



# TABOR HERALD

Honoring God \* Making Disciples \* Serving Others

Celebrating the work of God at Tabor United Methodist Church

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Pastor Ed Van Arsdale, Senior Pastor

Rev. Maryanne B. Ditter, Minister of Spiritual Formation

Cindy A. Frick, Administrative Assistant

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## *From the* **PASTOR**—

### Happy New Year!

While Christmas is still in our memory - I thought it would be interesting to talk about one of the beloved songs of Christmas - "Joy To The World" (and with all due respect to Three Dog Night - not that Jeremiah was a bullfrog version - although I do love that song also!) Of course, I am referring to "Joy To The World" by Isaac Watts written in 1719 which seems as traditional to Christmas Eve as "Silent Night" - they both seem to be properly linked for many churches' Christmas Eve service - but do you know the story behind this epic song?

Let's first start with Isaac Watts since he is also an interesting part in this story. Isaac Watts was arguably the most prolific hymn writer of his day. He is known for writing such timeless hymns as "At The Cross (When I First Saw The Light)" and "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross." While he is very much appreciated today - during his lifetime Isaac Watts was considered by many to be "trouble" and even possibly a "heretic" for the lyrics he wrote. Of course, he was not a heretic - he was a revolutionary - which in church circles during any time will get you the label of "trouble" at the least and "heretic" at the worst!

Isaac grew up in a time where the music in every worship service consisted only of psalms or sections of scripture put to music. He found the practice monotonous (I guess everyone is entitled to their opinion, right?). To him and his personal taste - there was a lack of joy and emotion among the worshippers as they sang (apparently Hillsong was not "United" yet! I mean can you imagine worship music without at least four electric guitars!) Isaac Watts said, "To see the dull indifference, the negligent and thoughtless air that sits upon the faces of a whole assembly, while the psalm is upon their lips, might

even tempt a charitable observer to suspect the fervency of their inward religion." [I guess I am lucky that he never had to sleep through one of my sermons!]

His father (Mr. Watts - not famous for electricity but kept saying "what"?) did what any good father does when he gets tired of hearing a child complain and told Isaac "Why don't you do something about it"! Perhaps Isaac should attempt to write something different? Game on! This set Isaac on a lifelong pursuit to write lyrics that exalted Jesus and reminded Christians of their hope in Christ's saving work on the cross.

This desire is clearly shown in the way he wrote "Joy to the World." Isaac was inspired to write the epic hymn while meditating on Psalm 98. Verse 4 gripped him - "Make a **joyful** noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into **joyous** song and sing praises!" Isaac did you know that this song would spark a joyful noise that would ring through the ages? (Are you singing that last sentence with me like it was "Mary did you know ..."?)

So here is the big "What?" (or should I say "Watt"?) While "Joy to the World" is primarily sung at Christmas - **it's not specifically a Christmas song - it's not about the birth of Jesus.** Instead, and correctly - **the song tells the story of Jesus Christ's second coming.** What? Let me make explain (full disclosure - now this comes from people much smarter than me who study this kind of stuff - I just sing this stuff.) Here are three reasons:

First, the song speaks of the whole earth receiving her King:

Joy to the world! The Lord is come;  
Let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare him room,  
And heaven and nature sing.

..... (Continued on next page)

*(Pastor's page continued from front page) .....*

But is that what happened when Jesus first came? The Bible tells us that Jesus was not readily received by everyone. Isaiah 53:3 "He was despised and rejected by men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not". The earth did not receive her King - but like sheep - they went astray. Still - we know that there will be a day when this will not be so - Philippians 2:9-10 "God has highly exalted Him and bestowed on Him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father". On that day - both heaven and nature will sing out and repeat the sounding joy for all eternity!

Second, we know this hymn is a song of Jesus's second coming because verse 3 talks about sins and sorrows being no more:

No more let sins and sorrows grow,  
Nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make his blessings flow  
Far as the curse is found.

We all know that this is not our current experience! In Mark 13:8 Jesus foretold what was yet to come after his death when Jesus said, "For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. These are but the beginning of the birth pains". The world is not sinless. The world is not void of sorrow - not yet, at least. Jesus told us that we should not be alarmed when we hear of the world's brokenness. Why? Because (Mark 13:7) "this must take place, but the end is not yet". Although the fulfillment of all Jesus' work is not fully expressed this side of eternity - we know there will be a day when it is! Jesus sits at our Heavenly Father's right hand - waiting until the perfect moment - a time when all good things will come to completion!

Third, the fourth verse reveals that this hymn is about the second coming. It says:

He rules the world with truth and grace,  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of his righteousness,  
And wonders of his love.

These final lines speak of how the nations will take an active role in revealing the glory of God. We know

that all the nations of the earth are ultimately subject to God's ever-sovereign hand. He is the one who gives authority - and God is the one who takes it away. In God's sovereignty - God uses every mistake, every poor decision, every war, every calamity, and every season of prosperity - all for his glory! But we have not yet seen all the nations of this world intentionally seeking to prove the wonders and glories of our ultimate King, Jesus Christ. In fact, they often seem to do the opposite. There will be a day when we can say, "*He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove the glories of his righteousness*". And that day will be wonderful!

So why do we sing this song at Christmas? It is clearly a song about Jesus' second coming - when the full expression of his glory will be revealed. It does not really have anything to do with the Christmas story. Or does it? After all - there is no second coming without a first coming! This song is all about the **fulfillment of what Jesus came to do in the first place!** Christmas is not only a time to look back at the past. **Christmas is also a time to look forward to what will be accomplished for our future!** **When we sing these words of the song, we are proclaiming the ultimate joy to be revealed! This is why we sing "Joy to the World" at Christmas!**

Revelation 21:1-5 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away. And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new."

