 16th
8:00 am
Fellowship Hall

**Sunday
School Mtg.**
March 9th
9:00 am

**Seniors
Ministry Mtg.**
March 21st
11:00 am
Fellowship Hall

**Easter
Sunday**
March 31st
Bring a
Friend



From the Pastor's Desk:

“If Jesus Triumphed Over Sin and Death, Why Does Our World Still Contain So Much Evil and Suffering”

Written by Randy Alcorn (Founder and director of Eternal Perspective Ministries)

C. S. Lewis articulated the erroneous conclusion many people come to: “If God were good, He would wish to make His creatures perfectly happy, and if God were almighty He would be able to do what He wished. But the creatures are not happy. Therefore, God lacks either goodness, or power, or both.”

Put another way, if Jesus triumphed over sin and death, why does our world still contain so much evil and suffering? Why are we still sinners, why do many of us get sick, why are some of the godliest people in the world poor, and why do all of us die? If God is happy and wants us to be happy, why doesn't He bring us complete happiness now?

There are varying responses to these excellent questions, and the good ones all require trust that a good, loving, holy, and just God knows what He's doing. By delaying His final judgment on evil and waiting longer to wipe away all tears from His children's eyes, He's giving more people a chance to repent and trust Christ (see [2 Peter 3:9](#)).

Meanwhile, God is giving His children more opportunities to grow in faith (see [1 Peter 1:6](#)), He's developing our character through trials (see [Job 23:10](#); [Isaiah 48:10](#)), He's increasing our perseverance and hope (see [Romans 5:4](#)), and He's bringing more ultimate good to us and glory to Himself (see [Romans 8:28-29](#)).

God has redeemed us “so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus” ([Ephesians 2:7](#)). Throughout eternity, God will unfold more and more of His grace and kindness. As wonderful as Eden was, without sin and suffering, would Adam and Eve have reason to praise God for His grace? No. Certainly they could see God's goodness, but grace is unmerited favor to those who deserve Hell. Therefore, they had less reason to praise Him than we do.

Experiencing God's grace now will pay off in eternity, too. We may want to skip this growth process and be ushered directly into eternal happiness, but that wouldn't accomplish God's highest purpose. He plans to remake Earth into an eternal world where righteousness reigns because He has marvelously overcome evil, starting in the hearts of His beloved children.

Corrie ten Boom, who survived a Nazi death camp, said, “Every experience God gives us . . . is the perfect preparation for a future only He can see.”

Charles Spurgeon said, “In heaven we shall see that we had not one trial too many.” Reveling in God's sovereign grace, Spurgeon exclaimed, “Cheer up, Christian! Things are not left to chance—no blind fate rules the world! God has purposes and those purposes are fulfilled; God has plans and those plans are wise, and never can be dislocated!”

We can be confident that one day, happiness, not sorrow, will have the last word—and it will have the last word forever.

Sunday School

Our Sunday School classes have been studying in the book of Acts. The third through fifth grade class learned about spreading the gospel using dominoes. They also plan to decorate their door. We invite you to walk down the Sunday school hallway to see the creative minds of the students at work as they display their handiwork.

The youngest class is learning that Jesus loves everyone. They also got to make scrolls.

Please be in prayer that God will protect our families from all the germs that are going around. We love it when our attendance sheets are full!

Laura Tyler



Nursery News

Nursery Volunteers for March 2024



Date	Sunday School 9:00 am	Worship Service 10:15 am	Worship Helper
3/3/24	Melissa Tucker Betty Owens	Stacie Raymer Barbara Skarupa	Elena Tyler
3/10/24	Melissa Tucker Betty Owens	Jeff Herring Marybeth Wallace	Samara Saucedo
3/17/24	Stacey Super	Nancy Herbst Chris Bulaski	Liam Cooke
3/24/24	Melissa Tucker	Laura Tyler Teresa Birk	William Schnurr
3/31/24	Melissa Tucker	Stacie Raymer Elisa Roby	Nathaniel Schnurr

If you would like to join the nursery ministry by helping one Sunday per month – during Sunday School or the Worship Service – please contact Stacie Raymer (sraymer@odu.edu; 757-589-5731). Young teenage helpers are also welcomed to help.

“But Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven.” Matthew 19:14

Move Your Clocks Forward!

Don't forget daylight savings time begins on March 10th 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 got to bed on the night of the 9th!



