

# TUCKAHOE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

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*COMPILED AND DISTRIBUTED IN FEBRUARY, 2024*

**LETTER FROM THE COVENANT PASTOR**  
**TUCKAHOE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**ANNUAL REPORT - 2023**

Dear Tuckahoe Members and Friends:

The year 2023 was **ANOTHER** year full of changes at Tuckahoe. I began the year with you and ended the year with you! In the middle, Rev. Lee Zehmer served as the second Interim Pastor for the church. We are grateful for his ministry with us. He arrived in June and received a call to become pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Rock Hill, SC. His last Sunday was November 12, 2023. I began on November 13, 2023. Our prayer is that Lee's new call is doing well in South Carolina.

With my return, I have agreed to stay until a new pastor is called to Tuckahoe. The Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) is hard at work and will probably recommend a new pastor in 2024. This time, I am full-time as the Covenant Pastor.

The Session hired a new Director of Music, Michelle Tuck, in 2023, and Michelle began on January 1, 2024. It is delightful to have that position filled for the church. We are also grateful to Sarah Cothorn who served as Interim Director of Music for the church. Sarah returns as organist/accompanist, and we are very thankful for her gifts.

The church has begun living into the Mission Study Report which was adopted in 2022. The church is led by very capable Elders and Deacons. The church is a blessing to all of the members as well as the community. I am privileged to serve again at Tuckahoe Church.

To God be the Glory!

*H. Carson Rhyne, Jr.*  
Covenant Pastor

**ADMINISTRATION & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**  
**TUCKAHOE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**ANNUAL REPORT, 2023**

Committee Members: Julia Adair, Dave Bauer, Tim Beane, Harold Cothorn (*Elder; Moderator*), Tim Estes, Pat Macaulay (*Elder*), and Jim Webster.

- Approved goal setting by staff members in preparation for staff evaluations in July 2024.
- Approved '23 Church Calendar.
- Recommended to Session hiring Director of Music (Michelle Tuck).
- Recommended to Session a Covenant Pastor (Carson Rhyne) to work with Tuckahoe before the arrival of a new Installed Pastor.
- Managed contract with SPARC.
- Advertised Director of Music position and job description.
- Updated several staff job descriptions.
- Reviewed and updated A&P Policies.
- Secured agreement with Sarah Cothorn to continue to serve as Interim Music Director.
- Approved Flexible Spending Accounts (FSA) for all full-time employees.
- Amended vacation approval policy.
- Approved various building use requests.
- Made changes to the Wedding Policy.
- Managed and approved changes to church insurance policies.
- Managed preschool contract and exit.
- Developed and monitored A&P budget.

*Respectfully submitted, Harold Cothorn*

# **CHRISTIAN FORMATION COMMITTEE**

## **TUCKAHOE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

### **ANNUAL REPORT 2023**

*“Welcoming, nurturing, and preparing children, youth, and adults for life-long faith journeys.”*

Elders and Staff: Leslie Shimer (Elder/moderator), Jackson Harrill (Elder), Mollie Meadows, Craig Kerns, Katharine Townsend, Hannah Creager (staff, Director of Christian Formation)

#### **Report Overview:**

- TPC’s Christian Formation Committee supported and celebrated the formation of a TPC Earth Care Team in 2023.
- We delighted to join together with Holy Trinity (Ghanaian) Presbyterian Church for several of our formational programs and gatherings.
- Our hope and prayer for 2024 is to continue to grow in God’s love together across all of our ages and stages, recognizing that God’s Spirit is at work in each of us, forming our life together and transforming the world around us.

#### **Description of 2023 activities:**

With the guiding direction of Rev. Hannah Creager and the dedicated work of the Christian Formation Committee and member volunteers, we offered many opportunities for formational enrichment. Programs that are new this year are designated in this report as (NEW).

- *Nursery Age Children*— The nursery is available starting at 9 am during Sunday School and also during church for children aged 3 and younger. We now have 3 paid nursery staff, rotating shifts each week, Khon Mel, Sierra McShaw, and recently hired, Tante Saah.
- *Winter/Spring 2023 Little Lights Children’s Ministry*—Hannah continued to co-lead our children’s Little Lights small group during worship in conjunction with several church volunteers. Children engaged in Bible story study, crafts, games, and more utilizing Illustrated Ministry’s Mini Revolutions curriculum. A special thank you to: Laura Brady, Terry Brady, Kaye Keyes, Craig Kerns, Sarah Kerns, Martha Burgess, Martha Campbell, Hilary Robinson, Pat Miller, Meg Packard, Candace Martin, Ruth Anna Langdon, and Nancy Fabian for supporting this ministry so faithfully.
- *Devoted Together*- A small group met weekly on Monday mornings from January 16- February 20 to have coffee and discuss Kate Bowler’s book of devotions “Good Enough”.
- *Compassion Camp* - This monthly intergenerational Sunday morning offering continued from January 2023 into April of 2023. Activities included storytelling, games, crafts, music, and a monthly service project of packing lunches for Liberation Veteran Services.

