

THE SUBURBAN CONNECTION

5132 Bellamy Manor Drive, VA Beach, VA 23464 www.sccvb.org Phone: 757.495.0352

SAVE THE DATE

Food Pantry
March 3rd & 17th
12:30 – 2:00 pm

Men's Breakfast & Bible Study
March 7th & 21st
8:00 am
Fellowship Hall

Board Meeting
March 2nd
7:30 pm

Senior Ministry Meeting
March 19th
11:00 am
Fellowship Hall

Newsletter Submissions Due
March 20th

2026 Sanctuary Renovation



In 1986, the Lord blessed Suburban Christian Church with a new sanctuary under the leadership of Pastor James Meads. As we have tried to glorify God in everything we do at Suburban for 40 years, God has continued to be faithful. As with any ministry, our building started to show some wear and tear, and things needed to be addressed. This past year, a team was formed, under the leadership of Julian Swain and Karen Meads, to develop a plan to renovate the sanctuary. After the presentation of the plan and the approval of our church family, the renovation process began. Through prayer and dependency on the Lord, the contractors were chosen. Our contractors were very accommodating in helping us to be able to have our services in the Sanctuary during the entire renovation process. Not one service was affected. We can't forget our church family who help moved chairs and equipment to make all of this possible.

On Sunday, February 22, 2026, we praised God for his faithfulness by having a special service to dedicate our new sanctuary to Him. All the contractors and Renovation Team were acknowledged during the service followed by a celebration meal in the Fellowship Hall. We would like to thank everyone for bringing sides and desserts to share and Charlotte's team for putting everything together for us to enjoy.

It is our prayer that God will bless the Sanctuary to be a place where the Gospel of Christ is proclaimed in the power of the Holy Spirit . . . with the church being made more like Christ and the lost being converted to Christ.



From the Pastor's Desk: GOD IS FOR YOU

Life can become really hard. The sting of disappointment, betrayal, and loss can leave lasting pain. It is in these difficult days we sometimes question the goodness of God. We wonder, "Where is God, is he on my side?" Thankfully the Word of God provides clarity when these doubts arise. In Romans 8:28-39, Paul reassures us that no matter what comes our way, God is always on our side – He is forever for us! He says in Romans 8:31, "If God is for us (since God is for us), who can be against us?" No person or power in all creation can prevent God from accomplishing his good purpose in our lives.

From Romans 8:28-39, here are 4 reminders that GOD IS FOR YOU!

REMINDER #1: GOD WILL WORK ALL THINGS FOR OUR GOOD, AS HE WORKS TO CONFORM US INTO THE IMAGE OF HIS SON."

"And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified." Romans 8:28-30

Remind yourself that as God is lovingly conforming you into the image of his Son, he is also providentially taking every circumstance and using it to bring about this "good purpose." We can say with Joseph "You meant it for evil against me, but God meant it for good." (Genesis 50:20) Because our God is sovereign and infinitely wise, we can trust him to take every source of pain and use it for the good of making us more like Christ. **GOD IS FOR YOU!**

REMINDER #2: BECAUSE GOD DID NOT SPARE HIS SON THE CROSS, HE MOST CERTAINLY WILL NOT WITHHOLD FROM US THE GRACE PURCHASED WITH HIS BLOOD.

"What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?" Romans 8:31-32

Paul is reasoning from the greater to the lesser. His argument is: if God did not hold back sending his Son to be the sacrifice for or sin (THE GREATER) . . . then he will not hold back generously giving us the grace that his Son's sacrifice secured for us (THE LESSER).

The greatest reminder that God is for you is that he did not withhold his Son – but gave him up for our salvation. I cannot fathom this love. I cannot imagine giving my son for anyone. Unlike God allowing Abraham to spare his son, Isaac, he did not spare his son, Jesus. **GOD IS FOR YOU!** Every grace we need to be made more like Christ, God will generously and lavishly give to us. He already gave the "hard part" in giving his son – he now joyfully gives the grace his son purchased for us, the "easy part." **GOD IS FOR US!**

Next month we will see two more ways that God is for us.

