

Tuckahoe Torch



Tuckahoe Presbyterian Church
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2012 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

Over the past year Tuckahoe has been actively engaging in a visioning process which has culminated in a new Purpose Statement which will now serve as a guide for our Church, as we plan for the future.

There has been a necessary focus over the past several years on the challenging economic environment and its impact on Tuckahoe and its members. The Stewardship and Finance Division feels that now is a good time to focus more on what we have accomplished at Tuckahoe and on our bright future.

As we prepare for the 2012 Stewardship Campaign we want to encourage everyone to focus on Tuckahoe's bright future prospects, and the important role that good stewardship will play in helping the Church to fulfill its mission.

Our theme for the Stewardship Campaign this year will be:

Be an Integral Part of Tuckahoe's Bright Future 2012 Stewardship Campaign

Over the next six weeks you will learn more about the importance of stewardship to Tuckahoe's mission. As you have often heard, stewardship applies to time, talents and treasures. We encourage you to prayerfully consider how you can help Tuckahoe through your stewardship efforts.

Please mark your calendar for **November 6** which will be Dedication Sunday. We will all have the opportunity to come forward with our Giving Cards at the conclusion of our Worship Service.

"You will be enriched in every way for great generosity, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God" (2 Corinthians 9 11).


"And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4 19).

Stewardship and Finance Division

CHURCH CALENDAR



2011

| SUN | MON | TUES | WED | THURS | FRI | SAT |
|--|--|---|---|---|--|--|
| <p style="text-align: center;">"Even if something is left undone, everyone must take time to sit still and watch the leaves turn." - Elizabeth Lawrence</p> | | | | | | 1 9:30 AM SPARC |
| 2 Centsability Offering 11AM Worship 12AM Fellowship 6 PM YOUTH | 3 4 PM SPARC 4 PM Swing Band 7 PM Circle 2 | 4 10:15 AM rcles 3,4 1:30 pm Circle 5 7 pm DISCIPLE 8 pm - Pops Band | 5 12 N BULLETIN 5:30 PM Tuckadings 6:00 PM Dinner 7:30 PM Handbells 7 PM Endowment | 6 7 AM Men's Bible Class 4 PM SPARC 7:30 Choir 8 PM AA Meeting | 7 | 8 9:30 AM SPARC CHURCH RETREAT |
| 9 CHURCH RETREAT 9:30 AM Sun. Sch. 11 AM Worship 12 N Fellowship No Youth Group | 10 12 N Lunch Bunch 4 PM SPARC 4 PM Swing Band 7 PM Outreach Div 7:30 PM - Christian Formation Div. | 11 SESSION PACKET 4 PM SPARC 5:30 pm Emergency Shelter Meal 7 pm Stewardship 8 PM POPS BAND | 12 12 N BULLETIN 5:30 PM Tuckadings 6:00 PM Dinner 7:30 PM Handbells 7:30 PM Property 7:30 PM Worship/ Membership Div | 13 7 AM Men's Bible Class 4 PM SPARC 7:30 Choir 8 PM AA Meeting | 14 10:30 AM MEALS ON WHEELS  | 15 9:30 AM SPARC |
| 16 9:00 Prayer Meeting 9:30 AM Sun. Sch. 11 AM Worship 12 N Fellowship YOUTH TBA | 17 4 PM SPARC 4 PM Swing Band 7 PM Adm/Pers. Div | 18 4 PM SPARC 8 PM POPS BAND Session Packet Deadline | 19 12 N BULLETIN 5:30 PM Tuckadings 6:00 PM Dinner 7:30 PM Handbells 7:30 PM Diaconate | 20 7 AM Men's Bible Class 4 PM SPARC 7:30 Choir 8 PM AA Meeting | 21 | 22 9:30 AM SPARC |
| 23 9:00 Prayer Meeting 9:30 AM Sun. Sch. 11 AM Worship 12 N Fellowship YOUTH TBA | 24 4 PM SPARC 4 PM Swing Band 8 PM VA Kennel Tuckahoe Book Club | 25 10 AM PW Meeting 3:30 PM Hilliard House 4 PM SPARC 8 pm POPS BAND | 26 12 N BULLETIN 5:30 PM Tuckadings 6:00 PM Dinner 7:30 PM Handbells 7:30 PM Session | 27 7 AM Men's Bible Class 4 PM SPARC 7:30 Choir 8 PM AA Meeting | 28 | 29 9:30 AM SPARC Bloom Wedding |
| 30 9:00 Prayer Meeting 9:30 AM Sun. Sch. 11 AM Worship 12 N Fellowship YOUTH TBA | 31 4 PM SPARC 4 PM Swing Band 8 PM VA Kennel | <p>PLEASE NOTE: NEW YOUTH SCHEDULE MIDDLE SCHOOL: 5:30 TO 7:00 HIGH SCHOOL: 6:30 TO 8:00</p> | | | | |

