Mt. Tabor United Methodist Church

"THE CHIMES"

Volume 22, Issue 6 November/December 2026

New to Mt. Tabor?

Welcome! Know that wherever you are in your faith journey, you are welcome to join us in our quest to discover God. We offer a variety of ways to grow in your faith, to serve the world, and to reach out to others with the love of Jesus Christ. This newsletter is a little window into who we are as a faith community. We'd love to have you join us in worship on Sunday mornings, or if you would like more information, please contact us. Thank you and may God bless your search for Him.

Mt. Tabor's Mission Statement

Our mission is to reach, welcome, and serve all people so that we and others can become fully devoted disciples of Jesus Christ.

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"The Pastor's Pen" — Pastor Jan Walsh

Hello, people of God! (ALMOST) Christmas Greetings!

Picture this if you will: The year: 2002. Heavy traffic; one 15 passenger van, six whiny teenagers, 2 sleepy children, 2 road weary adults. 300 miles traveled in 13 hours due to spring break traffic (and Jan's driving), 12 midnight. As we stood in line at the check-in desk at the Comfort Inn in South Carolina, all we could hear the clerk tell the other would-be patrons at the hotel was "Sorry, No Room. There are NO VACANCIES IN SOUTH OR NORTH CAROLINA. You'll have to drive on through to Virginia." NO ROOM. Oh, how those words stung our ears! Ha. I thought. And Mary and Joseph thought THEY had it bad.

Yet, imagine THEIR JOURNEY. Nine months pregnant. Walking and riding a donkey the 70 plus miles from the small town of Nazareth to Bethlehem. Up the hills, down the hills, across the land. Dry. Hot. Bumpy. I wonder if Mary every complained. If she ever said, "Joseph, could we please stop at the next rest area?" And yet, finally, after several days of travel, pulling into an inn, only to find that there was NO ROOM. How those words must have stung their ears. No room. No room to freshen up after a long journey. No room to rest a weary body. The only available place to rest was the stable. A smelly, dingy, stable where the animals; were kept. So off they went to birth a KING.

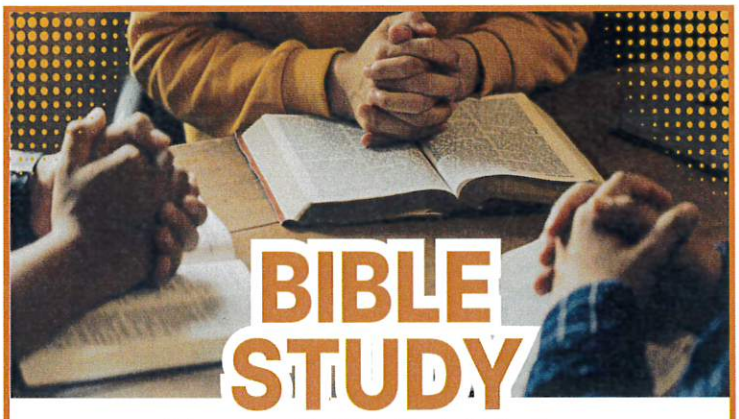
NO ROOM. How those words still ring in our ears. Yet, when the Lord asks us to do a task for Him, how many times have we replied, "Sorry, Lord. No room. No room. I have no room in my busy schedule to perform such a task." I wonder if those words hurt His ears. No room. We know the still small voice. The one that calls us to serve Him. Yet, sometimes we simply reply," Sorry. No room." Are we guilty of offering Him a stable instead of an inn? Is there room in your heart for Him?

During the upcoming Holiday Season, let's keep the main thing the main thing – keeping Jesus the focal point of everything we do. After all it is called **CHRISTmas**, not **CHRIST**-LESS-MAS! Remember - Jesus is the Reason for the Season!

Keep HIM at the center of everything you do this **CHRIST**mas! **HE** is the reason!

Pastor Jan <><

Ministries



Join our weekly Bible Study Gathering
and discover the power of God's Word in everyday life.

MONDAYS AT 1PM AT THE HOME OF KATHY HOPKINS

The final study of the year will be 'it is well' - walking away from anxiety and into God's word. Beginning October 26th this 3 week course will have discussions on hope and peace and equip us with scripture that will remind us of God's love when we need it most.

In 2027 we will begin the year with the continuation of The Chosen and The House of David series. Dates and times will be available in the Chimes for the new year. We welcome anyone who is interested in our studies. There are no biblical scholars here just those who like to dig more deeply into God's word.

Remember Christmas isn't your birthday but the birthday of our King!

