

THREE CHOPT NEWS

Three Chopt Presbyterian Church

March 2008

***Latest & Greatest ...,
New and Improved!***

<http://www.tcpresbyterian.org>

Check it out!

Please take a minute to check out the new and improved TCPC website,

<http://www.tcpresbyterian.org>

and mark it as one of your favorites! It's a great way to easily keep up with the comings and goings in our busy church. The church calendar is available as well as listings of all of the fellowship groups and mission opportunities. The monthly newsletters are there along with recent sermon transcripts.

It's a one-stop-shop for all that is TCPC!

(A special thanks goes to Martin Walker for all his time and talent that went into pulling this together for us all!)

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:
Lunch and Theatre
:
"Jesus Phreak"
:
.....

March 2 we will gather for lunch at 12:30pm in the UFH and then travel to St. Mark's on the Boulevard at 1:20pm for the Acts of Faith production "Jesus Phreak." Make your reservation by contacting Sally Bolte shbolte@verizon.net or 270-0467. Tickets are \$12 a seat, lunch is free.



ter Egg Hunt

Saturday, March 15

10:00am

Rain or Shine

ome join us for the

Third Annual TCPC Easter Egg Hunt!

Children from walkers through 5th grade are invited to hunt for eggs, hear the Easter story, enjoy refreshments and meet the Easter bunny! Children should bring a basket. All children are invited to join in on the fun so invite your neighbors, cousins, grandchildren and school friends!

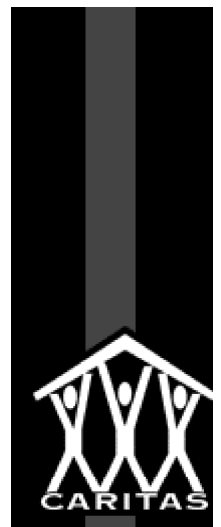
Help is needed in all areas to make this event a success. Can't be with us on that day and would still like to help? Snack donations and individually-wrapped candy for the goodie bags would be greatly appreciated. If you can join us for the fun, help is needed in hiding all those eggs, decorating or stuffing goodie bags.

Youth - this is a great chance to spread the love of Christ to our youngest members and guests! Won't you join us?

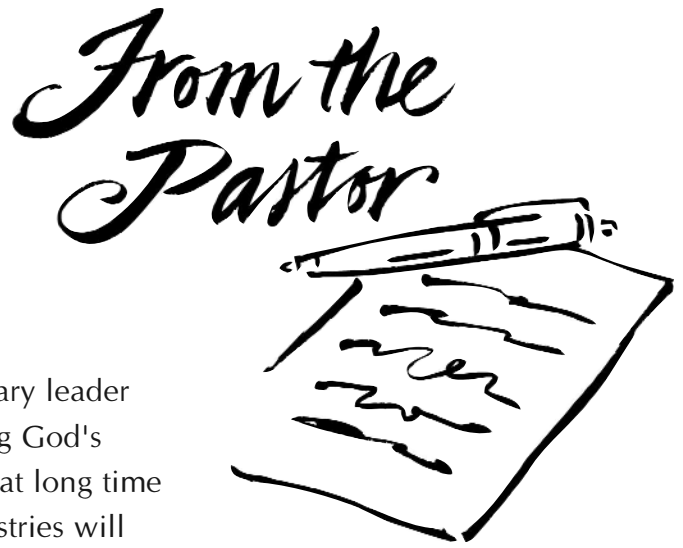
Any help would be greatly appreciated. Please contact Amy Spitler at 935-0711 or artwithamy@comcast.net no later than March 8th. Thank you!

CARITAS Update

The Mission and Service Ministry Team would like to remind everyone that TCPC will host CARITAS from March 1-March 8. The men will be with us this year, arriving each night around 7:30pm. There are many opportunities for members of the congregation to become involved in this ministry to the homeless of our fair city. Please contact Linda Coulson at 749-4351 with any questions or if you want like to help.



Dear Friends,



As we continue in the season of Lent, I invite us to engage in a period of reflection and "discernment" in regard to God's leading. As a congregation, we are blessed in many ways. We have been entrusted with much - now how we will live out God's call in this time? As I continue in my first six months as your installed pastor I am making the transition from temporary leader in a time of transition to long-term pastor. I am seeking God's will and direction and I invite you to do the same. What long time strengths will we build upon at TCPC? What new ministries will come forward as members follow God's call? What surprises does God have in store?

Already I can say that TCPC has many continuing strengths which will serve the congregation well as we face the challenges of today. TCPC is caring, friendly, warm and compassionate. TCPC has a heart for mission. And TCPC has energy and organizational skills. Already I can see that TCPC is a place where new ministries are encouraged and flourish. Look at the prayer shawl ministry! The new "Food for the Soul" ministry! The new mission trip to inner city Newark, which take place again this year.

