

**Tabernacle United Church
3700 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19104**

Address Correction Requested



Tab Connections

The newsletter of Tabernacle United Church
**37th and Chestnut Streets
Philadelphia, PA 19104
tabernacle@tabunited.org**

Office hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 12:30-5:30 pm
Pastor's hours: Monday-Thursday 10:00 am-3:00 pm

January 2010

About TAB: Staff

Ministers.....TAB congregation
Pastor.....Rev. Patricia Pearce
Director, Arts & Spirituality Center.....Rev. Susan Teegen-Case
Director of Music.....Holly Phares
Office Manager.....Barbara Purdom
Sexton.....Susan Lindsey

About TAB: e-newsletter

The Tab e-newsletter is published monthly around the first of the month. It is available at www.tabunited.org and also sent to everyone on the tab-news email list. Please contact the church office (tabernacle@tabunited.org) to submit content. Instructions about how to join the various TAB email mailing lists are available at <http://www.lists.tabunited.org>.

Council Update

The new council members will be examined on Sunday, January 10, ordained and installed on January 17 and the first council meeting of the new year will be at 7 pm on Tuesday, January 19. The members of the Class of 2010 are: Bob Case (second term), Mike Ehling (first term), Jean Erb (first term) and Russ Baldwin (filling in for the remainder of Erin Hayes Willis' term). The members of the Class of 2011 are: Chris Purdom (third/final term), Larry Singh (second term), Mia King (first term), and Ginny Rice (first term). Since they have not served before, Russ and Mia will be ordained on January 17, and then installed as elders along with Chris, Larry and Ginny. In the event that Patricia has not returned from Denver, a substitute clergy-person with good standing in the Philadelphia Presbytery is being sought to preside over these meetings and ordinations/installations.

Choir News

Calling all singers! There are openings in the Tab Ensemble, especially for TENORS and BASSES! If you've been waiting for an invite or are a little shy about singing, don't hesitate. You do NOT need to read music, nor be an "accomplished" singer, just one who loves to sing and *perhaps* has some previous singing/choral experience. We rehearse three Wednesdays each month, 7:00-8:30 pm; some gather at 6:00 pm to share a meal. The schedule for January-May is below, worship services on the left, WEDNESDAY rehearsals on the right. Contact Holly at holmus@aol.com if you are interested or have questions.

JAN 17 - OFF	JAN 20 - 6 pm: Dinner; 7 pm: Rehearsal
JAN 24 - Warm-up 9:15 am	JAN 27 - 6 pm: Dinner; 7 pm: Rehearsal
JAN 31 - Warm-up 9:15 am	FEB 3 - 6 pm: Dinner; 7 pm: Rehearsal
FEB 7 - Warm-up 9:15 am	FEB 10 - 6 pm: Dinner; 7 pm: Rehearsal
FEB 14 - Warm-up 9:15 am	FEB 17 - OFF
FEB 21 - OFF	FEB 24 - 6 pm: Dinner; 7 pm: Rehearsal
FEB 28 - Warm-up 9:15 am	MAR 3 - 6 pm: Dinner; 7 pm: Rehearsal
MAR 7 - Warm-up 9:15 am	MAR 10 - 6 pm: Dinner; 7 pm: Rehearsal
MAR 14 - Warm-up 9:15 am	MAR 17 - OFF
MAR 21 - OFF	MAR 24 - 6 pm: Dinner; 7 pm: Rehearsal
MAR 28 - Warm-up 9:00 am PALM SUNDAY	MAR 31 - 6 pm: Dinner; 7 pm: Rehearsal
APR 4 - Warm-up 9:00 am EASTER	APR 7 - OFF
APR 11 - OFF	APR 14 - 6 pm: Dinner; 7 pm: Rehearsal
APR 18 - Warm-up 9:15 am	APR 21 - 6 pm: Dinner; 7 pm: Rehearsal
APR 25 - Warm-up 9:15 am	APR 28 - 6 pm: Dinner; 7 pm: Rehearsal
MAY 2 - Warm-up 9:15 am	MAY 5 - OFF
MAY 9 - OFF	MAY 12 - 6 pm: Dinner; 7 pm: Rehearsal
MAY 16 - Warm-up 9:15 am	MAY 19 - 6 pm: Dinner; 7 pm: Rehearsal
MAY 23 - Warm-up 9:00 am GOSPEL MUSIC SUNDAY	MAY 26 - OFF

