



# THE TORCH

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Does it help our family and friends when we pray for them? How does prayer work as a means to extending care and blessing to others? The answer to the first question is "Yes!" And the answer to the second question is more complex. God invites us to pray and moves in answer to our prayers. But prayer is neither magic nor science. The causal interactions between human petitions and divine answers remain mysterious. God's ways are not our ways yet God reveals himself and his ways to us in Scripture and through prayer. Moreover, the practice of prayer brings one into the personal presence of God. God is not a force but a Person. Prayer is a delightful way we experience God's covenant relationship with his children.

Here are two New Testament passages that remind us of our responsibilities to care for our sisters and brothers:

*Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. (Galatians 6:2)*

and

*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation, who consoles us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to console those who are in any affliction with the consolation with which we ourselves are consoled by God. For just as the sufferings of Christ are abundant for us, so also our consolation is abundant through Christ.*

(2 Corinthians 1:3-5)



### Inside this issue:

From the Interim Pastor	1-2
Youth Ministries	3
Children's Ministries	4-5
Mission & Outreach	6-7
Around the Church	8-9
Food & Fellowship	10
From Our Members	11
Calendar	12

The monthly Newsletter of Tuckahoe Presbyterian Church  
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# FROM THE PASTOR'S STUDY

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Bear one another's burdens and offering comfort to others bids us to call upon God on behalf of friends and loved ones. James reminds us, *"Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise. Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord"* (James 5:13-14). In his letters Paul often urges his readers to pray. *"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God"* (Philippians 4:6).

The life of prayer brings the believer into the reality of our personal God and into the concerns of everyday life. The list of subjects for intercessory prayer is endless:

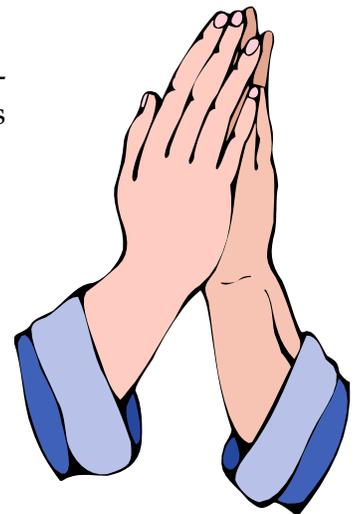
- your family and friends and other persons in one's church
- your neighbors, colleagues and acquaintances
- elected leaders and world leaders
- our country and other nations
- world events (war, hunger, elections, famine, disasters)

As we pray at Tuckahoe we want to remember our elders and deacons, our Pastor Nominating Committee, our staff, our classes and worship services, our children and youth, our brothers and sisters who are sick or bereaved, our ministries, our outreach, etc. As stewardship season begins we want to ask God to grow "generosity" in our giving and we seek God's wisdom for finding ways we can serve with our "talent gifts." Of course prayer is bigger than simply offering petitions and interceding for others. Christian prayer begins properly with praise and thanksgiving. We acknowledge who God is and what He has done for us. Then we mention our needs and concerns.

The psalmist often referred to prayer with the phrase "waiting on God." This strongly suggests to me that prayer includes listening as well as speaking. Look at Psalm 27:14, Psalm 37:7 and Psalm 130:5 for words about waiting. And hear this promise from Isaiah. *"...but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint"* (Isaiah 40:31).

God not only hears us but He speaks to us as well. And He comforts us and encourages us. Talk to our great God and listen to His voice!

The Peace of our Lord,  
*Richard*



## Tuckahoe Youth Happenings

- 7 OCT All Church Retreat at Camp Hanover (Youth Lead Worship)  
[No evening Youth Group meeting]
- 14 OCT Regular Meeting 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. [Cap Night]
- 21 OCT Regular Meeting 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. [Mask Night]
- 28 OCT Hike in Downtown Richmond – meet at TPC at 6:00

Tuckahoe Youth are encouraged to participate in the  
Presbytery of the James Youth events.

The first is **Rally to Serve** which is on Saturday, October  
27th. Plan to join youth from throughout the Presbytery!

If you are in Middle School or High School and not yet active in  
the Youth Ministry of Tuckahoe, please join us! Bring a friend and  
join in the food, fun and fellowship with great kids your own age.

We have a blast together and share our faith and our lives with each other!