From the Interim's Pastor's Study



Recently Steven and I were talking and listening to folks at a Town Hall gathering about the Presbyterian Church and a late summer conference hosted by the “Presbyterian Fellowship.” Recent changes to our Book of Order regarding ordination requirements, years of membership loss, an aging Presbyterian population, changes in worship music and probably many more issues pose serious challenges facing our denominational church. Of course these issues play at the local level.

In the midst of Presbyterians finding their way forward is the matter of how we read and interpret Scripture. In a secular society all manner of religious authorities are questioned. The Bible is questioned and doubted. But that is not as alarming as the Bible being discarded or ignored. Presbyterians say they are “people of the Book.” We actually have three books: the Book of Order that guides us in governance; the Book of Confessions that describes what we believe (includes apostle’s creed and various confessions of faith); and the Bible itself—“The unique and authoritative witness that guides what we believe and practice.”

What discourages me from time to time is the scenario where Christians (including Presbyterians) discuss and debate issues without any reference to guidance we find in Scripture. Of course we may disagree over interpretations of scripture—but let’s make sure our discussions are informed by a knowledge and trust of the Bible. This is why Sunday School classes, and Disciple classes and small group studies are so important for us to be “biblically informed.”

It may be fun to sit around and drink coffee and share opinions. Yes, I enjoy that. But if we are voting in Session meetings and presbytery meetings or committee meetings as members and leaders, should we not speak as ones who are biblically informed and theologically-minded? And if we are living the Christian life do we not want all the means of grace at our disposal? Ministers are called teaching elders, so we admit we have an important role in teaching the people of God. I sometimes tell congregations, “Please don’t wear me out with meetings and disputes, but do wear me out with preaching and teaching!” I know, be careful what you wish for!

On Saturday, November 5, from 8:30 am until 3 pm, a workshop titled “The Relevancy and Reliability of Scripture in Today’s World” will be hosted by West End Assembly of God (401 N. Parham Road). The seminar leader is Dr. Doug Stuart, professor of Old Testament at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary. Dr. Stuart taught me many years ago. He is a humorous, engaging and insightful scholar. His teaching is well worth hearing. He is co-author of a wonderful book I have taught and used for many years: “How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth.” I believe this opportunity is one not to be missed.

Please see the flyer outside my office door for more information. I will place a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board outside my office. I hope you will consider joining me for this seminar in November.

Blessings in Christ,

Richard

ABOUT OUR MEMBERS

Presbyterian Women



Many thanks to those who helped to make the fall luncheon a great success.

Our regular circle meetings will resume in October. The schedule is as follows:

Circle 2 – First Monday at 7:00 PM in the home of Ruth Anna Langdon, 903 Regester Parkway, 23226.

Circle 3 – First Tuesday at 10:00 AM at church in room 108.

Circle 4 – First Tuesday at 10:00 AM in members' homes. October meeting will be in the home of Becky Theuer, 11107 Sithean Way, 23233.

Circle 5 – First Tuesday at 1:30 PM at church in room 106.

All circles will be using the Horizons Bible Study entitled *Confessing the Beatitudes*. All women are invited to join as we begin this interesting new series. Visitors are always welcome, no commitment required. For more information, please contact Ruth Anna Langdon (282-4867), Patty Withrow (788-9150), Meg Packard (754-0602) or Becky Theuer (364-8161).