SCC Church Staff



Rev. C. Todd Haynes
Senior Pastor



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

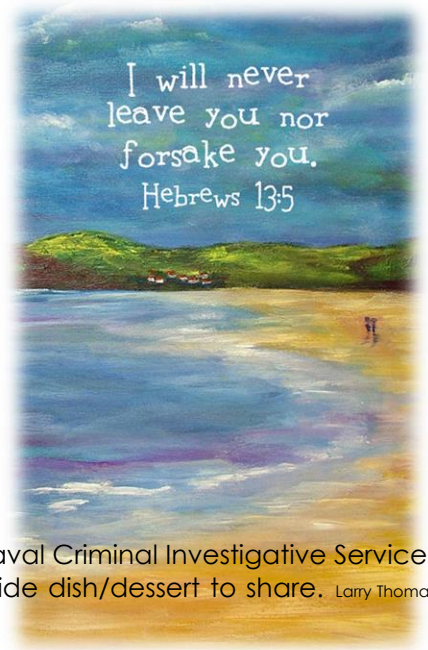
Seniors Ministry

Our speaker in February was Joe Harvey. He opened by speaking of the passing of his wife. His eyes would brighten when he spoke of Margaret's love for God and her Christian character.

He briefly spoke of the downward change in America and reminded us that a hopeful future is promised in Psalm 46, whether things in the secular world are secure or not. God is our refuge, and Hebrews 13:5 reminds us that He will never leave us.

We were reminded that we are to be ready with truth, righteousness, a ready gospel, keep the faith, rest in our salvation and advance with the Word of God.

In March, our speaker will be Joe Gewerth, a thirty-five-year veteran of the Naval Criminal Investigative Service. Steak and Cheese on potato buns will be served for lunch. Please bring a side dish/dessert to share. Larry Thomas



What's Happening In....

Children's Church

Suburban Kids



As we continue teaching our children "The Biggest Story", Volume 1 covers The Pentateuch. Now some may ask what does Pentateuch mean? Pentateuch simply means "five books". In Greek, the Pentateuch (which Jews call the Torah) includes the books of Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy. During the month of February, the book of Genesis, chapters 6 – 15 are covered. We shared and discussed the Great Flood, the Tower of Babel, Abraham and the promises GOD made to him. GOD promised Abraham he would have a son, he would have land and sent him to Canaan, known as the

Promised Land, and he would be the father of nations. Abraham started to doubt GOD's promises as he had land but not a son. GOD understood Abraham's doubts and made a covenant with him and Abraham showed GOD he believed the covenant. Stay tuned for more as we move further into the book of Genesis! Lois Ritger

March Children's Church Schedule

Date	Lead	Assistant	Service Helper
3/3/24	Lois Ritger	TBA	Samara Saucedo
3/10/24	Susan Cofer	Bill Cofer	TBA
3/17/24	Sammy Saucedo	Andrew Saucedo	Donovan Saucedo
3/24/24	Susan Haynes	Jeff Haynes	Elena Tyler
3/31/24	NO CHILDREN'S CHURCH		

AWANA MINISTRY

Spring is Here! Well almost....

Despite what that rodent Phil says, Spring is on its way, and we couldn't be happier! We always have fun in AWANA but somehow, it's extra fun during the springtime. We FINALLY get to play games outside again; we get to talk about the real meaning of Easter and the kids just somehow seem to be more rejuvenated and excited.

In February we covered what the Romans Road is and how each of us has a decision to make in our lives to keep going down the road of sin and turning away from God's law, His will and His Son OR do a "U-E" (U-turn) and head in the direction of Jesus and His love. It is **THE** most important decision of our lives because it really does have the biggest impact in our lives. Carol Brooks

WHAT WE'RE DOING IN MARCH:

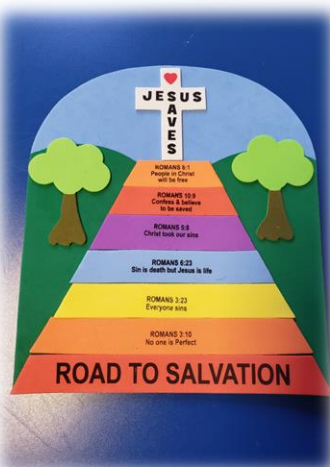
March 3rd – Disciples Night (Learning more about Jesus's disciples)

March 10th – Dress Like a Mess Night (Jesus doesn't want us to come to him in a perfect state; he wants us just as we are – A MESS!)

