

Tuskawilla Presbyterian Church Newsletter

For the members and friends of TPC

May 2010 Issue

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Pastor's Message

Beatitudes and Blessings

"Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood up and prayed about himself: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men-robbers, evildoers, adulterers-or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.'

"But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, 'God, have mercy on me, a sinner.'

"I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted. -- Luke 18:10-14

Friends, this truth can penetrate the most privileged of hearts, as it did to one of England's distinguished judges. The church he attended had three mission churches under its care. On the first Sunday of the new year all the members of the missions came to the big city church for a combined Communion service. In those mission churches, which were located in the slums of the city, were some outstanding cases of conversions -- thieves, burglars, and so on -- but all knelt side by side at the Communion rail.

On one such occasion the pastor saw a former thief kneeling beside the aforementioned jurist, a judge of the High Court of England. After his release the thief had been converted and became a Christian worker. Yet, as the judge and the former thief knelt together, neither seemed to be aware of the other.

After the service, the judge happened to walk out with the pastor and said, "Did you notice who was kneeling beside me at the Communion rail this morning?"

The pastor replied, "Yes, but I didn't think that you did."

The two walked along in silence for a few more moments, when the judge declared, "What a miracle of grace."

The pastor nodded in agreement. "Yes, what a marvelous miracle of grace."

Then the judge asked, "But to whom do you refer?"

The pastor responded, "Why, to the conversion of that convict."

"But I was not referring to him. I was thinking of myself," explained the judge.

Surprised, the pastor replied, "You were thinking of yourself? I don't understand."

"Yes," the judge went on. "It was natural for the burglar to respond to God's grace when he came out of jail. His life was nothing but a desperate history of crime, and when he saw the Savior he knew there was salvation and hope and joy for him. He understood how much he needed that help."

**May Calendar
Highlights**

**Our next Discovery
101 New Member
Class begins May 2**

**Steeple People Lunch
Bunch May 2**

**Youth Camping Trip
May 14-15**

**The Connection for
Christian Singles 45+
meets May 15**

**Teacher Appreciation
May 16**

**"Down by the Creek
Bank" May 16**

**Coffee Connection for
Women May 25**

For details and to see the complete church calendar, visit the [Calendar](#) page on our website

"But I . . . I was taught from earliest infancy to be a gentleman -- that my word was my bond, that I was to say my prayers, go to church, receive Communion. I went up to Oxford, took my degrees, was called to the bar, and eventually ascended to judge. My friend, it was God's grace that drew me; it was God's grace that opened my heart to receive Christ. I'm a greater miracle of his grace."

Listen again to Jesus' words, "Blessed [approved of God] are the [beggarly] poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven [now and forevermore]."

Friends, have you experienced true poverty of spirit? Can you say,

*Nothing in my hand I bring,
Simply to Thy cross I cling;
Naked, come to Thee for dress
Helpless, look to Thee for grace;
Foul, I to the fountain fly;
Wash me, Saviour, or I die.*

- Augustus M. Toplady, 1740-1778

Is this your heart's cry? Or are you a church attender without Christ? Are you a Christless "Christian"? If so, hear God's Word and take it to heart: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

If you missed any of the current sermon series on The Beatitudes you can pick up a CD copy in the church office. I truly hope you are able join us this month as together we learn the Jesus Way to live.

God Bless,

Pastor Chris



Youth News

As the school year is winding down, the youth ministry is kicking into high gear. We are preparing lots of fun events to keep everyone very much involved over the summer. We will have weekly youth groups, Bible studies and youth outings such as going to the beach or fun places like Rebounderz. A schedule will be made soon so that you will know of all the fun things we are doing. Until then we are still having youth group from 5:00-6:30 p.m. on Sunday evenings and high school students are welcome to hang out together at Tijuana Flats afterward. We are still meeting to play some sports and have a Bible Study on Wednesdays from 6:00-7:00 p.m. and on Sunday mornings we will begin studying the second chapter of Philipians.

