

The United Methodist Church at Mount Tabor  
5 Simpson Avenue  
PO Box 29  
Mount Tabor, NJ 07878-0029

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Time Value—Please Do Not Delay



**THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH AT MOUNT TABOR**

**NEWSLETTER—FEBRUARY 2017**





FEBRUARY 2017

Rev. Amanda Hemenetz  
Pastor

Rev. Carolyn Fagan  
Pastor Emeritus

Rachel Caldari-Stroh  
Director of Music  
Ministry

Nicole Van Hoven - Pianist

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#### A House/Country/Church Divided...and Yet, There Is Love

So it's very interesting to be a pastor when some of your parishioners were happy on Inauguration Day while others were preparing to march the day after; while some agree with the immigration ban while others are protesting; while some believe the President will make America great again while others are convinced America ceased to be America in January.

It reminds me of The United Methodist Church in general. We are all so different, and yet we share the same denomination, the same faith, the same Lord. Here, in our sanctuary, we do likewise—We are all so different, and yet, there is love. We are family, a GOOD family, and I thank God for that!

Differing opinions are allowed in the UMC because different perspectives are presented in the Bible; and because God reveals Godself in different ways to different people, throughout the years and today. How we view God and the world around us are shaped by so many things, by culture, our own experiences, our education, our family, the church we attend, and the pastors who attend us. We are different, and yet, in our different ways, we all look at the world with love. As Charles Wesley, the founder of the UMC, said about those with opinions that differed from his own, "If your heart be as my heart...then give me your hand" (from his sermon 'Catholic Spirit'); what matters is that we move forward in the love of Christ.

The UMC follows a rule book known as The Book of Discipline, within which are contained The Social Principles. The Social Principles are a set of opinions, voted upon by the UMC at General Conference, which represent our collective statements regarding social issues. They are not considered 'essential doctrine', as they are opinion, and may be contested and disagreed with by any member of the UMC without their membership being questioned. They are, however, considered the basic understandings of the church in reference to social life.

The Social Principles of the UMC state the following regarding immigration:

#### *Rights of Immigrants*

*We recognize, embrace, and affirm all person, regardless of country of origin, as members of the family of God. We affirm the right of all persons to equal opportunities to employment, access to housing, healthcare, education, and freed from social discrimination. We urge the Church and society to recognize the gifts, contributions, and struggles of those who are immigrants and to advocate for justice for all. We oppose immigration policies that separate family members from each other or that include detention of families with children, and we call on local churches to be in ministry with immigrant families.*

## Pastor's Message, continued



Whatever your personal stance on the immigration ban, I hope and pray your stance is rooted in love; and that you consider the general perspective of the UMC that all people, “regardless of country of origin, (are) members of the family of God”.

Decisions made out of fear are rarely good ones. Personally, my love for ALL humanity greatly outweighs my fears, and so I am very troubled by the recent events in our country.

For those who are choosing to support immigrants and make your voices heard in this regard, I applaud you and stand with you.

And to those who do not agree...I love you anyway. Your church loves you anyway. Because that is who we are—people of love.

Peace,

Pastor Amanda



PLEASE SUPPORT  
THE INTERFAITH  
FOOD PANTRY  
WITH YOUR  
NON-PERISHABLE  
DONATION!

**FEBRUARY'S  
FEATURED  
ITEM IS:  
SOUPS**



### CHOIR REHEARSAL



Rehearsals are  
Thursdays,  
7:30pm.

Join the Choir &  
sing joyously!



## WORSHIP INFORMATION SUNDAY SERVICE 10:30am



Join us in February while  
we look at the Gospel  
According to Matthew.

