Starting the 2019-2020 Ministry Year


For a number of years, most of our ministries have taken off the Sundays between Memorial Day and Labor Day. The purpose is to give ministry team leaders and members a chance to rest. So, hopefully, everyone is rested and refreshed and ready to begin our 2019-2020 ministry year!

New Tampa Christian Academy (NTCA) started classes on August 19, 2019. Enrollment is lower than in previous years, primarily due to the decreasing number of four-year-old students who transfer into VPK schools. NTCA has a new Director this year: Morgan Uhl. Morgan is a professional teacher, and has got off to a great start. I would like to thank Ashleigh Kemp for serving as the Administrator of NTCA last year. Ashleigh did a wonderful job, and we are so grateful for her ministry.

The Women’s Bible Study will once again have an Evening Bible Study and a Daytime Bible Study. However, because of licensing requirements (that no ministries take place during NTCA school hours), the daytime study will move to the afternoons. Debbie Jordan and Eileen Fritz are giving leadership to the Women’s Bible Study this year.

The Men’s Bible Study will begin on Saturday, September 7 at 7:45 a.m. Led by Jeff Beams, the men are completing a study in the book of Genesis. After spending time in God’s word, all the men are invited to breakfast at Steak ’n Shake.

I would like to begin a Men’s Discipleship Group that will meet at the same time as the Men’s Bible Study on Saturday mornings. Most likely, we will meet in my study. My goal is to help men grow in their walk with Jesus, and then be able to help others mature in their walk with Jesus too.

Our Adult Bible Fellowships will begin on Sunday, September 1 at 9:15 a.m. Currently, we will have two ABFs led by RE Ed Jordan and RE Rich Thompson. RE Todd Bayley’s Shepherding Group will join with Rich Thompson’s ABF for the first few months of the fall. That will enable Todd to transition out of ministry with the Diaconate and start his own ABF.
Children’s and Youth Sunday School will also begin for all ages on September 1 at 9:15 a.m.

The Music Ministry had a Saturday rehearsal for all interested choir members on Saturday, August 24. Worship Choir rehearsals will begin on Wednesday, September 4, at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.

English as a Second Language (ESL) classes will begin on Wednesday, September 4, at 1:30 p.m. ESL also had to move to the afternoons because of the licensing requirements for NTCA.

As we begin our new ministry year, let me encourage you to get involved in a ministry in the church. The Bible teaches that every Christian is part of the body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12:27). One of the reasons God placed Christians in local churches is so that he may work through each Christian to enable him or her to serve others in the body of Christ. There are many opportunities to serve in our church family. Almost every ministry leader would be glad for more help in his or her ministry. So, just talk to a ministry leader, and I know that you will be welcomed with open arms!

Pray that the Lord will glorify himself in our service to him this coming year. Pray that the church of Jesus Christ will be strengthened and grow in health. And pray that those outside our church family may come to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ, so that we may all grow to maturity in Christ.
# Tampa Bay Presbyterian Church Staff

- Rev. Freddy Fritz, *Pastor*
- Melissa Bayley, *Office Administrator*
- LeeAnn DeStefano, *Office Assistant*
- Joanne Campbell, *Bookkeeper*
- Morgan Uhl, *NTCA Administrator*
- Marianne Cali, *Nursery*
- Millie Myers, *Music Director and Pianist*
- Chris Christopher, *Custodian*

## TBPC Ministries

- **Adult Bible Fellowship**
  - Ed Jordan
- **Children**
  - Christy Almonte
- **Empty Nesters**
  - Sandy Neal
- **Greeters & Welcome Table**
  - Brian Carrier
- **Hospitality**
  - Lesley Schmidt
- **Men’s Bible Study**
  - Jeff Beams
- **Men’s Ministry**
  - Brian Carrier
- **Missions**
  - Karen Guest
- **Music**
  - Millie Myers
- **NTCA**
  - Morgan Uhl
- **Nursery**
  - Marianne Cali
- **Outreach**
  - Vacant
- **Pastoral Care**
  - Rev. Freddy Fritz
- **Ushers**
  - Lenny Chew
- **Women's Bible Study**
  - Eileen Fritz & Debbie Jordan
- **Women's Ministry**
  - Suzanne Swenson
- **Youth**
  - Richard Hunter
This congregational charge was delivered by RE Ed Jordan upon the installation of RE Todd Bayley and Deacon Ted Jeffries.

