



The Looking Tree

Love lives here, Love flows from here...

August 2015

Hello Members and Friends of Head of Christiana,



Rev. Bob Undercuffler
Pastor

In the spring of 2012 Head of Christiana embarked on a grace-filled journey with Kate LeFranc. It began in April as Kate became our one-Sunday-a-month guest preacher. Then as the relationship developed and her gifts were recognized, in September 2012 Kate was employed as Outreach Associate. Then we walked with Kate through her Ordination, and so in October 2014 she was **Called** and **Installed** as our Associate pastor.

Now, as Kate enters a new chapter in her life, moves to Berkeley, California and reenters the world of academia, I am particularly drawn to her affirmation ... *"I am not leaving ministry in order to do theology; I am doing theological work in order to preach and teach a more complete and understandable gospel, especially to people who have been uncomfortable with the messages they have gotten from the church so far."* *"I also know that my work is not just academic, and I am still a pastor at heart. I love preaching in particular..."*

I have heard a seasoned and wise member of Head of Christiana testify, *"I have disagreed with Kate on many occasions, at times vehemently, but always it resulted in a respectful conversation, and, I believe, growth for both of us."* That is, I believe, a consequence of Kate's mental brilliance, theological acumen and her pastoral heart.

I value the opportunity I have had to share these three years of ministry with Kate LeFranc.



So what is next for Bob Undercuffler with Head of Christiana?

I presented to Session four areas of focus for our advance in casting our nets for catching. I since — by popular demand — have added a fifth:

- Grow and deepen partnerships with Girl Scouts. Possibly initiate activity with Boy Scouts.
- Develop helping engagements with Downes Elementary School staff, parents, and children.
- Expand our music ministries: With HoC as a lovely venue and performing place, appealing to UD students as well as area High Schools, and younger students; to grow the adult choir; to figure out how to gather children for singing.
- Recognize the Trail Race and Family Walk as the hub for a variety of Fitness/Wellness activities.
- To maintain the pace in staging events for the community, such as hosting the Newark Community Band, our **End of Summer Fund Fest on August 29th**, the Brandywine Harp Orchestra, Handbell Choirs, etc.

I believe that what I have described above is our best way forward. Not simply for surviving, but living. And in the fullness of time, thriving.

Grace to you and peace,

Bob

MISSION DISCOVERY DAYS

Betsy VanCulin

A picture is worth a thousand words...

Thursday, July 9th



Pot Luck Supper — Yum!



A game of toss



Bible Study — “Salt of the Earth, Light of the World” (Matthew 5:13-16)



Brendan and Landon, our youngest participants.



Adult Bible Study



A picture is worth a thousand words...

Thursday, July 9th



Making beautiful stained glass windows



Sophia and Annabelle anxiously awaiting Charades



Charades — Words and phrases from our Bible Study



Charades from Bible Study

A picture is worth a thousand words...

Friday, July 10th



Hope Dining Room servers



Hope Dining Room



Hope Dining Room Helpers



Making hand prints — Hands showing the "good works" (Ephesians 2:10)



Finished stained glass pictures



Bible Study with Becky — Jesus washes the disciples' feet



Washing the feet of followers



Washing the feet of followers

MISSION DISCOVERY DAYS

Betsy VanCulin

A picture is worth a thousand words...

Friday, July 10th



Everyone gets a turn...



A nice meal after a fun day



Yippee!!! S'mores!!!



Yum!!!



The morning after...

BLUE ROCKS TICKETS

Mark Mankin

Tickets are still on sale for our trip to go see the Wilmington Blue Rocks play against the Potomac Nationals on **Tuesday, August 18th**.

Tickets cost \$20.00 per person and includes light snacks and beverages. The game starts at 6:35pm. Please make your checks payable to Head of Christiana Presbyterian Church (note "Blue Rocks tickets" in the memo line).

Contact Mark Mankin at mankin579@comcast.net to reserve your tickets, or talk to him at church. First come, first served.



GETTING TO KNOW YOU

Meet Brian Huffman

I was raised in the outskirts of York, Pennsylvania. My mother was a librarian at West York Area High School and my father was a union sheet metal worker at a local mechanical contracting company. He also owned and operated a mobile home park, and prior to that owned and operated a residential construction company. You could say he was a jack-of-all-trades.

Most days after school I helped my dad at the mobile home park - mowing grass, fixing equipment, even operating the back hoe or front loader. I remember him saying that I started driving at the age of 5. I'm not exactly sure of the age, but I know I was young. When I wasn't helping my dad, I was probably playing outside with my best friend Dave who lived down the street - riding our bikes, playing in the creek or just exploring.

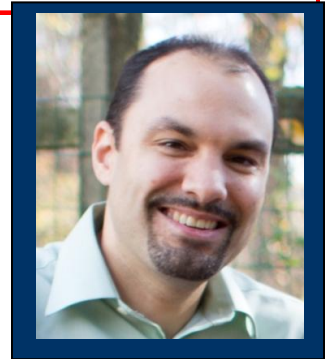
I believe it was towards the end of elementary school when my dad decided I should have a computer - a Commodore 128. I spent more time playing games than anything else, but this was the start of my love of technology. It was a combination of my interest in electronics and technology and the fact that I had an uncle who was an electrical engineer that led me to enter the engineering program at the University of Delaware. I graduated from U of D in 1996 with a bachelor of science in electrical engineering with a concentration in computer engineering (they didn't have a computer engineering degree at the time).