The Presbyterian Women will sponsor one service project each month. The September project was a collection on school supplies for Crestview Elementary School. Upcoming events are as follows:

October: Christmas shoe boxes for Samaritan's Purse. See <http://www.samaritanspurse.org/> for details and to print a label for your box. Completed boxes may be left in the women's closet in room 108. Optional contributions for shipping are \$7 per box, CHECKS ONLY, made out to either Samaritan's Purse or Presbyterian Women of Tuckahoe Church. Deadline for delivering boxes to the church is November 13 (Harvest of Love Sunday). Please contact Gail Miller at 359-1230 for details.

November: Harvest of Love will be held on Sunday, **November 13**. In addition to shoe boxes for Samaritan's Purse, we will be collecting knitted and crocheted preemie caps for VCU Medical Center, and socks and underwear for boys and girls, suitable for children between kindergarten and fifth grade.

December: Christmas gifts will be purchased for a needy family from Crestview Elementary School.

Becky Theuer
Secretary, Presbyterian Women

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY BEGS YOUR ATTENTION

In the September Torch, I mentioned that we needed someone to write a health article every other month since Bill Vogel has requested that he be relieved of this for a while. Then along came the earthquake followed by the hurricane, and the Torch did not even get run off until the middle of the month and was even later being delivered to some members, but we know all of our Torch helpers did the best they could. Let me know if you are interested in taking up the slack for a while. You can write about anything that affects our health; job changes, relationships, caregiving, aging, mental health issues, etc. It does not have to be any specific length, a full page, a half-page, or less, or more. Call me at 740-3019 and tell me you'll do it!

Rachel Gray, Editor

LUNCH BUNCH



The Lunch Bunch is still in business - second Monday of each month. Join us at 12 Noon on October 10th, and feel free to bring a friend. Always remember the **Lamb's Basket** with a donation of non-perishable food.

LAMB's Basket food collection - Our congregation collected 118.8 lbs. of non-perishable foods on Sept. 4. The Lunch Bunch contributed 77.6 lbs. on September 12, giving us a combined contribution of 196.4 lbs. for the month of Sept. Our next collection day is October 2.

WITHIN THE CHURCH

INQUIRERS CLASS Starting October 30

We are planning an Inquirers Class for those who would like to learn more about Tuckahoe. The class will meet for three (3) weeks during the Sunday School Hour beginning on October 30 and continuing on November 6 and 13.

The classes are open to people who have been visiting Tuckahoe whether for a few weeks, a few months or even longer. These informative classes are designed to orient persons to the Christian faith, to Presbyterian distinctive and to our life together at Tuckahoe. Ministers and elders will lead the class sessions.

If you are interested in the class, feel free to call Jim McLeskey (804) 539 3642 or Richard Haney or Steven Good in the church office (804) 282 2860.



Sorry that we don't have the name of the Book we will be discussing or where the meeting will be held; only that it will be on the 24th of October. Look for specific information in the church bulletins on October 2, 9 and 16.

Wednesday Night Supper

Wednesday Night Supper Fellowship continues in October with a series on adolescent spirituality presented by our own Steven Good. Please join us at 6 p.m. on October 5 and 12 for food and fellowship, followed at 6:30 by Steven's presentation. Starting October 19, and running for five consecutive Wednesdays, TPC will be returning to Philip Yancey's enriching book, "What's So Amazing About Grace." New this year, TPC has a children's music and play-time for ages 2 and up during Wednesday Night adult programming. The fellowship committee is also continuing its program of inviting guest chefs to come and share a favorite menu. Please contact Gail Miller, Ruth Ann Hoge, or Matthew Mahoney for more information.

Raising the Curtain on our TPC Youth

by Rachel Burch

Meet our October youth, Anna Lacy! Anna is just about to turn 18 and has been coming to Tuckahoe for nine years. Anna lives with her dad, Bob Lacy, and her mom, Kathy Lacy. She is a cat person and loves to spend time with her two kitties, Tonto and Pooh. Her older sister, Kathryn, is a senior this year at Virginia Tech.