At the February meeting of the Presbytery of the James, materials on discernment were offered. If you are interested in reading this 30 page (!) document you may find it at:
www.pcusa.org/spiritualformation/discernment.pdf

Discernment has been described as a "way of making Christian choices, of following the Spirit of God in the decisions we make." In the New Testament, the word for discernment is diakrisis, which means "differentiating" or "distinguishing." In discernment, individuals and groups allow the experiences of a dynamic relationship with the Living God to give shape to their decisions. Discernment is an ongoing process rather than an isolated event and it is grounded in a life of prayer. It makes use of rational processes, intuition, imagination and emotion.

I look forward to talking with you more about discernment and especially to our discernment together about God's future for TCPC.

Grace and peace,

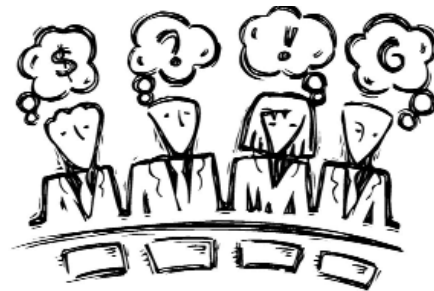
Brenda

SESSION SUMMARY

The Session met for its monthly Stated Session meeting on February 11, 2008 and on February 10, 2008 for a Called Session Meeting to receive new members.

Highlights from the meetings:

- The following prospective members shared their faith stories, were examined by Session and approved as new members:
 - Nancy & Bob Newins – letter of transfer – Centenary United Methodist Church, Richmond VA
 - Sue Somerville – letter of transfer – River Road United Methodist Church, Richmond, VA
 - David Somerville – affirmation of faith
 - Mildred Stanley – affiliate member – Member of Chester Presbyterian Church, Chester VA
 - Walter & Valerie (Thomas) Hayes – letter of transfer –
 - Valerie – River Road Presbyterian Church, Richmond, VA
 - Walter – Southminster Presbyterian Church, Richmond, VA
 - Non-baptized child Austin (14)
 - Collins Serertz – affirmation of faith
 - Non-baptized child – Braeden (7)
 - Non-baptized child – Blair (10)
- The combined position of Director of Children Ministry and Promises Pre-School will be continued through the calendar year 2008.
- Laura White will begin leading a Children's Choir on Wednesday evenings. The children are scheduled to participate in worship on Palm Sunday, March 16th. Additionally on that same day, we will acknowledge the TGI Wednesday/LOGOS 5th grade graduating class!
- May 4th will be the presentation of bibles to our 3rd graders during the 11:00 worship service.
- TCPC will host VBS the week of July 14th – 18th. Co-directors are Linda Garcia and Kathy Williamson.
- TCPC will host the Camp Hanover Day Camp the week of July 21st – 25th. Suzie Walker has agreed to be one of the contacts; we are still looking for a 2nd coordinator!
- James & Judy Thompson's membership has been transferred to Grand Lakes Presbyterian Church, Katy TX.
- As recommended by the Finance Ministry Team, the following officers are elected to serve for the year 2008:
 - Treasurer – Brian Cassada (serving since 2005)
 - Assistant Treasurer – Barclay Bradshaw (serving since 1990)
 - Financial Secretary – Larry Curfman (serving since 1986)
 - Bookkeeper - Jane Wood (serving since 1996)
- As recommended by the Finance Ministry Team, payroll processing will be outsourced for TCPC for an estimated annual cost of \$2,500. Transition plans will begin for a targeted start date beginning second quarter (April 1). The estimated cost includes the additional benefit of direct deposit for TCPC staff, including Promises.
- As recommended by the Finance Ministry Team, a task force reporting to Mission and Service will be established for the purpose of determining what organization(s) to disburse benevolence funds designated from the Freedom 2000 and Bridging to the Future campaigns.
- As recommended by the Finance Ministry Team, a task force reporting to Membership and Evangelism will be established for the purpose of increasing membership involvement. This task force will generate ideas, evaluate, and recommend actions to increase membership involvement and report to Session by September 2008.
- As recommended by the Finance Ministry Team, a task force reporting to Administration will be established for the purpose of defining the TCPC identity and developing a communication plan and report to Session by September 2008.