March 17th – St. Patrick's Day

March 24th – Escape Room Night (One of the biggest nights of the year! Using Jesus's parables to create an escape room environment.)

March 31st – Easter (NO CLUB)



WRONG WAY

WE'VE ALL MADE A WRONG TURN 3:10

Everyone has made a wrong turn. The Bible tells us that all have sinned. We've all done things God isn't pleased with, and found ourselves going in a bad direction. "It is written, 'No one is right with God, no one at all.'" Romans 3:10 NIRV

6:23 IT'S THE ROAD TO DEATH

Sin is the road to destruction. In the book of Romans, Paul shows us the law, and the price we all pay when we do those things we know God doesn't want.

"When you sin, the pay you get is death. But God gives you the gift of eternal life because of what Christ Jesus our Lord has done." Romans 6:23 NIRV

PAY TOLL

JESUS PAID THE TOLL 5:8

Jesus paid the toll. Someone had to pay the price for us to find our way. He didn't have to, but Jesus showed His love for us, by paying for the wages of sin.

"But here is how God has shown His love for us. While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." Romans 5:8 NIRV

3:22 GOD ALLOWS U-TURNS

God allows u-turns. Don't think it is too late to turn things around. God is there, waiting for you to change directions and head His way. "We are made right with God by putting our faith in Jesus Christ. That happens to all who believe. It is no different for the Jews than for anyone else." Romans 3:22 NIRV

TURN AROUND

MAKE THE RIGHT TURN 10:9

Make a right turn! It's simple to do. Let Jesus take the wheel, and find yourself cruising down a new road to a heavenly destination! "Say with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord.' Believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead. Then you will be saved." Romans 10:9 NIRV



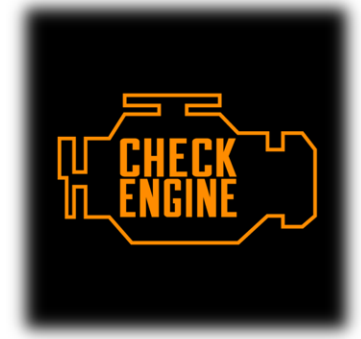
AMBASSADOR YOUTH MINISTRY

Check Engine Light

Background Story: The book of Ephesians was written as a letter from the Apostle Paul to the church of Ephesus.

Read Ephesians 4:17-24

So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking. ¹⁸They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts. ¹⁹Having lost all sensitivity, they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, and they are full of greed. ²⁰That, however, is not the way of life you learned ²¹when you heard about Christ and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus. ²²You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; ²³to be made new in the attitude of your minds; ²⁴and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.



Big Idea: I must learn to follow the leading of the Holy Spirit.

For all you drivers out there, you learn pretty quickly to pay attention to those little lights on the dashboard. You're driving down the road listening to music and all of a sudden, the check engine light comes on alerting you to a problem happening in the car's engine. You might be able to keep driving the car for a little while; but that light has come on for a reason and ignoring it could seriously hurt your car.

As Christians, we get up every morning, put on our shoes, and walk out the door starting a new day. Out there waiting for us are temptations that are contrary to God's plan. The purity and holiness of God is in direct contrast to the way the world lives. In the passage above, we read that the world lives in ignorance, "due to the hardening of their hearts" and has "lost all sensitivity." So how do we live everyday in this world without becoming insensitive to God's leading?

The Holy Spirit lives inside the believer and is the check engine light inside our heart alerting us to avoid temptation. As you are walking through your normal day and temptation comes, the Holy Spirit will often alert and nudge you that this is not the right choice or path. As we pay attention to these alerts in our heart, we become more sensitive and attentive. As we ignore the Holy Spirit's alert, we become hardened and insensitive to His leading. Just like a car, ignoring those alerts will end up destroying your future.

Galatians 5:25 says, "If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit." To follow Christ, we must learn over time to keep "in step with the Spirit." As we follow the Holy Spirit's leading, the blessings and peace of God follow us. Today, pray asking God to help you be more sensitive to the leading of the Holy Spirit. If you've messed up and taken a wrong path, come to Him in repentance. Never keep on driving with that light blinking! Devotions4teens.com

Let no one despise you for your youth, but set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity.
1 Timothy 4:12

Belong Women's Ministry is going on a field trip!