While I do work with computers, I don't play any part in designing / building them. Generally speaking, as a system administrator I install and configure new computer servers, perform upgrades to existing systems and troubleshoot problems. Almost all companies use computers today, so I've had the opportunity to work in an array of different industries: finance, pharmaceuticals and software development. Most recently I started working at DuPont as a system administrator for their central R&D group.

Shortly after I had graduated from U of D, on a whim I decided to take a ballroom dancing class. It didn't take long for me to get sucked into the competitive ballroom dance world. I competed for the U of D ballroom team for about 5 years. It was during this time that I met Linda at a competition in Rhode Island. She was there as a member of Purdue University's team and as I was dancing, I saw her on the side-lines cheering for me and my dance partner. After that dance, I went to thank her for cheering and the rest, as they say, is history.

We had both been away from the church for a while, but shortly before the birth of Annabelle, Linda and I started looking. We settled on Pencader due to the location and the rich heritage. I enjoyed the small congregation and the historical building. Unfortunately with Pencader's closing in 2012, we again were searching for a church. After visiting both Elkton Presbyterian and Head of Christiana, I was again drawn to the smaller congregation. We both enjoy the close-knit community that is Head of Christiana.

Note: Brian currently serves as chair of our Mission Commission.

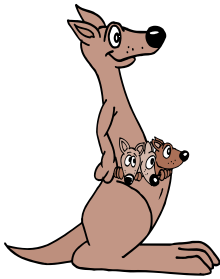


CARE AND FELLOWSHIP COMMISSION

Jeanne Hastings

We're requesting a few minutes be taken by any individual, group, or commission that leaves food, paper products, or other items in the kitchen, to please write a note to the Care and Fellowship Commission explaining what they were used for and if the items left in the kitchenette can be considered "contributions" available for use by other groups on upcoming occasions as needed. This way we can incorporate your "contribution" into our inventory, which will help keep our kitchenette organized and well stocked.

Thank you!



THE "HOP" EVENT

TYLER ARBORETUM

Alex Oakes, HOP Event Coordinator, Outreach Commission Chair

"Hoppy"

It's often amazing what you'll often find "right under your nose" as the old saying goes. Only about a 40 minute drive from Newark, and 30 minutes from Philadelphia in Media, PA, in the heart of Delaware County, you'll discover Tyler Arboretum, a 650 acre preserve of renowned plant collections, champion trees, historic buildings and 17 miles of hiking trails through woodland, wetlands and meadows. The HOPs took a far shorter hike, but got a nice taste of what this amazing place holds in store, including several whimsical buildings for the amusement of the "younger set." Ummm...are those really "eggs" they are sitting on????



Many of us carried umbrellas, but we never needed them. It turned out to be a beautiful June day that gave us plenty to talk about at the La Porta Restaurant.

Note: We apologize for having to cancel the July HOP trip to Landis Valley due to insufficient interest. On August 11 we're planning to visit Nemours Mansion and Gardens, and we hope you'll plan to join us. It should be a great trip!

End-of-Summer Fun Fest @ HoC

Saturday, August 29th

1:00pm til 4:00pm

**1100 W. Church Rd.
Newark**



For Kids and Adults...

**Genuine Fire Truck
Antique Automobiles**



New Castle County Mounted Police (tentative)

Puppeteer, Jack Foreaker (2 to 3pm)

Moo Mobile!

Fun for Everyone...Join us!!!



**Bring
family and
friends!!!**



**Y'all
come!!!**

HOC CALENDAR — August Happenings

Save
the
Date

Sunday	Aug	2	10:00am 12:00pm	Pastor Kate's last Sunday here Coffee Hour to honor Kate
Monday	Aug	3	7:00pm	Admin & Finance Commission
Tuesday	Aug	4	6:00pm	Mission Commission
Tuesday	Aug	4	6:30pm	Girl Scout "Summer Sampler"
Wednesday	Aug	5	11:00am	Outreach Commission
Wednesday	Aug	5	1:00pm	Worship Commission
Sunday	Aug	9	12:00pm	Luncheon for Lindsay
Tuesday	Aug	11	8:30am	HOP trip to Nemours
Tuesday	Aug	11		NEWSLETTER DEADLINE (for Sept.)
Friday	Aug	14	12:00pm	Hope Dining Room
Tuesday	Aug	18	7:00pm	Blue Rocks Game
Wednesday	Aug	26	11:30am	Nifty-Wifty @ Wesley's
Saturday	Aug	29	1-4pm	End of Summer Fun Fest @ HoC





Contact Steve Graham at (302) 368-3794 to schedule an appointment. This is a free service for Head of Christiana members.

August Birthdays

Happy
birtHDay
may your wish
come true

Aug 5	Charlotte Dudkewitz	Aug 15	Vanessa Marianiello
Aug 7	Ed Crispin	Aug 17	Jeff Gillespie
Aug 7	Becky Taber	Aug 17	Audrey Harper
Aug 8	Bob Benedict	Aug 23	Brian Huffman
Aug 8	Alex Oakes	Aug 27	Ruth Stafford
Aug 11	Christopher Sutton	Aug 31	Mims Hildabrant
Aug 13	Jim Kniskern		