

TABOR TALK

Lent arrives early this year. February 14 is Ash Wednesday. How interesting that the Passion Season begins on Valentine's Day. And, how incredibly appropriate.

***What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul, What wondrous love is this,
O my soul, What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul, To bear the dreadful curse for
my soul?***
(#292, *The UMC Hymnal*)

That hymn first appeared in print in 1811 (*Hymns and Spiritual Songs, Original and Selected by Starke Dupuy*). It marries the theme of Jesus' suffering to the theme of His love for us. Jesus articulated that in the Upper Room when He said: "Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends." (John 15:13)

The season of Lent is about the unbridled and unconditional love that Christ has for us, His friends, even when we are unworthy or would seem unlovable. It's about a love so pure and strong, a passion so deep, that it causes us to examine our own lives in its light. That light reveals wounds that need to be healed, stains that need to be cleansed, and choices and mindsets that need to be reconsidered because of His love for us.

We are grateful to Kim Harvey for preparing a 2024 Lenten Study Guide that will walk us through the Gospel of Mark. In partnership with that, all the Lenten sermons (Ash Wednesday through Good Friday) will be based on texts from that gospel. As already noted, Lent calls us to examine ourselves in the light of perfect Love. Obviously, that begins with confessing: "Here's what I am, O God, over against what You created me to be." That's where you and I will begin the season of Lent together with an Ash Wednesday message entitled Confession (based on Christ's temptation experience in the wilderness). We'll follow that with a look at some of the dark or difficult human emotions we all experience, things like Guilt, Anger, Loneliness, Grief, and others. On March 10, Dr. Preston Davis will make a return visit to us to consider the theme of Fear. Our Lenten series will seek to address our raw humanity in the context of Christ's pure and perfect love (Passion) for us. The series is entitled Lent: A Way Through The Wilderness.

I'm not sure what wilderness experience(s) you may have journeyed through or may be living in at the moment. But the Lenten Story tells us that the love of Christ never abandons us to face the wilderness alone. Instead, He is with us there, comforting us, teaching us life lessons, and ultimately leading us through the broken places to healing and wholeness.

You know without being told that throughout this season the music here will lift you to holy ground, and the fellowship will empower your journey as you walk hand-in-hand with other believers who are also friends. Ultimately we will be led to the Great Festive Day of our Faith, Easter, when His love procures our victory. But to get there, we have to go through Lent, a season when we take hard looks at ourselves and ask the question:

*What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul?*

—Pastor Michael

What we're talking about this month in TaborKIDS Junior:

There is a food truck for just about every kind of food, and when the food trucks are lined up, the whole community comes out. Some people like noodles. Some people like tacos. Some people like hot dogs. And others head straight for the funnel cakes! Next time you see a row of food trucks look around at all the people in line. Take time to thank Jesus because Jesus loves everyone. Jesus loves the sour as well as the sweet; the spicy as well as the mild; the simple as well as the complicated. ***Jesus loves everyone!***

What we're talking about this month in TaborKIDS:

God showed kindness by sending Jesus for us—even when we didn't deserve it. Because of God's love for us, we can be kind to everyone. Kindness is a fruit of the Spirit. And when you show kindness to others, you give them a glimpse into the heart of God, and how much God loves them. Kindness should be a characteristic of people who follow Jesus. Not only did Jesus model kindness, but He also commanded it. He taught us to treat others the way we want to be treated. Kindness can be one of those ideas that we take for granted. However, when we practice kindness toward others, we're actually living out the ultimate plan God has for the world.

Here's our upcoming TaborKids Events:

Bread & Juice class will be on February 4 at 10 AM. This class will introduce Communion to children grades 1st- 5th and an adult who loves them. In addition, that Sunday will also be a Family Worship Sunday (no TaborKIDS Worship for 1st-5th graders) so that children may take communion with their families.



Mount Tabor's Weekday Preschool begins registration this month. We'd love to see more of our TaborKIDS during the week! Here's what you need to know — February 6: Currently Enrolled Church Members register — February 13: Open Enrollment for Church Members to register for preschool

For more information, call the Preschool (336-760-2326) or visit their website mttaborumcpreschool.org.

Help Needed! **We have babies to rock and hold in the Nursery during worship.** If you are interested in showing love to our littlest disciples, please contact Marcey Davis marcey.davis@mttaborumc.org

**Save the Dates:
Easter Egg Hunt — March 17**

Summer Camp & VBS Information coming soon!

