



June 2018

400 W. Chesapeake Ave.
Towson, Maryland 21204
410-823-6500

www.towsonpres.org

The TPC Staff

Rev. Rob Carter
Pastor, Senior

Rev. Joel Strom
Pastor, Associate

Stephen Harouff
Director of Music/Organist

Jeness Hall
Director of Children and
Family Ministry

Tara Flynn Runge
Administrative &
Communications
Coordinator

Kathryn Bojanowski
Business Administrator

Leslie Foretich
Director,
Towson Presbyterian
Preschool

Kyanne Fields
Childcare Coordinator

Walter Austin
Sexton

Towson Presbyterian Church

*Towson Presbyterian Church is an inclusive community of faith
growing as disciples of Christ.*

From the Pastor

Dear Friends,

Thank you—each and all—for the outpouring of support and prayers for our youngest son and family upon his eye injury and subsequent surgery. While we are grateful he is home now and feeling better physically, the prognosis is still unknown at this time. He will be having anywhere from one to three more procedures across the next few months.

Because of the nature of this injury and the modified bedrest his recovery requires, both my wife and I have altered our work schedules so that one of us can be home. Melissa is staying home from her employment almost entirely for the time being, while I (with the support of our Personnel Committee and exceptional staff) will not be working evenings (with the exception of Session) unless my presence is necessary at a committee meeting. I will also be working occasionally from home when necessary. As such, I expect to be out of the office a bit (but not much) less for the next few months. That shared, you can still contact me via e-mail or phone anytime.

And again, please know how appreciative we are for all of your prayers and support. While we were unable to respond to most of them amid the initial trauma, each and every expression of love has been and will continue to be deeply appreciated.

Meanwhile, we continue to move forward with faith and hope.

In Peace,
Rob

*PS: Thank you to those who responded to the
call for help with the flood on May 28.*



Tending the Flock

Congratulations, Jenness!

Certificate in Theological Studies (*with distinction*) (CTS)
Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, NJ

TPC is thrilled to congratulate Dr. Jenness Hall, Director of Children & Family Ministry, upon her receipt of the **Certificate in Theological Studies** from Princeton Theological Seminary. This 16-week program entails classes in the Old Testament, New Testament, Reformed Theology, and World Christianity, all taught by world renowned faculty members of PTS. Her work included individual learning and reading, case studies, cohort learning, exams and papers. Of note, she graduated with special distinction for the quality of her work!



Marriages

Logan LaBerge to Alexis Quinn on May 26th

Deaths

Kenneth Volk on May 25th



June is TPC's ACTC Month

Thanks for your support! Together we can do so much good. We really appreciate the support and love we receive from our congregation at Towson Presbyterian!

Here is a list of items Towson Presbyterian can collect for ACTC during June.

Baked Beans
Cereal
Canned fruit (or in plastic jars)
Soup

We can also use deodorant from the Dollar Store and sun lotion, if anyone stops in there and would like to give us some!

Blessings,
Linda Lotz

Worship at TPC in June

June Worship Schedule

- June 3** **Building A Church – Part 4**
Pastor Rob’s four-part sermon series comes to a close, as we explore the motivation to “grow” Christ’s church. We welcome Henry Lowe as the guest Organist on this day.
Teacher & Advisor Appreciation Sunday
This morning, we will also be blessed to express our thanks for all the church school Teachers, leader, and youth advisors who have given so much of their time, love, and energy to help our children and youth grow closer to God amid our growing children’s and youth ministries!
- June 10** **Choir Appreciation Sunday**
Pastor Joel offers the morning message, as we also take time to give our thanks for the gifts of music and the musicians who lead our songs of praise and thanks to God!
- June 17** **Gifts of Men Sunday**
On this Father’s Day Sunday, men of the church will lead our worship as we hear familiar words of Jesus’ parables in Mark 4, comparing the kingdom of God to seeds scattered all around, and then to a tiny mustard seed.
- June 24:** **Worship @ BeeTree Preserve**
8:30 a.m. in TPC Chapel;
11:00 a.m. at BeeTree Preserve in Parkton, MD



