

The Bridge

AUGUST 2018



From the Pastor

Rev. Julie Sterling

I love hearing a good story. There is nothing better than curling up to a favorite book. As a child my mother spent hours reading to me. My imagination wandered as listened to nursery rhymes. It got to the point where I could recite them by heart. Story time became a special time for momma and me. It taught me to listen and dream. It also sparked my love for literature.

As I grew, my love for stories bloomed. Many evenings were spent reading poetry and classic literature. In my studies I realized the gift of storytelling in each and every one of us. Each book and poem was an invitation to search the author's hopes and dreams. Each page became a challenge to find my own voice to share.

A few summers ago when I went home to visit family, I was overjoyed to see that the joy of storytelling had been passed down to my niece and nephew. I spent hours listening to them. I heard about their joys, concerns, and hopes. It was nice to see them so willing to share their life with me. The best moment was when I stayed overnight at their house for a sleepover. I awoke that next morning with my nephew Jack peering through the door. After a few moments he ran in the room with a stack of books in his arms. Excitedly, he threw the books on the bed to share.

We are all story tellers. When we let others into our lives we are sharing our story. The other day I came across a confirmation video focused on the art of storytelling. The theme was simple: when we live out our faith in God, we are telling the story of our faith. The Bible itself is a story of God's love for God's children. In the beginning, scripture was

shared by word of mouth from generation to generation. Much of what has molded us as Christians has been formed from faith stories shared by family and friends.

Our faith story is a call to action. In Luke 12:32-40, we are encouraged to live our story for others to see. In verses 35 and 36 Jesus tells us: "Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks." God wants the Good News to be shared! The Bible is not simply a book of literature that you read and then put back on the shelf to collect dust. Our call is to live this good book for other to witness! As children of God, our story matters. It is a testimony of how we love God. Also, our story is told in more than words. In many instances, it is our actions that open hearts to Jesus. Think back to the people who have influenced your life. Was it words that they spoke that molded you or was it their actions or way of living that made the difference.

God gives us a voice for a reason. Each day we write a new chapter of our story. Jesus tells us in Luke 12: 32 & 34:

"Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

I can't wait to turn the page and see what God has in store for us next!

Blessings,
Rev. Julie Sterling

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!

- ◆ Nancy Sharp (Aug. 1)
- ◆ Quincey Zimmerman (Aug. 2)
- ◆ Brooke Johnson (Aug. 10)
- ◆ Caitlin Kershner (Aug. 13)
- ◆ Lou Ventura (Aug. 15)
- ◆ Betsy Butler (Aug. 23)
- ◆ Chris Irby (Aug. 26)
- ◆ Alexandria Meadors (Aug. 26)
- ◆ Susie Piland (Aug. 26)
- ◆ Nancy Bird (Aug. 29)
- ◆ Nancy Cisco (Aug. 30)
- ◆ Jervone Bowens (Aug. 31)

Happy Anniversary

- ◆ Jeff & Maryanne Persons (Aug. 15)
- ◆ Don & Nancy White (Aug. 15)
- ◆ Eric & Julie Sterling (Aug. 17)
- ◆ Beth & Mac Keever (Aug. 21)
- ◆ Alison & Jeff Super (Aug. 22)
- ◆ Jeanne & John Banks (Aug. 30)

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

The *Bridge* 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


Prayer Requests

- ◆ **John & Jeanne Banks**
- ◆ **Anne Bramlett**
- ◆ **Connie Cilley**
- ◆ **Bill Dawson**
- ◆ **Janie Hogan**
- ◆ **Carolyn Lackey**
- ◆ **Blake McConnell**
- ◆ **Juanita Pond**
- ◆ **Ava Porter**
- ◆ **Barbara Bayley Shefelton**
- ◆ **Rick Sommers**
- ◆ **The family of Cathy Quate**
- ◆ **Mary Jane Willis**

PRAY FOR OUR

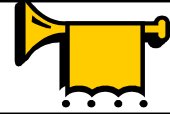
MILITARY

- ◆ **Austin Holland**
- ◆ **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



Save the Date

Living Waters of the World
BBQ & Dessert Auction Fundraiser
Sunday, September 23
5:30 PM

\$15 tickets on sale soon



Suffolk Presbyterian Church Welcomes Mr. Timothy D. Price New Music Director and Organist

Timothy D. Price, a native of Goldsboro, NC, has a vast musical background. He began studying piano at an early age with Anita Poland, then organ with Marshall Lewis. He is a graduate of East Carolina University with degrees in Sacred Music and Organ Performance. He studied organ with Janette Fishell, Colin Andrews, and Andrew Scanlon; piano with Henry Doskey and Keiko Sekino; harpsichord with John O'Brien; voice with Louise Toppin; and conducting with Daniel Bara and Al Sturgis. Timothy has traveled throughout New England playing our country's finest instruments in addition to the organs of many renowned cathedrals in Germany, France, Spain, and England. He has served as Director of the Music Ministry at Pine Forest United Methodist Church (Goldsboro) and First Baptist Church (Kinston), Principal Organist at The Memorial Baptist Church in Greenville, and as Director of Music at First Christian Church in Farmville, NC. Timothy is an experienced handbell ringer and has performed with The Raleigh Ringers. He recently completed a Master's Degree in Elementary Education at East Carolina University and teaches fourth grade at Hodges Manor Elementary School.

