

# THE SUBURBAN CONNECTION

5132 Bellamy Manor Drive, VA Beach, VA 23464 [www.sccvb.org](http://www.sccvb.org) Phone: 757.495.0352

## SAVE THE DATE

Food Pantry  
September 1<sup>st</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>  
12:30 – 2:00 pm

Men's Breakfast & Bible Study  
September 5<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>  
8:00 am  
Fellowship Hall

College & Young Adults  
September 13<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>  
Time: TBA

Seniors Ministry Meeting  
September 17<sup>th</sup>  
11:00 am  
Fellowship Hall

OCC Workday  
September 21<sup>st</sup>  
1:00 pm  
Suburban Kids Room

Nov. Newsletter Submissions Due  
September 22<sup>nd</sup>



**\*Lord, I pray that my children would understand their need for Jesus and rejoice in the good news of the Gospel.** *Blessed be the Lord, who daily bears us up; God is our salvation. Our God is a God of salvation, and to GOD, the Lord, belong deliverances from death ([Psalms 68:19-20](#)).*

**\*Lord, I pray that my children will love learning; that their hearts would seek to understand the world you have created.** *The heart of him who has understanding seeks knowledge, but the mouths of fools feed on folly ([Proverbs 15:14](#)).*

**\*I pray that as they learn about your world, they would behold the majesty of your glory.** *The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork. Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge. ([Psalm 19:1](#))*

**\*Lord, I pray that you would surround them with friends who make wise choices and encourage their faith.** *Whoever walks with the wise becomes wise, but the companion of fools will suffer harm ([Proverbs 13:20](#)).*

**\*I pray that their teachers would be wise and gentle.** *The tongue of the wise commends knowledge, but the mouths of fools pour out folly. A gentle tongue is a tree of life, but perverseness in it breaks the spirit ([Proverbs 15:2,4](#)).*

**\*Lord, I pray that they would work with diligence and put forth their best efforts.** *The soul of the sluggard craves and gets nothing, while the soul of the diligent is richly supplied ([Proverbs 13:4](#)).*

"Prayers" continued inside . . .



# From the Pastor's Desk ~ The Responsibilities of Deacons

---

In last month's article, we examined the qualifications of deacons... what the Bible has to say about the character of the deacon. Now we will see what the Scriptures teach concerning the responsibilities of deacons - what they do.

## **\*Spotting and meeting practical needs.**

In Acts 6, the early church is confronted with a difficult situation. There are widows being neglected in the daily distribution of food. To address the issue, the Apostles instruct the congregation to choose seven godly men to be responsible for meeting this need. Based on this Acts 6 model, throughout church history, deacons have focused on meeting the tangible needs of the local church.

1. Deacons are able to spot practical needs and take the initiative to meet them.
2. Deacons are drawn to problems; they walk toward them not around them.
3. The best deacons do not just react to present needs; they anticipate the future ones.

## **\*Promoting and protecting the unity of the Church.**

The seven were not merely deployed to solve a food problem. Yes, the distribution of food was the occasion, but the deeper issue was a sudden threat to the unity of the newborn church. A natural fault line had developed between the Greek speaking Jews (Hellenists) and the Hebrews. The original deacons were doing much more than food distribution; they were mobilized to guard and protect the unity of the church. A deacon cannot be a turfy, small-minded person who is protective of "their territory." They must be individuals who care about the whole church while addressing needs in a specific area.

1. Deacons should be shock-absorbers: those who muffle shockwaves, not reverberate them.
2. Deacons have a vision for the overall well-being of the church not just their territory.
3. Deacons are peacemakers, eager to maintain the unity of the church.

## **Enable the elders to focus on the ministry of the Word.**

It is not an accident that Paul, after first addressing pastors in I Timothy 3:1-7, immediately turns his attention to deacons in I Timothy 3: 8-13. The structure of the text suggests that the elders and deacons are working together as a team. The elders shepherding, preaching, providing oversight and the deacons, supporting them and the ministry of the Word as they meet the physical needs of the church.

Notice what Luke records in Acts 6:7, after the church appoints deacons, "And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith." With the deacons taking care of the tangible needs within the church family, the apostles were able to focus on the ministry of the Word and prayer. Teamwork!