Upcoming Events:

Can you help?

We would like to have a military representative in uniform speak to the children as part of Sunday School on July 4. If you know of someone who is available to serve in this special way, please contact Jennifer Ward at 407-273-0731 or JenACWard@aol.com.

To change your e-mail address and/or the types and frequency of messages you receive from TPC, click on the "update profile/e-mail address" link at the bottom of this newsletter.

Kyle and Jena are getting married on May 8 and the youth will be serving food for the reception. We hope to have as many there as can make it.

The camping trip has been rescheduled for May 14-15. You can sign up in the youth room.

I am very blessed to be able to lead such an incredible group of young men and women. I know that it's the parents' hard work that has really developed the character that I've seen in the youth. I thank you for your hard work and for entrusting them in my care during our youth events.

God bless,



Andrew Mills
Youth Director



From the Music Director

All of the musical groups that help lead in worship services throughout the year are such a blessing to all of us. This is truly a huge dedication of time and talent with a fantastic attitude from these musicians. With a loud voice we say **THANK YOU!**

During the month of May and the first two weeks in June, I will only be at church on Wednesday afternoon/evenings and Sundays. I am going to be the long term substitute teacher for Karyl Elton, the choral director at Leesburg High School. Karyl is having open heart surgery. Please keep her in your prayers.

A few notes (*+) for our choirs about the schedules for the next few months.

Children Liturgical Dancers are on vacation until further notice.

Children's Choir will meet on Wednesdays, May 5 and 12, 4:30-6:00 p.m.

Children's Choir will sing on May 9 at both morning services. They are to meet in the sanctuary at 8:30 a.m. The Children's Choir will have their dress rehearsal for

Kudos to ...

The Jesus and his disciples in the re-enactment of the Last Supper! Truly touching.

Meredith Oliver for teaching two great classes on social media (Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, and YouTube). We appreciate you sharing your time and expertise.

Fast Signs, Casselberry, for their excellent customer service and quality on TPC's outdoor banners.

Kudos to **Nick Dietel's** catering business, **Hospitality Concepts Unlimited**, for providing lunch for the LARKS on Tuesday, April 20.

Want to recognize members of our congregation for their service? Send your kudos to newsletter@mytpc.org or use the form on the website at www.mytpc.org

Praise Report!

Praise to my TPC family for showing that the Spirit is alive within us!!!
Judy Grieve

Down By The Creek Bank on May 15 from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon. The production of **Down By The Creek Bank** will be **May 16 at 6:30 p.m.** After this date the children will be on vacation until further notice.

Youth Liturgical Dancers will meet on Wednesdays from 4:30-5:15 p.m. They will dance at both worship services on June 13. Then they will be on vacation until further notice.

Youth Praise Team will meet on Wednesdays from 5:15-6:00 p.m. They will sing at both worship services on May 2 and June 20. Then they will be on vacation until further notice.

Handbells will be on vacation after May 12 until further notice.

Joyful Sound will be on vacation after June 27. They will not have rehearsals during the months of July and August. Rehearsals will resume on September 1 at 7:00 p.m.

Adult Praise Team will continue rehearsals and leading the first worship service on Sundays.

Chancel Choir will sing through the end of June. They will be on vacation from Sunday Services July 4 through August 8. They will start singing for Sunday Morning Services on August 15. They will be on vacation for rehearsals the entire month of July. Rehearsals will resume on August 4 at 7:30 p.m.

Other special groups for May are

May 16 - Handbells

May 23 - Zack Taylor will play the prelude for both services; flute duet by Daun Cooper and Jena Johnson (Myers by then) will play the Offertory for the second service.

We will have various members of the musical groups provide special music for our second worship services in the month of July and the first two weeks of August. If you would like to help in the summer music ministry please let me know.

