



Scroll

SEPTEMBER 2017



From the Pastor

Rev. Julie Sterling

I love the changing of the seasons, especially the shift from summer to fall. There is something so fulfilling about starting a new year of ministry together. In Ecclesiastes 3:1 we are told “For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.” As a minister, this is a spirit filled moment. I wonder what the Lord has in store for us this year? What joys will we encounter together? How will we grow as a church? What lessons are God challenging us to learn as a family of faith?

This will be my first Fall season as part of the Suffolk Presbyterian community. I’m excited to experience the Everything’s 25 Cents Garage Sale this month. I know how much the community appreciates this outreach activity and it will be fun to be part of historical church ministry. What a wonderful opportunity to meet others from the Suffolk Community. I also can’t wait for Rally Day weekend. I often consider the Fall season as a call to worship, gathering the flock after a long summer of grazing. It will be nice to see everyone back together for worship!

In the changing of seasons, there is also the reminder of new things to come. One new worship item I would like to share involves our Food Pantry. We have decided to dedicate the first Sunday of the month as our food pantry offering. We will take a few moments before the Children’s Sermon to allow the kids to gather the food donations and bring them forward for a blessing. My hope is that this will allow the children of the church to feel more involved in the ministry of the church. I think it will also remind us of the importance of giving and how the Food Pantry is a living expression of our mission as a church.

I hope this new season brings blessings upon blessings for our congregation. I believe God has good things in store for us in the coming months. I can’t wait to experience them with you!

Rev. Julie Sterling

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

- ◆ Ron Sobel (Sept. 3)
- ◆ Betty Howard (Sept. 5)
- ◆ Fran Alwood (Sept. 6)
- ◆ Ron Ventura (Sept. 7)
- ◆ Joyce Jordan (Sept. 13)
- ◆ Michelle Elich (Sept. 22)
- ◆ Dick Hartman (Sept. 27)
- ◆ Christina Saunders (Sept. 27)
- ◆ Zach Super (Sept. 27)
- ◆ Allison VanPeeren (Sept. 28)



Please Pray for:

- ◆ John & Jeanne Banks
- ◆ Karen Byrum
- ◆ Taylor Dowtin
- ◆ Sabina Faszewski
- ◆ Lila Florance
- ◆ Blake McConnel
- ◆ Richard Messier
- ◆ Anna Miller
- ◆ Ellen Moon
- ◆ Barbara Bayley Shefelton
- ◆ Earlene Sprouse
- ◆ Mary Jane Willis
- ◆ Stella Zaja

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

The *Scroll* is published 12 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**

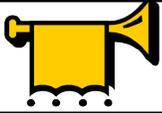
Editor: Laura Farmer,
Administrative Assistant

PRAY FOR OUR

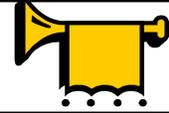
MILITARY

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

Thank you for your service!



News Briefs



This year's first meeting of **Presbyterian Women** is on Monday, September 11 at 7:30 p.m. The women will study "Cloud of Witnesses, The Community of Christian Hebrews" by Melissa Bane Sevier. Meetings are held in the church parlor on the second Monday each month September through May, and light refreshments are served after the Bible study. All women are invited to participate.



RALLY DAY **Sunday, September 10**
 9:00 a.m. Pancake Breakfast
 9:45 a.m. Multigenerational Event
 11:00 a.m. Worship

The **Books and Coffee** discussion group will begin a new study of "Mere Christianity" by C.S. Lewis on Sunday, September 10 at 6:30 p.m. In the church library. Join us for the discussion and a brown-bag supper. See **Jack Stoughton** to order a book.

Starting in September, the **food pantry** donations will be celebrated during Communion Sunday. The children will gather the food before the Children's Sermon, then the church will join in a blessing. Any canned items are welcome.



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.



Everything's 25¢ Yard Sale

Benefiting Foodbank of Southeastern Virginia
Friday Sept 8—Sorting Party/Potluck Dinner at 6 pm
Saturday, Sept. 9 from 8 am to 12 pm

Bring your closet treasures to the Betty Hahn Room.
For more information, contact **Jackie Meadors**.



Did You Know.....?

- (1) that the mission garden has outdone itself with over 330 lbs. of squash, zucchini, cucumbers, peppers and tomatoes? Thanks to **Eric and Rev. Julie** for helping with the harvest and to **Gary Williams** for getting the veggies to the Suffolk Christian Fellowship Center
- (2) that Suffolk PC can receive online giving/donations through its webpage (www.suffolkpcusa.org)? The "donate" link is located at the bottom of the page under "Resources". We use PayPal to handle the transactions. All major credit/debit cards are accepted. I'll be more than happy to answer any of your questions should you wish to use this service.
- (3) that the Fall Living Waters for the World plant sale will commence Sunday Sept. 17 with delivery of beautiful pansies and 'mums on Sat., Oct. 7? Look for more information in the coming weeks.
- (4) that **Laura Farmer**, our administrative assistant, has been with us for six years, this August?. Please make a point of stopping by and letting her know that you appreciate her and her talented service to our church.

Now you know!

Peace, *Jack Stoughton*



Back to school supplies donated by the Suffolk Presbyterian Church for the Suffolk Parks and Rec event. Thank you everyone for your generosity!