1. A church without biblically functioning deacons will eventually lose focus and be distracted from its central mission of making disciples.
2. A church without deacons may demonstrate signs of health for a season, but over time its health will suffer.
3. Deacons are team players . . . knowing that as they joyfully accomplish their responsibilities, they enable the elders to joyfully focus on the Word and prayer.

Please continue to join us in prayer as we ask God to guide us through this transition toward elders and deacons at Suburban.

In Christ,

*Pastor Todd*

## Food Pantry Ministry

As we welcome the fall season, we wish you and your family a healthy, happy September filled with warmth, gratitude, and community. Alarm clocks are ringing as sleepy heads awaken. Buses are beginning their routes full of kids headed back into the classroom. Days become cooler. Hopefully!

A heartfelt thank you to all our volunteers who faithfully sort donations, stock shelves, and greet our guests with kindness. Your dedication helps create a welcoming environment for everyone who visits the pantry. There are a few food-filled themes celebrated in September, National Peanut Month, National Fruits and Veggie Month and Whole Grains month. All of these go along with the abundant harvest that will soon begin. These observances are great reminders of the importance of nutritious foods in helping families thrive. Your kindness and support help ensure that no neighbor has to face hunger alone. Please keep our food pantry and our volunteers in your prayers. Amie Mitchell



## Operation Christmas Child



Our August workday was a great success!

We had a lot of volunteers and packed many shoeboxes! We ran out of toothbrushes!

The collection suggestions for September are **toothbrushes, boy toys and Lego kits.**

Each month we ask for things that we have run short of to help fill the boxes to capacity. Anything you donate gets placed in a shoebox with much care and prayer.

Every child who receives a box also receives the Gospel message. We only have about 11 weeks left before the boxes get shipped out. Thank you for helping! Lynn Cooke

# Pack a Shoebox!

National Collection Week

**Nov. 16–23, 2026**

[SamaritansPurse.org/OCC](https://SamaritansPurse.org/OCC)



## Nursery Ministry

| Date      | Sunday School                  | Worship Service                     | Worship Service Assistant |
|-----------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 9/6/2026  | Melissa Tucker<br>Betty Owens  | Christine Rogers<br>Barbara Skarupa | Elena Tyler               |
| 9/13/2026 | Melissa Tucker<br>Betty Owens  | Maureen Field<br>Nancy Herbst       | Samara Saucedo            |
| 9/20/2026 | Melissa Tucker<br>Stacey Super | Chris Bulaski<br>Debbie Kiyasu      | Emma Tyler                |
| 9/27/2026 | Melissa Tucker                 | Samantha Haynes<br>Laura Tyler      | Liam Cooke                |



Thank you to our new volunteers! We always welcome new individuals to care for our little ones. If you would like to be a part of this ministry to our church families, please contact Stacie Raymer ([sraymer@odu.edu](mailto:sraymer@odu.edu); 757-589-5731). We can always use substitutes. Young teenagers are also welcome to volunteer.



**Rev. C. Todd Haynes**  
Senior Pastor



**Derrick J. Sloan**  
Associate/Next  
Generation Pastor

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

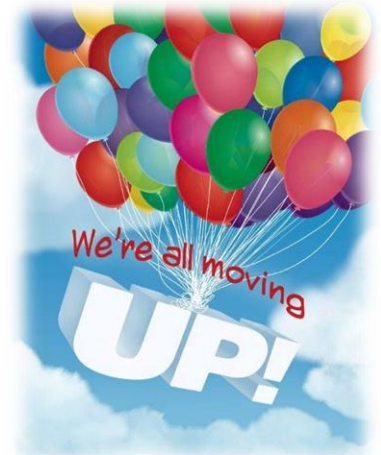
Visit us on Facebook! Search for  
"Suburban Christian Church" on [www.facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com)  
We want to hear from you! Contact us at [office@sccvb.org](mailto:office@sccvb.org)

## Sunday School Ministry

Promotion Sunday will be held on Sept 13th. Our teachers for this year will be:

|                  |               |              |
|------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Tina Williams    | Chris Bulaski | Mary Justis  |
| Robert Rameriz   | Carol Brooks  | Chris Mowery |
| Betty Langnecker |               |              |

Please pray for our children and teachers to have a great start to the new Sunday school year! Laura Tyler



## Men's Breakfast & Bible Study ~ Current study: Proverbs



Come join us on the first and third Saturdays (**September 5<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 am**) for our men's breakfast and Bible study in the Fellowship Hall. Pastor Derrick will be teaching ~ The Way of the Fool (Proverbs 18:1-9) on Saturday, September 5<sup>th</sup>.