In July & August, TPC will celebrate one Sunday morning worship service at 9:30

- July 1 – Sept 2:** **One (1) worship service:** 9:30 a.m. in TPC Sanctuary
- Sept. 9 (Homecoming):** **One (1) worship service:** 10:00 a.m. in TPC Sanctuary
- Sept. 16:** **Resume two (2) Sunday morning worship schedule:**
8:30 a.m. in TPC Chapel
10:00 a.m. in TPC Sanctuary

Bell Ringers in Worship



Ringers-On-The-Green

Sunday, July 1 at 9:30 a.m. Worship

The *Ringers-on-the-Green*, a choir of 16 advanced high school bell ringers from The Presbyterian Church in Morristown, New Jersey, will be joining us in worship on Sunday, July 1, at our 9:30 a.m. worship service. Every summer the *Ringers-On-The-Green* embark on a tour and this summer they're making their way through Towson. They'll arrive on Saturday, June 30, and we will need TPC families to be "host homes" for that night for a *bell ringers* or their adult leaders. Please consider being a host home on June 30! More information soon to come.

Camp BeeTree

Camp BeeTree Canned Goods Drive!

Buy your canned goods & dry goods for the Camp BeeTree ACTC donation drive in June! The Camp BeeTree team asks that you bring in 3-5 canned goods in June for our ACTC Drive. Why June and not July? We are going to use the canned/dry goods DURING Camp BeeTree's morning activities and BUILD various canned designs. We need LOTS of canned & dry goods starting the first day of camp, July 9th. You can drop off your donations at the Thompson Hall stage ANYTIME in June. Thank you very much!!

CAMP BEETREE JULY 9-13, 2018



Children



Presentation of Bibles

Our Third Graders in Church School received their personal bibles during worship on May 27th. We are so proud of them!

Please note that regular church school ends on June 10, 2018 and resumes on September 9, 2018 ---- Homecoming Sunday!

2018-2019 Church School Teachers Wanted!

Please prayerfully consider how you might serve TPC's growing children's ministry. The Children & Family Ministry Committee asks that you volunteer 2 Sundays/month to teach. Please see Bob Bickel, Chair, or any committee member. – Amy Hemingway, Stephanie Hemm, Adam Palmer, Lauren Walbert, Kim Whittle, or Jenness Hall.

Session

Session Highlights – Meeting May 23, 2018

Reverend Carter led the Session through a worship-focused agenda.



Session gave thanks for the service and faithfulness of outgoing Elders: Lyn Brooks, Andy Evans, Mitch Herbert and Kim Whittle. Session also welcomed incoming Elders for the Class of 2021: Dotsie Bregel, Tim Burkett and Craig Miller. In addition, Session welcomed Elder Alan Randolph to fill an unfinished term in the class of 2019.

Visioning:

The results of the Appreciative Inquiry interviews, Natural Church Development Surveys, and Timeline are all in. Session will be having a retreat (likely in June) to explore these results and assess the church's overall priorities accordingly.

Discernment and Action:

The Session approved the Motion presented by Worship Ministry and Arts for the summer church service schedule. Beginning July 1st, there will be **one service** at **9:30am**.

Homecoming Sunday is scheduled for September 9th at 10:00 a.m. Two services will resume on September 16th at 8:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

The Session approved a Motion electing Tom Peer as Vice Treasurer.

The Deacon Ministries committee recommended that the AED machines need to be updated and have pads replaced. The Session approved a motion for the Deacons to spend up to \$1500 for this effort. Property will work with the Deacons and take on the responsibility of reviewing and managing this safety equipment.

The church's year-to-date revenue over expenses is well on track.

The Property Committee reported that there will be new doors installed in June at Thompson Hall, the Preschool entrance, and alley stairwell egress. Also Property approved a mild update to the church's landscaping plan.

