

# “THE CHIMES”

Volume 22, Issue 1

January/February 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

I once heard a young woman named Sally tell a story that had a great impact on her life. This young lady was relating an experience that she had in a seminary class with her teacher... who we'll call Brother Smith. She said that Brother Smith was known for his elaborate objective lessons.

One day when Sally walked into class she could tell they were in for another fun day. There was a big target on the wall and a table full of darts. Brother Smith told the students to draw a picture of someone that they disliked or someone who had made them angry and he would let them throw some darts at the picture. Sally's girlfriend on the right drew a picture of the girl who had stolen her boyfriend. Her friend, on her left side, drew a picture of his little brother. Sally decided to draw a picture of Brother Smith. She really put a lot of detail into her drawing, even to the extent of drawing pimples on his face. She was really pleased at the overall effect she had achieved. The class lined up and was really getting into the dart throwing, with much laughter and a lot of hilarity involved. Some of the darts were thrown with such force that the picture was ripped. Sally was toward the back of the line, and filled with disappointment when Brother Smith, because of time limits, asked the students to return to their seats. Sally was thinking how mad she was that she hadn't been able to throw darts at her picture of Brother Smith. The classroom had been quite chaotic during the dart throwing.

Then quietly walked to the picture on the wall, removed the target from the wall and revealed the picture of Jesus that had been directly underneath the target. A complete hush fell over the room as the students viewed the torn picture, the eyes pierced out, and marks and holes all over the Savior. Brother Smith said only these words, "In as much as ye have done it unto the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." Nothing else was necessary as the tear-filled eyes of the students were riveted on the picture of Christ. The students remained in their seats even after the bell had rung, then slowly trickled out of the classroom.

Saints, how many times have we been less than kind to another person... with our words, a look, or our actions? How many times do we fail to share the love of Christ with another? Oftentimes, we find justification in our actions or words by standing in judgment of the way they have acted... or the something they have said. Rather, we must continue to ask ourselves, "What would our Savior do? What would He say-or leave unsaid? How would He reach out to someone who visits His Church?

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As we continue to grow as a church in the love and knowledge of our Lord, let us re-commit ourselves to loving one another. Let us look for every opportunity to extend the hand of fellowship to visitors that we don't know... as well as those in the household of faith. How about we follow the RULE OF THREE Let us plan to spend the first THREE MINUTES AFTER the worship service to intentionally get to know someone who is visiting... or someone who has been coming for some time... yet, we don't know them. If we never intentionally get to know one another, we have certainly planned to remain strangers!! Will you join me in making the RULE OF THREE a way of life after each worship service?

May Jesus Christ be praised by the witness of our lives! May you be richly blessed as you continue to Love God & Love One Another.

*In His Service,*

*Pastor Jan*



The Wings Meeting will be on Wednesday January 28th, 2026 at 12pm in the Fellowship Hall.

They will hold their business meeting to discuss their calendar. Lunch out after.

All are welcome.

Please see page 6 for pictures of some of their recent community activities.

*Gretchen / Deb Bayer-Bredon*



Book Club will be reviewing the book, "On Fire" by John O'Leary. It's a true story of faith and determination. We will meet on January 12th at 3:30 at the home of Sue Myers. For the month of February, the book chosen is entitled, "The Frozen River" by Ariel Lawson. Everyone is welcome to join us for an afternoon of discussion and fellowship!

*Sue Myers*



TOPS has changed their meeting time! Weigh in will be at 2:45pm in Fellowship Hall with their meeting to follow at 3pm. New members are always welcome.

## Mt. Tabor's Table Stats



	<u>October</u>	November
Meals Provided	7140	6435
Families Served	134	140
Pounds of Food Purchased	8756	8909
Money Spent	\$668.89	\$547.45

Due to private and state grants of free food, we have been able to fill our shelves with food and keep our costs low.

We are positioned well going into next year.

Please be assured that any contributions you make to Mt. Tabor's Table will be put to good use for our neighbors. **Donations can be made in the offering plate, online, or by mail. Please note in your memo line "Mt. Tabor's Table".**

Thanks,

*Guy Suffecool*

From All of Us	We would like to thank the board and congregation for our gifts at Christmas. Your generosity is very humbling.
	God Bless you all in the new year.

*Pastor Jan, Cheryl Hart, Cheryl Sternberg, Jillian Corbi, Sandy Hamilton*

many Thanks!	Thank you to our Mt. Tabor family for generously filling our Advent gift bags with love. And a special "shout out" to the very kind folks who delivered the gift bags and poinsettias. You never disappoint! God bless you!
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*Diana Spaulding*



## You are Invited!

The Bible study for the New Year will be The Promise of Heaven by Dr. David Jeremiah. . . 31 reasons to get excited about your Eternal Home. In the previous Chimes we asked for input as to whether you would like to join the group and where would you prefer for it to be held A) at the church or B) in someone's home. We did not receive any input. We really would love for you to join us, but I need to hear from you.

