



Scroll

MAY 2017

Congregation Plans Welcome for New Pastor



May marks the beginning of a new, exciting phase in the life of Suffolk Presbyterian Church.

On May 1, the **Rev. Julie Sterling**, who was called by the congregation on March 19, will start her ministry as our pastor. She and her husband, Eric, are moving here at the end of April from Buckhannon, West Virginia, where she has been pastor of the First Presbyterian Church for nearly five years.

A native of Iowa and a graduate of Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, she has also pastored two other churches and worked part time as a hospital chaplain.

The Presbytery of Eastern Virginia will welcome her as a member of the presbytery at its next meeting in July. After that, a service will be planned to officially install her as our pastor.

Most people call her Rev. Julie, she says. But Julie is also fine. She just wants to be approachable. She's looking forward to getting settled into her new home on Western Avenue and into the pastor's office at the church. She's eager to get to know the members of our church family.

For a few Sundays in order to help her learn our names, we will wear name tags during worship and our fellowship time afterward. A greeter at the narthex entrance will help you find your clip-on name badge. Temporary tags will be available for visitors. Please remember to return your name badge to a basket near the door before leaving.

You can also help the Sterlings get settled in their new surroundings by adding the names of your favorite restaurant, beauty shop, doctor, dentist, florist, grocery store and other local favorites to a list we're compiling for them. Submit your recommendations by email or phone to **Susie Stoughton** or **Laura Farmer**.

On May 7, Rev. Julie's first Sunday in Suffolk, the Presbyterian Women and the Pastor Nominating Committee will host a reception after worship to welcome the Sterlings to Suffolk. Please bring finger foods and join us for a time of fellowship to extend a warm welcome to the Sterlings as we begin our journey together.

Susie Stoughton

Where is God calling YOU to serve?

Our Mission — To be a bridge to Christ through faith and service • Our Vision — When SPC is faithful in accomplishing its mission, people will know that Christ is at work in their lives and follow Him. • We Value — Being accepting, caring, outreaching, Spirit-led, and willing to serve



Birthdays This Month

- ◆ Pamela Holland (May 2)
- ◆ Cheryl Taylor (May 2)
- ◆ Matt Harrah (May 4)
- ◆ Matt King (May 11)
- ◆ Jerolene Crusenberry (May 22)
- ◆ Calvin Piland (May 25)
- ◆ Skip Irby (May 30)
- ◆ Don White (May 30)
- ◆ Jen Johnson (May 31)



- ◆ Chris & Skip Irby (May 12)
- ◆ Nancy & Wesley King (May 24)

The *Suffolk Presbyterian Scroll* is a publication of Suffolk Presbyterian Church in Suffolk, VA.

The *Scroll* is published 11 times a year under the direction of the Administration/Communication Ministry Team of the SPC Session.

News items should be submitted to the newsletter editor in one of the following ways:

- **email** at office.suffolkpcusa@verizon.net
- **mail** to the church address
- **newsletter editor's mailbox in church office**

Editor: Laura Farmer,
Administrative Assistant



Please Pray for:

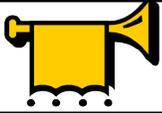
- ◆ John & Jeanne Banks
- ◆ Kyle Banks
- ◆ Sarah Bowen
- ◆ Mary Edmonds
- ◆ Jane Hogan
- ◆ Richard Messier
- ◆ Greg Ryan
- ◆ Earlene Sprouse
- ◆ Paul Urie
- ◆ Mary Jane Willis
- ◆ Stella Zaja
- ◆ Patty

- ◆ Nick Meadors
- ◆ JB Persons
- ◆ Christian Sictor (Jim & Shirley's grandson)
- ◆ Glenn Smith (Betty Chapman's grandson)
- ◆ Greg Vernon (Joyce Jordan's grandson)
- ◆ Eric Zimmerman

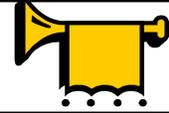
PRAY FOR OUR

MILITARY

Thank you for your service!



News Briefs

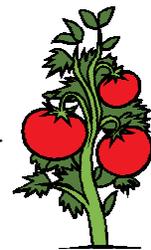


PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN

The next **Presbyterian Women** meeting is on Monday, May 8 at 7:30 pm.

Mission Garden Planting

Please join in the 12th annual planting of the Mission Garden on Sunday, May 7 at 4:30 pm. We will be planting tomatoes, cucumbers, zucchini, cucumbers, and peppers. Last year we distributed approximately 230 pounds of fresh veggies to the local community. A blessing of the garden will follow the planting. For more information, contact **Jack Stoughton**.



We thank our Suffolk Presbyterian Church family for all of the love and support which you are showing to us during this sad time. We give special thanks to the Ladies of the Church for the lovely reception they provided following Mom's (Goldie Stewart) memorial service; Lou Ventura for doing a wonderful job with the committal and memorial services; Don White for his kind and helpful guidance; Rob Saunders and Jack Stoughton for their audio/visual ministry; Janice Thomas for beautifully placing the memorial flowers in the sanctuary; Fran Alwood for faithfully visiting Mom and for speaking at her memorial service; and to Dorothy Lorenz and the choir for their gift of music. We also greatly appreciate the practical and loving care extended to us by Bruce and Nancy Sharp, Jack and Susie Stoughton, and Don and Nancy White.
Blessings, The Stewart Family

Administrative Office Hours



Laura Farmer's regular office hours are Wednesdays from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm, Thursdays from 9:30 am to 1:30 pm, and Fridays from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm. If you would like to contact her directly, please email office.suffolkpcusa@verizon.net.

