

Called by God to be the heart, voice, hands and feet of Christ where the Spirit leads us. Tuckahoe Presbyterian Church 7000 Park Avenue, Richmond, Virginia 23226 804-282-2860; <u>www.tuckahoepres.org</u>

July 8, 2019

Dear Members and Friends of Tuckahoe,

Hopefully you have read or heard the exciting news of the Session's action to continue worship at 10:00am into the fall. The Session is elected and charged to represent the congregation in matters that affect the worship and spiritual nurture of the congregation. There were a lot of factors to consider and we were aware of the potential questions the change would elicit. However, we believe that the Holy Spirit led us to this decision and that it will have a positive impact on our educational and worship ministries.

What is our vision?

This is an act of hospitality to accommodate the needs of our current members, visitors, and friends, as well as future visitors and members. We realize that long standing traditions are difficult to change and so should be done thoughtfully, prayerfully and with good reason. The Session's action was done in such a spirit with the intention to help our members more fully engage in study and worship by beginning the Lord's Day earlier as a worshipping community and thereby allowing for family sabbath rest and recreation for the rest of the day.

Why now?

The Session committees along with Staff have listened to members about their Sunday commitments. Many members have told us they have to choose frequently between Sunday school/worship and afternoon commitments and events. Others have informed us that their retirement communities' lunch hour begins before the 11am worship service ends. Moreover, research has shown that 10am is increasingly becoming the most desirable time for worship which may be attractive to future visitors and members.

What will it look like?

The Sunday schedule will begin with Sunday school for youth and children from 9 am - 9:50 am. Adult Sunday school classes will either be at 9 am or after fellowship time, depending on the preference of the leaders and/or the consensus of their class. The Service of Worship will begin at 10am, followed by Fellowship.

Our Thanks!

We are excited about the vibrancy this change may bring to our growing ministry and thank you for your commitment to our work and worship as the Body of Christ. If you have questions, please reach out to me or any member of the Session.

On behalf of the Session and in Christ's service with you,

The Rev. Patrick Dennis, Pastor and Moderator of Session

Session Members- William Adair, Anne Beane, Shelly Blackstone, Susan Breitenberg, Harold Cothern, Ross DeBolt, Tim Estes, Amy Glass, Nancy Millsaps, Ethan Sherman, Leslie Shimer, Walter Smith, Mary Chris Werner, Ben Wilson, Lucky Wroniewicz; Barbie Keatts (Clerk), Sarah Dennis (Covenant Pastor)