My charge for you today is taken from Hebrews chapter 13. Heb. 13:17 reads:

Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.

We are all engaged in a life-long battle against temptation and unbelief. Joshua Harris whose book, I Kissed Dating Goodbye, caused him to become an icon for a generation of evangelical Christians, recently announced that he is divorcing his wife Shannon after 20 years of marriage. A few days later, he announced that he is no longer a Christian.

You may have been born in a Christian home, you may have been baptized, you may have made a profession of faith and joined a church, but the world and your flesh and the devil will never rest at trying to make you fall into serious sin, retard your maturity, inhibit the fruit in your life, divert you into false movements and idolatrous beliefs, and lead you if possible into recanting the very Savior whom you once believed died for you.

Preventing that is why God has instituted this relationship pictured in Heb. 13:17. I’ll read it again.

Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.

To closely paraphrase John Piper, “The aim of spiritual leadership in the church…is the salvation of your soul. The job of the elders of this church is to help you persevere in faith and be saved.”

The elders do this by making sure you know the whole counsel of God and by calling you to submit to it. They do this by knowing you personally so they can help you apply the Word of God to your situation. They do this with seriousness because they are accountable to God. And they do this with joy when they see repentance and maturity and fruit in your life, or with groaning as they commiserate with you and counsel you in times of serious sin or lack of repentance.

Don’t be overconfident in your ability to abide by the Word of God yourself. Do not underestimate the power of your flesh and the world and all that the Devil has mobilized against you!

Hebrews says Jesus suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify his people through his own blood. We are called to go to him outside the camp and bear the reproach that he endured. Do you think that you can bear the reproach Jesus bore without using all the means that God has appointed for your benefit?
My charge to you is to recognize God’s love and care for you that is embodied in Heb. 13:17. In humility, agree with God that you need this Biblical relationship with your elders and do your best to enable it by attending worship regularly and attentively, and by being responsive to the elders and proactive in building your personal relationships with them. And know that Jesus will never leave you nor forsake you, that no sin is too serious, and no lapse is too long for him to restore and love you if you return to him in repentance and faith.

I charge you also, the Members of this congregation, to be faithful to this Elder whom you have chosen to rule over you in the Lord, and to this Deacon whom you have chosen to serve you in the Lord; and that you render them all due obedience, co-operation and support, and follow them so far as you see them follow Christ.
I would like to read to you from an article that I recently read by David Mathis, a pastor and author from Minneapolis, Minn. He writes in *Table Talk Magazine* (July 2019);

“Consider how the elder qualifications *(let me insert deacon qualifications)* are, by and large, little things. *(These qualifications are given in I Tim. 3 and Titus 1. For example in I Tim 3:2 we read: Therefore an overseer must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, sober-minded, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, not a drunkard, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. Also in I Tim 3:8,9: Deacons likewise must be dignified, not double-tongued, not addicted to much wine, not greedy for dishonest gain. They must hold the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience.*) As Don Carson has observed, it is remarkable how unremarkable, in one sense, the requirements for office in the church are *(I Tim 3: 1–13; Titus 1: 5–9)*. These are little things that add up. What we need from our pastors, as from all the church, is not world-class intellect and learning but the kind of *faithfulness* *(emphases mine)* in the little things that is the very heart of the Christian maturity and serves as an example for the flock *(I Tim. 4:12, I Peter 5:3).*”

The point, I believe, that is being made here is *not* that the qualifications for elder and deacon as recorded in Scripture are not very important, that they are and we would not want to install any elder or deacon that did not satisfy these qualifications. But what we need from our elders and deacons, as from all the church, is not necessarily world-class intellect and learning *but* the kind of *faithfulness* in the little things that is the very heart of the Christian maturity and serves as an example for the flock. In my charge to you today, I would like to emphasize that one word: *faithfulness*, faithfulness in all the little things that are characteristics of an elder or deacon. As an elder or a deacon you will be visible, people will know who you are. They look on the bulletin and see that you are an office-bearer in the church and as such have a very important function. And as such, you must be an example to the flock, exhibiting all the characteristics of I Tim 3: 1–13 and Titus 1: 5–9. We could talk about these for some time. However, as the quote that I read to you stated, faithfulness in the little things is at the very heart of the Christian maturity and serves as an example for the flock.

