



THE TORCH

Volume 57, No. 1

January 2014

KEEPING TIME IN CHRIST

"God's work of redemption in Jesus Christ offers the Church a central pattern for ordering worship in relationship to significant occasions in the life of Jesus and of the people of God"
-(Book of Order Directory for Worship, 3.2002)

As a people in time, seasonal changes serve to raise our awareness of the life cycle. For Christians, marking our time by God's activity in humankind helps us to engage the nature of our faith in a similar way, life (creation-Jesus birth), death (sin and its effects-Jesus' crucifixion) and rebirth and renewal (Jesus' resurrection, ascension and parousia (return)). These aspects of our communal Christian life serve to constantly renew our hope, faith and fellowship as we encounter the challenges of our personal life cycles.

In the Old Testament, people observed seasons of fasting and feasting as occasions for festivals. Jesus kept these festivals. For the Church in the New Testament, the festivals were transformed in meaning and purpose by Jesus' life and teaching.

Our Session has approved a new rhythm for our celebration of the Lord's Supper. Our celebrations will now be on the first Sunday of each liturgical season and on high holy days. This means that instead of primarily celebrating on the first Sunday of the month, our Lord's

Day celebration of the sacrament will differ month by month. As Jesus celebrated Jewish festival days, we will continue to celebrate on Lord's Days and other days that do not coincide with seasonal changes (for example, All Saints' Day, Christ the King Sunday, Transfiguration, and Maundy Thursday).

If you have questions about this change, I encourage you to ask me or any member of the Session. Our hope is that by establishing our rhythm based on the Church year, we will become more attuned to Jesus' work in our time and place and in all our seasons of life.



*Grace and Peace,
Patrick*

The monthly Newsletter of Tuckahoe Presbyterian Church
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NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

[Excerpted from "Share Faith" web site]

New Year Resolutions



Making New Year's Resolutions was started by early Babylonians. Although this is generally assumed as accurate, no one really knows, but it's the stuff of great trivial conversation at social gatherings, particularly New Year's Eve parties. For the Babylonians, the start of the new year was a good time to return borrowed items, such as farming equipment, and so begin the new year with a clean slate. Some believe that New Year's resolutions began as promises made to the gods, negotiating or bargaining in the hope that the gods would grant some favor in return, such as a good harvest. It was also believed that breaking of a New Year's resolution brought bad luck.

The Bible does not speak for or against the concept of New Year's resolutions. Every day is the day the Lord has made, as Psalm 118:24 states, and "we will rejoice and be

glad in it." One can make a resolution or promise to oneself any day of the year, and keeping it or breaking it is in their hands. One thing the Bible does say in Ecclesiastes 5:2,4 and 5 is that if one makes promises or vows to God, it shouldn't be taken lightly.

"Do not be rash with your mouth, and let not your heart utter anything hastily before God. For God is in heaven, and you on earth; therefore let your words be few. When you make a vow to God, do not delay to pay it; for He has no pleasure in fools. Pay what you have vowed

– Better not to vow than to vow and not pay."

Setting a goal or several goals at the beginning of the new year can be stimulating, but it's the motivation to keep the resolution that is important. One can determine to pray more, read the

Bible more, go to church regularly, or volunteer more, but these resolutions can fail without correct motivation. The incentive must come from within with purpose and a plan.

Even though there might be a setback at times, the best thing

to do is to immediately start again. After months and

months of tests to develop an electric light-bulb, Thomas

Edison was interviewed by a reporter who asked Edison

if he felt like a failure and if he thought he should just give

up. Edison replied, "Young man, why would

I feel like a failure? And why would I ever give up?

I now know definitively over 9,000 ways that an electric light bulb will not work. Success is almost in my grasp."

After over 10,000 attempts, Edison successfully

invented the light bulb.

The point is, don't quit. If it's a worthy goal,

it's worth sticking to, even if it means

starting over a few times.

