

Scroll

OCTOBER 2017



From the Pastor

Rev. Julie Sterling

My husband and I love to hike. Every few days we pack up the car with the dog and find a new place to wander. Lately we've been watching the trees, waiting for the changing of the colors. With great anticipation we are counting the days to our official fall experience in the tidewater.

With the changing of the seasons, we are also encountering a true first experience... hurricane season. This has been the first time we have ever lived so close to the shore and we are not quite sure what to expect. We are trying to be prepared just in case a storm hits our community. We have had several neighbors and friends give us advice in the matter. We have even started a hurricane emergency kit. I've found myself watching the Weather Channel off and on with a new sense of wonder.

As I listen to the stories of victims of Hurricane Harvey and Irma, I am amazed by personal strength of these people. To consider what they have been through is heartbreaking. Yet there is something so reassuring, so beautiful in the response by faithful people after the storms subside. Our own church members have given generously to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. With guidance of the Holy Spirit, we find our way

to stand strong in the midst of the destruction. No matter how strong the wind or how high the waters rise, God's love prevails.

The other night as I sat in my back yard, watching the clouds and rain roll in, the song "Til The Storm Passes By" filled my soul. This is a song my father sang many times in church and also at his brother's funeral. The words are simple and sweet. They express our worry and when the storms in our life surround us and our need for God's embrace:

*In the dark of the midnight have I oft hid my face,
While the storm howls above me, and there's no
hiding place.
'Mid the crash of the thunder, Precious Lord, hear
my cry,
Keep me safe till the storm passes by.
Till the storm passes over, till the thunder sounds
no more,
Till the clouds roll forever from the sky;
Hold me fast, let me stand in the hollow of Thy
hand,
Keep me safe till the storm passes by.*

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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

★ **HAPPY** ★
BIRTHDAY!

- ◆ Rob Saunders (Oct. 14)
- ◆ Julie Sterling (Oct. 18)
- ◆ Andrew Harrah (Oct. 23)
- ◆ Nancy King (Oct. 23)
- ◆ Amy King (Oct. 28)
- ◆ Jeff Super (Oct. 29)

Happy Anniversary

- ◆ Doc & Jerolene Crusenberry (Oct. 3)
- ◆ Rob & Mary Ann Saunders (Oct. 23)



Please Pray for:

- ◆ Fran Alwood
- ◆ Jeanne Banks
- ◆ John Banks
- ◆ Larry Coleman
- ◆ Lila Florance
- ◆ Blake McConnel
- ◆ Donna McKinney
- ◆ Richard Messier
- ◆ Anna Miller
- ◆ Barbara Bayley Shefelton
- ◆ Earlene Sprouse
- ◆ Richard (Dick) Stewart
- ◆ 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

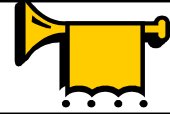
MILITARY

- ◆ 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



The next **Presbyterian Women** meeting is on Monday, October 9 at 7:30 pm.

Spotlight will profile members of SPC family

Have you ever wanted to know more about the people you worship with every week? Do you pass the peace with those who sit on the opposite side of the sanctuary but don't have time to chat?

To help us get to know one another better, the Scroll is adding a new feature - Spotlight, an occasional profile of members of our church family. We're starting off with some of our incoming officers, but throughout the year, we'll be showcasing others - newcomers and oldtimers, youngsters and those who have wisdom highlights in their hair, some of our better known characters and those who typically shy away from center stage.

See if you can figure out who is in the Spotlight this month. She's a third generation member of Suffolk Presbyterian Church and has been part of our church family all her life.

She carries on a long-distance love affair with her husband. Making time to see one another requires juggling schedules, lots of patience and a bit of traveling. When they married, they each doubled the number of their children.

Now, look for the Spotlight on another page in the Scroll to verify your answer!

— *Chauncey the Churchmouse*

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.



PEVA Presbyterian Women's 2017 Fall Gathering

Embracing Diversity in Today's World

Saturday, October 14, 9 am to 1:30 pm, Franklin Presbyterian Church

REGISTRATION DEADLINE (at FPC) no later than: Tues., Oct. 10, 2017

Brochures are available in the Narthex.

SPC Shirts available for order for \$20 on a collared polo men's shirt. Please fill out the form posted on the kiosk with your name and size. If you are unable to attend church, please email **Laura** with your name and size and you will be added to the order list.

Please make checks payable to Suffolk Presbyterian Church.