The following weeks of study will involve unlocking the difficult Proverbs: The Sovereignty of God, "Train Up a Child" (Is this a promise?), Does Proverbs Contradict Itself?, and The Proverbs Code: What do all these numbers mean? (Proverbs 30).



## Handbell Choir

Beginning **Sunday, September 6<sup>th</sup>, at 5:30 pm**, the Handbell Choir rehearsals will resume in the Suburban Kids room. If you would like to join the Handbell Choir or have any questions, please see Lynn Cooke.



Color Me:



Just for ...

# Suburban Kids

Look up the verse and fill in the blanks for The Beatitudes:

Matthew 5: 3-10

Blessed are the \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who \_\_\_\_\_, for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the \_\_\_\_\_, for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are those who \_\_\_\_\_ and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. Blessed are the \_\_\_\_\_ for they shall receive mercy.

Blessed are the \_\_\_\_\_ in heart, for they shall see God. Blessed are the \_\_\_\_\_, for they shall be called sons of God. Blessed are those who are \_\_\_\_\_ for righteousness sake, for theirs is the \_\_\_\_\_ of heaven.



### September Word Search

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| S | E | P | T | I | M | B | R | R | O | L |
| L | A | B | O | R | D | A | Y | D | L | A |
| Q | U | S | E | P | T | E | M | B | E | R |
| U | T | A | U | T | A | C | O | R | A | Y |
| E | U | P | D | Z | R | Q | F | I | V | G |
| F | M | P | W | U | V | S | E | P | E | H |
| A | N | X | E | H | A | R | V | E | S | T |
| L | H | T | A | P | P | L | E | S | N | O |
| L | A | M | I | L | A | C | O | R | N | S |



September

Labor Day

Fall

Autumn

Leaves

Harvest

Acorns

Apples



## **~Ambassador Youth Ministry ~**

### **Let's Talk About It: How Do We Handle the Evidence (Part 2)**

Two months ago, as I am sure you recall, the topic of discussion I addressed was relational conflict. Specifically, how do we handle the evidence? When we are genuinely wronged by another person, what do we do with the wrong? Because we still wrestle with our sin this side of eternity, our knee-jerk reaction can quite often be selfish. We want to get even and retaliate. We want to store up what was done against us as ammo to be used at a later time. We want to deny forgiveness because we believe they do not deserve it. When we are wronged, our hearts want to respond in sin. But God's grace is greater. Rather than leaving us to our ways, the Lord is operative in our lives, leading us in the right direction. And the primary way he does this is through his Word.

Last time we asked the question, is the evidence really evidence? In other words, is what occurred an actual wrong done to us or did something simply take place in a way that we do not prefer? Was the action sinful or did we just not get what we want? That is an important distinction to make. And as we saw, we can only make that distinction by the standard of God's Word.

If what took place was an actual wrong, the question that followed was where do we store the evidence? Before we present the evidence of the wrong to the offender, we need to get our hearts in the right place. If we store the evidence in our hearts, bitterness will grow. But if we give the wrong to the Lord and fully trust it in his hands, then we can find rest knowing the situation is in his control. With our hearts set on the Lord, we then can begin to move forward towards the goal of reconciliation. Which means the next step is to present the evidence. So then, how do we do that? Let's talk about it.

#### **How Do We Present the Evidence?**

There is much we could say about how we are to present the evidence, as Scripture has much to say about it. So, with the limited space we have, let us turn our focus on what Scripture says about our hearts in this situation. James 4:1–2 is helpful here. It says, "What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask."

For a moment, consider the person that committed the wrong against you. What led to them acting in this way? Things in the past? Difficulties from other relationships? Their demanding job? True, life can be hard. But their circumstances did not bring about their sinful response, their heart did. The sin they committed is their own, flowing from a heart that wars with various "passions." Controversy, quarrels, fighting, all breed from sinful hearts. But why is it important to make this observation? Because just as their heart turned to sin and wronged you, so can your heart do the same.