Statistics for January 2008

Average Attendance:	269
Active Members:	534
2008 Regular Operating Budget	
Pledges:	\$445,000
Budget:	\$469,500

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING SUMMARY

The Annual Congregational Meeting was held on January 27, 2008. The 2007 Annual Report was received. Candidates for Elder Class of 2011 Kate Baird, Linda Bolton, Betty Ekabutr, Sean Healy, Betsy Jackson, Matt Stevens and Emily Williamson (youth - 1 year term) were elected. Candidates for Deacon Class of 2011 Rich Brown, Jackie Ray Dyson, Tess Gardner (youth - 1 year term), Zach Parker, Terrell Parkerson, Jackie Pristas, Michele Vanderburg and Alan Wentz were elected. The Congregation thanked Chairman Jeff Harris and members of the 2007 CNC John Ballsrud, Tina Barden, Laura Frazho, Scott Gravitt, Lisa Grim, Del Nelson, Nancy Stewart, Lois Watkins and Brian White for their commitment and service. Congregational Nominating Committee Members were elected: Class of 2009 John Ballsrud, Scott Gravitt, Nancy Stewart, Class of 2010 Cecil Martin, Steve Coleman, Sandra Manning, Deacon Bruce Osborne Inactive Elder Mary Ellen Higgins and Youth Tyler Ritchie. The Presbytery 2008 Terms of Call for Pastor Brenda Halbrooks and Associate Pastor Rev. Ed Kross were also received and approved.



Shared Abundance

The Mission & Service Ministry Team will be preparing baskets that will be given to Lamb's Basket (A Henrico Food



Bank) the week before Easter. The following

non-perishable items are needed to abundantly fill the Easter Baskets:

- canned hams
- canned sweet potatoes
- canned green beans
- canned fruit
- muffin mixes

We are in need of help preparing the baskets for delivery, If you are willing to help, please contact Ken Holsten or Peter Coulson.

Mission & Service Leadership Opportunity!



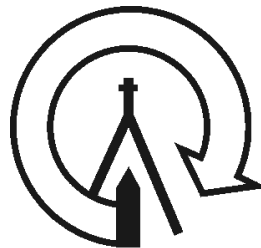
The TCPC Mission & Service Ministry Team is looking for a Habitat for Humanity Coordinator. Are you interested? Contact Peter Coulson at 749-4351.

2008 Mission Trips Two Opportunities to Serve!

Trinity Reformed Church, Newark NJ

Our ministry partnership with Trinity Reformed Church continues this year with a mission trip to Newark from August 2-10. Junior Highs, Senior Highs and Adults are welcome to participate. We started a partnership with Trinity last year when 14 Sr. Highs and adults went to Newark to help get the Trinity Reformed Church Youth Center ready to open and lead a 3-day Vacation Bible School. The Youth Center is open now but fix-up work there, around the church and the neighborhood will be needed again this year as well as the Vacation Bible School. The mission team will sleep and eat in the church building and minister to the hopeful families and children in the neighborhood who struggle with poverty every day. You will be helping Danny and Kimberly Iverson and the families in the community who so appreciate our partnership with them. But you'll be amazed at how fulfilled you will feel after a short week there.

If you are interested in going or just learning more about the trip, sign up on the sheet in the Mission & Service corner of the Upper Fellowship Hall. Each participant will donate \$150 towards the supplies needed by Trinity church during the week for the fix-up and the Vacation Bible School.



There is a photo album from last year's trip for you to browse through at the sign-up table. If you have specific questions, please call Cory or Jack Ryan at 741-5936 or JJR444@verizon.net.

**OUR CONGREGATION IN
*Action***

West Virginia Mission Trip

Just a reminder to all the good people of TCPC that the sign-up sheet and some general information about the WV Mission Trip are in the Upstairs Fellowship Hall. The trip is from June 21-28 and limited to 18 persons, ranging in ages from 14 and up. Associate Pastor, Ed Kross, will be going on this trip, so get signed up for good Christian fellowship and some hard work helping people in our sister state.

Food for Thought

Dear Friends,

In January I had the privilege of attending a Stephen Leader's Conference. This is the same conference Bill and Karen Scherling attended to learn how to develop Stephen Ministry in our congregation. I would like to share with you some of what I learned, in the hopes that some of you will feel called to be either a Stephen Minister or someone who is in a caring relationship with a Stephen Minister.

Stephen Ministry was developed by Kenneth Haugk, a pastor and counselor who did not want people to suffer or struggle alone. He realized the best way to fulfill this hope was not to attending to all who suffer by himself, but to train people to offer Christ's own presence and comfort to those who are struggling. Stephen Ministry is about equipping the laity of the church for caring ministry as a way to strengthen pastoral care offered by congregations. As a pastor I can certainly serve as a resource for Stephen Ministry, but this is a ministry designed to be led and carried out by lay people. To be a Stephen Minister one does not have to be in the caring professions – teaching, medicine, counseling, social work, etc., although such people often make wonderful Stephen Ministers. One simply has to have a heart for those who suffer and a desire to offer them encouragement and comfort.

