



# THE TORCH

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## NEWS WORTH REPEATING

### *DO YOU WANT THE GOOD NEWS FIRST...OR THE BAD?*

Sometimes I get into a mode of listening to the same news stations for long periods of time throughout the day. I will keep listening even after I have heard the same news stories multiple times until it becomes a kind of white noise. Occasionally, there are wonderful stories that lift the heart. But most of the time, the stories are dark, full of fear, violence, and scarcity. I find that often my mood and attitude are adversely affected by these somber stories. Afterwards, I ask myself, "Why did I keep listening, what good did it do?" If you are a habitual news listener like me, you may ask yourself the same question. The news doesn't get better no matter how often I listen, and the more I listen, the more I lament for the state of humanity.

But hold on...what about the *good news*? Are we not a people who have *The Good News* to share? Why don't we reflect more about this than the bad? It seems to be a timeless truth that even we Christians relish in the bad news. Why is this? Well, it could go back to what John Calvin described as our state of total depravity; that the accounts of sin and darkness resonate with our nature that is still in the process of being sanctified. This seems to be what Jesus was talking about with Nicodemus in John's gospel when he said that the people loved the darkness instead of the light (John 3:19).

So, what do we do? Well, I find that one way to fixate on the good news is to reflect on the truth that the light has overcome the darkness, *all* darkness. The Good News of Jesus's life, death, and resurrection and eventual return can never be preempted by any bad news. And this is a fact!

As we approach Thanksgiving, I encourage you to try out a family spiritual discipline. Around the dinner table or in the evenings, talk more about the positive things from The Good News rather than the negative things of the bad. Include the bad news in prayer, believing The Good News will bring all darkness to light, and defeat death with life. One way of doing this is by engaging your mind in Scripture. Psalm 105 is one of my favorite *Psalms of Thanksgiving*. I commend it to you to begin with the first six verses, paring them with specifics from your life. This month let us together immerse ourselves in The Good News which is worth repeating.

*Psalm 105: 1-6*

*O give thanks to the Lord, call on his name, make known his deeds among the peoples. Sing to him, sing praises to him, tell of his wonderful works. Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice. Seek the Lord and his strength; seek his presence continually.*

*Remember the wonderful works he has done, his miracles and the judgments he uttered, O offspring of his servant Abraham, children of Jacob, his chosen ones.*

Grace and Peace,

*Patrick*

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# YOUTH MINISTRIES

## HELP US BUILD THE PLAYGROUND!

The playground committee is looking for strong, able-bodied volunteers on Friday, November 1 and Saturday, November 2 from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Bring your friends and help out whenever you can...it's hard, heavy, demanding work and we need all of the young people who can help to make it happen. Come...be a hero for our youngest generation!



## YOUTH GROUP CALENDAR

November 3	6:00 – 8:00 p.m.	TPC Youth Worship
November 10	6:00 – 8:00 p.m.	The Life of Jesus Christ
November 17	6:00 – 8:00 p.m.	The Death & Resurrection of Christ
November 24	6:00 – 8:00 p.m.	Roller Skating with 2nd Presbyterian
December 1	6:00 – 8:00 p.m.	To Be Announced

## MASANETTA

### YOUTH CONFERENCE PRE-REGISTRATIONS

Calling all Middle School and High School students! Pre-registration for this year's Middle School Youth Conference at Masanetta ["Beyond the Manger", June 19-22] and High School Youth Conference at Montreat ["Rooted and Reaching", July 19-26] are due by November 24th! Get your registration turned in to Sarah Morgan so we can save you a place at these awesome events!

## MONTREAT

# FOOD & FELLOWSHIP

## JOIN US FOR WEDNESDAY NIGHT FAMILY SUPPERS IN NOVEMBER!

Please join us each Wednesday night from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. for evenings of good food, fellowship, and programs.

Children will have "M&M Kids" (Music & Motion) activities during the programs and a new offering of play-acting and music for the older children..."Skittles"!