Anna is a senior at Godwin High School. She says her favorite part of being a senior is all the senior privileges at school, including eating outside on Fridays! Anna is a very active member of her school. She has been part of her school's advanced women's choir, Musical Illusions, for four years. Anna is a very talented writer and is one of the editors of her school's literary magazine. She played soccer for Godwin for two years and is currently playing on a Striker's team with another of our TPC youth, Sarah Shimer. Anna is also coaching a team of six-and seven-year-olds.

Anna also shares her many talents with TPC. She can be found on Sunday mornings in the choir room with the soprano section. She is also part of the youth quartet along with William Theuer, Jeb Cooke, and Mary Chris Werner. Anna was involved in our Vacation Bible School as a classroom helper, and this summer, she participated in both the youth group's trip to Montreat and the Mission trip to the Dominican Republic.

Two of Anna's favorite things are the color lime green and wearing high heels so she can be taller than everybody else! Next year, Anna is hoping to attend James Madison University. She would like to eventually become a novelist. When asked what her favorite part of Tuckahoe is, Anna said that it was the accepting youth group. Thanks, Anna, for being our youth of the month!

OWN A PIECE OF TUCKAHOE!

Small rugs were made from the leftover pieces of the Karastan runner in our sanctuary and are available for you to purchase. The cost of binding was \$12.50 per rug. You can purchase one for the cost of binding plus whatever contribution you wish to add. Contact Steve Kramer or Camellia Wroniewicz if you wish buy one. Proceeds go to the Mission Fund of the Outreach Division.

A BRIGHT "THANK YOU"

A BIG thank you goes out to all of you who helped with the YMCA's Bright Beginnings Program! We had over 30 volunteers from Tuckahoe, and several volunteered for multiple shopping trips. Deb Parks of the Tuckahoe YMCA wants everyone to know how much our help is appreciated and depended upon year after year. This year a record number of children (305 kids in our area) benefited by your generosity. Thanks again for volunteering!

Your Outreach Board

MEET THE NEIGHBORS



Our featured neighbor for October is a familiar face: Ruth Anna Langdon.

Ruth Anna has been one of Tuckahoe's neighbors since 1977. She has four children, some of whom you may know: Annah, Lea, Candace and George. She also has eleven grandchildren, six of whom are members of Tuckahoe. There was a small Langdon reunion at church this summer: all eleven grandchildren either attended or were helpers at Vacation Bible School this year.

Besides all Ruth Anna does at church, she enjoys gardening as well as reading. She is a member of two book clubs: one with Tuckahoe and the other with her former co-workers from the Women's Resource Center at the University of Richmond. I also happen to know that Ruth Anna is a good and creative cook – she and Camellia Wroniewicz planned, shopped for and prepared all the breakfasts and dinners for nearly 30 people this summer while we were on our mission trip in the Dominican Republic. What makes this even more impressive is the challenges they faced: the oven only worked occasionally, there was no power during the night so food could be refrigerated, and there were only two working burners on the smallest stove I have ever seen. (Remember....30 people!)

When Ruth Anna moved to the neighborhood she was among the youngest residents and now she says she is among the oldest so she has seen the neighborhood transition over the years. What she likes about the neighborhood is the convenience of being able to walk to church as well as the mixture of young and old residents.

"Thank you" to Ruth Anna for being our October neighbor of the month!

YARD SALE RESULTS

Thanks to the efforts of many people, our yard sale on September 10 was a huge success. When the final accounting is in, we will be able to add between \$5,000 and \$5,500 to the Outreach Division's Mission Fund. Between 50 and 60 people volunteered in some aspect of the sale.



Our thanks go out to each and every one of you who contributed in so many ways. Our thanks go to the volunteers who worked prior to the sale day by picking up items from homes, loading and unloading goods, unpacking boxes, sorting and pricing donated items, moving tables, and doing whatever else was necessary to be ready for Saturday's sale. Thanks also to those of you who worked during the sale, especially those of you who arrived at 6:30 AM! Many of you aided shoppers with selections, checked them out, and provided help getting purchases out of the building. Thanks to those of you who provided snacks during the work days and breakfast for our volunteers on the day of the sale. We also appreciate the efforts of members of our youth who helped by delivering flyers to the surrounding neighborhood, by helping get ready for the sale, and for help on the day of the sale. This was definitely an inter-generational effort.

