

TABOR TALK

Christmas Carols in Spring

—Michael Brown

Okay, I confess that sometimes I do unusual things. (Someone said “weird” – I heard you even across the Internet. I prefer “unusual.”) My opinion is that whatever feeds one’s soul, feeds one’s soul. So lately (not daily, but only occasionally), I have been listening to Christmas carols. Yes, I realize it’s spring. Yes, I realize it’s time for MerleFest, not for Santa’s visit. But sometimes O Holy Night or The First Noel lift my spirits in ways that nothing else can. When I need that kind of lifting, I turn Pandora to Christmas carols whether it is December or not.

Among other things, the music of December reminds me of the reality of gifts – the gift of a Messiah in a manger; the gifts of three kings who found a Soul more kingly; the gifts of life, love, and laughter that are provided to us every day twelve months a year.

At the moment, there is some understandable anxiety among many about what may emerge from the upcoming UMC General Conference. Calm your fears by listening to a few stanzas of O Come, O Come, Emmanuel. Let it help you remember that God sent His Son into the bedlam of Bethlehem, and He came as “Prince of Peace.” That has not and will not change. We are told that in all likelihood the vote at General Conference will either retain the current language of The Discipline or will simply revert to the language that existed prior to 1972. We don’t know yet how that will turn out. But this much we do know: On the local level, Mt. Tabor UMC will feel no different next month or next year than it has in the past. The bedlam will ease. Peace will come. Your outstanding work will continue.

You have a new Senior Pastor on the way and from what I hear about him, his arrival should inspire a few verses of Joy to the World! Rev. David Beam currently serves as Senior Pastor at First UMC in Franklin, NC. His leadership there (as preacher, teacher, pastor, vision-caster, and administrator) is exemplary. When I informed a long-time leader in our Annual Conference of the new assignment to Mt. Tabor, he replied: “That is fantastic news for that church! I love David, and Mt. Tabor will quickly learn to love him, too.” Yep, it sounds like a few verses of Joy to the World would be appropriate.

Of course, there is a bit of sadness (In the Bleak Midwinter) on my part as my time with you is coming to a close far too quickly. I’ve made a lot of jokes about using the phrase, “Hey, I’m only an Interim!” But, the truth is that I quickly felt like more than that. Your grace and welcome (even in the midst of a difficult moment in the life of the congregation) made Page and me feel like part of the family. I can never thank you enough for that. Serving God alongside you since the end of October has been a source of indescribable joy for me. You are some of the kindest and most gracious people I have ever known. I will forever thank God that for a brief and beautiful moment, I was part of God’s people at Mt. Tabor. Love Came Down at Christmas comes to mind, for love is what I have felt most of all from you and for you since October.

I guess you’re expecting me to conclude this article by saying “Merry Christmas!” Nope. That would be “weird.” Like I said, I prefer simply to remain “unusual.”



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

This month, we are talking about God's plans for us. The prophet Jeremiah shares the wonderful truth that God knows the plans He has for us. Even when we don't understand the plans and even when they are hard, we can still trust God because of Who God is, and God's plans are always a hole-in-one! God loves us, and God keeps His promises. We can fully trust God's plans because God's plans are always best!

What we're talking about this month in TaborKIDS:

Commitment is part of God's nature and how God interacts with us, keeping promises and putting plans into action. God's commitment to us is just one of the many reasons we can trust God no matter what. And because God's promises and plans came true in Jesus, we can be with God forever. We reflect God's character when we make a plan and stick to it. This month, we'll help kids discover that one of the best plans they can make is to commit to an ongoing relationship with Jesus. We hope they commit to practicing their faith by reading God's Word, praying to God honestly and consistently, talking about God with others, and living for God in how they show love throughout the everyday.