- *Lenten Children's Baskets (February)* - Leslie Shimer and Hannah prepared and organized the delivery of Lenten Children's Baskets & Devotionals for February alongside our TPC Deacons. Among the items included were: a donkey Easter egg craft, Lenten scripture cubes, Resurrection scene cut-outs by *Illustrated Ministries*, and chocolate crosses.
- *Lent in a Box Prayer Kits (February)* - The Youth of TPC assembled Lenten prayer kits to be shared with TPC families and homebound members. They were delivered along with Lenten Devotionals by the TPC Deacons.
- *Lenten study with guest teacher Rev. Roger Gench (February - April 2023)* - Rev. Roger Gench (of Second Presbyterian Church) joined us throughout the Lenten season to facilitate a study on Rowan Williams' *Being Christian: Baptism, Bible, Eucharist, and Prayer*. The study was well attended with over 50 members participating.
- *Family Easter Egg Hunt (April)* - Our Easter Egg hunt held on Sunday, April 9, 2023 had over 30 children participate (including children from Holy Trinity Ghanaian Church) with hunt coordination help from the Tuckahoe Youth Fellowship.
- *Vacation Bible School 2023 (June)* - VBS included 27 children, 32 adult volunteers and 6 youth volunteers who enjoyed a week of stories, songs, crafts, and games guided by Group Publishing's galactic adventure curriculum: "Stellar." Several children and one youth attending VBS this year were members of Holy Trinity (Ghanaian) Presbyterian Church. Thanks to this congregation's generous monetary and in-kind donations, there was a budget surplus which was donated to Oak Grove Bellemeade School, the designated charity for VBS. We also collected a large quantity of school supply donations to deliver to Oak Grove Bellemeade from participating families.
- *Montreat Conference 2023* - From July 23-29, Ben Barksdale, Ethan Park, Mollie Meadows, Tate Wilson, Mac Mahoney and Baker Mahoney, along with adult leaders, Robert Park and Hannah Creager attended the "In Joy" Montreat Youth Conference in Montreat, NC. They traveled to the conference with youth and leaders from Bon Air Presbyterian Church and shared housing accommodations, meals, and lots of fun fellowship. Mollie Meadows provided a Moment for Mission to give highlights from the trip upon the return from the conference in July.
- *Children's Summer Ministry 2023 Wade in the Water (NEW)* - Every other week from June 11th - August 13, our children met outside after the Time with Young Disciples for a small group time of water play, Bible story, crafts, and song. Following Growing Green Heart's *Wade in the Water* curriculum, they explored together the spiritual power of water.
- *Rally Day 2023* - On September 10, 2023, our TPC congregation gathered to celebrate Rally Day. A light breakfast was provided along with a series of "Back to School/Routines" prayer

stations throughout Duntreath Hall. One of the prayer stations included the assembling of 15 care packages for TPC's college students.

- *Fruit of the Spirit (NEW)* - This monthly intergenerational dinner and study on Paul's letter to the Galatians began on Wednesday, September 20. Over 42 individuals were present for the first gathering including several members of Holy Trinity (Ghanaian) Presbyterian Church. The gathering included Bible study, round table discussion and intergenerational activities to engage faith formation across different ages and stages. Subsequent dinners and studies occurred on October 18 and November 15 and they will continue into 2024.
- *Massanetta Youth Conference* - From November 17-19, Hannah Creager, Mollie Meadows and Courtney Fabian along with the youth of Salisbury Presbyterian Church attended the "Keep Awake" Youth Conference at Massanetta Springs. The conference centered on worship, leadership development and small group discussion with a focus on the PCUSA's Matthew 25 initiative.
- *Advent 2023 Prayer Bags*- Hannah and TPC youth prepared Advent Family Bags for families of all ages and stages to utilize at home. Devotionals and prayer bags were delivered to families and homebound members in conjunction with the TPC Deacons.
- *Family Christmas Eve Service* - This year's service was a simplified version of the Christmas story with children, youth, and adults joining in for the readings, music leadership, and the processional pageantry. Of course, the littlest angels stole the show, as they seem to do every year! A highlight of this year's service was a joyful congregational percussion to *Go Tell It on the Mountain* with handheld percussion instruments at the end of the service.
- *Youth Group (Spring and Fall 2023)*— In 2023, youth leaders Alex Miller, Amelia Adair, Liz Carrico Creasman, Emily Theurer, and Hannah Creager joined with TPC youth for many activities that included discussions, service, fellowship, and food. Study topics for the spring were based on the resource *What if Jesus were Serious?* by Skye Jethani. In the fall, C.J. Harrill joined as a Youth Group Leader. Youth Group gatherings resumed in mid-September and included a spiritual disciplines study based in PCUSA's *Follow Me* curriculum. Highlights from the fall included service opportunities through Project Homes, apple picking at Carter Mountain and a white elephant exchange Christmas Party.
- *Adult Sunday School*— The Discovery Class met in person throughout the spring and fall of 2023. They read and studied together the following: "Words of Life; Jesus and the Promise of the Ten Commandments" by Adam Hamilton, "Making Sense of the Bible" by Adam Hamilton, and "Christmas in Four Gospel Homes" by Cynthia Campbell. The Contemporary Issues Class resumed in the fall organized by Chuck Shimer who recruited 9 people to share the role of facilitating discussions about current event topics using the curriculum of "The Wired Word".