The music department has been very busy this year and a rest is necessary to provide music during the worship services in the fall. As we look to the fall season please consider joining one of these groups. We have had members move or are no longer able to help us. We always welcome new singers, instrumentalist, and technical support. If you have wanted to sing but not certain that you can, ask me. I will give you the help you need.

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## TPC Book Club

The TPC Book club meets monthly at 1:30 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of the month in the library. The selection for May is *Wish You Well* by David Baldacci.

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Photo Gallery

Check out the photo gallery on our website at www.mytpc.org to see pictures from the Holy Week and Easter services.

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## "Down By the Creek Bank"

TPC's Children Choir will present this delightful musical on Sunday, May 16, 6:30 p.m.

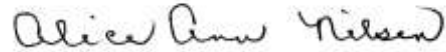
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Submit Your Joys, Kudos, Praise Reports, and Thank You Messages Online.

Visit www.mytpc.org and look for the link in the navigation bar on the left side of every page. Items submitted through this online form will be disseminated to the congregation via e-mail and/or the TPC newsletter.

Thank you to everyone who helped with all of the work this year.

Love in Jesus Christ,



STEPHEN MINISTRY

What Kind of Woman Would Receive the Care of a Stephen Minister?

A woman like **Sarah** - who faced a major change in life at an advanced age and needed someone to listen to both her joy and apprehension.

A woman like **Hagar** - who was abandoned along with her child and needed someone to offer hope and remind her of God's presence.

A woman like **Hannah** - who struggled with her inability to bear a child and needed someone with whom to share her sadness and pain.

A woman like **Naomi** - who had lost her loved ones and needed someone to hear her sorrow and pain.

A woman like **Ruth** - who left everything that was familiar to her and needed someone to journey with her in her new life.

A woman like **Esther** - who was faced with a major decision and needed someone who could listen to her concerns and offer encouragement.

A woman like **Mary of Nazareth** - who lived with both the joys and struggles of having an exceptional child and needed someone to help her sort out the ponderings of her heart.

A woman like **Martha** - who was burdened by the demands of daily life and needed someone to help her regain insight of what was most important.

A woman like **Mary Magdalene** - who received healing from inner turmoil and needed someone to walk with her as she

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Member Notes

Charlie Brewton, a previous member of our church passed away March 19, 2010. He was a member from 1977-2006 and freely gave of his time and talents, especially during the building of the sanctuary and office building. He was an Elder and served on session during the 1980s. He is fondly remembered by many of our current members.

built a new life.

A woman like you.

If you would like to know more about how a Stephen Minister could care for **you**, please contact a member of the **Stephen Ministry Leadership Team: Pastor Chris (407-671-4173), Sue Peterson (407-678-4693), Lee Armstrong (407-699-0384) or Mary Lou Winkleman (407-327-3670)**

Discovery 101 Class Begins May 2

Our spring new member class begins Sunday, May 2. This course is structured to prepare you to become an active and committed member of the Tuskawilla Presbyterian Church family.

During our time together, you will discover who TPC is, what it means to be Presbyterian, and how you, too, can be a ministering member of our congregation. The class meets for five weeks in the McDonald Conference Room on Sundays, 10:00-10:45 a.m.

Please join us!

Vacation Bible School June 21-25

This summer, we are going to the Rainforest -- and from the reports of Susan Brown, what a Rainforest it will be!

Registration begins Sunday, May 2, between services and continues until Sunday, June 20. (Registration forms will be available on the website after the May date.) All children completing preschool 3 through 4th grade are invited to attend. Children of volunteering moms under the age of preschool 3 are welcome to join the nursery or preschool 2s class.

We need volunteers and would love to have you join our adventure. Just contact one of us through the church office and we will happily place you where you feel you can best serve!

For both young and old, VBS is always a very exciting week! We are blessed to lead it and excited to share it with you.

Ester Brockman and Debbie Harned

Prayer Requests

If you have a need, we want to pray for you. You can be included on the weekly prayer list by filling out a prayer request card during worship or by e-mailing prayerchain@mytpc.org.