May 2024 Tabor Kids Events & Announcements:

- ◆ **TaborKIDS on Wednesdays** will only meet on Wednesdays, May 1 and May 8 from 6-7 PM. TaborKIDS on Wednesdays will end for the school year on May 8.
- ◆ **TaborTWEENS (4th & 5th Graders)** will lead a service project building Birthday Celebration Kits for the Children at Crossnore at the Pentecost Potluck & Cookout on May 19 at 12:15 PM. Following the event, the TaborTWEENS will deliver the completed projects to Crossnore and a stop to celebrate. RSVP to marcey.davis@mttaborumc.org.
- ◆ **Your help is needed! At the Pentecost Potluck & Cookout** on May 19, TaborTWEENS will be leading the church in assembling Birthday Celebration Kits for each child at Crossnore. Help the Tweens collect the needed items by signing up to donate here: bit.ly/bdaykits2024 Many items can be found at the Dollar Tree, Walmart or similar store and must be delivered to the Welcome Center by May 15. Questions? Contact Marcey Davis marcey.davis@mttaborumc.org

Hey TaborKIDS! 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)

- ◆ **Start the Party: Celebrate the Good News at Vacation Bible School July 22-25!** Open to children ages 4 as of August 31 through completed 5th grade as Jesus gives us the most amazing reason to party. There is no cost and all are welcome. Snack Supper begins at 5:15 PM and the main program is from 6:00-8:00 PM. Visit bit.ly/mtumcvbs24 for more information and to sign up!



- ◆ **Art Camp registration is now open!** Camp is June 24-27 from 9:00am-12:00pm each morning. Registration is \$125.



Mount Tabor UMC
AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM

New hours for 2024/25!
Open until 6:15 PM

- Serving Zone 5 elementary schools
- Small teacher/student ratios
- Themed classrooms
- Daily devotions & snacks
- Time for homework
- Indoor & Outdoor gross motor play
- Exciting activities & fun crafts
- Community outreach projects
- And so much more

OPEN REGISTRATION BEGINS MARCH 18

www.mttaborumcafterschool.org

ENGAGING STAFF & FACILITIES

FUN & CREATIVE ACTIVITIES

INDOOR & OUTDOOR PLAY

Moms Fellowship

9:15 TO 10:30 AM IN ROOM 268
FIRST THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH

scan to register

CHILDCARE \$5 • MUST REGISTER IN ADVANCE
Register at bit.ly/mtumcmoms23
Questions? Contact Sandy Hauser at SandyLHauser@gmail.com

Help Make 50 Birthday Celebration Kits for the Children at Crossnore

Sign up to donate here:
bit.ly/bdaykits2024

Items needed by May 15.

Questions? Contact Marcey
marcey.davis@mttaborumc.org

Congregational Care & Spiritual Formation

Forty days after Jesus' resurrection, he ascended into heaven after saying these words, "But you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere – in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." The disciples returned to Jerusalem where they prayed and waited. Ten days later, on the day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit came. Pentecost is the day we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the church. This year it falls on May 19th. I encourage you to read Acts 2 this month, paying close attention to the events that happened that day. Acts is a fascinating read and allows us to eavesdrop on the very beginnings of the early church. It teaches us about the work of the Holy Spirit, church relationships, and organization. The early church had its struggles but they kept their eyes focused on Jesus and their mission and they thrived.

Spiritual Formation Opportunities:

- **Sunday School Classes and Small Groups for Adults** – please let me know if I can help you get connected. If you are looking for resources or need curriculum for your small group or Sunday School Class, I will be happy to help you with that.
- **If you would like to learn more about spiritual practices, deepen your prayer life, or learn about retreat opportunities**, I can help you with that as well.
- **Nourishment for the Soul: Lunch and Learn with Pastor Michael.** Everyone is invited to come and enjoy a light lunch made by Sheri Nebinger and teaching from Pastor Michael as we nourish our body and soul and learn more about who Jesus is. Donations will be accepted to cover the cost of lunch. No RSVP necessary. The remaining gatherings will be from 12:00 – 1:00 pm on the following Thursdays in the Fellowship Hall: May 9: The Gospel of Luke; May 23: The Gospel of John.
- **You are invited to a Church Wide Pentecost Cookout and Potluck on May 19** in the Family Life Center following the 11 AM service. Hot dogs and hamburgers will be provided. Everyone is invited to bring a side dish and may drop it off in the Fellowship Hall from 8-12. In addition to lunch, we will celebrate the birthday of the church (Pentecost) with birthday cake and offer varying opportunities to explore church history, serve others with mission projects, and deepen our faith through experiences and resources related to Pentecost and the Holy Spirit.