- *Earth Care Team (NEW)* - Led by Ginger Spence and Heather Stevenson, TPC's Earth Care Group kicked off their first meeting on May 23rd with a series of discussions on earth care and climate justice. The group continued to meet throughout 2023 on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month in the John Knox Chapel. As a basis for their discussions they used books and resources including "Climate Justice: Hope, Resilience and the Fight For A Sustainable Future" by Mary Robinson and "50 Ways To Help Save The Earth" by Rebecca Barnes. On December 31, 2023, in conjunction with Rev. Carson Rhyne, the Earth Care Team facilitated a special Earth Care worship service in Duntreath Hall.
- *Theology on Tap*— Camilla Wroniewicz led the group this year, mostly meeting at Hardywood at West Creek. A wide range of questions and topics were covered.
- *Men's Monday Bible Study and Prayer Group*— This dedicated group of 7 men met on Zoom and studied *Life Lessons from 1 Corinthians*, *Life Lessons from John*, *Life Lessons from Mark*, *Life Lessons from Psalms*, all written by author Max Lucado.
- *Women's Bible Study* — (see separate report).
- *Warriner Family Scholarship* - The Scholarship Committee was added to Christian Formation's committee in 2021 and a representative attends periodically to update the Committee (see separate report).

*Submitted by: Leslie Shimer & Jackson Harrill*

# **DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN FORMATION**

## **TUCKAHOE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

### **ANNUAL REPORT 2023**

*"For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands."*

*~ Isaiah 55:12*

There have been so many moments in which I have experienced God's joy in this last year, both in my own ministry and formation and in our shared spiritual growth together. I thought that as I reflect on all that God has done around and in and through us in 2023 that I would name them for you:

- God's joy has swirled and spun like the leaves our youth have blown into piles at the Gunter home on service days through Project Homes.
- God's joy has rippled through the sanctuary every time that I have said after the Time with Young Disciples: "Let us walk upstairs together" and they RUN.
- God's joy has danced around the table at our Fruit of the Spirit gatherings as we've shared meals and opened God's scripture together with our Ghanaian brothers and sisters of Holy Trinity Church.
- God's joy has threaded the heart-to-heart conversations I've had over coffee with fellow pastors in my monthly cohort gatherings at Union Presbyterian Seminary.
- God's joy has leaped and bounded through the halls of our church building as our VBS attendees have moved from crafts, to games, to Bible story time and snacks.
- God's joy has whispered softly as we've gathered again and again, as I've prayed alongside you at our weekly Prayer Pause.
- God's joy has soared in melody as I've stood in Anderson Hall at Montreat Conference Center with hundreds of other youth and leaders from across the country singing *My Lighthouse*.
- God's joy has sparked and fused as I've studied and engaged in contemplative spiritual practices alongside professors and students of Columbia Theological Seminary.
- God's joy has been as contagious as the giggles emanating from our nursery on Sunday morning and as the smiles across our nursery workers' faces with each child's arrival.

God's joy has been on the move and all-around, beloved. I look forward to another year laced with the boundless, life-giving joy of God.

*Submitted by: Rev. Hannah Creager*



## **FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE**

### **TUCKAHOE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

### **ANNUAL REPORT 2023**

*The Fellowship Committee provides opportunities for building relationships and expressing care among the members of Tuckahoe Presbyterian Church. The Fellowship Committee fosters such "koinonia" (Greek for fellowship) primarily by planning and leading events and activities that bring the congregation & greater community together.*

Members: Cindy Barrow, Kit Crawford, Angie Meadows, Heather Debolt, Candace Martin, Lilly Chervenak, Ben Wilson, Jim Webster, Jeanne Webster (Moderator) and Kerry Barksdale (Elder)

in 2023, The Fellowship Committee was happy to return to a more regular schedule for weekly after-worship fellowship. We welcomed the contributions of congregation members and Care Share groups that assisted in hosting throughout the year. We sponsored educational events in conjunction with fellowship including a CPR and AED overview with the local fire department and a Cyber Security session led by Jim Webster. We were delighted to bring back the Pops Concert in conjunction with a potluck dinner on the lawn in early June.

In the second half of the year, we held the very well-attended Low Country Boil and supported refreshments for a worship service in Duntreath in September. We invited the greater community to Trunk or Treat in October adding a bounce house, food truck, and tables and chairs with the goal of encouraging our visitors to stay longer and enjoy the fun and fellowship. We also hosted both Friendsgiving and the Christmas Cookie Exchange Sunday at the end of the year.

2024 will be a year of the Committee continuing to provide opportunities for the congregation to gather at both familiar events as well as new experiences. We will strive to look for more ways to include the wider community around Tuckahoe in events we sponsor so that we may truly be good neighbors and stewards of our faith.

We will also continue to work together with Worship, Christian Formation, Membership and Outreach to support the goals of the church with respect to bringing the congregation and our community together to build relationships with each other and with God. Through all of this, we will be mindful of caring for our environment and hosting events in an Earth-friendly way through low waste, recycling, and conserving energy.