January Service & Bulletin Roles

DATE	PREACHING	WRITING	LITURGIST	CHILDREN'S TIME	QUOTE
Jan 3	Beverly Dale	Russell Baldwin	Deborah Ahrens	Susan Collins	Todd Koser
Jan 10	Suzanne Spaulding	Suzanne Spaulding	Nicole Diroff	Ken Gritter	Barbara Tilley
Jan 17	Dick Fernandez	Mia King	Katie Day	Katherine Huseman	Barbara Purdom
Jan 24	Patricia Pearce	Chris Purdom	Pauline Abernathy	Todd Koser	Verona Stern
Jan 31	Patricia Pearce	Katie Day	Andy Lees	Susan Pierce	Chris Purdom

January Supporting Roles

DATE	GREETERS	COFFEE HOUR	COUNTER	RECYCLING	COMPOST/FOOD TRANSPORT
Jan 3	B. Case & S. Teegen-Case	S. Poethig & M. Bucan	Chris Purdom	S. Collins	D. Ahrens (C)
Jan 10	Jessica & Katrina Culley	Mike Ehling & Jim Gerhard	Ginny Rice	D. Ahrens	S. Spaulding (F)
Jan 17	N. Diroff & J. Gerhard	Ken & Martha Gritter	Mike Ehling	J. Goldstein	S. Collins (C)
Jan 24	M. Gibson & T. Koser	S. Pierce & W. Klein Keane	Bob Case	Todd Koser	Kip Leitner (F)
Jan 31	J. Goldstein & L. Line	C. Purdom & G. Rice	Larry Singh	J. Gerhard	R. Wentworth (C)

February Communion Rotations

DATE	CO-OFFICIATING	SET-UP & SERVING	CLEAN-UP & SERVING	PICKING UP BREAD *
Feb 7	P. Pearce & G. Butz	Ken Gritter	Jim Thacker	Lee Pugh

+ Bread donated by Four Worlds Bakery, 4423 Chestnut St.; it should be picked up the day before.

Paperless Sundays

The third Sunday of each month is paperless (no printed bulletin), as shown on the grids by the shading on January 17 (page 7). Contact the office for tips on creating a paperless liturgy.

About TAB: Mission Statement

We are called into compassionate community following Christ, advocating for peace, justice and reconciliation, and celebrating God's loving embrace of all creation.

About TAB: Join us for worship!

Sunday Worship is at 10 am, ALL YEAR ROUND! Children and youth attend Sunday School during the service and childcare for children under 6 is provided. Worship is followed by fellowship time during Coffee Hour. Hope to see you in church!

About TAB: Tab Online

Tab's website, www.tabunited.org, has info about affinity groups, events, news, a calendar, sermons, and more! If you are part of a team/committee/affinity group, please help monitor website content about your group. Contact the office or webmaster@tabunited.org with corrections, additions, ideas, etc. Tab's blog (<http://tabunited.livejournal.com/>) has "breaking news"; all blog posts are embedded on Tab's News page and appear on the Tab Facebook page via an RSS feed. (Enter "Tabernacle United Church" in the search box on Facebook.)

About TAB: Sunday Parking

Meter parking on Market, Ludlow and Walnut is FREE Sundays. *Walnut & 38th garage* - Enter on 38th Street, northbound, between Walnut & Sansom Streets; the Greeter will validate garage tickets at Tab. *Until 1 pm* meter parking on Chestnut, 37th, 38th and Sansom Sts. is FREE to those with a Tab ID on the dashboard. (Get it from the website: http://tabunited.org/images/TAB_Parking.pdf, or the Greeter.) To dispute a ticket received during a service, call Corinne O'Connor, PPA Director of Enforcement, at 215-683-9431, or the PPA's public advocate, Frank DeAngelis, at 215-683-9614.

Bible Study Group

The Bible Study Group meets most Wednesdays from 5:30 to 7:00 pm at the Christian Association House (adjacent to Tab). To RSVP or get more information contact either Jean Erb (jeanerb@verizon.net) or Nicole Diroff (nicoledirossoff@yahoo.com). You can Google the Vanderbilt University Lectionary website to see all of the scripture readings for the current season or just come and join in the lively and enlightening discussions!