March 1st, Ash Wednesday

### PRAYER FOR FEBRUARY

*"Learn to live from your true Center in Me."  
LORD Jesus, You reside in the deepest depths  
of my being, in eternal union with my spirit. It is  
at this deep level that Your Peace reigns  
continually. I will not find lasting peace in the  
world around me, in circumstances, or in human  
relationships. The external world is always in  
flux—under the curse of death and decay. But  
there is a gold mine of Peace deep within me,  
waiting to be tapped. I take time to delve into  
the riches of Your residing Presence. You want  
me to live increasingly from my real Center,  
where Your Love has an eternal grip on me. You  
are Christ in me, the hope of Glory.  
Thank You, Precious Jesus. Be glorified. Amen.*

#JesusCalling #prayer

February 20, 2015

# ALTAR FLOWERS

There are still dates open for donating altar flowers in honor or memory of someone. The open dates are:

February 12

March 26

April 30

July 30

August 13

If you would like to sponsor the altar flowers on any of these Sundays, please call the Church Office. Sponsorship is \$30.00 per week.



# Altar Flowers

## SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH AT 9:15AM!

The Sunday School is growing!  
Encourage the children you love to  
join this great group of children  
and youth!

Children (potty-trained) and  
Youth, pre-k through high school  
are all welcome to attend.

Come join the fun!

*Thanks  
to Our  
Sunday  
School  
Crew*



# PLEDGE DRIVE 2017

If you have not yet turned in your completed pledge card toward the 2017 budget, please do so as soon as possible.

Thank you in advance.

And thank you to all who have pledged thus far!

Offering envelopes are available in the Narthex.



**United Methodist Church  
at Mount Tabor**

## ***Estimated Giving 2017***

This is my financial commitment, guided by the Spirit, to support my church to the glory of God in 2017.

“God loves a cheerful giver”~2 Corinthians 9:8

Name:

Address:

Phone Number:

Email Address:

Member?  Yes  No

**I estimate my gifts to average**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ per week in 2017

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ per month in 2017

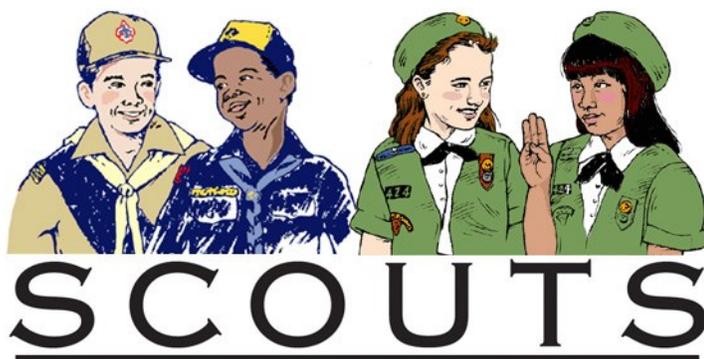
\$ \_\_\_\_\_ per year in 2017

\_\_\_\_\_ *This is a tithe (10% of income).*

\_\_\_\_\_ *This is an increase over last year.*

## SCOUT SUNDAY!

On Sunday, February 12th, at 10:30am, join us for a Celebration of Scout Sunday! All Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts and Brownies are encouraged to attend worship in uniform. We'll celebrate what you're learning and doing for the community, and welcome the Cub Scout Pack we sponsor as a church.



## “The Shack” Book Study

In anticipation of the upcoming film (to be released in March).

Never read it? You should!

Want to read it again? By all means!

‘The Shack’, written by W. Paul Young, has sold over 20 million copies and spent a year and a half at the top spot on the ‘best sellers’ list. Journey with Mack through sorrow, anger, and the transformation that occurs during his impossible and inspiring weekend with God at ‘The Shack’.

Please bring your own book to class. Four class sessions—

Wednesdays, 6:30pm

Feb 8th, Feb 15th, Feb 22, and Tuesday,

6:30pm Feb 28th.

For session 1 (Feb 8th) - Please come having read

Chapters 1-5 (through ‘Guess Who’s Coming to



# MORE CHRISTMAS PICTURES



The Sanctuary looked just beautiful! Thank you to our Ministry of the Arts team for all of their hard work!

We hope everyone noticed and enjoyed the new crèche purchased this year!



Our Liturgical Dancers did another lovely job glorifying God through dance. We thank you!

# TRUSTEES CORNER!

This has been a busy month for our Trustees!

A back-up battery in the office that kept beeping (incessantly) was replaced. There is now peace in the office!

