

The United Methodist Church at Mount Tabor
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Time Value—Please Do Not Delay



THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH AT MOUNT TABOR

NEWSLETTER—DECEMBER 2021





UMC at Mount Tabor from the Pastor...

DECEMBER 2021

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Pastor
Rev. Carolyn Fagan
Pastor Emeritus
Pastor Jeannette Zajac
Youth Pastor
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It is Advent! Christmas is in the air...

I hope you had a happy Thanksgiving and that you were able to share with your family as perhaps you were not able to share last year. These past two years have been difficult for many of us as the COVID pandemic made its way into our world, our country, our communities, our families, and into our own personal lives in one way or another. As variants continue to thread our health during this season, we are reminded that we need to do our part by being careful and proactive in keeping our family and ourselves protected as much as we can.

We surely need Christmas... A time to remember that Emmanuel, God with us, has come to us and is here to bear our burdens, to give us hope, love, joy... peace. As Christmas approaches, we are given the opportunity, once again, during this Advent season to reflect on the true meaning of Christmas: the birth of Jesus, God's gift of salvation to the world.

As Christians, we struggle with the idea that God is with us and God's kingdom is among us, yet just a look around us can attest that we are still far from the full realization of God's kingdom in the here and now. This Advent Season let's take time to think and reflect how can our lives be transformed so we can become God's agents to make God's kingdom a reality in our midst. Perhaps this can be our best gift to God, to the world, and to our children.

While businesses are hoping that we rush to the stores or to online shopping to buy what we need and what we don't need and politics keeps calling our attention as we get more divided as a people and as a nation, God is calling us to rush, not to the stores or to political debates, but to trust God unreservedly and wholeheartedly so our lives may be transformed and we may become "God's gift" to your family and to the world.

May this year's Advent and Christmas seasons fill you with God's peace, hope, love, and joy!

Many Blessings and have a Merry Christmas!

Pastor Rosario

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

Our next Food
Pantry Sunday
is
December 19th.



We wish
everyone a
blessed
Christmas!



WORSHIP INFORMATION

We are back to in-person worshipping! Please join us each Sunday at 11:00am. We will continue to post on Facebook Live and YouTube for those who choose to worship from home. Stay safe, stay connected with the Church Family, in-person or virtually, and pray for the day we can all be together without concern. Christmas Eve Service will be at 4pm on December 24th. Please join us.

WORSHIP  WITH US!



December 2021						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Office Hours 10a-3p Tabor's Treasures 10a-2p	2 Tabor's Treasures 4p-8p Adult Bible Study 7p	3 Office Hours 10a-3p Tabor's Treasures 10a-2p	4 Tabor's Treasures 9a-1p
5 Sunday School 10:15a Adult Bible Study 10:15a Worship 11a Girl Scouts-MH-4p	6 Office Hours 10a-3p Ad Council 7p	7 Tabor's Treasures 10a-2p	8 Office Hours 10a-3p Tabor's Treasures 10a-2p	9 Tabor's Treasures 4p-8p Adult Bible Study 7p	10 Office Hours 10a-3p Tabor's Treasures 10-2p Family Movie Night	11 Tabor's Treasures 9a-1p
12 Sunday School 10:15a Adult Bible Study 10:15a Worship 11a Girl Scouts-MH-2p	13 Office Hours 10a-3p	14 Tabor's Treasures 10-2p	15 Office Hours 10a-3p Tabor's Treasures 10a-2p	16 Tabor's Treasures 4p-8p Adult Bible Study 7p	17 Office Hours 10a-3p Tabor's Treasures 10a-2p	18 Tabor's Treasures 9a-1p
19 Sunday School 10:15a Adult Bible Study 10:15a Worship 11a Food Pantry Sunday	20 Office Hours 10a-3p	21 Tabor's Treasures 10a-2p	22 Office Hours 10a-3p Tabor's Treasures 10a-2p	23 Tabor's Treasures Closed	24 Christmas Eve Office Closed Tabor's Treasures Closed Christmas Eve Worship 4pm	25 Christmas Tabor's Treasures Closed
26 Sunday School 10:15a Adult Bible Study 10:15a Worship 11a	27 Office Hours 10a-3p	28 Tabor's Treasures Closed	29 Office Hours 10a-3p Tabor's Treasures Closed	30 Tabor's Treasures Closed	31 New Year's Eve Office Closed Tabor's Treasures Closed	Welcome 2022

ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATIONS

There are open dates available for altar flower dedications. If you'd like to honor or memorialize a loved one, please consider sponsoring the altar flower. The cost is \$30.00 and a dedication will be printed in the bulletin (and you can take the flowers home after the worship service!). Please contact the church office if you are interested.