We'd love to see you on Sunday mornings in TaborKIDS Worship offered during all worship services. We love our TaborKIDS!

For more information on any of these activities or Children's Ministries in general, check your TaborKIDS Weekly email or please contact Marcey Davis marcey.davis@mttaborumc.org.

FUSION

Youth Ministries at Mount Tabor UMC

After the long awaited break of weeks without "regular" programming, what a joy it was to start the new year surrounded by community!

The month of January brought us together numerous times including coming together in service, participation, and attendance of a beautiful and moving service commemorating the life of Martin Luther King Jr. With this annual service and our time together, we were reminded how important community is, we were reminded that by remaining grounded in love for neighbor and God we can continue to transform this world.

With those lessons in mind we are looking forward to the month of February

and our lock-in where we will be making blankets for our neighbors both young and old that struggle during the cold months. We will join together in intergenerational, community-based experiences by participating in the Ash Wednesday Service, the Ash Wednesday Tabor Table Service Project *Lent: The Journey Begins*, and hosting the *Young at Heart Luncheon*.

In the month that involves Valentines Day, we hope that we can make Love feel ever present for those we come in contact with. As we reflect the beginning of the season of Lent, we hope that we can shift our focus to give up self and see beyond. We look forward to embarking on this journey with everyone.

Contact Will Busch, our Student Ministries Director at 336-765-5561 ext 1008 or email him at will.busch@mttaborumc.org if you have questions about the Student Ministries of Mount Tabor UMC.

On **Ash Wednesday, February 14** you and your family are invited to join us for a church-wide event. *Lent: The Journey Begins*, is an intergenerational event geared to center our hearts and hands as our journey through the wilderness begins.

This special event will be held in the Family Life Center from 5:15-6:45pm in conjunction with Tabor Tabor.

All TaborKIDS are invited to participate in a church wide special event.

Tabor Table reservations should be made separately at <https://www.mttaborumc.org/tabor-table> . This special church-wide event will be followed by the **Ash Wednesday service at 7:00pm.**

A Nursery will be available for children infant – Kindergarten.



Church Wide Study during Lent — *The Gospel of Mark*

Our observance of the Lenten Season is fast approaching and our journey begins on Ash Weds. (Feb. 14th). Lent is the 40 days before Easter, not counting Sundays, which are "Little Easters." It concludes with Holy Saturday, the day before Easter. Lent is a time to examine our hearts, to confess and repent, to draw closer to God, and to grow spiritually. Some people like to give something up for Lent like chocolate or social media for example, but another option is to add something. Reading and praying the scriptures is a great discipline to add to your observance of Lent.

- As a spiritual practice for Lent, we are offering a **church wide study of the Gospel of Mark**, beginning on Ash Wednesday, and invite everyone to participate either individually or in a Sunday School Class or small group. There will be a daily reading plan and study booklet available in the Trinity Welcome Center and in the narthex of the sanctuary beginning Sunday, February 11.
- On Ash Wednesday everyone is invited to participate in a church wide special event, held in conjunction with Tabor Table, in the Family Life Center from 5:15- 6:45 pm. **Lent: The Journey Begins** is an intergenerational event geared to center our hearts and hands as our journey through the wilderness begins. There will be service opportunities available for all ages. The event will be followed by the **Ash Wednesday Service in the sanctuary at 7:00 pm.**
- **Pastor Michael will be preaching from the Gospel of Mark on Sundays during Lent** and will also **teach from Mark at two sessions on Feb. 28 and March 20 from 6:15 – 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.** You are welcome to bring your Tabor Table meal into the fellowship hall as we gather for this teaching.
- There will be **daily prayer prompts on Facebook** as we pray scriptures from our daily reading plan of Mark during Lent.

The Gospel of Mark is the shortest gospel and was probably the first gospel written. Mark is direct and dives right in, beginning his gospel with the announcement that this is the Good News about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God. He writes to encourage Roman Christians and prove beyond a doubt that Jesus is the Messiah. Mark is fast-paced and full of action, using the word "immediately" 41 times, and focuses on Jesus' teaching, his accomplishments, and the cross. We see a Jesus that serves, sacrifices, and saves. As you read, be prepared for action and be challenged to serve.