The toilet in the educational wing (upstairs) has been fixed. There was a problem with the ball and chain. When that was being worked on, they found that there was a clog somewhere in the line. Water overflowed into the downstairs restroom. Work continued for a long time with snaking, outdoor work, and some seriously dirty hands! All bathrooms are functioning now.

The janitor's closet in the educational wing was cleaned out and organized.

The closet near the restroom in Tabor's Treasures was cleaned out and organized. Many items were brought to the Sunday School classroom for their use. This space can now be used for storage for Tabor's Treasures for bags and packing supplies.

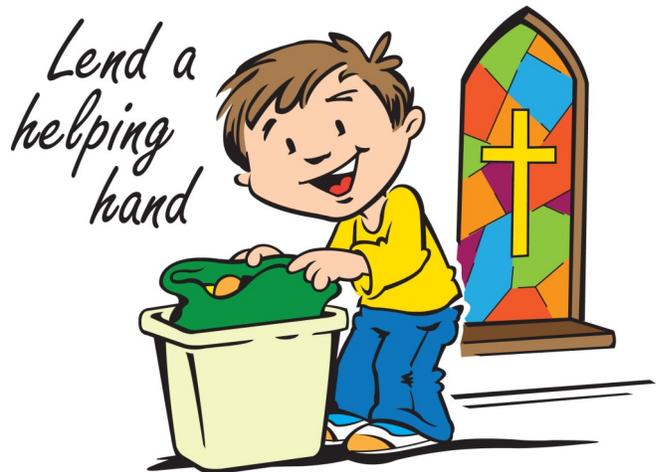
Repairs on the urinals in the men's room are being worked on.

Shelving is being constructed for the altar area near the pulpit for organization of equipment.

Lightbulbs were replaced in the sanctuary and various other places in the building.

The janitor's closet on the main floor was cleaned out and organized.

Many thanks go out to Joe Scala, Mary Tirpak and Russ Tirpak for their long hours of hard work.



## FROM OUR MONDAY MORNING QUILTERS

Our group began about 25 years ago. We make very simple, lap-size quilts.

We started giving them to Morristown Hospital Children's Department, the Jersey Battered Women's Shelter, and the NJ Firemen's Home.

We now give them to friends and family of our church and community who need encouragement or during times of illness.

The group is now facing disbanding. The only 2 members left are either moving or go to Florida for the winter.

We would really like this mission of our church to go on. A new group could make any changes that would work for them. Days and times can be changed.

We would like to teach others how we do the quilts. You don't need 'sewing' or 'quilting' experience to be a part of this mission. All supplies are in the church (lots of great material, sewing machines, batting, thread, etc.).

Interested? Contact the church office with the best days/times you could participate.





**24-Hour Helpline**  
La Línea de ayuda de JBWS de 24 horas  
☎ 973 • 267 • 4763  
☎ 973 • 285 • 9095 (TTY)

January 16, 2017

United Methodist Church at Mount Tabor  
5 Simpson Avenue  
PO Box 29  
Mount Tabor, NJ 07878

Dear Members of the United Methodist Church at Mount Tabor:

The clients and staff at Jersey Battered Women's Service, Inc. (JBWS) appreciate your donation of toys and gift cards for the holiday boutique. Your act of kindness reinforces your understanding of the importance of our services which help keep victims and their families safe, provide hope of a brighter future, and the programs necessary to rebuild their lives during a difficult time.

Thanks to your generosity, we were able to assist many families in need during the holiday season. Gifts such as yours have given nearly 200 families, including over 400 children, a wonderful holiday. One of our clients wrote, "Dear Angels, thank you so much for the gifts. My children and I are eternally grateful for you generosity!"

Thank you for your continued support and for making a difference in the lives of others.

Sincerely,

Patricia Sly  
President & CEO



# Interfaith Food Pantry

## Serving Morris County

January 16, 2017

Dominique Fork  
United Methodist Church at Mount Tabor  
PO Box 29  
Mount Tabor, NJ 07878

Dear Friends from UMC at Mount Tabor,

Thank you very much for your 4th quarter 2016 donations totaling 240 pounds of food.

