

“THE CHIMES”

Volume 20, Issue 1

January/February 2024

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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“Pastor Christy's Corner”

Pastor Christy Suffecool

“How lovely is your dwelling place, Lord Almighty! My soul yearns, even faints, for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh cry out for the living God. Even the sparrow has found a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may have her young – a place near your altar, Lord Almighty, my King and my God. Blessed are those who dwell in your house; they are ever praising you. Blessed are those whose strength is in you, whose hearts are set on pilgrimage.” - Psalm 84:1-5 (NIV)



By now you have probably heard the term ‘Lighthouse church’ and wondered what it meant. Where did it come from, and why are we calling ourselves that? Last summer, the conference reached out asking for churches to consider being a Lighthouse church. They are described on the conference website as:

‘Lighthouse churches are dedicated to The United Methodist Church and are welcoming for those seeking a new church home. The clergy and lay leaders of these congregations are committed to their continual growth and are engaged in ongoing Lighthouse church training and educational opportunities.’

At the carry-in meal we held on April 30, we discussed as a congregation what this meant, and we asked if we were willing to pursue becoming one. The vote that day was unanimous and so our journey began. We expressed our interest to the conference, and they accepted our request. A Lighthouse Team was formed and they committed to attending the trainings provided by the conference. For the past six months they have attended trainings, made recommendations for areas of improvement, and met to review and evaluate the changes and their impact. Only a few churches were selected in each county to serve as a Lighthouse, and we are thankful to be given this opportunity.

In addition to the Lighthouse churches, a second option was created. These are called Oasis groups. They are described as: Oasis groups are small groups that ideally meet outside the church walls where clergy and members can meet on neutral ground for healing, connection, prayer, and study.

After discussions with the conference, it was determined that our ‘Burger and A Bible Night’ fit this description and it became designated as an Oasis group.

Ultimately this means that we are here to be a welcoming space for those that are looking for a new church home. As many of you already know, we have been blessed by the addition of many new faces this year. They have been bringing their time and their talents which has served to bless everyone involved. Thank you to everyone that has helped to make people feel welcome, and welcome to all those that continue to be a blessing to our family of faith. We are so glad you are here!

May we continue to be a light in this world.

Pastor Christy

Ministries



Ten Mt. Tabor men met for breakfast in Fellowship Hall on Saturday, December 2 at 7:30 AM. Chief cook Randy Branch and his trusty aide-de-camp, Denny Myers, arrived earlier to prepare a hearty menu of scrambled eggs, pork sausage, toast, coffee, and orange juice. Robustly rounding out the buffet was Warren Kandel's venerable egg bake and Norris Stringer's renowned fresh waffles. (Sorry Eggo, No-go for you).

Conversational topics included the after-church-service food giveaway ministry, the sanctuary Christmas decorations, and recent local highway deaths which tragically have become a relentlessly recurring scourge of American life. This was accompanied by individual experiences with traffic tickets.

Mt. Tabor's newly dubbed title of "Lighthouse" was infused into the conversation as well.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 6, 2024 at 7:30 AM. All men of any age are welcome to attend.

Dean Varian



United
Women
in Faith

How thankful we were to have 46 women attendance at our year end **meeting at the Quarry's Granite Grill**. Forty six women that hopefully will continue to express interest in the work that Mt Tabor is doing with United Women in Faith in helping women children and youth.

The first meeting for 2024 will be January 24th in Fellowship Hall. We will discuss plans for the coming year, programs and request your input for the direction you would like to see our group take. Please join us on the 24th.

February's meeting will be on February 28th. A light snack will precede the program and short business meeting.

Once again, thank you for your support of our candy **ministry**. While I'm not sure how many hundreds of pounds were sold, only 2 1/2 pounds were unsold at the time of this report. God is good, Mt Tabor.

Kathy Hopkins



Mt. Tabor's Table

Thank you to all of the volunteers who have helped make Mt. Tabor's Table a success in 2023. Over 13,000 pounds of food have been brought in from the food bank. Since the program began in September, we have served 49 families for a total of 168 people!

Pastor Christy



Christmas Eve

A heartfelt "thank you!" to each person who contributed to the success of our Christmas Eve service. So many of you donate your time, talents, and funds to help us bring the light of Christ to our community. Cheryl, our incredible pianist; Eric, our terrific sound tech; Denny and Sue, our eloquent narrators; Reed, Vicki, Diane, and Greg, our talented soloists; Warren and Barb, our gracious hosts and makers of delicious food; Pastor Christy, our stalwart leader; and each and every member of our bell choir and choir. Please accept my gratitude for the crucial role you played in making the evening a successful mission of joy and hope. I pray you carry the spirit of Christmas in your heart every day of this new year.

