



### Want To Give Back and Get Involved? 2016

The Operation Inasmuch project will take place April 16th this year. There are many projects needing volunteers. It is a fun, hands-on, and rewarding experience for anyone of any age. Please see your Church Contacts Lucy Sisk or Sherry Jones for more information and to see which project matches your skills.

#### OIAM Timeline for March 2016

March 6th and 7th Church Contacts—return Volunteer Forms  
March 10th Core Planning Team 6:00 PM-TPC  
March 31st Team Leader Meeting 7:00 PM-TPC  
April 4th Phone Bank—TPC (if you can volunteer Let Kathy know)



One of the many restoration projects completed during Operation Inasmuch 2015.

### Banana Bingo at Essex House

This activity will continue to be headed up by Vivian Smith with our Mission and Outreach Ministry Group continuing to supply backup. Its scheduled for every third Thursday of each month at 2:00 p.m. In March the residents will play as they celebrate St. Patrick’s Day, March 17. Come join us for lots of fun.

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# Wee Kirk Gazette

## Tappahannock Presbyterian Church

The Most Welcoming Presbyterian Church in Essex County

### TPC Hosts 7th program of Its Concert

Tappahannock Presbyterian Church will host it's 7th program of our Concert Series April 3rd at 3:30 PM. featuring the the Damian Muller Trio.

Damian is a Richmond, VA singer-song-writer and veteran musician. He works with his brother and nephew to provide entertaining and energetic music. A quote from program notes where the trio has performed -

"I was sitting in the very back of the church, but I could tell people were smiling the whole time. The body language was so relaxed and everyone was having a good time. There was such a party atmosphere after the concert in the Parish House too. Damian and his crew definitely put everyone in a happy mood.

Their musicianship is amazing. Damian's lead vocal's are solid and the harmony when all three are singing is as clear and perfect as can be. Also, between the three of them, I believe they had nine instruments so you never tire of the same old orchestration - there is a lot of variety in the sounds and styles."



Plan on coming to listen, and then enjoying fellowship afterward with Brunswick stew and cornbread!

### Essex County Homeless Organization

Essex County Homeless Organization The ECHO mission is to bring people off the streets during the cold months, provide them with food and a warm, safe place to sleep. TPC and all of the ministry groups are continuing to support the new homeless shelter being held at First Baptist-Loretto. Members of our church and the Mission and Outreach ministry group have provided and served food and have provided overnight security. We will continue to check with Mary Wigmore when additional help is needed.

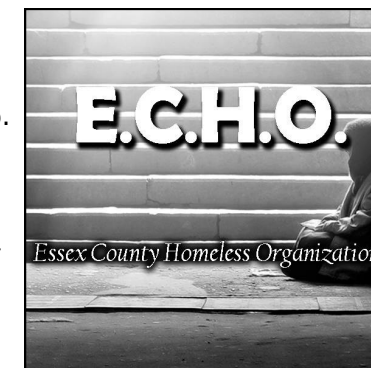
The hours are 6pm-6am and the email is: 804echo@gmail.com.

Phone: 540-623-8643 and on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/804echo/>

### Volume 20, Issue 1 March 2016

#### Special points of interest:

- Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
- Easter-Flowering of the Cross
- Minutes Summary
- Palm Sunday Communion
- Operation Inasmuch





ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING  
SPECIAL OFFERINGS



## TPC CELEBRATES ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

Did you know a gift to One Great Hour of Sharing enables the church to share God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relief to those affected by natural disasters, provide food to the hungry, and helping to empower the poor and oppressed? TPC will collect this special offering on Easter, March 27. We will also have three Minute for Mission presentations on the three Sundays preceding this offering collection date.

### "Goodbye" Is Not Forever

So, how does a pastor say "goodbye?" It's a very hard thing to do, even if you've only been with your flock a little while. I suppose the two years you and I have been together is sort of in the middle – enough time to make some powerful friendships, but not long enough that parting seems like the end of the world. It's not easy, but since we know God is a part of the parting, it becomes bearable.

I'm struck by how Paul ends every one of his letters. (By the way, Hebrews is not one of Paul's letters. Scholars agree on this.) He offers things for the believers to do to help themselves in their Christian growth, then he offers encouragement and prayers for his audience. In just about every one of his letters, he talks about when he will see his readers again. We know that often, he did see them further on down the road.

In our modern Presbyterian system, when a pastor moves on and the relationship with the congregation is dissolved, the departing pastor is bound by the rules NOT to come back and minister in any way to his former church. It's a sad reality that some pastors can't let go, and they interfere with the work of their successor. Some people see this as a flaw in our system. But think about Jesus! He did leave, finally, after his 40 days of post-resurrection teaching time with his disciples. He never did return as Jesus to them. And they were afraid when they knew. But in John 14, Jesus said some things that enabled them to carry on. "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid." (v. 27) God would provide them with an "Advocate," which also means counselor and teacher; he did! That was the Holy Spirit. *That Spirit is still with you, and me, and all of us, today.* It's a clear sign that no matter what our transitions in life, God is with us, to help us through. Jesus meant it when he said, "I do not give to you as the world gives." All the world can do is supply you some preachers, or another pastor. The gift of the Spirit that Jesus has given us exceeds those things the world can give. That's why you can let your hearts remain untroubled, and your souls unafraid. God has you! That means that you're not done, not by a long shot. So I'm going from this church, so there is unfinished work to do, so what? God is not done with you. You've been through too many things, overcome too many hurdles, to just give up. Paul would tell you to keep listening for God, and keep being awake to what God might be trying to say. I'm nowhere near Paul, but I say the same things. This is a sad time, sure, but it might be the beginning of some good times to come. I thank you for two years of great friendships, amazing times together, and incredible learning. May God continue to bless you for all you are, and all you will become. And we will someday meet again...

