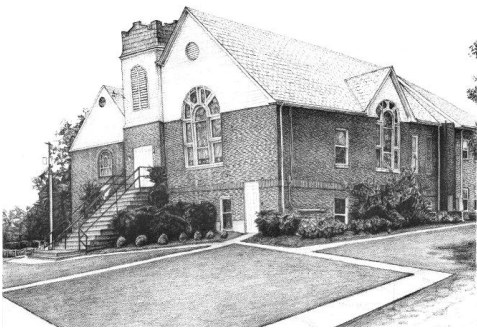


SYCAMORE HIGHLIGHTS



SYCAMORE BAPTIST CHURCH
31120 Sycamore Church Road
Franklin, VA 23851 | (757) 562-6749

Pastor	Deacon of the Month
Rev. Tracey Pugh	Joey Francis
Vol. XIX, No. 6	June 2025

LIVING THE RESURRECTION WRAP-UP

Dear Church Family,

As we conclude our *Living the Resurrection* series, I want to pause and reflect on our incredible journey together—from the joy of Easter morning to the fire of Pentecost in a week or so.

When we began on Easter Sunday, we stood beside the empty tomb in awe. The stone had been rolled away, not just from a grave but from everything that keeps us bound—sin, despair, fear, and death itself. But what we quickly discovered is that resurrection is not a one-time event. It’s not just a historical moment. It’s a way of life.

- That truth has guided us week by week.
- We explored what it means to seek Christ, not just in the grand moments, but in the everyday.
 - We looked at the closing words of Colossians and saw how resurrection life takes root in community—in prayer, encouragement, wise action, and our words and work.
 - We joined the disciples on the road to Emmaus and realized that Jesus walks with us, even when we don’t recognize Him.
 - We were reminded that the risen Christ gathers us into community, as in Acts 2, where early believers shared life, faith, and daily bread.
 - We saw healing at the temple gate—proof that resurrection power doesn’t stay in the sanctuary but moves outward into the streets, through us.
 - We were challenged to press on, like Paul, not clinging to the past but living forward, striving to know Christ more fully and sharing in His life.
 - This week, we will discuss the early church in Acts 6, where even growing pains became Spirit-filled opportunities for calling, service, and unity. The Spirit raises and sends, just as He always has.
 - We will end on Pentecost Sunday exploring resurrection power as sent through the fire of the Spirit.

Week by week, the Word reminded us that resurrection is not just a belief but a calling. It invites us to:

Pray with expectation.	Witness with joy.	Love with courage.	
Forgive with grace.	Speak with boldness.	Serve with humility.	Live with hope.

- As we now move beyond Pentecost and into Ordinary Time, I pray that resurrection will not become a past theme but a present lifestyle. Let us continue to be a people who live the resurrection—
- In how we listen, forgive, and include.
 - In how we speak truth and show mercy.
 - In how we face hardship with faith and see others through the eyes of Christ.

“I want to know Christ and the power of His resurrection... becoming like Him... and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead.” (Philippians 3:10–11)

We are resurrection people, not because of anything we’ve done, but because of what Christ has done—and is still doing—in us. So, let’s keep rising. Let’s keep serving. Let’s keep walking in the Spirit who raises and sends.

He is risen.
He is with us.
Let us live like it—today and every day.

With resurrection hope,

Pastor Tracey



MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

*Local, Global,
And Everything In Between*

WOM JUNE MISSION FOCUS

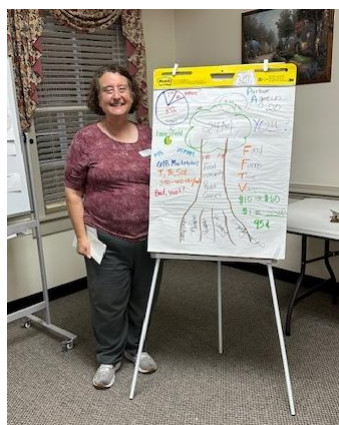
This month, the Women on Mission is partnering with the Western Tidewater Food Bank in Franklin to add to their Welcome Boxes for new clients. When clients come in to sign up for assistance from the Food Bank, these boxes are given out as an appointment must be made for a shopping day. Listed below are items that are difficult to get by the Food Bank or are hard to keep in stock.