Thank you to all who have volunteered to participate on a Cooking Team this year! Want to help? You may help by:

- (1) volunteering to be on a cooking team or (2) providing dessert on a night we have our caterer.

Contact Gail Miller or Ruth Ann Hoge if you can help out.

Please consider making Wednesday Night Suppers a part of your week!



### WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPERS IN NOVEMBER

<u>DATE</u>	<u>PROGRAM</u>	<u>MENU</u>
November 6	Camptown Races – wear your fancy hat!	"Taco Bar" and Desserts; grilled cheese/PBJ for the kids
November 13	"The Science of Ethics: Lessons on Love" - Professor of Economics, University of Richmond, Jonathan Wright	Cooking Team 4 will prepare "Recipes from OTHER Church Cookbooks"; hamburger sliders for the kids
November 20	Service of Healing and Wholeness – Reverend Patrick Dennis	Pork Chops, Rice, Carrots, Salad and Bread; Pizza for the kids
November 27	No Dinner – Thanksgiving Eve	

# CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

## THIRD YEAR OF M&M KIDS! FIRST YEAR OF SKITTLES!

If you have older elementary age children and wonder if Wednesday nights at TPC would be fun for them, wonder no more! All families with children age two years old through sixth grade are encouraged to come to our weekly Wednesday night children's program. Following the 6:00 dinner with our church family and while adults stay in Duntreath Hall for the program, children are hav-



ing fun in room 202 with M&M Kids (music and motion) for age 2 years old through 1<sup>st</sup> grade, and our new group, Skittles, for age 2<sup>nd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> grade! Sherry Flournoy is a welcome addition, as she works with Skittles, and at times M&M Kids also, sharing her gifts in drama with fun activities. Mr. Mark and Becky Loggins assist, along with youth leaders Corinne Burch, Marin Shade, and Bailey Kane. Join us on Wednesdays! We would love to increase in numbers and work toward bringing back the beloved children's musical productions!

*-Becky Loggins, Director of Children's Ministries*



## NEW NURSERY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED BY NOVEMBER 15

The nursery schedule for winter/spring 2014 is being planned and will be finalized in a few weeks. We are in need of more volunteers in two of our nursery groups! The groups are: 2 - 3 years, and 4 years - 1<sup>st</sup> grade. Adults and assisting youth are encouraged to help with the two older groups. If you do NOT have a child of nursery age, please consider volunteering to help. If you have a child who is in middle school or high school, let them know of this opportunity to serve. The more help we have, the more often everyone can attend worship.

Contact Becky Loggins by November 15 to help on the new schedule! Phone 201-0571  
Email [krebeccagoode@gmail.com](mailto:krebeccagoode@gmail.com)

# CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

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

**Sunday, November 3, All Saints' Sunday** - The children's Sunday School will explore Modern Day Saints with special visitors, as we learn about ways we can help others other than in a paid job or career. Don't be "alarmed" if you see a fire truck! Yes, our firefighters are paid, but there are many volunteer firefighters! Greyhounds from James River Greyhound Rescue and Kathy Erhardt from FeedMore will also visit. The children will donate needed supplies to all as the fall service project.

Children's Church for age 4-years-old through 1<sup>st</sup> grade will be held, following "Moments with the Children" during the service. The Godly Play story, work response, scripture reading, and prayer of *The Parable of the Good Samaritan* will be in room 201 with Becky Loggins.

**Sunday, November 24** - Christ the King Sunday, the last Sunday of the church year. Chrismon lesson and Chrismon-making in all classes. Do you know what a Chrismon is and how Chrismons originated? Ask one of the children after this lesson!