Children's Program

Our children's choir consisted of only 8 kids this year, but the size of their hearts more than made up for the small number. They each worked so hard at memorizing and sang with gusto. Thank you to all the children, as well as their parents and grandparents for making rehearsals a priority at this busy time of year. Special thanks to Marla, Bonnie, and Diane for their help in arranging all the important details.

Jillian Corbi



Ministries



Quilting and Prayer Shawl Ministries

We would like to wish everyone a HAPPY New Year!

Our projects for prayer shawl this year will include making crochet/knitted blankets and shawls for several organizations and for new babies arriving here in our church; also for members who just need to know that someone is thinking of them. We meet upstairs on the first Friday of the month at 10am. All are welcome to join us!

The quilt group is always keeping those machines humming, with quilts being donated to Aultman ICU, Mercy Hospice, Canton for All People, Crossroads United Methodist Church, and the Sam Center in Massillon (for our military in need). The quilt group meets upstairs on each Thursday morning at 10am.

February brings us Valentines Day. Remember to give someone a happy greeting!

Prayer Shawl will meet on Friday, February 2nd at 10am to enjoy fellowship, crocheting, and knitting on our own projects.

The quilt group will be thinking of a special quilt for Mercy Hospice. It takes just the right pattern with just the right colors. Our other project is making pillowcases and donating them to Canton for all People to make **someone's dreams come true.**

Karin Hartleben

Burger and a Bible

By now we all know what Burger and a Bible is – Dinner and conversation with friends. But did you know that the conference has designated our group as an Oasis Group?

"Oasis groups are small groups that ideally meet outside the church walls where clergy and members can meet on neutral ground for healing, connection, prayer, and study."

This is a great way to have your friends from work, school, and life, meet your friends from church. So, **invite someone to dinner that you've been afraid to invite to church.** After they get to know more of us, **maybe church won't seem so intimidating anymore.**

We will be gathering on January 17th and February 21st at 6:30 pm at the Winking Lizard on Fulton Road. Can't wait to see you!



Reminder, Ash Wednesday will be February 14th this year. Make plans to join us for our evening worship service to receive the imposition of the ashes.

Worship will be at 6:30 pm.



It's January and that means our youth will be selling soup after church. Watch for the order form to be out in the entry beginning in January. If you have made/donated soup in the past, and are able to help again this year, please let us know. We have a **few chefs that aren't available this year and we would like to be able to offer a variety of flavors.** Soups will be available Sunday, January 21st. Make sure to pre-order as they sell out fast!



We will once again be selling spring flowers. Pricing is not yet available from the florist. Watch your announcement sheets in late February for updates.



Mt. Tabor Book Club hopes everyone had a wonderful Holiday Season!

We'd like to invite everyone to join us as book club resumes in January on the 23rd at 4:30pm at the home of Sue Myers. The book to be discussed is **"Demon Copperhead" by Barbara Kingsolver**. Please note - the time has been changed from 3:30pm to 4:30pm.

Plan Ahead: In February the book to be reviewed is entitled **"First Lady" by Marie Benedict Murray**.

Sue Myers



Bible Study will return to Season 3 of the Chosen in February for Lent. The Way of the Chosen takes a closer look at what it means to follow Jesus on "the narrow road that leads to life". Watch your announcement sheets for details about when and where we will meet.

Kathy Hopkins



Updates from your Properties Team

A couple of long needed tasks have been completed at the parsonage. Two doors have been replaced recently. The exterior door from the kitchen area to the patio in the rear was replaced and the door from the kitchen to the garage was replaced.

Both of these doors were the originals from when the house was built. For some unknown reason both doors were hollow core and provided little or no insulation. During extreme cold spells, frost and sometimes ice would be seen on the inside of the door. Needless to say, this led to drafty and cold conditions in that part of the home.

Insulated doors were installed and the increased comfort level has been noticed immediately, and we are anticipating an energy savings this winter.

The work was done by Kullman Construction, (Micah Kullman, Jeff & Dana's son) at a generous discounted cost to the church! We would recommend considering him if you need remodeling or construction work! He repaired our storm damage we had on the south wall of the sanctuary recently. He and his crew do good work.

Another long-needed replacement was also done. The stove has been an ongoing issue for several years. **The oven didn't bake at an accurate temperature and after several attempts to repair it failed; we replaced it with a new electric, self-cleaning range from Lowes.** It was purchased during their black Friday sale at a savings of over \$235! The old stove was estimated to be at least 10 years old.

The old stove is being offered to anyone in need and even though the oven temperature is an issue, the burners all work. Contact the office if you or someone you know is interested.

Denny Myers

Many Thanks

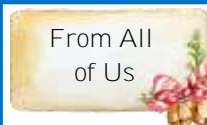


We want to thank everyone who sent condolences and prayers on the passing of our Mother, Velma Schweitzer.

