

# WEEKLY SPOTLIGHT

December 5, 2021



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Fredericksburg, VA 22407  
540.786.6162

Pastor Ted Smith

[www.tabumc.org](http://www.tabumc.org)

## October Sermon Series: Advent (Lectionary) Focus: Anticipating the Christ Child's Birth

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### WORSHIP SERVICE:

8:15 a.m. Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)  
10:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship (MPR/YouTube)

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**SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS:** Luke 1:68-79  
**SERMON THEME:** "Anticipation"

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### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### Sunday, December 5

All Day – Christmas Story Reading (TUMC Website)  
9:15 a.m. Christmas Lights & Love Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

#### Monday, December 6

7:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting (Fellowship Hall)  
7:00 p.m. NOW Meeting (Zoom)

#### Tuesday, December 7

3:00 p.m. Emmaus – 4<sup>th</sup> Day (Library)

#### Wednesday, December 8

10:00 a.m. Prayers and Squares (Fellowship Hall)  
6:15 p.m. Adult - Advent Study (Fellowship Hall & 7:00 p.m. Zoom)

#### Thursday, December 9

9:30 a.m. Prayer Group (Library)  
5:30 p.m. Bells Choir Rehearsal (Fellowship Hall)  
6:30 p.m. Choir Practice (Sanctuary)  
6:30 p.m. SPRC Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

#### Friday, December 10

7:00 p.m. Youth – Advent Study (Senior High Room)

#### Saturday, December 11

3:00 p.m. Fredericksburg Studio Performance of Legally Blond (TUMC)  
5:30 p.m. Christmas Lights & Love Drive Thru (TUMC lot)  
6:00 p.m. Fredericksburg Studio Performance of Legally Blond (TUMC)

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**TUMC Webpage Has A New Look!** We are pleased to announce the launch of the newly redesigned Tabernacle United Methodist Church website. Come visit at [www.tabumc.org](http://www.tabumc.org).

**Child Protection Policy Training** - There will be a CPP training held in the MPR after the Contemporary Service on December 5th, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. or whenever we are finished. There will be a notary on hand at the beginning for those who need background checks completed. Please bring ID's for proof of person. If you have any questions, please see Rhonda Kapus or Melissa Keylor. See you there!!!

**GIVING** - After careful consideration by the Church Staff and Finance Team, we are staying with Elexio Giving. If you are giving through Faithlife, we ask that you please move back to Elexio. We will close down Faithlife on January 1, 2022. But we have some good news, Elexio is offering a Donor Match Program for all new RE-OCCURRING GIVING. For every new recurring gift that is added between November 1 and December 31, 2021, Elexio will match the gift, up to \$50, with a maximum match of \$1,000. To be eligible for the matching gift, more than one installment must be set-up and the first recurring gift must be transacted by December 31, 2021. Please go to the Tabernacle website and click the E-Giving button in the upper right corner then click on E-Giving. Mike Reardon, Finance Committee Chairman and Angie Pitzer, Financial Secretary, [finsec@tabumc.org](mailto:finsec@tabumc.org)

**SECA** - During the month of October, we helped 102 families with 10,600 lbs. of food. We also helped 10 families with their utility bills, 14 with clothing and 3 with emergency housing. November 1<sup>st</sup> began heating season for our clients. Due to lack of funds, we are not able to help as many clients as in previous years. SECA is also in need of volunteers to help in the office, food room and run the register. If you know anyone looking to volunteer, please send them our way.

**UMW and MISSIONS - GIVING TREES** are in the Sanctuary vestibule and in the MPR with tags for giving requests. Some of our gifts this year will be given to our new Resource Closet, serving the needs of our church family and neighbors. Others will be given to our Micah friends. For our SECA friends, we are asking for cash donations marked "SECA" to help with heating costs. We are always amazed by the love, kindness and generosity shown by our Tabernacle family. This year, the needs are greater than ever before. All gifts are greatly appreciated as we share the love of Jesus during the Advent Season.

**SUNDAY CONNECTION GROUPS** - We are excited that Tabernacle is connecting and reconnecting. Sunday Connection Groups started on September 12<sup>th</sup>. Adult groups meeting at 9:15 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. include: the Leon Anderson Discovery Class (Rm 411); the Mary Thomas Class (Rm 412); and the Seekers (Rm 413). Class curriculum will be determined at that time. You are welcome to drop in on any of these groups. If you are interested in facilitating a class, offering a prayer group, or have an idea for another connection group, please contact Eileen David at [eileendavid15@yahoo.com](mailto:eileendavid15@yahoo.com).

