



Volume 61, No. 7

September 2018

## OLD ROUTINES OR VENTURES NEW?

I thrive with routine. I find it comforting and centering to be able to predict the rhythm of the week. Fall marks the transition from a season of non-routine, with schools on recess and vacations, to a return to the old routine. I find it is also an opportunity to establish new ventures. I am particularly fond of the hymn *How Clear is Our Vocation, Lord*. The third stanza is, *In what you give us, Lord, to do, together or alone, in **old routines or ventures new**, may we not cease to look to you: the cross you hung upon, all you endeavor, done.*

Adding new ventures to old routines is a challenge for me. My electronic calendar is crowded with old routines. There are colored blocks for just about every daylight hour indicating family, professional, and personal appointments and events. And what I have learned about myself is, if I don't schedule it, I don't tend to prioritize it, and if I don't prioritize it, I don't tend to do it.

For that reason, I have started typing, "workout" into my schedule.

Recently, I have been aware that I need to have a "spiritual calendar." Even as a pastor, it can be hard to make time for morning devotional, afternoon prayer, or evening quiet time. I know I am not alone on this. Our spiritual well-being is just as important, if not more so, than our physical, family, or work life. It is the ground that nourishes all the parts of our lives. If we don't make it a priority, the other parts of our lives will be malnourished and less effective.

All people have a sense of this, and as Christians, we know that our source of spiritual nourishment is Jesus Christ. He is the ground from which grows the tree of our lives with its many branches.

But as the hymn notes, it is not just personal time, but time together that also nourishes us. When we gather with one another to serve others, to study, or fellowship, we grow and thrive. Our church offers a multitude of ways to connect with formational and outreach ministries, (many of

which are in this issue of the *Torch*). One or more are bound to resonate with you!

So I encourage you to start this fall by adding **new spiritual ventures**, one personal, another with a group and make them part of your daily, weekly, or monthly routine.

It might be spending time in silence, prayer, reading scripture or practicing deep breathing in the Spirit. Focus on how you are grounded in Christ and discover the new ventures that will feed your life as you commune in him.

*Grace and Peace,  
Patrick*

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The monthly Newsletter of Tuckahoe Presbyterian Church  
7000 Park Avenue, Richmond, VA 23226; 804-282-2860  
[www.tuckahoepres.org](http://www.tuckahoepres.org)

# CHRISTIAN FORMATION

## ALL THINGS KICKOFF!

Sunday, September 9th begins our church year for programs, study and activities!

We return to Sunday School for all ages at 9:30 a.m. and worship at 11:00 a.m.

During worship that morning we will celebrate communion and have a special recognition of Sunday School teachers and our music ministry.

Come and join us and "get back in the swing "at Tuckahoe!

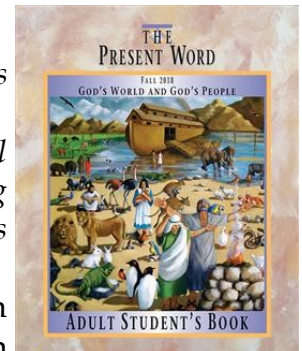
## ADULTS OFFERINGS

### THE FORUM CLASS - ROOM 108

This class is a discussion class that discusses how our faith informs our daily lives using current events as a starting point for our discussions. The class meets at 9:30 a.m. in Room 108. Even if you can't commit to every Sunday, join us at anytime to grow and learn with us!

### THE NEW COVENANT CLASS – ROOM 106

This fall, the New Covenant Class will return to the PCUSA curriculum, The Present Word. This fall the curriculum is "God's Word and God's People". *In Genesis, the book of beginnings, God is revealed as the Creator, Sustainer, Judge, and Redeemer, who brought all things into being. The fall quarter surveys the Book of Genesis in developing sessions on God's creation of the universe, earth, and people. It also details how God continues to co-labor with sinful humanity in reconciling and re-creating order in all things.* Our Leadership Team will rotate each week to facilitate the study and discussion of each week's lesson. In covering each lesson, the leaders direct the discussion as to the relativity and application of these biblical messages in today's world.



### NEW OFFERING – "IT'S ALL GREEK TO ME"

This adult class will meet on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month in Duntreath Hall, beginning on Sunday, September 16th at 9:30 a.m. The class will be led by Patrick Dennis, Sarah Dennis, and other members of staff. There are a lot of words we use in church that we don't hear anywhere else. But what do they mean? What is "Salvation"? What about "Justification"? Join us twice a month as we learn the original understanding of these words, as well as how we can understand them in our current age and context.