Thanks to all of you who contributed your most precious possessions, as well as your less than precious items. Without your generosity we would have had no merchandise to sell! We do not know the number of contributors nor do we know the number of items (or even how many tons) you contributed, but it was enough to fill all our spaces. Thanks to anyone who contributed in any way that has not been mentioned. Many of you worked behind the scenes in ways that were a vital part of our effort.

Outreach is especially grateful to Camellia Wroniewicz for her invaluable guidance and hard work. Without her experience and knowledge of the world of yard sales, we could not have pulled this off. Thanks also to her sidekick, Lucky, who helped in many ways, most of which involved muscle.

Thanks again to one and all!



Melting Stress and Worry: Meditation and Prayer

Twenty million Americans do it, from those in *Fortune 500* companies to an Atlanta elementary school. It is daily meditation. “Yeah, I like it,” said a young grammar school boy. “It really calms my mind.”

This was reported in a July 29, 2011 program on “ABC News/Nightline,” which suggested that *the effects of meditation could permanently re-wire your brain so that you would be happier.*

These studies are in their infancy, the show admitted, but they show a lot of promise for healing and helping people.

After a basic 8-week course on meditation, one study found that parts of participants’ brains associated with awareness and compassion physically grew, while parts associated with stress shrunk.

An Emory University (Atlanta) study put microphones on graduates of a meditation course as they went about their workday. Random conversations were recorded. People’s conversations were evaluated. “They talked about deeper things with other people. They laughed more, and they didn’t use the word ‘I’ as much but used the word ‘we’ more.”

In 2005, fifteen Catholic Carmelite nuns who claimed to have “an intense experience with God” underwent a quantitative electroencephalography (EEG) scan at the University of Montreal.

The nuns were asked to recall their awareness of God, their deep connections with God, their sense of union with all things that God created. The most prevalent brain waves that researchers noted were long, slow *alpha* waves, the type seen when people are awake, focused, calm and relaxed. They also saw lower-frequency brain waves in areas associated with meditation.

Two thousand years ago, Jesus taught us by example to “meditate,” *only he called it “prayer.”* Jesus prayed regularly, fervently.

So we make quiet times to pray. We become peaceful, trusting God, listening for God’s whispers, letting stress and worry melt away with Christ becoming central in our hearts.

Paul said it well. “Don’t fret or worry. Instead of worrying, pray. Let petitions and praises shape your worries into prayers, letting God know your concerns. Before you know it, a sense of God’s wholeness, everything coming together for good, will come and settle you down. It’s wonderful what happens when Christ displaces worry at the center of your life.” (Philippians 4:6-7, *The Message*)

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES AND EDUCATION



What's Going on with Children's Ministries

In the Narthex –Available every week: a leaflet entitled *Making Room for Children in Worship*, copies of the current *Sunday School Notes*, Sunday School registration forms, and *Children's Worship Bulletins* on clipboards with crayons. Make sure your child also receives a regular bulletin and help him or her to follow along in the bulletin, the hymnal, and the Bible.

Sunday, Oct. 2 -

First Sunday Children's Church for age 3 through 1st grade. 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. These sessions are held on the first Sunday of every month, October through May. This is a wonderful way to begin your child's participation in worship!



Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 8 - 9

Congregational Retreat at Camp Hanover,

A fun way for our church family to spend time together! Children's Church for all children following Time with Children at the retreat worship service. No Sunday School classes.

Looking ahead:

All Saints' Day, Nov. 6

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 through 1st grade, with the *Godly Play* lesson of *The Good Samaritan*.

Remember to read Sunday School Notes every week and check the Education Bulletin Board for information. *Sunday School Notes* is the weekly newsletter for the children's Sunday School. It is distributed to all children attending Sunday School. Copies are also available on the

table in the narthex and posted on the education bulletin board.

Use the library this year!

There continue to be many new children's books that aren't found in the public library with Bible stories and more. The library is easy to use, with self-serve instructions posted inside the door. Return your books to the table just inside the door. Make it a point to bring your family to church a little early – or stay a little late - to check out books! Thank you to our librarian, Ms. Kaye Keyes who also leads Library Time once per term with each children's Sunday School class!

