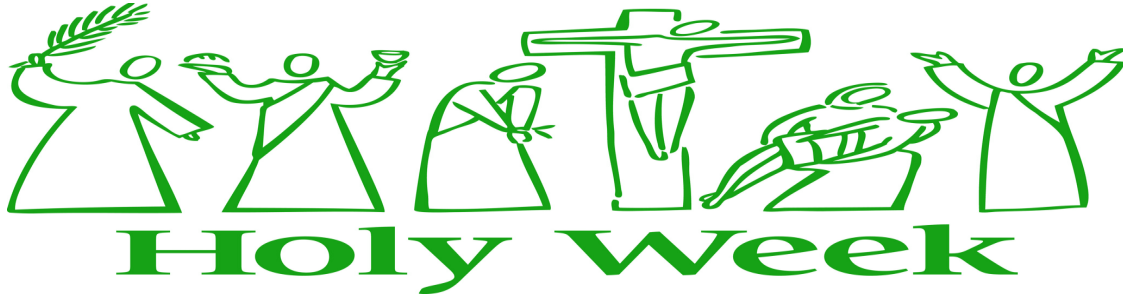




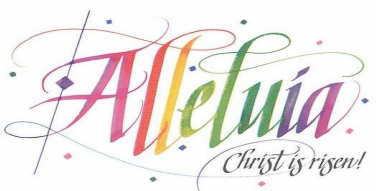
THE TORCH

Volume 61, No. 4

April 2018



HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SERVICES

Thursday, March 29	Maundy Thursday	6:00 p.m. 6:45 p.m.	Dinner in Duntreath Hall Maundy Thursday Service with Communion
Friday, March 30	Good Friday	Noon	Service in the Memorial Garden
Sunday, April 1	Easter Day	6:45 a.m.	Sunrise Worship on the Park Avenue Lawn
		11:00 a.m.	Celebration of the Resurrection and <i>Flowering the Cross</i>
		Following worship	Egg Hunts for Toddlers through 5th graders on the church lawn

FLOWERING THE CROSS

In spite of its function as a brutal form of execution, the cross stands at the center of our faith as a symbol of life. There can be no Easter without Good Friday, no Resurrection without the Crucifixion. Indeed, the cross, rather than the empty tomb, has held the place of honor as the primary symbol of the Christian faith. A modern expression of this idea may be found in the custom of *flowering the cross*. As we have the past several years, Tuckahoe will celebrate the *flowering of the cross* on Easter morning. You are invited to bring fresh blooms from your gardens to help fill the cross with emblems of "new life". In preparation for the Easter event, the cross will be placed in the sanctuary on Maundy Thursday, draped in purple. Then on Easter morning the cross will be adorned with greenery and flowers and lifted high in celebration of the Resurrection of Our Lord.

The monthly Newsletter of Tuckahoe Presbyterian Church
7000 Park Avenue
Richmond, VA 23226
804-282-2860; www.tuckahoepres.org



APRIL SEMINAR FOR ALL

IN LIFE AND DEATH, WE BELONG TO GOD

APRIL 14TH

10:00 A.M.—NOON, WILSON HALL

**"In life and in death we belong to God.
Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,
whom alone we worship and serve."**

These beautiful and majestic words begin *A Brief Statement of Faith* (one of the Confessions of the PC (USA)). Over the past several months, our church has grieved the death of more than a dozen members of our family. Some of these saints were well prepared for death; others of them were not. With that in mind, we have developed a short workshop called *In Life and Death We Belong to God*. The workshop will take place on the morning of Saturday April 14th from 10:00 to noon.

We will have sessions on:

- ♦ Preparing the "Five Wishes" document. "Five Wishes" is an easy-to-understand document that allows you to create a living will and express your final wishes. It meets the legal requirements for an advance directive in the state of Virginia.
- ♦ Helping "Baby Boomers," the "Silent Generation," and the "Greatest Generation" prepare for their end-of-life decisions.
- ♦ Helping "Gen Xers" and "Millennials" talk about end-of-life issues with their aging parents while, at the same time, considering planning for their own deaths and how it will impact their young children.
- ♦ Ensuring that your faith is reflected in your funeral or memorial service.