Until we get the new heaven and new earth - I wish for you a New Year full of God's blessings,  
Pastor Ed  
(215-272-6099 / [pastoredvanarsdale@gmail.com](mailto:pastoredvanarsdale@gmail.com))

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**Will You Invite Someone To Church To  
Learn About GOD'S LOVE?**

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## From the Deacon's Desk...

### WHO WILL WIN?

Well, another year has gone by. Some people may be glad that 2025 is over because it was a tough one. And others may be sad because it was full of blessings. But either way, we can enter this new year full of hope that it will be even better as we grow closer to God. As you read on, hopefully you will find information that will be helpful in better trusting God and standing up against the enemy.

I came across an article that asked "How do you punch the devil?" The answer came from a child who said "By saying the Word of God!" I hesitate to write about the devil because he does not deserve any mention. But unfortunately, he has used his voice to interject into my/our lives to try and distract us from being obedient to God. Since we are starting a new year, I decided to take back any hold he may have on me and use the Word of God to chase him away.

If you remember in Matthew when the tempter came to Jesus while He was in the wilderness, Jesus used the Word of God when the tempter tried to distract Him. Matthew 4:3-4 says "The tempter came to him and said, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread.' Jesus answered, 'It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" If you were to read on in Matthew, with every successive temptation, Jesus punches the devil by speaking the Word of God – words Jesus knew straight out of Deuteronomy in this instance.

Apparently, in this article, a parent has given her children a litany of what to say everyday which she called "Christocentric Declarations". These are declarations you make to remind you who you are in Christ. One author said that "Anytime you speak the Word of God, you create an atmosphere for the miraculous to happen in your life." I must admit that I don't do this enough. Here are the affirmations that this Mother taught her children and which they will repeat back to her. You can memorize them as well and repeat them in your own life or you can actually go on line and find more suggestions. You will even find a book that lists similar declarations for you to repeat often. Here is a sample from the article I found:

"I am the righteous of God  
I was born in Christ Jesus  
I am the redeemed of the Lord  
I am the beloved of Abba  
All my sins are forgiven  
I am passionately loved by God  
I am powerfully helped by God  
I am kept and protected by God  
I am irrevocably blessed  
I am eternally forgiven  
I am healed by the Lord  
I enjoy angelic assistance  
I have the favor and the wisdom of God  
Nothing is against me  
Nothing dies in my hands  
I am never stranded  
The supernatural is natural to me  
God loves me more than the devil hates me

And as the child repeats this affirmation the Mother is confirming by saying "Yes" and "Amen" aloud. At the end of this litany she shouts to the child "Now scream it" and the girl finishes with 'GRACE IS WORKING FOR ME!'"

As part of her post, the Mom shared that one day her daughter was grumpy and did not want to say her declarations. But her Mother encouraged her to do it anyway. The more the child repeated them, the more the child went from grumpy to excited as God's words were spoken aloud. Isn't this something we need today when we are having an off day that makes us frustrated or anxious or grumpy?

The thing I like about this is that if you have trouble memorizing Scripture, these are small phrases of what God's Word does say. It may not be the full verse but it is enough of a verse to use as a promise from God's Word and can keep the enemy at bay. Even Jesus spoke the words to Peter "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns." And that is what Satan does. He does not have the concerns of God for you but tempts you into believing what the world says. So, when you are feeling like there is a voice telling you negative things like "you can't do that", "you are not good enough to do that" or "Think of what you have done, God would never use you". Begin repeating what God does say about you "You are my child", "Nothing can take away the love of God", "you are precious in His sight" and chase that old enemy away!!

Maryanne Ditter  
Minister of Spiritual Formation

**SENIOR LUNCHEON**  
**Wednesday, January 21, 2026**



**JOIN US**  
**FOR OUR NEXT**  
**SENIOR LUNCHEON**

Our January Senior Luncheon will be held on Wednesday, January 21. We will begin our luncheon at noon. As you can see this date is back to our **THIRD** Wednesday. The Church will be providing soup and sandwiches. Just check out the sign-up sheet found outside of the Sanctuary for suggestions if you are willing to add to our meal.

As we enter into the winter months, if you are unsure whether it will be held when weather is unpredictable, please call the Church office at 215-234-4852 or my cell 215-962-2769.

Maryanne Ditter  
Minister of Spiritual Formation

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**PRAYER MEETINGS**  
**Wednesdays, 5:30 - 6:30P.M.**

Would you like to strengthen your prayer life in the New Year? Our prayer group finds that being in a group that believes in the power of prayer has helped them grow spiritually and in their prayer lives. We meet every Wednesday night from 5:30 - 6:30p.m. in the Chapel.

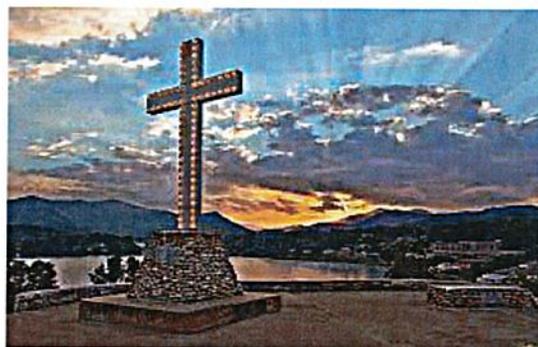
We have been blessed with some very gifted facilitators in our group who begin our prayer time together with Holy Spirit inspired messages. We then go to prayer individually, as a group or both. If you have any questions or prayer needs, please contact Pastor Ed, Reverend Maryanne or Edna Simpkins. Everything is strictly confidential.

~Edna Simpkins

I Thessalonians 5:16

"Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**SPIRITUAL RENEWAL WEEKEND**  
**February 6-7, 2026**



I continue to make plans and discern about our Spiritual Renewal Weekend. So far, it looks like the weekend will begin on Friday, February 6, 2026 at 6:00 PM for dinner and then there will be a time of Worship and teaching at 7:00 PM. It will then run all day on Saturday with lunch and dinner provided as well. I just received confirmation that a friend to me and others in the Church will be a part of the weekend. His name is Jonathan Dow. He has served as a Worship leader and a speaker, which I have sometimes been a part of. I truly believe that you will be blessed by his teaching and his leading Worship.