Don



## February Session Highlights

### Session Meeting—February 23, 2016

Present: Moderator Carson Rhyne, Lucy Sisk, Em Hughes, Janice Canby, Jo Dowdy by phone, John Colby Clerk, Absent: Cindy Glass

The session approved the minutes for the last four meetings of 2015. The Clerk will contact Reverend McLean for the December 2015 minute and send them to the members. The minutes for the January 12, 2016 meeting, the Congregational Meeting of February 7, 2016 and the December 20, 2015 meeting were approved.

Motion to approve a severance package for the minister will be approved at a congregational meeting. Motion was passed. The Congregational Meeting will be advertised on February 28, and will be held on

Sunday, March 6, 2016. There were only three Sundays because of the winter storm in January which hurt offerings.

Received the Mission and Outreach and the Worship and Music Ministry Groups' meetings reports. The Worship and Music Group asked for the Damian Miller Trio to perform at TPC on April 3, at 3:30 PM with a Brunswick Stew dinner afterwards. Motion made and approved for purchase of signs and concert. \$70 was allotted for Easter and Palm Sunday signs. Also there was a report from the Christian Education Ministry Group.

The church will need to pay a percentage of the Pastor's salary and housing to the Board of Pensions while we search for a Pastor. It must be paid from April 15<sup>th</sup> for one year.

John Colby, Lucy Sisk and Jill Robertson

were elected to serve on the Pastor Covenant I Search Committee.

Next meeting will be March 15, 2016.

Meeting adjourned with prayer.

By John Colby, Clerk of the Session

### Girls Scouts Meet at TPC

Did you know Girl Scout Troop 456 meets at TPC normally on the 1st Friday of each month? Most recently they had a sleep over to earn cooking and other badges.

## March Birthdays

Dave Canby	9
Anne Sydnor	14
Carys Perry	16
Anne Colby	16
Kathy Quigley	19
Sydney Jones	27
Edith Lawyer	30
Barbara Cullom	30



**Greeter**—Margaret Broad

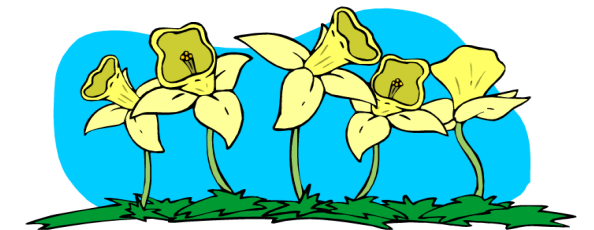
**Ushers for March**—Chuck and Betty Dyer

### Lectors for March

6	Terri Creasy
13	John Hardy
20	Deb Booze
27	Margaret Broad

### Flowering of the Cross

On Easter Sunday remember to bring your yard flowers or purchase some to decorate our cross. We will fill the cross during the singing of our first hymn. This has been a very special tradition at TPC for many years.



### March – April Calendar of Events for Tappahannock Presbyterian Church

- 03/20/16: Passion/Palm Sunday – Rev. Limburgh – Communion – Holy Week begins
- 03/22/16: ECT Meeting at Beale Courthouse 7:30 PM
- 03/25/16: Good Friday Service 7:00 pm – Rev. Tim Limburgh
- 03/27/16: Resurrection of the Lord/Easter Sunday, Flowering of the Cross
- 04/02/16 AM Brunswick Stew preparation for Sunday's concert reception
- 04/03/16: Damien Muller Trio in concert at 3:30 PM. Fellowship after with Brunswick Stew and Cornbread



Over twenty people from the church participated in the "Souper Bowl of Caring" on February 7, 2016 after our church service. The Mission and Outreach Ministry Group provided a lunch of soup, cheese, sausage and crackers, cake and beverages.

Admission for the event was one dollar and one can of soup. Several boxes filled with cans of soup were delivered to the Community Services Foodbank. The money collected will be sent to this Foodbank with our next regular contribution.

The video from the 2015 Operation Inasmuch was viewed during the luncheon. Sign-up forms for this 2016 community outreach event were available. Please contact Lucy Sisk or Sherry Jones if you need a form.

This event takes place on Super Bowl Sunday all over the United States. Participating groups send the money and soup collected to a local charity of their choice. The emphasis has been on young people using this opportunity for service to their communities.

- The idea for Souper Bowl of Caring is a gift from God
- Young people have the ability to serve and should be given opportunities to lead their

**"Souper Bowl of Caring is a gift from God."**

communities in helping others

- Every dollar collected through Souper Bowl of Caring should be donated directly to a charity selected by each participating group
- People of all backgrounds and beliefs can

work together

- Hunger and poverty have a negative impact on individuals and the communities in which they live, yet there is joy in serv-

ing and giving to those in need

- The excitement and energy surrounding the Super Bowl can be used to engage young people in service while producing lasting hope for all people

We are hoping that in 2017 we have more young people in our church to participate in this mission and outreach event.

## TPC Hosted Its Annual Shrove Tuesday Service and Pancake

TPC hosted its Annual Shrove Tuesday Service and Pancake Supper on February 9. More than 15 were in attendance for the delicious pancakes, sausage, and many toppings.

Shrove Tuesday is the day in February or March preceding Ash Wednesday (the first day of Lent).

Attendees were given the opportunity to receive the imposition of ashes, the an ancient sign of sacrifice worn by believers, as a witness to the forgiveness that we have received through Jesus' sacrifice for us.

