

AUGUST 2017

# The Suburban Connection

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## Vacation Bible School was AMAZING!



Rome is just a memory now, but the experiences will stay with us forever! Sharing a meal with friends. Hearing the gospel from Paul himself. Worshiping in a dark cave with the Christians in hiding. Celebrating with Brutus after he accepted Jesus as Lord and Savior. Working with the Roman shopkeepers, artisans and engineers. Playing games with that Cesar Salad guy. Singing, dancing, playing with grow powder and sticky disappearing puffs. So many wonderful memories! Thank you so much to all of our many and wonderful volunteers for creating an unforgettable week. If you missed it, make plans now to join us next year, July 9-13, 2018 in.....



### Save the Date!

#### AYM

**July 30-August 5th**

\*Mission trip to Joplin, MO – Pray for our youth and leaders as they serve

#### Bellamy Women

**August 1st**

\*Planning meeting for our fall event!

#### OCC

**August 12<sup>th</sup>**

\*Worthwhile Wrapping Event

#### AWANA

**August 27<sup>th</sup>**

\*AWANA Orientation Night for parents and kids! Meet at 5:00 pm in the fellowship hall.

#### Special Events

**August 27<sup>th</sup>**

\*During 10:00 service – Honoring Matt & Amanda Bruns  
\*Church picnic following 10:00 service

## From the Pastor's Desk: Christ on the Cross – Matthew 27: 32-56

For the last five weeks, we have looked closely at Christ on the cross and I don't know about you, but God has really opened my eyes to see the glory of Christ more clearly. In this month's article, I want to summarize each of those messages to help us love Him and trust Him more.

1. Christ is the answer to our shame and guilt. Because we are sinners, we experience shame (the inward reality of feeling humiliated because of what I have done) and guilt (a sense of remorse for my sinful life). Christ fully paid for our sin on the cross, covering our shame with His holiness and replacing our guilt with peace.
2. Christ was forsaken on the cross, fully experiencing the outer darkness of separation from God, the horrors of being abandoned by the Father so that we would never have to...so that we could be accepted by Him.
3. Christ on the cross reveals His heart for us by repeatedly praying, passionately praying, genuinely

praying "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." How beautiful and how attractive is the heart of Christ that as the nails are being pounded into His hands and feet, He prays for their forgiveness.

4. Jesus commits His spirit to the Father showing that no one takes His life, instead He freely lays it down. No power in the universe could take His life from Him if He did not choose to give it. Jesus, with all power and authority, decides when He will die. On the cross, Jesus is not a "victim," instead He is a willing sacrifice...what love is this!

5. Jesus' death on the cross tears the temple veil apart, signifying that the old way of approaching Him has come to an end. The temple and its sacrifices are no longer needed. The old way of drawing near is obsolete. Because of the sinless blood of Jesus, God says to us sinners, come on in, come as you are, all are welcome!

Praising God for the glory of the Cross,  
Pastor Todd

## Operation Christmas Child Corner



Thanks so much for all the coloring items that were donated in July. Our collection for August will be school supplies. Watch the stores for sales. Walmart has 1 subject, 70 page, and spiral notebooks for 25 cents right now and our three items for collection are:

**PENCILS, SHARPENERS AND SPIRAL NOTEBOOKS**

On August 12 from 9:00 am - 12:00 noon we'll be wrapping shoeboxes. Bring all your empty shoeboxes, a pair of scissors, and some scotch tape and join in the fun. There will be plenty of Christmas wrap and some snacks to enjoy. All ages are welcome.

We are also planning a workday on Sept. 23 beginning at 9:00 am. Bring your sewing machine. We'll make little dresses, shorts, small quilts, stuffed toys, beaded jewelry and have patterns for crocheted items, too. We have plenty of fabric and notions already at the church. If you'd like to take some home to work on before then, please call me. Thank you for all you're doing to further this ministry. If you have questions or ideas, call Lynn Cooke, 424-9869.

*"God used the shoebox to plant a seed at a time when I was looking for hope."  
~ Ted, former orphan in the Soviet Union*

## Children's Church

During the month of August, Suburban Kids will be in the Old Testament where God describes Himself as the Lord who heals. Ask your children the BIG PICTURE QUESTION: What did Jesus heal people from? Jesus healed people from sickness, sin and death. Jesus will return one day and eliminate sickness and suffering forever.

Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not all His benefits ~ Who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases. Psalm 103: 2-3



## Sunday School News

As people come and go over the summer we often have need of “extra hands” in our children’s classes. This summer some of our high school students are helping out. Anna Super and Baily Smiley (who assists her Mom each week) help to make learning the Bible fun! The children recently learned about God writing a message on the wall during a pagan banquet. Excitement was running high and the girls were able to help keep the children “on task” with their craft and story review. Tommy Council helped in the K-1<sup>st</sup> grade class, and Noah Hickling with the 3-year olds. The young boys really enjoy having young men with them. What great role models! Thanks to our teens for having servant hearts, and being willing to get up early on a Sunday morning to help out teachers.

