

WEEKLY SPOTLIGHT

May 2, 2021

Fifth Sunday of Easter

 **TABERNACLE**
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

7310-A Old Plank Road
Fredericksburg, VA 22407
540.786.6162
James G. O'Quinn, DMin
Senior Pastor
www.tabumc.org

WORSHIP SERVICE May 2, 2021

9:45 A.M. In-Person Worship (Multi-Purpose Room)

10:00 A.M. Livestream Worship joins In-Person Worship

SUNDAY GOSPEL READING "John 15:1-8"

SERMON THEME: "Vine and Branches"

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 2

9:45 a.m. In-Person Worship Service (MPR)

10:00 a.m. Livestream Service (YouTube)

11:00 a.m. Sunday School (Adult and Children's) ZOOM

May 3

7:00 p.m. NOW Meeting ZOOM

May 5

7:00 p.m. Screwtape Letters Book Study ZOOM

6:30 p.m. SPRC Meeting

May 6

9:30 a.m. Prayer Group

7:00 p.m. "Connecting the Dots" Vision Team meeting (MPR)

May 7

1:30 p.m. Set-up for Vision Convocation (MPR)

May 8

9:45 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Vision Convocation

May 9

9:45 a.m. In-Person Worship Service (MPR)

10:00 a.m. Livestream Service (YouTube)

11:00 a.m. Sunday School (Adult and Children's) ZOOM

PASTOR JIM RETIREMENT Pastor Jim will be retiring this June, and his last Sunday at Tabernacle is May 23, 2021. Due to Covid restrictions, we are limited in how we recognize his retirement but still want to congratulate him on his next phase in life. Please wish Pastor Jim well with a card or letter. Cards can be dropped off at the check-in table each Sunday up to May 23, 2021 or mailed to the church. If you choose to mail the card to the church, please send to Melonie Peters/Attn: O'Quinn Retirement. The basket of cards will be presented to Pastor Jim during the live portion of the worship service on May 23, 2021.

SPECIAL APPEAL FOR THE BLESSING FUND

Tabernacle Church is responding to the ongoing need of a family in our congregation facing extraordinary financial demands. The Blessing fund was created for such a situation. However, this fund is not unlimited. We need additional funds to continue to care for one of our own. As you are able, please contribute from your abundance to this family. While confidentiality requires no name is mentioned, know that our financial officers, church treasurer, and the pastor agree this is a special appeal worthy of our generosity. Thank you -- Pastor Jim

WHAT'S NEXT WITH TABERNACLE'S VISIONING PROCESS?

Your Vision Team is excited to announce that after the months-long Discovery Phase, we are about to enter the Discernment Phase! We will launch this new phase on the week-end of May 7-9, bringing our spiritual leadership coach, Kathleen Bynum Lalor, into town to facilitate our **first Vision Convocation on Saturday, May 8 from 9:45 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.**—with pandemic safe practices in place, of course. Two things to note: 1. That day, incoming Pastor Ted Smith will join us for the morning. 2. That day, the Vision Team will expand to include more members who feel called to this sacred task of spiritual discernment. No prior experience with communal discernment is required; the only requirement is an open heart and a willingness to trust that God will be with us and bless our effort! **Could it be that God's Spirit is nudging you to join the Vision Team in May?** There are two crucial roles for you to prayerfully ponder: **Discernment Prayer Partner**—*Anyone who will covenant with us to pray daily for those who commit to doing the Vision Discernment work; or perhaps as a Discernment Companion*—*A few additional folks of diverse ages who feel nudged by the Holy Spirit to be a part of listening for God's voice in the Discernment Convocation on May 8 and then again in June (TBD).*



SINGING DURING INDOOR WORSHIP IS NOW PERMITTED!

Bishop Sharma Lewis announced that as of May 2nd, the Virginia Annual Conference guidelines about singing are relaxed. Singing during indoor worship is permitted! The decision reflects health studies that indicate those who received the mRNA vaccination and are two weeks beyond their final injection seem at low risk for infection and transmission of the Coronavirus. There remains a caution that variants of the COVID-19 virus may affect the results of these health studies. However, there is a strong indication that limited indoor singing may occur if participants observe the same precautions as outdoor services. Attendees are to participate in the singing according to their health tolerance. Worship participants must continue to wear a well-fitting mask and keep a distance of six or more feet. Singers are encouraged to sing sotto voce (i.e., in a quiet voice). We will operate with an honor system and not ask for proof of vaccination.