This study will be facilitated by Diane Garner at the home of Kathy Hopkins beginning January 5th at 1pm. As has been our practice in the past if schools (Alliance and Louisville) are closed due to weather we will not meet. Interesting topics that will be discussed will include will we remember our lives or each, what happens to children who die, what if someone was cremated, what about those who died by suicide?

My dear choir and bell choir members, tech helpers, and narrators,

Once again, you have created a special evening of music and worship to celebrate our Savior's birth. I am impressed by you all every year, and this was no exception. We had some pretty challenging glitches, and you all responded with focus, determination, and grace. We began this season with no small amount of trepidation. Could we still do justice to a full cantata? Our new friends from Westbrook Park UMC certainly changed the story! What an incredible addition they have been, both in voices and in kind spirits. God certainly answered our prayers. May His blessings be with you all as we begin this new year!

*Jillian Corbi*

**Burger and a Bible** We will be gathering on January 21st at 6:30pm at Loby's on Cleveland Ave. Due to the third Wednesday in February being Ash Wednesday, we will meet on the fourth Wednesday which is February 25th at 6:30 pm. In case of inclement weather, please contact Diane Garner at 330-685-1864 to see if the meeting is being cancelled.

Please consider joining us!



Hello all you MTUMC Turkeys,

Thanks to nearly everyone who reads this newsletter, and even a few who don't, the 70th Annual Turkey Supper was a big success. You sold nearly 500 tickets, cooked 45 turkeys, baked 32 pies, and helped us raise \$6,000!!

We had enough left over to feed you all on the Sunday following as well as make 25 meal kits for our Mt. Tabor's Table clients. What more could I ask? Not one thing...

This was my 7th and last year of heading up this effort. I want to say a big thank you to all the coordinators, and helpers who make this happen year after year. It takes a lot of effort to pull off a big shindig like this, and you all have delivered time and again. Now, a word about what happens next. Someone out there can be our leader for next year, of this I have no doubt. I have asked a few people but so far no takers. I want that to change, please. It is not as difficult as you might think. Really, the leader of this project simply needs to be organized, and be able to hold those delegates who help accountable to their tasks and responsibilities. It requires phone calls, managing deliveries of food, and of course quite a bit of work on the day... but it is doable by anyone who enjoys working with our people. That could be YOU. Think and pray on it if you have interest. You can talk to me as well, for more Q&A on the matter. I have also taken the liberty of writing up a document that tells you exactly what needs done, and when to do it. And, I will help you every step of the way to make sure you are comfortable.

The leader of this outreach should not be confined to one person for too long. It needs to be shared. You will be blessed by it, I promise...

Love to all.

*MK*



Greetings.

Money Matters by Charlotte Schweitzer, Treasurer

Through week 50 of 2025 a cumulative total of \$66,070 has been contributed to the Capital Improvement Campaign. The Campaign has a current balance of \$65,070. You may be asking yourselves how can that be? We just paid for a new boiler. By God's grace, the damage to the old boiler was covered by insurance, which paid for all but the \$1,000 deductible. Yes, but didn't we have other expenditures? Yes we did. Monies donated to Capital Improvement Fund that were not marked as for the Campaign were enough to cover them. **But remember, we have not yet met the Campaign goal.** *"Keep doing good works and sharing your resources, for these are sacrifices that please God."* Hebrews 13:16 The Jerusalem Bible

Reminder: if you pledged, please be sure your pledge offerings are marked Capital Improvement Campaign. If you put an amount on the Capital Improvement line of the offering envelope for your pledge, please write in 'pledge' beside it.

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

May you all have a happy and healthy New Year.

Blessings.

*Charlotte*

General Fund Receipts vs Expenses				
Period	Offerings	Other Receipts	Expenses	Net
General Fund balance 12/31/2024				18,494.56
Designated (use specified by donor)				7,779.63
Undesignated				10,714.93
General Fund balance 12/31/2024				<u><u>18,494.56</u></u>
Jan. 2025	9,571.00	1,001.00	-10,836.91	-264.91
February	8,597.00	1,140.18	-14,443.64	-4,706.46
March	11,093.00	1,394.00	-12,610.02	-123.02
April	14,101.00	848.70	-10,506.87	4,442.83
May	8,810.00	1,454.00	-10,887.96	-623.96
June	9,503.89	1,610.96	-10,536.11	578.74
July	12,300.00	940.50	-12,016.43	1,224.07
August	11,061.00	1,233.00	-13,721.17	-1,427.17
September	8,883.00	1,920.16	-9,474.57	1,328.59
October	7,655.00	2,367.00	-12,461.47	-2,439.47
November	11,250.00	1,459.00	-10,025.04	2,683.96
Payroll taxes withheld, not yet remitted				793.35
General Fund balance 11/30/25				<u><u>19,961.11</u></u>
Designated (use specified by donor)				10,949.78
Undesignated				9,011.33
General Fund balance 11/30/25				<u><u>19,961.11</u></u>

Offerings – Church Budget line on offering envelope  
 Other Receipts – designated offerings such as Blessing Box,  
 Mt. Tabor's Table, etc.