### MONTREAT MEMORIES

*"I would like to say Montreat is a break from reality. It's a chance to come together with people who share a majority of the same values you deem important; an opportunity to share your fears and worries with people who are fighting the same demons you are. I love Montreat, and I highly recommend it to all future youth groupers. It's a home away from home!"*

*"Montreat is a place where you can be accepted for who you are: A place where you dance in an auditorium with 1000 people, getting sweaty and gross, and have a blast doing so."*

*"Whenever someone asks me what I'm looking forward to during the summer, I automatically think of Montreat. But explaining what Montreat is to someone is nearly impossible, because putting the impact that that single week has on my life into words isn't easy. But, it's where you know that you can and will be totally accepted for being exactly who you are. It's a place to make some of your best friendships, and become closer to every single person you meet. Its the only place I've ever been where I am 1 in 1000+ people all doing the same crazy dance moves to energizers. It's a place to learn and grow in your own faith, while experiencing others doing the same. Not only is Montreat a fantastic experience, but it is located in one of the most gorgeous places I've visited, in the mountains of North Carolina. Ever since waking up to a foggy, yet beautiful view last summer, it has been the background on my phone, and whenever I see it, I am reminded just as to why Montreat is always the highlight of my summer."*

*"The greatest place on earth. Nuf said."*

Rising 9<sup>th</sup> graders through graduated seniors should consider joining the meaningful and unbelievably fun pilgrimage next summer to the 2013 Montreat Youth Conference! For more information, check out this link and stay tuned for a chance to sign up:

<http://www.montreat.org/current/2013-youth-conferences-at-montreat>

# CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

## WHAT'S GOING ON WITH CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES?

**Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 6-7** - Congregational Retreat at Camp Hanover, a fun way for our church family to spend time together! Children's Church for all children, all ages following Time with Children at the retreat Sunday worship service. No Sunday School classes.

**Sunday, Oct. 14** - *Second Sunday Children's Church for 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> graders.* Following "Moments with the Children" during the service, the children walk with Ms. Loggins to room 201 for a *Godly Play* story, work response, scripture reading, and prayer. Please see additional information in this edition about the changes in 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Children's Church.

**All Saints' Day, Nov. 4** - The children's Sunday School will explore Modern Day Saints with special visitors. Don't be alarmed if you see a fire truck! Also, First Sunday Children's Church, led by Ms. Loggins, for age 4 years - kindergarten, with the *Godly Play* lesson of *The Good Sa-*

## TEACHERS AND ASSISTANTS NEEDED IN CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL!

Here are the current needs for volunteers in Children's Sunday School:

**Nov. 25** (Chrismon-making day):

Teacher AND assistant substitutes needed in the 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> grade class

**Jan.6-Feb.10:** Teacher and assistant needed in the 2-3 year old class

AND 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade class

**March 31-May 26:** Teacher and assistant needed in 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade class, assistant needed in 2-3 year old class

AND in 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> grade class

**Please prayerfully consider helping and contact Becky Loggins if you feel called to serve! We need YOU!**

## WISH LIST FOR CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL AND 2013 VBS

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

Cardboard bases from water bottle packages

Elmer's White Glue - small bottles

Glue sticks

Crayola brand LARGE or "So Big" crayons (the "fat", toddler/preschool crayons)

Pinwheels on sticks, all colors

Red and white paper/vinyl

table cloths

Pennant strings, all colors

# CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

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## CHILDREN'S CHURCH WITH *GODLY PLAY*-CHANGES!

There are now **TWO** children's church age groups this year, one on the **first Sunday** of the month and one on the **second Sunday** of the month (Oct.-May):

**First Sunday Children's Church: age 4 years old through kindergarten**

**Second Sunday Children's Church: 1<sup>st</sup> grade through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade**

These sessions are held in room 201 during worship, following "Moments with the Children". They are led by Becky Loggins and assisted by a youth or adult volunteer.

The changes this year are in response to parent feedback. Beginning in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, children remain in church for the entire service. This plan will allow for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> graders to participate fully in the communion service on 1<sup>st</sup> Sundays, as well as worship on all but one Sunday every month, and still have the opportunity to participate in *Godly Play* on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday.

Please note that the exception is at the retreat on Oct. 7, when Children's Church will be for children of all ages.



