

The Bridge

JUNE 2018



From the Pastor

Rev. Julie Sterling

Who am I? I find myself asking that quite often. I'm a wife, a mother to my fur babies, an aunt, a daughter, and a friend. In my early twenties I felt the call to ministry and today I am also a minister. Still, every day I seem to wonder what more God has in store. What will be the continuation of my story?

Part of the struggle with identity involves finding places where you "fit in". I've always tried to be involved with my surrounding community. The programs, organizations, and clubs that were most meaningful were those where I felt purpose, personal growth, and kinship.

As Christians we can rejoice in the truth that "WE BELONG TO GOD!" No matter where we go, we know that God is with us and we are connected to a loving community of faith. This relationship is built on the gift of the Holy Spirit and endures when others fade. No matter what, you belong to God!

Over the past few weeks of worship we have shifted from the Good News of Easter to the celebration of Pentecost and unending power of

the Holy Trinity. We belong to God, who has lasted the test of time and a church that continues to produce the fruits of the spirit. In Romans 18:14-17 we are reminded of who we are and where we truly belong and people of faith:

"For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father." The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

Who are we? We are the fruits of this blessed gift of belonging.

This coming month marks a transition from our normal church schedule to summer. It also is a move from six months of Holy Seasons to the second half of our church year involving

(Continued on page 7)

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

- ◆ Rose Lyerly (Jun. 11)
- ◆ Mary Ann Saunders (Jun. 11)
- ◆ Al Nash (Jun. 17)
- ◆ Cody Meadors (Jun. 18)
- ◆ Jackie Meadors (Jun. 22)
- ◆ Alice Persons (Jun. 23)
- ◆ Betty Ann Campbell (Jun. 29)
- ◆ Shirley Sictor (Jun. 30)



- ◆ Dick Hartman & Dorothy Lorenz (Jun. 8)
- ◆ Faye & Ron Sobel (Jun. 26)
- ◆ Brooke & Rick Johnson (Jun. 27)

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



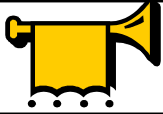
- ◆ **John & Jeanne Banks**
- ◆ **Josie Crosby**
- ◆ **Bill Dawson**
- ◆ **Janie Hogan**
- ◆ **Carolyn Lackey**
- ◆ **Blake McConnell**
- ◆ **Juanita Pond**
- ◆ **Ava Porter**
- ◆ **Barbara Bayley Shefelton**
- ◆ **Rick Sommers**
- ◆ **Toni Williams**
- ◆ **Mary Jane Willis**

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

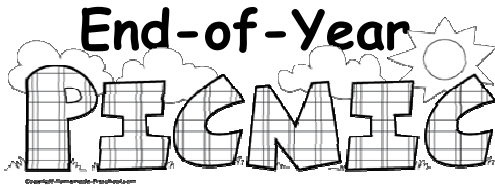
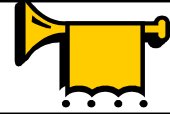
PRAY FOR OUR

MILITARY

Thank you for your service!



News Briefs



Sunday, June 3rd

11:00 am Worship Service (Inside)
12:15 pm Picnic

Join us on Sunday, June 3rd, for the SPC End-of-Year Picnic, celebrating the completion of another year of faith and learning together. **Nick Meadors** will be grilling hot dogs and hamburgers for a shared picnic, and church members are asked to bring a side dish or dessert. It should be a fun time for all.

Sunday, May 27th will be the last Sunday School class for the kids

Congratulations to Kelsey, Jarrett, and Jayce Hagwood on the birth of Hadley Nicole Hagwood, granddaughter of Michelle and Paul Elich.

Time Change For Sunday Morning Worship Service Summer Schedule: 10:00 a.m. Begins on Sunday, June 10

Please be aware that we will transition to our summer schedule for Sunday morning worship on **Sunday, June 10**. Throughout the summer, we will begin our Sunday morning worship at **10:00 a.m.**, and we will continue with the summer schedule until the Sunday following Labor Day.



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.



Come and Celebrate God's Mighty Acts - July 15, 2018

Edmarc Children's Hospice - 40th Anniversary and the Children's Center - 35th Anniversary

“The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches”

Matthew 13:31 (NIV)

Forty years ago, a mustard seed was planted in what proved to be a fertile field by the members of Suffolk Presbyterian Church. From an unmet need for nursing support in caring for their terminally ill son, two members, Allen and Joan Hogge, and their minister, the Reverend Ed Page, who also was terminally ill with a recurrence of a brain tumor, began an effort which by the end of that year led to the formation of the first hospice in the nation dedicated to the care of terminally and gravely ill children.

The story of the resulting growth from that mustard seed of an idea is one of those stories that can only be classified as one of *The Mighty Acts of God*. From tragic roots in the death of a young father and minister, Ed Page, at the age of 30 and the death of a young boy, Marcus Hogge, at the age of 7 1/2, God inspired the creation of Edmarc Hospice for Children, Inc. to care for the families of terminally and gravely ill children as well as those bereaved by a child's death. In addition, God's leading in the process of creating Edmarc inspired the creation in 1983 of another organization, The Children's Center, which offers care and intervention for at risk children in the western Tidewater area.