WISH LIST

for Children's Sunday School:

Someone to cut wood scraps into very small pieces.
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.
Crayola brand LARGE or "So Big" crayons (the "fat", toddler/preschool crayon).

M&M Wednesdays for Children!



All families with children age two years old and up are encouraged to come to our weekly Wednesday night dinner and programs. Following the 6:00 dinner with our church family, children are having fun with M&M (music and motion) with Mr. Mark, Mary Chris Werner, Rachel Burch, with other youth and Becky Loggins as they sing and move to songs that will be shared in the future during worship. About 20 minutes of M&M is followed by some time for free play, stories and "winding down" **in the** nursery room. Join us!

QUESTIONS? CONTACT BECKY LOGGINS, DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

AT 201-0571 OR E-MAIL bg18@comcast.net

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES (cont'd)



Making Sense of October's – Spooky Fun

*(In light of the importance of knowing “the why’s”,
some information is worthy of being reprinted
annually!)*

Hallowe'en is related to an old, old festival. Thousands of years ago in some places in the world (before the Christian religion came to these countries) including England, Scotland, and Ireland, the day that is now November 1 began a new year. People believed there was a sort of war between summer and winter, and the “army” of winter - ghosts, goblins, witches, and other kinds of evil creatures - grew very powerful. On the night before Summer's End, October 31, people were sure all those evil creatures would be out celebrating - and may attack them. The people held special ceremonies to protect themselves. Bonfires were built to light up the night, and strange costumes were made of masks and animal skins in hopes that these disguises would keep the evil creatures from recognizing them.

Hundreds of years later, Christianity came to these countries. The early Church Fathers let the people keep the old tradition, but changed it to a Christian feast by holding it in memory of all saints, and known as All Saints' Day or All Hallows Day (*hallow* comes from the old English word *halwe*, or as we now say, holy). The eve of the festival (the night before) became All Hallow E'en. * **E'en, and even are old, abbreviated ways of saying “evening”. After a time, it was shortened to “Hallowe'en” or “Halloween”.**

People still remember, even after thousands of years, that ghosts, witches, and goblins were supposed to be the most powerful on Hallowe'en, and that people put on special costumes, which children do now not in serious fright, but spooky fun.

On All Saints' Day, we remember the known and unknown saints and on the day following, Nov. 2, traditionally called All Souls' Day, all the faithful departed are remembered. In some churches, the remembrance of the faithful departed is combined, on Nov.1, with All Saints Day. When All Saints' Day is not on a Sunday, many churches celebrate the Sunday following as All Saints' Sunday. –*Becky Loggins, Director of Children's Ministries*



HALLOWEEN PRAYERS FOR USE WITH CHILDREN

As part of your Halloween fun this year on October 31, please consider using these prayers as a way to remind our children that we have nothing to fear because we are loved and cared for by Jesus Christ, the light of the world.

Before going out to “trick or treat”...

Dear God,

You have come to bring light to the world and to chase away the darkness of my fears. Guide and direct me as I go out in to my neighborhood. Help me to be considerate of others and to be thankful for the candy and treats that I may be given tonight. Also, help me to remember to say “thank you”. Because you are with me always, I know that I don't have to be afraid if I see scary masks or hear scary sounds. Keep me safe and let me have a fun evening. This I ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

After coming home from “trick or treat”...

Dear God,

Thank you for keeping me safe tonight. I thank you for all of my friends and neighbors. Let me be an example of how your disciples should live, so that they will come to know and love you. Thank you for sending you Son, Jesus, so that I never have to be afraid of things that seem different or scary to me. Please help me to share my treats with my family and friends. I also pray a special prayer for all the boys and girls in the world who are afraid and need homes, food, and clothes to wear. Please care for them and let them feel your love and presence tonight and always. I ask these things in Jesus Christ's name. *Amen.*

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

Meet Sarah Pugh, our 2011-2012 Youth Ministry Intern Interview by Steven Good.

Shortly after she began here at TPC, I sat down with Sarah and asked a few questions about her sense of call and about her initial impressions about Tuckahoe. Below is a transcript of our conversation.

