



Dr. Murdock talks to Jasper about God's love.

HOW YOU CAN HELP THE PLANET

If you'd like to know more about how you can help the planet, and everything and everyone who lives on it, you'll find calls to action and information within the [Presbyterian Hunger Program](https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/compassion-peace-justice/hunger/), which also has extensive programs to address the root causes of hunger. Opportunities abound there for both congregations and individuals. <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/compassion-peace-justice/hunger/>

You can also volunteer with [Presbyterian Disaster Assistance](http://pda.pcusa.org/page/act/), which sends teams of people into distressed communities following disasters. <http://pda.pcusa.org/page/act/>

Ready for an even larger commitment? If you're 18 to 30 years of age, you can become a [Young Adult Volunteer](https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/yav/) and spend a year of your life in ministry and partnership at a site in the U.S. or internationally. People of all ages are invited and encouraged to consider seminary. You can find information on Presbyterian seminaries here <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/yav/>.



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Wee Kirk Gazette

Tappahannock Presbyterian Church

The Most Welcoming Presbyterian Church in Essex County

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GETTING TO KNOW YOU Pastor Vicki Murdock

Greetings in Christ! I am delighted to be among you as your pastor. I am brand new to ministry, and I thank each one of you for welcoming me into your midst. I graduated in May of 2015 from Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond, and became "certified ready to receive a call" in February of 2016. In March, a search team from TPC called me about the possibility of serving God with you.

I grew up in Hinsdale, IL, which is 20 miles from Chicago. I loved the museums and Lake Michigan as a child. My mom would take my sister and me on the train into Chicago and we would spend the day at the Art Institute and have a "ladies' lunch" at the Marshall Fields' tea room. I actually remember wearing white gloves!

I was involved in church from my earliest memories. Someone at church gave me a little pink begonia when I was 5, and I have thought of God as being as gentle and beautiful as that flower ever since. I sang in kids' and adult choirs and led the music for the Sunday morning youth service at my United Church of Christ church. I continued to sing throughout my young adulthood, and spent almost 20 years as a Director of Music for Presbyterian and Methodist churches in FL and SC.

I have worked in healthcare, business, education, and social work. I cared for older adults in long-term care settings, co-owned a restaurant, counseled pregnant young women in a residential setting, and taught kids and adults from grade school to university. It never occurred to me that God might be trying to draw me into ministry, but in December of 2011, God spoke loud and clear. I heard God's voice call me by name and say, "Vicki, go to seminary." That was the whole message. I told my pastor husband Skip what I heard, and he said, "Well, you don't argue with God." So we sold our home and I left my tenured faculty position and we drove 2000 miles from Wyoming to answer God's call.

Skip and I have been married since December of 1992. I have 3 amazing children, and 2 amazing step kids, as well. They live in FL, CA, SC, and VA. Skip and I have 3 grands, too, whom you will likely meet someday soon. Now we just have a greyhound, 2 cats and 2 cockatiels. Skip's vibrant ministry wound down in 2005 after his eye disorder (diagnosed when he was only 33) left him legally blind and unable to drive. As you may have noticed, though, he is fun and corny and also a very skilled counselor and pastor. It is a joy for both of us to begin a journey with you that we hope will last for many years.

God is with us! Alleluia!

THE TPC ANNUAL ALL CHURCH PLANNING RETREAT

Saturday, August 13th, starting at 8:30 am, beginning with coffee and fellowship will be held at Em and Kathy Hughes' home in Center Cross. Maps to their home will be available in the narthex. A full schedule of the day's activities will be posted later. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend this time of getting to know one another better and looking forward to our work as the congregation of TPC.



MISSION AND OUTREACH MINISTRY GROUP MET June 17, 2016

Present were: Kathy Hughes, Janice Canby, Dr. Vicki Murdock, and Sherry Jones.

The meeting opened with a reading by Sherry from *Presbyterians Today* "How do you try to witness to Jesus Christ?"

The next ECT meeting will be Tuesday, June 28, at 7:30 p.m. at Beale Courthouse. One of the **Operation Inasmuch** projects "Stop Hunger Now" received a report that the meals packed here have now been shipped to Nicaragua.