Prayer request cards are located in the narthex and in the pew racks. Cards are collected by an usher during the first hymn or may be placed in the offering plate. Prayer requests received by Wednesday will be published in the e-mail prayer list and the follow Sunday's bulletin.

If your prayer request is confidential, please indicate that on the card or contact Pastor Chris directly at 407-671-4173 or cchandler@mytpc.org. If you would like to be part of the prayer team, please contact Annie Ruth DeLoach at adeloach@cfl.rr.com.

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for content for the June 2010 issue of the TPC newsletter is

Friday, May 21.

Please send your articles, kudos, and other items to:

newsletter@mytpc.org

Steeple People

On May 2, the Steeple People Adult Sunday School Class concludes their eventful journey back in time with the final lesson in "Don't Rain On My Parade, God!", an insightful exploration of the Book of Jonah, the cantankerous prophet in constant combat with God!

The next study series, "Three For the Road -- a GPS!" covers the Books of I, II, III John and begins on May 9. It is a practical, life-application approach to basic truths of a loving Father for His children.

Adults of all ages are invited to join us at 10:00, Sundays, in the newly renovated chapel off the Fellowship Hall for these lively lessons led by Audrey Burckhalter.

The Steeple People's monthly lunch bunch begins Sunday, May 2. All are invited to this opportunity for fellowship by going to lunch after church. This month, we're going to the 369 Chinese Restaurant in the K-Mart Shopping Center at Red Bug & Tuskawilla Rds. Meet us at the restaurant or in the breezeway after the 11:00 a.m. service. Please let Audrey know if you'll be joining us so we can let the restaurant know how many to expect.

Loans that Change Lives

After reading the book *Half the Sky, Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide* by Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn, several members of the TPC Book Club were motivated to consider how we can help women and families in the developing world.

Many of the stories told in this book are heartbreaking tales of physical and sexual abuse. However, there were hopeful stories as well. Numerous examples were given of how small amounts of money (\$200-300) can enable a poor woman to buy something like a sewing machine or a goat and go into business. The small income from that investment can generate the money to educate her children, who can then escape a life of grinding poverty. While global poverty is not confined to women, helping women is a good way to save families and educate populations. Kiva is an organization that serves as a link between people in the developed world who are willing to lend small sums and people in the third world who have needs which can be met with small amounts of money. Kiva's mission is to connect people, through lending, for the sake of alleviating poverty.

We are starting a Kiva microlending group here at TPC. If you would like

**Tuskawilla Presbyterian
Church Staff**

Rev. Chris Chandler
Senior Pastor

Rev. Stacy Chandler
*Parish Associate
Contemporary Music Director*

Alice Ann Nilsen
Music Director

Andrew Mills
Youth Director

Debbie Harned
Preschool Director

Karen Gray
Secretary

Daun Cooper
Bookkeeper

Marilyn Salter
Treasurer

Tammy Neel
Treasurer

Sylvia Gray
Church Musician

Carol Perdue
Nursery Coordinator

Brian Murphy
Grounds Keeper

Lynn Frazier
Librarian

to join us, give Lynn Frazier a check for \$25. We will select a recipient for our loan from their database of applicants. When that loan is repaid, the money is refunded to our account and we can select another recipient. While there is no guarantee that the money will be repaid, most loans are. Call Lynn at 407-701-1622 for more information or check the Kiva website (www.kiva.org).

TPC Financial Report

In the month of March the church spent \$41,265 and had an income of \$37,703. For the year to date (Jan. 1 to March 31) we spent \$116,353 and had an income of \$130,331.