Taking time out of your busy schedules to be focused on spending intentional time with God is such a blessing. Talk to some of those who have been at the Church awhile and ask them if they have experienced a Spiritual Renewal Weekend at Tabor. I am sure they will confirm how they were blessed.

If you are interested in helping out in anyway, please talk to me. I know some of you have done this already and I appreciate your offers to help.

Maryanne Ditter  
Minister of Spiritual Formation

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**STATUS AT CHURCH**  
**CHANGING**

Not sure everyone knows this, but my status at Tabor will be changing. Beginning January 1, I will be cutting back my hours at the Church office to just Wednesdays. In all other respects, I will be still a part of the Church and its activities but will be spending less time at the building.

Maryanne

# FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

| FUND                     | STARTING BALANCE<br>1/1/2025 | RECEIPTS            | DISBURSEMENTS        | TRANSFERS     | ENDING BALANCE<br>11/30/2025 |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------|------------------------------|
| General Fund             | \$68,619.06                  | \$246,445.26        | -219,834.29          | \$4,066.78    | \$99,296.81                  |
| Mortgage Fund            | -\$86,849.52                 | \$4,551.30          | -\$64,190.00         | \$0.00        | -\$146,488.22                |
| Missions Fund            | 11,912.28                    | \$8,169.25          | \$0.00               | \$0.00        | \$20,081.53                  |
| Special Designated Funds | \$105,808.77                 | \$10,362.28         | -\$4,112.21          | -\$4,066.78   | \$107,992.06                 |
| <b>Total</b>             | <b>\$99,490.59</b>           | <b>\$269,528.09</b> | <b>-\$288,136.50</b> | <b>\$0.00</b> | <b>\$80,882.18</b>           |

**REMEMBER THIS! IF YOU'RE PRAYING, YOU'RE HELPING!**

\* \* \* \* \*

## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to You!!!

- 1/02 Marylou Simmons
- 1/03 Alice Hollingsworth
- 1/06 Ray Schmidt
- 1/08 Kate Detterline
- 1/09 Tom Exner
- 1/09 John Kanavel
- 1/12 Hayley Schaffer
- 1/18 Sarah Jenison
- 1/18 Richard Schadler
- 1/19 Lori Dhoble
- 1/20 Ron Parson
- 1/22 Scott Landis
- 1/23 Jim Ricci
- 1/25 Seth Kohler
- 1/25 Mike Neal
- 1/27 Robin Cassel
- 1/27 Annette Jacobs
- 1/28 Boyd Davenport, III
- 1/29 Evan Althouse
- 1/31 Will Campman
- 1/31 Sam Niles

~If we missed your birthday please let us know~

## JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

~If we missed your anniversary please let us know~

Happy Anniversary to You!!!

\* \* \* \* \*

**...BELIEVE... ...HOPE...**

**...ENCOURAGE... ...PERSEVERE.**

\* \* \* \* \*

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM YOUR TABOR CHURCH FINANCE COMMITTEE REGARDING END-OF-YEAR CONTRIBUTIONS

Reminder deadlines for 2025 end-of-year contributions. All contributions submitted electronically (i.e. PayPal, Vanco mobile, Vanco online, online banking) after 12/31/2025 will be applied to your 2026 giving.

**The cut-off date for all other 2025 contributions is Tuesday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2026.** If you intend to make a contribution that will arrive to the church after the first of the year, it must be dated no later than December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025 and received no later than Tuesday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2026. Any and all contributions received after that date, including on Sunday, 1/11/2026 will be applied to your 2026 giving.

2026 offering envelopes are available. If you have not received yours yet, please contact the church office at 215-234-4852 to make arrangements to get yours. If you have not previously had offering envelopes and would like them, please contact the church office.

~ Thank You, Tabor Finance Committee

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## CHURCH SECRETARY OFF

The church secretary will be off through January 6, 2026 and plans to return to the church office on Tuesday January 6, 2026. As always, Cindy can be reached anytime by calling/texting 215-692-3489. If no answer, please leave a message and your call will be returned as soon as possible.

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### SYMPATHY EXTENDED

**Sign up TODAY to donate blood  
on Wednesday, January 7, 2026  
2-7p.m.  
or on Thursday, January 8, 2026  
2-7p.m.  
at Tabor Church!**

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### UNDECORATING CHRISTMAS PARTY Sunday, January 11, 2026 After the Sunday Worship Service

We are so thankful to all who helped decorate Tabor making everything so beautiful for Christmas. Now comes the undecorating and we could use your help! The undecorating date will be Sunday, January 11<sup>th</sup> after the Worship Service (11:30ish). A soup lunch to be provided! Many hands will make the work go faster. It is always a blessing when we praise God and work together!

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### HUMAN RELATIONS DAY January 18, 2026

~ A United Methodist Church Special Sunday ~  
~ Together Our Reach Is Beyond Measure ~

"I delight to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart. I have told the glad news of deliverance in the great congregation."

~ Psalm 40:8-9a, NRSV

How do your gifts support Human Relations? We are called to make an impact in communities where our brothers and sisters in Christ lack the resources or tools to reach their God-given potentials. Our gifts are part of building beloved community through faith-based volunteer programs, community developers and programs that work with at-risk teens. For more than half a century, United Methodists have observed this church-wide special Sunday in recognition of the message Jesus demonstrated during his life. Each of God's children are equally important.

Tabor Church extends their heartfelt sympathy to the family & friends of Dick Hollingsworth who recently passed away. Our sympathy and prayers go out especially to Alice Hollingsworth, Raquel Hollingsworth and Alicia & Geordie Ditter. Dick will be greatly missed by his family and friends.

