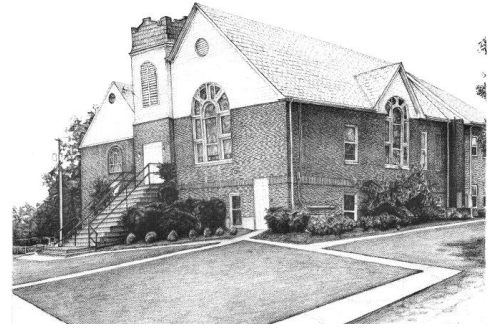


SYCAMORE HIGHLIGHTS



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

Pastor
Rev. David Roberts

Deacon of the Month
Holly Giles

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October 2019

OUR JOURNEY TOGETHER

As I sat down to write, one fact kept running through my mind. In the middle of October, our journey together in this interim time will have spanned two years. As I reflect on this time, it is first with a deep sense of gratitude to you as the people of God whom I have come to know. God has blessed this church with some very special people who demonstrate a love for God and a love for people as part of your shared life. You have permitted me to be part of the stream of your life and ministry, and I have seen how much you care for one another, for those who are struggling with difficult passages in their lives, and for people whom you have never met but have come to your attention. I am grateful for friendships that I will treasure across the rest of my life, and I give thanks for the ways you have allowed me to minister with you.

At the CBF of Virginia General Assembly last week, a friend kidded me saying, “Two years is much more than an interim.” It is the longest time I have served a church as interim or intentional interim pastor. I find that both good and bad. The good is that you have allowed me to know you and to watch your progress in this journey. We have laughed around tables in the Fellowship Hall, cried by the graves of people you have loved, shared confidences about the deep parts of life’s journeys, and, most importantly, we have worshipped together regularly. I have come to appreciate your talents and to hear your concerns. I long for you to have the pastoral leader you deserve serving you in a full-time capacity.

Thank you for understanding my limitations physically due to my health needs. While I am not present with you as much now as I was, I feel that I may have more to give you when present than I did. Being more rested is important at this time in my life. I am also grateful for the time we have been away in September, first to celebrate with my friends from high school that it has now been fifty-five years since we received high school diplomas and then to be present to share with our son, daughter-in-law, and granddaughter for a parent-child dedication in their church. (Also, thank you for letting me be a bragging grandfather who just happens to think everyone wants to see Chloe monthly. You always took a few moments to pat me on the back each time we get new ones). Blessings to all of you!

Love in Christ,

Dave

MISSIONS ART WALK

Children in Action invites you to a Mission Art Walk **Wednesday, October 16.** After the Family Night Meal, take a stroll to the Children in Action Art Walk beside the church library for dessert and to learn about God through the artwork of our featured artist, Miss Savanna Moore.

OCTOBER MISSION PROJECT

Collecting items for the Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes is our challenge for this month. Suggested items include bar soap, toothbrushes, flashlights with batteries, crayons, markers, colored pencils, socks, gloves, tee shirts and small toys such as matchbox cars, balls dolls, stuffed animals, yo-yos, or harmonicas. Items are being collected in the brown basket near the library. Thanks for your help.
Robin Davis and WOM

SINGLES MINGLES

The Singles Mingles will be meeting at Station One on Saturday, October 26 at 12 noon. Come join us for fun and fellowship.

FRANKLIN COOPERATIVE MINISTRY

Franklin Cooperative Ministry needs spaghetti sauce, pasta, muffin mix and bathroom tissue. If you can help, please place your items in the gray basket outside the library. Thank you for your help.
Robin Davis and WOM

NURSERY SCHEDULE

October 6	Church Picnic
October 13	Savannah B. & Holly G.
October 20	Debbie J. & Erin H.
October 27	Sheila J. & Wanda C.

If unable to be present on your assigned Sunday, please trade with someone. Remain in the nursery until 10:10 before coming to the sanctuary for worship if there are no children present.

SHALL WE GATHER AT THE RIVER?

Riverside Worship Service And Church Picnic

Are you ready for a day full of worship, fellowship, food and fun? We'll have it all at the Annual Church Picnic Sunday, October 6 at the Bronco Club (31040 Delaware Road). The day begins at 10:00 a.m. with a riverside worship service including communion. Following worship, we will have a covered dish lunch. After lunch, an afternoon of music, fun and games is planned. Let's all gather at the river together to worship God and fellowship in His name. See you there!

FAMILY NIGHT SUPPER SCHEDULE

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

October 2	Men's Discipleship
October 9	Children on Mission
October 16	Brotherhood
October 23	Choir
October 30	Deacons

OUTREACH NEWS

Sycamore is supplying 50 backpacks of food every 2 weeks for children at Riverdale Elementary school for food for the weekend. Please consider sponsoring a child for the year. If unable to do that any amount towards this effort is greatly appreciated. Mark your gift "BackPack". Thank you in advance for being a part of this effort.

Meals are being delivered on Wednesday nights to shut-ins and those recovering from an illness or surgery. To volunteer or request/cancel a meal call Elaine Wiley at 562-4332.

October 2	Ronnie B. & Wayne C.
October 9	Elaine W. & Nell D.
October 16	Elaine W.
October 23	Jennifer H.
October 30	Elaine W.
Elaine Wiley	

FALL FESTIVAL

Mark your calendars for the Fall Festival at church on Saturday, October 26 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Watch your bulletin for details regarding this event.

DEACON REPORT

The deacons of Sycamore Baptist Church met Monday, September 9.

Deacon Team Ministry Reports were given for the month of August.