Youth



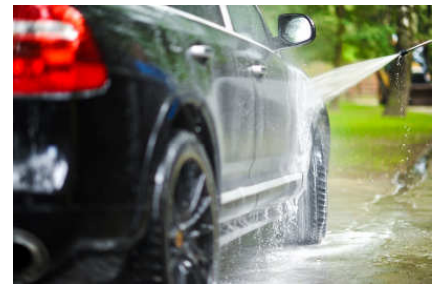
Project Clean Stream took place on Sunday May 6. Look at what they collected!

Save the date!

Car Wash Fundraiser – Sunday, June 17

Our teens will be washing cars in our parking lot **before** and **after** the 10:00 a.m. service for their summer trip to the *Montreat Youth Conference* in Montreat, North Carolina.

Stop by to have your car washed and support our teens!



Confirmands - 2018



Sarah Sunday, Charlotte Bott, Ella Simet, Thomas Sheggrud, Kate Fisher, Joshua Bashore, Chloe Simpson, Molly Bugg, Matthew Carter, Michael Giordani, Colin Barclay, Maddy Davis, Olivia Davis

Confirmation Dinner - 2018

“On Sunday, May 6, Confirmands, their families, as well as Confirmation teachers and mentors gathered in Thompson Hall to share a meal and celebrate the completion of their program, which began in January. For the last 5 months, Confirmands gathered for classes to learn what makes us Christians in the Presbyterian tradition, participated in worship, met with a mentor to explore the Gospel of Mark, and wrote a Statement of Faith describing what they believe about God, Jesus, Church, and why they want to be a member of TPC. After being interviewed by a TPC elder, they were received into the membership of our church. On Pentecost Sunday, May 20, they were received as new members in front of the congregation. Below is a compilation of their Statements of Faith:

God is representative of an all-knowing father. He is like a role model, friend and mentor. God sees, knows and understands all. God laid down the laws of the world, and His purpose is to serve as a reminder and a guide to love and treat others with respect. God created the beautiful things on this earth that I love, such as nature. He will always listen to my hopes and prayers, and He is forgiving of any sin I may commit and loves me no matter what. I believe God keeps me safe and is watching over me. God makes me feel protected even if I feel unsafe in particular situations. I believe that God does not control our lives, but he knows what is going to happen to them but doesn't make our decisions for us to make better; we have to do that for ourselves.

Jesus is someone made of kindness and sacrifice. We believe Jesus is the son of God, born of the Virgin Mary, made many miracles, treated everybody with equal love and respect, was crucified on the cross and resurrected. He was crucified and resurrected to forgive us of our sins. Jesus is the son of God and, through the Holy Trinity, is also God. Jesus and the story of his life is the most important part of Christianity as a whole. Being the core of our faith, we must do everything we can to carry the mission he gives us. I believe Jesus was born out of God's love for us. I believe that Jesus died on the cross for our sins so that we may be forgiven and go to heaven. Jesus came to the world so that all people would learn how God wants people to act so that they can have eternal life in heaven, and that all people know of God's great work and effect on our lives and world.

I have noticed my church family more as I have grown up. I have seen that they care for me, I have seen them come together to accomplish remarkable things, but most of all I can turn to them when I am in need. To be a member at TPC to me would mean that I would have a second family. A second family to me would mean that I have a place of no judgement, where I can always talk to someone, always be accepted, and most importantly, people that will join my journey of faith as I mature. To be a member of the church means that you are a part of a loving family who gives back to God and the community. I would like to be a member of TPC for many reasons - TPC shows acceptance of everyone and is always willing to lend a hand. TPC is always giving back to the community by planting trees and having Sunday Community Lunch. An important part of being a church member to me is stewardship, giving my financial support for the good works of our congregation.



Small Groups

Running Small Group **First and Third Saturdays in June 8:00 a.m.**

The Running Small Group will meet at the intersection of Loch Raven Drive and Morgan Mill Road at 8:00 a.m. To register contact Brenda Evans (Brenda.evans@rmsmortgage.com).