*Submitted by Jeanne Webster, Moderator and Kerry Barksdale, Elder*

## **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**

### **TUCKAHOE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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Membership Committee members in 2023: Pam Dickerson (Current Moderator), Barbie Keatts, Matthew Mahoney (Session Rep.), Carson Rhyne (Pastor, Ex Officio), Walter Smith (former Moderator and Session Rep., withdrew), Lee Zimmer (former Pastor, Ex Officio, resigned)

1. The Membership Committee re-formed in 2023 as a direct result of the Mission Study. An Evangelism/Great Commission Sub-committee was formed shortly thereafter.
2. The Membership Committee identified two specific areas to focus its resources - (i) maintaining TPC's current member roll through assistance from the Deacons and direct contact with members, and (ii) creating and fulfilling processes for assisting visitors as they seek a church home.
3. The Evangelism Sub-committee surveyed Session regarding each member's thoughts about the Great Commission. The committee is currently reviewing the next steps in this area in preparation for TPC's next called Head of Staff/Pastor, as well as deliberating where responsibility for the work of the Great Commission should reside in the TPC governance structure.

The Membership Committee got off to a great "re-start" in 2023. The committee corrected and updated TPC's current membership roll, reaching out to individuals who have not been present since the pandemic and others. We also supported the Deacons in their efforts and directly connected with many church members through cards and encouragement baskets. We currently have a membership roll of 286 (this number is subject to minor fluctuation).

The Committee purchased branded notepads and pens to hand out to visitors. We also committed to connecting with visitors both after worship services and through follow-up phone calls and in-home visits. We will be working on better processes for new member inclusion.

Evangelism has not been a welcome term in many mainline Presbyterian churches. Yet we are called by Jesus in the Great Commission to spread the Word and Love throughout the greater community. The Mission Study Report identified this task as an important component of TPC's future, believing it has the power to make us relevant and sustain/enhance the church. Rather than wait for our next installed pastor, we are moving forward to explore what the Great Commission looks like for our Body of Christ.

We would love to encourage anyone interested to see a committee member about joining one or both of these Committees. We do great work and have the joy of reaching out to many current and prospective members.

*Submitted by Matthew Mahoney*

## **OUTREACH COMMITTEE**

### **TUCKAHOE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

### **ANNUAL REPORT - 2023**

Thanks to the Outreach Committee members who contributed in faith with creativity and dedication: Kemp Barksdale, Terry Brady, Amanda Carr, Kit Crawford, Ruth Anna Langdon, Pat Miller, Meg Packard, Walter Smith. Ginger Spence (Elder, Moderator) and Ethan Park (Youth Elder).

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

Through your generosity we (1) support a missionary, (2) help fund church camp and conference programs, (3) provide disaster relief, and (4) assist a host of community organizations. Each year we are the hands and feet in the community to meet the needs of our neighbors around Richmond.

#### **Among the highlights of our work in 2023 were:**

Support of Cindy Corell, Presbytery’s missionary to Haiti. Cindy’s work with FONDAMA Community Gardens Program, and other Haitian agencies improves the lives of the people of Haiti.

Rise Against Hunger is an annual community endeavor sponsored and supported by Tuckahoe members. We fill Duntreath Hall with the ingredients for healthy dry meals that we package for shipment global to fight hunger. These meals empower communities, nourish lives, and respond to emergencies. We are nourished by the fun and fellowship of the work.

Contributions to Camp Hanover, Westminster-Canterbury, and Massanetta Springs enrich the lives of young and old through opportunities to learn more about God’s loving care.

Monetary donations were made to PCUSA Disaster Relief, ReEstablish Richmond, MICAH Initiative, and other agencies which we also assisted through our activities.

Meals on Wheels reaches people with fresh meals and a warm smile from our dedicated team of volunteers. Some days this Tuckahoe bearer of food and goodwill may be the only human interaction the recipient has.

Throughout the year we collected nonperishable food items for both FeedMore and Lamb’s Basket (a Lakeside area food pantry). We also provide volunteer support for both.

Tuckahoe members prepared bag lunches monthly as well as regular dinners, for the clients of Liberation Veteran Services, which supports homeless veterans in the Richmond area. This organization connects veterans with the tools and resources they need to get back on track toward self-sufficiency.

We prepared and delivered dinners to the Hilliard House Shelter/Housing Families First, a short-term home for families (many headed by women who are the victims of domestic violence).

Tuckahoe members prepared a dinner monthly for the Men's Emergency Shelter, HomeAgain, which provides beds, nourishment, and workforce development resources to help homeless men successfully rebuild their lives and achieve stable housing.

In November we assembled 25 boxes of groceries, each containing the fixings for a Thanksgiving dinner for a family identified by Henrico Social Services who needed assistance to enjoy a healthy well rounded Thanksgiving meal.

Tuckahoe supported CARITAS long before they had their own facilities, as we housed guests at Tuckahoe. This year we were asked to supply Thanksgiving dinners. We were able to shop and deliver food for meals that made saying thanks at their own facility possible.

Some of our members have participated in repairing and revitalizing homes for qualified homeowners through ProjectHOMES. Tuckahoe's youth and adults this year assisted some of the church's neighbors targeted by ProjectHOMES by providing yard work. Both sets of skills help people stay in and enjoy their homes.