I hope that you will join me in reading the gospel of Mark during Lent and that our reading will help us to examine our own lives, stimulate conversation, grow closer to God, and fill us with gratitude for the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Resources for Lent:

If you are interested in additional reading during Lent:

- Reliving the Pasion- Meditations on the Suffering, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus as Recorded in Mark by Walter Wangerin Jr.
- Small Surrenders -A Lenten Journey by Emilie Griffin
- The Awkward Season -Prayers for Lent by Pamela C. Hawkins
- Following Christ - A Lenten Reader To Stretch Your Soul by Carmen Acevedo Butcher
- Journey to the Cross - A 40-Day Lenten Devotional by Paul David Tripp
- Bitter & Sweet - A Journey into Easter by TSH Oxenreider

—Kim Harvey
Dir. of Congregational Care & Spiritual Formation
kim.harvey@mttaborumc.org 336-765-5561 ext. 1021

A BIG THANK YOU for an Amazing 2023 Angel Tree

A heartfelt "thank you" to everyone who chose angels, shopped, wrapped, and returned their gifts. Thank you for generously giving of your time and resources to anonymously bless children with much-needed clothing items, as well as books, toys, and other wish list gift items.

Thanks, also, to everyone (near and far) who generously gave financial donations, to our volunteers who shopped for angels with these donated funds, and to Willy B and all the youth who spent part of their Christmas party wrapping these gifts (and to the parents who helped).

All ministries have volunteers, and our deepest thanks go out to ours who: wrote the angels, decorated the tree and hung the angels, helped folks choose and sign out their angels, moved hundreds of gifts downstairs, cross-checked the gifts, wrapped the last-minute purchases, and moved all the gifts out to the agencies' vehicles on pick-up day.

We also want to thank our wonderful church staff for all their assistance: for setting up tables and the tree, for Angel Tree content on the website, on social media, and in weekly emails, bulletins, and service graphics, for status updates to the congregation during weekly services, for financial recordkeeping, and for your support, encouragement, and prayers (and for 5 weeks of gift-filled hand-trucks in your front hallway).

Thanks again to everyone who made Angel Tree 2023 a success. Because of your anonymous generosity, the parents of 320 children were able to give gifts to their children this Christmas. We look forward to serving with you in 2024, and we welcome new volunteers to join with us in this decades-long ministry of the heart. Thank you for "Being the Blessing"!

-The Angel Tree Committee
Becky Pfaff, Michelle Petrich,
Eva Wu, & Laura Hill

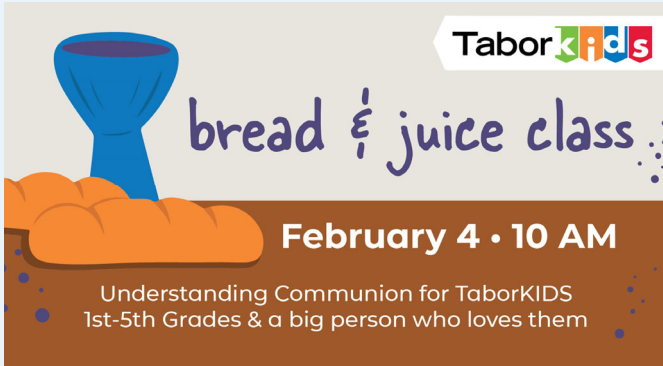


Pictured: Laura Hill, Michelle Petrich, Carolyn Miller, Sandra Hartman, and Becky Pfaff; also pictured Community Agency Representatives




Mount Tabor Spotlight

Here's what is coming up and what you need to know!




Tabor Kids
bread & juice class
February 4 • 10 AM
Understanding Communion for TaborKIDS
1st-5th Grades & a big person who loves them



Moms Fellowship
9:15 TO 10:30 AM IN ROOM 268
FIRST THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH
CHILD CARE \$5 • MUST REGISTER IN ADVANCE
Register at bit.ly/mtumcmoms23
Questions? Contact Sandy Hauser at SandyLHauser@gmail.com