### Looking ahead:

**Sunday, December 15** - Pageant costume preparation in children's Sunday School.

**Sunday, December 22** - Pageant rehearsal following worship.

**Christmas Eve** - Family Service with Pageant at 4:00.

Questions? Contact Becky Loggins, Director of Children's Ministries:

## WISH LIST FOR CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL AND CHILDREN'S CHURCH

- ◆ Used cafeteria trays
- ◆ 6-pack boxes of Model Magic, "Natural Colors" (found at Michael's or Ben Franklin) - 6 individual packs in a box
- ◆ Elmer's White Glue - small bottles
- ◆ Glue sticks



~Becky Loggins, Director of Children's Ministries

# OUTREACH

## STOP HUNGER NOW PROJECT A RESOUNDING SUCCESS!

A group of 100+ hearty souls from Tuckahoe and Three Chopt Presbyterian joined forces on Saturday morning, October 19th to tackle the packaging of meals for *Stop Hunger Now*, an International non-profit founded to help redistribute food across the globe. This group bested its initial goal (\$3,750 in donations and 15,000 meals) significantly by collecting \$5,886 and packaging 23,544 meals to be shipped and used principally in other countries. It also collected \$ 421 in cash to help pay for four water filtration systems for communities that do not have enough clean water to drink.



While the volunteer turnout and production numbers were outstanding, the fun and sense of accomplishment the individuals in the group felt by having participated in the project were most impressive. Here are a few quotes from the volunteers that were there:

- "This was helpful not only to the participants but also very educational"
- "Please plan again as soon as possible"
- "Awesome !"
- "I think it is something we need to do yearly, how about two times a year ?"
- "It was so much fun"
- "It just makes me feel good to help all these people"
- "I couldn't believe all the people that we were here today"
- "What a great use of our facility"
- "Indescribable !"
- "I can't go away for a week on a Mission Trip, but this was a great way to get involved in mission without leaving town"
- "There was a job for everyone"
- "I can't believe what a difference we were able to make in just two hours"

To say a 'good time was had by all' would be an understatement, as there was a job for everyone and all the work was done in an upbeat, energized environment. In just two hours this group packaged enough food to provide 141,264 servings (23,544 meals x 6 servings per packet) of food at a cost of 4 cents per serving - simply incredible.

A special thanks to everyone who donated their time, money and energy to set up, pack and clean up after this project, and to make it so very successful. We are already beginning to think about our next *Stop Hunger Now* project so please be on the lookout for information to come.

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

A volunteer is needed to provide bread for the Men's Shelter for the months of November, January, March, and May. It's an easy job- buy 3 or 4 loaves (depending on size) of French bread, slice and butter, and leave them in the kitchen for delivery to the shelter on the **second Tuesday** of the month. This can be done ahead of time and left in the refrigerator or freezer, depending on how far ahead it is done.

Questions? Ask Camellia Wroniewicz (370-5157) or Terry Brady (740-1768).



## Food Collection

**128.2 pounds** of food were delivered to **LAMB's Basket** in October. Thanks to Lunch Bunch, Sunday School classes and the general congregation we have continued to increase our donation.

Keep up the good work.



## Angel Tree

A Ministry of Prison Fellowship

## ANGEL TREE PROJECT

Tuckahoe has been a sponsor for the **Ministry of Prison Fellowship "Angel Tree" project** for many years. This year we are again sponsoring **25 children**.

Each child will receive two gifts: one toy and one clothing item.

This project helps incarcerated men and women provide Christmas presents to their children who live in metropolitan

Richmond. These presents provide a tangible reminder to the children that their parent loves them even though they cannot

be with them at Christmas.

Please consider helping with this very worthwhile project! **We need 50 members of the congregation** to purchase and gift wrap one gift each (approx. \$20-\$25). The gifts have been selected by the parents, so you can be sure they will be appropriate and appreciated. We also **need people to assist with the delivery of the presents** to the children the week before Christmas. When the **Angel Tree is up in the Fellowship Hall in late November**, please pick an Angel from the tree to make Christmas special for a lucky child! Watch the bulletin for more specific dates and details or contact Pam Burch at 364-5203 or [vaburch@comcast.net](mailto:vaburch@comcast.net) with questions.

Thank you in advance for your generous support.