For almost 20 years Tuckahoe members have found ways of supporting the students and staff of Oak Grove-Bellemeade Elementary School in the city of Richmond. We wrote birthday cards for students and donated school supplies. We made monetary donations that they could use as most needed. Over the summer Tuckahoe members spent a Saturday working in the Bellemeade Outdoor Learning Center, which offers opportunities for children and their families to connect to the natural world. We also baked loaves of bread to show appreciation for the teachers and staff.

The annual Tuckahoe YMCA's Bright Beginnings program volunteers participated in preparing children to return to school with new supplies and clothes.

Through Jacob's Ladder, we contributed money toward a scholarship for a gifted and talented middle school student from a low-income family. The scholarship enables the student to receive mentoring and attend summer programs that help them overcome obstacles and fulfill their potential.

As the year ended, the entire congregation came together through the Wish Tree to donate Christmas toys and clothes for 20 children under the Hilliard House umbrella.

YOU are the Outreach Committee by participating in the projects throughout the year.

Thank you!

*Submitted by Ginger Spence, Moderator*

## **PROPERTY COMMITTEE**

### **TUCKAHOE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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As defined in the Property Committee Policies and Procedures, the Property Committee cares for the real property of the congregation, striving to keep in proper repair the church edifice and other buildings belonging to the congregation, fully aware that the congregation has provided these buildings and grounds for the Glory of God.

The members of the Property Committee for 2023 were Pat Brady, Bill Carter, Jim Cooke (Elder), Bill Crenshaw, Harry Edwards, Bob Glass, Julie Guller, Bob Lacy (Moderator), Tom Lee, Robert Park (Elder), Ethan Sherman, Ann Watson, Camellia Wroniewicz and Lucky Wroniewicz.

Highlights of activities performed by the Committee in 2023:

- Work continued throughout the Church property to transition to LED lighting. The areas of focus were the Sanctuary (some), the Narthex (some), and the Steeple Spotlights. Room 106 lighting was converted to LED, as was the choir room.
- While our security system was upgraded in 2022, we continued to improve the overall system. Our focus is on Door Security and ways to ensure proper closure and latching, including the use of technology to monitor the doors remotely.
- Requests from Dogwood Preschool were responded to prior to their departure. These included repairs to the sinks, faucets, etc. Following their departure, we transitioned the space used by the preschool, and the playground.
- A successful workday was held in April. Turnout was excellent and much was accomplished. We elected to cancel the November clean-up due to conflicts.
- Continued to reprogram thermostats throughout the Property. Several of the thermostats were replaced/repared.
- Tom Lee's "Job Board" was installed and implemented, providing an on-going list of "small fixes & odd jobs". This is an outlet for those who are so inclined, and have the time, to participate in Property Projects year-round.
- Sanctuary electrical panel was replaced by Craven Electrical.
- In addition to normal weekly cleaning efforts, hallways were cleaned and waxed. Further, our "Clean Team" performed a Deep-Clean following the departure of Dogwood Preschool.
- Exterior painting of the Sanctuary and Wilson Hall was completed.
- Bob Lacy graciously made the Dumpster Fence "respectable". Meanwhile, the Committee is considering major improvements to the space.

- Bill Carter's talents were utilized in building & installing an exterior Share-A-Book library, located at the rear entrance of Duntreath near Room 106.
- Provided coordination and oversight of contractor work performed for TPC.
- Supported the beautification of the Memorial Garden: assembly and installation of benches; installation and winterization of the fountain; repairs to window frames; and repairs to the Tree of Life sculpture. We salute Mary McGee and her Garden Renovation Project!
- Tim Beane's time & talent continued to be utilized in painting various areas in the church, including the Narthex. His work is much appreciated, and WE GIVE THANKS FOR TIM!!

You may have noticed some of these improvements/activities throughout the year. But many (most?) activities were performed behind the scenes with little fanfare or acknowledgment. It is our pleasure to serve the members of this Church.

*Submitted by Jim Cooke*

# **STEWARDSHIP AND FINANCE COMMITTEE**

## **TUCKAHOE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

### **ANNUAL REPORT - 2023**

Members: Tom Coleman, Moderator & Elder; Tim Beane, Treasurer; Mary McGee, Financial Administrator; John Flournoy, Elder; Kerry Barksdale, Elder; Bill Carter; Bob Lacy; Carol Martin; Robert Park, Elder; Chuck Shimer; Walter Smith, Elder; Dixon Wallace, and Rev. Carson Rhyne, Ex-Officio.

#### **Stewardship and Finance Committee (S&F) Oversight**

1. During 2023, S&F supported the following key initiative:
  - An inspirational TPC Stewardship Campaign “Living Our Mission, Sharing Our Gifts,” which featured personal testimonials from Walter Hogan, Jennifer Albertson, Ethan Park, Liz Creasman, and Chuck Shimer. Their messages served to inspire the congregation by defining the significant role that faith and TPC have played in their lives.
2. S&F supported the following ongoing operations:
  - Budget development administered by the Treasurer and division Moderators.
  - Monthly review of income and expenses compared to budget, in cooperation with the Treasurer and Financial Administrator.
  - Administrative functions related to offering envelope distribution/collection, Worship service offering collections, and the Stewardship Campaign and Dedication Sunday.
  - Monitored work of Sub-committees, as follows:

#### **Sub-Committees:**

##### **1. Investment Advisory Committee (Bill Carter, Moderator)**

Other members: Tim Beane, Treasurer, Mary McGee Financial Manager, Leslie Shimer, Ernie Stephenson.