- o Bereavement Team – no need
- o Casserole Team – 3 meals delivered
- o Hospital/Homebound – 21 visits
- o Prayer Team – 1 request
- o Transportation Team – 0 requests

- New roof repair estimates are being received from National and Andrews.
- Online giving is now available.
- A new van shed with concrete slab is being installed by The Brotherhood and Building and Grounds.
- Assigning a person to handle van maintenance and a pre-usage checklist for the van was suggested. Those suggestions are being researched.
- Rev. Roberts noted he will be out of town Sept. 22 and 29. The youth will lead worship Sept. 22 and a supply pastor will be here Sept. 29.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 7, 2019. Deacon of the month for October is Holly Giles.

Tricia Davis

CHRISTMAS CANTATA

The choir is preparing for the Christmas season and welcome all voices who wish to join us for the Christmas Cantata. We practice every Wednesday at 7:45pm.

FREEZE IT FORWARD

Join us for our next Freezer Meal Prep Party **October 19 at 1:00 p.m.** It's a wonderful opportunity to minister to others and free up time on your busy weeknights while enjoying an afternoon of fellowship and fun. We will prepare meals for the freezer for our families as well as homebound church members while having a fun afternoon together. Sign up by the church office by October 13 to participate. Contact Tricia Davis for the menu or any other questions.

MISSIONS TEACHER OPPORTUNITIES

Do you have a heart for missions? Would you like to help teach our children and youth about missions or help them participate in mission activities? There are opportunities to help lead the children and youth mission classes on Wednesday night following the Family Night Meal. If you are interested, please see Tricia Davis for more information.

SYCAMORE SEEKERS

Who is ready to hit the road in our new church van for a day of fun and fellowship? We are reviving a former program of the church, Sycamore Seekers: fun group day trips during the week. Our first outing will be to Sylvan Heights Bird Park in Scotland Neck, NC on Thursday, October 17. We will depart from church at 9:00 a.m. and return by 3:00 p.m. If interested, please sign up across from the church office. Questions? Contact Tricia Davis.

CHURCH CONFERENCE

The regular quarterly conference is scheduled for Sunday, October 27, immediately after the worship service. A covered dish meal will follow the meeting.

CHURCH COUNCIL

Church Council met Sunday, September 15.
In that meeting the council:

- Learned that the Sunday School attendance average for August was 51.
- Noted that new estimates are being obtained for roofing repairs.
- Learned that Sycamore Seekers (day trips during the week) will begin again starting in October.
- Noted the Christmas Cantata will be Dec. 15
- Noted a church wide Operation Christmas Child craft night would be held in September.
- Noted the picnic is October 6 at the Bronco Club.
- Learned Backpack packing will resume in October.

Tricia Davis

NEW TECHNOLOGY

We have an updated website with lots of information about the church. Check it out at the **new address** below.

www.sycamorebaptist.org

There is also a **new email address** for the church.

secretary@sycamorebaptist.org

Don't forget to check us out on **Facebook** as well and share information on your own page as a way of reaching out to the community.

YOUTH SCHEDULE

October 2:	Mission Project
October 9:	Mission Project
October 16:	Dairy Queen
October 23:	Mission Project
October 30:	Bingo @ EP

DIRECTORY UPDATE

The 2019-2020 directory is currently being updated. If there are any new addresses or phone numbers please contact Peggy Rush. The goal is to have the directory done by the middle of October.

Peggy Rush

CORNER TIME

A new church year has begun with new opportunities for service. If anyone is interested in leading the Corner Time during worship please notify the church office or Peggy Rush. Thanks in advance for your interest and participation.

Peggy Rush

ONLINE GIVING

Our updated church website includes some new features including the option for online giving through tithe.ly. Follow these steps to begin online giving.

1. Access the tithe.ly online giving platform. This may be done one of 3 ways:

2.

a. **Give via Church Website** – www.sycamorebaptist.org . Click Online Giving Tab and then the Give button to access tithe.ly giving.

b. **Give via Online Giving** – Go to tithe.ly/give

c. **Give via app** – Download the Tithe.ly App to your phone.

3. Create your account using your e-mail, a password, and a 4 digit pin code of your choice.

4. Select Sycamore Baptist Church Franklin, VA as your church. This should automatically be selected if you go through the church website. If you go directly to tithe.ly or through the app, you will have to search for it. There are 3 Sycamore Baptist Churches so make sure you pick Franklin, VA.

5. Complete the giving form.

a. **Amount** – Minimum gift amount is \$5.00

b. **Giving Type** – This notes which fund you want your gift to go to. Options include General Fund, Gifts & Memorials*, CBF Global Missions, Alma Hunt State Missions, Designated Funds*, and Blackwater Baptist Association.

NOTE: If you choose **Gifts and Memorials, please note the **name of the honoree** in the memo field, e.g. *In Memory of John Smith*. If you choose **Designated Funds**, please specify **your fund of choice** in the memo field, e.g. *Library, Youth, WMU, Building Fund, etc.**

c. **Payment Method** – Choices include Credit/Debit Card, Bank Transfer, and Apple Pay/Google Pay.

d. **Option to Cover Church's Fee:** For each online donation, the church is charged a fee (2.9% + \$0.30 for Credit/Debit Cards and 1% + \$0.30 for Bank Transfers). If you would like to cover that fee along with your gift, select the Cover Fee Option.

e. **Recurring Gift Option:** If you want the gift to be recurring, select recurring giving and the frequency and timing of your gift.

f. **Confirm and Give:** Review your information, tap the green Give button and then the OK button for confirmation. Your online giving is complete!

VIDEO TUTORIAL: If you would like to watch a video tutorial, visit vimeo.com/332035674

If you have further questions, please contact Tricia Davis, Charlie Harcum, or Ira Witt.

