SWIFT CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH
18510 Branders Bridge Road
Colonial Heights, VA 23834
Church Phone 520-1211
September 2, 2020

Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship, 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening Service, 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Service, 6:50 p.m.
Youth Bible Fellowship, 6:30 p.m.

LORD’S SUPPER

This Sunday morning, September 6, we will have our monthly observance of the Lord’s Supper in both AM services. The elements will be prepared with face masks and washed hands. Bread will be placed in a cup and a juice cup on top of the bread so the deacons will make just one pass to distribute the elements directly to each person. Concerning the cup, Jesus said, “This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.” The Apostle Paul wrote, “But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup” (I Cor. 11:28). Come Sunday in obedience to the Lord, and remember Him, and spend time in reflection and prayer. If you watch from home, you can get bread and juice in advance and participate while you watch Facebook Live.

AWANA

At the present time we plan to begin a new year of AWANA for kids on Wednesday, Sept. 16. Let Joyce Tucker know (712-1481) if you plan to bring any children or if you are willing to help. We need a preschool teacher to offer AWANA to ages 3-4.

CHURCH-WIDE FELLOWSHIP MEAL

Since we only had about 25 in online polls say they would attend the annual church picnic at Kehukee, and most indicated a preference to have the church-wide meal at church this year, we have decided to have the meal at church on Sunday, Sept. 27 in the FLC to provide greater social distancing. This will take place right after the 11 AM service. Grilled chicken, hot dogs, bread and drinks will be provided by the Church and the Hospitality Committee. Please bring a vegetable side, fruit, and/or a dessert to share. After the meal, we will recognize new members who have joined since 3/31/2019 (the pandemic prevented our new member’s meal back in March). After the meal we will have a worship service in the sanctuary (around 1:30 p.m.) featuring congregational singing and a concert by our Music Ministry (we will not have a 6 p.m. service that day). We hope you will be present for this opportunity for good food and Christian fellowship, and to learn more about our new members.

LADIES BIBLE STUDY

Sermon on the Mount by Jen Wilkin is a 9 session video-driven Bible study. In some of the most familiar passages in all of scripture, Jesus himself gives us this depiction of kingdom citizenship – a study on blessedness, a reflection on the Lord’s Prayer, a discussion of religious devotion, money, ambition and relationships. The Sermon on the Mount is a cohesive message intended to challenge us to think differently about what it means to be a follower of Christ. Please join us for this Ladies Bible study beginning on Tuesday, October 6 - December 1. We will meet each Tues., 10:00 AM to noon, in the Social Hall. The study will be facilitated by Nancy Perrone. The cost is $13.99. Please sign up ASAP so books can be secured.
FROM THE PASTOR

I want to thank the Nominating Committee for their service in filling the vast majority of the elected positions of service for the new church year. Also want to thank all who have agreed to serve. There are still some elected positions of service available (see Nominating Committee Report on bulletin board) as well as other opportunities for service in our non-elected service positions: Music Ministry (see Eunice), Nursery (see Eunice), AWANA (see Joyce Tucker), etc.

It has been good to see more of our people returning to in-person worship. Each person has to decide for themselves what level of risk you are willing to take, but I personally consider the risk of being infected with Covid-19 at church to be quite low. Attending the 8:30 service has the least risk, especially if you leave after the service with limited, socially distant exposure to others.

If you are not a registered voter, I encourage you to register to vote before the deadline on October 13. I think it is especially important this election for Christians to be involved, and vote with due consideration of your Christian principles.

Wednesday evenings I am using both Facebook Live (you need to be a member of the “Prayer Room” group) and Zoom to share the prayer meeting and Bible study with those who do not attend in person. We have been having 10-12 in person and more than that online. Let pastor Felker know if you need help connecting online.

Sunday I am preaching from Matthew 14:22-33, “How to Face Life's Storms.” 2020 has been a very difficult year for many, and I hope this message will help you. Join us for worship in person, or watch at SwiftCreekBaptistChurch.com/resources/videos around 3 PM, or by using Facebook Live at 11 AM or anytime thereafter, or by watching the service on Comcast TV (Thur. 3 PM Chesterfield, Ch. 17 or 27; Fri. 7:30 PM and Sun. 2 PM, Ch. 3 for Tri-Cities).

GRANDPARENTS DAY

Sunday, September 13 is Grandparents Day. Invite your grandchildren or grandparents to worship with you that Sunday morning. Let pastor Felker know if you would like the opportunity to introduce your guests.