Praise God He is for us,

Pastor Todd



Food Pantry Ministry

As we enter the month of March, we are privileged to share kindness and nourishment with our community. Without your thoughtfulness and caring we would be hard pressed to continue. Thank you for being the heart behind our mission! Your love and generosity make a real difference. Together, we can ensure everyone that comes by our pantry leaves with some food feeling cared for by our volunteers and loved by God. Please pray for us to touch hearts as we serve our community. 1 Corinthians 16:14: "Let all that you do be done in love." The Food Pantry team

Seniors Ministry

At our February meeting, the Schnurr family shared about their trip across the United States (from Virginia to California) this past fall. They traveled over 6,500 miles in their 2 cars and trailer with their dog, Deisel, and their 2 cats, Axl and Velvet.

I asked each of the Schnurr children about their favorite part of their trip. This is what they said:

Will – "I love history, so I really enjoyed the Alamo. That area is historically rich."

Nathaniel – "Riverwalk in San Antonio and the park in LaFayette, Louisiana"

Elijah – "LaFayette, Louisiana. We stayed at the LaFayette KOA."

Evelyn – "I loved the beach at Del Mar in California."

Elizabeth – "I liked Tombstone because I got a cap gun there."

Hannah – According to mom and dad, she ate, slept, and was carefree the entire time.



The highlights for Pete and Sarah included making memories with their family, being able to attend the "United States Marine Corp First Tank Battalion 250 Birthday Ball and Reunion" in California (Pete was still able to fit into his uniform 😊), and the Carriage Princess Ride (Sarah).

On **Thursday, March 19th**, Jeff Krentz will lead us in a fun game of Bible Bingo. Bar-b-que drumsticks with a salad bar will be provided for lunch. Please bring a side dish and dessert to share. ^{wh}

Adult Sunday School Class Update – Teacher: Ron Raymer

The Cornerstone Adult Sunday School taught by Ron Raymer, is currently studying the fundamentals of Christian Apologetics. Christian Apologetics is the field dedicated to explaining and defending the truths of the Christian faith, addressing both the reasons why believers hold their convictions and the questions or objections posed by skeptics. The term "apologetics" comes from the Greek word apologia, meaning a "defense" or "answer." This concept can be seen in [1 Peter 3:15](#): "But in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give a defense to everyone who asks you the reason for the hope that is in you..." The ultimate aim is to remove intellectual stumbling blocks and invite people into deeper understanding of the Christian faith. This study will use as references "I Don't Have Enough Faith To Be an Atheist" by Frank Turek and Norman Geisler as well as "Return of the God Hypothesis" by Dr. Steven Meyer.

***If you would like to join in the Adult Sunday School class via conference call, please call 612-746-7360. The conference code is 809549.**

Nursery Ministry

| Date | Sunday School | Worship Service | Worship Service Assistant |
|-----------|--------------------------------|--|---------------------------|
| 3/1/2026 | Melissa Tucker Betty Owens | Barbara Skarupa Samantha Haynes | Ella Litzenberger |
| 3/8/2026 | Melissa Tucker Betty Owens | Latoya Rakes Nancy Herbst | William Schnurr |
| 3/15/2026 | Melissa Tucker Stacey Super | Chris Bulaski Lika Pesio | Nathaniel Schnurr |
| 3/22/2026 | Melissa Tucker | Christine Rogers Laura Tyler | Emma Tyler |
| 3/29/2026 | Melissa Tucker | Rita Krentz Sharon Rogers- Roulhac | Samara Saucedo |



If you would like to be a part of this ministry to our church families, please contact Stacie Raymer (sraymer@odu.edu; 757-589-5731). We can always use substitutes. Please consider helping! Young teenagers are also welcome to volunteer.



Rev. C. Todd Haynes
Senior Pastor



MISSION: Our desire at Suburban Christian Church is to help you **KNOW, SERVE, AND SHARE** Jesus Christ,



Derrick J. Sloan
Associate/Next
Generation Pastor

Visit us on Facebook! Search for "Suburban Christian Church" on www.facebook.com
We want to hear from you! Contact us at office@sccvb.org

Sunday School Ministry

Our Sunday school classes have been busy in God's Word over the past few months. Here's a little update from each class.

Tina Williams and Chris Bulaski's class:

Our class has been learning about the life of Jesus from birth. The kids have really been enjoying it. We've also been putting into practice hand movements with their memory verses to help with memorization. We are going to begin presenting them with a certificate when they memorize their unit verse. This class has been a joy and blessing!