Bringing evidence before the one who has wronged us is a minefield riddled with temptations. Think about it. What happens when the person rejects the clear evidence and says you are wrong? What happens when they try to put the blame on you? What happens when they act like it is no big deal? You will be tempted to aggressively fight back, become quarrelsome, and really let them have it. Remember, when you bring this evidence of wrong to the other, they are not the only sinner in the room.

"Evidence" continued . . .

James 4 shows us that our hearts can be ready to go to war and do wrong, just like the person who sinned against us. This is important to know because before we get into the conversation, we need a clear biblical perspective of the situation. Two sinners are coming together with controversy in the mix. And while we cannot control the other person, if we do not see the context with biblical clarity, we will approach it with blinders on and more easily fall into the pit of sin.

So, when you present the evidence, here is how you do it. Knowing the situation from God's Word, you must also rely on God's Word to be your guide during the conversation. Ephesians 4:32 is helpful here. It says, "Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you." Simplified even more, we can say that the way to present the truth that honors the Lord is to do it with kindness, compassion, and forgiveness.

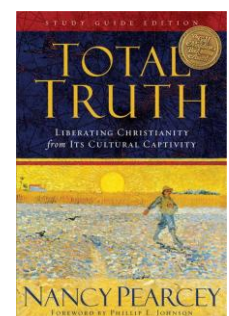
Christ has extended his kindness to us. So now, in love for that individual, we present the truth of their wrong. Lovingkindness does not hide the truth but tells the truth. For when the truth of the wrong is put forward, then the process of reconciliation can begin. Just as Christ has extended his kindness to us, so has he also looked upon us with his compassion. Despite the numerous wrongs we have done against him, Christ is patient with us. So now, as we present the truth of the wrong in love, we do so with compassion. This conflict may take time, but because of Christ, we are able to be patient with them and extend to them grace. Finally, we also present the evidence with forgiveness. We cannot fathom the depth of our sin against our holy God, and yet all of it has been forgiven through Christ. So now, no matter the wrong, we present the truth to that individual with a heart of forgiveness.

Right now, there might be a relational conflict that is weighing you down. You feel stuck and simply do not know which way to turn. And in this time of confusion, the conflict just continues to run through your mind nonstop. Or maybe there is conflict that took place in the past and things have not been the same since. There is tension, there is awkwardness, the relationship is not the way it is supposed to be ever since that conflict occurred. Like a barrier on train tracks, relational conflict brings things to a halt. Sure, time may go on, but progress in the relationship does not. If things are going to move forward, the barrier must be removed; the wrong that has been done needs to be presented.

Christian, will you work towards removing that barrier? Will you strive towards reconciliation? You do not have to do this alone. God is with you, God has given you his Word to guide you, and he has given you brothers and sisters to walk alongside you. The journey will be difficult, but God will sustain you at every moment.

If you have a question that you would like to have answered in "Let's Talk About It," email pastor Derrick at [derrickloan@sccvb.org](mailto:derrickloan@sccvb.org).

**Join AYM on Wednesdays  
at 6:00 pm for their study on  
*Total Truth* by Nancy Pearcey.**





TO



It's time for us to start back into the world of teal, blue, red & green .... Awana colors! We will hold our registration night on September 20th from 4p-5p and then have our first full night on the following Sunday, September 27th. Our club hours will remain the same this year from 4p till 5:15p each Sunday.

**We are in need of a Puggles Leader!!!** They are the youngest of our clubbers and learn about all the wonderful things God has made. There is a craft or coloring activity with each topic each week, but the difficulty level is up to you and the ability of your kids. Snack time is also highly encouraged. We will more than likely have around 2 to 3 children in this group this club year so there will be an assistant for this group as well.

\* If you are interested in this volunteer opportunity, please let me know as soon as possible!!!! My number is 757-620-7822.

We will have pictures of the first night in future newsletters! Carol Brooks



## Children's Church Update

In August we learned that Jesus called each one of his disciples, that huge crowds followed Jesus, and that Jesus' teaching changes our hearts for good. During the month of September, we will begin our study through the Beatitudes found in Matthew 5: Blessed are the poor in spirit, those who mourn, the meek, and those who hunger and thirst after righteousness. Each one of the beatitudes emphasize the values of God's kingdom and the attitudes that characterize true followers of Christ.

Mrs. Karen Meads wants our children to be involved in our Christmas cantata this year. She will be taking about 10 minutes of children's church to work with our children beginning the first Sunday of September. We can't wait to see what they will be doing during the Christmas cantata in December.