The Tabor Church Family wishes to extend their heartfelt sympathy to Brian & Bessie Staehle and Jacob Staehle. Brian's father recently passed away and will be greatly missed by his Loved Ones.

Our prayers continue to be with each of you as you walk through these days without your Loved One. Please know that you will continue to be in our prayers. May you and your family always find strength and hope in His abiding love. Know that you are in His care and He is always watching over you. He hath said, "I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee."  
~~ Hebrews 13:5

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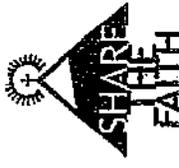
### UPCOMING 2026 DATES

- .....Pray "The Lord's Prayer" at Noon & Be Blessed!
- .....DOH Bible Study / Mondays / 11AM-12:30PM
- .....Wednesday "Prayer Meetings" / 5:30-6:30PM
- January 2.....Tabor Church Being Cleaned / 2-6PM
- January 3.....Church Kitchen & Weller Hall  
Reserved for Private Event / 9AM-9PM
- January 4.....Communion Sunday
- January 6.....Last Date To Receive Non-Electronic  
2025 Financial Contributions in the  
Church Office-checks MUST BE dated 2025  
(2025 electronic donations needed  
to be submitted by 12/31/25)
- January 7.....Red Cross Blood Drive @ Tabor/2-7PM
- January 8.....Red Cross Blood Drive @ Tabor/2-7PM
- January 10...February 2026 Tabor Herald Info Due
- January 10...Circle of Hope Meets @ the Home of  
Cathy Sacks, 1514 Harmon Road, Harleysville,  
PA, for a Time of Fellowship & Putting Final  
Polish on Our 2026 Group Events. Join Us!
- January 11...Putting Away Tabor Church Christmas  
Decorations after Church with Soup Lunch
- January 15....Tabor Church Being Cleaned / 2-6PM
- January 19...Human Relation Day
- January 21....Senior Luncheon / 12 Noon
- January 29....Tabor Church Being Cleaned / 2-6PM
- February 6-7...."The Father's Love" Spiritual  
Renewal Weekend @ Tabor