Robert Rameriz and Mary Justis's class:

Our class has been learning about the good news of the birth of Jesus and how this news was shared. We soon will start learning about how Jesus grew up and began his ministry and called His disciples to follow him.

Carol Brooks and Lou Miller's class:

Our kids LOVE decorating our classroom door during the year. They get really serious about the decorations for sure but always take the time to focus on true thoughts about the gifts that God has given them or a verse that applies. We've definitely had some interesting discussions, but we are always so impressed with how generous, kindhearted and honest our kids are. They may change when they get home but at church their parents would be proud. We've SLOWLY gotten away from the 3 standard answers God, Jesus & the Bible and started really taking the time to think about the correct answers when it comes to lessons learned in the Biblical events. It's so neat to see the lightbulb go off when they reread an event they heard about maybe last year or 2 years ago, but it has a whole different and almost "adult" application. It just hits deeper into who they are as people and young Christians. Our class has grown in number in the past few months, and we are LOVING the fact that we had to get more chairs to accommodate. We can't wait to see what God has in store for us in 2026.

Chris Mowery and Betty Langnecker's class:

Teaching the High School class is very enjoyable. Before we start the lesson, we always go around the table to get updates regarding schoolwork or family, and then prayer requests. It is a great privilege to hear what is happening in each of their lives and to pray for them.

As a Sunday School Superintendent, I am thrilled to be working with such a great team of teachers! They not only teach the Word each week, but they are also discipling our children. Please pray that teacher/student bonds will continue to grow. Also pray that the students connect with the Scripture and see how it applies to their lives personally. Laura Tyler

Have you been looking for a way to get connected at Suburban? Sunday School is a great opportunity to develop relationships with our church family and grow in your knowledge of Christ. Our Sunday School program is for all ages! The adult classes meet in the Fellowship Hall and all classes for school-aged youth meet in the Educational Wing. If you would like to get connected by joining one of these classes, please see Laura Tyler (for children). For adults, please see Pastor Todd or Pastor Derrick. They will be glad to introduce you to our adult Sunday School teachers. ^{wh}



Color Me:

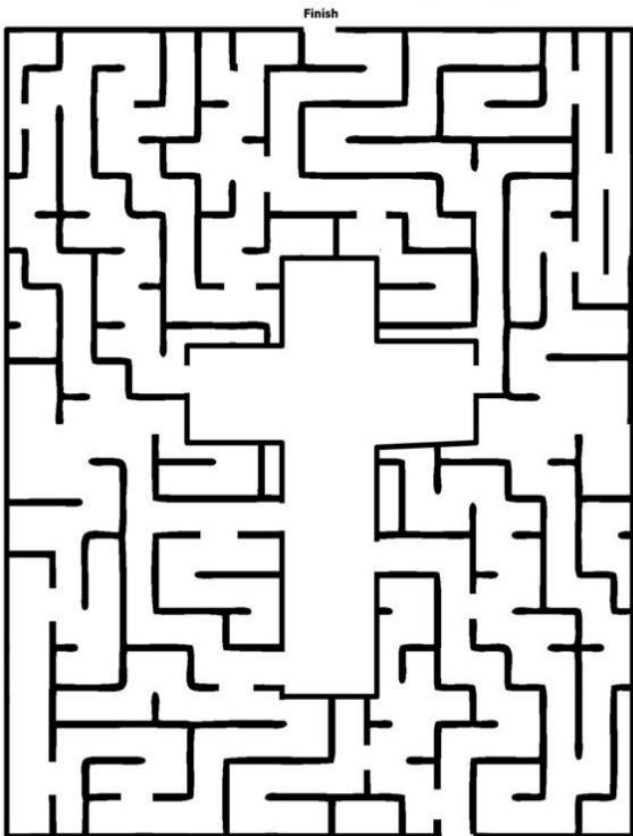


Just for ... **Suburban Kids**

Look up the verse and fill in the blanks: John 3:16

For _____ so _____ the _____ that he gave his only _____, that whoever _____ in him should not _____ but have _____.