**CHILDREN'S SUNDAY CONNECTION GROUPS** - The Children's Sunday Connection Groups (grades pre-K- 5) has been suspended. We are looking at other options. If you have any suggestions as to what you would like to see in terms of Sunday School for our children, please let us know. Miss Judy is offering Kids Care at 10:30 a.m. - 11:15 a.m. during the Contemporary Service. This is not Sunday school, but rather focused on mission work. We will also be offering a children's ministry program called the Good News Bears beginning in January 2022. Keep reading the Spotlight for more information. If you would like to be on our mailing list for children's worship bulletins, please contact me at [eileendavid15@yahoo.com](mailto:eileendavid15@yahoo.com) and

give me your mailing address. We want to hear from you as what we can do in terms of religious education for our children, but also for adults.

**CONNECT AND RECONNECT** - We are making every effort to Connect and Reconnect with our college/trade school students and active duty military members and friends. Please send Active Military and college/trade school contact information to [SPleasants@tabumc.org](mailto:SPleasants@tabumc.org).

**Paul Study** - Let's begin the New Year with a new understanding of letters from the apostle Paul that were controversial 2000 years ago and remain controversial even today. Together we'll examine what Paul said and why Paul said things that could seem hurtful, harsh, and judgmental. Our study begins Wednesday, January 5th with a light supper at 6:15 p.m. for in-person participants. The study for Zoom and in person participants begins at 7:00 p.m. Contact Matt Kapus at [kapus72@gmail.com](mailto:kapus72@gmail.com) for further information, for the Zoom link, or to get a copy of the book.



Calling all Bears!!!

We are going to have a Holly Jolly Holiday Hangout on December 19 from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. in the MPR. At our party we are going to play games, watch a movie, have movie snacks and participate in a Bible lesson about the Birth of Jesus!! So, get ready to have some fun! See you there!!!!



**CHRISTMAS LIGHTS & LOVE.** Come and experience the joy of Christmas at our newest community event in December. This evening family drive-thru will host a display of hundreds of Christmas lights along with music, a Nativity, special gifts, a hot chocolate warm-up, and a visit by Santa himself! The program, in the Tabernacle parking lot, will run from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, December 11th and again on December 18th. We look forward to sharing love and joy with each other and with our community as we celebrate the Christmas season!

**CHILDREN BLESSING CHILDREN!**

Our new Kids Care ministry that takes place during the 10:30 a.m. worship has always focused on hands-on mission activities. The TUM congregation wishes to say Thank You to the Kids Care group for their new prayer blanket project. The next Kids Care blankets will go to children who have experienced the death of a parent. When the Kids Care group has completed their work, we need you to help with the final step by tying strings that symbolize our love into the blankets. The Kids Care blankets will be available soon for your final touch.

**YOUTH NEWS** - December is upon us and the Youth have been buzzing! After Rake and Run, the Youth were mentors to the younger children during ornament making after church. On the 19th, the group began their Advent study. What an amazing start to the season!!!! We had 15 youth turn out for the study - several from other churches joined us. After the wonderful discussions, a few of the youth travelled to Hillcrest UMC for a Friendsgiving and Lock In. What a blast! Then it was time to gear up for the auction. The smells of Peppermint Bark filled the church as the group made donations for the Thanksgiving Auction. Keep an eye out for our December activities...Lock In, performances, caroling, service projects, and so much more! EPIC meets on Sundays at 9:15 a.m. and Youth Group meets on Sundays at 11:30 a.m. If you would like to join the Youth group for activities or meetings, and if you have questions, please contact Melissa Keylor at [needingserenity@gmail.com](mailto:needingserenity@gmail.com). Also, she can be reached by text at 703-201-4795 or visit us at #tabumcyouth. If you know a Youth who would like to attend, please feel free to invite them as well.



**YOUTH ADVENT STUDY** - During the season of Advent, the Youth will be studying, The Heart That Grew Three Sizes by Matt Rawle. This study looks at the Christmas classic, How the Grinch Stole Christmas. Could it be the thing we hate the most is the thing that will change our lives? Matt Rawle's study utilizes humor and concepts for young people to understand. We will meet on Fridays for 4 sessions to complete the study. Each session consists of music, discussion, activities, and snacks. Our next sessions are on December 3<sup>rd</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the Senior High Room at Tabernacle United Methodist Church. We will be using the Youth version of this study for discussion. We have decided there is no need for a book...just come!!!

**THE RESOURCE CLOSET** served three families, totaling 15 people, on November 27<sup>th</sup>. As always, thank you for stocking the shelves to make this a success. It will not be open in December as the last Saturday is Christmas day. However, if anyone knows of a family in need, PLEASE take whatever the family needs. It is in Room 101, the former preschool area. It will reopen the last Saturday in January. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Vedi Ellis at [vediellis@comcast.net](mailto:vediellis@comcast.net) or 540-455-6076.

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**Attendance for November 28, 2021**

In Person	75
Livestream	48

**Counter Schedule**  
 December 5 – Wendy Brooks/Margaret McIntosh  
 November 28 – Greg Brown/Bev Graham