Your workshop leaders will be Rev. Patrick Dennis, Sarah Dennis, Rev. Diane Prevary, Ginger Spence, Jennifer McVey, Bruce McVey, and Rev. Donna Bowers, RN.

Donna Bowers is an ordained PC (USA) minister and nurse who has spent much of her career specializing on these issues while ministering to the older adult population.

[She is also Jennifer McVey's mom.]

We invite you to register for this event either on the church's website or on the friendship pads during worship. Childcare and light refreshments will be provided.



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CHRISTIAN FORMATION

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School convenes at 9:30 a.m., September – May, for education appropriate for all ages. If you have not been attending a Sunday school class, please think about joining us! All are welcome at anytime.

Adults offerings include:

The New Covenant Class – Room 106

The Forum Class – Room 108

The Discovery Class – Room 200

Youth and Children's offerings include:

Confirmation Class – Room 208

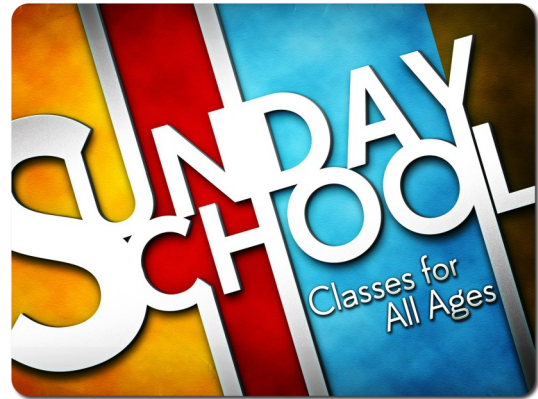
High School Youth – Room 206

2 and 3 year old's – Room 100

4 year old - Kindergarten – Room 103

1st–3rd graders – Room 105

4th and 5th graders – Room 203



THEOLOGY ON TAP

April 16th at 6:00 p.m. at Café Caturra on Grove.

This year we are spending our time talking about where the rubber meets the road of our faith. We will take a look at a current news headline and strive to understand how we, as Christians, can react faithfully and lovingly. We hope you will join us for great conversations and great drinks!

TUCKAHOE TUESDAY MORNING PRAYER

Please join us Tuesday mornings at 9:30 a.m. for a half hour of weekly time of prayer. This is an important and growing experience in the life of our church. If your time allows, please take us up on this invitation. God hears all sisters and brothers in Christ and loves our voices together in praise and petitions.

Psalm 145:18. "The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth."

Romans 12:12. "Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer."



CHRISTIAN FORMATION

CHURCH TRIP TO ISRAEL— INFORMATIONAL MEETING, SUNDAY, APRIL 8 @ 12:30 IN ROOM 106

We are planning an exciting trip for members and friends of Tuckahoe to visit the Holy Land, November 2-11, 2018. We will walk where Jesus walked, where Jesus taught, performed miracles, died and was resurrected. It will be an amazing faith formation time and a wonderful time to be with members of your church family. The trip is \$2,979.99 per person, which includes airfare. All are welcome on this trip, so if you have family or friends who would like to come, please let them know. You can find more information at <http://www.pilgrimtours.com/groups/tuckahoeisrael.htm>.

If you would like to reserve your spot, you can bring your check for \$300 and the registration form to church. The registration deadline is July 20 and final payments must be made by August 31, 2018.



MONTREAT WOMEN'S CONNECTION

We are excited about this summer's *Montreat Women's Connection Conference* **August 10-12**, in Montreat, North Carolina and invite all women of Tuckahoe to attend. There will be worship, workshops, fellowship, hiking, sleeping, and lots of fun! Those of us who had the opportunity to go last year had a wonderful weekend and can't wait to go back!

This year the keynote speaker is Kate Bowler. At thirty-five, after writing her first book about the American Prosperity Gospel, Bowler was a professor at the School of Divinity at Duke and a new mother, when she received the earth-shattering diagnosis of Stage IV colon cancer. Reckoning with the news, Bowler discovered, to her chagrin, that she would have to learn how to give up her own "prosperity gospel." As she learns to live with cancer as a chronic condition, Bowler speaks powerfully about the ways in which her brush with mortality has transformed her. She also frankly addresses the uniquely American concept that tragedy is a test of character and looks at the different ways that people try to rationalize suffering and catastrophe, for better or worse. Each registration will receive a copy of her book, *Everything Happens for a Reason and Other Lies I've Loved*.