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Tuckahoe Youth Happenings

January 5	6:00 – 8:00 p.m.	Dinner and Regular Program
January 12	6:00 – 8:00 p.m.	Dinner and Regular Program
January 19	6:00 – until....	Study Break @ Arby's – Regency Square
January 26	6:00 – 8:00 p.m.	Dinner and Youth Worship

CONFIRMATION CLASS

We will begin the 2014 confirmation class with an orientation on January 5, 2014 at 5:00 p.m. For the following 14 weeks, we will dive into learning more about our faith, what it means to be a Christian, and what it means to join the church.

The confirmation class will then join the church on June 8, 2014.

If you are in the 8th or 9th grade, and not yet confirmed, and are interested in being a part of this class and joining the church, please contact Sherry Flournoy at her email: sherryflournoy@comcast.net.

UPCOMING DEADLINES... DON'T MISS YOUR CHANCE!!

Don't forget to register for summer trips! The preregistration deadline for Montreat (high school) and Massanetta (middle school) conferences is January 12, 2014. These are wonderful opportunities for worship, fellowship, and fun, so don't miss out!!

High School Youth: Registration for the beach retreat (February 14-17) is due to Sarah by February 2nd!



CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

WHAT'S GOING ON WITH CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES?

Sunday, Jan. 5, The 2nd Sunday after Christmas Day - First Sunday Children's Church for age 4 through 1st grade. Following "Moments with the Children" during the service, the children walk with Ms. Loggins to room 201 for the *Godly Play* story, work response, scripture, and prayer of *Epiphany*. Epiphany of the Lord is always on Jan. 6, immediately following the 12 Days of Christmas.

Sunday, Jan. 12, The Baptism of the Lord - Library Time in the Class of the Font (4 yrs-kindergarten), Salvation Army shelter lunch preparation in the Class of the Scripture (3rd-5th grades).

Sunday, Jan. 19- Library Time in the Class of the Flames (1st-2nd grades), Godly Play in the Class of the Font.

Sunday, Jan 26- Godly Play in the Class of the Scripture.

Questions? Contact Becky Goode Loggins, Director of Children's Ministries: phone 201-0571 and email krebeccagoode@gmail.com

EPIPHANY AND TIME AFTER EPIPHANY THROUGH THE EYES OF A CHILD

What Jesus did and said helps us to know who God is and what God is doing for us:

Jesus called his friends to be with him and to help him in his work.

Jesus came for all the people of the world.

Jesus is like a light, helping us to see better.

We are baptized into God's family, the church.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

SEASONAL WORD MEANINGS ALL ABOUT "EPIPHANY"

The word "Epiphany" comes from the Greek word which means "showing forth, appearance, revelation, manifestation". Epiphany of the Lord is always celebrated on January 6, the day after the Twelve Days of Christmas. It proclaims the good news that Jesus revealed God to all humanity. When we see Christ we are seeing God.

At Christmas, the Church celebrated the birth of Jesus, when God entered fully into the human experience. Epiphany takes the Christmas proclamation a step further, when the divine revelation in Jesus was revealed to the world as the Magi came from the east - probably a little over a year after Jesus' birth. Jesus was no longer the newborn in a manger, but a new toddler in a house.

Why three Magi, wise men, kings? The Bible doesn't tell us how many kings there were, but because three gifts are mentioned, the number of kings has been traditionally given as three.

Do the Magi have names? In the Bible, the Magi aren't named, but tradition holds their names to be Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar.

Why were the gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh given by the Magi to the Christ Child?

Gold was a gift given to kings, because of its value and beauty.

Frankincense was used in the Temple of God. People then, and in some churches today, burned frankincense as a way of showing that they hope their prayers will be lifted to God. First there is black smoke, and then when the smoke turns white there is a fragrance, a scent, that is released. This was a gift of worship.