# CHRISTIAN FORMATION

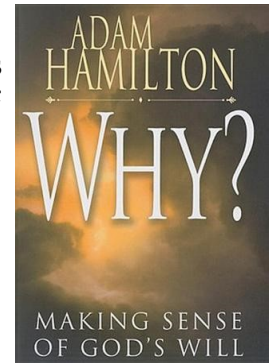
## DISCOVERY CLASS – ROOM 200

The Discovery Class is a Biblically-based discussion class that explores different ways of thinking about our Christian faith through the use of books and materials that are decided upon by the class members. The

class is led by various members of the class who volunteer (not required) to lead the discussion for a particular Sunday. We enjoy open discussions about our Christian faith, and with the help of class members, discover how our faith can have a positive and meaningful impact upon our daily lives. As we begin the 2018 Sunday School

year, we will be studying a book by Adam Hamilton, called, “Why? Making Sense of God’s Will”. In *Why? Making Sense of God's Will* best-selling author Adam Hamilton brings fresh insight to the age-old question of how to understand the will of God. Rejecting simplistic answers and unexamined assumptions, Hamilton addresses how we can comprehend God’s plan for the world and ourselves.

The class meets upstairs in the old education building (room 200). If you have any questions regarding this class, please contact Walter Smith, Phil Calhoun, Leslie Shimer or Walter Hogan.



## YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL



### MIDDLE SCHOOL – ROOM 208

Our middle school curriculum this year is re:form Ancestors. This curriculum will provide a way for youth to discover how similar we are to our faith ancestors from the Old and New Testaments through engaging videos and discussion.

### HIGH SCHOOL – ROOM 206

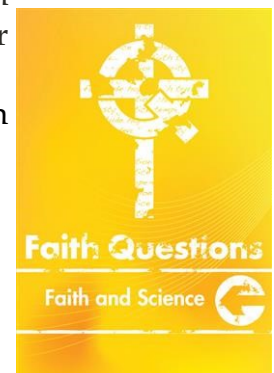
The high school curriculum is the PCUSA youth curriculum Faith Questions. *Faith Questions* studies are based on faith questions posed by youth. Each session encourages young people to look to Scripture, as well as our faith tradition, in relevant and responsive ways. Join us as we struggle together with some of the questions life and the church throws at us, such as:

*Is science more or less true than the Bible?*

*How is Jesus God?*

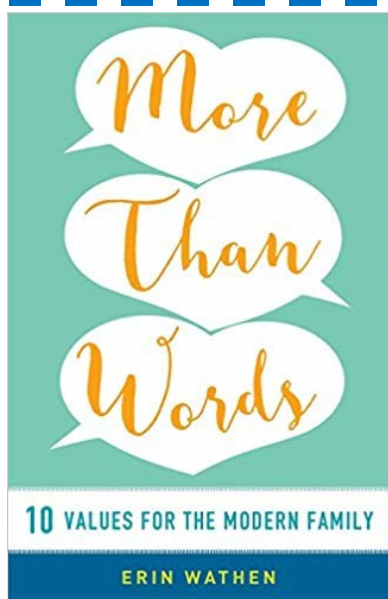
*What motivates God to continue loving us?*

*Do we really have to close our eyes while we talk to God?*



# CHRISTIAN FORMATION

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## NEW OFFERING FOR PARENTS OF SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN

Beginning this fall, all families with elementary (and younger) age children are invited to join in a new group study. We will meet monthly at the Dennis household for dinner and conversation. Parents and children are invited, there will be childcare provided for the kids.

This year we will dive into the book *More than Words: 10 values for the Modern Family*, by Erin Wathen. In this constantly changing world, how do parents know what values to instill in their children? Wathen walks us through what this might look like in a modern family, what practices we might adopt to teach our families compassion, abundance,

Sabbath, nonviolence, joy, justice, community, forgiveness, equality, and authenticity. We will read this book together and talk through what this looks like for our families, our communities and our church.

We cannot wait to go on this journey with you!

The first meeting will be Saturday, September 29<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 pm.

## PARENTS NIGHT OUT

Wouldn't you love a night out without having to think about a babysitter? We are starting a Parents Night Out once a month at Tuckahoe.

The catch is – two families will be the babysitters each month. So you watch the kids one month, and get all the months to hang out with your spouse or friends!