What are those things, sometimes little things that people may not see, for which you and we should be faithful? You can make your own list but the list should include perseverance, continual prayer for this ministry and members of this church, kind and encouraging words to members and visitors, sympathy to those in need, forbearance with a suffering or faltering brother or sister, humility, participation in the affairs of the church, and other things. This is important to think about because God sees the little things as much as the big things that we do. He sees all and we will all need to give an account someday of what we have done. You will recall Jesus’ parable of the talents in which the master said to the servants that had taken in two talents and five talents and produced two and five more respectively, “Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over little. I will set you over much. Enter into that joy of your master” *(Matt 25).*

As I think back on those with whom I have served when I was an active elder, I remember with fondness those who were faithful. They actually stick out in my mind. They may not have had great oratory skills, outstanding intellect, great debate skills, or whatever. But they were faithful in what they did, using faithfully the talents and gifts God had given them. The Bible has many examples of saints that have been faithful; some well known such as Joshua, Daniel, Isaiah, and Paul, but also lesser known who were faithful over little things and who would have long been forgotten had not their names been recorded in the Bible. In the same issue of *Table Talk*, there are listed many examples.
Do you remember, for example, Baruch? He was the faithful scribe of Jeremiah, taking care to record every jot and tittle that Jeremiah dictated to him. At times that work seemed fruitless. In fact you may remember that King Jehoiakim burned the scroll that Baruch had produced so painstakingly when it offended him and Baruch had to do it all again. You can read in Jeremiah 45 about the frustration and personal stress that Baruch felt in his task as the scribe of Jeremiah, yet the Lord gave him a great promise of life and recognized his faithfulness.

Do you remember that names of Shiphrah and Puah? (See Exodus 1:15–22) These are midwives who defied the king of Egypt and did not kill the males born to Hebrew women as ordered by the king and thus the people of Israel grew and became very strong. These women feared God and were faithful to him and God rewarded them.

There are many other examples of how God used the faithfulness of his people to build his kingdom. He is still doing this today. He continues to work out his purposes leading up to the consummation of his kingdom at the return of Jesus Christ. We do not need to be famous or great leaders in order to play an important role. We need to be faithful in the little things, in all things, that God had called us to do. And may it be so, brothers, that when Jesus returns and sees the work that you have done He may say, “Well done, good and faithful servant.”

Todd Bayley and Ted Jeffries, I charge you in the name of the Lord Jesus to be faithful to this your office, and may the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, rest upon you and abide with you always. Amen.
What’s Happening in the TBPC Women’s Ministry?

Women’s Ministry is off to a fast start this fall. The following are some of the highlights and schedules to add to your calendar.

- **The Women’s Ministry Presbytery-Wide Conference, “The Gospel Lens”,** will be Saturday, October 5, 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., led by Luchrysta Caswell and Ashley Bennett at Redeemer Presbyterian Church, PCA, 1520 W. Pipkin Rd, Lakeland, FL. Registration cost is $20. Suzanne Swenson is collecting the registration forms and checks made out to TBPC. One check will be sent from TBPC to cover all who are attending. We have four attending from TBPC so far.

- Women’s Ministry will host a **diaper drive for the Oasis Pregnancy Care Centers** from October 27 to November 3, 2019. Donated items can be left in the crib that will be in the office hallway. Contact Karen Cross with any questions at Karencross38@hotmail.com.

- **The Brunch Team’s planning meeting** will be held on Saturday, November 2, 2019 at Suzanne Swenson’s home. The purpose is to network with the hostesses and other team members, to answer questions, provide setup and menu details, and to learn what dishes the hostesses need to bring.

- **The Annual Women’s Ministry Christmas Brunch** will be held Saturday, December 2, 2019 in the Sanctuary at TBPC. Our speaker is Jan Brubaker, Clinical Manager for A Women’s Place, Clearwater. She has a Pregnancy Care Ministry. The theme for the breakfast is; Tamar, a Message of Hope. Jan’s husband, Bob, is Pastor of Christ Community Church (PCA).