News of Session

Items of interest from recent Session meetings include:

1. A Congregational Meeting for the purpose of electing new officers will be held on May 16, 2010, immediately following the second service. The slate that will be presented to the Congregation includes the following candidates:

Virginia Bibliowicz, Deacon

Pam O'Toole, Deacon

Lisa Hullinger, Elder

Audrey Burckhalter, Elder

2. Eldon Ampomah, son of Lucy Peasah, was baptized on April 11, 2010.
3. Judy Grieve resigned from the Session, effective immediately.
4. TPC's current financial information will be published in the newsletter each month rather than in the Sunday bulletins.
5. The Service and Mission Team will collect a special offering on May 2, 2010, to support the 2010 mission trip.
6. In order to comply with the Seminole County Fire Inspector's recent report, all materials stored in the electrical rooms must be removed. Session authorized the Buildings and Grounds Team to proceed immediately with the planning and construction of

temporary storage facilities. This will include some construction along the west wall inside Fellowship Hall

Lynn Frazier

Clerk of Session

Thank you!

I want to thank my TPC family for all the love and support you have given to Dave and me for the last 12 years. It is hard to realize that we are finally on our way to 223 Bent Oak Drive, Clarks Hill, SC 29821, email judygrieve@mac.com cell 407-230-6853. My home is your home. The door is always open, even during Master's week. Y'all come see us, hear?! (See I am a South Carolinian already!) I will miss you all so very much.

Blessings, Judy

Hey, I'm not sure if you remember me or not, I'm Charly (Charlotte Ralph the N.Irish girl) I stayed with the Stacy and Chris at the beginning of last summer and I attended church with them for the weeks I was visiting. I also helped out in VBS! :)

I was just visiting the Church website and looking through all the photos, it brought back some really good memories and it was great to see familiar faces!

I'm just dropping by to say hello and that I hope you all are doing very well. I pray that God continues to bless Tuskawilla in the years to come! I hope to come back out and visit again soon!

*Many Blessings,
Charly*

Summer Sunday School

Find your "inner child" and help our children learn about God this summer through the parables of the Good Samaritan and the Prodigal Son. Consider giving one hour on one Sunday. All materials and instructions are provided.

Each week is a different approach to the parables. For each, there is a video with a snack, a craft on another Sunday, reading aloud the story with an activity, and a game day. Finally, on Sunday, July 4, we will celebrate our nation's independence with patriotic food and activities. The children will write postcards to Nicole Coppinger's brother's unit stationed in Iraq. We hope to have a special guest speaker that day as well.

Questions? Ready to sign up? Contact Jennifer Ward at 407-273-0731 or JenACWard@aol.com.

Ronald McDonald Banks

Sunday School money collected will be donated to the local Ronald McDonald houses to help families who have extended visits at these facilities. If your child does not have a bank, please see Jennifer Ward to pick one up. All banks will be collected on Sunday, May 16. Thank you for your help!

Check Out Our Photo Gallery & YouTube Channel

We have set up an online photo album to share pictures of TPC events and people. Links to the album may be found on the Photo Gallery page of our website at www.mytpc.org.

We now have a YouTube Channel at www.youtube.com/MyTPCTV.

If you have pictures you'd like to share, please e-mail them to tpcphotoalbum@gmail.com. Please include the names of the individuals in the pictures and the event or circumstances so that we can write captions for each picture. If the photograph includes children, please check with the parents before submitting. For security reasons, we never identify the children in pictures posted online by name.

If you have videos you'd like to post on the YouTube Channel, please contact Jackie Clement or e-mail tpcphotoalbum@gmail.com.

We Welcome Your Feedback

Let us know how you like the TPC Newsletter and what we can do to make it better. Send your comments to newsletter@mytpc.org.

Remember that you can control the amount of e-mail you receive from TPC. Click on the "Update Profile/Email Address" at the bottom of this e-mail to let us know which messages you would like to receive.

Tuskawilla Presbyterian Church
407-671-4173 - www.mytpc.org

The purpose of Tuskawilla Presbyterian Church is to love God, love our neighbors, be active disciples, and bring others into fellowship with the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

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