We would like to encourage you all to sign up for a month, and to think about signing up with another couple you don't know

that well so we can nurture relationships better. The families in charge of babysitting will provide dinner for the kids that night. Childcare will be here at Tuckahoe, so there can be movies, games and playground time. We will host on the second Friday of the month from 6-9:00 pm. Please let me know if you have any questions.

[www.SignUpGenius.com/](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/)

[go/5080E49A5AC22A2FA7-parents](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/5080E49A5AC22A2FA7-parents)



*Sarah Dennis, Director of Christian Formation*



# CHRISTIAN FORMATION

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

### 2 AND 3 YEAR OLD'S

This year the littlest of our church school attenders will be learning about how loving God is a fun adventure. Through the Spark! curriculum these toddlers will hear Bible stories, sing, craft and play while gaining a better understanding that they are beloved children of God. We hope your child will join us!



4 YEAR OLD - 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE Children's Sunday school will connect with each other and God through Kid Connection, a wonderful curriculum designed to help children grow in their faith. This year all children will gather together for a large group time where they will play a game, hear the Bible story and sing songs. After this time, they will journey back to their age group rooms for snack, crafts and re-enforcement of the Bible Lesson.



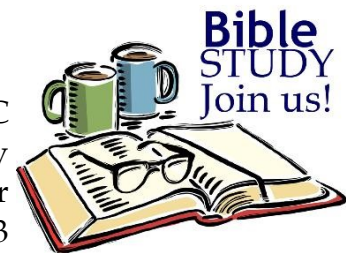
## MORE WAYS TO "PLUG IN" TO YOUR FAITH...

**Tuesday Morning Prayer Group:** With joys and sorrows abounding, in our personal lives, in our church family and in our world, we are in need of prayer! We are continuing the study of *A Guidebook to Prayer: Twenty-four Ways to Walk with God*. Each week we will experience together a new way to pray. You do not have to read the book to come and join in the experience. All are invited to join hearts and minds together in prayer Tuesday mornings at 9:30 am in the church parlor

**Theology on Tap:** This year we will spend our time talking about faith, current news and how the two meet in today's challenging world as we strive to understand how we as Christians can react faithfully and lovingly. We hope you will join us for great conversations and great drinks! We meet on the third Monday of the month at 6:00 pm. Stay tuned for new location news for the September meeting.

**Men's Bible Study:** This Bible study meets weekly at noon every Monday in Room 108. Come join us, bring your lunch and start your week refreshed and focused. Any and all are welcome to join us!

**Women's Study Group:** The Women's Study Group welcomes all TPC women to a monthly study, fellowship and learning time the first Monday of each month. The first fall meeting will be held at 7:00 pm on October 1st. Monthly meetings are held in the home of Ruth Anna Langdon at 903 Register Parkway. We will complete the book *Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World* at our October meeting (chapters 11 and 12) and introduce a new study opportunity for the 2018/2019 year. Please join us—Come, learn, grow and share with us!



# YOUTH MINISTRIES



## YOUTH GROUP BACK IN ACTION!

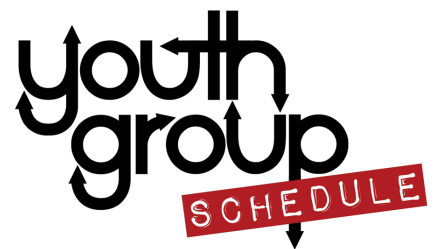
Retreats, missions, learning about Jesus, and lots of fun, — that is what is in store for Youth Group 2018-2019! The youth advisors have been planning and praying for the amazing year we have in store. Youth Group will begin Sunday September 9, from 5:30-7:00 pm. Our program will be from 5:30-6:30, with a potluck dinner beginning at 6:30 pm.

A parents meeting will be at 5:30 pm September 9 and all parents are invited to stay for games and for dinner at 6:30.

### YOUTH GROUP CALENDAR

(ALL MEETINGS AT 5:30 AT CHURCH UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED)

- |                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| <b>September 9:</b>  | Parents meeting at 5:30 pm followed by potluck dinner at 6:30. Youth Group Kick-Off at 5:30 followed by dinner. |
| <b>September 16:</b> | Faith Questions: Relationships, Part 1  |
| <b>September 23:</b> | Bogey's for Putt-Putt, right after church. Bring \$\$ for games.  |
| <b>September 30:</b> | Faith Questions: Relationships, Part 2  |
| <b>October 7:</b>    | Game Night!   |
| <b>October 14:</b>   | Faith Questions: Relationships, Part 3  |
| <b>October 21:</b>   | Escape Room, right after church. Bring \$\$ for admission.  |
| <b>October 28:</b>   | Trunk or Treat — arrive by 4:15 so we can set up games for the kids!  |



## THANK YOU BRIGHT BEGINNINGS VOLUNTEERS!



A big "thank you" to the 24 wonderful people who shopped with Bright Beginnings this year and all who contributed to the Y's backpack program. The impact on these children is immeasurable. Thanks for giving your time and friendship to these deserving kids.