## "M&M KIDS" ON WEDNESDAY EVENINGS!

Our M&M Kids ("music and motion") are off to a fun and successful start of a new program year! New children are always welcome! On Wednesday nights after our church family dinner together, during the adult program, children gather with youth leaders Mary Chris Werner, Rachel Burch, Corinne Burch, Bailey Kane, all other willing and able youth, Mr. Mark, and Becky Loggins and are off to room 202. Accompanied by Mr. Mark on piano, and singing & moving DVDs, the M&M Kids and youth leaders praise God with their voices and their actions. After about 20 minutes, the group moves to room 105 for "chill out and cool down" time until the conclusion of the adult program. Be sure to make Wednesday evenings with your church family a priority! You are assured to leave with a smile both on your face and in your heart!



*Becky Loggins, Director of Children's Ministries*

# MISSION AND OUTREACH



Thanks to all who volunteered as shoppers for the YMCA's Bright Beginnings program. It makes a world of difference in an elementary school child's life to start the year off with a couple off new outfits and a new pair of shoes. We all appreciate the time you shared with the kids. We were fortunate enough to have more volunteers than we had slots available. Thank you to everyone willing to serve in this meaningful way!

## YOU MADE IT HAPPEN!

Our September 8th TPC 3rd Annual Yard Sale was a success, thanks to your help. We raised over \$4,300 for 2013 Missions, providing a good start toward keeping Mission Trips affordable for Tuckahoe youth and adult volunteers. Whether you volunteered your time in collection, pricing, cashiering, or publicity, we thank you! Many of you also brought us donated items, hangers and bags, and food to keep us fueled, and we thank you for your generosity. Once again, you have pitched in with our TUCKAHOE TEAMWORK for this Outreach event, and we're proud to represent such a hands-on congregation!



## LAMB'S BASKET UPDATE

The food collection for LAMB's Basket in September was 40 lbs. Thank you to all who contributed non-perishable items to support this local food bank!



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

**One volunteer** is needed to provide bread for the Men's Shelter the second Tuesday of alternate months beginning in October.

**One volunteer** is needed for the cooking team that provides the evening meal for Hilliard House the fourth Tuesday of each month through May.

For more information or to volunteer, contact Terry Brady at 740-1768 or [atmbrady@gmail.com](mailto:atmbrady@gmail.com)

# MISSION AND OUTREACH

## PRESBYTERY OF THE JAMES MISSION OPPORTUNITIES. ALL ARE WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE, THESE EVENTS ARE FOR YOU!

**International Peacemaker from Syria**, Majd Lahham, will be here next week! Come hear this timely voice speak about the Christian presence in the Middle East and efforts in peacemaking in this troubled part of the world. Don't miss this important opportunity! For more information contact [mjwinter@comcast.net](mailto:mjwinter@comcast.net).

October 8 at 7:00 p.m. at Bon Air Presbyterian Church, a broad based community event. 9201 W. Huguenot Rd.

October 9 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Cathedral, co-sponsored with the Presbytery of the James, an ecumenical event for all with a reception following. The church is on the corner of Malvern and Grove Ave.

October 10 at 7:00 p.m. at Westminster Presbyterian Church in

**Congo Mission Event** at St. Andrews Presbyterian Church in Kilmarnock,  
October 18 at 6:00 p.m.

Mission Co-workers, Larry and Inge Sthresley will be speaking, Ruth Brown will be skyed in from the Congo, and an African meal is prepared by the youth group. A great opportunity for all. Contact Kaye Ortiz at [cjortiz@mac.com](mailto:cjortiz@mac.com). A bulletin insert is attached.

**World Mission Event** for all in the presbytery, Saturday, October 27. Begins with **Rally to Serve**. Eastminster Presbyterian Church, 1601 Littlepage St., Richmond. Bring your youth, bring your adults, bring everyone with a heart for God's mission in the world. Several of our Young Adult Volunteers in Mission will speak and the Haiti Mission Team will challenge us to a deeper engagement in mission.

Post card attached and on the POJ web page.

**St. Joseph's Home for Boys Dance Theater (Haiti)** at Three Chopt Presbyterian Church in Richmond October 16 at 7:00 p.m., 9315 Three Chopt Rd. They are seeking to raise funds for the boys' school in Haiti. Contact [laura\\_wright@verizon.net](mailto:laura_wright@verizon.net) for additional information.