Congregational Care:

- If you or your family are dealing with chronic or other illness, cancer, preparing for or recovering from surgery, caregiving, mourning, dealing with a life transition, etc., I'd love to hear from you to know how you can best be cared for and supported by the church.
- If you are a church member and have given birth, we would love to celebrate this joyous occasion with you, and place a rosebud on the altar in one of the worship services in honor of your newborn.
- If you have a prayer request, I can pass it along to our pastor, staff, and prayer chain so that we can pray over your request.
- If you or a family member are now homebound, I will be glad to add you to the homebound ministry list so that you can receive visits from one of the homebound ministry teams.

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

FUSION

Youth Ministries at Mount Tabor UMC

April is ending and the spirit is burning ablaze with the same heat that this month brought.

In April we were able to start a new study titled "Jesus and Tough Times," we came together as a church family for the Great Day of Service, and ended the month by celebrating our confirmands with their open commitment and declaration of their faith.

April started off with a relaxing spring break, enjoying trips with our families, and gathering together through fellowship as we took the time to unwind. We are starting to pave the way for the end of the year which includes: celebrating our seniors and the Andy Burton Memorial Golf Tournament, while we continue to support each other as we stumble through the end of the school year.

April has been kind to us, it has allowed us to fellowship, relax, and proclaim our faith, and we are looking forward to seeing what May has in store.

We invite you to join us by participating in the Andy Burton Memorial Golf Tournament, and ask for your prayers as the school winds down and end of year tests are right around the corner. We thank you for your constant support and know that we love you, but Jesus loves you more.

—Will Busch
Director of Student Ministries

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.



REGISTER TODAY!!
20th Annual Andy Burton
Memorial Golf Tournament
5.18.24
Reynolds Park Golf Course

mttaborumc.churchcenter.com/registrations

Supporting MTUMC Youth Missions



Mount Tabor Spotlight

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



UMM
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Fellowship Breakfast

Sunday, June 2
7:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall

Interested in joining the church?

Contact Charity Goff, Church Administrator at charity.goff@mttaborumc.org



NOURISHMENT for the Soul

Lunch and Learn with Pastor Michael

Questions? contact Kim Harvey, Director of Congregational Care & Spiritual Formation at kim.harvey@mttaborumc.org

12:00 - 1:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall

April 11: An overview of the Gospel of Mark & the Nativity story from the gospels.

April 25: The Gospel of Matthew

May 9: The Gospel of Luke

May 23: The Gospel of John

Home is a journey.

You can be the difference for a child.
Become a **foster parent** today.

We need families interested in providing a safe, temporary home for children in foster care. Crossnore will provide training and be there to support you through the foster care licensing process and beyond.



For more information, contact us at FHLicensing@crossnore.org or scan the QR code below to start your application today!



CROSSNORE
communities for children
crossnore.org | info@crossnore.org



NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER BREAKFAST

with speaker, Michael Brown

Thursday, May 2 at 7 AM

MTUMC FAMILY LIFE CENTER

free, open to the community in partnership with the Robinhood YMCA

Mount Tabor Spotlight

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



2024 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Wes and Andy Burton Memorial Scholarship, the Petree Scholarship, and the Goodchild Scholarship applications are now available for high school seniors.

MTTABORUMC.ORG/YOUTH

DUE: MAY 12, 2024 11:59 PM



High School Prayer Breakfast

May 1 Bagel Station
May 8 Chick-fil-A
May 15 Bagel Station
May 22 Chick-fil-A
May 29 Bagel Station

Wednesdays before school, stop by anytime between 6:50 AM – 8:30 AM

FUSION



Calling All Graduates

Mount Tabor is so grateful for you and your accomplishments. We would love nothing more than to celebrate with you during this stage of life. Whether you are graduating from High School, Technical School, College, etc. We would love to celebrate with you! We encourage you to fill out the questionnaire (bit.ly/MtuncGraduates24) attached, so we can celebrate you as a Church family!



NURSERY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We have babies who need holding!