STUDENT MINISTRY

This month we have 2 opportunities for students. First, we are planning a back to school celebration at Camp Kehukee on Saturday, September 19th. We are inviting all students and their friends and families. There will be fishing, kayaking, biking, volleyball, and more! The church van will leave the SCBC parking lot at 10:30 am and arrive back at approximately 9:30 pm. We hope for this to be a relaxing, enjoyable start to the new school year.

Next, on Wednesday, September 23rd our CHHS students are invited to gather at the flagpole at 7:00 am to pray for their school. I hope to see all of our CHHS students there. This is a great opportunity to declare to classmates that you are unashamed to follow Jesus and to pray for your friends and peers.

In October we plan on either hiking or traveling to an Apple Orchard (Date TBA), so stay on the lookout for opportunities next month.

As always, I would like to thank the church for your prayers and support. If you would like to sponsor a Wednesday evening meal, please let me know. Thank you!

PANDEMIC GUIDELINES

The church approved the following health policy: 1) Anyone who tests positive for Covid-19 and has been symptomatic within the previous 10 days, or anyone who has been in close contact with such a person for at least 15 minutes, or has been coughed or sneezed upon by such a person, or who has fever and other symptoms of COVID-19 (cough, shortness of breath, fatigue, body aches, etc.) should refrain from attending activities at Swift Creek Baptist Church. 2) Those who are asymptomatic and have had only casual contact of less than 15 minutes with someone who tested positive for Covid-19, who was asymptomatic for the previous 10 days, may attend with enhanced social distancing, and mask wearing is expected whenever they are within 6 feet of others. 3) These requirements end starting with the 14th day after exposure or as soon as negative Covid-19 test results arrive. Tests are to be administered after exposure if you had close contact for at least 15 minutes or as soon as you become symptomatic [schedule a test as soon as possible but no sooner than the 4th day if asymptomatic]. The CDC recommends that a COVID-infected person be permitted to return after at least 10 days since symptoms first appeared and at least 24 hours with no fever without fever-reducing medication and symptoms have improved. 4) The Pastors and Deacons are authorized to make decisions regarding other situations not addressed herein.
MARK YOUR CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER
1 - Tue.  New deacons and committees take office.
6 - Sun.  Promotion Day in S.S. Resume Youth class.
           Communion, 8:30 & 11:00 AM.
           S.S. Teacher Recognition & Appreciation, AM
           services.
           No PM Service.
7 - Mon.  Labor Day (office closed)
8 - Tue.  Deacons’ Meeting, 7:00 p.m. Social Hall.
10 - Thu.  Golf Fellowship, 8:00 a.m., Prince George G.C.
          (1st round of tournament).
          Risk Management Team Mtg., 7:00 p.m.
13 - Sun.  Grandparents’ Day. Invite grandchildren/ grand-
           parents. Favorites night
14 - Mon.  Building & Grounds Committee Meeting, 6:00
           p.m.
           Stewardship Committee Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
15 - Tue.  Spiritual Warfare in a Time of Crisis, SCBC Mid-
           lothian. Speaker: Chuck Lawless. 10:00-1:30;
           lunch at noon. See SBCV.org to sign up.
           Annual Meeting of the Property Directors, 7:00
           p.m.
16 - Wed.  Begin AWANA, 6:30 p.m. in Social Hall. Adults
           meet in sanctuary.
17 - Thu.  Open Bible SS Class Trip to see Esther at Sight &
           Sound Theater, PA (-19th)
19 - Sat.  Youth event @ Kehukee, leave church at 10:30
           a.m. (van reserved).
20 - Sun.  SBCV Vision Week of Prayer (-27th).
           Youth Committee Meeting, 2:00 p.m. (Social
           Hall).
21 - Mon.  Personnel Committee Meeting, 7:00 p.m. (Social
           Hall)
23 - Wed. "See You at the Pole" (Middle & H.S. students)
27 - Sun.  Church-wide fellowship meal, 12:15 a.m. in FLC.
           (See front page NL article). Concert, 1:30 p.m.
28 - Mon.  Deacons’ Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
29 - Tue.  Newsletter items due by 10:00 a.m.

VISION VIRGINIA MISSIONS

Sunday, Sept. 20 begins the Week of Prayer for State Missions with a theme of You Are Not
Alone. Please support our missionaries and other
SBCV ministries in prayer. We will have a bulletin
insert that day. Also, you are encouraged to give to
our State Mission Offering. Our goal this year is
$1200. Special offering envelopes will be in the
pew envelope holders.