**Please pray** for the team from the presbytery that is traveling in Haiti October 4-11 that they will discern how God is calling the Presbytery of the James to be in greater mission there. Consider asking one of them to speak in your church after they return.

Team members are: Larry Chottiner (Salisbury Presbyterian Church), leader; Louie Andrews (Rockfish Presbyterian Church) Willie Dell (Woodville Presbyterian Church) Brenda Halbrooks (Three Chopt Presbyterian Church), Nan Johnson (Brandermill Church), Bill Nix (Fredericksburg Presbyterian church) and Pam Turner (Charlottesville, First Presbyterian Church).

# AROUND THE CHURCH

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## WHAT IS STEPHEN MINISTRY AND WHO ARE STEPHEN MINISTERS?

Stephen Ministry is based on Jesus' command to love one another. Through one-to-one relationships, those who are hurting receive the love and care that they need to support them. Everyone goes through tough times, and having someone to share God's love with you can help you get through confusion, stress, or loneliness that you may be experiencing. A Stephen Minister is a caring Christian friend who really listens and keeps everything that is said completely confidential. Stephen Ministers are lay people who have received 50 hours of training to provide distinctively Christian care. The following eleven people have been trained and commissioned by Tuckahoe to be Stephen Ministers: Pam Burch, A.W. Dickerson, John Flournoy, Sherry Flournoy, Walter Hogan, Ray Hoge, Ruth Ann Hoge, Barbie Keatts, Steve Kramer, Barbara Maiden, and Ginger Spence. God is the Cure giver, but the Stephen Minister is "God's love with skin on." A Stephen Minister is **NOT** a counselor or therapist or a casual visitor. Stephen Ministers are caregivers who are called to help meet the needs of individuals who are hospitalized, terminally ill, bereaved, in a job crisis, disabled, homebound, lonely, in spiritual crisis, and are looking for a caring Christian friend. If you think you may need a Stephen Minister or know of someone who might need a Stephen Minister, you can contact the church or any of those who have been trained as Stephen Ministers.

## COMMUNION BREAD BAKERS NEEDED

I have been baking the communion bread for 10 years. When we had communion six times a year it was not a big task, however, with communion being celebrated every month I could use some help. It is not a hard task and it can be prepared and baked in about 30 minutes and one pan can serve for two months at our current attendance.

If you would like to know more or could help with this ministry please call me at 264-0938.

*Pam Dickerson*



# AROUND THE CHURCH

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Thank you to all who helped with the September luncheon, and also to those who donated school supplies for Oak Grove-Bellemeade Elementary School.

Three boxes and one bag of supplies were delivered to the school and they were very much appreciated!

*Presbyterian Women*

## HARVEST OF LOVE



The annual Harvest of Love will be on Sunday, November 11.

The Presbyterian Women will be collecting knitted and crocheted baby caps for VCU Medical Center, shoe boxes for Samaritan's Purse and clean-up kits for Church World Service. Look for further details in the church bulletins and the November Torch.



## NEW WAYS FOR US TO COMMUNICATE TO OUR MEMBERS

**Are you receiving the new "Weekly Communication" from Tuckahoe via email on Fridays? Over 200 members are sent a weekly update from the office on Fridays to keep you abreast of the upcoming weekend events, any member news and other items we think are important.**

This allows us to communicate with you on a more regular basis, without having to wait for the monthly newsletter to arrive. If you receive the email, please "open" it and take a look! It's pretty and informative! We continue to try to take advantage of the gift of technology to communicate the good works of Tuckahoe to our members. If you are not receiving the weekly communication, then the office probably doesn't have an up-to-date email address for you. Please send a request to be included on the "weekly communication" with a valid email to [office@tuckahoespres.org](mailto:office@tuckahoespres.org).