Today that single mustard seed has grown into not one, but two trees in the garden providing care and support to families throughout the Hampton Roads area. Currently, Edmarc is providing care and support to 70 families with gravely ill children as well as bereavement support to 50 additional families that have lost children. The Children's Center operates out of 8 centers in four cities in Western Tidewater. They have a professional staff of over 200 who serve over 1200 children annually.

On Sunday, July 15, 2018, we plan to celebrate the leading of God in the initial creation and continued prospering of these two agencies, the contributions of the volunteers and staff, past and present, and recognize the current care being provided by both. Save the date and plan to join us on that day to celebrate the working of God among us.

Update: Choir Director/Organist Search

The Personnel Committee of the church began a search for a part-time choir director/organist in late April as a result of the retirement of Dorothy Lorenz, our former choir director/organist. We have posted this position on our church website, Virginia Pilot Online, and The Tidewater Chapter Organist Guild. We have sent out letters to our local school system's music teachers and band directors informing them of the position and seeking their help. We are also in the process of contacting area colleges that may have music programs. We have also notified the Presbytery office of our need. Not only are we seeking an individual interested in the position, we are also seeking substitutes to play the organ and/or piano on a weekly basis until the position is filled.

As a result of our efforts to date, we have had two individuals inquire about the position. We scheduled interviews for these two individuals, but one withdrew their name prior to the interview. We did interview the other applicant and the committee felt the interview went well. Both parties have agreed to continue our conversation. The applicant did inform us that other churches have requested interviews.

The personnel committee did make a report regarding this matter at the May Session meeting. We ask the congregation for their continued prayers as we continue our efforts to fill this position.

Personnel Committee

Substitute Organist Schedule

Until we are able to find and hire a church choir director/organist, we will continue to try and find weekly substitute organists. Our congregation has been very appreciative of having a number people agree to work with our choir and provide music during the past five months. These individuals include Janice Thomas, Rose Lyerly, Sue Nichols, Jane Bleiler, and Terese Neblett.

Ben Traylor, Jr. has agreed to substitute for the first two Sundays in June. We are indeed blessed by these individuals who have agreed to help us during our time of transition.

June Substitute Schedule

June 3 Ben Traylor, Jr.

June 10 Ben Traylor, Jr.

June 17 Jane Bleiler

June 24 Terese Neblett



Congratulations Graduates!

On behalf of the church, the Deacons are honoring the following graduates on Sunday, June 3rd:

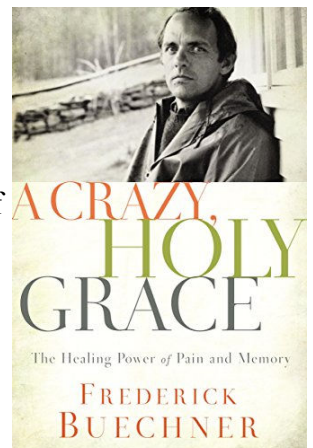
... **Austin Holland** is graduating on Saturday, June 9th from Lakeland High School in Suffolk. We are very proud of Austin for his accomplishment! He will be leaving on June 19th to go to Fort Benning, GA, where he will begin basic training for the United States Army. Austin is the son of **Pamela Holland** and the grandson of **Betty Howard**.

... **Caitlin Kershner** graduated a few weeks ago from Tidewater Community College with an Associates of Science Degree. We are very proud of Caitlin and her accomplishment! She will continue at Tidewater Community College this fall, taking two courses. She will then go to Old Dominion University in the spring. Caitlin is the daughter of **Michelle Elich**.

Congratulations, Austin and Caitlin! We are all very proud of you and send you our best wishes, as well as our prayers!

Grief and Good Stewardship Study

This summer our church Prayer Group will be reading the book [A Crazy, Holy Grace: The Healing Power of Pain and Memory](#) by Frederick Buechner. All are welcome to join us on Thursday nights at 6 pm to discuss how we turn grief into a gift for others. Print copies are available for \$10.99 through Cokesbury. Audio books and kindle versions are available as well. Please let me know if you would like us to order you a copy. Our group discussion will start on Thursday, June 21st. This book is part of a study that includes DVD clips and discussion material. You do not have to read the book to take part.



Cool the Kids Donations

In early May, one of the two compressors for the church's HVAC system at the north end of the building broke, leaving Apple Tree without air conditioning (AC). Fortunately, Suffolk Sheet Metal was able to diagnose the problem and temporarily make use of one AC compressor for the north end of the building. The FMT discussed options/costs proposals ranging from \$4,300 to \$12,000 and decided to go with the lowest cost option of \$4,300 to replace the compressor with a 1-year warranty.

The good news is the work will hopefully be finished before the dog days of summer set in. The bad news is that this unexpected, major project expense wipes out our planned major projects budget for this year. Our first priority project was to repair the driveway (crack sealing, sealcoating and striping). The driveway's deterioration will only worsen with time without the crack sealing.