InterGenerational Garden Happy Hour || Friday, June 8 || 5-7 p.m.



Join us for our next group work time in the Intergenerational Garden. Some snacks and beverages provided, or bring your own. Stop by 5 – 7 p.m. for a little planting, weeding, conversation, and relaxing at the end of the week. This is a good time for those new to the IGG to get acquainted with what we're doing and how you can get involved! Lots growing in the garden now so we need YOU to sign-up to water, weed or harvest throughout the growing season. www.SignUpGenius.com/go/10C0D4CACAE2DA6FB6-2018

Intergenerational Event

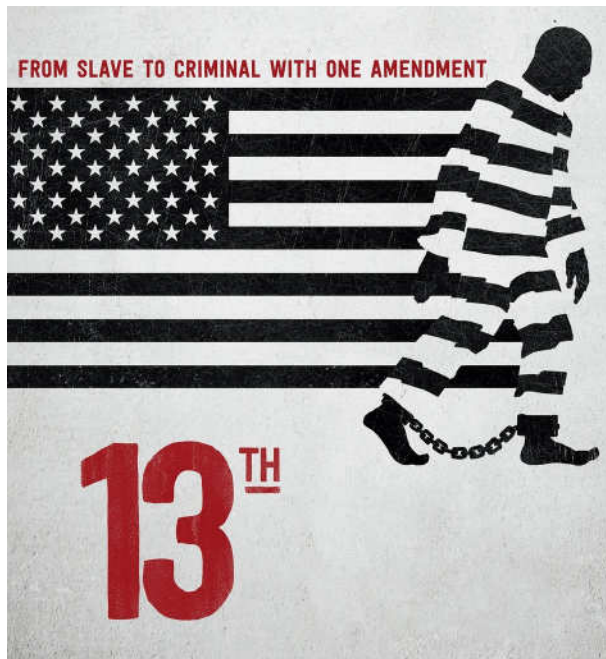
Outdoor Movie at TPC!

Friday, July 20

Join us on Friday, July 20, at 8:00 p.m. in the TPC parking lot (movie begins at 8:45 p.m.) Bring beach chairs, blankets, snacks; and we'll provide the movie!



Adult Spiritual Formation



13th

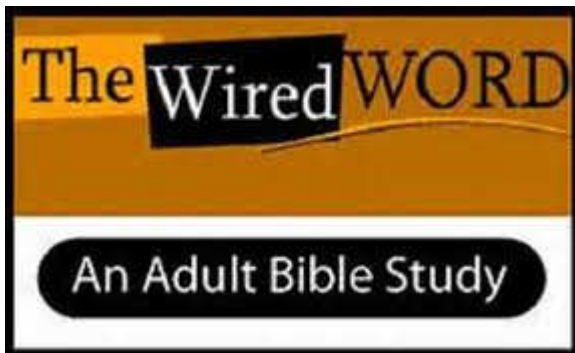
**Sunday, June 3 5:30-8:00 p.m.
in Thompson Hall**

The acclaimed documentary, *13th*, released in 2016, garnered a long list of awards and nominations, including the Primetime Emmy for Outstanding Documentary and a nomination for the Academy Award for Best Documentary Feature. Titled after the Thirteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, abolishing slavery, the film offers a tightly-knit historical account of the continued institutionalization of racism and slavery from the post-Civil War era until today. The vehicle for this tragic and systematic aspect of our nation's history and culture is one small phrase in the amendment that, in effect, enabled the ongoing forced labor and disenfranchisement of a race. The director, Ava DuVernay, tracks the perpetuation of these practices through the 20th century and to today, where we find our nation still burdened

by the sin of legalized racism through mass incarceration of people of color and a now well-developed prison-industrial complex. *13th* is a must-see that once you've begun viewing, you cannot walk away from—and once you've finished watching, you'll never forget. It is a revelation and a wake-up call.