Stephen Ministry is also focused on offering quality care. Stephen Ministers go through 50 hours of training and meet regularly for ongoing training and supervision so they can offer the best care possible. At the same time Stephen Ministers are aware of their limits. They are not professional counselors. Instead they are trained to offer Christ's care and presence through listening, prayer and encouragement. Stephen Ministers are trained to journey with people during

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

“Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of GOD—what is good and acceptable and perfect.” With these words from Romans 12:2, Paul charges each of us with an incredibly difficult task. The discernment of GOD's will in our own lives is a continuous process, which requires great focus and effort on the part of each person of faith. Knowing this, Paul precedes this challenge with three tips toward discerning GOD's will:

1) “Do not be conformed to this world” – if we find ourselves sitting around, waiting for GOD to “catch up with the times,” then we've got a serious problem in perspective. Our world does not match that of the one that GOD envisions. If we allow this world to shape our perspectives, then we will never be able to have the focus that is necessary to share in GOD's vision for the whole world.

2) “be transformed” – Paul does not tell us to “transform ourselves.” Rather, he suggests us that the transformation, which must take place, can only happen when we submit to GOD.

difficult times, even though they do not have all the answers. But Stephen Ministers are tangible reminders of Christ's presence and care to those who are struggling.

I also learned that those who could use the support of a Stephen Minister do not have to wait until their lives are falling apart to become a care receiver. Stephen Ministers can certainly be a comfort to those who are ill, but they can also be a comfort to family members caring for a sick loved one. Stephen Ministers can comfort those who are grieving, but they can also help someone anticipating the birth of a child come to terms with their anxiety about all the changes birth will entail.

One of the reasons it is so important to keep reminding the church about Stephen Ministry is because it is a confidential ministry. While a care receiver is free to talk about their Stephen Minister and what they talk about, a Stephen Minister can never share the identity of their care receiver or what they talk about with their care receiver.

I invite you to prayerfully consider participating in our Stephen Ministry, either as a Stephen Minister or as a care receiver. One does not have to have all the answers to be a Stephen Minister and one does not have to be at rock bottom to be a care receiver. What is necessary is the desire to see Christ's extraordinary grace at work through ordinary people. If you are interested in learning more about Stephen Ministry you may contact me or Bill and Karen Scherling, our Stephen Leaders.

In Christ's Service,

Ed

While it can be difficult to accept this truth, we must admit that we simply lack the capacity to accomplish transformation for ourselves. Thankfully, our GOD, who loves us acts on our behalf.

3) “[renew] your minds” – For Paul and the rest of the Greek-speaking world, “minds” weren't just brains. The apostle is actually referring to our whole beings. When we submit to GOD, Paul tells us that, through GOD, our entire being is reborn in a new and better condition than it had previously existed. It is only in the act of renewal that people of faith gain the ability to discern GOD's will.

Friends, as we seek to live out our lives, both as individuals and as a community of believers, may we give thanks to our GOD, who shows us this path, in order that we also might know what is “good and acceptable and perfect.”

May Christ's Peace be with You,

Aaron



Welcome Our *New* Members

Walter Hayes, Valerie Thomas and Austin Hayes

Walter is a freight conductor for CSX railroad. He enjoys movies, music and cooking and would like to free up some time to help with Building and Grounds. His son Austin attends Hungary Creek Middle School and TCPC confirmation classes. Valerie enjoys reading, movies and music.

Nancy and Bob Newins

Nancy is a retired librarian. She enjoys reading and music. She has joined the TCPC chancel choir and is looking for other ways to serve at TCPC. Bob is a retired salesman who enjoys tennis and travel. He would like to be involved with Building and Grounds and Habitat for Humanity.

Robert “Collins” Sherertz and Braeden Sherertz

Collins is the proprietor of Antifreeze Recyclers, Inc. He enjoys playing guitar and intends to join the TCPC Praise Band. He is also interested in Bible study. Braeden attends Skipwith Elementary.

David Somerville

David (son of Sue Somerville) is a talented musician who joined the TCPC chancel choir before joining TCPC. He teaches piano and plans to attend VCU and study music this Fall. His hobbies include music, sports and chess.

Sue Somerville

Sue, who raised four sons, including David (see above), works as a physical therapy technician. She has been singing in the TCPC chancel choir for about a year. She served in other churches as Sunday School teacher, choir member, and Vacation Bible School teacher. Her hobbies include music, volleyball, swimming, reading and knitting.

Mildred Stanley (affiliate member)

Mildred is a retired Social Services supervisor and a devout grandmother to four grandchildren. She enjoys photography, music and her computer. She was in the choir at Chester Presbyterian, where she met Rev. Brenda Halbrooks. She would like to put her administrative skills to use at TCPC.

Note: Information regarding address, phone number and email address has been printed by permission of the respective new member.