# FOOD & FELLOWSHIP

## UPCOMING WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPERS MENUS AND PROGRAMS

Dinner begins at 6:00 pm with a program from 6:45 to 7:30.  
Music & Motion will continue during the Fall/Winter session 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>
Oct. 3	Pork chops, sweet potatoes, peas, bread, dessert	<b>Richard Haney and Bill Millsaps</b> Richard will lead a discussion with Bill on "Reading the Newspaper with Eyes of Faith". Bill Millsaps is the former executive editor of the Richmond Times-Dispatch and recipient of the 2011 Red Smith Award, the top sports journalism award in the nation.
Oct. 10	Team 2- Hamburger Cheese Bake, salad, bread, dessert	<b>Rev. Donald Marston</b> Donald has been involved with mission work through-out his life serving in youth ministry with German youth in West Berlin visiting with Christians behind the Iron Curtain in East Germany, Poland and Russia. Donald will discuss his mission work and relationships with mission workers in West Africa, Russia, Siberia, Hungary and Ukraine.
Oct. 17	Baked chicken, roasted potatoes, carrots, bread	<b>Stanley Skreslet</b> Stan is the Dean of Union Presbyterian Seminary and F.S. Royster Professor of Christian Mission. He will talk to us about the history and theology of Christian mission, Islam and Orthodox Christianity, especially in the Middle East. The title of his talk will be "Egypt after the Arab Spring".
Oct. 24	Covered Dish Dinner	<b>UP IN ARMS Puppet Ministry</b> The UP IN ARMS puppet ministry of First Baptist Church began in 2002. The puppet team exists to joyfully share the gospel of Jesus Christ with adults and children of all ages in the community and around the world. UP IN ARMS performs at churches, senior centers, summer camps, and the Children's Museum of Richmond.
Oct. 31	NO DINNER	

# FROM OUR MEMBERS

## INVITATION TO APPLEBERRY MOUNTAIN RETREAT OCTOBER 13TH

The Calhoun family would like to extend an invitation to members and guests of Tuckahoe Presbyterian Church to join us for a day of food and fellowship at our mountain retreat in Albemarle County on Saturday, October 13. Our place, which is called *Appleberry*, is located in southern Albemarle County near Schuyler, VA and is about an hour and a half drive from Richmond. We have about 500 acres of land that are located in a Blue Ridge Mountain setting. We

invite all who want to come and spend the day enjoying not only food and fellowship, but enjoying the beauty of God's great creation.

We ask that each family bring a covered dish (side dish or dessert) as well as lawn chairs, and the Calhoun family will provide the main meal and drinks. You are welcome to arrive whenever you want and stay as long as you would like on this Saturday, but we will plan to eat around 2:00.

If you are interested in coming please contact Phil & Valerie Calhoun at 360-9034 or [calhoun80@verizon.net](mailto:calhoun80@verizon.net) by October 10<sup>th</sup> so that we will have a count of those who plan to attend. We will provide maps and driving directions, and if you want to attend but cannot drive, let us know and we will try and arrange a ride for you. In the event of inclement weather, we may move indoors or the event may be canceled.

# THANK YOU

Jan Stevens writes: *"Thank you for all your prayers, flowers, calls, and visits in recent weeks. I am hopeful of returning to church in a month or so, depending on what my orthopedic doctor says. I am optimistic the injection I had last week will relieve my pain and another surgery will not be necessary. It's so comforting to know others care and Tuckahoe certainly has a caring congregation."*

Bob Smith writes: *"Thanks so much for the flowers-orange and yellow-perfect. They lasted so long and lifted my spirits to know they came from you all."*

Catherine Amato Vanderspiegel writes: *"My mother, Kitty Amato, passed in September 2011. I have wanted to do something in her memory at Tuckahoe, but have failed to follow through. The capital fund envelope you sent for mother is perfect – please accept the enclosed check in mother's memory. Meg Packard was just wonderful to mother, so faithful about visiting her and taking her surprises. Meg even came to mother's service and afterwards joined us for lunch. It is gratifying to me to honor her kindness and the church in this way.*

*Thank you for the support and friendship the church gave both my parents.*

# OCTOBER 2012 CALENDAR

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

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Richmond, VA 23232  
Permit No. 1962

\*RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED\*

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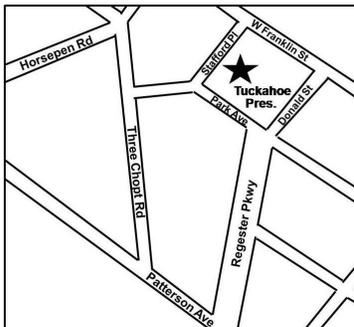
**TUCKAHOE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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**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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