Cross Maze Activity Page



New Testament Word Search

A G R A C E V P D X O Y A O Q
 C D N J L S O T I N D S P B Y
 R J E S U S M S P A U L O P J
 O A H F I O J P U P E U S E O
 S Y R L O K A I I Y R M T T H
 S G V F X I M R E X U A L E N
 C O G T M N E I A I A F E R T
 H S U I D G S T L A M B K C E
 R P J T O D S E R M O N I R M
 I E T U T O P Y I M A R K U P
 S L X S T M L U K E G N G N L
 T T K R O M A N S H E R O D E

- | | | | |
|---------|---------|-------|--------|
| Apostle | Grace | Lamb | Romans |
| Herod | James | Luke | Sermon |
| Christ | Jesus | Mark | Spirit |
| Cross | John | Paul | Temple |
| Gospel | Kingdom | Peter | Titus |

Ambassador Youth Ministry ~ Let's Talk About It: Marriage in Its Fourfold State¹

On June 26, 2015, a Supreme Court ruling swept over the United States, adding yet another tidal wave with rippling effects into the foundation of society itself. In a 5-4 decision, the Supreme Court ruled that the 14th amendment requires all states to recognize same-sex marriage. *Obergefell v. Hodges* contributed to a dramatic shift for the perception of the home within the U.S., specifically the covenant of marriage that is foundational to the home.

This redefining of marriage and family is nothing new, however. Prior to the legalization of same-sex marriage was the introduction of no-fault divorce by Ronald Reagan in 1969. By 2010, no fault-divorce became law in all 50 states. While many debate the ethics of no-fault divorce, what is not up for debate is its redefining impact of marriage within society. Convenience over covenant became the approved law of the land.¹

Fast forward to today and the redefining of marriage is still alive and well. Through the championing of transgenderism, it has become accepted to "marry" yourself. Ceremonies are held where bride and groom are the same person, who commit to themselves. And yes, if they want to divorce themselves, they can, with no-fault needed.

From same-sex couples marrying one another, to individuals marrying themselves, and everything in between, it begs the question, what can we really know about marriage? While society believes marriage is up for personal interpretation, Scripture gives it a fixed understanding and trajectory. And one of the best ways to see this, is to look at marriage through its metanarrative. So, let's talk about it.

Marriage in Creation

The location of marriage within the storyline of Scripture matters. Marriage is a part of creation, and all of creation was created by God as "very good" (Gen. 1:26). Two major truths are embedded in this reality. First, marriage itself is good. Marriage is a created relationship that God has given for human flourishing, which in turn reflects his goodness. Second, marriage is a *fixed* creational good. As the good Creator, God has both made marriage good *and* defined marriage. He is the Author of marriage. Therefore, marriage is not up for personal interpretation. The parameters of marriage are set and cannot be redefined.

Within the fixed creational good of marriage, we also see the design that God has given it. While much could be said of its design from Genesis 1-2, what is clear is that marriage is a relationship that is: covenantal, procreative, heterosexual, monogamous, non-incestuous, complementary, and forms a new family unit. Why is it important that we see this design from Scripture? Because this is the "good" design that God has established for marriage, a design that is fixed by the One who created it.

From the creation account of Genesis 1-2, marriage can be summarized as a lifelong covenant between one man and one woman that is ordered towards procreation. This good relationship is the foundation of the family unit, that promotes human flourishing and the glory of God. Anything outside of this design deviates from the creational order, producing destructive results. With the entrance of sin into the world, destructive results are exactly what spring forth.

Marriage in the Fall

Where there is sin, there is distortion. This certainly is true with all things in creation, including marriage. From its very entrance into the created order sin wreaked havoc on marriage. Adam failed to lead Eve and Eve's desires became contrary to her husband, Adam (Gen. 3:8-12, 17). The untainted unity they once knew gave way to relational conflict. The curse of sin however did not remain isolated in the garden but spread its embers to all of humanity.

The positional context for mankind is a direct connection to Adam. As those who are born in Adam, we possess a sin nature (Rom. 5:12, 6:6). Because of this, our natural bent is towards sin. So, what does this mean for marriage? Two points will suffice here. First, though sin's entrance into the world has affected all things, including marriage, marriage itself is still good. Jesus upheld the good of marriage in the post-fall context (Matt. 19:5-6). Second, now that humanity is born in sin, marriage takes place between sinners. This does not mean that individuals cannot experience the good of marriage, we certainly can. It does mean however that all marriages will face the effects of sin. Sin not only affects us individually, but also relationally.