God Bless, Diana, Gretchen,Barb, Susie, Diane,Ruth and Kathy

All are invited to join us after worship on November 29th to help with the Hanging of the Greens.

WINGS Women In God's Service

Diane Daniels made and donated 105 glasses cases at the August visit to Cross Eyed Missions, Dr. Kail makes trips to South America to help with vision and he says they are easier to pack.

Wings also donated $200 to this mission.

There will be no Nov. meeting.

The next meeting will be Dec. 9th at 12:00 in Fellowship Hall and will be a Christmas Covered Dish lunch and White Elephant Gift Exchange!

Gretchen DelSavio

Once again we will be collecting small gifts for members of our Mt. Tabor Family who are unable to attend church. Cards, lotion, treats that are easy to chew--things someone who is homebound or in a nursing facility could use or enjoy--are all welcome. Their gift bags and flowers will be on a table in the narthex November 29, the first Sunday of Advent, through Sunday, December 20. Please sign up in the narthex to deliver a gift bag and flower, and take them with you after church on Dec. 20. Then deliver it to the recipient by Dec. 24. Each recipient's name, address, and phone number will be attached to their gift bag. Thank you for passing on God's love and joy!

Diana Spaulding

TRUSTEES

Be advised the parsonage has new tenants. As of November 1st, the parsonage has been re-rented on an 1-year lease for $1600 per month plus utilities. This is a huge help in funding repairs and completing various maintenance projects throughout the church.

Many thanks to Tim Erickson for the landscaping improvements at the front of the parsonage. He also arranged to have a tree in the back yard trimmed and this will keep leaves off the roof and out of the gutters.

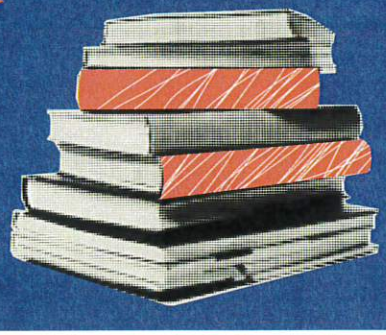
A new TV and stand have been placed in the youth Sunday School room so videos, movies etc. can be used.

Denny Myers

Book Club

LOVE READING? LOVE SHARING IDEAS? COME CONNECT WITH FELLOW BOOK LOVERS!

The November meeting is planned for Tues. November 10th at 3:30pm at the home of Sue Myers. There will not be a meeting in December because of Christmas, however, books for January and February will be selected at the November meeting. Hope you can join us!



Adult Sunday School

Sunday School classes are held at 9:30am. All are welcome to attend

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Children's Sunday School has started. Classes are held at 10:45 weekly.

This year we will be learning the books of the Bible, who wrote the books, and their stories.

If you have any questions, please contact Diane Garner at 330-685-1864.

BURGER & BIBLE

The next meeting of the Burger and Bible group will be November 18th at Loby's on Cleveland Ave. Everyone is welcome. Due to the holidays, the group will NOT meet in December.

For information see Diane Garner.

MONEY MATTERS

Money Matters by Charlotte Schweitzer, Treasurer

Greetings. We are fast approaching the end of the year and before we know it, we'll be in 2027! For offerings to be credited to 2026, they will need to be received or postmarked by December 31. If you use the online giving option, you have until 11:59 pm December 31.

If you currently do not have a box of offering envelopes, but you want one for 2027, please let Sandy and me know now. (Note: we have a limited amount of "spares". To get the best price for the boxed envelopes they are ordered a year in advance.) If you had a box this year and don't think you would use the offering envelopes next year, please let us know before December 1st. We will be printing labels for the boxes in December.

"Keep doing good works and sharing your resources, for these are sacrifices that please God." Hebrews 13:16 The Jerusalem Bible

The first graphic below includes just the General Fund. The other graphics include Capital Improvement and Benevolence offerings.

Blessings.

Charlotte Schweitzer

Money Matters continued on page 4

Money Matters Cont....