# ~ WORSHIP WITH US ~

# JANUARY 2026

# ~ WORSHIP WITH US ~

| Sunday  | Monday  | Tuesday  | Wednesday  | Thursday  | Friday   | Saturday  |
|---|---|--|--|---|--|---|
| <p>4</p> <p>~COMMUNION SUNDAY~<br/>9-9:45AM-Sunday School for ALL Ages Meet in the Ed. Wing<br/>Adults Meet in the Chapel<br/>10:00AM-In-Person Worship Service<br/>10:00AM-Live Streaming of Worship Service on Tabor UMC Facebook<br/>~The Worship Service is Followed by a Time of Fellowship in Weller Hall until Noon~</p>   | <p>5</p> <p>~NO Scheduled Church Office Hours Today~<br/>11AM-DOH (Disciples of Hope) Bible Study in Classroom #9<br/>7:30PM-AA Group</p>                                     |  <p>6</p> <p>~ PASTOR ED'S DAY OFF ~<br/>10AM-4:30PM-Cindy's Church Office Hours<br/>~Last Date to Receive Non-Electronic 2025 Financial Donations (which are dated 2025) in the Church Office~<br/>7:30PM-AA Group</p> | <p>PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE @ 215-234-4852 WITH ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING TABOR SCHEDULING. LEAVE A MESSAGE IF NO ONE ANSWERS.</p> <p>7</p> <p>~Rev. Ditter in Office~<br/>9AM-Craft Circle<br/>10AM-3PM-Pastor Ed's Scheduled Office Hours<br/>10AM-4:30PM-Cindy's Church Office Hours<br/>11AM-Staff Meeting<br/>2-7PM-June Russell Memorial Blood Drive / Weller Hall<br/>5:30-6:30PM-Prayer Service (Chapel)</p> | <p>1</p> <p>~New Year's Day~<br/>~Church Office Closed for Holiday~<br/>~Please Leave a Message If You Need Us~<br/>(TBD) 7:30PM-Basketball in Weller Hall</p>  | <p>2</p> <p>~Pastor Ed's School Day~<br/>~NO Scheduled Church Office Hours Today~<br/>2-6PM-Tabor Church Being Cleaned</p> | <p>3</p> <p>7AM Sharp-8AM-Men's Group in Weller Hall<br/>9AM-9PM-Church Kitchen &amp; Weller Hall Reserved for Private Event<br/>7PM-AA Group</p> |
| <p>11</p> <p>~Undecorating of Church Sunday~<br/>9-9:45AM-Sunday School for ALL Ages Meet in the Ed. Wing<br/>Adults Meet in the Chapel<br/>10:00AM-In-Person Worship Service<br/>10:00AM-Live Streaming of Worship Service on Tabor UMC Facebook<br/>~The Worship Service Will Be Followed by Undecorating from Christmas, A Soup Lunch Will Be Provided in Weller Hall~</p> | <p>12</p> <p>~NO Scheduled Church Office Hours Today~<br/>11AM-DOH (Disciples of Hope) Bible Study in Classroom #9<br/>7PM-Finance Committee (Online)<br/>7:30PM-AA Group</p> | <p>13</p> <p>~ PASTOR ED'S DAY OFF ~<br/>10AM-4:30PM-Cindy's Church Office Hours<br/>~January 2026 Tabor Herald Articles Are Due~<br/>7:30PM-AA Group</p>  | <p>14</p> <p>~Rev. Ditter in Office~<br/>9AM-Craft Circle<br/>10AM-3PM-Pastor Ed's Scheduled Office Hours<br/>10AM-4:30PM-Cindy's Church Office Hours<br/>11AM-Staff Meeting<br/>5:30-6:30PM-Prayer Service (Chapel)<br/>7PM-Trustees Meet</p>   | <p>15</p> <p>~Pastor Ed's School Day~<br/>10AM-4:30PM-Cindy's Church Office Hours<br/>2-6PM-Tabor Church Being Cleaned<br/>7:30PM-Basketball in Weller Hall</p> | <p>16</p> <p>~Pastor Ed's School Day~<br/>~NO Scheduled Church Office Hours Today~</p>                                     | <p>17</p> <p>7AM Sharp-8AM-Men's Group in Weller Hall<br/>7PM-AA Group</p>  |
| <p>18</p> <p>~Human Relations Day~<br/>9-9:45AM-Sunday School for ALL Ages Meet in the Ed. Wing<br/>Adults Meet in the Chapel<br/>10:00AM-In-Person Worship Service<br/>10:00AM-Live Streaming of Worship Service on Tabor UMC Facebook<br/>~The Worship Service is Followed by a Time of Fellowship in Weller Hall until Noon~</p>   | <p>19</p> <p>~NO Scheduled Church Office Hours Today~<br/>11AM-DOH (Disciples of Hope) Bible Study in Classroom #9<br/>7:30PM-AA Group</p>                                    | <p>20</p> <p>~ PASTOR ED'S DAY OFF ~<br/>10AM-4:30PM-Cindy's Church Office Hours<br/>12:00 Noon-Senior Lunch<br/>2PM-Staff Meeting<br/>5:30-6:30PM-Prayer Time Open to Those Needing Prayer (Chapel)<br/>7PM-S.P.R.C. Meets (Online)</p>   | <p>21</p> <p>~Rev. Ditter in Office~<br/>9AM-Craft Circle<br/>10AM-3PM-Pastor Ed's Scheduled Office Hours<br/>10AM-4:30PM-Cindy's Church Office Hours<br/>12:00 Noon-Senior Lunch<br/>2PM-Staff Meeting<br/>5:30-6:30PM-Prayer Time Open to Those Needing Prayer (Chapel)<br/>7PM-S.P.R.C. Meets (Online)</p>  | <p>22</p> <p>~Pastor Ed's School Day~<br/>10AM-4:30PM-Cindy's Church Office Hours<br/>7:30PM-Basketball in Weller Hall</p>                                      | <p>23</p> <p>~Pastor Ed's School Day~<br/>~NO Scheduled Church Office Hours Today~</p>                                     | <p>24</p> <p>7AM Sharp-8AM-Men's Group in Weller Hall<br/>7PM-AA Group</p>  |
| <p>25</p> <p>9-9:45AM-Sunday School for ALL Ages Meet in the Ed. Wing<br/>Adults Meet in the Chapel<br/>10:00AM-In-Person Worship Service<br/>10:00AM-Live Streaming of Worship Service on Tabor UMC Facebook<br/>~The Worship Service is Followed by a Time of Fellowship in Weller Hall until Noon~</p>   | <p>26</p> <p>~NO Scheduled Church Office Hours Today~<br/>11AM-DOH (Disciples of Hope) Bible Study in Classroom #9<br/>7:30PM-AA Group</p>                                    | <p>27</p> <p>~ PASTOR ED'S DAY OFF ~<br/>10AM-4:30PM-Cindy's Church Office Hours<br/>7:30PM-AA Group</p>   | <p>28</p> <p>~Rev. Ditter in Office~<br/>9AM-Craft Circle<br/>10AM-3PM-Pastor Ed's Scheduled Office Hours<br/>10AM-4:30PM-Cindy's Church Office Hours<br/>11AM-Staff Meeting<br/>5:30-6:30PM-Prayer Service (Chapel)<br/>7:30PM-Ad Council (Online)</p>  | <p>29</p> <p>~Pastor Ed's School Day~<br/>10AM-4:30PM-Cindy's Church Office Hours<br/>2-6PM-Tabor Church Being Cleaned<br/>7:30PM-Basketball in Weller Hall</p> | <p>30</p> <p>~Pastor Ed's School Day~<br/>~NO Scheduled Church Office Hours Today~</p>                                     | <p>31</p> <p>7AM Sharp-8AM-Men's Group in Weller Hall<br/>7PM-AA Group</p>  |