You will not want to miss the EQUIP Women's Conference on May 4th at Kempsville Baptist Church. There is something for everyone at this conference on top of the great fellowship and worship time. Below you will find the schedule and 6 breakout session topics you can choose from. The event begins at 8:00 am and ends by 2:00 pm. Please sign up in the foyer so we will know who to register. Deadline for signing up is April 1st. We will meet at Kempsville Baptist Church on the morning of the conference. This event is free, and lunch will be provided.



Schedule

8:00 AM • Doors Open Registration and Light Breakfast
 9:00 AM • Announcements
 9:15 AM • Worship & Speaker
 10:15 AM • Break
 10:35 AM • Breakout 1
 11:25 AM • Breakout 2
 12:10 PM • Lunch
 12:55 PM • Breakout 3
 1:40 PM • Worship
 1:50 PM • Closing Session and Dismiss

Breakout Session 1

Holiness: Our Reflection Matters
 Speaker: Katie Stutler

The Power of Prayer in Your Marriage
 Speaker: Sandy Ford

Being Prepared for the Unexpected
 Speaker: Dolly Mink & Mary Beth Adams

A Life Fully Surrendered to God through Prayer
 Speaker: Rhonda Robinson

Breakout Session 2

Holiness: Our Reflection Matters
 Speaker: Katie Stutler

Loving Like Jesus in a Cancel Culture
 Speaker: Casey Weymouth

Navigating the Ministry Wife Life at Every Stage of Parenting
 Speaker: Ministry Wives Panel Discussion

Being Prepared for the Unexpected
 Speaker: Dolly Mink & Mary Beth Adams

Breakout Session 3

Loving Like Jesus in a Cancel Culture
 Speaker: Casey Weymouth

The Power of Prayer in Your Marriage
 Speaker: Sandy Ford

Navigating the Ministry Wife Life at Every Stage of Parenting
 Speaker: Ministry Wives Panel Discussion

A Life Fully Surrendered to God through Prayer
 Speaker: Rhonda Robinson

*She is clothed with strength and dignity
 she laughs without fear of the future.
 Proverbs 31:25*

Saturday Morning Men's Prayer Breakfast and Bible Study

The Saturday Morning Men's Prayer Breakfast and Bible Study will meet in March on the 2nd and the 16th and will continue with the study in the **Book of 2 Samuel chapter 4 concerning the fall of Kings Saul's kingdom and the rise of David's.**

Saul's son and successor, Ish-bosheth was weak and served only two years before he was assassinated (murdered) by two members of his own army who sought favor with David, the obvious successor to Saul's throne. (Ish-bosheth's son Mephibosheth, who was only five years old and cripples in his feet was not capable of succeeding his father). Their plan backfired when David, who always honored Saul as "the LORD'S anointed," avenged Saul's death by having them killed by being hanged at Hebron.

In chapter 5, the northern tribes of Israel joined with David, 30 years old at the time, who had reigned over Judah for seven years and now reigned over the united Judah and Israel for another thirty-three years. (*"The elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron . . . and anointed David king over Israel"* **2 Samuel 3**). After David and his men fought and defeated the Jebusites, he established his headquarters in a well-defended place on Mr. Zion called Jebus, which became Jerusalem; "the city of David." *"And David took more concubines and wives from Jerusalem . . . and more sons and daughters were born (to him)."*

The Chapter notes how, despite his human weaknesses, David inquired of and followed God's directions. Facing war with the Philistines in the Valley of Rephaim, northeast of Jerusalem, he asked God if he should do battle with them, and God gave him permission and advice. *"And David did as the LORD commanded him, and he struck down the Philistines from Geba and Gezer (about 20 miles).*

The Men's Prayer 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. Come and enjoy good fellowship, and the Good News found in God's Word.

Bob Grymes

Food Pantry

This month we celebrate the marvelous resurrection of Jesus by which He defeated sin and death. What a gift! We as Christians love to share the Good News, especially in this time of reflection, rejoicing, thanksgiving, and faith. Through our food pantry we are building relationships with people in our community. We share our hearts as well as a few groceries, but this month we will provide our families with a dinner and all the trimmings that they might share in our joy on Resurrection Sunday. Please pray for the families that come and for those who serve.

