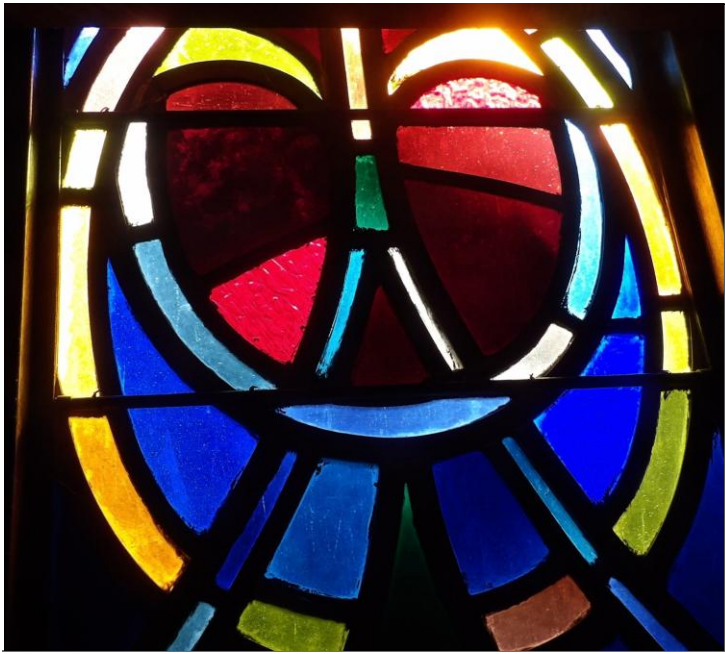




TRYON TRUMPET

Tryon Presbyterian Church

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

430 Harmon Field Road

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Shepherd Ministry serves the 'flock'

Shepherd Ministry is coming to Tryon Presbyterian Church November 1.

This initiative focuses on nurturing and caring for the people in our congregation. All who are part of our church, regardless of membership, are invited to find connection, comfort, compassion, friendship and fellowship with other followers of Christ.

All are welcomed to be part of this ministry as either shepherds or as part of a "flock" – the group the shepherd will be entrusted to care for.

This ministry provides a means for shepherds, ministers and staff to be attentive and responsive to the immediate and long-term pastoral care needs of our congregation.

Above all, our goal and hope is to always be mindful of the needs of our congregation and community and to share the light and love of Christ with all.

(See SHEPHERD, Page 2)



Questions? Ask Gail Muir, Lynnette Sills or Bonnie Sakos.

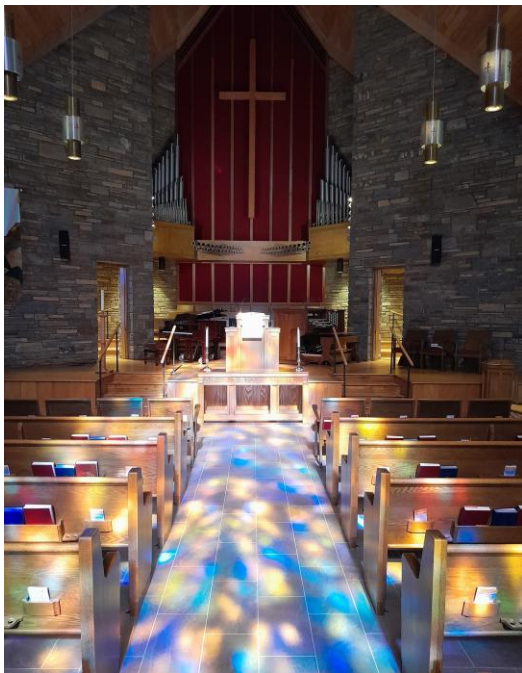
(From SHEPHERD, Page 1)

You can participate in one of two ways.

As a shepherd

You will take responsibility for a flock, which may consist of just one or two people or as many as six. That will be up to each shepherd, who then commits to making regular contact with each member of the flock. That would be at least once per quarter – but more often if requested.

The contact could happen through phone calls, cards, notes, emails, texts or visits when needed or appropriate. The shepherd should establish a rapport with each flock member and become a listening ear or kind presence as needed, being respectful and sensitive to private or confidential information shared. Of course, worship and church fellowship events provide good opportunities for strengthening relationships.