The shirts have an embroidery logo on the left chest side.



October 31st

6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Suffolk Presbyterian Church
410 N. Broad Street, Suffolk

Halloween is right around the corner! Join us for our annual **Trunk or Treat** on Tuesday, October 31st. Decorate your car trunk or the bed of your truck for Halloween. It can be as simple or elaborate as you want to do. Children from our church and the community will come to each vehicle to Trick or Treat! We have had approximately 350-400 participants in the past few years! It's safe and fun!

We would really appreciate wrapped candy donations! Often, candy with peanut butter is included in a variety package of candy, that's ok, but if you can avoid buying a full bag of peanut butter candy, that would be best. Some children have severe allergies to peanut butter.

If you can donate, there will be a box in the Narthex beginning Sunday, October 8 – Sunday, October 29th. Look for our hay ride and popcorn booth, too!

Join us for great fun!

The October Spotlight is on... Michelle Elich

Michelle Elich has been a deacon, a member of the recent Pastor Nominating Committee, a leader for Children's Church and a nursery volunteer.

She enjoys working with the children in church as well as the three she raised - Kelsey Hagwood, Caitlyn Kershner and Derek Kershner. Now, she also dotes on her first grandchild, Jayce Hagwood, and enjoys the company of her three grown stepchildren.

In September, when she was ordained as an elder, she stepped into a new role - working with children and adults as the Christian Formation Ministry Team Leader.

She met her husband, Paul, when he was working in Suffolk, though his current job keeps him in Oklahoma. He keeps an eye on job opportunities in South Hampton Roads in the hopes that we - and Michelle - could see him on a more regular basis.

Having trouble pronouncing their last name? It's "el' - itch."

Here are the answers Michelle provided to Chauncey's questions:



1. What brought you to SPC? I was raised in Suffolk Presbyterian Church. I attended Sunday School, Youth Group and Summer Camp as a kid.
2. Marital status/family: Married with 6 children (3 are stepchildren) and 1 grandson.
3. Pets? Three cats.
4. Fondest childhood memory: Going to the mountains with my sister and my parents.
5. First job/worst job/current job/dream job: My first job was part-time at Suffolk Insurance Co. during my senior year of high school. My worst job was working for a plumbing/electrical company. I currently work at Vitex Packaging Group as a customer service rep and have been with them for 28 years. My dream job has always been to become a nurse, but I'm too old for that now.
6. Favorite food: Steak. Favorite drink: Sweet tea.
7. Favorite movie: Pretty Woman. Favorite TV show: I have too many favorite TV shows to mention.
8. Favorite way to spend your free time: Relaxing with my husband when we get the chance.
9. Book you've read recently that you would recommend to others: I'm not a reader.
10. Ideal vacation: A cruise.
11. I can't resist: Chocolate.
12. Few people know that I...have a half-sister.
13. Most embarrassing moment: Running out of gas. I seem to cut it too close.
14. If you won the lottery, how would you use the money? I would give a lot of it to the church, pay off my bills and help those in need.
15. Best advice you've been given/by whom? The best advice I've been given is to trust the Lord and be patient/by multiple people.
16. What advice would you give to young people today? To find the Lord as their protector and savior. He is the one that will guide you through life.

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17. What have you done that you didn't believe you could do? Be in a long distance relationship/married. I have been in a long distance relationship/married for 6 years.
18. What's on your bucket list? Travel around the US via RV.
19. Have you ever experienced a miracle? Yes. In February 2016 I was in an horrific car accident where I was physically hit by a car. I flew up in the air but ended up on my feet and regained consciousness. I only suffered major bruising, no broken bones. I knew at that time The Lord was there watching over me and protecting me. I am very blessed and thankful to be here today.
20. What do you tell others is the best thing about SPC? The small church family feeling is what I tell others about SPC. I have had and continue to have so much love and support from everyone there.

PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING: BLESSED ARE THE PEACEMAKERS

The Peace & Global Witness Offering is received during the Season of Peace, which ends on World Communion Sunday. However, you can help sustain the important PC(USA) ministries and programs that are supported by this important Offering by making an online gift at any time throughout the year.

HOW IS MY GIFT USED?

A gift to the Peace & Global Witness Offering enables the church to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of injustice across the world. Individual congregations are encouraged to utilize up to 25% of this Offering to connect with the global witness of Christ's peace. Mid councils retain an additional 25% for ministries of peace and reconciliation. The remaining 50% is used by the Presbyterian Mission Agency to advocate for peace and justice in cultures of violence, including our own, through collaborative projects of education and Christian witness.