MOVING?

If you are about to move to a new address,
please call the church office and let us know your
new address. We want to keep our records up to
date. Also let the office know of changes in email
and phone numbers, including cell phones.

NEWSLINES

In the quarterly business meeting on August
16, the church approved Constitution and Bylaw
changes, providing a means to carry on church
business in the event of closure due to a pandemic or
national emergency (see bulletin board). The church
also approved an updated policy for accessing the
Mission Trip Escrow Fund, as well as a Church
Facebook page policy. The church approved the
Nominating Committee report. See separate articles
for other business that was approved.

Dan Turner was presented with the annual
Faithful Servant Award on Aug. 23 in recognition of
over 30 years of service to our church as a S.S.
teacher, deacon, committee and choir member, etc.
Thank you, Dan, for your faithful service to our Lord
and His church!

Rick Brink, Tim Edwards, Dan Turner &
Bobby Ziegenfuss were elected on August 16 to
serve as Deacons for the next three years. Pray for
our Deacon ministry. Deacon family ministry
assignments will be finalized at Tuesday night’s
meeting, and some families will be assigned a new
deacon. See the Deacon bulletin board, where
assignments will be posted by Sept. 13.

To date we are not aware of any attendee of
our church coming down with the COVID-19 virus!
Pray that will continue to be the case.

SS TEACHER RECOGNITION

On Sunday, September 6 in the morning
services, we will recognize and show appreciation to
our Sunday School Teachers and Officers. We will
thank those teachers who have completed their
service and will also introduce new teachers. We will
give out certificates to select teachers based on years
of service. We also plan to recognize at least two of
our classes.

FRIDAY PRAYER MEETING

Our weekly prayer breakfast is held each
Friday morning at 7:15 a.m. We begin with coffee
and a breakfast sandwich, and a time
of sharing prayer requests and
fellowship. Then, around 7:50 a.m.,
we pray in small groups of 2-4.
Come and be one of our pastors’
prayer partners. We usually have
about 5 men present each week but
would love to have more!
**VITAL SIGNS**

**ATTENDANCE**
- S.S. Average Attendance: 47
- 8:30 Worship Average: 25
- 11:00 Worship Average: 55
- Total Morning Worship Avg.: 80
- Evening Worship Average: 28
- Weekday Discipleship Avg.: 30

**STEWARDSHIP**
- Budget Receipts: 101% of Goal (5 Sundays)
- Other Missions: 397.00
- Gideon Off.: 859.76
- Building Fund: 600.00
- Love Offering (Kollmans): 60.00
- World Hunger Off.: 10.00

**GIVING OPTIONS**
If you are currently not attending, you can go to www.SwiftCreekBaptistChurch.com/giving to give that way, or mail in your offerings to P.O. Box 235, Col. Hghts. VA 23834 (secure box). We appreciate how faithfully our members have given during the pandemic.

**SYMPATHY**
Our church family wishes to express our Christian love and sympathy to Jan McDaniel & family in the death of her husband James McDaniel.

**PRAYER EVENT**
Franklin Graham is asking attendees to the Sept. 26 event to convene at noon for a two-hour march along the 1.8-mile route from the Lincoln Memorial to the Capitol building in Washington, DC. There will be prayer stops along the way to pray that God heal divisions in our nation guide our leaders, protect our religious freedoms, and pour out His Spirit on America. RSVP at PrayerMarch2020.com. Sign up on the bulletin board if interested in transportation. If enough sign up and a van driver is secured, we may be able to provide transportation.

**CONFERENCE**
There will be a conference on *Spiritual Warfare in a Time of Crisis* at Swift Creek Baptist in Midlothian on Tuesday, Sept. 15 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The speaker will be Chuck Lawless. This will be applicable to ministry in the midst of our current reality of COVID, political unrest, racial tensions, and more. Lunch will be at noon, followed by the final teaching session. See SBCV.org to sign up. Let pastor Felker know if you are interested in going.

**CHURCH STAFF**
- Steve Felker .................Sr. Pastor
- Drew Cheatham ..........Youth Pastor
- Eunice Cheatham ...Music Director
- Susan Humphries .............Pianist
- Anne Cizek ...............Secretary
- Cheryl Felker ... Assistant Secretary
- Kathy Fite ................Custodian
- Eunice Cheatham .Nursery Director
- Jenny Willett..........Nursery Worker
- Katie Fenderson ....Nursery Worker
- Ivy Felts ...............Nursery Worker

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*Return Service Requested*