¹ Title drawn from Thomas Boston's Work, *Human Nature in Its Fourfold State*.

² It is reported that Reagan would later call his introduction of no-fault divorce as his "greatest regret."

"Marriage" continued . . .

Sin is the reason we see such a deviation from the good design of marriage in the world. It is the reason individuals of the same sex partake in "marriage," and why others validate this unbiblical relationship. Yet sin is not simply a problem for those of the world. Sin is a problem for those in Christ as well. Sin is the reason our marriages can be filled with anger, bitterness, strife, and brokenness. This is bad news. But there is more to the story. While all marriages are situated in the context of a fallen world, redemption has come to this fallen world.

Marriage in Redemption

Every Christmas season one of the most popular hymns that is sung in churches or played on the radio is "Joy to the World" by Isaac Watts. Maybe you are humming it now. What is interesting however, is how often one of the verses is skipped over. It reads, "No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground; he comes to make his blessings flow, *far as the curse is found.*" Christ has redeemed us through his perfect life, death, and resurrection, so that now we have eternal life in him (Eph. 1:7-14). The redeeming work of Christ on our behalf however has ongoing effects. Now that he has secured our life, he transforms our life. Sin has tainted every part of us, but the work of Christ reaches as far as the curse is found.

So, what does this mean for marriage? It means that the greatest hope for any marriage is Christ's work of redemption. Sin has brought distortion into marriage, but Christ brings restoration in marriage. Even though every marriage has been affected by the fall, there is true hope of relational unity, growth, and beauty through Christ. He alone is able to mend brokenness through sanctifying husband and wife to become more like himself (Rom. 6:22). This certainly does not imply that difficulty will not arise, after all, we are still sinners in a fallen world. It does signify however that the impact of the gospel is multidimensional. The gospel saves and sanctifies.

As husband and wife are sanctified more by the power of the gospel through Christ's redemption, a glorious picture from their relationship is put front and center. That is, Christ and his bride, the church. In a profound way, the gospel purifies the marriage relationship, so that the relationship reflects the gospel (Eph. 5:22-33). In other words, Christ mightily works in the marriages of his people, so that their marriage will point beyond itself to something greater.

Marriage in Glorification

When the fullness of time in this present age has reached its terminus, Christ will return. Judgment will come, sin and death will be no more, and the world as we know it will give way to the new heavens and the new earth. In this transition however, a celebration will take place, a marriage ceremony will resound throughout the earth. At his return, the Lord will draw his people to himself. We are his bride and he is the bridegroom. On that day no longer will anything separate Christ and his church. Instead, we will enjoy the glory of this marriage, forever in the presence of the Lamb (Rev. 21).

While many attempt to distort marriage, their best efforts are in vain. Marriage is fixed by its Creator who preserves its beauty through his redeeming power. In the end, every earthly marriage will cease and give way to what it has been made to point to all along. Christ will come for his Bride and until that day, may we make every effort in our marriages to reflect the gospel.

If you have a question that you would like to have answered in "Let's Talk About It," email pastor Derrick at derricksloan@sccvb.org.



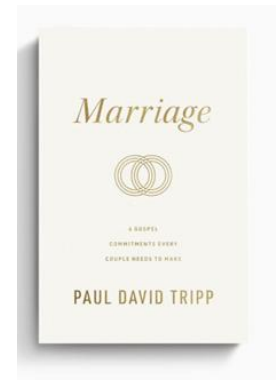
What's happening in March:

*AYM will be attending an Apologetics conference (March 13 - 14) in Downingtown, Pennsylvania. Pastor Derrick, Pastor Todd, and Sarah Schnurr will be the chaperones on the trip. Please pray for the entire group as they attend and for traveling safety.

*On Wednesday evenings at 6:00 pm in the youth room, AYM is studying the book of Nehemiah. All teenagers are welcome to attend.

College & Young Adults

Attention all College & Young Adults! Building relationships with one another is such an important part of being part of a church family. How about considering joining the College & Young Adults! They have started a new study titled **Marriage: 6 Gospel Commitments Every Couple Needs to Make** by Paul David Tripp. If you would like to find out more information, please see Derrick Sloan.