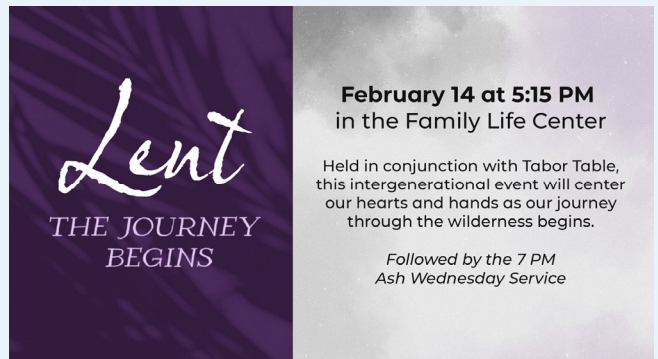
The
GOSPEL of MARK
CHURCH WIDE STUDY
Beginning February 14th
Reading plans available starting February 11th



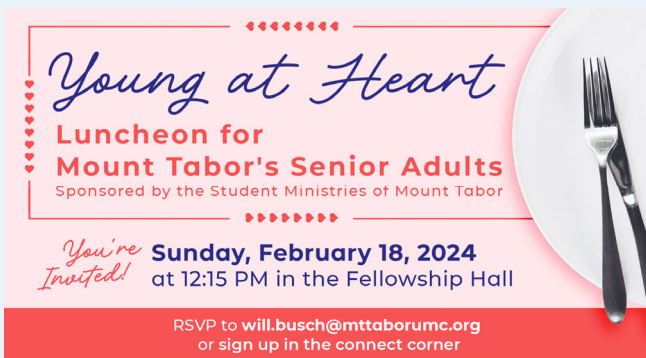
Ash +
WEDNESDAY
Service on February 14 at 7 PM
in the Sanctuary, Nursery will be available



UUM
UNITED METHODIST HERE
Fellowship Breakfast
Sunday, February 4
7:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall



Lent
THE JOURNEY BEGINS
February 14 at 5:15 PM
in the Family Life Center
Held in conjunction with Tabor Table, this intergenerational event will center our hearts and hands as our journey through the wilderness begins.
Followed by the 7 PM
Ash Wednesday Service



Young at Heart
Luncheon for Mount Tabor's Senior Adults
Sponsored by the Student Ministries of Mount Tabor
You're Invited! **Sunday, February 18, 2024**
at 12:15 PM in the Fellowship Hall
RSVP to will.busch@mtaborumc.org
or sign up in the connect corner



Mount Tabor Weekday Preschool Registration
We love kids! Don't miss this opportunity to give your child a great early education experience!
Registration begins early February.
Sign up for a tour:
bit.ly/MTTaborPreschoolTours2024
Contact Us
336-760-2326
mtaborumcpreschool.org

Mount Tabor Spotlight

Here's what is coming up and what you need to know!



TaborKIDS Jr friends are invited to experience The Last Supper and learn about Holy Week

March 20
6-7 PM

reservation required
bit.ly/tkjrlastsupper2024



Fusion Youth Lock-In

Feb 2nd-3rd
5pm-8:30am

Register at <https://bit.ly/Fusion-LockIn>



DIVORCE Care

Meets weekly on Wednesdays
January 17 – April 17 (except for February 14)
6:30-8:00 PM in The Parlor

Questions? Contact David Rigby
at Divorcecare@mttaborumc.org



GriefShare

Meets weekly on Wednesdays
January 17 – April 10
3:30 – 5:15 PM in Room 101

GriefShare is a biblical and Christ-centered group that gathers to help each other heal and find encouragement following the death of a loved one.

Register at GriefShare.org or contact Beverly Burton at GriefShare@mttaborumc.org with questions.

2024 Pledge Report

AS OF JANUARY 16, 2024

Number of Pledges: **197**
for Pledge Total of **\$953,894**

Pledge cards can be found at the Welcome Desk, in the back of the Alspaugh Worship Center, and in the Sanctuary Narthex, or you can submit a pledge online at mttaborumc.org/give



Mount Tabor UMC 2024 Pledge

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
Phone _____

Check Here if You Want Offering Envelopes
 Family Pledge Individual Pledge

Annual Pledge Amount _____

Mount Tabor UMC
mttaborumc.org/give

We Believe in Generosity
"Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!"
2 CORINTHIANS 9:15