# ~ PRAYER CALENDAR ~

# JANUARY 2026

# ~ PRAYER CALENDAR ~

| Sunday  | Monday   | Tuesday   | Wednesday  | Thursday  | Friday   | Saturday   |
|---|--|---|--|---|--|--|
| <p>And pray in the spirit of all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for the saints. ~Ephesians 6:18</p> | <p>THE U.S.A.<br/>ALL COUNTRIES<br/>DISASTER VICTIMS<br/>ALL STUDENTS<br/>ALL TEACHERS<br/>MILITARY FAMILY:<br/>KARYN CAUDELL<br/>STEVEN JEFFERSON<br/>NATE LEATHERMAN<br/>JULIAN SCHMIDT<br/>JOSHUA TAYLOR<br/>KARL YURIK</p>   | <p>~~~~~<br/>PRAY<br/>WITHOUT<br/>CEASING<br/>~~~~~</p>   | <p>~~~~~<br/>PRAY FOR<br/>UKRAINE<br/>&amp; THE<br/>UKRAINIAN<br/>PEOPLE<br/>~~~~~</p>   | <p>1 PASTOR ED<br/>REV. DITTER<br/>The United Methodist Ch.<br/>Bishop Moore-Koikoi<br/>D.S. Rev. Andrew Foster<br/>The Van Arsdale Family<br/>The Ditter Family<br/>The Homeless<br/>All Missionaries<br/>Tabor Children &amp; Youth<br/>Tabor S.P.R. Committee<br/>Tabor Church</p> | <p>2 PASTOR ED<br/>REV. DITTER<br/>Family &amp; Friends of<br/>Dick Hollingsworth<br/>Brian Staehle &amp; Family<br/>Muriel Smith / Nancy Thimm<br/>Emma &amp; Jim Seltzer<br/>Hayley &amp; Baby Schaffer<br/>Jim &amp; Mary Anne Hartnett<br/>Virginia / Megan Cathy<br/>Samantha Hemmerle<br/>Kaye &amp; Tom Yurik</p> | <p>3 PASTOR ED<br/>REV. DITTER<br/>Reverend Ditter<br/>Children &amp; Youth<br/>Leaders</p>  |
| <p>4 PASTOR ED<br/>Reverend Ditter<br/>Children &amp; Youth Leaders<br/>The Worship Service<br/>Sunday School<br/>Children &amp; Youth Fellowship</p>                         | <p>5 PASTOR ED<br/>REV. DITTER<br/>Cancer &amp; Hospice Patients<br/>Kaye &amp; Tom Yurik<br/>Paul &amp; Joanne Spilman<br/>Gary Schnable/Paul Gilson<br/>Jack &amp; Vicki Young<br/>Ray Schmidt / Mark Smith<br/>Marylou Nice/Lisa Krause<br/>Bruce &amp; Sharon Stover</p>   | <p>6 PASTOR ED<br/>REV. DITTER<br/>Muriel Smith/Jane Hedrick<br/>Earl &amp; Edna Simpkins<br/>Boyd &amp; Eva Davenport<br/>Jack &amp; Diane Althouse<br/>Mike Weller / Flossie Lee<br/>Denise Jakitas/ Anne Dyer<br/>Richard &amp; Gloria Schadler<br/>Carol Becker</p> | <p>7 PASTOR ED<br/>REV. DITTER<br/>Nancy Thimm/ Bob Ditter<br/>Barb Kratz/Marie Damiani<br/>Darryl Knechel / Chase A<br/>Annette Jacobs/Antony H<br/>Welly Cressman / Zoey B<br/>Dale &amp; Tina Gerhart<br/>Dale Shisler / Peter Zucca<br/>Alice Strawser</p>             | <p>8 PASTOR ED<br/>REV. DITTER<br/>The United Methodist Ch.<br/>Bishop Moore-Koikoi<br/>D.S. Rev. Andrew Foster<br/>The Van Arsdale Family<br/>The Ditter Family<br/>Tabor Children &amp; Youth<br/>Tabor Finance Committee<br/>Tabor Church</p>                                      | <p>9 PASTOR ED<br/>REV. DITTER<br/>Emma &amp; Jim Seltzer<br/>Jim &amp; Beth Rittenhouse<br/>Hayley &amp; Baby Schaffer<br/>Alan &amp; Gail Wertz/Josh M<br/>Butch &amp; Sandi Hoffman<br/>Dick McMullen/ Bob Shaw<br/>Jamie Welby/Addie Neyra<br/>Rick &amp; Ginny Schmid</p>   | <p>10 PASTOR ED<br/>REV. DITTER<br/>Reverend Ditter<br/>Children &amp; Youth<br/>Leaders</p> |
| <p>11 PASTOR ED<br/>Reverend Ditter<br/>Children &amp; Youth Leaders<br/>The Worship Service<br/>Sunday School<br/>Children &amp; Youth Fellowship</p>                        | <p>12 PASTOR ED<br/>REV. DITTER<br/>Cancer &amp; Hospice Patients<br/>Paul &amp; Joanne Spilman<br/>Gary Schnable/ Ed Arnold<br/>Bobbi Moyer/ Pam Rivera<br/>Jack &amp; Vicki Young<br/>David Hollingsworth<br/>Lester &amp; Karen Kintz<br/>Boyd &amp; Eva Davenport</p>      | <p>13 PASTOR ED<br/>REV. DITTER<br/>Kaye &amp; Tom Yurik<br/>Earl &amp; Edna Simpkins<br/>Alice Strawser/Anne Dyer<br/>Annette Jacobs / Barb K<br/>Jack &amp; Diane Althouse<br/>Russell &amp; Arlene Cressman<br/>John Groff / Keith Groff<br/>Carol Morgan</p>        | <p>14 PASTOR ED<br/>REV. DITTER<br/>Nancy Thimm /Bridget G<br/>Cathy Brown / Flossie Lee<br/>Jane Kulp / Jessica Burke<br/>Anna-May Pensabene<br/>Carol Becker / Denise J<br/>Zoey B / Welly Cressman<br/>Samantha H / Baby Henry<br/>Muriel Smith</p>                     | <p>15 PASTOR ED<br/>REV. DITTER<br/>The United Methodist Ch.<br/>Bishop Moore-Koikoi<br/>D.S. Rev. Andrew Foster<br/>The Van Arsdale Family<br/>The Ditter Family<br/>The Homeless<br/>Tabor Trustees<br/>Tabor Church</p>  | <p>16 PASTOR ED<br/>REV. DITTER<br/>Hayley &amp; Baby Schaffer<br/>Jane Hedrick / Esther Way<br/>Virginia / Megan Cathy<br/>Bubba Frick /Missy Frick<br/>Victoria Kim/Addie Neyra<br/>Bob &amp; Lou Shaw /Mike W<br/>Alice Mae Glover / Judy R<br/>Jim &amp; Emma Seltzer</p>  | <p>17 PASTOR ED<br/>REV. DITTER<br/>Reverend Ditter<br/>Children &amp; Youth<br/>Leaders</p> |
| <p>18 PASTOR ED<br/>Reverend Ditter<br/>Children &amp; Youth Leaders<br/>The Worship Service<br/>Sunday School<br/>Children &amp; Youth Fellowship</p>                        | <p>19 PASTOR ED<br/>REV. DITTER<br/>Cancer &amp; Hospice Patients<br/>Jack &amp; Vicki Young<br/>Gary Schnable/Lin Villano<br/>Bobbi Moyer/Mark Smith<br/>Bruce &amp; Sharon Stover<br/>Corey Sandler/Flossie Lee<br/>Len &amp; Jan Simpkins<br/>Paul &amp; Joanne Spilman</p> | <p>20 PASTOR ED<br/>REV. DITTER<br/>Kaye &amp; Tom Yurik<br/>Nancy Thimm / Bob Ditter<br/>Boyd &amp; Eva Davenport<br/>Jack &amp; Diane Althouse<br/>Alice Strawser/Anne Dyer<br/>Jamie Welby / Lil Charlie<br/>Jay &amp; Robin Moyer<br/>Earl &amp; Edna Simpkins</p>  | <p>21 PASTOR ED<br/>REV. DITTER<br/>Muriel Smith / Carol B<br/>Barb Kratz /Kay Reitnauer<br/>Dave Ditter / Bob Ditter<br/>John Werner /Dave Parish<br/>Bette Martin /Eloise Tatro<br/>Jeanne Astheimer/ Ray S<br/>Marie Damiani /Welly C<br/>Annette Jacobs</p>            | <p>22 PASTOR ED<br/>REV. DITTER<br/>The United Methodist Ch.<br/>Bishop Moore-Koikoi<br/>D.S. Rev. Andrew Foster<br/>The Van Arsdale Family<br/>The Ditter Family<br/>Tabor Children &amp; Youth<br/>Tabor Council<br/>Tabor Church</p>   | <p>23 PASTOR ED<br/>REV. DITTER<br/>Emma &amp; Jim Seltzer<br/>Beth &amp; Jim Rittenhouse<br/>Hayley &amp; Baby Schaffer<br/>Mark Davis /Chase Adams<br/>Butch &amp; Sandi Hoffman<br/>Ginny &amp; Rick Schmid<br/>Danielle / Albanna Mوندونو<br/>Alan &amp; Gail Wertz</p>  | <p>24 PASTOR ED<br/>REV. DITTER<br/>Reverend Ditter<br/>Children &amp; Youth<br/>Leaders</p> |
| <p>25 PASTOR ED<br/>Reverend Ditter<br/>Children &amp; Youth Leaders<br/>The Worship Service<br/>Sunday School<br/>Children &amp; Youth Fellowship</p>                        | <p>26 PASTOR ED<br/>REV. DITTER<br/>Cancer &amp; Hospice Patients<br/>Ray Schmidt / Sue Nelson<br/>Gary Schnable/ Ed Arnold<br/>Bobbi Moyer / Kim Tilly<br/>Donna Hite / Deb Schmidt<br/>David Hollingsworth<br/>Lester &amp; Karen Kintz<br/>Jack &amp; Vicki Young</p>       | <p>27 PASTOR ED<br/>REV. DITTER<br/>Kaye &amp; Tom Yurik<br/>Boyd &amp; Eva Davenport<br/>Earl &amp; Edna Simpkins<br/>Jack &amp; Diane Althouse<br/>Carol Morgan /Anne Dyer<br/>Jane Kulp/ Susan Donovan<br/>Anthony Hite/Josh Mulligan<br/>Jane Hedrick</p>           | <p>28 PASTOR ED<br/>REV. DITTER<br/>Nancy Thimm/Muriel Smith<br/>Bruce &amp; Sharon Stover<br/>Carol Becker/Regina McHugh<br/>Flossie Lee / Zoey B<br/>Matt &amp; Sarah Filizzi<br/>Gary &amp; Rosemarie Rippet<br/>Helen Adomson / Mike W<br/>John &amp; Abbie Wright</p> | <p>29 PASTOR ED<br/>REV. DITTER<br/>The United Methodist Ch.<br/>Bishop Moore-Koikoi<br/>D.S. Rev. Andrew Foster<br/>The Van Arsdale Family<br/>The Ditter Family<br/>Tabor Children &amp; Youth<br/>All Missionaries<br/>Tabor Church</p>  | <p>30 PASTOR ED<br/>REV. DITTER<br/>Hayley &amp; Baby Schaffer<br/>Richard &amp; Gloria Schadler<br/>Bob &amp; Lou Shaw / Judy R<br/>Ron &amp; Cathy Hartman<br/>Dave Parish / John Werner<br/>Tedd &amp; Kathy Speck<br/>Brother Mike/Steven Clark<br/>Roger &amp; Kathie McGill</p>                                    | <p>31 PASTOR ED<br/>REV. DITTER<br/>Reverend Ditter<br/>Children &amp; Youth<br/>Leaders</p> |