PREPARE YE THE WAY OF THE LORD!



Lighting the Advent Candles on the First Sunday of Advent.



Working together to decorate the sanctuary for Christmas! As the room is transformed into its Christmas glory, so are we. Open your heart this Christmas season and prepare to welcome the Christ Child all through Advent.



Christmas Poinsettias/Donations

2021 Order Form



Christmas flowers and decorations add so much to the beauty of our sanctuary during the Christmas worship and gives us a deeper feeling of the season.

You have two ways of helping beautify the Church:

- 1) You may purchase poinsettias for \$10.00 each. And/or
- 2) You may donate money. Contributions may be in any amount.

What a wonderful way to remember someone special.
Both options may be given in honor or memory of a person.

Please complete the order form below and place it in the offering plate or mail it back to the Church office by **December 12th.**

1) Please accept a donation in the amount of \$ _____

AND/OR

2) Please order: _____ red poinsettia(s) _____ white poinsettia(s)

Total plant order \$ _____

Given in memory of _____

Given in honor of _____

Given by _____

Please make your check payable to the UMC at Mt. Tabor and mark your envelope Christmas Flowers.

PLEASE NOTE: December 12th is the absolute deadline, so place your orders early!

FOOD PANTRY COLLECTIONS

We recently held our Food Pantry Sunday drives at the Post Office and our Church. Everyone got into the Thanksgiving spirit!! Our November donations were \$80.00 and 304 pounds of food!! That is AMAZING! Thank you to everyone for helping to make others' Thanksgivings special! Please see the flyer on the following pages for info on our Advent Food Drive!





ADVENT FOOD PANTRY CALENDAR

DECEMBER FOOD DRIVE!!! MAKING CHRISTMAS MERRY FOR OTHERS!

A NEW AND UNIQUE WAY TO HELP THE



Here's what to do: Get a large box. Each day in December, place an item of food in the box. (A suggested list is below, but you can put in any non-perishable food item.) Bring completed box to:

UMC at Mt. Tabor on Sunday, Dec. 19th between 10 a.m. and 12 noon.

Get the kids involved!! Advent is the season of giving! Have them read the "calendar" and place item in the box. (Hint: buy items ahead of time...)

Dec. 1 – box of cereal

Dec. 11 – can of sweet potatoes

Dec. 2 – peanut butter

Dec. 12 – cranberry sauce

Dec. 3 – stuffing mix

Dec. 13 – canned beans

Dec. 4 – boxed potatoes

Dec. 14 – box of crackers

Dec. 5 – stuffing mix

Dec. 15 - rice

Dec. 6 – canned fruit

Dec. 16 - oatmeal

Dec. 7 – canned tomatoes

Dec. 17 - pasta

Dec. 8 – dessert mix

Dec. 18 – spaghetti sauce

Dec. 9 – canned tuna

Dec. 19 – can of vegetables

Dec. 10 – jar of applesauce

ENJOY AND MERRY CHRISTMAS!



Interfaith Food Pantry

Serving Morris County

“neighbors helping neighbors”

EVERYDAY PANTRY NEEDS

ALL are needed

<p><u>FRUITS & VEGETABLES</u> – Look for fruit canned in its own juice or with “no sugar added”. Look for vegetables with low sodium or “no salt added”.</p>	<p>Canned Fruit 100% Juice 32 oz. Canned Vegetables Spaghetti / Tomato Sauce, Tomato Products (crushed, whole, diced, paste, puree) Fresh Produce from your garden (uncooked)</p>
<p><u>GRAINS</u> – Donate whole grains as often as you can</p>	<p>Cereal – low sugar, high fiber Oatmeal Pasta/ Whole wheat Pasta Rice /Brown Rice – 1 or 2 lb. sizes</p>
<p><u>DAIRY</u> – Donate shelf-stable low-fat (1%) or non-fat dairy products</p>	<p>Parmalat (shelf stable 32 oz. size) Dry Milk (1-qt. package) Evaporated Milk Calcium-fortified Milk alternatives such as soy, rice or almond milks</p>
<p><u>PROTEIN</u> – Look for “no salt added”, “low -sodium” and “canned in water”</p>	<p>Canned Beans (Pork and Beans, Pinto, Red, White, not green beans) Dried Beans Tuna Fish, Salmon and other canned fish Peanut Butter, 18 oz. Canned Meats and Meals (ravioli, spaghetti & meatballs, hash, stew canned chicken etc.)</p>
<p><u>SIDE DISHES</u> –</p>	<p>Mac ‘n Cheese Instant Potatoes Stuffing Rice-A-Roni Hamburger Helper</p>
<p><u>SOUPS</u></p>	<p>Hearty, Low-Sodium, Regular</p>
<p><u>BABY ITEMS</u></p>	<p>Enfamil Infant Formula (NOT Newborn) Baby Food – Stage 1 Fruits and Stage 3 Vegetables & Meats Diapers 5 & 6 Pull Ups 4T & 5T Baby Wipes</p>
<p><u>SPECIALTY ITEMS</u></p>	<p>Gluten Free Products Boost or Ensure, regular Boost Glucose Control or Glucerna Adult Depends (no tabs) Tea (100 count boxes) Resealable sandwich bags and quart sized Plastic Bags</p>