# OUTREACH

## MONTHLY PRAYER REQUEST

At the October 2013 Outreach Division meeting we decided to make the multiple ministries led by Victor Vula our prayer focus for November and to support Victor through a monetary contribution.

You may remember Reverend Victor Vula from when he was a student at the Union Presbyterian Seminary about 5 years ago. He visited Tuckahoe many times. He received both a Masters of Theology and a Masters of Christian Education in the two years he was here. He is a dedicated student and a man with a mission for God.

Victor said that when he was serving in Myanmar as a pastor, an old man told him that the way to reach the people was through education. "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Proverbs 22:6 With that as God's guiding light, Victor and his wife Mulani, started the *Myanmar Education Project*.

This Christian School( VCA ) they founded in Yangon, Myanmar, currently has about 50 students. Below are some excerpts from the latest newsletter about their mission activities.

*"As the school is growing by God's grace, there are more needs to be met. We started training new teachers for next academic year, as one class (grade 2) will be added in 2014. Please continue to pray for us for permanent land, good teachers, materials for inside and outside the classroom; and please pray especially for any international Christian schools or education focus organizations/churches to support, connect or partner with VCA. The six mission churches we are overseeing are also going well... Recently we built 2 new bio-sand water filters at two of our mission churches. We will build another 3 at three of our mission churches before the end of this month. God willing, we are planning to provide more water filters at rural areas in Chin and Kachin state where the death rate of children under 4 (1 out of 4 died) is really high, mainly by drinking dirty or contaminated water. We are also planning to build more schools for preschoolers. Children are the hope of the church and the future of Myanmar. Thank you again for your heart, prayer and financial support for our ministry. Again, please continue to pray for us and support us."*

Please join the Outreach Division in praying for Victor, his wife, Mulani, and their mission work in Myanmar.





## HENRICO THANKSGIVING FOOD BOX PROGRAM (HEARTH OF HENRICO)



Thanksgiving food boxes are provided to needy families and individuals within the caseloads of the Henrico Dept. of Social Services. Donors prepare food boxes to be distributed for Thanksgiving. Most of the boxes include food for Thanksgiving Dinner plus other food items.

Individuals, families or groups (like Circles, Sunday School Classes, Youth Groups) can participate.

**PLEASE NOTE: All food boxes should feed a family of six. Please, no frozen or fresh turkeys and no perishables.**

**Suggested Contents of boxes:** Canned vegetables and/or fruit; Canned Soup; Peanut Butter and Jelly; Canned Gravy; Stuffing Mix; Potatoes; Dessert Item; Gift Card for value of a turkey.

Please take boxes to the Church Library by Friday, November 22 for delivery on November 23.

Any questions, contact: Meg Packard (754-0602) or Kaye Keyes (360-7371).

## HOW YOUR GROUP MIGHT PLAN A THANKSGIVING BOX

Plan for each box to feed a family of six. No frozen or perishable items. Use the chart below to have each member of your group sign up to bring one or more items. Then decorate your box and place it in the church library by Friday, November 22nd.

ITEMS	NAMES
Canned Vegetables	
Canned Soup	
Canned Fruit	
Peanut Butter	
Jelly	
Canned Gravy	
Stuffing Mix	
Potatoes	
Dessert Item	
Gift Card for Turkey	
Cash \$\$ Contributions (provide envelope)	

# PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

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## HARVEST OF LOVE SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10

Please join in celebrating this long-standing Tuckahoe tradition of sharing with our community and others around the world. There are several opportunities for participation. All contributions will be distributed promptly to appropriate recipients. This year's projects are as follows:

- 1) **Operation Christmas Child** - Fill a shoe box with inexpensive gifts selected from the list below. Wrap the box and top separately in colorful paper. Attach a label (see next page) indicating boy/girl and age range. Please include a \$7 donation for shipping. Checks should be made out to Samaritan's Purse or Presbyterian Women of Tuckahoe Church. No cash, please. See <http://www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/pack-a-shoe-box/> for further details.