Your support makes it possible for us to continue serving the many families visiting our pantries and the senior and disabled housebound clients who receive much needed food assistance through our home delivery program. Your help truly makes a positive difference in each of their lives.

Please know how much we all appreciate your partnership. On behalf of our Board of Trustees, our staff and especially the thousands of individuals we serve—thank you for caring and reaching out in compassion to your neighbors in need.

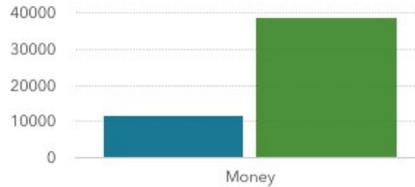
Sincerely,

Rosemary Gilmartin  
Executive Director

# Rebirth & Renewal



■ Received    ■ Goal



## Capital Improvement Campaign 2014-2017

### OUR GOALS

#### Completed:

- **Renovation of church exterior**
  - Repair rotten wood / new soffits
  - Repair crack and paint
  - 2 new doors (kitchen / thrift shop)
  - Enclose storage area for thrift shop
  - Total cost: \$19,315.00
- **New furnace at parsonage**
  - Total cost: \$2,500.00
- **Tree work at church/parsonage**
  - Total cost: \$2,700.00
- **Plumbing repairs**
  - New hot water heater / repair water main shutoff
  - Total cost: \$1,000.00

#### Projects to be Completed:

- **Parking lot repairs**
  - Repair holes and cracks/commercial grade seal coating and line painting
  - Total estimated cost: \$4,945.18
- **Fire Alarm Panel updated**
  - Estimated cost: \$5,500.00
- **New carpet for sanctuary**
  - Estimated cost: \$2,500.00

We need your help to reach our goal:

**\$38,460**

With the help of our church family, we can complete the projects of our capital campaign.

Goal per Year: \$12,820.00

### UPDATE

Total Donations

**\$25,530.24**

Total Needed:

**\$12,929.76**

60 Families

\$450.00 per family

2 Year Plan:

\$225.00 per year

\$20.00 per month

\$5.00 per week

LESS THAN \$1.00 A DAY

*Make the commitment!*

# JANUARY



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- Feb 6th Brandon Cochran
- Feb 8th Todd Osborne, John Harrison, Jr
- Feb 9th Jeff Dickerson
- Feb 12th Morgan Dickerson
- Feb 15th Christine Cochran
- Feb 16th Sharon Kratt
- Feb 19th Jesse Meyers
- Feb 20th Glenn McCrostie
- Feb 23rd Bernie Spille
- Feb 26th Donna Wojcik, Jean Emblar
- Feb 27th Bruce Downing
- Feb 28th Nathan Believe, Bruce H. Downing, Jr.

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- Feb 3rd Ron & Marie Dickerson
- Feb 14th Nancy & Robert Gerardi



*We apologize if you were not included on our list. If we have not listed your birthday, please contact the church office so we can include you in*

## Members and Friends In The Military

**Erin Parker**, *US Air Force*, former church member and son of Kathy & Chris Parker

**Michael O'Neil**

**Drew Greenlees**, *US Navy*, serving in Iraq, Graduate of PHHS, grew up in Glacier Hills

**Mike Sgambati**, *US Air Force*, living in New Mexico, Husband of Melissa Meyers

**Alex Degrosky**, friend of the Scala Family



# Tabor's Treasures

## THRIFT SHOP

### HOURS

Wednesdays 10am—2pm

Thursdays 10am—2pm & 4pm—8pm

Saturdays 9am—1pm

Volunteers are needed. Join the fun! To volunteer call Nancy Gerardi.

**For church members bringing donations—please place them OUTSIDE the back closet in Memorial Hall.**

**Clothing can be left in the box on the stage. Thank you! Furniture must be scheduled for inspection through the church office prior to donation. We allow ONE BAG of donations during shopping hours. At this time, we are not accepting puzzles and board games. We no longer accept VHS Tapes. If you have more, please contact the church office at 973-627-4243 to make arrangements.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### BITS & PIECES

Do you have something to announce? The deadline for the **weekly bulletin** is Wednesday at 9:00am. The deadline for the **monthly Tidings** newsletter will be the 20th of each month. Please feel free to contribute!!