*Outreach Committee*

## PRAYER EMPHASIS FOR SEPTEMBER A PRAYER FOR THE CHANGING SEASONS

Lord, we thank you for the changing seasons and for being part of your creation that is full of rhythm and cycles. Our church year is also full of rhythm and cycles. We are entering a busier cycle after a summer of a more relaxed schedule. We pray for the eyes to see and the ears to hear the lessons you give us in this period of transition. We also pray for the ability to stay focused on these lessons and the energy to put them into action. And Lord, help us to enjoy what each season brings.

Amen.



# OUTREACH

## OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES AROUND AT TUCKAHOE FIND THE ONE THAT FITS FOR YOU & YOUR FAMILY!

MINISTRY	TIME COMMITMENT	CONTACT
<b>FeedMore</b> addresses hunger needs in the greater RVA area through the distribution of donated foods	2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month with TPC volunteers to sort food. Other times of your choosing	Tim Beane 804-363-7841 timothybeane@gmail.com
<b>Meals on Wheels</b> delivers meals to shut-ins	4 <sup>th</sup> and 5 <sup>th</sup> Mondays, 1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays, and 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Fridays of each month	Terry Brady 804-740-1768 atmbrady@gmail.com
<b>Hearth of Henrico</b> is an interfaith agency which works alongside Henrico Social Services to address needs not provided by other relief agencies	Thanksgiving baskets and backpacks for children in an emergency situation are two projects TPC volunteers support during the year. Others as needs arise.	Amanda Carr 804-287-4637 carr7700@msn.com Meg Packard meg.packard@comcast.net 804-754-0602
<b>Micah Initiative</b> provides many forms of support in Richmond Public Schools	Volunteer at Oakgrove Bellemeade School as a tutor or classroom assistant on a weekly, biweekly, or monthly basis or help with special events throughout the school year.	Ruth Anna Langdon 804-282-4867 ruthannalangdon@gmail.com
<b>YMCA Bright Beginnings</b> provides new clothing for children who qualify for aid through the Y's program	Shop with children for school clothes in early to mid-August.	Amanda Carr 804-287-4637 carr7700@msn.com
<b>Crossover Health Ministries</b> provides free health care services to those who might otherwise have none	Medical professionals, front office help, financial screeners, interpreters, and administrative help are needed.	Molly Smith Volunteer Program Manager 804-652-2794 x-107 msmith@crossoverministry.org
<b>CARTAS (Congregations Around Richmond to Assure Shelter)</b> provides shelter for the homeless in area churches	Provide meals, be an overnight host, or do laundry for families housed in our church- usually a week in November.	Jennifer Albertson 804-615-6262 jhalbertson@yahoo.com



# OUTREACH

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MINISTRY	TIME COMMITMENT	CONTACT
<b>Virginia Voice</b> provides materials to those who cannot see	Read and record materials to be distributed to the blind.	Don Virgin 804-840-8222 dvirgin1926@yahoo.com
<b>Rise Against Hunger</b>	An annual Saturday morning event to pack meals to be distributed in Third World countries- date TBD	Bill Stallings 804-512-5761 wmcstallings@gmail.com
<b>Transportation</b>	Volunteer to drive church members who need transportation to worship services and other church events.	Pam Dickerson 804-512-5883 wrenntenten@aol.com
<b>Home Again</b> provides short term shelter and services for homeless men	Become a member of a team that provides, delivers, and serves a monthly evening meal at the Men's Shelter on the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month	Camellia Wroniewicz 804-370-5157 chwroniewicz@gmail.com
<b>Housing Families First</b> provides short term shelter and services for families with children	Become a member of a team that provides, delivers, and serves a monthly evening meal at Hilliard House the 4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month	Terry Brady 804-740-1768 atmbrady@gmail.com
<b>Liberation Veterans Services</b> provides short term shelter and services for veterans	Become a member of a team that provides, delivers, and serves an evening meal at this shelter 4 times each year- dates TBD	Leslie Shimer 804-301-4716 c.shimer@comcast.net
<b>Salvation Army Angel Tree</b> provides gifts for children from an incarcerated parent.	In early December purchase, wrap, and deliver Christmas presents to a child.	Melissa Mascher 804-814-4633 melissamascher@gmail.com
<b>ReEstablish Richmond</b> helps refugees establish roots, build community, and become self-sufficient citizens	Tutor for ESL and GED classes, mentor, drive to appointments, help with everyday issues such as bus schedules, driver test, etc.	Pam Burch 804-647-1475 Vaburch@comcast.net

CHOOSE HOW YOU  
MIGHT SERVE!