This year we have the option for women to indulge in a couple of Sabbath days before the conference begins or come for the weekend of the conference only:
(the cost includes part of your registration fee and housing)

August 8–12: \$400/person (Leaving Wednesday, returning Sunday)

August 10–12: \$200/person (Leaving Friday, returning Sunday)

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Sarah Dennis. We do have some scholarship money available if you would like to come but are in need of assistance.



CHRISTIAN FORMATION



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2018 MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR JULY 16-20

We are busy planning and praying for VBS! Save the date,

July 16- 20! We will be *Shipwrecked: Rescued by Jesus*.

It is going to be a fun, faith filled week.

Plan on bringing your children, grandchildren and friends' children!

And plan on volunteering during this amazing week.

Children must be 4 years old to participate.

The cost is \$15/child with a \$30 family max.

YOUTH GROUP NEWS

What a wonderful group of young people we have at Tuckahoe. Many of them come on Sunday evenings at 5:30 p.m. to learn, grow and have fun together. We play, learn and we spend time doing things for others. Come join us Sunday nights to experience community you cannot find anywhere else!

Here's what's happening on Sunday nights in April:

- | | |
|----------|--|
| April 8 | We will be getting ready for Youth Sunday |
| April 15 | We will still be getting ready for Youth Sunday |
| April 22 | YOUTH SUNDAY! (We will be ready for Youth Sunday!) |
| April 29 | Fun and Games! (To celebrate Youth Sunday) |

MIDDLE SCHOOL RETREAT

We have an exciting opportunity for middle school youth! Camp Hanover is hosting a middle school retreat and we would love to have a group from Tuckahoe participate. We will spend the weekend learning about Loving your Neighbor, playing games, eating s'mores....all the fun camp things! And you even already know the speaker....Sarah Dennis.

The retreat will be **Saturday April 14- Sunday April 15**. The retreat begins at 11 am Saturday and the cost is \$55/person.

I really hope your youth will come and take part in this wonderful event. If you would like to go, please let Sarah Dennis know.



OUTREACH



The Jacob's Ladder non-profit enrichment program is one of the beneficiaries of the 2018 Wish List allocation. Jacob's Ladder is now in its 27th year, serving intellectually gifted, at-risk children in 4th-8th grades through a summer residential camp. Our mission is to foster the intellectual, social, emotional, and physical development of our students by focusing on issues and problems for the gifted, at-risk student caused by a lack of opportunity, family issues and poverty. With the help of gifted resource teachers and school counselors, 4th or 5th grade qualifying students submit applications and their parent(s) or caregiver(s) are interviewed at their schools. Students invited to be a part of Jacob's Ladder, now called Climbers, attend the summer residential enrichment camp and participate in the advocacy program throughout the year. A unique feature of Jacob's Ladder is that, once accepted into the program, a Climber's experience repeats each year through their 8th grade summer, a total of four or five years.

Jacob's Ladder recognizes and addresses the following needs and problems of our students:

- ♦ Environmental and cultural isolation
- ♦ Lack of belonging
- ♦ Poverty and the associated dietary and health problems
- ♦ Low self-confidence and fear of failure
- ♦ Little or no awareness of educational opportunities

The Jacob's Ladder program provides Climbers with the essential element of time — time with teachers, resident advisors and staff; time to learn a new academic subject; time for morning and evening devotions; time to learn table manners and life skills; time to be strengthened and think about the positive possibilities in their lives that lie ahead; time to be a part of something bigger than one's self. "Giving back" is an important theme for Jacob's Ladder, and we require each Climber to participate in a philanthropic project each summer.