Five Cents A Meal offering is received on the 3rd Sunday of each month. Beginning next month, the children will pass around the special offering

WORSHIP AND MUSIC MINISTRY GROUP MET JUNE 21, 2016

Present were Tyler Sanders, Deb Booze, Barbara Cullom, Kathy Hughes, Dr. Vicki Murdock, and Jill Robertson. The meeting was called to order with a prayer offered by Jill Robertson.

New business: Dr. Vicki Murdock was welcomed. The bulletin and the order of Sunday service was discussed along with alternate ways for communicants to receive the sacraments.

For the Worship at the River service Vicki will write a letter of invitation.

Vicki discussed an event Skip had done in one of his churches where, on Labor Day, everyone brought something that represented the type of work they had done in their lives. Some brought hammers, teaching tools, pots and pans, etc. We said perhaps we could do something similar and share those during fellowship time - a point of conversation and honoring folks' "labor". This would be on Sunday 9/4/16.

World Communion Sunday - churches will be invited to come to TPC for the service this year.

Past months activities and events: We held a lovely Memorial Service for Lucy Sisk Sunday, June 12. There were 88 friends and family in attendance.

The next Worship and Music meeting will be held at the annual planning retreat August 13 at Em and Kathy Hughes' home.

The meeting adjourned at 11:40 am with a prayer offered by Vicki and respectfully submitted by Jill Robertson, Moderator.

July Birthdays

Susan Hillyer	7
Janice Canby	12
Betty Dyer	15
Virginia Hillyer	19
Jamie Davis	23
Sally Reger	24
Deb Booze	27
John Hardy	28

**Happy
Birthday!**

Lectors for July 2016

July	3 Emerson Hughes
	10 Pat Morris
	17 Bill Smith
	24 Jill Robertson
	31 Terri Creasy

Greeter for July — Sherry Jones
Usher for July — John Hardy



Mission and Outreach continued

basket for this offering before they exit the sanctuary for Sunday School.

Janice will disburse one half of the budgeted amounts to the foodbanks. She will include a letter stating that we will send out one half of our contribution now and the balance in December.

We discussed more about doing a church field trip to Pole Green Church. We will consider box lunches, bus transport, and a possible short service while there. Sherry will call the director and get more information on what we might include in the event.

Sherry reported that she had talked with Hunter Terry, AmeriCorps NCCC Team (accommodations for the team set up August 15-October 8, 2016). She will let us know when everything has been approved. The possibility of providing dinner one evening or having them come to tell us more about the program was discussed.

Vicki talked with us about the possibility of having a Service of Hope and Light—a way to deal with the everyday angst of life, death and grief. We have had so many deaths in our congregation in recent time that we may benefit from talking about this together. Janice will talk about this at next Session meeting.

We will help develop a fact sheet to give out to people who either call or stop at the church to ask for assistance. This would provide them with names, phone numbers, and addresses for contacting the organization best able to assist them.

The meeting was closed with prayer by Dr. Murdock.



Worship leaders from the 222nd General Assembly sing during closing ceremonies.

HYMN SING—JULY 31ST

On July 31st, we will enjoy putting together a hymn-sing service based on everyone's favorite hymns. Each Sunday before the 31st, be sure to write the name or first line of your favorite on a paper, and put it in the basket located on the organ at church. If you know from which hymnal it comes and which page, add that. However, if your favorite is a *really* old one, we'll try to find it for you to print it out.

July Calendar of Events for Tappahannock Presbyterian Church

TPC SESSION will be July 19th at 1:00 pm.

FIVE CENTS A MEAL OFFERING will be received on July 17th. The children will pass around the special offering basket before Sunday School.

BANANA BINGO/ESSEX HOUSE will be held on July 21 at 2:00 p.m. Attend if possible to help assist the residents.

SUMMER COMMUNION SERVICE July 24th, Rev. Dr. Skip Murdock will officiate.

THE 5TH SUNDAY HYMN SING will be July 31st.

ECT SHORT STACK FOR A TALL CAUSE August 6th, 8 am – 10 am Applebees Restaurant.

WORSHIP AND MUSIC MINISTRY GROUP will meet at the Planning Retreat on August 13th.

THE TPC ANNUAL ALL CHURCH PLANNING RETREAT will be on Saturday, August 13th, starting at 8:30, beginning with coffee and fellowship at Em and Kathy Hughes' home in Center Cross.

ANNUAL WORSHIP AT THE RIVER is September 18, at the Hughes' home "Strathbrae".