To Sign Up, Contact Marcey Davis, Director of Children & Family Ministries, at marcey.davis@mttaborumc.org



Pentecost Cookout and Potluck

May 19 • 12-2 PM

Hot dogs and hamburgers will be provided. Everyone is invited to bring a side dish and may drop it off in the Fellowship Hall from 8 AM – 12 PM.

Celebrate Pentecost — *the birthday of the church* — with birthday cake and opportunities to explore church history, mission projects, and resources related to Pentecost and the Holy Spirit.



Tabor Table

**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

—May 1—

Taco Salad—Beef or Chicken, Black Beans, Refried Beans, Rice, Queso, Salad Bar, Drinks, and Desserts
Kids Option: Quesadillas

—May 8—

Country Style Steak, Rice, Vegetables, Salad Bar, Cornbread, Salad Bar, Drinks, and Desserts
Kids Option: Kraft Mac & Cheese

Mark your calendars because you won't want to miss the fun, fellowship, and Sheri's cooking at Summer Tabor Table on June 12, July 17, and August 14.



Featuring
Rebecca Craps
Extension Agent, Environment and Natural Resources
on the importance of bees in our environment

and a \$6 LUNCH

May 20 at 11:30 AM
in the Fellowship Hall

Please register in your Sunday School class
or at the Connect Corner

Dear Mt Tabor Family,

As a member of the Outreach Committee and a 10 year volunteer with Samaritan Ministries, I want to thank you for your generous Easter donation of \$3,119.22! This money will support their mission of providing food, shelter, and hope to the homeless community in Winston Salem.

At this time we are also in great need of volunteers in the soup kitchen where we prepare and serve lunch and dinner to our guests. If you have any interest in helping us, please contact me, Beth Graham, at ebgraham774@gmail.com
I look forward to talking to you about this exciting opportunity.

—Beth Graham



CARING FRIENDS COMMITTEE

Help take care of setting up, serving, and cleaning up after funeral receptions or lunches.

If you are interested please contact our Church Hostess, Sheri Nebinger at sheri.nebinger@mttaborumc.org

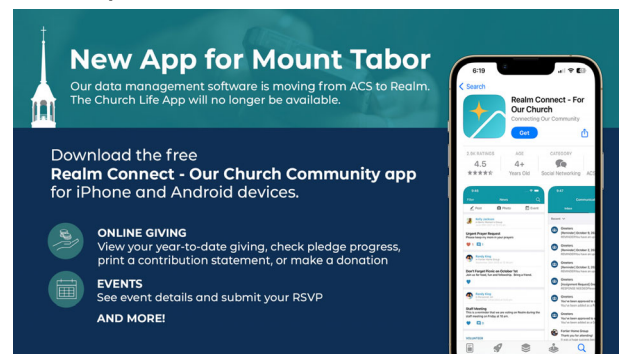
Have you downloaded our NEW Realm Connect App?

Here is **WHY YOU SHOULD** download our New Realm Connect App...

- Stay Connected to our MTUMC friends and family with the online and up-to-date church directory. Everyone's contact information will be right at your fingertips.
- Sign up for events, Bible Studies, and special programs that MTUMC is offering.
- Making contributions to the ministries of MTUMC is easy and secure.
- Paying for a program, event, or for your Weekly Table Tabor meal is easy and secure and can be done at anytime!
- Staying connected with members of your Small Groups couldn't be easier with the message feature within the app. Share important news, prayer requests, and so much more all in one place.
- **Our current CHURCHLIFE App will no longer be available starting May 1, 2024.**

Here is **HOW to be connected to MTUMC with Realm Connect**

- Follow the link you should have received in your email that is on file with the church.
- Create a password using the guidelines that are set.
- Download the REALM CONNECT app from your App/Playstore and then Get Started.



If you are having difficulties or questions, please contact Charity Goff in the church office (charity.goff@mttaborumc.org or 336-765-5561).