### PRAYER CHAIN

Our church has an active prayer chain whose members regularly receive requests for prayers for specific needs. Although most often it concerns health, the need may be in other areas as well. To place a request for prayers, please call the church office at 973-627-4243 or email the office at [umcmounttabor@verizon.net](mailto:umcmounttabor@verizon.net).

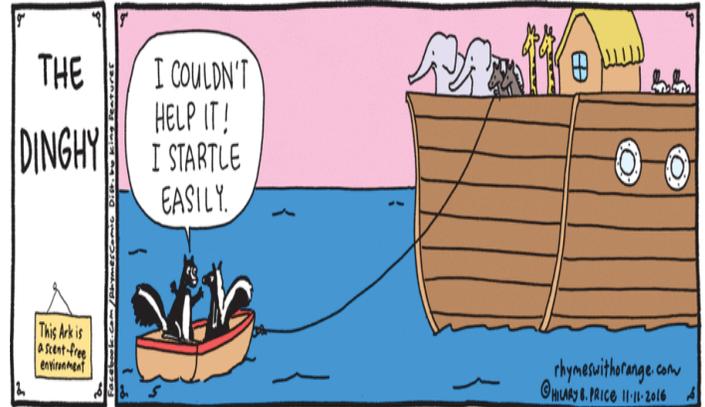


### PRAYERS NEEDED

Please keep the following people in your prayers:

David Ober, Jr	Terry Ober
LeRoy "Smitty" Smith	John Harrison
Dawn Zinckgraf	Debbie Sheldon
Dale Lennox	Denise Parker
Our Nation at this time of transition	

## Today's Chuckle



Thank to Ken Lemanowicz for this month's laugh!

## Please be aware:

Your giving statements that were mailed include your offering as well as any contributions to the R&R Campaign, Memorial Gifts, and flowers.

## WELCOME

The United Methodist Church at Mount Tabor is a community of faith-filled friends who seek to grow closer to God through the ministry of Jesus Christ and by the guidance of the Holy Spirit. We celebrate the history of Mount Tabor, and look with hope toward the future. Everyone is welcome here; everyone is cherished here; for everyone is a child of God. All are welcome to participate with us in our journey of faith, regardless of background, theological stance, or personal characteristics. We rejoice in God creating us to be a diverse family; and we strive to follow the Spirit's leading as one, while maintaining and upholding our individuality. Because of the current official stance of The United Methodist Church, we feel it is important to state a welcome to those of all sexual orientations and gender identities—You are welcome here.

God loves you just the way you are; and so do we.

### OUR TEAM IN MINISTRY

**Pastor:** Reverend Amanda Hemenetz  
Parsonage: 973-784-3758

Email: [AmandaHemenetz@gmail.com](mailto:AmandaHemenetz@gmail.com)

**Pastor Emeritus:** Reverend Carolyn Fagan  
Home: 973-285-3965

Email: [Fagancarolyn@aol.com](mailto:Fagancarolyn@aol.com)

**Church Office Administrator:** Dodi Skovronek

Office: 973-627-4243 Fax: 973-627-0601

Email: [umcmounttabor@verizon.net](mailto:umcmounttabor@verizon.net)

<b>Church Council</b>	John Ryans	973-625-3660
<b>Finance</b>	Kevin Davis	973-971-9927
<b>Church Lay Member to Conference</b>		
<b>Church Lay Leader</b>	Bob Newman	973-627-2494
<b>Ministry of Art</b>	Dawn Zinckgraf	973-538-5039
<b>Mission Outreach</b>	Sarah Lefsyk	973-234-5111
<b>Music/Worship</b>	Rachel Caldari Stroh	973-876-9846
<b>Pianist</b>	Nicole Van Hoven	
<b>Staff Parish Relations</b>	Bob Newman	973-627-2494
<b>Sunday School</b>	Hilary Ververs	973-625-7310
<b>Treasurer</b>	Ken Miller	973-539-8231
<b>Trustees</b>	Mike Zinckgraf	973-538-5039

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