2 Executive Drive ▪ Morris Plains, NJ 07950 ▪ 973-538-8049 ▪ Fax: 973-998-5086

E-mail: interfaithfoodpantry@mcifp.org ▪ www.mcifp.org

IFP is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. Our Federal tax-exempt # is 22-3618468.

NEW BOOK CLUB!

Hello everyone!

I'd like to start a casual book discussion group focusing on *uplifting* reads. (We could call it Soul Purpose? Soul Food?) Here are my suggestions for the first selection:

Holy Hot Mess: Finding God in the Details of this weird and wonderful life by Mary Katherine Backstrom
In this National Bestseller, Mary Katherine Backstrom shares heartbreaking and hilarious stories of how God uses each "mess" in our lives to bring us closer to Him. She shows us that it's okay to celebrate exactly where we are right now--holy, hot mess and all.

A lot of people struggle with the concept of being holy. But the fact is, even the hottest of messes are being shaped--right now--into Jesus' likeness. In this book, Mary Katherine shares the sometimes-hidden evidence of God's work in her life and shows you that it's okay to embrace the hot messes.

Hope and Other Superpowers by John Pavlovitz

It's exhausting to give a damn these days, isn't it? Perhaps you're feeling anguished about what you see on the news or in your social media timeline, or by your personal circumstances, and are paralyzed waiting for political or religious leaders, or celebrities, to rescue us from it all.

But what if you didn't have to wait for someone else? What if you could be the hero?

In these pages, John offers a path away from the vitriol and toward compassion, and a plan to transform our burdens into dreams and our outrage into activism. Drawing from lessons of beloved fictional superheroes, John shows us how to identify our origin story, build protective suits of armor, guard against our personal kryptonite, and vanquish our villains. He also identifies ten specific "superpowers" that we can enlist to make our lives and our world better. Along the way, he shares inspiring anecdotes and profiles about ordinary people who saw a gap in the world in empathy or kindness or gratitude and decided to fill it.

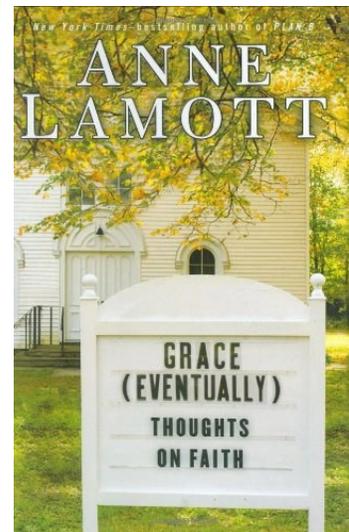
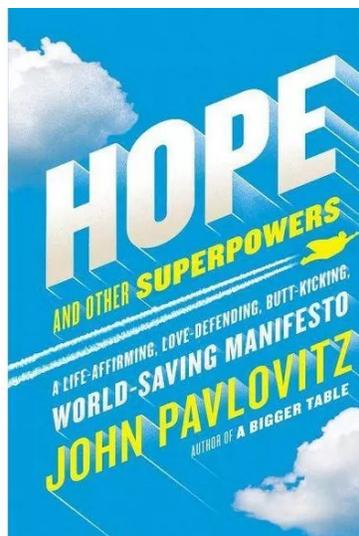
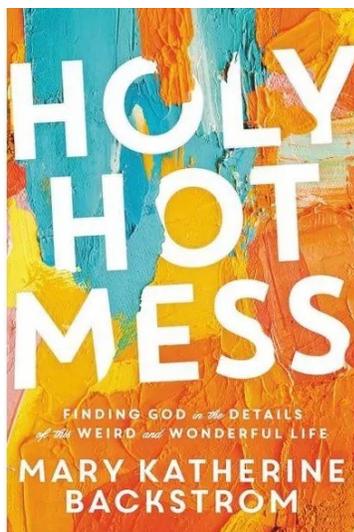
Grace (Eventually): Thoughts on Faith by Anne Lamott

In "Grace (Eventually)," the bestselling author of "Traveling Mercies" and "Plan B" delivers a poignant, funny, and bittersweet primer of faith, as she comes to discover what it means to be fully alive.