## Money Matters Cont....

Offerings – General Fund, Capital Improvement, and Benevolence				
WEEK #	2024	2025	Change	Budget
QTR 1	32,455.22	35,406.00	2,950.78	34,700.00
QTR 2	48,135.00	44,664.89	(3,470.11)	34,700.00
QTR 3	48,751.10	38,974.00	(9,777.10)	34,700.00
OCT.	10,451.00	19,455.00	9,004.00	10,676.96
NOV.	14,869.00	20,310.00	5,441.00	13,346.20
49	9,735.00	13,962.00	4,227.00	2,669.24
50	1,740.00	2,705.00	965.00	2,669.24
Y-T-D	166,136.32	175,476.89	9,340.57	133,461.64

### Capital Improvement Campaign

Pledged	17,795.00	10,405.00	(7,390.00)	3,750.00
Unpledged	13,955.00	20,605.00	6,650.00	-
	31,750.00	31,010.00	(740.00)	3,750.00

\*Totals 134,386.32 144,466.89 10,080.57 129,711.64

\*Excluding Capital Improvement Campaign

Average Weekly: thru November (48 weeks )				
	2022	2023	2024	2025
Budget*	3,355.75	2,573.58	2,580.77	2,669.24
Actual	2,541.41	2,645.04	3,222.11	3,308.54
(Short) Over	(814.34)	71.46	641.34	639.30
% of Budget	75.73%	102.78%	124.85%	123.95%

Percent change from prior year			
	22 to '23	23 to '24	24 to '25
Budget	-23.31%	0.28%	3.43%
Actual	4.08%	21.82%	2.68%
Net change:	27.39% positive	21.54% positive	-0.75% negative



Please join us in celebrating!

100th Birthday for Betty Bayer  
Luncheon

Date: Feb. 14 (Sat.)

Time: 12 noon

Place: Mt. Tabor United Methodist Fellowship Hall

108 East Walnut Street, East Canton, Ohio



**Mark Your Calendars!**



Choir practices will continue on Thursdays  
at 7pm.



Board Meetings are  
scheduled for January 20th  
and February 17th at 6pm

## WINGS ACTIVITIES

## 2025 Tour—Helping Hands



L-R : Kathy Jennings/  
Asst. Director

Becky Larson/ Director

2025 Christmas Luncheon and  
White Elephant Exchange

Total Living Center—August 2025



## **Prayer Concerns**

### **Members, Family & Friends**

Adams, Tom	Griffith, Nancy	Schwartz, Ethelind
<b>Antonacci, Mariane</b>	Heaston, Diana	Sexton, Pastor Bruce
<b>Antonacci, Gary</b>	Hutchison, Heather	Sharp, Judy
Bayer, Brenda	<b>Keyser, Julie</b>	<b>Simmons, Nancy</b>
<b>Botean, Doris</b>	<b>Kitzmiller, Gary</b>	Swan, Ron & Janice
Bucher, Dorothy	Lanzer, Patricia	<b>Thewes, Vickie*</b>
Buckle, Tim	Law, Bradley *	<b>Toalston, Paul</b>
<b>Carl, Marian</b>	Little, Karen	Tolley, Lisa
<b>Dye, Kevin</b>	Little, Rich	Totherow, Theresa
Eaton, Eli	<b>McGee, Reggie</b>	Truex, Charlotte
Fairless, Lorri *	Miller, Josh	Truex, Tina
<b>Family of Amy Hollingsworth</b>	Myers, Skylar	Truex, Gary
<b>Family of Hayden Miller</b>	Nennig, Parke	Williams, Annette
<b>Family of Barbara Blanc</b>	Nennig, Sharon	Unspoken Request
<b>Family of William Norris</b>	Nestor, Jody *	Zimmerman, Mary Anne
<b>Family of Calvin Wright</b>	Peterson, Linda	
Fetty, Kristie	Poulelis, Renee	
Fowler, Jacob	Reese, Linda	
<b>Fry, Thomas Jr.</b>	Reese, Tom	
Ganjinek, Suzanne	Rogler, Ann	
Gibson, Emily	Rohrer, Pam	
Gobeli, Kathy	Ryan, Debbie	
Greaves, Doris		

**\* Denotes Cancer**

**Names in bold are new since last printing**

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



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Change Service Requested

Join us for worship every Sunday at 10:30am.  
Adult Sunday School 9:30am



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:30am

SUNDAY WORSHIP

10:30 am

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@mttaborumcec A blue Facebook logo icon.



## “THE CHIMES”

The Deadline for  
March/April Articles  
is February 15th