Your local or mid-council portion of the Peace & Global Witness Offering could be contributed toward to the Freedom Rising fund for African American males.

(Continued from page 1)

As people of faith, we can testify to how God's love has given us the courage to face the storms in our lives. I believe this blessing is also a call for us to share our faith and love with others. There are so many that struggle daily with the "rough winds" and "high tides" of life and are overlooked. How can we God's safe place to others until their storms subside? What can we do for others to help them find their place on solid ground?

The sad fact is that the world is in daily emergency assistance mode. For as long as one person suffers, we are called as faithful to respond in love. I encourage you to consider how our congregation can use our gifts and talents to be a safe place for our neighbors. What is God calling you to do when you witness the "high tides" and "strong winds" in others' lives? Remember, it is through your dedication and generosity that God's good work gets done. Through your love, God's love will shine through.

Blessings,

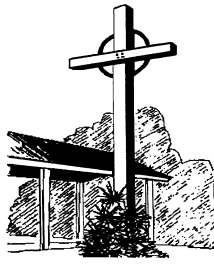
Rev. Julie Sterling



October 2017

Suffolk Presbyterian Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><i>1</i></p> <p>9:45 AM Sunday School 11 AM Worship <i>Holy Communion</i> 2 PM Blessing of the Animals 6:30 PM Books & Coffee</p>	<p><i>2</i></p> <p>Aerobics AA</p>	<p><i>3</i></p> <p>Bridge</p>	<p><i>4</i></p> <p>Aerobics</p>	<p><i>5</i></p> <p>6 PM Prayer Group 7:15 PM Choir</p>	<p><i>6</i></p>	<p><i>7</i></p> <p>12 to 3 PM Plant Sale Pickup</p> <p>AA</p>
<p><i>8</i></p> <p>9:45 AM Sunday School 11 AM Worship</p>	<p><i>9</i></p> <p>7:30 PM Presbyterian Women</p> <p>Aerobics AA</p>	<p><i>10</i></p> <p>Pilot Club Bridge</p>	<p><i>11</i></p> <p>7 PM Diaconate Meeting</p> <p>Aerobics</p>	<p><i>12</i></p> <p>6 PM Prayer Group 7:15 PM Choir</p>	<p><i>13</i></p>	<p><i>14</i></p> <p>9 AM to 1:30 PM PEVA PW Fall Gathering <i>Franklin Presbyterian Church</i></p> <p>AA</p>
<p><i>15</i></p> <p>9:45 AM Sunday School 11 AM Worship 2 PM Installation & Reception</p>	<p><i>16</i></p> <p>Aerobics AA</p>	<p><i>17</i></p> <p>Bridge</p>	<p><i>18</i></p> <p>Aerobics</p>	<p><i>19</i></p> <p>6 PM Prayer Group 7:15 PM Choir</p>	<p><i>20</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Newsletter DEADLINE</i></p>	<p><i>21</i></p> <p>AA</p>
<p><i>22</i></p> <p>9:45 AM Sunday School 11 AM Worship</p>	<p><i>23</i></p> <p>Aerobics AA</p>	<p><i>24</i></p> <p>1 to 5 PM PEVA Meeting <i>Second Presbyterian Church, Norfolk</i></p> <p>Bridge</p>	<p><i>25</i></p> <p>7 PM Session Meeting</p> <p>Aerobics</p>	<p><i>26</i></p> <p>6 PM Prayer Group 7:15 PM Choir</p>	<p><i>27</i></p>	<p><i>28</i></p> <p>AA</p>
<p><i>29</i></p> <p>9:45 AM Sunday School 11 AM Worship</p>	<p><i>30</i></p> <p>Aerobics AA</p>	<p><i>31</i></p> <p>6 to 8 PM Trunk or Treat</p> <p>Bridge</p>				



Suffolk Presbyterian Church
410 North Broad Street
Suffolk, Virginia 23434



Visit our website!
suffolkpresbyterian.org

Suffolk Presbyterian Church

**Reverend Julie Sterling
Pastor**

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SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:45 AM

WORSHIP

11 AM

Upcoming Events:

October 1—Blessing of the Animals
October 1—Books and Coffee
October 7—Plant Sale Pickup
October 9—Presbyterian Women
October 11—Diaconate Meeting
October 15—Installation & Reception
October 25—Session Meeting
October 31—Trunk or Treat



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