Ladies, if you feel led to participate in any of the WM activities, we would love to have you join us at our WM15 meetings on the second Sunday of each month after worship service. There are always projects to work on including making ornaments, hosting a table, serving as sister-to-sister coordinator. Any of the men are welcome to step up and be our servers at the Christmas Brunch. Don’t hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.
Nursery Ministry
Marianne Cali

Reasons to Volunteer in The Nursery

❤️ It is fun, it is rewarding, and you get lots of hugs and wet kisses!

❤️ You will not miss worship—your act of service to God’s people is an act of worshipping God.

❤️ You will plant seeds of God’s love, and care for his children, that will bear fruit that you may never see.

❤️ It is the only place in church where you can sit in a rocker and read cardboard books during the service!

❤️ You will be helping babies and toddlers learn that their parents always return; that they can trust others to take care of them, just as God takes care of and loves us; and help them begin their socializing skills.

❤️ If you are over 40, you will mentor young parents and share your wisdom.

❤️ If you are under 40, you will meet others in the same place in life as you and will be able to share stories, make play dates, and make friends.
MISSIONS NEWS

By Karen Guest

Connecting TBPC to the mission field, both locally and globally, through prayer, sending, and support

TBPC Missions Committee meets on the first Tuesday of each month. Members are Martine Extermann, Karen Guest, Larry Hess, Ron Jorgensen, Melissa Noel, Lillian Ordahl, Christine Probes, John Schmidt, Carey Springer, and Richard Thompson. Pastor Freddy Fritz attends meetings as his schedule permits. At the August 6, 2019 meeting, Bert and Cheryl Barber, Mission to the World/Reformed University Fellowship in Bogota, Colombia, came to share highlights of their hospitality ministry with university students. They are back in Tampa to help James and Jena Barber through her health crisis. They plan to be back in Bogota mid-September for a major student retreat in October. They have asked for prayer for decisions they will be making concerning the future of their ministry and for Jena’s health.

2020 Missions Conference will be February 21-23, 2020, and the keynote speaker is Rev. Brett Carl, Missions Pastor at Westminster Reformed Presbyterian Church, Suffolk, Virginia. Several years ago, Brett was keynote speaker; some of you may remember him. In 1994, he graduated from Hillsdale College with a B.A. in Christian Studies and minor in Music. At Hillsdale, he was involved with InterVarsity Christian Fellowship and led Bible studies. In 1997, he graduated from Reformed Theological Seminary in Orlando with a Master of Divinity with an emphasis in Biblical Studies. After seminary, he served at Eastern Shore Presbyterian Church as youth director. Since 1999, he has been at Westminster and currently is the Missions Pastor. Mark your calendars for February 21-23, 2020 so you won’t miss out on a great weekend devoted to missions.

Formation of a new Presbytery in Haiti. At Rev. Esaie Etienne’s request, Pastor Freddy will go to Gonaives, Haiti, September 19-20, 2020, for the Presbytery Organization Meeting, a Board meeting, and to provide training on how to serve as a Stated Clerk. The launch of this new Presbytery is a significant event in the life of the three Reformed ministries in Haiti. God has blessed Esaie’s efforts in planting three churches with a fourth church plant starting this year and the Christian primary school in Gonaives. Esaie is founder of Living Stone Reformed Mission under the umbrella of Mission to the World as a holistic ministry of the Church of Haiti.

Operation Christmas Child is part of Franklin Graham’s Samaritan’s Purse ministry. The Missions Committee and Children’s Ministry led by Christy Almonte are partnering this fall to bring this “shoebox” project to our church family. Since 1963, over 100 million children in over 130 countries have experienced God’s love through the power of simple shoebox gifts from Operation Christmas Child. This is an outreach event to share the gospel with children who receive the shoeboxes, and an opportunity for our children to give a gift without receiving one in return. Plans are underway to work out logistics and involve everyone this fall.
MISSIONS NEWS
By Karen Guest

Connecting TBPC to the mission field, both locally and globally, through prayer, sending, and support

Prayer for our missionaries is vital. Please refer to the 2019 Kingdom DNA booklet you received at our February 2019 missions conference. Additional booklets are in the Narthex. To find out what our missionaries are facing in their daily lives so you can pray more effectively for them and their ministries, please refer to the weekly Intercessor inserted in the worship bulletin.
NTCA is excited about our 24th year as a ministry of Tampa Bay Presbyterian Church.