Tab.Edu

Tab.edu resumes on **January 10** with a 12-session DVD and web-based study of the historical Jesus and the Kingdom of God, featuring John Dominic Crossan and Marcus Borg.

Topics include:

- Why did Jesus happen when he happened?
- Why the confluence of the Baptism movement of John and the Kingdom movement of Jesus?
- Why the confrontations in Jerusalem? Why then? Why there?
- What were the priorities of Jesus' proclamation of the Kingdom?
- How was the status quo of Roman imperial theology subverted by this obscure Galilean whose message continues to indict empire today?

It is not necessary to attend all twelve sessions in order to learn from Borg and Crossan. Attend all or some!

The Christian Association at Penn has graciously offered the use of their space for viewing the DVDs and discussing the material, so the weekly Tab.edu sessions will begin at 11:45 am over at the CA each Sunday in this series, not in the Sunday School room at Tab. Study facilitators are Beverly Dale, Lynn Lees, Donald Wargo and Susan Wargo.

UCC Youth & Family Ministries

Always at the cutting edge, the United Church of Christ Youth and Family ministries, hosted by Rev Josh Blakesley, is hosting our very own Rev. Beverly Dale for its January 12, 2010 program at Kutztown Tavern, 262 W Main St. The program, aimed at young adults (loosely defined as anyone under 35ish) is entitled “Sexy Holiness or Holy Pleasure: Finding the Sacred in the Bedroom” and will feature two characters from her one woman show, “An Irreverent Journey from Eggbeaters to Vibrators”. A Q & A time and discussion of sacred sexuality will follow. This monthly series of provocative conversations for progressive Christians and their faith-friendly friends is called “Theology with a Twist” and begins at 7 p.m. For further details of this ministry, join the Facebook group: http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=25131489803&_fb_noscript=1

Rotations

The schedule is on the Greeter’s table, the fridge and the office & community room bulletin boards. Contact the office ASAP to get a copy or download it from the blog (*see page 6*). Please call or email the office when swapping dates (the info above reflects changes made), and check the schedule before going out of town!

One Church in the Struggle: Conversations on White Privilege & Racial Injustice

Examine white privilege and racial justice by viewing the film *Traces of the Trade*, which documents Northerners' complicity in the slave trade. Participants are invited to share their stories of how this work is impacting their congregations and their own view of themselves. Facilitators will include local pastors and congregants of St. Mary’s Episcopal Church and Tabernacle United Church.

Tuesday, January 26, 6 pm at Christian Association House (118 South 37th St.). Sponsored by the Christian Association at Penn.

Food Donations

Now that we are in the post-holiday season we shouldn’t forget that food donations are more needed than ever. Many centers helping the hungry are actually overwhelmed by donations in the time leading up to Thanksgiving and Christmas but experience a huge drop-off after the holidays, when a lot of people who may have snagged temporary holiday jobs are again out of work and struggling to survive in this uncertain economy.

Let’s be more mindful than ever at this time that others need our help--bring in something for the food donation box next to the kitchen door each Sunday and help to keep those pantry shelves stocked. We have someone scheduled now to take the food over to the Cathedral every other Sunday (*see the rotation grids*) so let’s see what the Tab community can do!

Students: if you are vacating a dorm or apartment, why not bring your non-perishable items to the church rather than throwing them out?

Christmas Poinsettias

The Christmas Poinsettias decorating our worship space this holiday season were dedicated by:

- Ginny Rice, in loving memory of Aidan
- Susan Collins, in loving memory of Helen and Don Collins
- Wendy and Justin Klein Keane, in loving memory of Paul Livore, and in loving memory of Wilson Nash Gilliat

Sexual Minority Youth Emergency Shelter

Modeled after NYC’s Sylvia’s Place, a homeless/transitional housing program, Dionne’s Place offers emergency shelter to gender- and sexual-minority youth (ages 13-19) between 8 pm and 8 am. Dionne’s Place needs assistance, especially shift volunteers, cots, linen, TVs, radios, financial support, and prayer. For more info, to refer a teen to the shelter, to make a donation or to volunteer, contact the Rev. Celestine Brooks at 267-338-8024 or pastorbrooks@philadelphiacommunityfellowship.org.