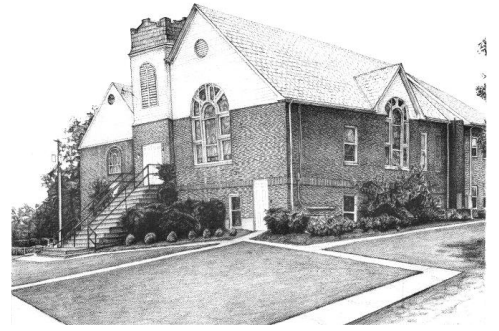


# SYCAMORE HIGHLIGHTS



31120 Sycamore Church Road  
Franklin, VA 23851  
(757) 562-6749

Pastor  
Rev. Tracey Pugh

Deacon of the Month  
Jimmy Vann

Vol. XLVII, No. 10

October 2021

**Worship and Picnic at the River  
Bronco Club 31040 Delaware Road  
October 10 – 11:00 a.m.**

October 10<sup>th</sup> is set to be a busy but wonderful day of worship and fellowship as we gather down by the river. During our worship service, we will observe both ordination and communion. Following worship, we will enjoy lunch and a time of fellowship. I want to share with you a few details about our day together.

**Ordination:**

During worship, we will observe ordination as we ordain John Holland into the deacon ministry at Sycamore. Due to COVID, we will not practice the tradition of laying on hands and offering a personal blessing. We will invite John's family to lay hands while the rest of us offer prayers and petitions. Congregants will have the opportunity to leave written messages of encouragement and affirmation on note cards that John can take home to read and enjoy for years to come. You may pick up a printed notecard from the church or bring one of your own and place it in the designated basket.

**Communion:**

We will share communion during worship. We will exercise special care when we serve the elements. Ushers will invite you to come forward to receive the elements; please try to maintain proper spacing when waiting in line. You will be given a piece of bread, hands-free, and we will pour the juice into a cup that you bring with you from home. We will then partake of the elements together.

**Lunch:**

You are welcomed to pack a picnic lunch for you and your family to enjoy, or you can sign-up for a fried chicken lunch that will be provided and served by the deacons. Please be sure to sign up for your lunch plate no later than October 6<sup>th</sup>. You can sign up using the electronic link <https://forms.gle/RWpqDMKbL43ZxGqU7> or email/text the church office or Pastor Tracey. After lunch, there will be a time of fellowship and games, and maybe even a little fishing.

This is an excellent opportunity to bring a friend, family member or neighbor to church. You will also need to bring your camp chair. I look forward to this day of worship and fellowship down by the river with each of you.

Believing the Best,

Pastor Tracey



This fall, Women on Mission and the Outreach Team are organizing a Thanksgiving Meal Ministry so Sycamore can provide Thanksgiving dinners for area families in need. With all church members working together, we will collect, organize and pack food for complete Thanksgiving dinners and distribute them to families in our area who could use a little extra help during the holidays. We are continuing to collect specific items each month needed for the meal. In October, we will collect green beans, cranberry sauce, and dressing. In November, we will collect turkeys and pies. Also, in November, members can volunteer to organize, pack, or distribute the meals to local families. Stay tuned for additional details and dates.

We look forward to the entire church working together to serve our community this Thanksgiving season as we give thanks while giving to others.

### OCTOBER MISSION FOCUS



For our Thanksgiving Meal Ministry, please bring:

- Dressing Mix (box)
- Green Beans (50 oz. can)
- Cranberry Sauce (can)

### CHRISMON TREE

Some of our Chrismon ornaments need repair or replacing. Be on the lookout for dates to help with this effort. All materials will be provided. We just need your helping hands.

Sandra Edwards



### RAK Project

Random Acts of Kindness

The RAK Project is a new quarterly outreach

ministry of Sycamore Baptist Church. The RAK Project ministry is intended to share random acts of kindness with the Franklin Community and beyond. One month each quarter, the SBC family is invited to share an act of kindness (ex. baked goods, other snacks, gift cards, flowers, seasonal something, etc.) with a local entity (ex. service agency, business, office, etc.) Please include a card of encouragement, inspiration, or thanks with your kindness signed by Sycamore Baptist Church.

Suggested places to share kindness:

- Post Office
- Fire and Rescue Departments
- Social Services
- Chamber of Commerce
- WorkForce offices
- Doctor's offices
- Er/Hospital
- Schools
- Day Care Centers
- Funeral Homes
- Franklin Cooperative Ministries
- Nursing Homes
- Any community service organization
- Service organizations
- Other Businesses



### OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

For October, write a letter to the child who will receive your shoebox. You may want to include your name and address. There are times that the child will be able to write back to you. Feel free also to send a picture of yourself or draw them a picture. If you have any questions, please see Erin Harcum or Janet Bulls. Thanks.