# AROUND THE CHURCH



## BABY NEWS!

Welcome to the newest member of our Tuckahoe family! Wyatt Powell Sherman was born on August 19 at 4:31pm to Ethan and Rachel Sherman. The proud grandparents are Dot and Walter Smith. Congratulations to the whole family!

## MEMBERS WRITE:

*Dear Tuckahoe Family, Thank you so much for the love and care shown to Patty Withrow, our long-time member. For the last six years your calls, visits and prayers have been so important to her and to me.*

*Thanks to each of you who were able to attend her Memorial Service. Also, a special thanks to the Memorial Reception Committee who prepared a delicious and beautiful reception for her.*

*Love, Camellia Wroniewicz*



## WILLING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Check One, Check Two! Tom Adair is looking for members to become part of the sound crew on Sunday mornings during worship and other events. No experience required. The training is free and the ministry to the church is priceless. Reach out to Tom at [tjadair2637@gmail.com](mailto:tjadair2637@gmail.com).



## HOST A FELLOWSHIP TIME!

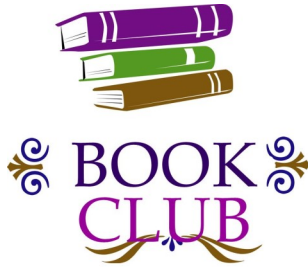
Won't you please sign up to host our After Worship Fellowship Time?! The Sundays from September – December are looking for hosts!

The sign-up calendar is on the entrance wall, right side as you enter Duntreath from the narthex. Grab your family, friends, Sunday School class, Care/Share Group or someone sitting beside you in church and put your name on the list.

The office will send you a reminder the Monday before your Sunday. And the pantry is fully stocked with goodies! Just keep it simple, using the products there and in the refrigerator. A full set of instructions is posted in the kitchen pantry, if you wonder what it takes. Or ask Dianne St. John for some pointers. Thank you to all who have hosted so far in 2018!

**Sign Up Now!**

# AROUND THE CHURCH



## TPC BOOK CLUB

Do you like to read? Enjoy discussing books with other readers? If so, please join us - new members are always welcome. The group meets the last Monday of each month September – May (except December) at 7:00 p.m. in members' homes. The first fall meeting will be at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, September 24th at Dee Daugherty's house to review the book The Nightingale by Kristen Hannah. We will be choosing our books for the year at that meeting. We always welcome new members and guests - no notice needed!

## LIVING LIFE ABUNDANTLY CAMP HANOVER RETREAT

Camp Hanover is having a *Living Life Abundantly*, one-day retreat on September 27 from 8 am to 3 pm. Rev. Denise Anderson, General Assembly co-moderator 2016-2018 is speaking on the church today and what we need to do as we head into the future. The registration fee is \$20 and includes a continental breakfast, hearty lunch and devotion. For more information and to register go to: [presbyteryofthejames.com/fall-retreat](http://presbyteryofthejames.com/fall-retreat) . The deadline to register is September 20.



## A NOTE FROM THE CHURCH TREASURER

Applause!

Applause!

Applause!

Applause!

As of the end of July members of our congregation and guests had provided \$308,350.81 in envelope contributions toward the operating budget figure of \$534,000 in envelope contributions for the year (57.74%). Additionally, Tuckahoe has received \$1,350.71 in loose offering and \$921.88 for the CentsAbility program. Sixty percent of the CentsAbility contributions are forwarded to the Presbytery of the James for use in their hunger program in Central Virginia and Haiti. The remaining 40% of the contributions underwrites our bag lunch program for veterans who are cared for by Liberation Veterans Services. Finally, our church received \$785 in contributions to the Pentecost Offering. These funds are used by the Presbyterian Church at the national level: 60% of the gifts to this offering help bring God's transforming, redeeming love to children at risk, guide and nurture young people's growing faith, and provide opportunities for young adults to become spiritual leaders in the name of Jesus Christ and 40% of the offering remains with our congregation for use on behalf of children at risk. On behalf of the Stewardship & Finance Committee and other church committees, I would like to express our gratitude for your continued generosity.