<i>Canned chicken</i>	<i>Rice</i>
<i>Peanut butter</i>	<i>Crackers</i>
<i>Canned fruits</i>	<i>Jelly</i>
<i>Pasta sauce</i>	<i>Pasta</i>
<i>100% fruit juice</i>	
<i>Cereal/oatmeal</i>	

- Low fat, low sodium, and low sugar products preferred
- Non-perishable food
- Non-breakable containers
- Nutrition labels intact
- Product is good 6 months past the Best/Sell / Use by Date

Amazon Shoppers! Save your boxes with lids for packing. And any other boxes as well.

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS



We were pleased to welcome Terry Zurfluh, Western Tidewater Community Hub Manager at Foodbank of Southeastern Virginia and the Eastern Shore, for a presentation on food insecurity and the local food bank in Franklin.

We have two goals this month: to join WOM in collecting food items for the food bank, and to invite folks to serve at the food bank. Terry shared with us in her presentation the need for people to come and serve in various ways.

Folks are invited and encouraged to visit the website at <https://foodbankonline.org/get-involved/volunteer/> or stop by the food bank to learn more. Let's connect with our community and say yes to helping our neighbors.

Tracey, Holly, Jimmy, Lou,
Sharon, Tammy, Ronnie

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD



We've had a few months off, but now we are back and ready to start collecting again for Operation Christmas Child.

Due to an editorial error, two months are being combined for June. We will begin by collecting **fishing kits, sewing kits, tool kits, and small toys for girls**. Fishing kits may include hooks, bait, bobs, and fishing line items. Sewing kits may consist of items such as needles, thimbles, sewing scissors, and thread. Tool kits may include hammers, screwdrivers, measuring tape, and nails. The toys may include dolls, foam balls, kickballs (with manual air pump), kites, finger puppets, a slinky, an etch-a-sketch, or interactive toys that include push buttons, lights, and noise (including extra batteries). These are just a few suggestions of what may be added.

A collection container will be in the Fellowship Hall with a sign marking it for Operation Christmas Child.

We plan on having a packing party at the end of the year, but if you would like to pack your box throughout the year, you are more than welcome. Just let us know, and we will get you a box as soon as we receive them.

If you have any questions, please see one of us. Thank you in advance for all your help and participation.

Erin Harcum & Janet Bull

CHURCH LIFE

CONGRATULATIONS

GRADUATES

Harleigh Harcum

Southampton High School
The Governor's School for the Arts

Harleigh plans to attend the School of
Visual Arts in NYC in the fall.

Katherine Davis

Masters Data Science & Business Analytics
From the University of NC at Charlotte

Congratulations and Best Wishes!

SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Benjamin Davis

Jesse F. Vaughan Scholarship

COFFEE AND CONVERSATION

Join us for fellowship and coffee on Tuesday mornings, as listed below. This is a great time to visit and catch up with each other and the events in our lives.

June 3	Daily Dose	9:00-10:30 a.m.
June 10	Store House	9:00-10:30 a.m.
June 17	Daily Dose	9:00-10:30 a.m.
June 24	Store House	9:00-10:30 a.m.

Pastor Tracey

FAMILY NIGHT

SUMMER SUPPER SCHEDULE



Below is this month's supper schedule. As a reminder, volunteers are preparing meals through Aug 30. A sign-up sheet is posted in the fellowship hall. Any open weeks will be "Bring Your Own Supper" nights. The schedule will be published in the newsletter each month.

June 4	WOM
June 11	Up & Coming
June 18	Summer Schedule
June 25	Pastor Tracey

PENTECOST

Sunday, June 8, is Pentecost, the day we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the Church! It's a joyful and decisive moment in the life of our faith—a reminder that God's Spirit is still moving among us, equipping us to live and share the good news of Jesus.

We invite everyone to wear red to mark the occasion—a symbol of the Spirit's fire and vitality. Let's fill the sanctuary with a sea of red as we worship together and give thanks for the Spirit who empowers, unites, and sends us out in love.



COMMUNION

As part of our Pentecost worship, we will share in Holy Communion. It is a fitting and powerful moment to come to the table on Pentecost. Just as the disciples gathered in unity and received the Spirit, we, too, gather at the Lord's table to be nourished, renewed, and sent. The bread and cup remind us that Christ is present with us and that through the Spirit, *we are one.*

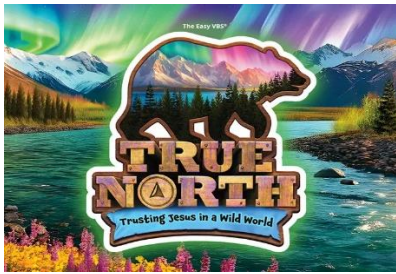
MEN'S DAY WORSHIP

Mark your calendars and plan to be in worship for Men's Day on Sunday, June 15, as the men of our church lead us in a powerful and spirit-filled time of worship!