The Schweitzer Family

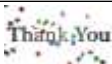
A big THANK YOU to the kind and helpful people who delivered Christmas gift bags and poinsettias. I appreciate you and your service to others!

With gratitude,
Diana Spaulding



Thank you to the congregation for our Christmas gifts. We appreciate your thoughtfulness during the Christmas season and throughout the year!!

Pastor Christy, Jason, Jillian, Cheryl, and Sandy



Dear Church family,

After seven months my feet have finally healed. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for all your prayers, support, and cards. They were so vital in this healing process. I miss all of my Mt. Tabor family and hopefully will be back with you spring of 2024.

Annette Williams



Money Matters by Charlotte Schweitzer, Treasurer

Greetings! The General Fund is up largely due to a \$5,000 grant received in July, increased giving, and cost reductions as a result of Pastor Christy splitting her time between Mt. Tabor and the East Ohio Conference. It is anticipated that the apportionments will be brought current by year-end.

Reminder: offerings received or are postmarked by December 31, 2023 are credited to 2023.

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

General Fund Receipts vs Expenses				
Period	Offerings	Other Receipts	Expenses	Net
2022	127,561.52	4,771.50	-143,911.16	-11,578.14

General Fund balance 1/1/2022	12,888.61
Poinsettias – not paid by 12/31/22	300.60
General Fund balance 12/31/22	1,611.07

January 2023	11,476.00	432.50	-12,440.05	-531.55
February	8,817.00	151.00	-12,529.62	-3,561.62
March	8,849.01	283.00	-11,539.77	-2,407.76
April	12,050.00	344.00	-11,163.44	1,230.56
May	10,325.00	288.00	-11,400.77	-787.77
June	14,376.00	200.00	-12,294.61	2,281.39
July	11,078.00	5,339.00	-10,006.00	6,411.00
August	9,339.00	352.25	-9,765.22	-73.97
September	9,826.00	938.30	-10,991.02	-226.72
October	12,494.00	2,040.66	-10,732.51	3,802.15
November	8,408.00	270.00	-10,785.35	-2,107.35

Poinsettia fundraiser cost paid January 2023	-300.60
Payroll taxes withheld, not yet remitted	370.96
General Fund balance 11/30/23	5,709.79

Offerings – Church Budget line on offering envelope

Other Receipts – designated offerings such as Blessings Cupboard,

Mt. Tabor's Table, grant, etc. Includes receipts other than offerings .

WEEK #	2022	2023	Change	Budget
QTR 1	31,561.00	31,598.01	37.01	33,456.60
QTR 2	37,156.84	38,416.00	1,259.16	33,456.60
QTR 3	29,886.00	34,566.00	4,680.00	33,456.60
OCT.	12,634.11	13,094.00	459.89	12,867.90
NOV.	10,749.57	9,288.00	(1,461.57)	10,294.32
49	2,782.00	9,920.00	7,138.00	2,573.58
50	4,451.00	4,143.00	(308.00)	2,573.58
Y-T-D	129,220.52	141,025.01	11,804.49	128,679.18

Average Weekly: thru November (48 weeks)				
	2020	2021	2022	2023
Budget*	3,578.92	3,406.62	3,355.75	2,573.58
Actual	2,661.43	2,546.50	2,541.41	2,645.04
(Short) Over	(917.49)	(860.12)	(814.34)	71.46
% of Budget	74.36%	74.75%	75.73%	102.78%



Percent change from prior year			
	'20 to '21	'21 to '22	'22 to '23
Budget	-4.81%	-1.49%	-23.31%
Actual	-4.32%	-0.20%	4.08%
Net change:	0.49% positive	1.29% positive	27.39% positive

Reminder: The 2023 budget is based on expected offerings. Prior years' budgets were based on expected expenditures.

Prayer Concerns

Members, Family & Friends

Members

Reggie McGee
Pam Rohrer
Ann Rogler
Ira & Mary Nestor
Jerry Butcher
Jay Fisher
Randy Selby Jr.
Owen Mickley
Oranna Loy
Earl Vincent
Carol Vincent
Carrie Little
Rich Little
Sarah Morrison
Jay Stahler
Doris & Rod Greaves
Annette Williams