Myrrh was not a gift for an ordinary king. Myrrh was used to anoint the dead, burned at funerals, and placed with the dead for their burial. This was a gift for someone whose death would be important.

On Epiphany, and during the Time after Epiphany, our journey through the Mystery continues.

WISH LIST FOR CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL:

Basic Lego Sets

6-pack boxes of Model Magic, "Natural Colors" (found at Michael's or Ben Franklin) - 6 individual packs in a box

Elmer's brand White Glue

Glue sticks

Used paper grocery bags with handles

Items can be placed in Becky Loggins' mailbox or the church office and should be labeled "For Children's Sunday School".



OUTREACH

Thanks to the many people who bought gifts and delivered them to families for the **Ministry of Prison Fellowship "Angel Tree" project.**

Once again, it was a huge success!

This project helps incarcerated men and women provide Christmas presents to their children who live in the Richmond area. The presents provide a tangible reminder to these children that their parent loves them even though they cannot be with them at Christmas. This year we sponsored 25 children from 12 families. Each child received at least two gifts, including toys and clothing. It is a heartwarming reminder of how our congregation reaches out to the community with such a generous spirit.

2014 MISSION TRIP NEWS !

There will be a 2014 MISSION TRIP Informational Meeting in Room 106 on Sunday, January 12th following the Worship Service. The trip will be on June 22-28, 2014. Tuckahoe Presbyterian Mission workers are Kentucky bound to once again join forces with Appalachia Service Project . Additional information will be coming over the next weeks and months. Please consider how you feel you can best support this endeavor.

~Shawna Shade

THANK YOU FROM HENRICO'S CHRISTMAS MOTHER

Thanks to those dozen plus members who volunteered in the Henrico Christmas Mother warehouse in December. These volunteers sorted food, packed boxes, and helped recipients with shopping for their families. The Henrico Christmas Mother program is dependent on volunteers to make Christmas happen for needy families in our county. I am forever grateful to those volunteers in our congregation who helped bring joy into the lives of those less fortunate ones. I am glad to be a member of such a caring church family.

~Terry Brady

THANK YOU FROM "HEARTH"

Thank you to all who participated in the HEARTH (formerly ISH) Thanksgiving Box program. Our Tuckahoe friends collected enough food to provide 22 needy families in our area with a wonderful Thanksgiving meal as well as pantry staples. Your generosity allowed some of our neighbors to feel the love and care of Tuckahoe.



PRAYER REQUEST FROM OUTREACH DIVISION

As we begin 2014 please join the Outreach Division as we pray for **Hearth of Henrico, CAPUP (Capital Area Partnership Uplifting People), and the recipients of these two organizations.** Tuckahoe has financially supported these organizations through the Helping Hands Fund which receives the loose plate offerings on Communion Sundays and a portion of the offering at the Christmas Eve services. Individuals can also make specific donations to this fund.

Hearth of Henrico (formerly ISH) benefits residents of Henrico whose needs are not met by existing government agencies. It provides a hand-up, not a hand-out to its families. It helps families avoid homelessness, coordinates food drives, and provides necessary assistance to foster children in the county. HOH works with the Henrico Social Services Department for help in determining eligibility and distribution of funds. 100% of all financial contributions are passed on to their clients.

CAPUP works with residents living in the city of Richmond. Their mission statement says "CAPUP strengthens communities by providing resources for people to help themselves." They feel community action changes people's lives, giving them hope and improving the community. They provide numerous emergency services to low income families to help prevent homelessness, loss of employment, hunger, and suffering.

At Tuckahoe we are truly fortunate to be in a position to help these two organizations in our immediate community. We feel that both of these groups are particularly effective as they help others help themselves.



REQUESTS
— FOR —
PRAYER

Hearth of Henrico
CapUp

AROUND THE CHURCH

FROM PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Many thanks to all who helped to make the December luncheon a success. Thanks also for the generous donations which enabled us to provide a nice Christmas for four students from Oak Grove-Bellemeade Elementary School.