JACOB'S LADDER, CONT'D

A Climber's experience with the Advocacy/Follow-up program continues throughout the year. The advocacy counselor provides outreach to the Climbers by visiting them in their schools, which establishes relationships with counselors and faculty to open up a dialogue if concerns arise throughout the year and provides support to the family unit. A Winter Event and Spring Retreat provide Climbers with a much-anticipated time to gather where they renew relationships and have fun together. As part of Jacob's Ladder's continued advocacy, we have created a new position of High School Advocate to mentor alumni of the program during these subsequent years and to assist them with college searches and choice, financial aid applications, internships, and the research of career opportunities.

Jacob's Ladder is provided at no cost to the students and funded entirely by private gifts and grants. The cost for the Summer Residential Enrichment Camp and one year of Advocacy/Follow-up is \$4,225 per child. Our program of 60 Climbers currently serves students from 20 different school districts in Virginia.

This year the summer residential enrichment camp will be held on the campus of Christchurch School near Urbanna during the month of July.

We are excited to return to this location where our founder and Executive Director Emeritus, Aubrey Hall, envisioned and began this life-changing program 27 years ago.

*Sue Albaugh, Executive Director, Jacob's Ladder
Outreach Committee Member*

HIGHLAND SUPPORT PROJECT (HSP)

Highland Support Project (HSP) works with indigenous Mayan communities in the Highlands of Guatemala to develop leadership among the women of the communities as a path towards ending the cycle of dependency and poverty. The programs include the building of "clean-air" wood burning stoves and the operation of a fair trade textile workshop. The stoves replace open air fires used for cooking inside the homes and thus reduce the incidence of respiratory illness. The textiles are sold at fair trade prices at the AlterNatives store on Cary Street in Richmond and provide needed income for the families of the Highlands.

HSP's founders, Guadalupe Ramirez and Ben Blevins, will speak at our Wednesday Night Supper on April 25th about the history and mission of HSP and will have samples from the AlterNatives store on hand.



OUTREACH

MISSION TRIP

Mission trip planning continues for our Greenbrier County, WV trip on July 1-7. We can still add a couple of volunteers to our team. Contact Nancy Millsaps at nhmillsaps@gmail.com (or 288-0996) if you want to add your name to the trip!



APRIL PRAYER EMPHASIS

The daily news seems to be filled with violence of some form, people doing hurtful things to other people. Living in such a world often makes us feel that there is no hope. Take a moment to be still and reflect on these words attributed to Mother Theresa:

The fruit of Silence is Prayer
The fruit of Prayer is Faith
The fruit of Faith is Love
The fruit of Love is Service
The fruit of Service is Peace

MOTHER TERESA'S CHALLENGES

- ◇ People are often unreasonable, irrational, and self-centered.
Forgive them anyway.
- ◇ If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives.
Be kind anyway.
- ◇ If you are successful, you will win some unfaithful friends and some genuine enemies.
Succeed anyway.
- ◇ If you are honest and sincere people may deceive you.
Be honest and sincere anyway.
- ◇ What you spend years creating, others could destroy overnight.
Create anyway.
- ◇ If you find serenity and happiness, some may be jealous.
Be happy anyway.
- ◇ The good you do today will often be forgotten.
Do good anyway.
- ◇ Give the best you have – it will never be enough.
Give your best anyway.
- ◇ In the final analysis, it is between you and God.
It was never between you and them anyway.

FOOD & FELLOWSHIP



UPCOMING WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPERS MENUS AND PROGRAMS

Join us at 6:00 p.m. in Duntreath Hall throughout April and for one last Wednesday Night Supper in May. We have some wonderful programs lined up for the month of April. Come and learn more about how Tuckahoe serves as the heart, voice, hands and feet of Christ in our community and the world! Children's chime and handbell groups will continue to practice at 6:30 with Mr. Mark and Ms. Sarah.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>MENU</u>	<u>PROGRAM</u>
April 4	NO WNS – Spring Break	
April 11	Cooking Team #1 is going to serve the best fried chicken in town with all the fixin's!	Join us for a special program on Jacob's Ladder. This enrichment program was the recipient of some of our 2018 Wish List funding. [See the article on page 6 for more information on this important non-profit and its work.]
April 18	Cooking Team 2 is preparing a menu of Chicken Jubilee over rice, vegetables, homemade yeast rolls, and dessert	Patrick Dennis will present a program on his recent visit to Haiti with a delegation from the Presbytery and his impressions and take-aways about the work of our missionary, Cindy Corell.
April 25	Covered Dish...Bring your family's favorite dish and some to share!	Two representatives of the Highland Support Project will speak about their work in Mayan communities in the Highlands of Guatemala. [See more information on their program on page 7.]
May 2	No WNS	
May 9	Cooking Team #5 closes out our WNS meals with their famous "Low Country Boil"!	This is one you don't want to miss...come for the great food, fellowship and entertainment. Weather permitting, we eat outside!