With permission, the shepherd should share pastoral care needs and concerns with the pastor, other staff members or the congregation. Hospital stays, emergency care, illnesses, the death of a loved one, or a need for in-person visits are some of the things a shepherd could pass on to ensure appropriate responses.

Shepherds will not offer personal counseling but can make referrals to the pastor if that may be needed.

The flock

Everyone is invited to be in one of the groups we call a “flock.” You don’t have to be a member of the church to be included.

If you would prefer not to be part of a flock, please let us know and we will honor that request. No explanation is necessary. A shepherd will still pray for you, but you will not be contacted.

Also know that should you need pastoral care of any type, you do not have to be part of a flock to ask for or receive that from the pastor or the congregation. It will always be an honor to be present for anyone in our congregation to offer care in whatever ways we might do that.

Shepherd Ministry will not replace care provided by the pastor.

Next steps

Prayerfully consider becoming a shepherd. Training will be held September 28, 29 and 30.

Pray for ways we all can support and care for one another as a congregation.

For more information, contact Bonnie Sakos (908-963-5494, Bonniesakos@yahoo.com), Gail Muir (828-859-2857, gaildmuir@yahoo.com) or Lynnette Sills (828-712-7119, Lrj.sills52@gmail.com).

The Shepherd Ministry is undergirded by scriptural imperative. Jesus said, “A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another” (John 13:34-35).

The way to God goes through Jesus

A week or so ago, I heard someone say they found John 14:1-14 the most secure passage in John's Gospel. It brings a sense of security and stability. One would think that every living soul would seek this feeling, but to look at humanity, that doesn't seem to be the case.

Jesus said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled, believe in God, believe also in me." Therein lies the problem for so many people. Notice Jesus doesn't stop with mentioning just his father, he also adds himself to the mix. This is an important point to the whole passage. "Believe also in me," Jesus said. In other words, if you want to get to the Father, if you want to get to God, the only way is through Jesus, belief in Jesus!



He continues, "If it were not so, would I have told you that I go and prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also."

For many people, the questions from Thomas and from Philip are very welcome. Thomas has no idea where Jesus is going, and Philip wants Jesus to show him the Father. These men have been with Jesus for three years, listened to his teaching, seen his signs and wonders, but they seem to be perplexed. Then Jesus tells the disciples, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ... If you know me, you will know the Father."

For many people, there has to be more, and there is when one comes to believe!

At this point, I humbly bow to C.S. Lewis and his "Mere Christianity" on what happens when Christ enters our lives: "Imagine yourself as a living house. God comes in to rebuild that house. At first, perhaps, you can understand what He is doing. He is getting the drains right and stopping the leaks in the roof and so on; you knew that these jobs needed doing and so you are not surprised. But presently He starts knocking the house about in a way that hurts abominably and does not seem to make any sense. What on earth is He up to? The explanation is that He is building quite a different house from the one you thought of, throwing out a new wing here, putting on an extra floor there, running up towers, making courtyards. You thought you were being made into a decent little cottage: but He is building a palace. He intends to come and live in it Himself."

Quite frankly, John ends this passage with Jesus' response to "rebuilding of each believer" with verses 12-14. "Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."

Praise be to God through our Lord Jesus Christ!

By Rev. Mary A. Potter

Cookout honors those who keep us safe

A year ago, our Fellowship and Cook teams held a 9/11 cookout at Harmon Field in honor of local first-responders, several of whom attended.



Ken Shull and others will cook at church this year.

Now, we have more reason to thank those who help keep us safe. This year's 9/11 meal will express our appreciation for first responders, including all those who worked so hard after Hurricane Helene and the wildfires.

Marking how things have changed here, it's not possible to have the cookout at Harmon Field this year as the picnic shelter was destroyed by the raging Pacolet River. Instead, it will be at the church.

Please make your reservations to attend on Thursday, September 11, at 5:30 p.m. The cost is \$8 for individuals ages 12 and up and \$1 for

younger children. The dinner will feature hamburgers and a whole lot more.

Remember, it's a fellowship event – so no takeouts!