Adult Nurture Opportunities

As We March Toward Easter at TCPC

It's only March but we are halfway through Lent as Easter arrives early in 2008. Lenten studies and some exciting new plans are part of the opportunities for adult study and fellowship. Fellowship gathering is at 9:45 AM, and Sunday School classes start at 10:00 AM. Worship at 8:30 and 11:00 AM. See you there!

What's New This Month

The Adult Nurture Ministry Team has obtained your feedback! Numerous ideas and needs were identified by TCPC members at the 3 dinners in January. Over 30 people enjoyed the fun and fellowship of the dinners. It was exciting to see so many people dreaming and sharing ideas!

MAIN THEME: Nurture Through Connection—The common theme from much of the brainstorming was that TCPC needs to be nurtured and to nurture one another so that we can make more lasting connections with each other. The suggestion was that getting groups with common interests together was a powerful way to strengthen relationships among members.

SHORT-TERM PLANS: Kickoff plans at the Fifth Sunday Fellowship (hosted by the M&E and AN ministry teams) on March 30. We'll have time for discussion, and will have time for folks to get together based on common interests, so that events, gatherings, or groups can get started.

POSSIBLE GROUPS: • Sports & Fitness (walking, biking, hiking, running, softball) • Fellowship meals • Book Club • History, culture, arts & theatre group • Fellowship groups with a mission (like 'Food for the Soul' and the Prayer Shawl group) • Potpourri (can discuss anything focus) • Aging Parents Support Group • Beading Nametags

DINNERS FOR EIGHT: Plans are underway to organize groups of eight adults to share meals in homes on Wednesday nights in April. A common devotion will be provided for each group as well as ideas for discussion of future nurture and small group opportunities. We also plan to have a covered dish dinner at TCPC at the end of the month, for the smaller groups to have a chance for fellowship with the larger congregation. These gatherings will provide a great fellowship opportunity and also help to focus ideas for new small groups and other nurture opportunities. We may even discover unknown small group leaders among TCPC members! If you can help with planning or brainstorming about the dinners, please contact Lisa Salita (360-2098), Gary Darden (346-9093) or Sally Bolte (270-0467) with further ideas and feedback.

Check the TCPC website [<http://www.tcpresbyterian.org>] for upcoming program info.

This Month in Adult Sunday School

Special Note: No Classes on March 30—During the intergenerational 5th Sunday Fellowship, the Adult Nurture and Membership & Evangelism Ministry Teams will kickoff the plans based on feedback from the January Wednesday night congregational dinners.

The Parents' Forum

9:45 AM IN UPSTAIRS FELLOWSHIP HALL FOR DETAILS, CONTACT LISA SALITA (360-2098)

A new adult class that includes a combination of classroom material and small discussion groups to provide parents with skills, support, and information they need to nurture their children and their families.

MEETING WITH FORUM CLASS FOR MARCH LENTEN STUDY

The Forum Class

9:45 AM IN UPSTAIRS FELLOWSHIP HALL. FOR DETAILS, CONTACT AARON WHITE (271-0135)

During Lent, we will be examining selected passages from Paul's Epistle to the Romans. Our discussion will be centered around the question: "What can we as urban Christians in Richmond, Virginia learn from the urban Christians of the early church in Rome?" This study will be led by Aaron White (271-0135); email: Aaron.White@union-psce.edu.

The Present Word Class

9:45 AM IN WORKROOM. FOR DETAILS, CONTACT GARY DARDEN (346-9093)

Spring Quarter Theme: God, The People, and The Covenant — **March Unit:** Signs of God's Covenant

This quarter focuses on the covenant of God with the people of Israel. God's faithfulness to the covenant is shown throughout the monarchy, the exile and the restoration of the people to Jerusalem. Through the years the people wavered between faithfulness and faithlessness to the covenant. Various prophets and kings led the way in restoring their covenant relationship with God. The ark, the temple, the ritual of the Festival of Booths and prayers speak of the covenant.

March 2: *The Ark Comes to Jerusalem*, 1 Chronicles 15:1-3, 14-16, 25-28

March 9: *God's Covenant With David*, 1 Chronicles 17:1, 3-4, 6-15

March 16: *God Calls Solomon to Build the Temple*, 1 Chronicles 28:5-10, 20-21

March 23: *Fulfillment of God's Promise*, 2 Chronicles 6:12-17; Luke 24:44-49

Inquirer's Class

9:45 AM IN PARLOR—CONTACT BRUCE OSBORNE (270-0374), JEFF HARRIS (708-0597)

If you are a visitor who'd like to learn more about our church or Presbyterianism, please join us for Inquirer's classes.

Classes meet for 5 weeks, as announced. For more info, contact Bruce Osborne (270-0374); email: mightyoz@comcast.net.