Music Ministry: The Magic, Mystery and Ministry of Music

In this three-part series we will explore the enigmatic qualities of music in the church, starting with the magic. Since the earliest days when human kind walked the earth, music has been part of the culture and communication between people. Once humans mastered transmission of thought, desire for action and an expectation of response, the way was clear for music to be the means for that communication. Everything ranging from simple tonal patterns to more complex rhythms were used to communicate.

Once spoken language could be set to music, every part of human culture could be described and easily recorded through generations, passed down through repetition. But an understanding of a culture is only one way music was used. Rhythmic chants, drum beats and horns were often used in battle to communicate messages across the battlefields only the participants of one side would understand. It was also easy to make up stories to encourage listeners, promote harder work or simply to entertain around an evening fire. Even now, we enjoy music of all kinds, ballads, chanties, and operas tell stories.

The magic of music is that **everyone** can use it. Everyone can understand it. No words are needed, yet profound emotion can be evoked with lilting melodies, chromatic discord and swelling key changes. Then add words and it becomes as powerful as any weapon formed by man. In fact, in God's hands, it becomes the ultimate instrument to penetrate hard hearts and heal broken hearts. Music is magical, because it can do what simple spoken words often cannot. Are we not amazed at the working of God's plan in providing music to His children?

Karen Meads

LOOKING AHEAD



Palm Sunday – Cantata – MARCH 29 Plan to invite friends and neighbors to join you at church for this year's Easter cantata presented by the music ministry.

Resurrection Sunday – APRIL 5. No service in the entire year is as exciting as this Sunday. Make plans now to attend!



*Oh come, let us sing to the **LORD**;
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!
Psalm 95:1*

Belong Women's Ministry

Come with us to the *Belong Café* (Suburban's Fellowship Hall) on Saturday, April 25, 2026, for our *Fruit of the Spirit* event. While attending you will experience uniquely decorated tables, delectable appetizers, scrumptious entrees, and savory desserts. Lunch will be provided. Please sign up in the foyer by the church office to save your spot. Mothers and daughters are encouraged to attend.

If you and a friend would like to sign up to decorate one of the "fruit" tables. Please sign up in the foyer by the church office as well. You will be given a list of things to include at your table. Please see Carol Brooks or Wendy Haynes if you have any questions.

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. Galatians 5:22-23



Operation Christmas Child

The new year is progressing rapidly! Our shoebox collection for 2025 touched over 800 children with the love of God. Thanks to all who prayed, filled boxes or donated items and money to help make this ministry a success.

For this year, 2026, our monthly workdays will commence on the 3rd Monday of April, April 20, at 1:00 pm in the children's ministry room. We will be planning what items will be needed and making some things to help fill the shoeboxes. Some supplies that will be needed are: printed pillowcases, for example, colors, patterns, flowers, etc, flannel fabric, and pony beads.

Our monthly collections will begin in May with the basics. May will be washcloths, toothbrushes and combs.

Each month, we'll have 3 suggestions to help with filling as many shoebox gifts as possible. You can also fill your own box at home or donate other fillers than those suggested. Feel free to call or text me with any questions. 757-339-2174.

I look forward to working with you this year again. See you soon. Lynn Cooke

Children's Church Ministry

In our last lesson, we learned that The Snake Crusher was crushed for us. Jesus died on the cross to save US from our sins. Our last two lessons in the Gospels will show that Jesus rose from the dead – just like the Old Testament said he would and that The King of heaven and earth calls his followers to make disciples of all nations.

“The Gospels are obviously about Jesus – who he was, what he did, and what he taught – but we shouldn't think the rest of the New Testament is about something else. If the Gospels are about what Jesus “began to do and teach,” then the Acts of the Apostles are about what Jesus continued to do and teach (Acts 1:1). The book of Acts is sometimes called a history of the early church. That's true, but it's also a history of what God was doing by the Spirit to proclaim the Word around the world.