**Toys** - Small cars, balls, stuffed animals, kazoos, harmonicas, yo-yo's, jump ropes, small Etch-A-Sketch, Slinky, toys that light up or make noise (with extra batteries).

**School Supplies** - Pens, pencils and sharpener, crayons or markers, stamps and ink pad sets, writing pads or paper, solar calculators, coloring and picture books.

**Hygiene Items** - Toothbrush, toothpaste, mild bar of soap (in plastic bag), comb, washcloth.

**Other** - T-shirts, socks, ball caps, sunglasses, hair clips, toy jewelry, watches, flashlights (with extra batteries).

**A Personal Note** - In a separate envelope, you may enclose a note to the child and a photo of yourself or your family. (If you include your name and address, the child may write back.)

**DO NOT INCLUDE** - Used or damaged items; war-related items such as toy guns, knives or military figures; chocolate or food; out-of-date candy; liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers; aerosol cans.

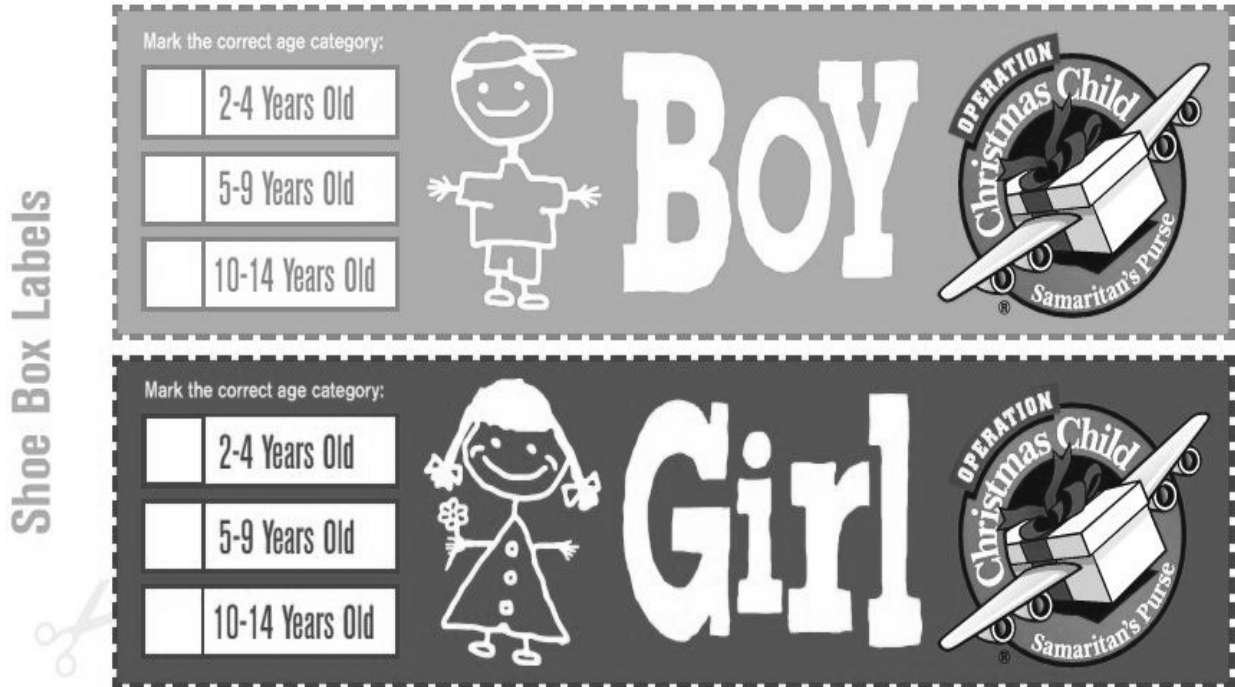
- 2) **Knitted or crocheted baby hats for VCU Medical Center.**
- 3) **Socks (size medium or large) and underwear (sizes 4 to 7) for children in Pre-K through 1<sup>st</sup> grade at Oak Grove-Bellemeade Elementary School.**



Please bring items to the church on **Saturday, November 9 from 10:00 to 12:00, or on Sunday morning.** Contributions also may be left in the women's closet in room 106 or in the church office. Deadline is Tuesday, November 12.