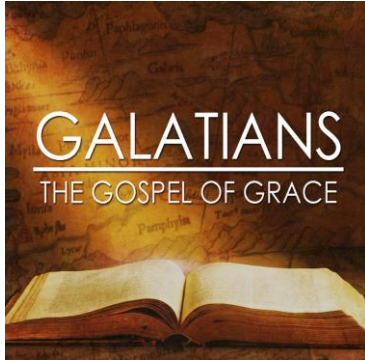
We would like to take a moment and thank our Children's Church workers for their faithfulness to our Suburban Kids Ministry. Their dedication and the time they spend studying for the lessons is deeply appreciated. **THANK YOU!** wh

## September Children's Church Schedule

| Date    | Leader        | Assistant      | Helper          |
|---------|---------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 9/6/26  | Mary Justis   | Leigh Simms    | Samara Saucedo  |
| 9/13/26 | Rita Krentz   | Jeff Krentz    | Liam Cooke      |
| 9/20/26 | Sammy Saucedo | Andrew Saucedo | Donovan Saucedo |
| 9/27/26 | Susan Haynes  | Jeff Haynes    |                 |



## Adult Sunday School Classes



### The Discovery Class Taught by Bill Cofer

### Fellowship Hall A (Kitchen Side)

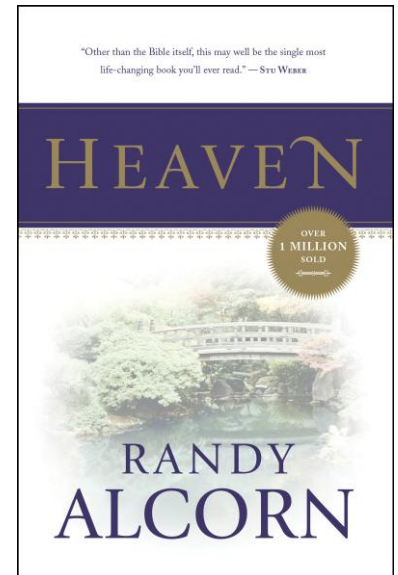
We invite you to discover a place to grow in faith, deepen your relationship with God and connect with others on our journey of following Jesus. Bring your Bible and join us for teaching, discussion, and fellowship as we humbly learn to follow Him more closely and love Him more truly as we study the book of Galatians.

### The Cornerstone Class Taught by Ron Raymer

### Fellowship Hall B (Sanctuary Side)

Have you ever wondered what Heaven is really going to be like? What will we look like? What will we do every day? As the years pass and we watch more and more of our family, friends and mentors pass away, it is only natural to ask questions about heaven. However, our understanding of heaven is often limited to a few half-forgotten Sunday school lessons and the insubstantial images provided by popular movies and T.V.

The Cornerstone class delves into the scriptural evidence of Heaven based on a study of Randy Alcorn's book "Heaven" into which he poured over 25 years of research. Join us to learn what the Bible says about the place Christians will call home for the rest of eternity.



## Men's Ministry ~ Workday, September 19th



Calling men of all ages . . . after the Men's Breakfast on **Saturday, September 19<sup>th</sup>**, there are a couple of projects that need tackling on our church property: putting pine straw in the flower beds surrounding the church and spreading gravel in the low places in the front gravel parking lot. Bring your rakes, shovels, and wheelbarrows to help! If you have any questions, please see Joe Gewerth and Brian Super.



"Prayers" continued . . .

**\*I pray that they would be thoughtful with their words and respectful in their replies.** *The heart of the righteous ponders how to answer, but the mouth of the wicked pours out evil things* ([Proverbs 15:28](#)).

**\*I pray that you would free them from the pressure of trying to be like everyone else by instilling in them the confidence to know that they are uniquely made by you.** *I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well* ([Psalms 139:14](#)).



**\*I pray that they would receive correction well.** *The ear that listens to life-giving reproof will dwell among the wise. Whoever ignores instruction despises himself, but he who listens to reproof gains intelligence* ([Proverbs 15:31-32](#)).

**\*I pray that they would share their faith with others.** *They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom and tell of your power, to make known to the children of man your mighty deeds, and the glorious splendor of your kingdom* ([Psalm 145: 11-12](#)).