AROUND THE CHURCH

FROM OUR MEMBERS

On February 25th, Claire and Peter Wright wrote: *Dear Tuckahoe Friends, We so appreciate all the thoughtful cards and phone calls over the past months. Our attendance at services has been down for a number of reasons, but our health has been good. No flu bugs, thankfully. We hope to be back before I have knee surgery in March. Our thoughts are with you all. Blessings to all. [During the publishing of this letter, we learned of Peter's death on March 26th.]*



The Calhoun Family writes: *The Calhoun family would like to express its sincere appreciation to our Tuckahoe church family for the prayers, cards, words of support, and food received upon the passing of Henry Walker Calhoun on February 14. The support of our church family, along with others, has helped us through this difficult time. He had a long healthy life committed to his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Tuckahoe was a big part of his life and he obviously had an impact on the lives of church members at Tuckahoe based on the tremendous support that we have received since his death. We take comfort in knowing that he is now in his heavenly home where he has wanted to be for the past several years.*

OUR SYMPATHIES

We extend our deepest sympathies and prayers for God's comforting grace to:



Becky Brockenbrough and the rest of the Brockenbrough family on the death of Henry who died on March 11, 2018. A memorial service was held in our sanctuary March 24th.

Leslie, Chuck, William and Sarah Shimer on the death of Leslie's mother, June Sciarra, who died on March 13, 2018.

Gibbs Johnson on the death of his son, David. A private interment was held in our Memorial Garden on March 28th.

Jean Burnett and her family on the death of her husband, Brad, who died on March 18, 2018. A memorial service will be held in our sanctuary next Saturday, April 7, 2018 at 2 p.m.

Claire Wright and her family on the death of her son, Peter, on March 26th. A service will be held later in April.

AROUND THE CHURCH



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

At its called March 18th meeting, Session received into the membership of Tuckahoe:

Philip and Lilly Chervenak (parents to daughter Lucie)

Eric Johnson and Barbara Luckett

Pam Johnson

Jim and Jeanne Webster

Shawn and Frances Wilkinson (parents to twins, Harper and Susan)

Jake Zeilinger (husband to Kelsey and dad to Henry)

We are delighted to welcome these ten new members into the ministry and work of Tuckahoe!

DID YOU KNOW YOU CAN DONATE OR PAY USING YOUR CREDIT CARD OR DEBIT CARD NOW?

Good news! Tuckahoe now has the capability to receive your donations, pledge payments or memorial gifts on line.

Just go to our web site:

www.tuckahoepres.org

and click on the "Pay Now" button on the bottom right of the home page. Use the drop-down menu to indicate what your payment is for. You can further designate specific use for your payment by typing instructions into the text boxes for Special Designations or Memorial Gifts.



THANK YOU, THANK YOU, TUCKAHOE MEMBERS!

Our first *Day of Service* held on Palm Sunday following our special 9:30 worship was a HUGE success.

The Property Committee wants to thank all of the many members and families that stayed and helped clean, repair, trim, build, cut down, polish and create! What a wonderful effort and a great time of fun, fellowship and accomplishment!

The Property Committee



AROUND THE CHURCH

2018 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN “WHY SHARE? TO SHOW WE CARE”

HAWKINS HOUSE KITCHEN
SHOWER
JANUARY
MAKING A DIFFERENCE

RISE AGAINST HUNGER -
MARCH
SPREADING CARING AND
HOPE

VACATION BIBLE
SCHOOL
JULY
OUR FAITH IN ACTION

WEST VIRGINIA
MISSION TRIP
JULY
OUR LOVE IN ACTION

The ministries above are just a few of the many programs in which we help others. Jesus told us “Love thy neighbor as thyself.” Jesus lived his life showing us how to live and love others, to share with others some of the blessings we have received. You may be blessed with a creative mind, talent in arts, ability to lead others, mechanical skills, desire to teach children, compassion, or other aptitudes. There are a multitude of programs and missions in our church where your personal gifts could make a difference. Becoming involved in a worthy capacity that fits your life is not only rewarding to the recipients, but also to you. And serving as one body, our work is magnified. In this busy world, the church has vetted programs and ministries ready for your participation. In addition to our talent and time-focused gifts, there are monetary needs to provide supplies, repairs, meals, etc.