For further information, contact Gail Miller at 359-1230 or Becky Theuer at 364-8161.

# PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN



**PLEASE USE THESE LABELS FOR YOUR  
OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOXES!**

## **CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3**

Save the date for a delicious meal prepared by the PW Cooking Team. Entertainment will be provided by *Perfect Fit*, a ladies' barbershop quartet from Mills E. Godwin High School. Circles will meet at 10:45 at church, followed by a general meeting at 11:15. Lunch will be served at 12:15. This is a slight change from the usual schedule. Please make reservations after worship on Sundays, November 24 or December 1, or by contacting Meg Packard at 754-0602. Cost is \$6.



# AROUND THE CHURCH

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## FALL CLEAN-UP DAY

# November 9th - 8:00 am

- What:** Tuckahoe Fall Clean Up Day  
**Why:** Because we need help to clean, fix and freshen up the church for fall & the holidays.  
**When:** Saturday, November 9th. Meet in Duntreath Hall at 8:00 am for coffee, juice, muffins and donuts.  
**How:** Many hands make light work, so bring your energy and maybe a pair of gloves.  
**What else:** If you have questions, call or see Tom Lee, Property Division, 740-4907.



Here are a few of the tasks we need to tackle...won't you help??

- ◇ Trim trees, branches and bushes in church yard.
- ◇ Repair doors to dumpster fence.
- ◇ Weed and remove seasonal plants from gardens, plant fall flowers.
- ◇ Clean pews, light fixtures, window sills in sanctuary.
- ◇ Clean windows in various locations
- ◇ Clean gutters and downspouts



## SHARE THANKSGIVING DAY WITH AN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT

International students and scholars are eager to learn more about our culture, to experience the warmth of a home, and to make American friends. Thanksgiving Day provides a unique opportunity to show hospitality and friendship. If you would be interested in sharing this special American holiday with a VCU international student or scholar, please contact Pam Haney ([pohaney@vcu.edu](mailto:pohaney@vcu.edu)) by **November 15** or call 828-8309.

A Thanksgiving volunteer form can also be found at [http://www.global.vcu.edu/pdf/American\\_Volunteer\\_Thanksgiving.pdf](http://www.global.vcu.edu/pdf/American_Volunteer_Thanksgiving.pdf).



# AROUND THE CHURCH

## TUCKAHOE'S GETTING A NEW PLAYGROUND!!

If you haven't already noticed...take a look at our playground site next time you are at church. Jack Shade's Eagle Scout project took care of removing the old, outdated equipment, repairing the fence, and addressing a drainage issue on the site. Kudos, Jack, to you and your project team!!

By the time you are reading this a local playground contractor will be preparing the site, marking it for the new equipment and preparing the holes.

**But, we need your help to install the equipment on Friday, November 1 and Saturday, November 2. We need between 20 and 25 volunteers both days.** We will be working from 8:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. each day. Volunteers need to be able-bodied, willing to take instruction, willing to work in a team and focused on making this exciting new playground happen! We will provide childcare both Friday and Saturday mornings from 8:00 a.m. – Noon.

Can't help out with the building project? There are two other ways you can help:

- ◇ We need additional funding to cover the costs of the contractor. If you are inspired by this gift for our youngest generation, please make your check to TPC, with "playground project" in the memo line.
- ◇ Or, you can drop by the church on Friday or Saturday with snacks, lunches or beverages. If it stays cold, I am sure some coffee or hot chocolate would be welcomed!