We are therefore soliciting "angels" who would like to donate funds to offset this costly project. We are calling the project "Cool the Kids" since this AC unit serves the Apple Tree Day Care. Should you be led to do so, please make your check payable to SPC and add the project name to the memorandum line on your check or let one of the FMT members know. If you prefer anonymity, please let **Jack Stoughton** know.



(Continued from page 1)

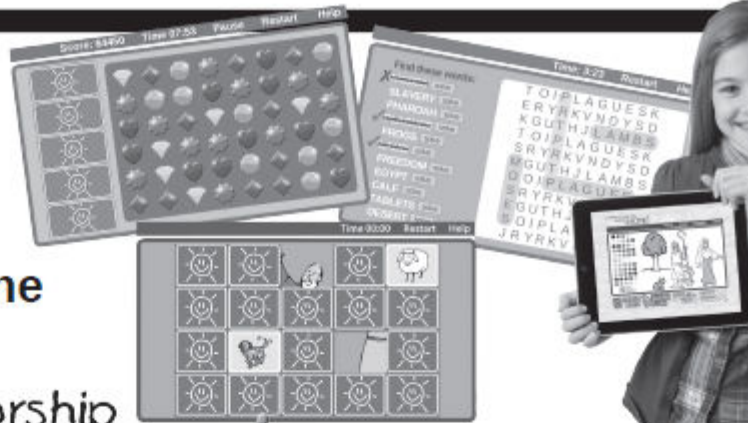
"ordinary time". So how do we keep the excitement of God present in our lives during the quieter moments of the year? How do we make belonging to God a priority during summer?

Brothers and sisters, the months ahead are a great opportunity to reflect and redefine who we are as Christians as well as a church family. The summer months are a blank canvas for new ideas fed by the Spirit. Also, remember the importance of Sabbath during your busy summer schedule. It is good to take a break from time to time to come back where you belong!

Blessings,
Rev. Julie Sterling

Your children's bulletin unlocks online fun at home.

Children's Worship Bulletins@HOME!



Dear Member,

We're excited to announce a **NEW** feature of *Children's Worship Bulletins* that will have children lining up to get their bulletin this Sunday! That's because they'll be looking forward to the secret code on the front of the bulletin that unlocks hours of fun learning at home.

This secret code is unique to our church and allows **SAFE** and secure access to online games that reinforce the message for the week. You can continue Bible learning and discussion at home — while protecting children from the hazards of general Internet game sites.

Several games are rotated — Memory Match, Word Search, Gems of the Bible and Coloring Book — so each week kids have something new to play. The games are geared toward all age levels, so everyone can join in the fun!

STEP 1:

Your children go to Games.ChildrensBulletins.com and enter their secret code.



SECRET CODE
JZZCDC



STEP 2: PLAY!



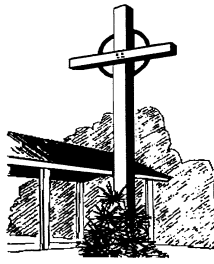
Safe and Secure.

Children's Worship Bulletins@Home takes advantage of the latest web security. No data is captured about players, and there's no need to download any game plugins to a computer that might be vulnerable to spyware. Children will never see an ad, so you can feel confident that they're having a safe playing experience.



June 2018
Suffolk Presbyterian Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><i>NewsLetter</i> DEADLine</p> <p><i>The deadline for the July edition of The Bridge is Wednesday, June 20.</i></p>					1	2 Bridge Women's AA
3 11 AM Worship 12:15 PM End – of-Year Picnic Holy Communion	4 Aerobics AA	5 Bridge	6 Aerobics TOPS	7 6 PM Prayer Group 7:15 PM Choir	8	9 Bridge Women's AA
10 10 AM Worship	11 Aerobics AA	12 Polling Place Pilot Club Bridge	13 5 PM LWW Team Meeting 7 PM Diaconate Meeting Aerobics TOPS	14 6 PM Prayer Group 7:15 PM Choir	15	16 Bridge Women's AA
17 10 AM Worship 11 AM Birthday Celebration	18 Aerobics AA	19 Bridge	20 7 PM Session Meeting Aerobics TOPS	21 6 PM Prayer Group 7:15 PM Choir	22	23 Bridge Women's AA
24 10 AM Worship	25 Aerobics AA	26 Bridge	27 Aerobics TOPS	28 6 PM Prayer Group 7:15 PM Choir	29	30 Bridge Women's AA



Suffolk Presbyterian Church
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Visit our website!
suffolkpresbyterian.org

Suffolk Presbyterian Church

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SUNDAY SCHOOL
Last day is May 27 at 9:45 am
WORSHIP
11 AM

SUMMER WORSHIP
Beginning June 10 at 10 AM

Upcoming Events:

June 13—Living Waters Team Meeting
June 13—Diaconate Meeting
June 20—Session Meeting
June 17—Monthly Birthday Celebration



**Summer worship schedule begins
on June 10 at 10 am.**



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