Church unites against hate

Published 9:37 pm Thursday, August 17, 2017

Suffolk Presbyterian Church on North Broad Street opened its doors Thursday evening in response to the violence and hate that besieged Charlottesville last weekend. The congregation extended an open invitation to all Suffolk citizens to join their service, regardless of background or denomination.

“There needs to be more nights like this, where we open our doors and invite our neighbors to join us, and share our feelings and our thoughts,” said Suffolk Presbyterian Church Pastor Rev. Julie Sterling. “I think it’s a good start.”

Hundreds of torch-carrying white nationalists marched through the University of Virginia campus on Friday. On Saturday, clashes between alt-right protestors and counterprotesters filled the city’s streets.

Heather Heyer, 32, died when a car drove into a group of counterprotesters. Virginia state troopers Berke M.M. Bates and Lt. H. Jay Cullen died in the crash of their helicopter, which was monitoring the rally.



Attendees at a service at Suffolk Presbyterian Church on Thursday evening grasp hands during prayer. The service was planned in response to the violence in Charlottesville last weekend.

More than two dozen arrived from different churches and locales in Suffolk, and some from Isle of Wight County. They sang “Amazing Grace” while they prayed for those who suffered.

Candles at the service were lit for both the guilty and the innocent. Sterling, however, made it clear she doesn’t support freedom of expression at the expense of hurting another person.

“We’ve seen young men and women who hate, and who are too young and lived too little a life to hate like they do,” she said to those at the service.

Attendees took turns with a microphone to share their thoughts about what happened. Some appealed for more communication to traverse any differences between people.

“I don’t think we listen at all anymore to each other,” Main Street United Methodist Pastor Myrtle Hatcher said.

(Continued on page 6)

About Flowers

We, as a congregation, are smaller than we once were, and it is natural that participation in the flower program of the church is less also. Many have been faithful to sign up on the flower chart, and hopefully you will continue to do so.

Johnson's has been very generous to make and deliver arrangements for Sunday worship at a cost of just \$40.00 each. The flowers add much to the loveliness of our sanctuary; and when the service is over, the flowers are yours to use as you see fit. You might share with the unwell, cheer up a friend, or enjoy in your own home.

I am encouraging those who have participated to please continue to do so, and I am encouraging those who have not participated to give it some thought. We need you. Silk arrangements every Sunday can become tiresome. Fresh is good. Fresh is better. We can have both.

Thank you for giving this consideration and thank you for being the lovely, caring people you are.

Janice

(Continued from page 5)

Suffolk resident James Somers held the microphone to talk about greeting citizens of different races with positive conversations.

"We're a diverse nation, and we need to be open and available," Somers said.

There was a resounding agreement that churches in Suffolk need to work together and act against any growing hatred and discrimination in their communities.

"We just need to support one another," said St. Andrew Presbyterian Church Pastor Leigh Gillis. "Denomination is not important."

Covenant Community Church Pastor Harold McPherson spoke about his father's scars. His father had marched in his own time and against the same kind of hate seen in Charlottesville. He had been beaten while protecting women who were marching alongside him.

McPherson said God is love and diversity was His design. This hate did not belong to Him.

"In the final analysis, we are going to discover that heaven is a very diverse place," McPherson said. "But there are no haters there."

A peace walk is planned this Saturday in support of Deandre Harris, a 20-year-old Suffolk native who was brutally beaten by white supremacists while protesting in Charlottesville.

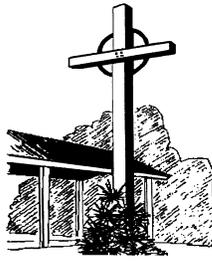
The "Justice for Dre Peace Rally" will start at 6 p.m. — a change from the previously announced time of 7 p.m., after consulting with the police department, according to organizer Imari Griffin — outside City Hall on West Washington Street. Marchers will walk down West Washington to Main Street, ending at Market Park by the Suffolk Seaboard Station Railroad Museum.



September 2017

Suffolk Presbyterian Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>
						AA
<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i>
10 AM Worship <i>Holy Communion</i>	Labor Day <i>Office Closed</i>			6 PM Prayer Group 7:15 PM Choir	6 PM Sorting Party	8 AM to 12 PM Yard Sale
	Aerobics AA	Bridge	Aerobics			AA
<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i>
9 AM Rally Day 11 AM Worship 6:30 PM Books & Coffee	7:30 PM Presbyterian Women		6:30 PM Diac- onate Meeting	6 PM Prayer Group 7:15 PM Choir		
	Aerobics AA	Pilot Club Bridge	Aerobics			AA
<i>17</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>23</i>
9:45 AM Sunday School 11 AM Worship			7 PM Session Meeting <i>Newsletter DEADLINE</i>	6 PM Prayer Group 7:15 PM Choir		
	Aerobics AA	Bridge	Aerobics			AA
<i>24</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>30</i>
9:45 AM Sunday School 11 AM Worship				6 PM Prayer Group 7:15 PM Choir		
	Aerobics AA	Bridge	Aerobics			AA



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

Office E-mail:
office.suffolkpcusa@verizon.net

E-Mail:
suffolkpcusa@verizon.net

SUMMER WORSHIP

10 AM

11 AM Worship Begins

September 10

Upcoming Events:

September 8—Yard Sale Sorting Party

September 9—Yard Sale

September 10—Rally Day

September 10—Books and Coffee

September 11—Presbyterian Women

September 13—Diaconate Meeting

September 20—Session Meeting



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