**\*I pray that when they do what is wrong, they would bear consequences that lead them to repentance. I pray that when they do what is right, you would bless their obedience that they may learn to love your ways.** *The backslider in heart will be filled with the fruit of his ways, and a good man will be filled with the fruit of his way* ([Proverbs 14:14](#)).

**\*I pray that your Word would be on their hearts and in their minds as they learn.** *Whoever gives thought to the word will discover good, and blessed is he who trusts in the LORD* ([Proverbs 16:20](#)).

**\*I pray that they would be kind to others.** *Whoever pursues righteousness and kindness will find life, righteousness, and honor.* ([Proverbs 21:21](#))

**\*I pray that you would give them the grace of self-control.** *A man without self-control is like a city broken into and left without walls* ([Proverbs 25:28](#)).

**\*Lord, I pray that your grace would rest upon my children.** *Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us, and establish the work of our hands upon us; yes, establish the work of our hands!* ([Psalms 90:17](#))

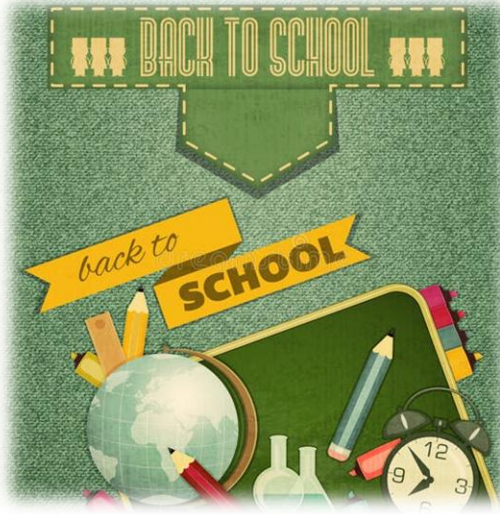
**\*I pray that you would protect them from all evil.** *I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come? My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth. The LORD will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life* ([Psalm 121:1-2,7](#)).

**\*More than anything else, may their lives glorify you.** *I give thanks to you, O Lord my God, with my whole heart, and I will glorify your name forever* ([Psalm 86:12](#)).

***O Lord, hear our prayers! Amen.***



## Seniors Ministry

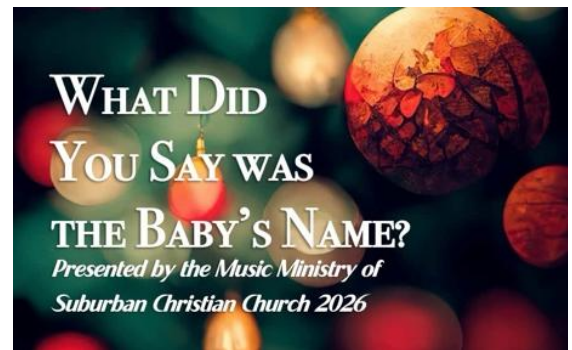


The theme of our September meeting will be “**Back to School Daze**” and we need everyone's help. Please go into your old photos and find a picture of yourself when you were in school; elementary, junior, or high school will work. We need the pictures by September 13 so they can be part of our slide show game. We'll have lots of nostalgic fun guessing who's who, trivia, and music from the 1950s, 60s, and 70s. And there will be prizes! Just put your picture in an envelope and give it to Larry Thomas or Cliff Simms.

What's being served for lunch? Lasagna, salad, and garlic bread. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share.

## Music Ministry

Christmas is coming and the choir is already working on music. After a much-needed break in August, rehearsals have resumed. Tuesdays 11am and 7pm are the two times available for you to join us. This year, the Cantata will include children. Children of all ages may participate but they should be able to learn and retain their music and participate in rehearsals with good behavior.



The Bell Choir still has openings for several new ringers. They too, are starting to work on exciting Christmas music. Rehearsals begin September 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. Reach out to Lynne Cooke if interested.

All ages, singers or ringers, the music ministry has a seat for YOU! ~Karen Meads



## Belong Women's Ministry

Our Belong Women's Ministry began a fall Bible study titled, *Becoming a Woman of Excellence* by Cynthia Heald. This study will continue through the second week of October.

What's coming up after that? You are not going to want to miss our December event! The Women of the Christmas Story will be our emphasis for the day, and we have a great time of food and fellowship planned. Mark your calendars **NOW** for **Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup>!** wh