Sunday School returns with breakfast

September 7 brings the start of our new Sunday School year with breakfast at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is welcome. It will feature a group lesson for all ages. Director of Children's Ministry Amy McGrath plans a similar Sunday School menu for the first Sunday of the next few months.

At the same time, there's still a need for more adult volunteers to lead Sunday School classes and to help supervise Children's Church, the 50 minutes or so from the end of Time with Young Disciples until the close of worship. This can be as much fun for adults as for the kids!

Children's Church volunteers can choose to help just once, or more often. Sunday School leaders make a longer commitment, but Amy will provide training and the curriculum. Please contact her at

childrensministry.tpc@gmail.com if you can help with any activity.



Please help care for our children during church.

Children's choir will reach beyond just our church

Our new children's choir is open to children from the community, so invite your friends and neighbors who have kids and grandkids!

"It is my hope and vision to grow the children's choir to be a light and voice for our wonderful community," Jane Wilson says.

After holding the position of interim music director and organist for just a few weeks, Jane was selected last month to remain in that role. Her official installation will be September 21.

Choir practices, which began September 2, will be held every Tuesday from 4 to 5 p.m.

"There will be singing, movement and bell/chime ringing, all with positive reinforcement, team building, joyful learning, exploration and fun," Jane says.

This is part of our overall outreach to the community, as well as a wonderful opportunity for our own children to learn more about music and add their angelic voices to worship.

In addition to her rich experience in church music leadership, Jane earned a K-12 music education certification at East Carolina University and has taught in public and private schools. She was a hit with the children during our one-day Vacation Bible School this summer. She is very excited about this initiative.

"To God be the glory for new beginnings and blessings from above," she declares.



The children enjoyed music time during Vacation Bible School.



'It is my hope and vision to grow the children's choir to be a light and voice for our wonderful community,' Jane Wilson says.

Gloria and Gayle sing at Norwich

Our Gloria Underwood and Gayle Casterline were among a group of Tryon singers who filled in for a week at the venerable Norwich Cathedral in Norwich, England, August 25-31.

Most of the group came from the Episcopal Church of the Holy Cross. "We get to be the choir in residence this week in Norwich, singing daily evensong and Sunday Eucharist while the cathedral choir is off for the summer," Brennan Szafron, Director of Music for Holy Cross, shared on Facebook.

Brennan served as organist, and the guest conductor was Dr. Matthew Moquin-Lee of Xavier University in Cincinnati.

[Norwich Cathedral](#) is "the most complete Norman Cathedral in England and one of the finest examples of Romanesque architecture in Europe," according to [Visit Norfolk](#). "Founded in 1096, Norwich Cathedral has welcomed visitors and pilgrims for over 900 years and continues to adapt its founding principles, offering a welcoming place to all who visit. The Cathedral boasts the highest Norman tower and largest monastic cloister in England and is home to a renowned and famous collection of over 1,000 medieval roof carvings and a selection of original Norman wall paintings.

"Very much a living building, Norwich Cathedral hosts 1,500 services a year as well a variety of events, and you can discover over 900 years of history and learn about how the Cathedral survived riot, war, plague and fire."

"It was an amazing experience!" Gayle said about the week there. "The Norwich Cathedral has such a rich history! Nine hundred years of religious activity! Our group bonded quickly around the music and the spiritual environment. Life-changing. In the words of St. Julian of Norwich, 'All will be well.'"

The sound inside the structure was "remarkable," Gloria said. "We have to sing more slowly to allow sound to ramble around before it dissipates."

A recording of the August 31 Eucharist service can be viewed [here](#). That day's Evensong can be seen [here](#).



Top: The Tryon group. Above: Gayle and Gloria in Norwich Cathedral.

High Tea will be a great pleasure for Cheryl Spencer and participants

You know that the Presbyterian Women will present “Brewing Love at High Tea” on Sunday, October 6, from 3 to 5 p.m. But do you know exactly what is High Tea?

Cheryl Spencer will show you.

This is the first High Tea for our PW, and some were a little nervous because, well, they’ve never done High Tea.

“I’m not nervous about it,” Cheryl said. “I’ve done it a lot. It will be my great pleasure.”