CIRCLE MEETINGS RESUME IN JANUARY

Circle meetings will resume the week of January 6.

All women are welcome.

Contact Becky Theuer at 364-8161 for more information.



PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN

SAVE THE DATE!

WHAT IS THE WARINNER FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP FUND?

Please mark your calendars, notch your Daytimer and tap your smart phone for **Wednesday Night Supper on February 12, 2014**. The Warinner Family Scholarship Fund will present the why, when and how of Tuckahoe's educational grant!

“USHER” IN THE NEW YEAR!

On Sunday, January 5th you can learn if you have what it takes to serve as an usher for Tuckahoe! The Usher Guild will meet for its annual informational meeting in room 108 following worship at 12:30 p.m. Current ushers will be in attendance and those who wish to learn more about this service to your church are encouraged to attend.



RICHMOND SPIDERS BASKETBALL

Join your fellow Tuckahoe members for a Richmond Spiders Basketball game with St. Joseph's at the newly-renovated Robins Center on **Saturday, January 25 at 4:00 p.m.** Tickets are \$5 each. Make your reservations early with Pat Macaulay (pmacaula@richmond.edu) or call 323-1190.

AROUND THE CHURCH

Bette Morton writes: *“Thank you to Jackie Stallings and all the other members of Tuckahoe who have brought me flowers and visited with me during this long recovery. I hope I will be back to worship with you all soon!”*

Our neighbors, the Silvestri family donated funds to the Playground Project and included a short note: *“Thank you for being such good neighbors!”*



WANT TO HELP US “GO GREEN”?

In an effort to conserve both paper and postage costs and to deliver the monthly newsletter in a timely fashion, we are asking you to consider receiving your edition of *The Torch* via the church web site. **If you are interested in no longer receiving a paper copy** of *The Torch* via bulk mail, please contact the church office at 282-2860 or email at office@tuckahohepres.org. Otherwise you will continue to receive the printed copy of the newsletter. Once the monthly issue of *The Torch* is available on line, you will be notified via the Weekly Communication. You can then access the issue via the web site. The electronic version is usually available two or three days before the end of the month...much earlier than it arrives in your home!

If you are computer savvy and willing to use the internet to receive *The Torch*, then let us know and help us start saving trees and dollars!

MEMBER NEWS

Welcome New Members:

Harry and Frances Edwards
Naomi Maxa
Ethan Sherman
Laura Thorpe (Grace and Sam)

FOOD & FELLOWSHIP

UPCOMING WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER MENUS AND PROGRAMS

We will resume our regular weekly Wednesday Night Supper Programs on January 8, 2014. Dinner begins at 6:00 pm with a program from 6:45 to 7:30. M & M Kids and Skittles will continue for children age 2 and above, and will run concurrent with the adult programming following dinner.



<u>DATE</u>	<u>MENU</u>	<u>PROGRAM</u>
Jan. 8	Lasagna, salad, bread and dessert	White Elephant Gift Exchange -Bring a Christmas gift you would like to "re-gift" and take home someone else's gift! Come join the fun!
Jan. 15	Tuckahoe's Cooking Team 2	Ruth Brown, PCUSA Missionary to the Congo – In her work with the Church of Congo's Community Development Program (CDP) she works with CDP members to build women's literacy into evaluation plans. Learn more about this important mission.
Jan. 22	Covered Dish	Tiffany Hall from the Micah Initiative – Micah is a partnership of faith communities with Richmond Public Elementary Schools that encourages mentoring, tutoring, and volunteering through its vibrant network of more than 125 faith communities and 23 schools so that every child believes, "I am valuable." Micah is open to and represented by all faith communities.
Jan. 29	Tuckahoe's Cooking Team # 1	Wayne Dementi, President of Dementi Milestone Publishing – Wayne's company specializes in books celebrating Richmond storylines. Come and learn what you don't know about Richmond!