General Fund Receipts vs Expenses

General Fund balance 12/31/2025	
Designated (use specified by donor)	11,609.46
Undesignated	20,501.99
Total	32,111.45

Period	Offerings	Other Receipts	Expenses	Net
January 2026	5,746.00	587.00	-11,636.42	-5,303.42
February	15,305.00	1,085.00	-10,072.72	6,317.28
March	11,132.00	1,806.23	-11,763.62	1,174.61
April	9,274.00	961.00	-9,781.74	453.26
May	9,948.92	1,507.01	-9,494.34	1,961.59
June	8,038.08	790.00	-12,343.61	-3,515.53
July	8,606.18	3,735.00	-14,461.40	-2,120.22
August	11,234.71	940.00	-9,934.62	2,240.09
September	7,462.00	783.00	-10,136.88	-1,891.88

Payroll taxes withheld, not yet remitted	948.18
General Fund balance 9/30/2026	32,375.41

Designated (use specified by donor)	9,508.66
Undesignated	22,866.75
General Fund balance 9/30/2026	32,375.41

Offerings – Church Budget line on offering envelope

Offerings – General Fund, Capital Improvement, and Benevolence

WEEK #	2025	2026	Change	Budget
QTR 1	35,406.00	38,938.00	3,532.00	32,825.00
QTR 2	44,664.89	34,411.00	(10,253.89)	32,825.00
QTR 3	38,974.00	32,012.89	(6,961.11)	32,825.00
40	2,973.00	1,961.00	(1,012.00)	2,525.00
41	11,923.00	2,021.00	(9,902.00)	2,525.00
Y-T-D	133,940.89	109,343.89	(24,597.00)	103,525.00
Capital Improvement Campaign				
Pledged	10,845.00	1,760.00	(9,085.00)	1,730.00
Unpledged	7,410.00	5,475.00	(1,935.00)	-
	18,255.00	7,235.00	(11,020.00)	1,730.00
*Totals	115,685.89	102,108.89	(13,577.00)	101,795.00

*Excluding Capital Improvement Campaign

Average Weekly: thru September (39 weeks)

	2023	2024	2025	2026
Budget	2,573.58	2,580.77	2,669.24	2,525.00
Actual	2,681.54	3,316.44	3,052.43	2,701.59
Over	107.96	735.67	383.19	176.59
% of Budget	104.19%	128.51%	114.36%	106.99%

Percent change from prior year

	'23 to '24	'24 to '25	'25 to '26
Budget	0.28%	3.43%	-5.40%
Actual	23.68%	-7.96%	-11.49%
Net change:	23.40% positive	-11.39% negative	-6.09% negative

Mark Your Calendars!

Board Meetings are scheduled for November 17th and December 15th.

Burger and Bible will meet on November 18th 6:30pm at Loby's on Cleveland Ave. They will not meet in December. Everyone is invited to attend.

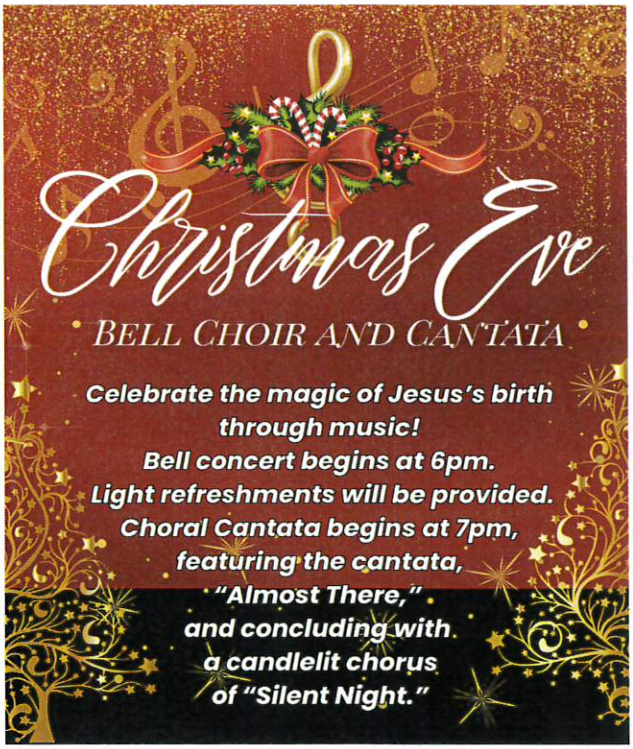
All hands on deck! If you haven't signed up to help with the Turkey Supper yet, please do! It is Saturday, November 14th. The sign up board is in the Narthex. We also would love if you could cook a turkey for the dinner. Extras are available in the freezer downstairs at no charge. We will also reimburse you if needed. We are in need of 20 lbs. per turkey kit (also in Narthex). We also have a sign up for those willing to bake a fruit pie. We order pumpkin. Those needing more than six dinners can pre-order by calling the office at 330-488-1842. Tickets are available to sell. They are $15. Seniors 65 and over and children 12 and under are $13. This year we are supporting East Canton schools with their Home for the Holidays project... supplying food and items for East Canton students while on Christmas break. If you have any questions, please contact Vicki Thewes at 330-206-0379.