**DISCIPLES OF HOPE (DOH)**  
**Mondays, 11:00A.M. - 12:30P.M.**

Let's start off the New Year with a wonderful sense of hope and joy! *The Disciples of Hope* meet every Monday in Room #9 from 11:00a.m. - 12:30p.m.

Our "normal" agenda is:

- \* Light refreshments are prepared and served by individual members
- \* Time of good fellowship, laughter and prayers
- \* DVD study by Ray Vander Laan followed by discussions led by Earl Simpkins and Pastor Ed
- \* Closing prayer

We would like to encourage you to join our group for we find DOH to be an inspirational time of growing in our faith with fellow believers. If you have any questions, please contact Edna or Earl Simpkins. ~Edna Simpkins

\* \* \* \* \*

**REDNER'S SAVE-A-TAPE PROGRAM**

Thank you to ALL who continue to turn in Redner's receipts to myself or to the Tabor Church office. Please continue to turn in your receipts and ask your friends, family, co-workers, neighbors, etc. to save them for us as well.

**IMPORTANT** - for us to be able to turn your Redner's receipts in, the receipt **MUST** have the following:

- ~ the entire receipt from top to bottom.
- ~ customers must use their Redner's Rewards 1% Save-A-Tape card for each shopping trip receipt. This will be noted on the bottom of the receipt.
- ~ the "Today's 1% Save-A-Tape Total" needs to be attached to the receipt.
- ~ all receipts must be dated within three years prior to the date of submission.
- ~ do not use a highlighter on your receipt.
- ~ receipts from purchases at Redner's Quick Shoppes are not considered.