Here's a Google form to reply with interest, scheduling, suggestions and voting on the titles: <https://forms.gle/feg8MkHcmvMtxbBM8>

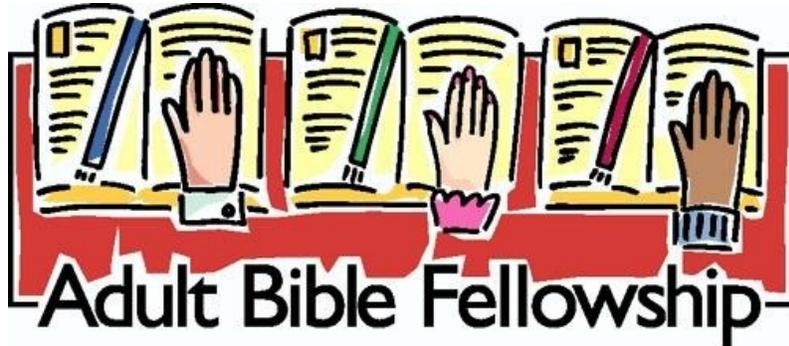
Look forward to hearing from you!

Hilary Ververs 973.902.2093



ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Adult Bible Study has begun. They are held on Sunday mornings at 10:15am. This class will be led by Pastor Jeannette. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend.



A Native American Prayer for Native American Heritage Day from GNJUMC.

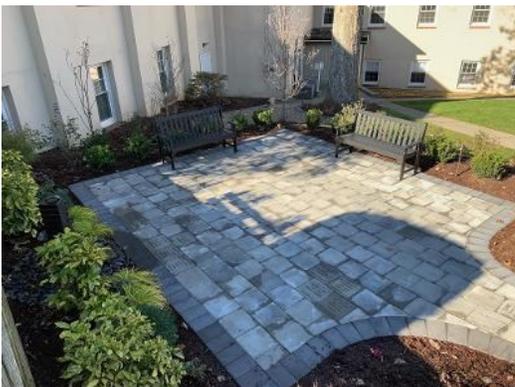
"Creator, open our hearts to peace and healing between all people. Creator, open our hearts to provide and protect for all children of the earth. Creator, open our hearts to respect for the earth, and all the gifts of the earth. Creator, open our hearts to end exclusion, violence, and fear among all. Thank you for the gifts of this day and every day."

GARDEN OF PEACE

Even though it is cold, it is a great time to visit the Garden of Peace. Please feel free to come, sit, reflect, remember, and pray.

The plantings have been completed. Accent lighting has been installed. Two benches have been added for you to relax during your meditation.

This is a great place to remember our loved ones who have passed, as well as a place you might consider for yourself one day. Consider being part of this memorial garden with the purchase of an engraved stone for a loved one or for yourself.



MO UPDATE

Ways we are in mission during this time of 'distancing'—

Food Drives will be held each Food Pantry Sunday (last Sunday of each month) 10am-12noon. Contactless drop off!

Tabor's Treasures continues to serve the community with their regular hours.

WORSHIP OPTIONS

We are holding in-person worship! It is wonderful to be back in the sanctuary and seeing everyone in person! We will continue to post to Facebook Live at 11:00am on Sundays for everyone who chooses to worship from home. The service will be posted to YouTube after the service has finished.



Tabor's Treasures

THRIFT SHOP

If you are looking to donate to Tabor's Treasures, please email Dawn Zinckgraf at taborstreasuresumc@gmail.com or call 973-627-0601

to set up an appointment.

Walk-in drop offs are not being accepted at this time.

Thank you!

YOUTUBE

You may subscribe to the Church's YouTube channel at this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC6EJO5CzlhFfOs6lp6gaJYQ>

Sunday worship services will be uploaded to YouTube on this channel after the service is over.

This will make it easier for you to find it each week!

A Welcome Back Gift from UMCmarket

\$5 for our Congregation

Scan to Join



Helping is as easy as shopping.

Our coffers have reached new lows this past year.

Your generous nature means a lot to us.

Join UMCmarket today and shop any one of over 2,000 stores.