Recycling Team Volunteers		
Dates	Group 1	Group 2
Jan 21-Feb 3, 2024	Sara Lynn Macy	Cathy Hurd
Feb 4-17, 2024	Barbara Beason	Ed Beason
Feb 18-March 3	Bobby Sharp	Jeff Buchanan
March 3-16	Lynn Church	Cynthia Grant
March 17-30	Tex & Anne Leonard	Laura Hill
Additional Volunteer Teams		
Dates	Team	Volunteers
February 2024	Kitchen Team	Jean Kelly
February 2024	Altar Guild	TBD
February 2024	Crisis Control Delivery	Jim Graham
Crisis Control Ministry Gift of the Month		
<i>Please place your donations in the Crisis Control wooden bin in the Trinity Welcome Center</i>		
January 2024	Ongoing Gift: Juice	Gift of the Month: Soul Foods Canned Greens, Black-eyed Peas, Cornbread Mix, Etc.



Women's Retreat

SAVE THE DATE

April 26-28, 2024

Caraway Conference Center in Asheboro, NC

Registration opens February 4th

Memorial and Honorarium Gifts Given to Mount Tabor UMC

In Memory of Paula Tuttle given by:

- Al & Diane Hyatt
- Jim & Susan Annas
- Martha Agnew
- Mike & Carol Petree
- Bob & Margaret Holder

In Memory of Bob Reddick given by:

- Blaine & Beverly Burton
- Al & Diane Hyatt
- Jim & Susan Annas
- Joe & Susan Miller
- Bob & Margaret Holder

In Memory of Miller Council given by:

- Bob & Margaret Holder
- Mike Pfaff
- Jerry & Gail Howell
- Blaine & Beverly Burton
- Al & Diane Hyatt
- Jim & Susan Annas
- Martha Agnew
- Hurley & Mary Thomas
- Gene & Peggy Dillard
- Rob & JoBeth Holliday
- Don & Marty Harrison
- Larry & Ann Pitts
- Tex & Anne Leonard
- Joe & Susan Miller
- Mount Tabor UMC Methodist Men
- Dean & Karen Browder

In Memory of Richard Dilworth given by:

- Pat & Robert Montgomery

In Memory of Gordon Marsh given by:

- Bob & Margaret Holder

In Memory of Phil & Ruth Livengood given by:

- Patricia Livengood

In Memory of Mike Livengood given by:

- Thomas & Elizabeth Duttera

In Memory of Mary Pitts given by:

- Bob & Margaret Holder
- Jim & Susan Annas
- Linda Reddick

In Honor of Gail & Jerry Howell given by:

- Don & Judy Lineback

In Honor of Sheri Nebinger given by:

- Blaine & Beverly Burton

Dear Tabor Family,

Thanks to all who purchased Crisis Control Ministry Holiday Honor Cards- at church, another location, or from CCM directly. Your card honors a family member or friend, and 100% of your \$5 donation per card goes to providing assistance to our neighbors in need.

—Denise Peterson

Worship with Mt. Tabor United Methodist Church

Date	Preaching at our 9:00am Modern Service <i>in the Alspaugh Worship Center</i>	Preaching at 11:00am Traditional Service in the <i>Sanctuary</i>	Sermon Title	Sermon Scripture
Communion Sunday Feb 4	Dr. Michael Brown		<i>A Sacrament Of Invitation</i>	Matt. 26:26-30
Feb 11	Dr. Michael Brown		<i>Love Is...</i>	I Corinthians 13:4-8a, 13
Ash Wednesday Feb 14	Dr. Michael Brown		<i>Confessions In The Wilderness</i>	Mark 1:9-13

The start of a new Sermon Series for the season of Lent

LENT: a sermon series from the Gospel of Mark

Feb 18	Dr. Michael Brown	<i>The Wilderness of Guilt</i>	Mark 2:1-12
Feb 25	Dr. Michael Brown	<i>The Wilderness of Anger</i>	Mark 11:11-17
Communion Sunday March 3	Dr. Michael Brown	<i>The Wilderness of Loneliness</i>	Mark 14:32-41
March 10	Dr. Preston Davis	<i>The Wilderness of Fear</i>	Mark 3:20-27
March 17	Dr. Michael Brown	<i>The Wilderness of Grief</i>	Mark 15:33-41
Palm Sunday March 24	Dr. Michael Brown	<i>The Wilderness of Heartache</i>	Mark 11:1-11
Maundy Thursday March 28	Dr. Michael Brown	<i>Nevertheless</i>	Mark 14:32-36
Good Friday March 29	Dr. Michael Brown	<i>Completed</i>	Mark 15:33-39 & John 19:28-30

Join us on Easter Sunday at our 8:00am, 9:00am, and 11:00am worship services as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior.