To build the body of Christ by growing mature disciples through:
Prayer, Worship, Evangelism, Fellowship, Study, and Christian Service

YOUTH NEWS The Youth Group is steadily working on projects such as the Prayer Garden, VBS, Retreats, and Mission Week. May will be bringing a big change to the entire group...GRADUATION! We will be seeing one of our own move on and school will be letting out for the summer. Youth Group continues *Friday Night Faith* through the month of May. If you would like to join the Youth for activities or meetings, please contact Melissa Keylor at needingserenity@gmail.com or text her at 703.201.4795. Other Youth Group News and happenings can be found on Instagram at *tabumcyouth*. If you know a Youth, feel free to invite them as well.

VBS IS COMING!!!! We are having IN PERSON VBS this year - June 21-25, 8:45 a.m. till noon at Tabernacle in the parking lot, weather permitting! We are so excited to welcome back our little people and resume the fun! VBS will be COVID compliant, while still spreading the good news and having the same message as always - *God loves you!*. We like to keep the theme a surprise, so I will just give you a hint - it's totally tubular! So, come along with us for a super week of games, music, arts/crafts, and story time. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Melissa Keylor at (needingserentiy@gmail.com/703.201.4795). If you have a little person, ages kindergarten through 5th grade who would like to participate, we will be registering soon. Please watch for the website information in your upcoming Spotlight!



CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL (GRADES K-5) Children's Sunday School has resumed via ZOOM at 11:00 a.m. after our Livestream worship service. If interested, contact Eileen David at eileendavid15@yahoo.com. She will answer any questions you have and send you a ZOOM link and activity materials. Miss Carol and Miss Sherri are very excited to have your children participate!

RAPPAHANNOCK RIVER DISTRICT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM has always been a hallmark of the United Methodist Church. In keeping with our tradition of supporting higher learning, the Rappahannock River District (RRD) of the United Methodist Church has created a Student Scholarship Program. Persons eligible to apply are those who are attending or who plan to attend a college or trade school, persons who are members of a United Methodist Church on the Rappahannock River District, and persons who are enrolled in a program that presents a degree or certification. Applications are available on the district website @ RappahannockRiverDistrict.org or by email request to Rappahannockriverdistrict@vaumc.org.

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER MAY 6 The theme for this year's National Day of Prayer comes from 2 Corinthians 3:17, "Now the Lord is the spirit, and where the spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom." On this day, pray with us for the Lord to pour out his love, life and liberty. Diann Kellison will be recording a message to be shown on Youtube for that day. Go to our website www.tabumc.org. and look for National Day of Prayer. Click on that link to view.

UNITED METHODIST MEN There will be no UMM meeting for May. The May BBQ has been cancelled.

STEPHEN MINISTRY NEWS: We all face life challenges during this pandemic, but we don't have to go through it alone. If you or someone you care about is experiencing difficulties, our Stephen Ministers are ready to listen, encourage, and offer support. Stephen Ministers offer care, comfort, and hope in a safe, private setting. Find out more from Karen Flanagan (540.729.9342) or Bob Gallagher (540.809.7988). All Stephen Ministry support is confidential

TUMC BLESSING FUND: Pastor's Discretionary Fund is now named to the TUMC Blessing Fund to better state the purpose and encourage contributions. This fund is available to members and friends of TUMC who need financial assistance. Help is given at the discretion of the Pastor and is confidential. Our E-giving site reflects this change.

SERVANT KEEPERS Tabernacle is changing over to a new Church Management System – Servant Keepers/Faithlife. Watch the Spotlight and website for information regarding any changes this may bring to e-giving. If your email or address has changed, please call the church office @540.786.6162 to make sure we have your most up-to-date information for the new system.

Attendance April 25, 2021

Livestream	79
In-Person	41

Counter Schedule

May 9, 2021	Rhonda Trahern/Terry Sullivan
May 16, 2021	Dick DiDonato/Greg Brown

**MAY COMMUNION OFFERINGS SUPPORT
KITS FOR CONFERENCE**



The church office is open for phone and email business. Hours are 9-4 M-Th & 9-1 on Friday.