Amie Mitchell



Regularly Needed Pantry Items

Peanut Butter	Canned Fruit
Jelly	Pudding Mix
Saltine Crackers	Jell-O Mix
Spaghetti Sauce	Ramen
Rice-a-Roni	Mac/Cheese
Cereal	Rice
Canned Vegetables	Paper Towels
Fresh Fruits/Vegetables	Toilet Paper
Hamburger/Tuna Helper	Laundry Detergent
*Toiletry items are given if available.	

Secret Church Coming to Suburban – April 19th @ 7:00 pm

STUDY: Take a 6-hour deep dive to study God's epic tale of redemption in the story of Ruth. It's a story that reminds us that each of our lives—no matter how ordinary they may sometimes seem and no matter how difficult they may sometimes be – is indeed a part of a plan much larger than ourselves and much more thrilling than we could ever imagine.

PRAY: This year we will explore the story of the persecuted church in North Korea, considered by many the most hostile-to-Christians country in the world. Together we will pray and support our brothers and sisters in North Korea, Cambodia, Indonesia and other persecuted places.

ACT: We will be challenged to live on mission – in our neighborhoods and to the nations.

**Please sign up in the church foyer by April 7th (25 slots are available). Cost is \$10.00 per person.
Please bring snacks to share. Drinks will be provided!**



Hannah Lynn Schnurr

Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward. Like arrows in the hand of a warrior are the children of one's youth. Blessed is the man who fills his quiver with them!

Psalm 127: 3-5



God is the one who gives children; they belong to Him. (Psalm 127:3) A dedication does not bring about the salvation of the child. It is not baptism. Instead, it is a set of solemn promises by the parents in the presence of the church, and an expression of faith and hope in God's future grace.

God calls every parent to the task of training up children. (Proverbs 22:6; Ephesians 6:4) Parents make a commitment to help their children live lives of personal obedience. Yet personal obedience is not the goal; faith is the goal. Through learning obedience to loving parents, our children can learn

the joy of obedience to a loving God; this can then be a means of grace that God uses to bring the children to faith, and that very faith will bear fruit in genuine Christian obedience. As parents, we are living out a similar responsibility to that of Ezekiel as watchmen (Ezekiel 3:17-19), setting examples, teaching, and warning our children.

Biblically we are to provide for our children and serve them – not serving under them, but so to lead them that they grow into independent adults who by God's grace love Jesus and put Him first.

We congratulate the Schnurr family on the birth of their daughter, Hannah Lynn Schnurr.



Operation Christmas Child Corner

HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED WHAT THE BASIC SHOEBOX GIFT CONTENTS ARE?

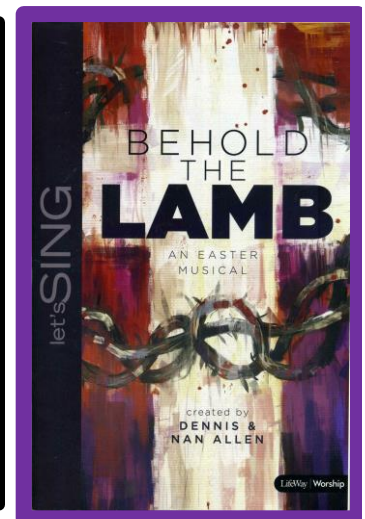
A shoebox gift contains a washcloth, toothbrush, full size notebook, pencils, sharpener, coloring book, crayons, stuffed toy, and a WOW gift.

Example of WOW gifts: Doll, Soccer Ball and pump, Legos or other building set. Any other items are appreciated. Things like gloves, hats, jump ropes, t-shirts, handmade toys and clothes are all things that the children love to receive and are fun to collect or make.

Now is the time to join in the fun of preparing to fill as many shoebox gifts as we can for 2024. Every child who receives a shoebox gift, receives the gospel from in-country volunteers and is touched by the very hand of God through us. Thanks for helping to spread God's love. Lynn Cooke

Music Notes

Easter is but a few weeks away. The time we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord is upon us. This is a time of joy, feasting and love to all as we recall the steps God took to allow us all to approach and be reconciled to Him. Our special Easter music will be presented on Palm Sunday, the Sunday before Easter, March 24, during the morning worship service. Please join us as we celebrate and pray with hope for a bright future. Lynn Cooke