NO MEETINGS IN MARCH

This Month in Small Groups



Women's Groups

The Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study

9:45 AM IN MEDIA CENTER. CONTACT JUDY DALTON (360-5922),
GAYLE NELSON (320-6745)

We are studying the book *Bad Girls of the Bible: And What We Can Learn from Them* by Liz Curtis Higgs. Please join us as we study these interesting women of the *Bible*.

Women's Sunday Book Study

2ND SUNDAY AT 3:30 PM IN UPSTAIRS FELLOWSHIP HALL. CONTACT SCARLETT SAMS (221-0799)

LAST TUES OF MONTH-TCPC WOMEN JOIN US FOR DINNER AT LOCAL RESTAURANT

Next meeting is March 9. Read Chapter 16, "Leah: Feeling Blessed," in *Sarah Laughed* by Vanessa Ochs. Study and fellowship included!



MEN'S GROUPS

Tuesday Morning Men's Bible Study

6:00 AM IN WORKROOM. CONTACT NEIL PALMER (360-1969), ROBERT OLSON (756-7546)

We are studying the Book of Romans, using the Life Change series book *A Life-Changing Encounter with God's Word from the Book of Romans*. Please join us as we study Paul's theological and spiritual vision.

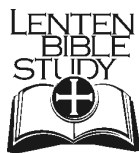
Sunday Night Men's Bible Study

8:00 PM IN WORKROOM. CONTACT GARY DARDEN (346-9093)

In March, we continue our study of *The Screwtape Letters* by C. S. Lewis. A masterpiece of satire, this book portrays human life and its trials through the imagined correspondence of Screwtape (a highly placed assistant to Satan) to his nephew Wormwood (a novice demon). Wormwood is in charge of ensuring the damnation of a young man who has just become a Christian. Some call this the most engaging account of temptation - and triumph over it - ever written.

Wednesday Night Lenten Study Series

7:00 PM IN LOWER FELLOWSHIP HALL. CONTACT AARON WHITE (271-0135); Email: Aaron.White@union-psce.edu



Join the adult study group throughout Lent as we take a look at the emergence of Christianity in Rome in the early centuries of the faith. Rev. Ed Kross and Seminary Intern Aaron White will lead our discussions, based on their own travels in the "Eternal City." Topics for March Include:

March 5: Don't Feed the Animals at the Coliseum

March 12: Constantly Consider Constantine

March 19: Sprint to the Sistine Chapel

Trailblazers

3RD WEDNESDAY AT 10:30 AM. FOR OUTINGS, CONTACT MYRA GARRETT (273-0920)

NEXT MEETING: March 19 for a time of fellowship and refreshments followed by a program. This group welcomes participation by everyone who would enjoy a midweek break.

Men's Fellowship and Nurture Group

4th SATURDAY AT 7:30 AM (for breakfast too!) IN LOWER FELLOWSHIP HALL. CONTACT RUSH COWHERD (740-3139)

NEXT MEETING: March 22 for fellowship and nurture.

The 4F Club

MEETINGS AS ANNOUNCED. CONTACT SUZIE WALKER (270-1314), CORY RYAN (741-5936)

Widowed Persons Service (WPS)

THURSDAYS 2-4 PM. CONTACT NANCY STEWART (747-1607)

Special program every 2nd Saturday at 2:30 PM.



CLASSES FOR YOUNG ADULTS

Young Adults Group

GROUP CONTACTS: SCARLETT SAMS [Scarlett.Sams@union-psce.edu], BETH CURFMAN [eacurfman@gmail.com], ZACK PARKER [ZParker@FandR.com]

If you contact one of us and provide your email, we will notify you of events as they are scheduled. We remain flexible and committed to enjoy each other's company and fellowship.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

WEDNESDAYS AT 7:00 PM IN JUNIOR HIGH ROOM. CONTACT JOAN KERBY (364-2838)

This group knits or crochets shawls for individuals of all ages experiencing difficult or special life circumstances. New knitters are welcome. A pamphlet with more information is in the front foyer.



In the Know?

Stay informed! Emails are being sent out by the church at least once a week for various reasons. Are you getting them? If the church has your current email address you should be receiving these emails. If you are not, please send an email to -

tcpc@tcpresbyterian.org

and provide:

- 1) your name (and other names associated with this email address)
- 2) your email address

This way you are sure to stay informed on what is happening at TCPC!

You're Invited!

Membership & Evangelism Ministry Team invites all interested members to attend our monthly meetings. We have all kinds of services we perform, big and little. If you want to meet and get to know more members, come visit us at our team meeting and see what opportunities we can offer you. We meet the third Monday of each month in the UFH. You are welcome to attend next on Monday March 17th. Call Sally Bolte 270-0467 or Jeff Harris for details.

Beading Ministry

Thank you to our newest beaders: **Becci Pfister, Jeannette Bethea, Lori Plumley, & Kate Neuman**. They have started on another batch of name tag lanyards. Drop your name tag in the box on the oval table near the tag shutters if you need a lanyard.