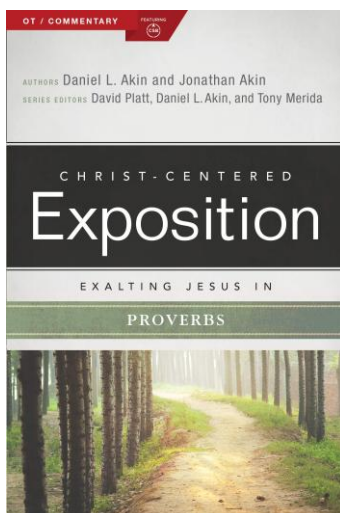
Most of the books in the New Testament are letters, or what are sometimes called epistles. Most of the letters are from the apostle Paul, but there is also one from James, two from Peter, and three from John. These letters are addressed to specific churches, groups of churches, or church leaders, and they explain what the gospel is, how Christians should live, and how the church should be organized. Because of the Spirit's inspiration, these letters, along with Acts, are every bit as much about Jesus and from Jesus as the sermons and miracles in the Gospels.”

thebiggeststory.com

As we begin the book of Acts, the children will see that the Spirit was poured out so people might hear the gospel and be saved (Acts 2) and that the powerful name of Jesus is able to save those who believe (Acts 3).

March Children's Church Schedule

| Date | Leader | Assistant | Helper |
|-----------|---|----------------|-----------------|
| 3/1/2026 | Mary Justis | | Samara Saucedo |
| 3/8/2026 | Jan Grills | Leigh Simms | Liam Cooke |
| 3/15/2026 | Sammy Saucedo | Andrew Saucedo | Donovan Saucedo |
| 3/22/2026 | Susan Haynes | Jeff Haynes | |
| 3/29/2026 | NO CHILDREN'S CHURCH – 5TH SUNDAY | | |



Men's Ministry

Beginning in March, the men's ministry will begin a journey in the study of Proverbs using the book titled, Christ-Centered Exposition: Exalting Jesus in Proverbs by Daniel L. Akin and Jonathan Akin, a father-son team.

This series of books affirms that the Bible is a Christ-centered book, containing a unified story of redemptive history of which Jesus is the hero.

Please join the men on the first and third Saturdays of each month to enjoy fellowship with one another centered around God's Word. Breakfast is always served. Invite a friend to attend.

AWANA Ministry

Suburban
Kids

In February, the Awana organization published their 2025 Impact Report. This report highlights the global number of clubs existing on each continent and also captures the number of children who are taught the Gospel. When you think about the Awana program in general, you may not be aware of its history or the extent of its reach. They are celebrating 75 years as a ministry and have clubs in 140 countries across 6 continents! That is as East to West as you can get!

We are so blessed to have had the opportunity to offer this program to our community for so many years. Although I wasn't attending Suburban when Trek & Journey were part of our program, I've heard the wonderful stories of how many children attended club from the littles to the teens and the crazy adventures they had. I've been a part of the Awana program for almost 8 yrs now and while I've seen our numbers fall ever since 2020-2021, we still managed to make an impact on our clubbers. We've seen 2 brothers, who do not attend Suburban, accept Christ and be baptized over this past summer. We've seen kids who really didn't participate in reading Scripture become genuinely interested in looking up Scripture and correctly applying it to their daily life. Although the parents are ultimately the ones who are cultivating these acts of worship and devotion, it's so different when they are in a peer setting. They see the other kids answering questions, looking up verses and participating and they want to do the same.

This year our club consists of all Suburban kids, and we would love for our group to grow. We encourage all of our clubbers to invite friends to attend. It really does feel like a family. We love all of our kids & love spending time with them. With God's help we will be able to continue to form those bonds that will hopefully continue as they grow older.

Here are some of the numbers from the report that I found to be powerful:

- Awana Club kids study & read their Bibles at home 46% more often than most kids
- 86% of children at Awana say they learn how the Bible applies to everyday life
- This is Awana's 75th anniversary & have reached a milestone of ministering to 10 million children globally
- In the Pacific Rim of Asia (China, Japan, Australia & Indonesia) there are 11,263 clubs serving 542,505 children
- The Caribbean alone has 2,449 club & 101,400 children attending

Sincerely,

Carol Brooks



What's coming up in March:

March 1 - Sports Night; represent your favorite team!!

March 8 - Shamrock Night

March 15 - Wacky Hat Night

March 22 - Mismatch Shoes & Sock Night

March 29 - Easter Bible Scavenger Night