## OUTREACH NEWS

All of Sycamore is encouraged to join in any of the activities described below as you feel led. Outreach is for all, not just the Team.

- ❖ Our first shipment from the Foodbank for the Backpack Program comes in on Tuesday, October 12, around 10 am. We hope to have our "experienced shipment team" walk us through the process. Be on the lookout for opportunities to pack and deliver. Donations are needed, so be sure to mark your envelope Backpack to give to this mission.
- ❖ Greeting cards will be out on Wednesday through Sunday in the Fellowship Hall for members and friends who need prayer or share their joys. Stop by and sign the cards on Wednesday evening or before you leave church on Sunday. New cards will go out each Wednesday and will be collected to be mailed each Sunday.
- ❖ Volunteers are needed to deliver meals and visit on Wednesday nights to our shut-ins. If you know of someone in need of a meal, please let an Outreach committee member or Pastor Tracey know.
- ❖ We will participate in the Fall Festival sponsored by Smart Beginnings and Gatherings in SoCo at Gatherings on October 23 from 3 – 6 pm. Candy and church information will be given out. Volunteers are needed. See the flyer in this newsletter for more details.
- ❖ See information on our RAK- Random Acts of Kindness Outreach project in another article.

Be the hands & feet,  
Holly Giles, Outreach Director  
Susan and Joey Francis, Janet and Ronnie  
Bulls, Ira Witt, Erin Harcum

## FAMILY NIGHT SUPPER SCHEDULE

If the assigned dates are not suitable for your class or group, please trade with another group and let Dianne Umphlett know the change.

October 6	Study Group
October 13	Brotherhood
October 20	Choir
October 27	Up and Coming

## COFFEE AND CONVERSATION

I very much enjoy my coffee in the mornings, and I love being out in the community. Join me at the coffee houses listed below for a cup of coffee and some conversation. I will set up shop on Thursday mornings from 9:00 am to 11:00 am as follows:



October 7	Hubs
October 14	Daily Dose
October 21	Hubs
October 28	Daily Dose

Tracey Pugh



The youth continue to meet on Wednesdays following Family Night dinner. We will be working through the Youth version of John by Adam Hamilton this month on the 6<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, and 27<sup>th</sup>.

On October 13<sup>th</sup>, we will organize the Foodbank items to be packed.

On Sunday, October 24, we will head to the bowling alley for \$1/game bowling. Maybe your "lunch bunch" can join us there.

We will hopefully take a trip to the Corn Maze at Goose Hill Farm. Look for more info to come.

Pray for our youth as they navigate "life & school" in times we have not experienced.

Our new Youth Council will meet this month.

Holly Giles, Youth Leader

## CHURCH CONFERENCE

The regular quarterly conference is scheduled for Sunday, October 24, immediately after worship.

## LIVE STREAMING

Log into Facebook on Sunday mornings at 10:00 to view the worship service on our Facebook page, Sycamore Baptist Church-Franklin, VA. The services are recorded and may be viewed later if unable to watch it live at 10:00.

## SANCTUARY FLOWERS

The use of flowers in our sanctuary enhances our worship services through their beauty while complimenting and decorating our sanctuary.

Flowers can be given in the following ways:

- In loving memory of a loved one;
- As a tribute of honor for someone;
- Given to the glory of God

If you would like to give flowers on any Sunday, sign up on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board outside the church office or contact Sandra Edwards, Janet Bulls, Penny Mobley, or Jessica Pugh.

## DEACON REPORT

The deacons met on September 13, 2021, with all current deacons and incoming deacons present. In that meeting, the following was discussed:

- The Prayer Team will begin organizing a Prayer Walk;
- The new TV in the nursery is working, and the new camera for live streaming has arrived;
- A power surge has damaged the TV monitor in the sanctuary, and it will need to be replaced;
- Due to the increase in Covid-19 cases in the area, requiring mask-wearing again was discussed, and it was decided that this would be an individual choice;
- Rev. Pugh inquired about taking communion to shut-ins, and it was agreed that the deacons would check with those on their list to determine who would like to participate;
- The church picnic will be at the Bronco Club on October 10 with worship that will include communion and the ordination of Johnny Holland;
- Deacon Officers for the new church year were elected and are as follows:  
Chair: Jimmy Vann  
Vice-chair: Charlie Harcum  
Secretary/Treasurer: Tricia Davis

The deacon of the month for October is Jimmy Vann. October 4 is the next meeting.

