

WEEKLY SPOTLIGHT

December 19, 2021

Sermon Series: Advent (Lectionary)

Focus: Anticipating the Christ Child's Birth

WORSHIP SERVICE:

8:15 a.m. Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)

10:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship (MPR/YouTube)

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS: Micah 5:2-5a

SERMON THEME: "The Early Stories of Him"

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, December 19

All Day – Christmas Story Reading (TUMC Website)

1:00 p.m. Good News Bears Party (MPR & room 112)

Monday, December 20

7:00 p.m. Education Committee Meeting (Zoom)

Tuesday, December 21

Longest Night (Pre-recorded) (TUMC Website)

3:00 p.m. Emmaus – 4th Day (Library)

3:00 p.m. Youth – Caroling (Neighborhood area)

Wednesday, December 22

6:15 p.m. Adult - Advent Study (FH) 7:00 p.m. (Zoom)

7:00 p.m. AA Meeting (Room 112)

Thursday, December 23

9:30 a.m. Prayer Group (Library)

12:00 p.m. AA Meeting (Room 112)

5:30 p.m. Bells Choir Rehearsal (Fellowship Hall)

6:30 p.m. Choir Practice (Sanctuary)

Friday, December 24

5:30 p.m. Family Service (MPR)

7:30 p.m. Traditional Candlelight & Holy Communion Service (Sanctuary)

Hello Friends - The TUM office will be closed on Friday, December 23rd and Friday, December 31st.

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.

Christmas Stories



- Please go to TABUMC.org and look at the Christmas stories as read by our youth at Tabernacle Church. A new story will be posted each Sunday during the month of December.

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. 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 TUMC 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

SECA – Volunteers are needed to help in the office, food room and run the register. If you know anyone looking to volunteer, please send them our way.

TABERNACLE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

7310-A Old Plank Road
Fredericksburg, VA 22407
540.786.6162
Pastor Ted Smith

www.tabumc.org

December 10, 2021

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Dear Members and Friends,

Despite the challenges of the past year, our pastor and church staff have diligently worked to support Tabernacle. If you'd like to honor our pastor and staff during the Christmas season, you may wish to contribute a cash gift which will be evenly distributed to all church staff in the last week of December.

If you would like to make a contribution to this special recognition fund, we ask that you send your monetary gift no later than Monday, **December 27th**. Envelopes marked with "Staff Christmas Gift" will be available in the entrance of the Sanctuary and the MPR beginning Sunday, December 11th. Your gift may be left in at the church office, dropped in the offering plate or mailed to the church. Checks should be made payable to TUMC. Please be sure the contribution is marked "STAFF CHRISTMAS GIFT." These gifts are not tax deductible and will not be reported in your annual statement of giving.

Your thoughtfulness serves as a way to show appreciation to our staff for their devotion and work in Christian service. Please accept our gratitude for your participation in this special endeavor.

Peace be with you!

Staff Parish Committee

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.



Heading into year two, we have 561 children enrolled and added the 22553-zip code. Only three more to go and we will be covering the entire county. We sent 98 graduates off to kindergarten with a year's worth of books. We have placed 5,810 books in homes since inception. We have 75 families waiting to enter the program pending donor support. A child gets 12 months of books for \$25. Your gift of any size will make a difference, and we value your partnership and dedication to this wonderful program. Proving that small gifts can change the World in revolutionary ways. Thank you TUMC for another great year. Nothing compares to the hope witnessed in watching a child's joy over receiving such a small gift. That is what a monthly book delivered to them brings. Literacy provides opportunity for a community to thrive. Reading is fundamental to our existence. Blessings, Beth DiDonato, TABUMCHR@gmail.com

SUNDAY CONNECTION GROUPS - We are excited that Tabernacle is connecting and reconnecting. Sunday Connection Groups started on September 12th. 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.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY CONNECTION GROUPS - 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 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.

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 for further information, for the Zoom link, or to get a copy of the book.

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. 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. Each session consists of music, discussion, activities, and snacks. We meet on Fridays at 7:00 p.m. in the Senior High Room at TUMC. No need for a book...just come!!!

Tornado Disaster Relief - In addition to prayers for persons affected by tornadoes and other disasters, donations can be sent to our United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) which responds to every type of disaster in the US and throughout the world. 100% of your donation goes to the relief effort. If you have questions for UMCOR email donationhelp@umcmmission.org

Giving options:

1) You can mail checks to:
UMCOR
458 Ponce De Leon Ave NE
Atlanta, Georgia 30308
memo: tornado relief

2) If you'd like to donate using the on-line method:
go to <https://umcmmission.org/advance-project/901670/>

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 2021

Budget Donations \$ 29,560.91
Budget Expenses \$ 27,503.72
Budget Balance for November \$ 2,057.19
Budget Balance to Date \$ 15,879.27
Other Donations - partial list
Building Fund \$ 215.00
SECA \$ 1,600.00
YWAM \$ 300.00
Abukloi \$ 1,425.00
Thanksgiving Offering \$ 2,900.00
Blessings Fund \$ 550.00
Micah Ministry \$ 700.00
Communion Offering \$ 100.00
UMCOR \$ 220.00
Community Drive Through \$ 320.00
Memorial Endowment \$ 100.00



Whoever is kind to the needy honors God. Proverbs 14:31 (NIV)

Attendance for December 12, 2021

In Person 93
Livestream 40

Counter Schedule

December 19 - Margaret Kackley/Bev Graham
December 12 - Vedi Ellis/Anita O'Toole

Calling all Bears!!! We are going to have a Holly Jolly Holiday Hangout on December 19th 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!!!!

THE RESOURCE CLOSET as always, thank you for stocking the shelves to make this a success. It will be closed in December due to 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 in January. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Vedi Ellis at vediellis@comcast.net or 540-455-6076.



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 visit by Santa himself! The program, in the Tabernacle parking lot, will run from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, December 18th. We look forward to sharing love and joy with each other and with our community as we celebrate the Christmas season!

STEWARDS NEEDED - TUMC is seeking communion stewards for the following months in 2022: June, August, November and December. The stewards will set up communion for the 8:15 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. services. If you would like to be a recurring steward during these months, please contact Margaret K. at dummy28255@gmail.com or 540-972-4486.