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.



“Buy a part, be a part” of clean water project in Guatemala

Installing a Living Waters for the World water purification system takes more than pumps and filters. We also need crayons, scissors, markers and a multitude of materials to teach people how to use the purified water and why they need it.

While your LWW team is ordering system parts from a Guatemalan vendor, we’re also busy amassing supplies to teach health and spiritual lessons when we return to Guatemala this fall.

One of the ways you can help provide clean water is to **“buy a part, be a part.”**

Please consider donating:

—A box of crayons for coloring pictures to help reinforce the need for clean water.

— Construction paper for colorful daisy chains for the celebration.

— Paints or foam brushes for handprint banners.

— Money to help pay for a \$340 instructional manual in Spanish and other expensive items that must be ordered.

The health and spiritual educators will use these materials and more in three days of classes. In early August, we’ll post a list of materials you can donate. Please see the specifications of what is needed.

In November, **Nancy Cisco, Skip Irby, Mary Ann Saunders, Rob Saunders, Jack Stoughton and Susie Stoughton** will facilitate the installation of a reverse osmosis softener (ROS) system at El Tule, a nutrition training center in northeastern Guatemala. The project - SPC’s fourth installation - will be Living Waters for the World’s first ROS system in Guatemala. LWW’s standard water purification system could not adequately treat the water, so **Rob and Jack** received additional training in April to learn about ROS installation.

On September 23, you will have more ways to **“be a part”** of this clean water project. Please join us for a fun night of celebration and fund-raising at a BBQ dinner and dessert auction when a special guest from Guatemala will make a virtual appearance.

Tickets at \$15 a plate will be available from team members.

For the dinner, you can volunteer to make yummy desserts, capture the highest bid on what you think is the yummiest, help serve food or be part of the clean-up detail. Watch for sign-up sheets or speak to a team member.

Mark your calendars now to **“be a part”** of the effort to provide “clean water for all God’s children.” Our new friends in Guatemala say, *“Gracias!”*

—*Susie Stoughton*



No Kid Hungry Summer Free Lunch Program

Morgan Memorial Library

12:30-1:30 Monday through Friday through August 24th

Summer Meals Programs Details: <https://va.nokidhungry.org>

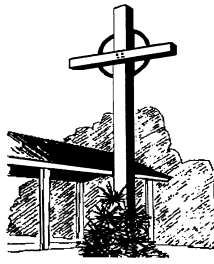
If you would like to volunteer for the No Kid Hungry program, stop by the Morgan Memorial Library during program hours or contact **Rev. Julie Sterling** for more details.



August 2018

Suffolk Presbyterian Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<i>1</i> Aerobics TOPS	<i>2</i> 6 PM Prayer Group 7:15 PM Choir	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i> Officer's Retreat Bridge Women's AA
<i>5</i> 10 AM Worship <i>Holy Communion</i>	<i>6</i> Aerobics AA	<i>7</i> Bridge	<i>8</i> Aerobics TOPS	<i>9</i> 6 PM Prayer Group 7:15 PM Choir	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i> Bridge Women's AA
<i>12</i> 10 AM Worship	<i>13</i> Aerobics AA	<i>14</i> Bridge Pilot Club	<i>15</i> Aerobics TOPS	<i>16</i> 6 PM Prayer Group 7:15 PM Choir	<i>17</i>	<i>18</i> Bridge Women's AA
<i>19</i> 10 AM Worship	<i>20</i> <i>NewsLetter DEADLINE</i> Aerobics AA	<i>21</i> Bridge	<i>22</i> 7 PM LWW Team Meeting Aerobics TOPS	<i>23</i> 6 PM Prayer Group 7:15 PM Choir	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i> Bridge Women's AA
<i>26</i> 10 AM Worship	<i>27</i> Aerobics AA	<i>28</i> Bridge	<i>29</i> Aerobics TOPS	<i>30</i> 6 PM Prayer Group 7:15 PM Choir	<i>31</i>	



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Visit our website!
suffolkpresbyterian.org

Suffolk Presbyterian Church

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Pastor

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SUMMER WORSHIP
10 AM

Upcoming Events:

August 4—Officer's Retreat
August 22—LWW Team Meeting

September 9—Rally Day
September 23—LWW BBQ Fundraiser



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