Moved? New Phone Number? Not in the SPC Directory?

We're trying to make sure our newsletter and other SPC mailings get to the right address. And, we want to make sure we have the right information in our church directory.

So, if you have moved or have a new phone number, please contact **Laura Farmer**, Administrative Assistant, at office.suffolkpcusa@verizon.net or 539-3213.



Ten Ways We Can Welcome Our New Pastor

The long-awaited time has come when we will once again have a full-time installed pastor. We've enjoyed a variety of sermons from preachers and lay persons filling our pulpit in the nearly three years since the Rev. Rebecca Lesley left to become the pastor at Green Acres Presbyterian Church.

For two of those years, we enjoyed a sense of continuity in the leadership provided by the Rev. Libby Rollins, our intentional interim pastor who led us through a mission study to prepare us for transition and the pastor search process.

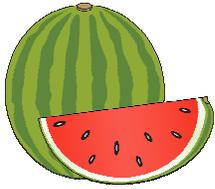
So, what's next as we experience this "changing of the guard"?

Although a new beginning can be exciting, it can also be a little scary - for each of us - to face the unknown. We're delighted that God has sent us someone to help us move ahead.



Your Pastor Nominating Committee, now serving as a transition committee, offers the following tips, compiled from various internet sites, on how to welcome our new pastor:

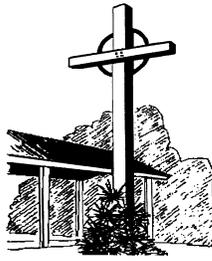
1. Open your heart and decide you are going to love her.
2. Pray for her daily. Prayer is the most powerful gift you can give.
3. Love and honor her family. This includes husband Eric and their "fur babies" - a dog and four cats. Let her have adequate time at home.
4. Tell her your name...again. And again. We have but two names to learn. She has many more.
5. Don't gossip about her. If you don't understand something, ask. Be a positive voice for the future. Stop gossip and rumors as soon as you hear them.
6. Speak encouragement. Say, "Pastor, I'm here to help." And mean it.
7. Let her set her pace. If she's not moving as quickly as you would like, wait and listen while she learns who we are.
8. Don't offer a million suggestions. Don't bombard her with ideas of what we need to do. Listen instead for a new perspective as we move ahead together.
9. Don't prejudge. Don't compare her to the last pastor (or any previous pastor).
10. Extend the honeymoon. If God has brought her here, God wants to use her here. Let God do as God intends.



May 2017

Suffolk Presbyterian Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<i>1</i> Aerobics AA	<i>2</i> Bridge	<i>3</i> Aerobics	<i>4</i> 7:15 PM Choir	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i> AA Bridge
<i>7</i> 9:45 AM Sunday School 11 AM Worship Holy Communion 12:15 PM Wel- come Reception 4: 30 PM Mission Garden Planting	<i>8</i> 7:30 PM Presby- terian Women Aerobics AA	<i>9</i> Pilot Club Bridge	<i>10</i> 6 PM Diaconate Mtg 7 PM Session Mtg Aerobics	<i>11</i> 7:15 PM Choir	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i> AA Bridge
<i>14</i> 9:45 AM Sunday School 11 AM Worship	<i>15</i> Aerobics AA	<i>16</i> Bridge	<i>17</i> Aerobics	<i>18</i> 7:15 PM Choir	<i>19</i>	<i>20</i> AA Bridge Newsletter DEADLINE
<i>21</i> 9:45 AM Sunday School 11 AM Outdoor Worship 12:15 PM End of Year Picnic	<i>22</i> Aerobics AA	<i>23</i> Bridge	<i>24</i> Aerobics	<i>25</i> 7:15 PM Choir	<i>26</i>	<i>27</i> AA Bridge
<i>28</i> 10 AM Worship	<i>29</i> Memorial Day Aerobics AA	<i>30</i> Bridge	<i>31</i> Aerobics			



Suffolk Presbyterian Church
410 North Broad Street
Suffolk, Virginia 23434



Visit our website!
suffolkpresbyterian.org

Suffolk Presbyterian Church

Reverend Julie Sterling
Pastor

Church Office:
757.539.3213

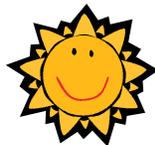
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office.suffolkpcusa@verizon.net
E-Mail:
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SUNDAY SCHOOL
9:45 AM
WORSHIP
11 AM

SUMMER WORSHIP
Beginning May 28 at 10 AM

Upcoming Events:

May 7—Reception to Welcome Rev. Sterling
May 7—Mission Garden Planting
May 8—Presbyterian Women
May 10—Diaconate Meeting
May 10—Session Meeting
May 21—End of Year Picnic



**Summer worship schedule begins
on May 28 at 10 am.**



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