We'll get a donation (average 3%) PLUS a \$5 Welcome Back Gift

(and it's free to you and to us)

The body is not one part, but many parts. -1 Corinthians 12:14 (NIV)

Offering During The Pandemic

COVID-19 has made many aspects of life difficult, including finances. If you are able, please continue giving to the church. Perhaps you can even give a little more to help offset those who are unable to do so at this time.

If you are experiencing financial difficulty yourself, please contact Pastor Rosario. And remember, we are praying for you.

4 ways to give:

- Send your check to the church office. Thank you to all those who have sent offering already!
- Set up automatic, recurring gifts through your bank.
- Donate electronically via GIVELIFY (instructions below).
- Donate electronically through the Conference website gnjumc.org (click on the heading at the top of the page entitled ‘give to your church’).



How To Make Your First Givelify Donation

- 1 Download the free Givelify app



- 2 Locate our Place of Worship

- 3 Tap My Place of Worship

- 4 Tap the Give button

- 5 Tap an amount

- 6 Select an envelope

- 7 Tap Give Now

- 8 Create your account

- 9 Enter payment information

➔ Next time you use Givelify, save time with the **1-TAP GIVE NOW** button

December



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Dec. 4 th	Elva Neumann
Dec 7 th	Krysta Keller
Dec. 12 th	Ian Miller
Dec. 15 th	Charles Taylor, Jr., Laura Lemanowicz
Dec. 18 th	Donald McKeand,
Dec. 19 th	Jesse McCrostie
Dec. 21 st	Ian Corcoran, Stan Wojcik
Dec. 30 th	Hilary Ververs

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

Dec. 3 rd	Denise & Jeffrey Luca
Dec 9 th	Wilbur & Jill Downing, Ned & Rachel Stroh



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 future editions.

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
Steven Masker, US Army, back in the US-friend of the Dickerson Family

Melissa Pier, US Marines

Danny Antolos, friend of Ruth Blazure
Ridar Gunderson, *US Marines*



Tabor's Treasures

THRIFT SHOP

Hours:

Tuesday 10a-2p

Wednesday 10a-2p

Thursday 4p-8p

Friday 10a-2p

Saturday 9a-1p

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BITS & PIECES

Do you have something to announce? The deadline for the **weekly bulletin** is Wednesday at 10:00am. 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.



PRAYERS NEEDED

Please keep the following people in your prayers:

David Ober, Jr

Donna Wojcik

Jan Atkinson

Carolyn Wescott

Patricia Caldari

Nancy Gerardi

Blake Davis

The Dickerson Family

All the Families who lost loved ones to COVID-19

The McCrostie/Embler Families

Today's Chuckle

This should be easy to understand how freedoms work

This person took his part, but it affected others negatively. He exercised his freedom, but with an injustice to others. Freedoms can't be exercised as every individual wants without looking at injustices to others. Justice disappears when you harm others. An example of bad exercise of individual freedom.



THE UPPER ROOM

Due to the pandemic, the Upper Room magazine is available online. If you haven't been to in-person worship to pick one up, you may read it online.

Please see the link below for the latest issue:

<https://upperroom.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?>

[u=1b5f1dafae8900da3ef72c04d&id=95254ae632&e=3f436b09ca](https://upperroom.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=1b5f1dafae8900da3ef72c04d&id=95254ae632&e=3f436b09ca)

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: Pastor Rosario Quiñones

Home: 973-627-2940 Cell: 214-636-2644 Email: rosario.l.quinones@live.com

Pastor Emeritus: Reverend Carolyn Fagan

Home: 973-285-3965 Email: carolynmayfagan@gmail.com

Youth Pastor: Jeannette Zajac

Cell: 570-269-5182 Email: Jeannette.zajac@gmail.com

Manager, Tabor's Treasures: Dawn Zinckgraf

Thrift Shop: 973-627-0601 Email: taborstresuresumc@gmail.com

Church Office Administrator: Dodi Skovronek

Office: 973-627-4243 Email: umcmounttabor@verizon.net

Ad Council Chair	Jeff Dickerson	973-625-2879
Church Council	John Ryans	973-625-3660
Finance	Kevin Davis	973-971-9927
Lay Leader	Ned Stroh	973-876-9846
Lay Member to Conference	Bruce Downing	973-627-5424
Ministry of Art	Dawn Zinckgraf	973-538-5039
Mission Outreach	Warren Ververs	973-625-7310
Recording Secretary	Nancy Gerardi	973-479-2364
Staff Parish Relations	Janet Ryans	973-625-3660
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Sunday School	Hilary Ververs	973-625-7310
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