Join us in Thompson Hall on Sunday, June 3, as we continue our conversation around race in America. Following a viewing of *13th*, we'll break into small groups to discuss the documentary. Light refreshments will be served.

**The Wired Word – Sunday, June 3, 10 and 17
11:30 a.m. in the Conference Room**



The Wired Word (TWW) is a weekly Bible Study/devotional designed to enhance our study and discussions. In the three week trial this May we discussed topics like the dismissal – and then rehiring – of Fr. Patrick Conroy as Chaplain of the House of Representatives, the “faith and works” story of Capt. Tammie Jo Shults, who successfully landed Southwest Flight 1380 after its engine exploded, and the inclusion of the Bible on a list of books “people should not be compelled to read.” Each week TWW

provides the group leader with two such lessons based directly on current events. We plan to continue the studies sporadically during the summer and more regularly in Fall. Chuck LaBerge is leading until we get on a regular basis. After that, we'll rotate the facilitation role amongst ourselves. The lessons come fully prepared, and just require a little individual touch to get the discussion rolling.

Congratulations Graduates!



High School

Caroline Brune – Towson High School; will attend University of Maryland
Drew Evans – Towson High School; will attend Virginia Tech to study Nano Sciences
Ivy Stricker – Carver Center; will attend California College of the Arts
Georgia Darwin – Towson High School; will attend Parson School of Design
Caroline Miller – Towson High School; will attend Towson University - 5 year Bachelors/Master's program to become a Child Life Specialist

College

Anna Blake - The College of Wooster, B.A. in Communication Studies with honors.

Graduate Degree

Katie O'Brien - University of DC with a Masters of Speech Language Pathology
Ian Tully - Washington University in St. Louis with a PhD. In Philosophy

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Celebrating TPC's Teachers & Advisors!

TPC celebrates and gives thanks for the tremendous work and ministry of our church school teachers and assistants, and youth group advisors!



Teacher/Advisor (Grade):

Kyanne Fields (Noah's Nursery)
Lauren Walbert (2-3)
Rebecca McKenna (2-3)
Caroline Coker (2-3)
Kay Salemi (Godly Play)
Jeff Sheggrud (Godly Play)
Max Fisher (Godly Play)
Amanda Palmer (Grade 1-2)
Katie McCabe (Grade 1-2)
Kim Whittle (Grade 3-5)

Roxanne Maffitt Harvey (Heartlights)
Beth Bugg (Heartlights)

Katie Cashin (Middle School)
Tim Burkett (Middle School)

Derek Krueger (M.S. Youth Group Advisor)
Bob Bickel (H.S. Youth Group Advisor)
Martha Hayner (H.S. Youth Group Advisor)
Chrissie Kahan (H.S. Youth Group Advisor)

Dotsie Bregel (Confirmation)\
Linda Lotz (Confirmation)

Rachel Carnie (Noah's Nursery)
Brenda Evans (2-3 & Godly Play)
Caroline Miller (2-3)
Stephanie Hemm (Godly Play)
Nick Salemi (Godly Play)
Ryan Krugman (Godly Play)
Kelly Joffe (Grade 1-2)
Adam Palmer (Grade 1-2)
Ro Nicolosi (Grade 1-2)
Emilie Bowerman (3-5)

Ana Montero (Heartlights)

Cornelia McKenna (Middle School)
Kristie Burkett (Middle School)

Jessica Krueger (M.S. Youth Group Advisor)
Beth Bugg (H.S. Youth Group Advisor)
Aaron Kahan (H.S. Youth Group Advisor)

Jim Kuhlman (Confirmation)

TPC's Celebrates Newly Installed/Ordained Elders & Deacons

On May 27, TPC was blessed to install/ordain these dedicated, faithful leaders to guide our church's Session (the governing board of the church) and Board of Deacons (the member-care board of the church).