As of December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023:

**[THIS SECTION OF FINANCIALS REDACTED FOR WEBSITE  
VERSION. CONTACT CHURCH OFFICE WITH QUESTIONS.]**

**2. Endowment Committee (Leslie Shimer, Moderator)**

Other Members as of December 31, 2023: Bill Carter, Kathy Mahone, Jackson Harrill, Pat Macaulay, and Barbie Keatts (Stan Sauer and Carol Martin ended their second 3-year terms on June 30, 2023, and were not eligible to serve another consecutive term)

[THIS SECTION OF FINANCIALS REDACTED FOR WEBSITE VERSION. CONTACT CHURCH OFFICE WITH QUESTIONS.]

**3. Nomination Committee (Robert Park, Elder)**

The Nomination Committee was elected by the congregation. The committee presented a slate of candidates for Elder, Deacon, and Nominating Committee to the congregation. The congregation was encouraged to propose potential nominees with self-nomination encouraged. The committee considered all candidates and fulfilled its obligation.

**4. Stewardship Campaign (Mary McGee, Financial Administrator)**

The Stewardship Campaign began in late September with requests for pledges being sought to mid-November. The 2023 theme was “Living Our Mission, Sharing Our Gifts.” A professionally produced video presentation, “Living the Tuckahoe Mission,” was created and placed on the church website. The stewardship campaign supported an overall 2023 budget of \$538,500, enough to meet congregational needs and requests.

**5. Other matters**

The Stewardship and Finance Committee continued discussions to support the utilization of endowment funds. Requests for project funding are submitted to the Endowment Committee (EC) and approved by EC, S & F, and Session.

*Submitted by Tom Coleman, Moderator*



# **TREASURER'S REPORT**

## **TUCKAHOE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

### **ANNUAL REPORT - 2023**

As I begin my fifth year as Tuckahoe Presbyterian Church's Treasurer I continue to be impressed and humbled by your faithful and generous support of our church. Your commitment to the ministries of Tuckahoe is a blessing to those who benefit from our efforts. Because of you, our church closed 2023 well positioned for 2024.

We finished 2023 with a surplus of \$1,060. This was significantly less than the surpluses from 2020 through 2022. It's important to note, however, that we did not need to supplement our budget with Endowment funds or reserve funds, which was expected when the budget was created. This year will be challenging since our pledges are down slightly and we will not be able to utilize a large surplus from the prior year. In addition, our budget is \$16,000 above 2023, driven by an increase in compensation as we prepare to call a new Minister sometime in 2024. Our committee moderators continue to be diligent in controlling expenses.

During 2023 all deposits were made on a weekly basis and bills were paid when due. Mary McGee, our Financial Administrator, has done a superb job keeping our books current and accurate. There were numerous accomplishments in 2023, some of which are listed below.

- Managed our CDs at Atlantic Union Bank and Blue Ridge Bank to maximize our interest earnings.
- Commissioned an accounting firm (Rosen & Underdown) to conduct an independent review of TPC's financial transactions for 2022. The review indicated that everything was in good order.
- Followed our document retention policy by securely disposing of outdated records.
- Prepared monthly financial reports for S&F and Session.

Given the numerous initiatives undertaken during the past three years, there are fewer needs to address in 2024. Some we hope to tackle are listed below. Others will surely arise, and Mary and I will do our best to handle these in a timely and efficient manner.

- Review our various Fund Accounts for relevance with Tuckahoe's current ministries
- Continue to manage our CDs.
- Commission an independent financial review of 2023 financial transactions.

The following page contains the highlights of our financial status. You may always reach out to me at [timothybeane@gmail.com](mailto:timothybeane@gmail.com) if you have any questions about our church's finances.

Thank you again for your faithful support of Tuckahoe Presbyterian Church!

*Tim Beane, Treasurer*

[THIS SECTION OF FINANCIALS REDACTED FOR WEBSITE VERSION.  
CONTACT CHURCH OFFICE WITH QUESTIONS.]

## **WORSHIP COMMITTEE**

### **TUCKAHOE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

### **ANNUAL REPORT - 2023**

*As defined in the Worship Committee's Policies and Procedures the Worship Committee encourages and provides for faithful discipleship through sacred individual, family, and corporate worship under the guidance of the Book of Order. The Committee oversees Tuckahoe's Worship Services encouraging a Reformed understanding of the nature and meaning of worship; providing for the worship setting, including preparation of the sanctuary prior to and after services.*

**The 2023 Committee members included:** Alex Miller (Elder and Moderator Jul-Dec), John Flournoy (Elder and Moderator Jan-Jun), Martha Campbell (Elder Jan-Jun), Tom Adair, Anne Beane, Hal Breitenberg, Susan Breitenberg, Jim Cooke, Karen Cooke, Sarah Cothorn, Walter Hogan, Lee Zehmer (Transitional Pastor May-Nov), Carson Rhyne (Covenant Pastor Jan-May and Nov-Dec).