And yours, because it is more than drinking tea, according to Cheryl. It’s a social gathering, a time for taking a break from the cares of the day, for relaxation and conversation.

And dressing up a bit. It’s drinking tea with a hat.

Cheryl cited Laura’s Tea Room in Ridgeway, S.C., where patrons choose a tea cup and a hat when they come in.

OK, you don’t have to wear a hat to High Tea but, you know, the queen did.



Cheryl Spencer is High Tea adviser for the PW.



Laura's Tea Room in Ridgeway, S.C.

Cheryl didn’t become a devotee of High Tea at the queen’s elbow but in Columbia, S.C., where she and Ed lived for many years before moving to Saluda. Cheryl ran a Montessori school and employed many teachers from India and Sri Lanka, where the Montessori method of education has been long established and where tea is grown and consumed in quantity and often in style. The teachers began an occasional practice of Afternoon Tea at school.

Cheryl enjoyed it so much that she began to put on teas to raise money for nonprofit organizations, and she continued to do so

after moving here. For three years, her teas raised thousands of dollars for Thrive, a mental health and housing nonprofit that serves clients in Polk, Henderson and Rutherford counties.

Our High Tea is a fundraiser, too. Proceeds will benefit Thermal Belt Outreach, Steps to HOPE, Black Mountain Home for Children and Families, Sunny View Elementary School and the Guatemala Women’s Microloan

(See HIGH TEA on Page 8)

(From HIGH TEA on Page 7)

Program. The cost is \$25 per person or \$150 for a table of six. Attendance is limited to 60 because “for 60 people you have to have 12 pots of tea going all the time,” Cheryl said.

She expects to have help with that.

There’s food, too – which distinguishes High Tea from just tea. Small sandwiches, scones and jam, sweets – lots of sweets. All homemade. Gluten-free options will be available.

Cheryl serves on our Fellowship Committee, so fellowship is one of the goals of Brewing Love at High Tea. And the money raised will demonstrate love for neighbors through the organizations that do so much good work. Participants can do all that while enjoying a lovely late afternoon of High Tea.

TPC continues partnership with Sunny View school

Carolyn Thompson of our Missions Committee writes:

“This year, TPC has helped our partner school, Sunny View Elementary, in so many wonderful ways. The Presbyterian Women gave a donation for science projects, our members generously donated school supplies, and the Missions Committee bought two computer programs.”

“Your contributions have made a meaningful difference in our classrooms and in the lives of our students,” Principal Preston Allen wrote to our church. “With limited school funding, we rely on the support of our community partners like you to help us maintain and expand these essential programs. We are grateful for your partnership and continued commitment to education in our community.”



Preston Allen, principal of Sunny View Elementary School, visited TPC last month to pick up donated supplies. Carolyn Thompson of our Missions Committee led the effort and is a volunteer tutor at the school. The Presbyterian Women also made a donation to our partner school. In addition, some of the proceeds from its High Tea will go to Sunny View.

Glory Girls study looks at friendships

Don’t forget Sunday, September 14, at 5 p.m. That’s when The Glory Girls circle begins an inspiring and fun women’s Bible study based on “Why We Need Girlfriends” by Frankie Sherman. This uplifting study dives into the power of godly friendships and the joy that comes from doing life together.

Bring a friend and come ready to be strengthened and encouraged in your walk with Christ. The study will continue the second Sunday of each month. For details or to sign up, call Terri Hendrix at 864-381-1180.

Our church makes advances in accessibility and inclusion

In early 2023, I was asked to chair the Disability Accessibility and Inclusion Task Force with the goal of evaluating the church campus, programs and worship to make recommendations and ensure Tryon Presbyterian is welcoming and inclusive to all. I was joined by a passionate and caring group of church members who inspired me and worked lovingly to make sure our church set a new standard of inclusiveness. We did an audit of the church campus, raised awareness with church staff, elders and members, invited speakers to help us learn, and championed projects that included accessibility.



Susan Woodcock

At our last meeting on August 12, the DA&I Task Force voted to discontinue meeting. Our work is finished, but we will still be available to consult as needed. We happily realized that the Tryon Presbyterian of today is a church that embraces accessibility and inclusion when planning projects, and with fellowship, worship and outreach. What a joy to see this in action!