Fast Facts:

- From Asheboro, NC
- Second Year Student at Union Presbyterian Seminary
- Graduated from Elon University ('10)
- Hopes to pursue a career in Youth Ministry

SG: *Where are you from? Tell us a bit about yourself.*

SP: I was born in Asheboro, North Carolina. My parents still live there today. My dad and his three brothers own and run an oil company that their great-grandfather started. My mom worked at a bank until I was in elementary school and then she was a stay-at-home-mom. Now she volunteers and cooks any meal that needs to be cooked at our church. I have a brother and a sister, both older. My sister works in development with the American League of Orchestras in New York City, and my brother is a physical therapist in Charlottesville, Virginia.

SG: *When did you first discern a call to ministry – particularly ministry with young people?*

SP: My call started a long time ago, I think. But I kept running from it. I like to say that it sounded a lot like my grandmother when I was younger because she would always say, “Don’t you want to go to Seminary?” And I said, “No, I don’t!” But then, probably my sophomore year in college, I decided that that is what I wanted to do. I was getting a degree in Human Services and doing internships in social work situations and I realized, that’s definitely not what I wanted to do. I was working with a youth group at the time and we were at Montreat for something and I was just sitting there and I realized, “This is it. This is what I need to do with the rest of my life”.

SG: *What does ministry mean to you? What’s it about and how do you approach it?*

SP: I think ministry is in everything we do. Being Christ-like to the world. Whether it’s being nice to the cash-registrar at the grocery store, or taking youth on a

retreat or a mission trip, or whatever you’re doing, ministry is involved. I like to try and be a role model in everything I do. I sort of feel like I never got past High School myself, so I’m still on kind of a youth mentality, but only in more adult situations! So if I can be a role model to youth in the kinds of situations they may face later on, I feel like I’m doing my job.

SG: *What hopes do you have for this internship?*

SP: I’m hoping to get all kinds of different church experiences. For the most part, the only things I’ve experienced are growing up in church and volunteering with my youth group, being on the youth committee, and working as a youth advisor in college. But I’ve never really gotten a chance to see the ins and outs and really do the work of the church. So I’m really excited to jump in with both feet and get started with that.

SG: *What do you like to do for fun?*

SP: I really just like to relax for fun. If I get a chance to not do anything, that’s what I like to do. Watch a movie, read a magazine, read a book – just anything that doesn’t have to be graded or turned in.

SG: *What kind of music do you listen to?*

SP: Well, I am a die-hard Hanson fan! I’ve been made fun of about it since fourth-grade, so I don’t mind being teased about it. Other than that I like mainstream country: Rascal Flats, those kinds of people.

SG: *What are your impressions of TPC so far?*

SP: Well I came to Tuckahoe, just trying out churches when I came to Seminary and I went to a couple of others before coming here. The first Sunday I was here I felt so welcomed and so at home. So I stopped trying churches after that. I’ve stayed here and have felt that way ever since. I feel like coming to church on Sunday is such a worshipful environment and it’s exactly what I was looking for in a church in Richmond. The youth group here seems very much like a family, which is also what I look for in a youth group. I grew up with a very strong youth group and it was a huge part of my life and then got very involved as an advisor in the youth group of the church I attended in undergrad. You could tell that the youth loved and cared for each other – youth and adults, and that’s the sense I got the first time I came to youth group here.



tpcyouth 2011-2012 Calendar

September

- 11: Annual Family Dinner
- 18: Youth Group: Worship Service
- 25: Youth Group*

October

- 2: Youth Group*
- 8-9: All Church Retreat (Depart @ 9:30 AM)
- 16: Youth Group*
- 23: Event w/ Fredericksburg PC
- 30: Halloween Hoe Down w FPC
- 31: Trick or Treat for VFB

November

- 6: Youth Group*
- 11-12: MS Lock In (6:00 PM - 9:00 AM)
- 12-13: POJ Fall Call (HS Retreat)
- 19: Fall Clean-Up Day
- 20: Leaf Raking
- 27: CARITAS (TBD)

December

- 4: Youth Group Worship Service
- 11: Youth Group*
- 18: Cookies & Caroling (4:00-9:00)
- 25: NO YOUTH GROUP: Christmas Break