Three Chopt Presbyterian Church Men

Register Early For The

2008 Synod of the Mid-Atlantic Presbyterian Men's Conference

Massanetta Springs Conference Center, Harrisonburg, VA

July 18, 19, 20, 2008

Register early for this very popular men's conference! This will be an event-filled conference with inspiring speakers, outings, worship and more. Registrations forms are available on the table in the Narthex or contact www.midatlanticmen.org or Ron Crick, Conference Chair 302-239-9319, roncrick@aol.com or Tom Allen 804-740-8624, jta-sma@att.net

Annual Yard Sale

The yard sale will be May 31 this year, the weekend after Memorial Day. Hang on to your treasures to donate to the sale. We will have PODS on site the four weeks before the sale to store furniture and large items. Contact Jim Gravitt, Martin Walker, or Jim Barden for information and especially if you want to help with the sale. The sale will again benefit the youth groups and the Boy Scouts.

The TCPC staff is here for you! See them in church or call or write to stay in touch. Here's how:

Pastor - **Brenda Halbrooks** - halbrooksbrenda@yahoo.com

Associate Pastor - **Ed Kross** - ekross@tcpresbyterian.org

Youth Director - **Crystal Varner** - cvarner@tcpresbyterian.org

Organist/Choir Director - **Laura White** - lauracwhite@verizon.net

Director of Children's Ministry & Promises Preschool
Kerri Palmer - tcpcpromises@tcpresbyterian.org

Church phone number: 804-270-5452



News Youth Can Use!

Looking Back

- Sr. High had a great time at the lock-in! We all had a lot of fun playing laser tag, playing hours of underground church (even against the advisors), playing an intense game of ultimate spoons, and seeing who could stay up REALLY late. Can't wait 'til we have another one!
- Jr. High prepared and sold Super Bowl Subs and raised \$433.77 for Massanetta Middle School Conference this summer! Great work, everyone!
- Sr. High Super Bowl of Caring raised \$125 for Central Virginia Food Bank!
- Youth Sunday was a wonderful worship experience for all! Thank you to all of the youth, advisors, parents, and friends that made this Youth Sunday such a success.

Looking Ahead

- Mar. 9 – Youth Bake Sale Auction
- Mar. 14 – Junior High Lock-In
- Apr. 4-6 – D.C. Mission Trip
- Apr. 19-20 – POJ Middle School Retreat
- May 31 – TCPC Annual Yard Sale
- June 19-22 – Massanetta Middle School Conference
- July 19-26 – Montreat Senior High Conference

Dinner Sign-Ups

Junior High:

3/9 – Moyers Family & NEED SOMEONE TO SIGN UP to help

3/30 – Tracy King & NEED SOMEONE TO SIGN UP to help

If you have questions about when you signed up, or you would like to sign up, get in touch with Michael Compton (m_compton@comcast.net) or Crystal Varner (cvarner@tcpresbyterian.org)

Senior High:

3/9 – Behne Family

3/16 - NEED SOMEONE TO SIGN UP

3/30 - NEED SOMEONE TO SIGN UP

If you have questions about when you signed up, or you would like to sign-up, get in touch with Janet Darden (jmcdarden@verizon.net) or Crystal Varner (cvarner@tcpresbyterian.org)



Our Church Family

Sympathy

Mike Cole and family with the passing of his great aunt, Nola Vandevander

Charles Arvin and family with the passing of his uncle, Aubrey Arvin

The Pennington Family, Milton and Marge Pritchett's neighbors, with the passing of Tom Pennington

Jackie Williams and family with the passing of husband and member, Mel Williams

Celebrate

Robert and Carolina Crump and family with the birth of Gloria Katherine Crump



Dear TCPC Family,

Thank you for all the prayers, cards, meals and other help during Joan's two months of vertigo. We feel very blessed.

Joan and Gordon Kerby

From the desk of Ed Kross

Dear Members of TCPC -

My thanks to all of you who participated in our work with Embrace Richmond in February, whether it was by helping with the furniture drive, donating furniture, or participating in the Blessing Day where we helped a family moving from the shelter system into public housing select and move furniture into their home.

Embrace's mission is to help people who move from the shelter system into public housing become more self-sufficient (to learn more about Embrace, you can go to their website: embracerichmond.org). More than half of the people in Richmond who move from the shelter system into public housing are homeless again within twelve months, and Embrace hopes to break this cycle. In addition to providing furniture Embrace has begun mentoring and job training programs to offer ongoing support and opportunities to break the cycle of homelessness. By partnering with churches, Embrace allows us to do something concrete to break the cycle of homelessness – I recognized many of the items we helped the family move from our furniture drive. The generosity of this church has offered tangible hope and encouragement for a family struggling with poverty and homelessness. Thank you for your work and generosity.