Disability, accessibility and inclusion should not be something extraordinary. The church is one place where people should feel welcomed and experience belonging. Our differences are what God planned for us.

Thank you to everyone who makes Tryon Presbyterian Church a welcoming community of faith and my personal thank you to Rev. Allan Purtil and the members of the DA&I Task Force: MaryAnn Sloan, Secretary; Jon Austin, Doug Clark, Lynette Fisher, Amy McGrath, Ken Shull, Sandy Sibley and Gloria Underwood.

"Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good" (1 Corinthians 12:4–7, NSRV.)

By Susan Woodcock

DA&I Sunday

TPC's third annual Disability, Accessibility & Inclusion Sunday will be September 14. Don't miss the special worship service!



Sarah Quinn Montjoy spoke here about accessibility and awareness issues in June.

TPC supports class for neighbors with Parkinson's

The class that meets Wednesday mornings in the Pavilion of the Tryon Fine Arts Center resembles ballet training, with the instructor modeling graceful arm and leg movements and precise dance steps.



Susan Woodham leads the class.

But the participants aren't practicing for the stage. They are working to meet the challenges of Parkinson's disease.

"It's like medicine," said participant Allan Kroland, who's been living with Parkinson's for 26 years. "It works to stretch the muscles and loosen the joints."

With Parkinson's, Allan added, it is essential to keep moving.

Susan Woodham leads movement with purpose, helping participants maintain as much strength, flexibility and balance as they can through these classes. A retired ballet dancer and teacher, she has found a new use for her talents, receiving training from the Mark Morris Dance Group and the Brooklyn Parkinson's group in New York. She works through the South Carolina Arts Commission.

Our Missions Committee learned about the program at TFAC and decided to support it with a \$1,000 donation.

In a class last week, Susan introduced a series of exercises, accompanied by recorded music selected to complement the movements. She is a gentle taskmaster. When the class mimics pedaling a bicycle, she laughs: "That was hard. I fell off my bicycle."

Asking participants to extend a leg she urges, "Touch your ankle, or knee, or wherever you can go."

Everyone is seated for most of the hourlong class, but participants stand for a few exercises if they can. "If you feel like you're going to fall, you can grab a chair," Susan says.

The class meets at 9:30 Wednesdays and is open to caregivers as well as people living with Parkinson's or other conditions. There is no cost, and no one has to sign up in advance. Everyone expressed gratitude for TPC's support.

By Doug Clark



The class is 'medicine,' one participant says.

TPC history

Roy Taylor served TPC and four other churches

Roy Dail Taylor preached his first sermon in our church on February 5, 1967. He was just 32 years old, one of our youngest ministers. He and his wife, Carol, a Registered Nurse, welcomed their third child here later that year.

Roy died at 86 in Taylors, S.C., a small town between Greer and his hometown of Greenville, on March 23, 2021. His obituary said he served five churches during a 45-year career in ministry, "bringing with him a love and sense of caring for others that endeared him to each church family." He retired in 2004. He was survived by Carol, three daughters, two grandsons and three great-grandchildren.



Roy Taylor in Tryon, and much later in life.

Roy was called to Tryon from Bunnlevel, N.C., in Harnett County, where he served two churches: Bunnlevel Presbyterian and Flat Branch Presbyterian. He succeeded Rev. H. Sidney Maxwell.

Roy accepted a call in late 1970 to Berryville Presbyterian Church in Berryville, Virginia. During his relatively short tenure in Tryon, our church membership increased from 183 to 196; our first women deacons were elected, ordained and installed; a new manse was built and the old manse sold; and a rededication of the sanctuary was held.

We are thankful for Roy Taylor's service to our church and his life in ministry.

Now, for next month: Who is this, and where in the church can you find this bust?