JANUARY 2014 CALENDAR

TPC Events, Adult Education, Children's Ministry, Community Events, Outreach Events, TPC Meetings, Jan 2014 (Eastern Time)
Worship and Music Ministry, Youth Ministry

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
			Church Office Closed NEW YEAR'S DAY	7 am - Men's Bible 7:30pm - Chancel 8pm - AA meetings		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
9:30am - Sunday 11am - Worship - 12:30pm - Usher's 6pm - Youth Groups	3pm - Swing Band @ 7pm - Circle 2 @	10am - Circle 3 @ 1:30pm - Circle 1 @ 5:15pm - Peaceable	9:30am - Staff 5:30pm - Tucklings 6pm - Wednesday 6:30pm - M & M Kids 7:30pm - Handbell 7:30pm - Property 7:30pm - Worship/M	7 am - Men's Bible 7:30pm - Chancel 8pm - AA meetings	10:30am - Meals on	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
9:30am - Sunday 11am - Sunday 12:30pm - BP Check 12:30pm - Mission 6pm - Youth Groups	9:30am - Stephen 1pm - Tuckahoe 3pm - Swing Band @ 4pm - SPARC 6:30pm - Scrapbook 7pm - Outreach 7:30pm - Christian	5:15pm - Peaceable 5:30pm - Emergency 7pm - Stewardship	9:30am - Staff 10:30am - Meals on 5:30pm - Tucklings 6pm - Wednesday 6:30pm - M & M Kids 7:30pm - Diaconate 7:30pm - Handbell	7 am - Men's Bible 9:30am - Lamb's 7:30pm - Chancel 8pm - AA meetings	10:30am - Meals on	Torch Deadline 9:45am - SPARC
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
9:30am - Sunday 11am - Sunday 6pm - Youth Groups	3pm - Swing Band @ 4pm - SPARC 6:30pm - Stephen 7pm - Virginia	9am - Tuckahoe 5:15pm - Peaceable 7pm - Administratio	9:30am - Staff 5:30pm - Tucklings 6pm - Wednesday 6:30pm - M & M Kids 7:30pm - Handbell 7:30pm - Session	7 am - Men's Bible 7:30pm - Chancel 8pm - AA meetings	10:30am - Brandon	9:45am - SPARC
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
9:30am - Sunday 11am - Sunday 12:15pm - Fellowship 6pm - Youth Groups	10:30am - Meals on 3pm - Swing Band @ 4pm - SPARC 6:30pm - Scrapbook! 7pm - TPC Book Club	3:30pm - Hilliard 5:15pm - Peaceable 6:30pm - Pops Band	9:30am - Staff 5:30pm - Tucklings 6pm - Wednesday 6:30pm - M & M Kids 7:30pm - Handbell	7 am - Men's Bible 7:30pm - Chancel 8pm - AA meetings		

TUCKAHOE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
7000 Park Avenue
Richmond, VA 23226-3624

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

TUCKAHOE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Tuckahoe Staff

Patrick Dennis, Pastor

Mark Cain, Director of Music Ministry

Rebecca Loggins, Director of Children's Ministry

Mary McGee, Office Administrator

Sarah Morgan, Director of Youth Ministry

Joan Neff, Organist

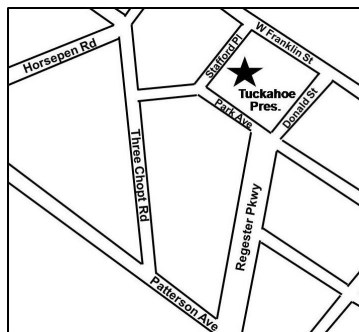
Ginger Spence, Director of Visitation

Telephone: 282-2860

E-mail: office@tuckahoepres.org

OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

Called by God, to be the heart,
voice, hands and feet
of Christ where
the Spirit leads us.



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