**THE PLAYGROUND WILL BE DEDICATED AND  
"OPEN FOR BUSINESS" ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10.**



## TONY WELCOMES HIS 9TH GREAT-GRANDCHILD!

Congratulations to Tony DeLesDernier who welcomed his ninth great grandchild, Tanner Jacob Merryman. Tanner lives in Gibbon, NE.

# NOVEMBER 2013 CALENDAR

TPC Events, Adult Education, Children's Ministry, Community Events, Outreach Events, TPC Meetings, Worship and Music Ministry, Youth Ministry

Nov 2013 (Eastern Time)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27 All Saints Day 9:30am - Sunday 11am - Sunday Worship 6pm - Youth Groups	28 3pm - Swing Band @ 4pm - SPARC CLASSES 7pm - Circle 2 @ Ruth	29 Governor's Election - 10am - Circle 3 @ Room 1:30pm - Circle 1 @ 5:15pm - Peaceable 6:30pm - Pops Band @	30 9:30am - Staff Meeting 5:30pm - Tuckings Bell 6pm - Wednesday 6:30pm - M & M Kids 7:30pm - Endowment 7:30pm - Handbell 7:30pm - VA Terrier	31 7am - Men's Bible 6:30pm - POPS Band 7:30pm - Chancel Choir 8pm - AA meetings @	1 8am - Playground Build Project 9:45am - SPARC	2 8am - Fall Clean-Up 9:45am - SPARC
10 Playground Dedication 9:30am - Sunday 11am - Sunday Worship 12:30pm - BP Check @ 6pm - Youth Groups	11 9:30am - Stephen 3pm - Swing Band @ 4pm - SPARC CLASSES 6:30pm - Scrapbook 7pm - Outreach 7:30pm - Christian	12 5:15pm - Peaceable 5:30pm - Emergency 6:30pm - Pops Band @ 7pm - Stewardship	13 9:30am - Staff Meeting 5:30pm - Tuckings Bell 6pm - Wednesday 6:30pm - M & M Kids 7:30pm - Handbell 7:30pm - Property 7:30pm - Worship/Mem	14 7am - Men's Bible 7:30pm - Chancel Choir 8pm - AA meetings @	15 10:30am - Meals on 5pm - Hinson/Bates 9:45am - SPARC	16 Hinson/Bates Wedding 9:45am - SPARC
17 9:30am - Sunday 11am - Sunday Worship 6pm - Youth Groups	18 Torch Deadline 3pm - Swing Band @ 4pm - SPARC CLASSES 6:30pm - Stephen 7pm - Virginia Kennel	19 5:15pm - Peaceable 6:30pm - Pops Band @ 7pm - Administration	20 9:30am - Staff Meeting 10:30am - Meals on 5:30pm - Tuckings Bell 6pm - Wednesday 6:30pm - M & M Kids 7:30pm - Diaconate 7:30pm - Handbell 7:30pm - Session	21 7am - Men's Bible 9:30am - Lamb's 7:30pm - Chancel Choir 8pm - AA meetings @	22 10:30am - Brandon 9:45am - SPARC	23 9:45am - SPARC
24 Christ the King Day 9:30am - Sunday 11am - Sunday Worship 12:15pm - Fellowship 12:30pm - Warlinner 6pm - Youth Groups	25 10:30am - Meals on 3pm - Swing Band @ 4pm - SPARC CLASSES 6:30pm - Scrapbooking 7pm - TPC Book Club @	26 3:30pm - Hilliard House 6:30pm - Pops Band @	27 9:30am - Staff Meeting	28 Church Office Closed	29 9:45am - SPARC	30 9:45am - SPARC



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**TUCKAHOE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
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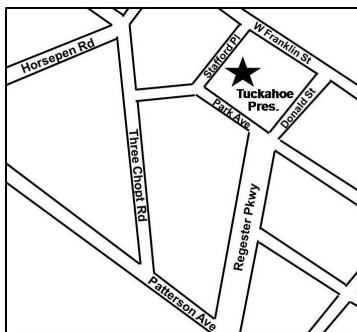
**TUCKAHOE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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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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