#### **Highlights of 2023 and Activities Performed by the Worship Committee included:**

- Reinstating the use of friendship pads during worship and discontinuing "Connection Cards."
- Modifying offering collection by leaving plates in the narthex prior to service and only passing offering plates on Easter, Pentecost, World Communion Sunday, Christmas Eve, and other special offerings.
- Re-opening the balcony for worshippers on Sundays.
- Maintaining summer worship services at 10:30 am, with the desire to have a consistent worship time all year long.
- Offering a training session to those interested in serving as lay readers, and transitioned lay reader sign-ups to an electronic form that any interested members can access.
- Welcoming Lee Zehmer as transitional pastor in May and welcoming Carson Rhyne back in November.
- Purchasing a liquid candle adapter for acolytes, so the flame isn't inadvertently extinguished when walking down the aisle in the sanctuary.
- Holding two worship services in Duntreath Hall, including one in September featuring more contemporary music, and one in December focused on care of God's creation.
- Switching from using single-serve, plastic communion cups to reusable glass cups as part of an effort to be stewards of God's creation and make Tuckahoe certified as an "Earth Care Congregation."
- Celebrating Christmas with a beautiful Cantata performed by the choir.
- Hiring Michelle Tuck as Director of Music, to begin in January 2024.

*Respectfully Submitted,  
Alex Miller, Moderator*

**INTERIM DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES**  
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- The choir sang for Sunday services from January to May 2023 and from September to December 2023. We are currently at 18 members, an increase of 2. The choir sang an introit and anthem every Sunday. The choir practices every Thursday evening from 7:00 – 8:30 in the sanctuary. Many thanks to them for their hard work and commitment.
- From June to August 2023 we were delighted to have special music every Sunday. This is the first summer I have ever known this to happen. The following folks shared their talents with the congregation during the summer (some more than once!): Jim McCleskey, Pam Burch, Craig Moore, Bob Lacy (Gospel Quartet); Mary McGee (solo); Becky Groves and Hannah Creager (duet); Dee Daughtrey, Pat Macaulay, Carol Martin, Rachel Burch, Hannah Creager (alto anthem); Jim McCleskey (solo); Lee Zehmer (solo); Moore Brass (Craig, Matthew and Thomas Moore); entire choir (anthem); Becky Theuer (piano/organ duet); Becky Groves, Pam Burch, Rachel Burch, Becky Theuer (handbells). Many thanks to all these folks for sharing their musical gifts during the summer.
- We were blessed to have the talents of our handbell quartet showcased during services on 2/5/23, 3/19/23, 10/8/23, and 12/3/23. This quartet is Becky Groves, Pam Burch, Rachel Burch, and Becky Theuer. Thanks to these ladies for sharing their gifts.
- We were also blessed this year to have the youth sing several times during our regular Sunday services, sharing anthems with the congregation.
- On Dec. 17, 2023, the choir presented a 35-minute Christmas Cantata with readings during the regular church service. We sang Mary McDonald's new cantata "O Holy Light". The choir started practicing for this in September and worked right up to the last minute. It was a wonderful service.

*Sarah Cothorn*  
*Interim Director of Music*

**TPC SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE**  
**TUCKAHOE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
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The TPC Scholarship Funds Committee manages the Warinner Family Scholarship.

General Committee: Beth Ayers, Pam Burch, Susan Galvin, Kathy Mahone, Donna Sauer, Stan Sauer, Ethan Sherman, Leslie Shimer

Selection Committee: Paul Anderson, Bob Andrews (VCU colleague of Pam Burch), Beth Ayers, Susan Galvin, and Rachel Sherman.

Established in 2012, the Warinner Scholarship Fund provides a merit-based, lump-sum grant of up to \$6,000 over a 4-year period for post-high-school education. Eligible applicants (members of Tuckahoe) may be as old as 26 and must be attending a four-year college, a graduate school, a community college, a junior college, or a career education school. For more information, see the Tuckahoe website ([www.tuckahoepres.org](http://www.tuckahoepres.org)) under the “Learn” tab.

Prior recipients: Amelia Adair (Sarah Lawrence), Owen Ayers (Princeton), Claire Galvin (William & Mary), Corinne Burch (Berklee College of Music), Laura Anderson (VCU), Bailey Kane (VCU), Thomas Moore (JMU), Jay Guller (Randolph Macon), and Hannah Ray (William & Mary) and Kiel Mahoney (Elon).

In lieu of fundraising, in July 2021 the Committee requested funding over a five-year period from the Church’s Endowment Fund at the rate of \$10,000 per year. The request was granted. The payment schedule began in July 2021 and January thereafter, with the last payment to be in January 2025. The Committee will address the need for other fundraising efforts in the future, possibly including youth involvement in those efforts.

As of the end of 2023, the assets in the Scholarship Fund totaled \$92,838.