Elder—Class of 2019

Alan Randolph

Alan Randolph and his wife, Ruth Anne, have been members of TPC since the early 1990s. He has served on Session several times previously and has served on the Personnel Committee, taught children's Sunday School and served as Chair of the Mission Outreach Committee. Alan has been very active in our Mission outreach efforts in Honduras, typically helping with construction projects and working as one of the Spanish translators. He also has worked on one of the Sunday Community Lunch teams since the program's inception and actively supports the Alternative Gift Market selling fair trade items from Peru, Haiti and Cambodia for Partners for Just Trade.



Elder—Class of 2021

Dotsie Bregel

Dotsie Bregel joined TPC in 1984. She and her husband Ross raised their three children at TPC. She has served in different capacities for the Church School, Youth Groups, Circle 13, Prayer Group, Festivals, etc. and was on the founding Community Lunch committee. Dotsie was Coordinator of Member Care, a part-time staff position, for several years. She has also served as an Elder and Deacon.

She works part-time for Federal Hill Eye Care and enjoys spending time with family and friends, walking, reading and gardening.

Dotsie is grateful for her church family and the spiritual growth she's experienced at TPC.



Tim Burkett

Tim Burkett has been a TPC member for 8 years, serving a single term on the Session and as a member of the APNC that had the good fortune of finding the Strom family. Three high school mission trips, one middle school retreat, many a Community Lunch, and a current stint team-teaching for the Middle School round out key elements of service to TPC.

Professionally, for the past two years, Tim has been the Director of Operations for Ayers Saint Gross, a Baltimore-based architecture firm, and for the prior 15 years, the COO of Biohabitats, a nationally-recognized ecologic restoration design firm.

Trained as a Chemical Engineer at Bucknell University, Tim pivoted with an MBA from the University of Maryland to focus energy on efficient and effective business operations.

With two young ladies, Paige and Julie, in college and a son, Max, in high school, Tim and his lovely wife, Kristie, are preparing for their next phase of life together -The Empty Nest.



(Elder—Class of 2021 Continued)

Craig Miller

Craig Miller has been a TPC member since 2009. He joined with his amazing wife, Ann, and his 3 wonderful kids, Madeline, Corbin, and Caroline. Craig has previously served on Session, and was TPC's Treasurer for a three-year term.

Professionally, Craig is a partner in the National Office of Grant Thornton LLP, a global accounting and consulting firm. In his spare time, Craig loves to play golf.



Deacons—Class of 2021

Sandi Burt

Sandi Burt has been a member of TPC for almost 20 years! She has served two previous terms as Deacon, taught *and learned from* Sunday school for many years in the 3rd and middle school classes. She's served on numerous mission trips to Honduras – proving that no particular skills are needed to show God's love far from home. One of Sandi's greatest joys was to serve on the Pastor Nominating Committee that brought Rob to TPC in early 2017.

Sandi is employed as a Principal Scientist at McCormick & Company. Outside of church and work, she is happy rowing on calm water and spending time with friends and family, especially her daughter Ellen and husband Walter Cesewski.



Mary Blann

Mary has been a member to TPC since 1992. She has served two plus (having filled in on several occasions) terms as a Deacon and served as the secretary on two occasions. Additionally, Mary has served TPC in a variety of ways, including Co-chair of the Homecoming event, helping prepare for Maundy Thursday dinners, coffee hour hostess, Home communion team, assisting with packing for the mission trip to Honduras, and helping during the Christmas Gift Mart. Mary also participated in the Women's retreat and Circle 13.

Mary is professor emeritus from the Department of Kinesiology, Towson University where she was the Director of the Physical Education major program and coordinator of Student Teaching. In retirement, Mary enjoys going to Florida in the winter, playing golf, exercising, and traveling.



Pat Keller

Pat has been a member since 1981. She has been active with the Strawberry Festival, Fellowship Committee, Deacon for 6 years - 2 as Co-Moderator, Deacon Rep on Worship, Music & Arts committee, and currently serves on the Emergency Response Task Force.