## AWANA Clubs

SCC's AWANA program will be starting up again in September. AWANA is an excellent ministry for our children, from three years old through 6<sup>th</sup> grade to learn to memorize Scripture, learn teamwork, get a better understanding of applying Scripture to their lives and most of all have fun. We meet every Sunday evening from 5:00 to 7:00 pm. After a summer break, we will begin again Sunday, September 10, 2017, and will continue through May 20, 2018. Pre-registration will be held Sunday, August 27<sup>th</sup> at the Church from 5:00 – 6:00 pm. Children can be registered at any time after that as well. Registration is \$10.00 per child with a maximum of \$20.00 per family with two or more children. Uniforms are \$15.00 per child and handbooks are \$10.00 per book.

We are also looking for volunteer leaders to work in one of our four clubs (Puggles, Cubbies, Sparks, and Truth & Training – T&T). No experience required – WE TRAIN! Our initial training for leaders is planned for Thursday evening, August 17<sup>th</sup> in which both current and future leaders are welcome to come.

If anyone has questions concerning AWANA, please do not hesitate to contact Tim Jackson in person, by phone (757-374-2714), or by email: [toolman1956@gmail.com](mailto:toolman1956@gmail.com).



## CHURCH PICNIC – AUGUST 27<sup>TH</sup>

Please come join your church family and friends to celebrate our Sunday School graduation with a family-style picnic at the park! Directly following the Sunday service, August 27th, we will take over the park across the street from the church for fun, food, and fellowship! Meet and get to know your new teachers and classmates, enjoy a provided lunch of hamburgers, hotdogs, and drinks. Please bring your favorite picnic treat to share, games, and of course we will be having our famous cake walk! We look forward to ending the summer schedule with this sweet time as a church family!



## SCC Church Staff



Rev. C. Todd Haynes  
Senior Pastor



Rev. Matthew J. Bruns  
Youth Pastor



Rev. James A. Meads, Jr.  
Pastor Emeritus



### MISSION: WHY DO WE EXIST?

To glorify God, by making disciples of Jesus Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit.

### VISION: WHAT WILL THAT LOOK LIKE?

A growing faith in God  
A growing love for God  
A growing love for others

### ACTION: HOW WILL THIS HAPPEN?

Drawing near to God  
Pursuing community  
Reaching our world

Visit us on Facebook! Search for "Suburban Christian Church" on [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com)

We want to hear from you! Contact us at [newsletter@sccvb.org](mailto:newsletter@sccvb.org)

## Bellamy Women

During the month of July, we collected pajamas and under garments for the Union Mission Women's Shelter. We would like to thank everyone who donated and helped bless this ministry. What a blessing you are to the women who are going through difficult times. Thank you so much for your generosity.

FOOD PANTRY UPDATE: Thank you to everyone for extending the hands and heart of Jesus with your consistent help with our twice monthly food pantry. On any given month, we can serve anywhere from 15-20 families, giving out 20-25 full bags of food! Your weekly food donations are always extremely appreciated. Every donation is given out in a timely manner and is always accepted with heartfelt thanks. If you have any questions, would like to donate specific items, or help in any way, please contact Kathleen Staten at 757-630-6372.

SAVE THE DATE: Ladies you will not want to miss our next RELAXING LADIES EVENT on Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup>. More details to come!



## Seniors' Ministry



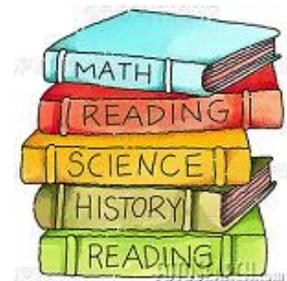
Our regular monthly meeting was held Thursday, July 20<sup>th</sup>. This was our annual patriotic 4<sup>th</sup> of July indoor picnic, and everyone had a great time. The next meeting will be at 11:00 am on Thursday, August 17<sup>th</sup>.

These programs are sponsored by the Seniors Ministry, but they are always open to people of all ages. Please plan to attend, and invite a friend or neighbor to come with you!

The Seniors Ministry needs you! We need new members, new energy and new ideas. Over the years, we have lost a number of our original members due to age, illness and death. Several of these people served on the ministry's steering committee. We are seeking new members, including some who would be willing to contribute their time and talents to the steering committee.

## Suburban Homeschooling Mothers Support Group

The homeschooling moms of SCC families gather from 6:30-8:30 pm each 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday nights of the school year to share ideas, inspiration, encouragement and prayer. Some nights we may have a topic of interest; other nights are for fellowship. We also plan holiday parties, field trips and other group ventures with our children throughout the year. Are you a homeschooler? We welcome you to join us! Please call the church office for more information.



There are many ways to encourage your children to write. But you may need some ideas to inspire you - and them!! Writing out the journal writing prompts at the beginning of the journal page can be a big help. For example: I'm happiest when..., My biggest fear is..., The three things I couldn't live without..., Describe what a tree looks like... Sometimes using photographs work well as a journal writing prompt. Images are good at triggering emotions or the



imagination. Just glue the picture at the top of the journal page and see where it takes your child. For example, if you had a picture of the "moon" ask your child to write about how the picture makes them feel and why..., Why do you think God created the moon..., or If you could take a trip to the moon, what would you take? Keeping a yearly journal will allow you to see how your child's writing improves as the year progresses.



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A VISIT TO ROME