January

- 1: Winterfest
- 8: Youth Group*
- 15: Youth Group*
- 22: Youth Group*
- 27: 28: HS 30 Hour Famine
- 29: MS Movie Night

February

- 4: POJ Rally to Serve
- 5: Souper Bowl Party (12:30-3:30)
- 12: Youth Group*
- 17-20: HS Winter Retreat @ Sandbridge
- 19: MS Event
- 26: Youth Group*

March

- 4: Youth Group: Worship Service
- 11: Youth Group*
- 17: Talent For Mission Prep
- 18: Talent For Mission
- 25: Youth Group*

April

- 1: Youth Group*
- 8: Easter Sunrise Service
- 15: Youth Group*
- 21-22: POJ MS Retreat (Depart 9:30 AM)
- 22: YS Prep
- 29: YS Prep

May

- 5: Walk for Water
- 6: YS Prep
- 12: Youth Sunday Prep (10:00-12:00)
- 13: Youth Sunday (9:30)
- 20: Photo Scavenger Hunt
- 27: Cookout @ Good's

June

- 3: Church Picnic
- 10: Year End Pool Party

Fall Clean Up Day



November 19th - 8:00 am

Can You Be Here?

Details:



What: Tuckahoe Fall Clean Up Day

Why: Because we need help to clean, fix and freshen up the Church for the Holidays.

When: Saturday, November 19th. Meet in Duntreath Hall at 8:00 am for coffee, juice, muffins and donuts.

How: Many hands make light work, so bring your gloves and a helpful spirit.

What else: If you have questions, call or see Tom Lee, Property Division > 740-4907

Helpers are eligible for valuable Door Prizes!



Tuckahoe Fall Open – Tournament Results

PALKOVICS DEFEND THEIR CHAMPIONSHIP – SHOOT 61



The Tuckahoe Fall Open ALL Church Golf Tournament was played on Sunday, September 18. 16 golfers enjoyed the outing and fun, competitive nature of the tournament at Belmont Golf Course. **In future tournaments, Bob Palkovics agrees to play from the course tips or Blue Tees.** The Tournament Director also notes that this is the smallest tournament, four (4) foursomes, ever fielded in the history of the tournament. However, he thanks the players who were able to play, and hopes we will continue this Church outing.

The results of the TPC Fall Open are: First place went to Team #2 shooting 61 or 10 under par (10 birdies, as in 5 birdies each on the front and back sides) and made up of Judy, Bill, Bob and Mike Palkovics. Second place went to Team #4 shooting 68 or 3 under par (5 birdies and 2 bogeys) and made up of Paul Anderson, Robins Buck, Hutch Hutchinson and Bob Miller. Team #1, made up of Pat Brady, Dave Kaechele, Gene Self and Lucky Wroniewicz, shot a 70 or 1 under par (3 birdies and 2 bogeys) and took third place. Honorable Mention went to Team #3 shooting a 72 or 1 over par (2 birdies and 3 bogeys) and made up of Dave Bauer, Bill Clegg, John Flournoy and Ray Martin. A listing of the team pairings are below.

The three closest-to-the-pin were two fine shots as follows: hole #4 (nobody hit the green); Hutch Hutchinson won hole #13 (result - par); and, Bill Clegg won hole #18 (result - par). The four longest drives were crushers as follows: Bob Palkovics (long, very long) won hole #6 (result - par); Hutch Hutchinson won hole #10 (result – birdie); Paul Anderson won hole #11(result - par); and, Bob Palkovics (long, very long) won hole #12 (result - par).

Tuckahoe Spring Masters ALL Church Golf Tournament will take place in probably late April or early May (or maybe June again) – if there is interest and we get enough players?

Can the Palkovics defend their Championship and win three in a row?

TEAM #1

Pat Brady
Dave Kaechele
Gene Self
Lucky Wroniewicz

TEAM # 2

Bill Palkovics
Bob Palkovics
Judy Palkovics
Mike Palkovics

TEAM #3

Dave Bauer
Bill Clegg
John Flournoy
Ray Martin

TEAM #4

Paul Anderson
Robins Buck
Hutch Hutchinson
Bob Miller