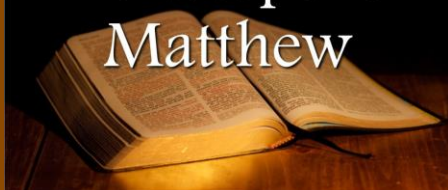


The Discovery Class

Sunday Mornings - Fellowship Hall A – 9:00

The Discovery Class is continuing the walk through the life of Jesus in a careful study of the book of Matthew. Nowhere in Scripture is the beauty of Christ more supremely demonstrated than in the Gospel. The King of Heaven, the image of the invisible God and the radiance of His Glory, emptied Himself by taking the form of a servant, so that we might enter into His joy. Join us for teaching, discussion, and fellowship as we humbly learn to follow Him more closely and love Him more truly. Chris Tyler

The Gospel of Matthew



Good News Club Update

Suburban has sponsored Good News Club in Woodstock Elementary since 2019, but this may be the best year yet! Our typical Club, with around 40 first through fifth graders, weaves songs, games, Bible lessons, memory verses and lots of noise and movement. Of course, the goal is to present the Gospel of Christ to the students with an emphasis on Christ as the Son of God and only path to a relationship with God.

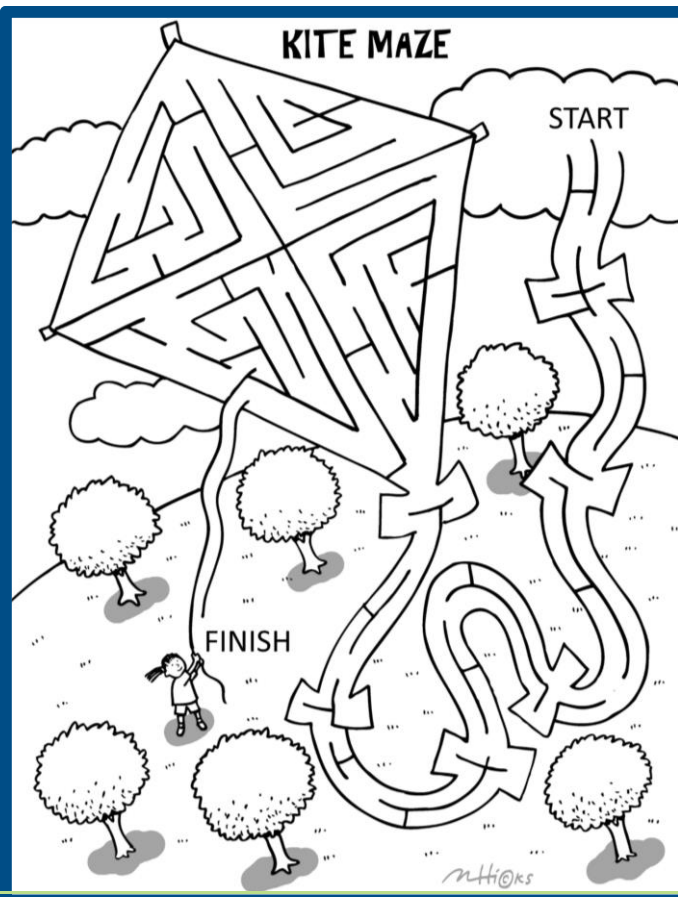
For the last several weeks, the emphasis of the lessons has "Jesus: God of Power and Glory." We have looked at Jesus as a powerful teacher and miracle worker. We've emphasized that God's Word is perfect and the best way to get to know God. Our lessons have covered the miracles of Jesus calming the storm, walking on water, feeding over 5,000 with just a few loaves and fishes. The latest lesson looked at Jesus healing the ten lepers (Luke 17:11-19).

How would you explain to kids who may have never heard of what leprosy is and how it would impact your life? Well, if you are Jan Grills, you would talk about how you would be excluded from society, your family and friends. (Have you ever been the last person picked for a team – or not picked at all?) And how does one explain what leprosy is like? One way is to take a marker and make "leprosy sores" on both arms – explaining that there was no cure and the sores continued to spread all over your body. Now that got everyone's attention!

What a privilege it is to teach God's timeless lessons and display His love to these students. We so appreciate your support and prayers for this ministry. To God be the glory.

Lou & Ara Miller





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?

*Why are frogs so happy?

*Where is a frog's favorite place to eat?

*What is a frog's favorite year?

If you know any of these answers, bring them to Mrs. Wendy for a special prize.