The Tryon Trumpet

The Trumpet is a publication of Tryon Presbyterian Church and its Membership Committee, chaired by Rennie Habel. Editor is Doug Clark (dougclark55@gmail.com). Thanks for help with this edition goes to Mary Potter, MaryAnn Sloan, Susan Woodcock, Cheryl Spencer, Gayle Casterline, Gloria Underwood, Carolyn Thompson, Amy McGrath, Jane Wilson, Wes Elam, Allan Purtill, Kim McPherson, Brennan Szafron, Laura's Tea Room, the Presbytery of Western North Carolina and the contributors to our postcards from summer feature.

Presbytery news

Visit Microloan participants in Guatemala

The Microloan Task Force is planning its next delegation trip to Guatemala in January. Trip participants will spend time with the microloan staff and visit microloan groups and some of their businesses. The group will also learn about Guatemalan history, culture and geography. The cost is \$1,800 per person, which includes accommodations, transportation, airfare and meals. It does not cover personal preparation expenses, such as passports and immunizations.

Past participants found the experience both meaningful and inspiring. The visits are also incredibly uplifting for the Microloan staff and participants, who deeply appreciate our support. If you are interested but the dates or costs don't work for you, or if you have any questions, contact Susan Maveety at susan.maveety@gmail.com.



Presbytery's PW Fall Gathering set for October 25

The Presbytery of Western North Carolina PW Fall Gathering will take place on October 25 at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Hendersonville. This is an inspiring and enjoyable event with meaningful workshops planned. It will include updates on the Microloan Project. Alternative Giving cards and note cards will be available for individual use or to take to share with your church or PW group. For more information on the Fall Gathering, contact Corise Gambrell at corisegambrell@gmail.com.

Black Mountain PC marks Helene anniversary

On the first anniversary of Helene's arrival in Western North Carolina, Black Mountain Presbyterian Church will present a forum focused on climate change, its part in intensifying storms and the impact on resources, property and the people who face them head-on. They will examine how the damage and continued lack of resources can increase disparities that already exist, as we've seen in WNC.

The September 27 forum is free, but it's requested that attendees register their intent. They can register by email at earthcare@bmpcnc.org, at the church office at 117 Montreat Road in Black Mountain, by calling the church at (828) 669-2725, or [here](#).

Doors open at 3 p.m., with the speakers available to sign their respective books. Members of the church's Presbyterian Women and the Earth Care Team will be available with information and resources on environmental concerns and social justice. At 4 p.m. the forum begins, with the Rev. Dr. Patricia Tull and Rev. Rebecca Barnes speaking. Both women are leaders in the environmental and justice ministries of the Presbyterian Church (USA). Dr. Mallory McDuff, Warren Wilson College professor and author, will moderate.

Following the forum, attendees can enjoy free food and music on the church patio.

Our postcards from summer



Clockwise from top right: Hank and Sandy Sibley at the Cliffs of Moher in Ireland; Steve and Rennie Habel at June Farms in West Sand Lake, New York; Jane Wilson with her family at Montreat; Linda Schutter cruised down the Ohio River, stopping in Pittsburgh, where she took this photo of that city's [First Presbyterian Church](#).



Clockwise from top: Jacque Headden in the Yadkin Valley wine district; singers at the 174th Siler Family Meeting in Franklin, attended by MaryAnn Sloan and Skip Taylor (photo by Bob Scott); Ken and Heidi Shull and Martin and Janet Gilchrist traveled to Calgary, Canada, for the Rotary International Convention and also visited Glacier National Park in Montana; Charlie and Susan Speight saluted the beans at the Camp Skyuka Fourth of July celebration.



Top left: Ed and Petra Harrelson visited Blarney Castle during their tour of Ireland. Top right: Our Garden of Feedin' enjoyed a productive summer. Above: Doug Clark and his granddaughter, Isabel, took in a grand view from the Ferris wheel during the Fabulous Fourth of July in Columbus.

In and around Tryon Presbyterian



This page and next: Charlie and Susan Speight hosted the Back to School Bash at Camp Skyuka August 17. As you can see, everyone had a great time!





Top left: The Fellowship Committee and Cook Team provided a summer salad feast August 13. Top right: The congregation commissioned James Purtil for college August 17. And parents Jenny and Allan, too! Above left and right: The Memorial Garden patio is refreshed. Left: Coleston Meyer wanted to sit with "Mr. Charlie" in church.