Submitted by Debbie Oliver

## CHURCH COUNCIL

The church council met on Sunday, September 19, 2021, and the following items were discussed:

- The Brotherhood will have a Sausage sale on Saturday, October 23. Tickets will be available soon, and the sausage will be \$5 per pound.
- The average Sunday School attendance for August was 38.
- The Nominating Committee needs to replace the chair for Food Services and bring to conference that Janie Brown and Diane Umphlett have volunteered to be co-chair again for the following year.
- The deacons will plan and serve lunch for the upcoming church picnic. A sign-up sheet will be posted so an exact number of those attending can be obtained. It was also mentioned that the Recreation committee might want to plan some activities for the afternoon.
- The WOM is currently collecting food for Thanksgiving baskets to be distributed to community families. The families will come to the church to pick up their bags, connecting to the church.
- Songfest will be canceled due to the rise in COVID cases. The Christmas cantata will be held either the first or second Sunday in December.
- If the community drive-through Nativity is sponsored this year, we will be participating as before. If not, alternative plans will be discussed.
- The Thanksgiving Service will be Sunday, November 21.
- Hanging of the Greens will be Wednesday, December 1.
- The Advent wreath will be placed in the sanctuary on Sunday, November 28.
- Due to some sediment coming in the water at the parsonage, Tracey has asked that an inline water filter be put in place.
- Tracey plans to be away from the pulpit on Sunday, October 17. Brian Williams will be here to speak.

Peggy Rush

# OCTOBER 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 Sunday Morning Schedule Book Study 6:00 pm.	4 Deacons Meeting 7:00 pm.	5	6 Family Night	7 Coffee & Conversation Hubs 9-11	8	9
10 Worship 11:00 am at the river Communion, Ordination and Lunch Book Study 6:00 pm.	11	12 BackPack Food Shipment Arrives 10:00 am.	13 Family Night	14 Coffee & Conversation Daily Dose 9-11	15	16
17 Sunday Morning Schedule Church Council 11:15 a.m. Book Study 6:00 pm.	18	19 Women on Mission 6:15 pm.	20 Family Night	21 Coffee & Conversation Hubs 9-11	22	23 Brotherhood Sausage Sale
24 Brotherhood Breakfast Sunday Morning Schedule Conference 11:15 a.m. Book Study 6:00 pm.	25	26	27 Family Night	28 Coffee & Conversation Daily Dose 9-11	29	30
31 Sunday Morning Schedule Book Study 6:00 pm.						

**SUNDAY MORNING  
SCHEDULE**  
Sunday School 9:00 am  
Worship 10:00 am

**\*FAMILY NIGHT ACTIVITY  
SCHEDULE**  
Meal: 5:45  
Adult Study II: 6:15  
World Changers 6:30  
Men's Bible Study: 6:45  
Mission Friends 6:45  
Children in Action: 6:45  
Adult Choir: 7:45

**CONTACT INFORMATION**  
Secretary's email:  
[secretary@sycamorebaptist.org](mailto:secretary@sycamorebaptist.org)  
Church website:  
[www.sycamorebaptist.org](http://www.sycamorebaptist.org)  
Church phone:  
757.562.6749

Rev. Pugh's email:  
[pastor@sycamorebaptist.org](mailto:pastor@sycamorebaptist.org)  
Rev. Pugh's cell phone:  
434.953.7930

**Office Hours: 8:00 am-4:00 am**  
Mon-Thurs and as needed by  
appointment

**YOU'RE INVITED TO A FREE EVENT SPONSORED BY  
SMART BEGINNINGS WESTERN TIDEWATER & GATHERINGS IN SOCO!**

# GOOD TIMES AT GATHERINGS FALL FESTIVAL

**GATHERINGS**  
in SoCo

"The Place to Put Up a Tent and Have an Event"

**OCTOBER 23, 2021 | 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM**  
**31001 SMITHS FERRY RD. FRANKLIN, VA 23851**

**WEAR YOUR  
COSTUME  
& TRICK  
OR TREAT!**

**LET'S HAVE  
A GOOD  
TIME AT  
GATHERINGS!**

**TRICK OR TREATING, COMMUNITY PARTNER TABLES, BOUNCE HOUSES,  
GAMES, FOOD AND MORE!**

**SMART  
BEGINNINGS**  
Western Tidewater