All services are also available via livestream at www.YouTube.com/MountTaborUMCVideoStreaming and the Mount Tabor United Methodist Church Facebook page.

Worship Bulletins are available at <https://www.mttaborumc.org/bulletin>.

Photos and videos are taken during Mount Tabor Services and Events for communication and/or historical purposes. If you want your image excluded, notify the church office at 336-765-5561 ext. 1000.

A MESSAGE FROM THE CEMETERY COMMITTEE

A limited number of graves are now available in our cemetery. If you joined Mt. Tabor between January 1, 1991 and December 31, 1992 AND you are an ACTIVE MEMBER of the church, you are eligible to request a grave. Request will be honored based on the date of membership and available space. Request must be emailed to the address below by Thursday, February 29, 2024. cemetery@mttaborumc.org



**Wednesdays, 5:15-6:30pm
Family Life Center**

Suggested donations are Adult (age 13-older) **\$8**;
Child (ages 3-12) **\$5**; Family in same house **\$25**
cap. Make reservations at

www.mttaborumc.org/tabor-table

—February 7—

Taco Salad (Beef or Chicken), Black Beans,
Refried Beans, Rice, Queso, Salad Bar, Drinks,
and Desserts.

Kids Option: Quesadillas

—February 14—

Shrovetide Pancakes
Egg/Hashbrown Casserole, Sausage, Grits,
Cooked Apples, Fruit Salad, Drinks

—February 21—

Stuffed Shells, Pasta and Sauce, Rolls, Salad Bar,
Drinks and Desserts

Kids Option: Corndogs

—February 28—

Chicken and Rice Casserole, Vegetable, Rolls,
Kids Option: Pancakes

**You won't want to miss a meal at
Tabor Table!**

Be on the lookout and make plans to join
us for our Upcoming Tabor Table
Fellowship Meals on:

March 6—March 13—March 20—March 27

—WELCOME—
*to our NEW MTUMC
Family Members*

- * Michael and Michele Roberts
- * Lesley Moxley

—Sharing our—
*Sympathies and
Prayers with our church
family*

Extending our Sympathies to:

- * Pat Council upon the death of her brother, Kenneth Pegram
- * Michael Deen upon the death of his mother, Nancy Deen
- * Dwayne Stevens upon the death of his mother
- * Drew Fulcher upon the death of his father, Larry
- * Cherie Ratcliffe upon the death of her father, David Ashe

**Please keep these MTUMC
service men and women in
your prayers:**

*List your active service loved one
by emailing
office@mttaborumc.org*

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| * Matthew Blue | * Jennifer Penley |
| * Matthew Burris | * Trey Wheeler |
| * Adam Clapp | * William Wilson |
| * Audrey Clapp | * Edward Wolfe |
| * Jason Clapp | |
| * Christopher Fisher | |
| * Robert Hines | |

Now Finish the Task

to build and enhance the ministries of MTUMC

Debt reduction funds are still being collected. Prayerfully consider making a donation to reduce the debt at

<https://www.mttaborumc.org/give>
or by cash or a check made payable to MTUMC
and returned to the church.

As of January 16, current loan balance is \$161,679.72.



Mount Tabor

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

3543 Robinhood Road
Winston-Salem, NC
27106
336-765-5561
www.mttaborumc.org

GATHER Joyfully • GROW Spiritually • GO Faithfully

Worship Opportunities at Mount Tabor UMC

9:00am Modern Worship Service

this is a modern and contemporary worship service that is held in the Alspaugh Worship Center. Join us in-person and online each Sunday.

11:00am Traditional Worship Service

this traditional worship service incorporates traditional hymns of faith and historic creeds of the church from the Sanctuary. Join us in-person and online each Sunday.

- Nursery care and a Mother's Room are available in the Children's Building.
- Wheelchairs are available for use while on church property and hearing enhancement devices, as well as large print bulletins, are available.
- See an usher for details.

How to watch our services from home or while you are away:

- Livestream the services at www.YouTube.com/MountTaborUMCVideoStreaming
- Facebook Live at Mount Tabor United Methodist Church