Memorial and Honorarium Gifts Given to Mount Tabor UMC

In memory of Oneita and Frank Lineback given by:

- Gail and Jerry Howell & Family

In memory of Rick Worf given by:

- Susan Pfaff
- Sue Harris
- David & Cathy Hurd
- Thomas & Pamela Pogue
- Donald & Marty Harrison
- Bret & Ann Borchelt
- Joe & Diane Long
- Steve & Lea Kirkland
- Ryan Miller
- Andrew Schneider
- Wanda Henson
- Jeffrey Ellman
- Bobby Sharp
- Christie Roeder
- Joe & Susan Miller
- Ed & Barbara Beason
- David Garrett
- Sara Lynn Macy
- Carolyn Woods
- Hana Crandall
- Sarah & Kenneth Fearn
- E.A. Miller & Lois Miller
- Rob & JoBeth Holliday

- Elize Weston
- Oliver & Lee Hart
- Angela Marion
- Bruce Worf
- Brittany Lee Peacock
- Sandy Callison
- Dr. Betty Jean Crosby
- Linda Reddick
- Cynthia & Ron Parks
- Bob & Sharon Wilson
- Pamela Somers

In memory of Paula Tuttle given by:

- Cassandra Callison
- Rob & Janice Leard

In memory of Miller Council given by:

- William & Lynne Poteat
- Michael Brown
- Cynthia Wallen

In memory of Larry Wall given by:

- Sharon Wall

In memory of Malinda Huffstetler given by:

- Ernest & Ellen Morris

In memory of Bob Reddick given by:

- Cynthia Wallen

In honor of Dr. Michael Brown given by:

- Erna & Bill Womble Jr.

In honor of Wanda Henson given by:

- Brett R Henson

In honor of Beth Eller given by:

- Circle 7

In honor of Wes & Marie Murph given by:

- Susan & Bill Foster

In honor of Kim Ingram given by:

- John & Beth Eller

In honor of Charli Mills given by:

- Barbara Conley
- Bobby Sharp

—Sharing our Sympathies, Joys, and Prayers with our church family—

—Extending our Sympathies to—

- Leon Martin upon the death of his father, O.C. Martin
- Lynn Worf upon the death of her husband, Dr. Rick Worf
- Savannah Perry upon the death of her grandfather
- Stuart Smith upon the death of his father, John Smith
- Dave Hodge upon the death of his father, Gerald Hodge
- Keith Huffstetler upon the death of his wife, Malinda Huffstetler

—Sharing our Joys with—

- Kendall & Thomas Robinson upon the birth of their daughter, Alice Charlotte

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 April 10 current loan balance is \$98,952.58.

Recycling Team Volunteers

Dates	Group 1	Group 2
April 28-May 11	Ginny C. Martin	Ron Hudnell
May 12-25	Sara Lynn Macy	Craig Miller
May 26-June 8	Carolyn Miller	Bobby Sharp
June 9-22	Don Rhyne	Judy Miller
June 23-July 6	Judy Miller	Cathy Hurd

Additional Volunteer Teams

Dates	Team	Volunteers
May 2024	Kitchen Team	
May 2024	Altar Guild	TBD
May 2024	Crisis Control Delivery	Spices (cinnamon, Cumin, Salt, Pepper, Vanilla Extract, Basil, Tajin, etc.)

Crisis Control Ministry Gift of the Month

Please place your donations in the Crisis Control wooden bin in the Trinity Welcome Center

May 2024	Ongoing Gift: Juice	Gift of the Month: Pancake Mix and Syrup
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Growth Guides are available on our website for individual or group study each week. These are based on each Sunday's sermon scripture and include author information, context of scripture, and discussion questions. Go to mttaborumc.org/growthguide.

Worship with Mt. Tabor United Methodist Church

Date	Preaching at our 9:00am Modern Service in the Alspaugh Worship Center	Preaching at 11:00am Traditional Service in the Sanctuary	Sermon Title	Sermon Scripture
Communion Sunday May 5	Dr. Michael Brown		<i>When We Don't Get What We Want</i>	Acts 16:6-10
May 12	Dr. Michael Brown		<i>Don't Just Stand There!</i>	Acts 1:6-11
May 19	Dr. Michael Brown		<i>Accompanied</i>	John 14:15-18, 25-26
May 26	Dr. Michael Brown		<i>God's Identities</i>	2 Corinthians 13:11-13

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.



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 in the Sanctuary.

You are invited to 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