*Submitted by: Leslie Shimer*

## **BOARD OF DEACONS**

### **TUCKAHOE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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The 2023-24 Board of Deacons consists of 14 Deacons: Tom Adair, Cindy Barrow, Susan Breitenberg, Sarah Cothorn, Kit Crawford (fulfilling unexpired term of Jerry Walker), Nancy Fabian, Julie Guller, Walter Hogan, Kathy Mahone, Barbara Maiden, Carol Martin (Secretary), Mary McGee (Moderator), Becky Theuer, Jerry Walker (resigned Oct. 2023), and Jeanne Webster. Each Deacon is assigned a Care/Share Group (C/S Group) consisting of approximately 15-20 Tuckahoe members.

#### **General Deacon Duties**

In June 2023 a letter was sent to all members of Tuckahoe explaining the role of Deacons, including a new Deacon's Ministry brochure and a "calling card" with their Deacon's name and contact information. Pastor Lee Zehmer met with the Deacons each month at our regular monthly meetings to reinforce the role of Deacons and provide education on how best to perform our duties and maximize our reach within our C/S groups. Pastor Lee's new charge to the Deacons was formed around PACE (details below) and this was included in the new brochure sent to each member:

#### **What Does a Deacon Do?**

Deacons are assigned a group of church members (the Care/Share Group) and have four primary responsibilities that can be remembered with the acrostic **PACE**:

**P** – Pray regularly for each member of the group

**A** – Be available to members when possible

**C** – Stay in contact on a regular basis

**E** – Provide a Christian example

**PACE** is the very heart of the Deacons' Ministry – an authentic and effective way to reach the hearts and lives of our members.

The Deacons' role continues to include:

- reaching out regularly in person, by phone, by email, or by postal mail to keep in touch.
- communicating about upcoming Tuckahoe events and notices such as the deaths of congregation members
- organizing meals for members as needed
- visiting members in the hospital and/or nursing facilities
- arranging for transportation to church for Sunday worship, other church activities, doctor's appointments, and/or other needs.

We also maintain several "Bereavement Boxes" which may be loaned to a grieving family. These boxes contain paper products, thank-you notes, stamps, and other items the family may find useful. The moderator sends sympathy cards to families of the deceased on behalf of the Board of Deacons.

In 2023 the Deacons met monthly on the third Wednesday of the month and rotated the responsibility each month of the opening devotional, closing prayer, card shower, and attending the monthly Session meeting. Those who attended the Session meeting reported to the Board of Deacons what they learned at the following monthly meeting. Deacons also serve communion in church and in members' homes as requested by members.

Beginning in January 2024 Pastor Carson Rhyne has asked the Deacons to help arrange home visits, phone calls, or other methods for him to get to know our members on a more personal basis.

**Monthly Reports** - Deacons submit monthly reports detailing their contact with members to the moderator and the Pastor. The reports may indicate that a visit is needed by the pastoral care staff, that flowers should be delivered, or that a recommendation is needed for the assignment of a Stephen Minister.

**Card Shower** - Each month, two Deacons send cards to our homebound members. Cards are intended to let our homebound members know they are in our thoughts and prayers and are still a part of our church community.

**Flower delivery** - The Deacons deliver flowers to their C/S members throughout the year.

**Emergency Shelter Meals** - In the summer months, the Deacons provide dinner for the Men's Emergency Shelter to give the year-round cooks a break. This ministry has been ongoing for over 20 years.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Mary McGee, 2023-24 Moderator*

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN (THE WOMEN'S STUDY GROUP)**  
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The Presbyterian Women of Tuckahoe Church (known as the Women's Study Group) has approximately 20 regular attendees who normally meet on the first Monday evening of each month, October to May, in the home of Ruth Anna Langdon.

In the spring, we completed a Horizons Bible study called *Come to the Waters*. In the fall, we began a Horizons Bible study called *God's Promise: I Am with You*.

Our attendance and enthusiasm remain strong. A small group of dedicated teachers plans all lessons, and we advertise that membership is low-pressure - no teaching or hosting responsibilities. We are pleased with our current focus on Bible study and fellowship.

We undertake outreach projects occasionally. This year we contributed several Thanksgiving boxes for needy families. In the past, we have made financial donations, slowly spending a balance accumulated during the decades when Presbyterian Women was a larger organization. With not much left in that fund, we made no financial contributions during 2023 and will continue saving to support the purchase of Bibles for confirmands.

*Becky Theuer*  
*Moderator*



**PARISH ASSOCIATE REPORT FOR 2023**  
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During 2023 I served as Liturgist / Worship Leader on February 12 and July 23. I was among those who taught as part of the Wired Word Adult Sunday School series on contemporary issues, was a member of the Worship Committee, and served as an usher. Diane Prevary and I led Bible sessions during Vacation Bible School, June 26-30. Joining others from TPC, I helped with Bright Beginnings night at the YMCA on Aug. 19, and with Trunk-or-Treat on Oct. 29. My wife, Susan, and I took Communion to the home of Elmer and Betty Dunn. As a member of the Presbytery of the James, I attended Presbytery meetings.

*Respectfully submitted, Hal*

The Rev. E. Harold "Hal" Breitenberg, Jr.