If you would like to be a part of this wonderful ministry, please feel free to contact Morgan Uhl at director@ntcafamily.org or at 813-973-2443.
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6
6:30 P.M.: FRIDAY FAMILY FUN NIGHT

Join us the first Friday of every month for a meal, prayer, family focused devotional activities, and fun! Open to everyone! Families with children are highly encouraged to attend. Great opportunities for volunteers are available for games, crafts, and food setup. Please write “FFF” on your Welcome Card so we can prepare appropriately. If you are interested in helping or have questions, please contact Christy Almonte (813-484-9771).
The Music Ministry is in need of additional committed Worship Choir participants, musicians, soundboard, and audiovisual help.

“Sing praises to the Lord, O you his saints, and give thanks to his holy name” (Psalms 30:4).
**Happening in September**

**Sunday, September 1, 9:15 a.m. Adult Bible Fellowship (ABF) and Youth and Children’s Sunday School Begin.** Everyone is encouraged to attend a class on Sunday mornings.

**Sunday, September 1, 9:15 a.m. Leadership Class.** Using the Scriptures, the *Westminster Confession of Faith* and the *PCA Book of Church Order*, this class will help all those interested in further developing their skills for ministry leadership. Anyone is invited to join this class. Any man who is interested in becoming a Deacon or Ruling Elder will need to complete this class. If you are interested in taking the class please write “Leadership Class” on our Welcome Card. This class will run for one year. For more information please see Pastor Freddy.

**Friday, September 6, 6:30 p.m. Friday Family Fun Night.** Join us the first Friday of every month for a meal, prayer, family focused devotional activities, and fun! Open to everyone! Families with children are highly encouraged to attend. Great opportunities for volunteers are available for games, crafts, and food setup. If you are interested in helping or have questions, please contact Christy Almonte (813-484-9771).

**Saturday, September 7, 7:45 a.m. Men’s Bible Study.** All men are invited to attend each Saturday morning. The current study is about to conclude a study on Genesis. Dr. Jeff Beams is the teacher. Questions? Talk to Jeff Beams. Please write “Men’s Bible Study” on the Welcome Card if interested.

**Saturday, September 7, 7:45 a.m. Discipleship Explored.** All men are invited to participate in Discipleship Explored, which helps followers of Jesus turn up the gospel soundtrack to their lives. It goes beyond simple teach the right moves—go to church, pray, read the Bible, share the gospel—and focuses on the music which drives discipleship: the love of Christ. The greatest love anyone can ever know. Join Pastor Fritz for an informational session on Saturday, September 7. Write “Discipleship Explored” on your Welcome Card if interested.

**Sunday, September 8, 5:00 p.m. Simple Soup Supper for Sunday Seconds.** Join us for soup, bread, and dessert prior to the evening worship service. Please RSVP in advance by sending an email to Lesley Schmidt at jrlks92@yahoo.com, or completing a pew card, by June 2. Please let us know the number of adults and children in your party (kid-friendly options can be made available.)

**Sunday, September 8, 6:00 p.m. Evening Worship Service.** Please plan to attend. The sermon title is, “Timothy and Epaphroditus.” We would love to see you there. Childcare is provided.
### September Birthdays

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<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Anthony Hunter</td>
<td>September 03</td>
<td>Violet Nickoloff</td>
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<td>Chloe Darbyshire</td>
<td>September 04</td>
<td>Brett Thomas</td>
<td>September 17</td>
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<td>September 04</td>
<td>Charles Vander Ploeg</td>
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<td>Ken Matlack</td>
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### September Anniversaries

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<td>Roy &amp; Stephanie Riley</td>
<td>September 06, 1969</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gary &amp; Pat Smith</td>
<td>September 06, 1969</td>
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<tr>
<td>Waldo &amp; Ashleigh Kemp</td>
<td>September 10, 2005</td>
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Trumpet Staff

Rev. Freddy Fritz, Editor-in-Chief
Andrea L. Proctor, Co-editor

It is the goal of the Trumpet staff to provide articles for learning and growing, news for connecting with our church family, and information on opportunities for service and participation. The views and opinions expressed in the Trumpet have not been reviewed or endorsed by the Session.

Please forward articles, pictures, ministry reports, and calendar items for the next edition of the Trumpet to andreaproctor@tcforce.com by the 20th of the month preceding publication.