ALL THESE ACTIONS ARE ELEMENTS OF “STEWARDSHIP”

You will be hearing about many of our impressive works helping others all year long in *The Torch* newsletter and Moments for Mission presented during worship.

Carol Martin, Campaign Lead

THE TUCKAHOE BOOK CLUB



The group meets on the last Monday of the month September – May at 7:00 p.m. in members’ homes. Below is the schedule of meeting dates, locations and the books to read for the next two months. Join us for good conversation and fellowship. All are welcome! *Note the date change in May...a week early due to Memorial Day.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>BOOK/AUTHOR</u>	<u>REVIEWER</u>	<u>HOSTESS</u>
4/30	<i>Faithful</i> by Alice Hoffman	Kaye Keyes	Barbara Maiden
*5/21	<i>A Gentleman in Moscow</i> By Amor Towles	Gena Wallace	Dee Daughtrey
9/24	<i>The Nightingale</i> By Kristen Hannah	Camellia Wroniewicz	Kaye Keyes

AROUND THE CHURCH

2018 WISH LIST ALLOCATIONS

The TPC Committee Moderators met recently to review and discuss potential Wish List items. After an extended discussion and a short presentation from Jacob's Ladder representatives, the group decided on the following:

A. The mulch in our outdoor playground has settled and compressed and is in need of replacement in order to maintain a safe depth for cushioning potential falls. Since this is both a safety and a liability issue, it was a high priority.

Allocation: \$6,000

B. The Administration & Personnel committee has embarked on a program to provide first aid training for church personnel who are in regular contact with the congregation, including staff, ushers and Sunday School teachers. This training can be obtained at no cost from the local Rescue Squad, but as part of this program they recommend purchase of an AED defibrillator. It will be installed in the church and its proper use will be part of the first aid training.

Allocation: \$1,500

C. Our own Sue Albaugh has recently become Executive Director of Jacob's Ladder, a local charitable organization that works with Central Virginia schools to identify gifted children who are at risk for various reasons related to family and environment. Then they enroll them in their "Climbers" program to help give them the skills they need to overcome their environment and succeed at a level commensurate with their capabilities. Sue said about 95% of their climbers go to college, usually on full scholarship. All program costs for the students are funded through contributions, so the moderators decided to fund the full cost for one student "Climber".

Allocation: \$4,500

If you want more information about Jacob's Ladder, please visit their website at jladder.org or refer to the article in this newsletter on page 6. Please also plan to attend the Wednesday Night program on April 11, where you will have the opportunity to hear more about their services and meet some very impressive recent graduates.





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

TUCKAHOE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

TUCKAHOE STAFF

Patrick Dennis, Pastor

Hal Breitenberg, Parish Associate

Mark Cain, Director of Music Ministries

Sarah Cothorn, Assistant Director, Music Ministries

Sarah Dennis, Director of Christian Formation

Mary McGee, Office Administrator

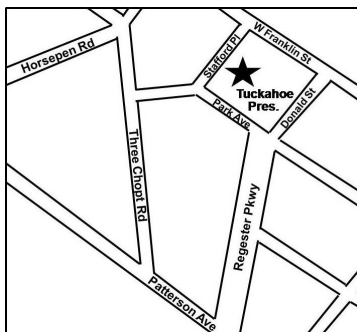
Bruce McVey, Seminary Intern

Diane Prevary, Parish Associate

Ginger Spence, Director of Visitation

OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

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



The Torch is a monthly newsletter of
Tuckahoe Presbyterian Church.

Deadline is the 25th of each month.

Editor-Mary McGee; email: office@tuckahoepres.org