*Richard A. Mateer, Church Treasurer*

# AROUND THE CHURCH



## 2019 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN WHY SHARE? TO SHOW WE CARE “TALENT” SEARCH

Tuckahoe Presbyterian Church is considered a “mission” church in that it aggregates donations to reach many local and some far-away communities. The monetary donations represent just one aspect of our contribution towards improving lives and showing God’s love. We have dedicated, visionary, loving volunteers who share their talents by participating in many endeavors. On a personal level, these good works help you feel good and feel God. You might not think you have “enough time,” but there are many options that might fit with your schedule. All assistance is worthy!

### HOW CAN I SHARE MY TIME AND TALENTS? I’M SO BUSY ALREADY!

**Consider the following possibilities:**

**I could carve out a little time once a week or a couple of times a month to help others:** FeedMore, Lamb’s Basket, Oakgrove/Bellemeade school volunteers, Virginia Voice, Crossover Healthcare, Chancel Choir, Bell Choir, etc.

**I have a talent that could assist in enhancing a program or ministry, a few times a year:** Rise Against Hunger, CARITAS, Bright Beginnings, Hearth of Henrico, Choir, Usher, Sanctuary Prep, Flower Committee, Deliver Flowers, Sound System Operator, etc.

**I could assist with activities that are team oriented, or shared:** Transportation to/from church, Meals on Wheels, Shelter Meals, Offering Money Counter, Communion Prep, Sanctuary Decoration, Banner Maintenance, Memorial Service prep, etc.

**I could serve on a committee as a member-at-large, meeting usually once a month.** Worship, Stewardship, Outreach, Property, Administration & Personnel, Christian Formation, Nominating, Investment Advisory and many more.

Check out the many ways TPC folks help others. These missions and programs reward others in need and reward you when putting your faith to work sharing your talents to show you care. It’s also an enjoyable way to get to know fellow members while benefitting others in need.

DETAILS COMING SOON: For contact information and details about many of these area of interest, be on the lookout for published information sheets posters located in the Resource Area and check out the Outreach Opportunities on pages 8-9 of this newsletter.

*Carol Martin  
Chair, 2019 Stewardship Campaign*



# FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP



## WHERE DID THE SUMMER GO??

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPERS RESUME SEPTEMBER 12TH

Our nights together will begin September 12 with dinner at 6:00 pm. This year our programming will vary, so stay tuned to know each month's programs. And look in each Sunday's bulletin for

the menu offerings to be prepared by our TPC Cooking Teams.

Each week promises to be full of laughter, learning and incredible food, so make sure you are there.! Dinner is from 6:00 – 6:30, with programming beginning at 6:30. During the programs the

children's handbell group, KMD Bells, and chime group, TCHime6, will meet for rehearsals. Be sure to talk to Mr. Mark if your children would like to join these musical groups.



## WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER MENUS & PROGRAMS

September 12	Cooking Team 5	Tuckahoe Diner is Back! Burgers, hot dogs, grilled onions, tater tots and ice cream sandwiches	Our new seminary intern, Linda Kurtz, will share her story.
September 19	Cooking Team 4	Meat loaf, mac n' cheese, green beans, rolls and desserts	It's Bingo Night at Tuckahoe!
September 26	Cooking Team 6	Quiches, salad, rolls and dessert	Sherry Flournoy will share an amazing presentation about her grandmother, famous painter Queena Stovall.





7000 Park Avenue  
Richmond, VA 23226-3624

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## TUCKAHOE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

### **Tuckahoe Staff**

Patrick Dennis, Pastor

Hal Breitenberg, Parish Associate

Mark Cain, Director of Music Ministries

Sarah Cothorn, Assistant Director of Music Ministries

Sarah Dennis, Director of Christian Formation

Linda Kurtz, Seminary Intern

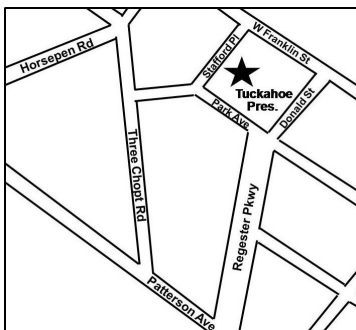
Mary McGee, Office Administrator

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.

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