In Christ,
Ed

ATTENTION *The email address for submitting newsletter articles has changed!*



Submissions may be emailed to

Anita Waters at

tcnews@tcpresbyterian.org

or placed in the newsletter editor's box in the church mailroom. *Three Chopt News* is a monthly publication of the Three Chopt Presbyterian Church. The deadline for the April issue is **Thursday, March 20** at noon.

Worship Volunteers for March

March 2	8:30AM SERVICE	11AM SERVICE
Prayer	Pastor	Pastor
Communion	1. Sutessa Ukrop 2. Kathy Grasty	1. Geri Lotze 2. Reid Snider 3. Bruce Osborne 4. Cindy Osborne 5. Cindy Kiefer 6. Larry Curfman 7. Stephanie Arvin 8. Charles Arvin 9. Bill Brownfield 10. Mary Brownfield Jack Ryan
Ushers	Carroll Trice Jane Trice	Cory Ryan Ford Behne Tyler Ritchie
March 9	8:30AM SERVICE	11AM SERVICE
Prayer	Randy Baird	Marci Davis
Ushers	Fred Wentz Kathy Rentz	Ralph Vazquez Ann Vazquez Brian White Dee White
March 16	8:30AM SERVICE	11AM SERVICE
Prayer	Peter Coulson	Donn Lancaster
Ushers	Jim Pfister Becca Pfister	Hal McArthur Jean McArthur Bill Manning Sandra Manning
March 23	8:30AM SERVICE	11AM SERVICE
Prayer	Karen Cullen	Dee White
Ushers	Bert Stewart Nancy Stewart	Lindsey White Emily Williamson Jack Apostolides Deanne Apostolides
March 30	8:30AM SERVICE	11AM SERVICE
Prayer	Dorothy Baird	Emily Harris
Ushers	Peter Coulson Linda Coulson	Barclay Bradshaw Frank Boulanger Anna Givens

In Worship This Month

March 2, 2008 (8:30 & 11AM)

4th Sunday in Lent

The Reverend Dr. Brenda Halbrooks preaching

1 Samuel 16:1-13; John 9:1-41

The Light of the World

March 9, 2008 (8:30 & 11AM)

5th Sunday in Lent

The Reverend Dr. Brenda Halbrooks preaching

Ezekiel 37:1-14; John 11:1-45

The Resurrection and the Life

March 16, 2008 (8:30 & 11AM)

Palm Sunday

The Reverend Dr. Brenda Halbrooks preaching

Singing Hosanna

March 23, 2008 (8:30 & 11AM)

Easter!

The Reverend Dr. Brenda Halbrooks preaching

Matthew 28:1-10

Go and Tell

March 30, 2008 (8:30 & 11AM)

The Reverend Ed Kross preaching



Sunday, March 16

Palm Sunday

8:30 and 11am

Singing Hosanna

Thursday, March 20

Maundy Thursday Service, 7pm

Friday, March 21, **Good Friday Service, 7pm**

Sunday, March 23

Easter!

Sunrise Service, 7am -

Youth-led in the outdoor Vesper area

Worship Service, 8:30 & 11am

Matthew 28:1-10

Go and Tell

**THREE CHOPT PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

9315 Three Chopt Road
Richmond, VA 23229

Worship Services
Sundays, 8:30 and 11 AM

Church School Services
Sundays, 9:45 AM

TGI Wednesdays
Wednesdays, 5:15-8 PM

Office Hours
Monday-Friday
8 AM-12:30 PM & 1:30-4:30 PM

Church Office: 804-270-5452
Fax: 804-217-7249
Email: TCPC@tcpresbyterian.org
Web Page: <http://www.tcpresbyterian.org>



Pastor/Head of Staff

Rev. Dr. Brenda Halbrooks

Associate Pastor

Rev. Ed Kross

Youth Director

Crystal Varner

Organist/Choir Director

Laura C. White

Director of Children's Ministry &

Promises Preschool

Kerri Palmer

Administrative Assistant

Michelle Southworth

Seminary Intern

Aaron White

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Members of Session

Brenda Halbrooks, Moderator

Patty Moerschell, Clerk of Session

**Administration &
Personnel**

Cindy Osborne
Charlie Wood

Adult Nurture

Dorothy Baird
Lisa Salita

Building & Grounds

Jim Barden
Donn Lancaster

Children & Families

Stephanie Arvin
Marci Davis

Finance & Stewardship

Betty Jarrett
Barclay Bradshaw

Membership & Evangelism

Sally Bolte
Jeff Harris

Mission & Service

Peter Coulson
Roger Gardner

Worship

Kathy Grasty
Christi Shadbolt

Youth & Families

Susan Holsten
Emily Harris (Y)
Dee White