This special service will honor the faith, leadership, and service of the men in our congregation and church family. Come and be encouraged as we celebrate how God is at work in and through the lives of faithful men. All are welcome. Bring a friend and join us on this meaningful day of praise, prayer, and word.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



True North VBS Is Coming This Summer!

Get ready for an unforgettable journey! This summer, kids will discover that Jesus is our True North—our guide, our Savior, and our constant in every season of life. At True North VBS, children will explore the Bible, make new friends, sing great songs, and experience the love of God in fun and unforgettable ways.

July 27 – 30, 2025

Dinner at 515 pm | VBS 6 pm to 8 pm

Age 4 through Grade 5

Many people have already said YES, but there are still a few areas where help is needed to make this experience the best for the children and families who attend. Current needs include:

- Bible Adventures Station: We need a few folks to team up and help lead children in the daily Bible story.
- Dinners: We will provide a child-friendly dinner each night of VBS. Cooks and kitchen help are needed to prepare, serve, and clean up each night.
- Decorators: Help is needed to prepare decorations and decorate on the day VBS begins.
- Photographer: An official photographer for the week who can roam around and catch all the action and then send the images to Tracey to prepare videos. (A Phone or camera is needed.)

Tracey



Instructions and materials will be provided for each of these needs.

Don't wait; get involved and sign up today! See Pastor Tracey to say YES and get more information.

TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS

DEACON REPORT

The Deacon's meeting was held on May 5, 2025. In that meeting, the deacons:

- Shared prayer concerns.
- Heard Team reports.
- Learned that van access for people with disabilities was being investigated and that the ramp project for the parsonage would soon begin.
- Reviewed the progress of camera installation, sanctuary painting start date and issues with the well at the parsonage.
- Made note that worship on May 18 may be held in the Fellowship Hall if the sanctuary painting is not complete.
- Discussed graduate Sunday dates.
- Reviewed the financial status of the church.
- Learned that Vacation Bible School would be 4 nights running from July 27-30.
- Approved the use of the Fellowship Hall on May 10.
- Discussed having Children's Sermon in worship beginning in the fall.
- Supported the age limit for the nursery to be birth through 4 years old.
- Approved vacation time for Rev. Pugh in July.

The Deacon of the month for June is Joey Francis. The next deacon meeting is scheduled for June 2.

Deacon Ministry Team Leaders

- Bereavement – Ronnie Bulls
- Casserole- Holly Giles
- Hospital/Homebound – Joey Francis
- Prayer – Charlie Harcum
- Transportation – Terry Mcpherson

JUNE 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Brotherhood Breakfast 8:00 a.m. Sunday Morning Schedule Bldg. & Grounds	2 Deacons Meeting 7:00 p.m.	3 Coffee & Convo Daily Dose 9–10:30 a.m.	4 Family Night Schedule	5.	6	7
8 Sunday Morning Schedule Communion Comm Connect PENTECOST	9	10 Coffee & Convo StoreHouse 9-10:30 a.m.	11 Family Night Schedule	12	13	14
15 Sunday Morning Schedule Church Council	16	17 Coffee & Convo Daily Dose 9–10:30 a.m. Women on Mission 6:30 p.m.	18 Family Night Schedule	19	20	21
22 Sunday Morning Schedule Brotherhood Breakfast 8:00 a.m.	23	24 Coffee & Convo StoreHouse 9-10:30 a.m.	25 Family Night Schedule	26	27	28
29 Sunday Morning Schedule	30					

SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE
(unless otherwise noted on the calendar)
Sunday School 9:00 am. | Worship 10:00 a.m.

FAMILY NIGHT ACTIVITY SCHEDULE
(unless otherwise noted on the calendar)
Meal: 5:45
Adult Study II: 6:15
Men's Bible Study: 6:45 | Youth 6:45
Mission Friends & Children in Action: 6:45
Adult Choir: 7:45

CONTACT INFORMATION
Secretary Email: secretary@sycamorebaptist.org
Church website: sycamorebaptist.org
Church phone: 757.562.6749

Rev. Tracey Pugh – Pastor
Email: pastor@sycamorebaptist.org
Cell Phone: 434.953.7930 (Call or Text)
Office: 757.562.6749 ext. 2
Office Hours – Tues-Fri 830 am -5 pm and as needed.



Lou Vann & Janet Bulls delivering brownies and ice cream to Riverdale for teacher appreciation.



WOM with special helpers serving dinner during Family Night.