Family & Friends

Skylar Myers - Denny & Sue Myers
Robin Whalen - Denny & Sue Myers
Debbie Ryan - Linda Britton
Michelle Bell - Linda Britton
Olivia - Linda Britton
Lisa Tolley - Betty Bayer
Brenda Bayer - Betty Bayer
Nancy Griffith - Betty Bayer
Family of Elaine Diehl - Wes & Pam Rohrer
Patricia Tapp - Wes & Pam Rohrer
Cindy Ward - Wes & Pam Rohrer
Shelly Wheeler - Diane Krivos
Katie Gobeli - Diane Krivos
Diane Campbell - Diane Krivos
Kathy Gobeli - Diane Krivos
Family of Velma Schweitzer
Casey Langley - Bonnie Duskey
Renee Poulelis - Bonnie Duskey
Bill & Lisa Leach - Marla Stringer
Ethelind Schwartz - Marla Stringer
Jim Peters - Marla Stringer
Ryan, Jordan & Wren Ott - Jillian Corbi
Eli Eaton - Jillian Corbi
Ashley Hornick Walters - Dana Kullman
Cynthia Kullman - Dana Kullman

Eric Loy- Oranna Loy
Fox & Frankie Varian - Oranna Loy
Calvin Wright - Warren & Barb Kandel
Max Huston - Susan Huston
Carol (Kennedy) Hall - Diana Spaulding
Shearl Brown - Julie Brown
Barb Garrott - Vicki Thewes and Julie Brown
Rhonda Pfalzgraf
Mike Szutkowski - Annette Williams
Betsy Franklin - Allen & Sharon Nennig
Henry Talkington - Marla Stringer
Betty Greaves
Sally Critean

We have tried to include all prayer requests that have come in during the recent weeks. We apologize if we missed anyone. If you would like to add (or remove) a name, please call the office at 330-488-1842.

Those in our Armed Forces



Caleb Talkington - Army Reserve
Owen Herman - National Guard
Daniel John - Panama City, FL.
Gage Robinson - Nellis AFB Las Vegas NV









January 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Office Closed 	2	3	4 Quilters 10am Choir 7pm <i>Jared Davis</i>	5 Prayer Shawl 10am <i>Sandra Hrometz Lillian Whitcomb</i>	6 UMM Breakfast 7:30am <i>Rhonda Deaton</i>
7 Adult Sunday School 9:30am Worship 10:30am <i>Amanda Marshall</i>	8	9 TOPS 5:30pm	10	11 Quilters 10am Choir 7pm	12 <i>Jean Davis Karin Hartleben</i>	13 FH Reserved RR Club <i>Vicki Butler</i>
14 Adult Sunday School 9:30am Worship 10:30am	15 <i>Bruce Erickson</i>	16 TOPS 5:30pm Council Meeting 6pm	17 Burger & Bible Night 6:30pm Winking Lizard	18 Quilters 10am Choir 7pm	19	20
21 Adult Sunday School 9:30am Worship 10:30am Youth Soup Sale following worship	22 <i>Christopher Martin</i>	23 TOPS 5:30pm Book Club 4:30pm at the home of Sue Myers	24 UWF Noon	25 Quilters 10am Choir 7pm <i>Erin Ackerman Randi Ward</i>	26 <i>Tricia Griffin Austin Temsey</i>	27 <i>Phil Bushey</i>
28 Adult Sunday School 9:30am Worship 10:30am	29 <i>Logan McGee</i>	30 TOPS 5:30pm	31 Quilters 9:30am	 <p>January: 01 Jan & Deb-Bayer Bredon 12 Earl & Kathleen Hopkins 17 Mark & Diane Krivos 27 Rich & Irene Shewalter 29 Randy & Lori St. Clair</p>		



February 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 4 Adult Sunday School 9:30am Worship 10:30am	5 Christopher Daniels	6 TOPS 5:30pm	7 Lori St. Clair	1 Quilters 10am Choir 7pm Lucas Butler Irene Showalter	2  Prayer Shawl 10am Keleen Rubino	3 UMM Breakfast 7:30am Erik Marshall
11 Adult Sunday School 9:30am Worship 10:30am	12 Nathan Butler Gloriana Corbi	13 TOPS 5:30pm	14  Worship 6:30pm	15 Quilters 10am Choir 7pm Chimes Articles Due	16 Betty Bayer Lee Sternberg	17 Fran Clayton Jeff Kullman Amy Monteith Mark Varian Jill Wagner
18 Adult Sunday School 9:30am Worship 10:30am Richard Daniels Tom Davis	19 	20 TOPS 5:30pm Council Meeting 6pm Norris Stringer	21 Burger & Bible Night 6:30pm Winking Lizard	22 Quilters 10am Choir 7pm Benjamin Selby	23 Logan Nestor	24 Morgan Branch
25 Adult Sunday School 9:30am Worship 10:30am	26 Kaylyn Bredon Mark Krivos	27 TOPS 5:30pm	28 UWF Noon	29 Quilters 10am Choir 7pm		

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Fax: 330-488-9070

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
CANTON, OHIO
PERMIT # 2006

Change Service Requested

Join us for worship every Sunday at 10:30am.



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:30am

SUNDAY WORSHIP

10:30 am

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“THE CHIMES”

The Deadline for
March/April Articles
is February 15th