Your Redner's Receipts can brought to the church on a Sunday morning or dropped off at the church office during the week. Call (215-234-4852) to be sure someone is in the office for you to stop by. If you have any questions please contact me at 215-679-3858. Thanks again. ~ Muriel Smith

**THANK YOU NOTES**

Dear Tabor Family,

We don't have enough words to thank you for all the love and support you showed our family during this difficult time. We greatly appreciate all the prayers, texts, cards, emails, visits and phone calls. Thank you to those who were able to make it to Dick's service and to those helped. You all certainly made it easier to get through the last few months. We will always remember your kindness.

Love,  
Alice, Raquel, Alicia and Geordie

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Tabor Church,

I am so very grateful for your generosity! The Thanksgiving turkey dinner and all the goodies were wonderful and we were thrilled with your care and concern. Words really can't express our gratitude but the dear Lord and your congregation has certainly smiled down on us! Thank you.

Best wishes to you all,  
A Tabor Food Pantry Client &  
Holiday Food Basket Recipient

\* \* \* \* \*

**RECYCLING INK AND TONER CARTRIDGES**

Thank you to all who have been recycling your Ink and Toner Cartridges. Remember, we can only recycle Ink and Toner Cartridges. No other material can be accepted. Please use the drop off box outside the church office.

Please keep recycling your Ink and Toner Cartridges! Maybe you could even mention our recycling project to others including family, friends, neighbors, co-workers, the office/business where you work, etc. Questions, please feel free to email me at [vlshmid@mac.com](mailto:vlshmid@mac.com) ~ Blessings, Ginny

\* \* \* \* \*

**It's a New Year – Be A New Friend!**

\* \* \* \* \*



## 2026 Calendar

**January 10, 2026** (Saturday) 10:00a.m.

A Time of Fellowship. Cathy Sacks is graciously opening her home for a time of fellowship and putting a final polish on our 2026 events. Cathy's home is located at 1514 Harmon Road, Harleysville, PA. We look forward to you joining us!

\*\*\*\*\*

### BRAND NEW

I am the new year. I am an unspoiled page in your book of time.

I am your next chance at the art of living. I am your opportunity to practice what you have learned about life during the last 12 months.

All you sought and didn't find is hidden in me, waiting for you to search it but with more determination. All the good you tried for and didn't achieve is mine to grant when you have fewer conflicting desires.

All you dreamed but didn't dare to do, all you hoped but did not will, all the faith you claimed but did not have – these slumber lightly, waiting to be awakened by the touch of a strong purpose.

I am your opportunity to renew your allegiance to Him of said, "See, I am making all things new" (Revelation 21:5, NRSV).

~ Author Unknown

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### A NEW YEAR'S BLESSING

May God make your year a happy one!

Not by shielding you from all sorrow and pain,

But by strengthening you to bear it as it comes;

Not by making your path easy,

But by making you sturdy to travel any path;

Not by taking hardships from you,

But by taking fear from your heart;

Not by granting you unbroken sunshine,

But by keeping your face bright, even in the shadows;

Not by making your life always pleasant,

But by showing you when people and their causes need you most,

and by making you anxious to be there to help.

God's love, peace, hope and joy to you for the year ahead.

~ Author Unknown

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### DID YOU KNOW?

Sunday School for children meets each Sunday from 9:00-9:45a.m. in the Education Wing.

Sunday School for adults meets each Sunday from 9:00-9:45a.m. in the Chapel.

Tabor offers an in-person worship service each Sunday morning at 10:00a.m.

Tabor continues to live stream the worship service each Sunday morning at 10:00a.m. on Tabor United Methodist Church Facebook.

A Family Fellowship Time with snacks and beverages is offered in Weller Hall following worship until noon each Sunday.

Tabor Worship Services are available online anytime at [www.facebook.com/TaborUMC/](http://www.facebook.com/TaborUMC/)

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### Honoring God \*

### Making Disciples \*

### Serving Others \*

\*\*\*\*\*

**Make Someone Smile – Call A Friend,  
A Neighbor Or A Family Member Today!**

\*\*\*\*\*

**THE NEW YEAR IS A GREAT TIME  
TO MAKE A NEW START!  
JOIN US AT CHURCH WITH YOUR  
FAMILY AND FRIENDS!!!**

\*\*\*\*\*



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Red Cross**

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## **June Russell Memorial Blood Drive**

### **Tabor United Methodist Church**

**2209 Hendricks Station Road, Woxall, PA 18979**

**Wednesday, January 7, 2026**

**2:00 – 7:00 P.M.**

**&**

**Thursday, January 8, 2026**

**2:00 – 7:00 P.M.**

**Please visit [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) or  
call 1800-REDCROSS to schedule your  
appointment today.**

**Tabor United Methodist Church**  
2209 Hendricks Station Road  
P.O. Box 38  
Woxall, Pennsylvania 18979

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MAILED - **DECEMBER 22, 2025**

DATED MATERIAL -- DO NOT DELAY

## **PLEASE NOTE**

**Hi! We are touching base with you in regards to receiving our monthly Tabor Herald. Are you receiving a paper copy and would like to continue receiving the paper copy or would you prefer receiving the Tabor Herald in electronic format to your email address? Maybe you are already receiving it electronically, do you want to continue receiving it in that format? If you could let us know your preference for receiving the Tabor Herald we would appreciate it. Please let us know by email response to [adminassistant@taborumc.org](mailto:adminassistant@taborumc.org) or by a phone call to 215-234-4852. You can also let us know if you would like to be removed from our Tabor Herald mailing list. If you have already contacted us thank you for your response.**

**For Tabor updates, please continue to check on the Tabor United Methodist Church face book page, our website @ [taborumc.org](http://taborumc.org) or contact the church office @ 215-234-4852.**