This year Mt. Tabor is excited to once again be partnering with the Adopt-a-Family program for Christmas. No information is available at this time regarding the family we will be shopping for.

Watch for the tree to go up in November with tags for various family members that you will be able to choose.

For those of you who attend worship virtually, you will be able to call the office and reserve a tag. As always, you are welcome to make a donation and we can do the shopping for you.

Please return all **UNWRAPPED** gifts by the week of December 13th.



Please note these changes to the choir practice schedule:

Thursday 11/19 has been rescheduled for Tuesday 11/17 and Thursday 11/26 has been rescheduled for Tuesday 11/24.

Mt. Tabor's Table Stats

	August	September
Meals Provided	3825	4575
Families Served	95	117
Pounds of Food Purchased	6696	6972
Money Spent	423.72	578.26

Our dollars spent have gone down temporarily due to two factors:

- Free produce being harvested and donated
- The impending closure of a local foodbank who has sent some of their bounty our way.

We have also received or will soon be receiving some equipment including additional shelving, two upright freezers and some additional carts.

We also anticipate receiving part of their leftover inventory when they close in November.

This closure could result in more clients coming to Mt Tabor's Table The needs are still there and anything that you can spare is greatly appreciated.

Thanks,

Donations can be made in the offering plate, online, or by mail. Please note in your memo line "Mt. Tabor's Table". Anything that you can spare is greatly appreciated.

Guy K. Suffecool

Prayer Concerns

Members, Family & Friends

Adams, Kathie
Alexis
Baby Joey
Barr, Erin
Branch, Nancy
Bucher, Dorothy
Carl, Marian
Davis, Tom
DelSavio, Jodi
DelSavio, Ron
Dorosky, Megan
Dye, Kevin
Eaton, Eli
Family of Mary Aufrance
Fowler, Jacob
Fry, Thomas Jr.
Garrott, Barb
Gerber, Kathryn
Gibson, Emily
Gobeli, Kathy
Gorrell, Monica
Greaves, Doris
Griffith, Nancy
Heaston, Diana
Huber, Betty
Jerrell, Kathie
Jones, Michael
Kandel, Linda
Mark & Anna Kandel
Keyser, Julie
Krider, Cheryl
Diane Krivos
Mark Krivos
Lanzer, Patricia
Law, Bradley
Law, Ellen
Mary
Miller, Josh
Morrison, Sarah
Myers, Skylar
Nestor, Jody
O'Malley, Barb
Pam
Peach, Laurie
Peterson, Linda
Raya
Reese, Tom
Robinson, Sarah
Rohrer, Pam
Rose, Michael
Ryan, Debbie
Daughter & Husband of Carol Shaw
Stefanik, Leo
Sterrett, Penny & Greg
Stewart, Melissa
Swad, Joyce
Swan, Janice
Tapp, Patricia
Taylor, Sharon
Thewes, Vicki
Thrush, Greg & Janice
Tolley, Lisa
Totherow, Theresa
Truex, Tina
Unspoken Request
Welsch, Jeff
Wenger, Christine
Zimmerman, Mary Ann
Shea

Those in our Armed Forces

Caleb Talkington - US Army Reserve
Owen Herman - National Guard
Daniel John - Panama City, FL.
Gage Robinson - US Air Force Reserve - Arizona
Cameron Suffecool - US Navy

Do you need a Christmas Gift?

	$10.00 Pound	$5.00 Half Pound		$10.00 Pound	$5.00 Half Pound
Peanut Clusters	_____	_____	Pretzel Clusters	_____	_____
Raisin Clusters	_____	_____	Marshmallows	_____	_____
Haystacks	_____	_____	Mixed	_____	_____
Peanut Butter Ritz	_____	_____	Peanut Butter Cups	_____	_____

	$12.00 Pound	**$6.00** Half Pound
Turtles (Limited Supply)	_____	_____

NAME_____ **PHONE** _____

Orders due to Joanne Varian by Nov. 15th.

Fundraiser for Missions - Made by the Mt. Tabor Women.

Please make checks payable to Mt. Tabor Women

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA ORDER FORM

Please place cash or check (made payable to Mt. Tabor U.M.C.) along with this order form in an envelope and place in the offering plate or mail to the church office **by Sunday December 6th.**

_____Poinsettias @ $9.50 each, 6 1/2 inch pots; 4-7 blooms

_____Red _____Pink_____ White ____Marble ____ Ice Punch ____Glitter
(number of each)

GIVEN IN HONOR OF: _____

GIVEN IN MEMORY OF: _____

_____ GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD

GIVEN BY: _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: $_____