Pat retired in 2011 from Baltimore County Public Schools after working for 25 years in the Office of Payroll. Activities since retiring: baking cookies at Gilchrist, volunteering at IHM - where Camden & Bohden attend school, getting more involved at TPC. Things Pat is most proud of: 40 years of marriage to Doug, and her children, Brian and Dana, and grandchildren, Camden & Bohden.

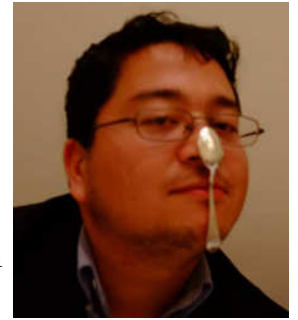


Viraj Mehta

Viraj Mehta has been a TPC member since 2017, but has been attending since the baptisms of his daughters, Daphne (6) and Rosalie (4). He has also enjoyed being an active participant in the handbell choir for the past several years.

Professionally, Viraj is a Product Lead for the United States Army at Aberdeen Proving Grounds, where he has worked for 15 years.

In his spare time, Viraj allows himself to be dragged into extreme hiking trips in foreign countries. Viraj is the husband to Kathryn McDougal who is a professor at Towson University and also teaches Sunday school.



Patty O'Brien

Patty has been a member at TPC since 1987. She has been active in many areas of the church including teaching 2-4th grades, working with Habitat for Humanity in Sandtown and McCabe neighborhoods, Camp Bee Tree, children's music at TPC. She has co-chaired the Alternative Gift Market for 7 years with her husband Jim Lyon. She has served at least two terms on the Nominating Committee, and on the Board of Deacons, once as vice-moderator. She has gone on the Honduras Mission trips 12 times in the last 13 years to deliver dental services to the people there. She currently serves on the Mission Outreach Committee and is planning for the 2019 international mission trip.



Liza Salemi

Liza was baptized and confirmed at TPC and became a member in 2010. She has been a camper, CIT, and counselor at Camp BeeTree, assisted in church school, served on the Fried Green Tomatoes for the Sunday Community Lunch, and served on the Board of Deacons for the past three years.

She is currently pursuing a major in biology and minors in chemistry and Spanish at Towson University. She enjoys playing the guitar, running, and spending time with her family and friends.



Susan Shockley

Susan has been a member of TPC since the early 1990's. She is very close to her church family. She has enjoyed volunteering as a staff member at TPC, being a member of the Board of Deacons Class of 2018, singing in the choir, serving on the Brussels Sprouts Team of Sunday Community Lunch, and chairing Fellowship. Susan feels very strongly about giving back to TPC, as her belief that volunteering is good for the soul.



Elizabeth Flanigan White

Elizabeth Flanigan White has been a member of TPC since she was born in 1988. She was baptized, confirmed, and married in the church. In the past, Elizabeth has been involved with Camp BeeTree and assisting with Sunday School. Recently, she enjoyed participating in the "Waking Up White" book study and getting to know the multi-generational group.

Elizabeth teaches 2nd grade at Johnnycake Elementary. In her free time, she volunteers extensively with Thread where she serves as a "GrandParent" to eight students from Douglass High School.



TPC uses **RainedOut** to inform you when services are cancelled due to inclement weather or power outages and to alert you to any other urgent information. RainedOut delivers our urgent alerts to you as a text message or email.

To sign up...go to:

www.RainedOut.com

Search for "Towson Presbyterian Church"

and follow the directions for signing up

or follow

the directions below for text messages to be sent to your mobile device.

Text: **TowsonPres** to **84483** to receive alerts from "Towson Presbyterian Church"



Here is are example of alerts that have been sent...

05/27/2018 15:54:55 EDT

TPC experiencing flooding. Walter needs help onsite asap. Bring wet vacs if you have them.

01/14/2017 11:58:28 EST

Due to pending icy conditions, this evening's Potluck Dinner at TPC has been cancelled and will be rescheduled.